



FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

**20th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE *SOUTHERN AFRICAN
ASSOCIATION FOR RESEARCH IN MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION***

SAARMSTE 2012

MONDAY 16 – THURSDAY 19 JANUARY 2012

**CONFERENCE THEME:
Mathematics, Science and Technology Education:
A Key to Sustainable Development**

**HOSTED BY:
UNIVERSITY OF MALAWI
CROSSROADS HOTEL, LILONGWE
MALAWI**

SAARMSTE COMMITTEES

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Mr Epiphny Thomo (University of Malawi)

OBJECTIVES OF THE SAARMSTE ANNUAL MEETING

Among the aims of SAARMSTE, according to its constitution, are:

- Advancing MSTE in Southern Africa
- Fostering a sense of community among researchers in MSTE
- Organising conferences at which the results of MSTE research can be presented
- Promoting research to improve and develop MSTE programmes in response to current and future needs

The Annual SAARMSTE Conference is an important vehicle to address these aims.

CONFERENCE THEME

Mathematics, Science and Technology Education: A Key to Sustainable Development

In this conference we will continue to build on SAARMSTE's strengths in Mathematics, Science and Technology Education research. We also hope to promote interactive research in MSTE in accordance with the theme.

While looking for connections across subjects and research areas, we also hope to build on strands in previous conferences. We therefore invite papers to address the following strands:

- Curriculum and assessment reform and evaluation in MSTE
- Equity, access and quality in MSTE
- Language and MSTE
- MSTE and early childhood development.
- MSTE in primary, secondary and tertiary education
- Promising practices in teaching and learning MST
- Research policy and practice in MSTE
- Teacher education and continuous professional development in MSTE

WHO SHOULD ATTEND THE SAARMSTE ANNUAL CONFERENCE?

The SAARMSTE annual conferences are open to anyone involved and interested in research in mathematics, science and technology education. New researchers are particularly welcome. All stages of education are included, and there will be strands for early childhood development, primary education, secondary education and tertiary education.

PROGRAMME

The conference will commence on Monday morning 16th January 2012 with workshops by the keynote speakers. The formal opening of the conference and the first plenary session will take place on Monday afternoon. The rest of the conference will consist of the various types of presentations as described in the following pages.

PRESENTATION CATEGORIES

Invited Presentations

1. *Plenary Sessions*

These are addresses regarding key MSTE issues, related to the conference theme and delivered by invited speakers.

2. *Workshops*

Research-focused workshops will take place on the first morning of the conference, and will be presented by the plenary speakers. There will be intensive discussion and hands-on experiences on aspects of the speakers' main research interests and activities.

Submitted Presentations

1. *Long Papers*

A 45-minute slot (30 minutes for presentation, 15 minutes for discussion) will be reserved for reports of sustained research-based work. Presenters should consider addressing issues such as reasons for the particular research strategy, challenges posed by the research, shortcomings, and so forth. These papers will be reviewed. All long papers (approximately 6000 words) must follow the conference template.

Review Submission Deadline: **15 July 2011.** (*full paper must be submitted*)

Submission Format: Please consult the long paper template on the conference website. For review, papers should be submitted blind, i.e. without the author's name and affiliation.

Please submit in a file labelled: **LP_yourname.doc** with a **cover sheet**

2. *Short Papers*

In these sessions, presenters are given a 30-minute slot (20 minutes for presentation, 10 minutes for discussion) to report ongoing or completed research. Extended abstracts of 2 pages should be submitted for short paper, where authors briefly outline the main features of their research (see details of what constitutes research below). Please note that abstracts of one paragraph will not contain enough information and so are likely to be rejected. Final papers should be no more than 3600 words long. All short papers must follow the conference template.

