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UNIVERSITY OF LIMPOPO
INSTITUTIONAL FORUM SUMMIT

Programme

Event Purpose:

To strengthen IF advisory governance, accelerate transformation and agree on practical sector-wide resolutions.

Repositioning the Institutional Forum as a catalyst for Transformation in the Higher Education Sector



Dates: 19–20 November 2026

Time: 08h30

Venue: University of Limpopo, Earth Sciences Building.

OLDMUTUAL WEALTH

#IFSummit2026

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Programme Director:
Moses Moreroa, Manager in the Office of the Executive Director: Marketing and Communication, University of Limpopo.

DAY 1 | Thursday, 19 November 2026

08:30 - 16:00 | *Mandate, authority and representative governance*

TIME	SESSION AND FOCUS	
08:30–09:00	**Registration**	
09:00–09:15	**Welcome, purpose and expected outcomes**	**Ms J Sixholo** Chairperson of Institutional Forum, University of Limpopo
09:15–09:30	**Official opening**	**Dr Jefferey Mabelebele** Vice-Chancellor and Principal, University of Limpopo
09:30–10:15	**Opening keynote: Why Institutional Forums matter** Repositioning the IF as a catalyst for transformation.	**Prof Nosisi Feza** Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research & Internationalization, iYunivesithi Walter Sisulu
10:15–10:45	**Tea break 1** Networking and refreshments.	
10:45–11:20	**National policy address: The statutory mandate and expectations of Institutional Forums** The Higher Education Act, National Policy and Cooperative Governance.	**Dr Thandi Lewin** Deputy Director-General: University Education, Department of Higher Education and Training
11:20–12:30	**PLENARY 1: Strengthening the IF's advisory authority and governance interface.** Council–IF–Senate–management relationships; information access; written advice; feedback and follow-through. Final 15 minutes: resolution. **Resolution focus:** Minimum protocol for consultation, consideration and tracking of IF advice.	
12:30–13:30	**Lunch**	
13:30–14:05	**Student Address: Beyond access - advancing student success, equity, inclusion and dignity through institutional transformation.** A student perspective on how institutional culture, governance, support systems and campus practices influence access, academic success, belonging, equity, inclusion and dignity	**Dr Thato Masekoa** Spokesperson for the South African Union of Students
14:05–15:00	**PLENARY 2 — Representation, legitimacy and operational effectiveness** Composition; independence; induction; continuity; conflicts; secretariat support and resources. Final 10 minutes: resolution. **Resolution focus:** Common governance standards for legitimate, capable and supported IFs.	
15:00–15:30	**Tea break 2** Group photo and refreshments.	
15:30–15:50	**Day 1 resolution review** Adopted Day 1 resolutions	**Ms J Sixholo** Chairperson of Institutional Forum, University of Limpopo
15:50–16:00	**Reflections and close of Day 1**	
18:00- 22:00	Conference Gala Dinner – Opernview, 135 Orpen Rd, Ivydale, Polokwane, 0699	

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DAY 2 | Friday, 20 November 2026

08:30 – 14:00 | *Transformation, impact and sector collaboration*

TIME	SESSION AND FOCUS	
08:30–09:15	**Sector address: Gender equality, dignity and transformation through effective Institutional Forums** How IFs can use their advisory mandate to advance gender equality, prevent discrimination, protect dignity and strengthen institutional culture.	**Dr Samukezi Mrubula-Ngwenya** Associate Professor University of South Africa
09:15–10:00	**PLENARY 3 — From representation to transformation** Race and gender equity; institutional culture; dignity, tolerance and human rights; social cohesion; and an enabling environment for teaching, research and learning. Final 10 minutes reserved for resolution drafting. **Resolution focus:** A core IF transformation agenda with measurable indicators and regular reporting.	
10:00–10:30	**Tea break 1** Networking and refreshments.	
10:30–11:15	**Sector address: The IF in the university governance ecosystem** Strengthening sector coherence, institutional accountability and the contribution of IFs to sustainable transformation.	**Mr George Mvalo** Director for Social Justice and Transformation Senior Employment Equity Manager Vaal University of Technology
11:15–12:00	**PLENARY 4 — Building a national IF community of practice** Peer learning; benchmarking; shared resources; annual convening; research agenda; and coordinated sector engagement. Final 10 minutes reserved for resolution drafting. **Resolution focus:** Establish a national IF network with a defined coordination mechanism and annual conference.	
12:00– 13:00	**Lunch**	
13:00– 13:20	Day 2 resolution review	**Ms J Sixholo** Chairperson of Institutional Forum, University of Limpopo
13:20–13:40	**Adoption of the Summit Declaration** Consolidated resolutions, implementation priorities, responsible structures and reporting milestones.	**IF Chairpersons in attendance**
13:40–14:00	**Vote of thanks and official close** Closing acknowledgement and next steps.	**Adv Bongani Bongo** Council Member on the Institutional Forum, University of Limpopo


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