Stellenbosch
UNIVERSITY
IYUNIVESITHI
UNIVERSITEIT

Siyakhula Staff
workshop series
Growing our humanity together
20
25

TOPIC: Strengthening relational capacity to work across difference

Date: Thursday 22 May 2025

Time: 10h00-12h00

Venue: Harmonie Ladies Residence (38 Neethling Street), close to the Botanical Gardens.

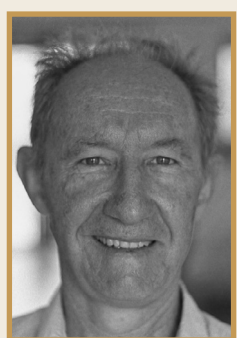**Facilitators:** Ayanda Nyoka and Dr Wilhelm Verwoerd

To RSVP and book your place email Grizelda Adams: grizeldaa@sun.ac.za
Please also advise of any accessibility needs you require

Working across differences is often fraught with mistrust and challenges, shaped by our deeply ingrained beliefs and attitudes. These barriers can hinder our ability to form meaningful, productive human connections that foster a sense of genuine inclusion and belonging within our work environments. This workshop is part of our ongoing journey to deepen relational transformation at SU. Participants are invited into a reflective space, interwoven with embodied practices of self-awareness, care, and compassion, to explore how relational capacities – such as historical (positional) awareness, compassion, and curiosity – can strengthen our ability to relate across difference and build meaningful connections.

Ayanda Nyoka is a conflict transformation practitioner, her work over the past 10 years has focused on policy and dialogue processes for racial reconciliation in South Africa. She currently facilitates intergroup dialogue processes and storytelling circles. She holds an Mphil in Religion and Culture (Cum laude) from Stellenbosch University.

Dr Wilhelm Verwoerd a former researcher within the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission and peace practitioner in (Northern) Ireland. Wilhelm is devoted to (re)humanisation/reconciliation in contexts of deep political division. His main research interests include the (incomplete legacy of the) South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission; shared historical responsibility of white South Africans for apartheid and colonialism; relational processes to transform (white) resistance to social justice in post-1994 South Africa; embodied spirituality of authentic reconciliation.