Review Submission Deadline: **15 July 2011.** (*extended abstract: 2 pages*)

Submission Format: For review, abstracts should be submitted blind, i.e. without the author's name and affiliation. Please submit in a file labelled: **SP_yourname.doc** with a **cover sheet**

3. *Snapshots*

In these sessions, presenters are given a 15-minute slot (10 minutes for presentation, 5 minutes for discussion) to report on planned research or on research in its initial stages. Particularly first-time presenters and individuals new to the research field of MSTE are encouraged to consider this session format. Extended abstracts of 1-2 pages should be submitted for review, where authors briefly outline the main features of their research (see details of what constitutes research below). Please note that abstracts of one paragraph will not contain enough information and so are likely to be rejected.

Submission Deadline: **15 July 2011.** (*extended abstract: 1-2 pages*)

Submission Format: For review, abstracts should be submitted blind, i.e. without the author's name and affiliation. Please submit in a file labelled: **SN_yourname.doc** with a **cover sheet**

4. Guided Poster Sessions (Regular and Masters)

There will be sessions reserved for presenters to discuss their posters with fellow researchers. Posters will be displayed around a large hall. Extended abstracts of 1-2 pages should be submitted for review, where authors briefly outline the main features of their research (see details of what constitutes research below). Please note that abstracts of one paragraph will not contain enough information and so are likely to be rejected.

Submission Deadline: **15 July 2011**. (*extended abstract: 1-2 pages*)

Submission Format: For review, abstracts should be submitted blind, i.e. without the author's name and affiliation. Please submit in a file labelled: **PO_yourname.doc** with a **cover sheet**

5. Round Tables

This will take the form of a 45-minute session in which a number of delegates sit with an author to discuss the author's research ideas informally. This session should provide a safe environment in which researchers can explore problems and uncertainties. Those who have conducted a pilot study, have research in progress, plan a research project or want to discuss dilemmas in research should benefit from this session. Extended abstracts of 1-2 pages should be submitted for review, where authors briefly outline the main questions that they will be exploring and how these are situated in their research project (see details of what constitutes research below). Please note that abstracts of one paragraph will not contain enough information and so are likely to be rejected.

Submission Deadline: **15 July 2011**. (*extended abstract: 2 pages*)

Submission Format: For review, abstracts should be submitted blind, i.e. without the author's name and affiliation. Please submit in a file labelled: **RT_yourname.doc** with a **cover sheet**

6. Symposia

Ninety-minute slots will be reserved for symposia organised around issues where different points of view, approaches, debates or analyses of the same problem are presented. If you are offering to organise a symposium, include presenters who would take different viewpoints or approaches in order to encourage debate. A symposium outline of 2-3 pages should be submitted for review, and it should contain details of each speaker's contribution and how these come together to create a forum for debate and discussion. Theoretical frameworks, methodologies etc. should be discussed where appropriate. Please note that abstracts of one paragraph will not contain enough information and so are likely to be rejected

Submission Deadline: **15 July 2011**. (*2-3 page outline of symposium and abstracts of individual contributions*).

Submission Format: For review, abstracts should be submitted blind, i.e. without the author's name and affiliation. Please submit in a file labelled: **SY_yourname.doc** with a **cover sheet**

PLEASE NOTE: No submissions will be included in the conference programme without full payment of registration by the presenter(s) by 31st October 2011.

Format for long and short papers

Long and short papers MUST follow the conference format. An MSWord template will be available on the conference website (address to be announced soon) or via email from the Conference Organiser (saarmste2012@gmail.com).

No paper or extended abstract will be accepted without a COVER SHEET (Cover sheets can be found at the end of this announcement)

REVIEWING PROCEDURE

The purpose of reviewing is to provide constructive comments from other researchers in an effort to promote high-quality papers and presentations. Three reviewers will look at each long paper and at least two reviewers at extended abstracts. Authors will be required to consider their comments and may be asked to revise their work before submitting their final paper. The review process is “blind” both ways, names of authors and reviewers are not revealed to each other, although reviewers can choose to reveal their names to authors in the interests of further discussion. It is SAARMSTE policy to use the journal reviewers as conference reviewers. In addition, all authors submitting a long paper for review, will be requested to also review one long paper.

