

# highwayAFRICA

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

PROGRAMME

21-23  
JUNE 2021

**DAY ONE: MONDAY, 21 JUNE 2021**

08:45 – 08:55	<b>Welcome address</b> <b>Francis Mdlongwa</b> <i>Highway Africa Director and Head of the Sol Plaatje Institute for Media Leadership, School of Journalism and Media Studies, Rhodes University, South Africa.</i>
08:55 – 09:15	<b>Conference opening</b> <b>Dr Sizwe Mabizela</b> <i>Rhodes University's Vice-Chancellor</i>
09:15 – 09:45	Opening Keynote <b>A critical look at the impact and future of platformisation in Africa</b> <b>Prof Zizi Papacharissi</b> <i>Head of the Communication Department, University of Illinois-Chicago, USA.</i> Chaired by Prof Anthea Garman <i>Head of the School of Journalism and Media Studies, Rhodes University, South Africa.</i>
09:45 – 10:30	<b>Africa's rising in the platform economy: A focus on creativity and innovation</b> A conversation between <b>Prof Zizi Papacharissi</b> and <b>Prof Tawana Kupe</b> <i>Vice-Chancellor of the University of Pretoria</i> Chaired by Prof Anthea Garman
10:30 – 10:45	<b>TEA BREAK</b>
10:30 – 12:00	Panel discussion and Q&A <b>First-hand testimonies of the impact of platformisation on African media</b> <b>Styli Charalambous</b> , <i>CEO of Daily Maverick, South Africa;</i> <b>Churchill Otieno</b> , <i>Lead Innovator at Nation Media Group, Kenya;</i> <b>Bakari Machumu</b> , <i>Editor-in-Chief of Mwananchi Communications Limited, Tanzania; and Siindile Khanyile, Digital Head and Director at Likhanyile Media, South Africa.</i> Chaired by Rod Amner, Senior Lecturer at Rhodes School of Journalism and Media Studies.
12:00 – 13:00	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>
13:00 – 15:00	Keynote address <b>Global platformisation's lessons and solutions: Do they work in Africa?</b> <b>Dr Anya Schiffrin</b> <i>Director of the Technology, Media and Communication specialization at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs, USA.</i> Chaired by Sbu Ngalwa, Chairperson of the South African National Editors' Forum.

**DAY TWO: TUESDAY, 22 JUNE 2021**

08:30 – 10:00	Opening Keynote <b>Datafication of the media: Opportunities and threats.</b> <b>Marietje Schaake</b> <i>International Policy Director at Stanford University's Cyber Policy Centre and International Policy Fellow at Stanford's Institute for Human-Centred Artificial Intelligence, USA.</i> Chaired by Dr Nathan Geffen, Editor-in-Chief of GroundUp, South Africa.
10:00 – 10:15	<b>TEA BREAK</b>
10:15 – 11:45	Keynote address <b>Harnessing Big Data by African media to improve journalism innovation</b> <b>Adi Eyal</b> <i>Data Investigations Lead at The Sentry, South Africa.</i> Chaired by Nathalie Ndongo-Seh, UN's Chief Resident Representative in Eswatini.
11:45 – 12:30	<b>Social Accountability Data Journalism Reporting Awards</b> <b>Led by Julie Middleton</b> , Consortium Project Manager of the Partnership for Social Accountability (PSA) and Action Aid International <b>and Francis Mdongwa</b> , Highway Africa Director and Director of the Sol Plaatje Institute for Media Leadership, School of Journalism and Media Studies, Rhodes University, South Africa.
12:30 – 13:30	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>
13:30 – 15:00	Panel discussion <b>Big Tech and Data, Disinformation, Truth and Inertia</b> <b>Emeritus Prof Guy Berger</b> , Director for Policies and Strategies on Communication and Information at UNESCO <b>Prof Cameren Peter</b> , The Centre for Analytics and Social Change at UCT Business School, South Africa; <b>Dr Anya Schiffrin</b> , Director of the Technology, Media and Communication specialization at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs, USA. Chaired by Khadija Patel, investigative journalist and freelancer, South Africa.
15:00 – 15:15	<b>TEA BREAK</b>
15:15 – 16:15	<b>Information Security and Journalism</b> <b>Daniel Cuthbert</b> <i>Global Head of Cyber Security Research; and David Moepeng, Cyber Literacy Advocate and MA candidate in Cyberpsychology at Nottingham University, UK.</i> Chaired by Dr Roukaya Kasenally, CEO, African Media Initiative (AMI) and Associate Professor in Media and Political Systems at the University of Mauritius.
16:15 – 16:30	<b>Closing remarks and introduction of the academic and research track</b> <b>Prof Anthea Garman</b> <i>Head of the School of Journalism and Media Studies, Rhodes University, South Africa</i>

## DAY THREE: WEDNESDAY, 23 JUNE 2021: ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH TRACK

### **THEME: New news for new times**

Journalism all over the world is in an existential crisis. But this profession has many champions who are deeply invested in the ongoing role that journalism plays in enlarging democracy, ensuring freedom of expression and safeguarding the right to information. On day three of this year's Highway Africa conference we turn to how journalism could be reinvigorated as a renewed force for good in the world. This academic and research track within HA has an unashamedly future focus. We are asking researchers where we see the seeds of rebirth, re-imagination and renewal.

