

BACKGROUND

The Wits Mining Institute (WMI) at the University of the Witwatersrand is a long-standing source of expertise in mining-related fields of study. There are five centres at the WMI whose goals are to help shape a sustainable, responsible and competitive mining sector in the 21st century.

1. **Sibanye-Stillwater Digital Mining Laboratory (DigiMine)** is a 21st Century state of the art and one-of-a-kind laboratory that conducts tests, research and development, and innovation, transferring surface digital technologies into the underground mining environment.
2. **SAMERDI Successful Applications of Technology Centred Around People (SATCAP) Research Centre** aims to contribute to a productive industry through sustainable relationships and shared value for people in a minerals sector that is modernising.
3. **SAMERDI Real Time Information Management Systems (RTIMS) Research Centre** aims to build capacity in digital intellectual capital through fundamental research into technical, technological, and strategic issues in pursuit of 4IR technology readiness in the South African minerals sector.
4. **Responsible Mining Laboratory (RML)** promotes responsible mining - mining that achieves zero harm, realises net positive environmental impacts, improves social performance and leaves a positive legacy.
5. **Skills Accelerator** supports the other research units by focusing on skills development and training programmes to facilitate 21st Century mining, providing people greater mobility within the sector and to other sectors.

OBJECTIVES

This seminar aims to strengthen collaboration between Wits University, the industry, technology providers and other research institutions. It is also aimed at showcasing the value of research as a first step to the development of technology that can be applied in the minerals industry. Over the three days, the seminar will:

- Feature the work of the WMI, demonstrating the value of investing in R&D and building capacity
- Showcase our partners' technologies and prospects that resulted from our partnership
- Present cutting-edge research on topics critical to mining in the 21st Century
- Provide exceptional networking and friendship-building opportunities with academic and industry peers

TOPICS

The seminar will focus on three core topics:

- Technology and innovation for a sustainable, responsible and competitive minerals sector
- Skills development for 21st Century mining
- Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues in mining



WITS MINING INSTITUTE SEMINAR

Turning research curiosity into 21st Century minerals
industry performance, relationships and technology

27 - 29 SEPTEMBER 2022

The Wits Mining Institute will offer a three-day conference based on the success of the Digital Technology Trends for 21st Century Mining seminar over the past three years and in commemoration of Wits' centennial. Work at the WMI, technology developed by our partners, and the findings of notable experts will be presented on themes vital to mining in the 21st Century.





PROGRAMME

DAY 1

Mr Neal Froneman, CEO of Sibanye Stillwater, has confirmed that he will deliver the keynote address.

The WMI, together with its collaboration partners, the Mandela Mining Precinct, CSIR and DSI, will introduce the two new SAMERDI research centres which are hosted by the Wits Mining Institute. The new Director of the WMI, Prof Glen Nwaila, Research Centre Leads and students will present their research.

DAY 2

Head of Technology and Innovation at Sibanye Stillwater, Alex Fenn, will present on their technology imperatives.

WMI technology partners will share their projects, exhibit their technologies, and exchange ideas regarding the next generation of technological innovations in the mining industry.

DAY 3: CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Prospective presenters are invited on any of the conference topics. Presenters should submit titles and abstracts of their research in English to Lileen Lee (Lileen.Lee@wits.ac.za) by 1 August 2022. The abstracts should be no longer than 500 words. An abstract e-booklet will be compiled and published for delegates.

KEY DATES

1 August 2022

Deadline for submission of abstracts

10 August 2022

Notification of acceptance of abstracts

31 August 2022

Finalise programme

COST AND REGISTRATION

The cost for the entire three-day seminar is R9000 per person.

Delegates may also register for any of the days, at a cost of R 3000 per day.

Wits certificates of attendance will be issued to those attending all three days (NQF level 6, 10 continuous professional development (CPD) points registered with ECSA).

SPONSORSHIP

Sponsorship opportunities are available.

Organisations wishing to sponsor the attendance of students, teas or lunches, or exhibit should contact Lileen Lee.

Enquiries to Lileen Lee at

Lileen.Lee@wits.ac.za or 011 717 7037