



UNIVERSITY OF THE  
WITWATERSRAND,  
JOHANNESBURG



**WITS OPEN ACCESS SEMINAR**  
**JOINTLY HOSTED BY THE LIBRARY, RESEARCH OFFICE, AND**  
**THE CENTRE FOR LEARNING, TEACHING AND DEVELOPMENT (CLTD)**

**Date:** 2 October 2019 (Wednesday)

**Time:** 9.00 to 12.30

**Venue:** Senate Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Solomon Mahlangu (formerly Senate House), East Campus, Wits

**Programme Facilitator:** Dr. Robin Drennan, Director: Wits Research Office

**PROGRAMME**

08.15 – 08.55 - Registration

09.00 – 09.10 - Welcome address - Dr Robin. Drennan, Director: Wits Research Office

09.10 – 09.40 - *“University Presses and beyond: open publishing models for the decolonisation of university publication in South Africa”* – Ms Eve Gray, Researcher, University of Cape Town.

09.40 – 10.00 - *“Implications of Openness for the Scientific Research Process”* - Prof Chris Callaghan, Researcher/Lecturer, School of Economic and Business Sciences, Wits

10.00 – 10.10 - Discussion

10.10 - 10.30 - *“Becoming More Open”* - Mr Paul West – Senior Consultant

10.30 – 10.50 - *“The Grit in the Oyster? The Creative Work as Research and the Open-Access Philosophy”* - Prof Christo Doherty, Deputy Head of the Wits School of Arts

10.50 – 11.00 - Discussion

11.00 - 11.20 - Tea break

11.20 – 11.40 - *“Beyond journals: OA Book Series and Wits/BLOSA-Venice/Ca Foscari as a Case Study”* - Dr Brian Zuccula, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Modern Languages, Wits  
(Co-authors: Dr Anita Virga and Dr Christopher Fotheringham, Modern Languages, Wits)

11.40 – 12.00 - *“2018 and 2019 Trends in Open Access in Scholarly Publishing”* - Dr Luci Abrahams, Director: LINK Centre, Wits

12.00 – 12.20 - Discussion

12.20 – 12.30 - Thank you and closing address – Dr Rita Kizito, Director: Centre of Learning, Teaching and Development, Wits

## SPEAKERS BIOS

**Dr Luci Abrahams** (PhD) is Director of the LINK Centre at Wits University, building research on digital innovation and digital transformation. She is interested in how digital technologies influence change in economic and social environments. Studies include: digital skills gap analysis, digital government strategy, scaling up innovation in tech hubs; open access in scholarly publishing (Open AIR research partnership); and health e-services improvement (Egypt-South Africa research partnership). Luci convenes the MA and PhD programmes in Interdisciplinary Digital Knowledge Economy Studies. She has served as Council Member of the National Advisory Council on Innovation, as Board Member of the Development Bank of Southern Africa, on the boards of the State Information Technology Agency and the National Research Foundation, and on the Council on Higher Education. She served on the Ministerial Review Panel on the Science Technology and Innovation Institutional Landscape (2015-2017). Luci is Corresponding Editor for *The African Journal of Information and Communication*, hosted on the SciELO South Africa open access platform.

**Prof Chris Callaghan** is a Professor in the School of Economic and Business Sciences, in the Faculty of Commerce, Law and Management, of the University of the Witwatersrand. He is founding Director of the Knowledge and Information Economics/Human Resources Research Agency (KIEHRA). He teaches Management and Human Resource subjects, as well as Strategic Management and Strategic Human Resource Management.

His primary research focus is Innovation Management, Open Innovation, and Strategy. He has a particular interest in how technology can be applied to the scientific research process to achieve real time research productivity. His work in this area relates to the economics of invention, and the field of management as it relates to the management of scientific research productivity.