Please note: It is SAARMSTE policy that long papers be reviewed properly, consistently and timely. We therefore ask all authors to make sure that they abide by the deadlines in the conference announcements and submit their papers in the format requested.

Each submission must be accompanied by a completed COVERSHEET, which is attached at the end of this Announcement.

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS AND CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

The final accepted abstracts received by **31 October 2011** will be compiled into a Book of Abstracts. Final long and short papers will be compiled into conference proceedings, which will be available as a *pdf* file on a CD. Both the Book of Abstracts and the proceedings on CD will be available at the start of conference and their cost will be included in the registration fee. In addition, delegates will be able to *pre-order* and *pay in advance* for printed and bound proceedings, which will also be available at Registration.

Please Note: If presenters have not paid their registration fees by 31 October 2011, their papers and abstracts will not be included in the Programme, Book of Abstracts or Conference proceedings.

CONFERENCE ACCOMMODATION

There will be a variety of accommodation available ranging from basic student residence to guest houses and hotels. Booking for student residence can be done through the LOC. Bookings for guest house or hotel accommodation are for the delegates own account, and need to be made directly with the guest house or hotel. Please indicate on the registration form whether you require accommodation at the residences, guest house or hotel. Details about booking and payment will be sent to all delegates who indicate that they require accommodation. Details about accommodation at the venue and other hotels and guest houses nearby will be provided in the second announcement, and will be posted on the

conference website.

Payment for accommodation will be expected as follows:

- For booking *residence* accommodation: **31 October 2011**.
- For other accommodation: send a deposit directly to the guest house or hotel of your choice to confirm your booking.

REGISTRATION

Registration process involves completing a detailed registration form, which will request definite commitments and plans. The submission deadline for this form is **31 October 2011** for presenters and **15 November 2011** for other delegates, and should be accompanied by the appropriate payments. A registration form will be available in the second announcement and on the conference website.

IMPORTANT DATES

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE DEADLINE FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS HAS BEEN MOVED FORWARD TO 15 July 2011.

Submission of full long papers (6000 words)	15 July 2011
Submission of extended abstracts for all other presentations	15 July 2011
Review feedback on long papers and abstracts	15 September 2011
Submission of final papers	31 October 2011
Payment of registration by presenters	31 October 2011
Final registration with payment for other delegates	15 November 2011

SAARMSTE CORRESPONDENCE DETAILS

Please address your SAARMSTE correspondence to:

The SAARMSTE 2012 Conference LOC

University of Malawi

Chancellor College

P.O. Box 280

ZOMBA, MALAWI

Email: saarmste2012@gmail.com (**Email preferred**)

Tel: +265 1 524 222

Fax: +265 1 524 046

Cover Sheet for contribution to SAARMSTE 2012 Conference

I am/we are submitting the following contribution to the Programme Committee for consideration for presenting at the **SAARMSTE 2012** Conference to be held in Malawi

NOTE: Please complete a separate cover sheet for each presentation you propose.

Title of presentation:								
Initials and surnames of <u>all</u> authors:								
Presentation type: (select only <i>one</i> box)	Long Paper		Short Paper		Snapshot		Poster	
	Workshop		Round Table		Symposium			
Please indicate if required for presentation:	OH Projector		Data Projector		Video		Other: (please specify)	
	Computer		TV		DVD			
Subject strand: (select only <i>one</i> box)	Chemistry		General science		Mathematics			
	Physics		Life sciences		Technology			

Details of corresponding author: (i.e., author to whom feedback must be submitted)	
Name:	
Institution/ Organisation:	
Postal Address:	
Work telephone number:	
Home telephone number:	
Fax number:	
Mobile phone number:	
Email:	

Please return this cover sheet, together with your submission, by 15 July 2011 by email to saarmste2012@gmail.com