09:00 – 09:15	Welcome <b>Prof Anthea Garman</b> <i>Head of the School of Journalism and Media Studies, Rhodes University, South Africa.</i>
09:15 – 09:45	Keynote <b>Prof Francis Nyamnjoh</b> <i>Professor in Social Anthropology at the University of Cape Town, South Africa.</i>
09:45 – 10:00	Q&A

### **SESSION 1: Emerging genres of journalism**

Chaired by Dr Alette Schoon, Senior lecturer, School of Journalism and Media Studies, Rhodes University, South Africa.

10:00 – 10:20	<b><i>New wine in old wineskins? Emerging genres of journalism and Africa and beyond</i></b> <b>Prof Admire Mare</b> <i>Associate Professor and Deputy Head in the Department of Communication, Namibia University of Science and Technology, Namibia.</i>
10:20 – 10:30	<b><i>The future of journalism – it will be ONLY New Media, get used to it</i></b> <b>Niki Moore</b>
10:30 – 10:40	<b><i>Interpretive journalism as an emerging genre of citizen news discourse in Zimbabwe</i></b> <b>Dr Thulani Tshabangu</b>
10:40 – 11:00	Q&A
11:00 – 11:15	<b>TEA BREAK</b>

### **SESSION 2: Emerging shapes and scopes of news organisations and emerging work practices**

Chaired by Mr Rod Amner, Senior Lecturer, School of Journalism and Media Studies, Rhodes University, South Africa

11:15 – 11:35	<b><i>Journalism from the Margins (and from 'Within'): Stretching Boundaries and Embracing Peripheral News Actors</i></b> <b>Prof Hayes Mabweazara</b> <i>FHEA Lecturer in Media, Communication and International Journalism (Sociology), School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Glasgow, Scotland.</i>
---------------	---

<b>SESSION 2: continued</b>	
11:35 – 11:45	<b>Keeping afloat and flowing with the tide? How emerging small-scale newspaper enterprises in Zimbabwe survive in an environment with biting economic challenges</b> <b>Leonard Makombe</b>
11:45 – 12:00	Q&A
<b>SESSION 3: Rethinking journalism curricula</b> Chaired by Dr Jeanne du Toit, Deputy Head of the School of Journalism and Media Studies, Rhodes University, South Africa	
12:00 – 12:20	Technological disruptions and the need for a new journalism curriculum <b>Prof Sarah Chiumbu</b> <i>Associate Professor in the School of Communication at the University of Johannesburg, South Africa.</i>
12:20 – 12:30	<b>COVID19 and learner-centred teaching: How the adoption of emergency blended learning pedagogies accelerated a change in teaching practice in higher education</b> <b>Sisanda Nkoala</b>
12:30 – 12:40	<b>The Diaspora Experience in Distance Education in Journalism and Media Studies for African Universities</b> <i>Prof Stanford Mukasa</i>
12:40 – 12:50	<b>An environmental ethics curriculum for journalism students</b> <b>Wiida Fourie-Basson</b>
12:50 – 13:10	Q&A
13:10 14:00	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>
<b>SESSION 4: Emerging business and revenue models</b> Chaired by Francis Mdlongwa, Director of Highway Africa and the Sol Plaatje Institute for Media Leadership, School of Journalism and Media Studies, Rhodes University, South Africa	
14:00 – 14:20	<b>Institutional realignments, hybrid organisations and revenue models for journalism – global and local trends</b> <b>Dr Harry Dugmore</b> <i>Senior Lecturer in Communication at the University of the Sunshine Coast's New Moreton Bay campus in Brisbane, Australia.</i>
14:20 – 14:30	<b>Research on the Effectiveness of Social Media as a Tool for Opening Up Spaces for Women Leaders' Participation in Zambia</b> <b>Dr Parkie Mbozi</b>
14:30 – 14:50	Q&A

**SESSION 5: Emerging media innovation and creativity**

Chaired by Prof Anthea Garman, Head of the School of Journalism and Media Studies, Rhodes University, South Africa

14:50 – 15:10	<b>Doing data-driven journalism for the Mail and Guardian</b> <b>Ms Athandiwe Saba</b> <i>Data Desk Editor at the Mail and Guardian, South Africa</i>
15:10 – 15:30	<b>Styli Charalambous</b> <i>CEO of Daily Maverick, South Africa</i>
15:30 – 15:40	<b>Scrutinising South African media companies' strategies for Generation Z's news consumption</b> <b>Lucky Brian Dlamini</b>
15:40 – 16:00	Q&A
16:00	<b>Closing remarks</b> <b>Prof Anthea Garman</b> <i>Head of the School of Journalism and Media Studies, Rhodes University, South Africa</i>