**Prof Christo Doherty** is Deputy Head of the Wits School of Arts, University of the Witwatersrand, he heads up programmes in Artistic Research and Arts-Science engagements. He was an associate director of the *Watershed: Arts, Science, Elemental Politics* conference at Wits in 2018. Previously he was the founder of the Digital Arts department in the Wits School of Arts, and was the co-founder of the *Fak'ugesi Festival of African Digital Innovation*, in partnership with the Tshimologong Innovation Precinct, Braamfontein. He was the founder and Executive Producer of *Cue-TV*, the dedicated community arts television station at the South African National Arts Festival, and was the Director of the New Media Lab in the School of Journalism and Media Studies, Rhodes University.

**Ms Eve Gray** is a Contract Researcher in the IP Unit in the Faculty of Law at UCT. Her early experience working as an editorial assistant in a Cape Town quality printing press; in the UK in what must have been one of the first electronic textbook businesses in the world; then as a translator/editor of high quality architectural history books in Belgium. Back in South Africa after completing a postgraduate degree, she took over as Director of Wits University Press just as apartheid ended and had the opportunity to rebuild its scholarly book programme. She then worked as Academic Textbook Publishing Director at Juta, and subsequently became a publishing consultant, a recognised specialist on new business models, open access and the geopolitics of university publishing in southern Africa. She led the intervention that created the new open access HSRC Press and was involved in a number of consultancies and academic forums dealing with new programmes for open publication for development in Southern Africa.

**Mr Paul West** has more than 20 years' experience in distance and online learning working in South Africa and across Commonwealth countries where he established the Virtual University for the Small States of the Commonwealth. He hosted a Commonwealth Innovation Hub, capturing and online discussions and sharing of good practices. He has worked with Creative Commons licences for the sharing of open educational resources, running workshops in many Commonwealth countries. He also has experience in the development of policy and projects in education and career development.

Paul conceptualised and implemented the South African online Career Advice Portal which delivers essential information to lifelong learners at no cost, connecting them with career tools and advice. Paul previously established ICT Centres and the African Digital Library, a free online digital library for anyone living in an African country. Currently based in Pretoria, he has also lived in Canada and the United Kingdom where he worked with the Commonwealth of Learning and the Commonwealth Secretariat.

**Dr Brian Zuccala** (PhD Monash) is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow (Modern Languages – Italian) at the University of the Witwatersrand (Johannesburg, South Africa). Portions of his recent work appeared or are in press, as essays, introductions, interviews, translations and reviews, in *ISSA, Spunti e Ricerche; Italica; LEA-Lingue e Letterature D'Oriente e Occidente; Journal of Italian Cinema and Media Studies; Tcon3, Teoria, testo, Traduzione; Rivista di Letterature Moderne e Compare; Forum Italicum; Quaderni D'Italianistica; Intralinea: Online Journal of Translation and Journal of Italian Translation*, as well as in book chapters. Recent submissions were to *Italian Culture and Critica letteraria*. His first monograph, *Capuana (Self) reflexive Narrator* is forthcoming with Edizioni Ca'Foscari (Venezia UP). He co-edited *Per Giovanni Pascoli. Il seme di Urbino* (Raffaelli, 2013) and *Andrea Tontini: Poesie e scritti* (CartaCanta 2019) with Salvatore Ritrovato, *Postcolonialismi italiani ieri e oggi/Italian Postcolonialisms: Past and Present* (ISSA 31.1 and 31.2 2018) with Anita Virga; *Experimental Fiction and Cultural Mediation in Post-Unification Italy: The Case of Luigi Capuana* (in press FUP), with Annamaria Pagliaro; *Language Teaching in Transnational Contexts within an Intercultural Framework* (LEA section, 2018) with Virga, Samuele Grassi and Giovanna Carloni; *I Racconti Americani di George Gissing* with Luigi Gussago and John Gatt-Rutter (2019 Nova Delphi). Some of his Digital Humanities-related work (with Simon Musgrave) is available through Monash Figshare ([www.figshare.com](http://www.figshare.com)). He is a contributor to *Dizionario Biografico degli Italiani (DBI)* and *The Literary Encyclopedia, A.P.I.* Treasurer and ISSA Associate Editor, as well as founder and a coordinator of the South African platform for blended learning BLOSA ([www.blosa.co.za](http://www.blosa.co.za)) for which is editing the inaugural peer-review volume *Edizioni Ca'Foscari* (Venezia UP).