

BOLESWANA 13th INTERNATIONAL BIENNIAL SYMPOSIUM

22nd – 24th JULY 2009

Hosted by BERA

Venue: University of Botswana, Library Auditorium

Background

The BOLESWANA Symposia can be traced back to a conference on planning and coordination of educational research that was held in May 1981 in Gaborone at the then University College of Botswana (UCB) of the University of Botswana and Swaziland (UBS). The resolution to start national research associations was a starting point of collaboration and networking in educational research amongst the three countries being Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland. In 2003 Namibia joined the three countries to make BOLESWANA. Symposia are held every two years rotating between the four countries. BOLESWANA Symposia are one way of fulfilling the BERA mission statement and objectives.

Introduction

The 2009 BOLESWANA Symposium is due to be hosted by the Botswana Educational Research Association (BERA). BERA is a Non-profit-making and Non-governmental Organization founded in 1982. It is also a member of the Educational Research Network in Eastern and Southern Africa (ERNERSA), a registered trust whose secretariat is based in Botswana.

The theme for the 2009 Symposium is **Educational research and sustainable democracy for development**. This Symposium follows the one that was hosted by LERA with a Theme: **Educational research in the context of EFA targets and MGDs**.

The 2009 BOLESWANA Symposium objectives are to:

1. Provide a forum for educational researchers, policy makers and practitioners to debate educational issues.
2. Build a culture of research and information sharing within the region.
3. Disseminate educational research information within the region.
4. Enhance the role of research in educational policy, planning and practice.
5. Serve as a research coordinating mechanism within the region.
6. Build a cadre of educational researchers in the region.

Sub-Themes

- 1) **Strengthening the representative roles of communities in development**
- 2) **Power-women and sustainable democracy**
- 3) **HIV/AIDS and systematic sustainable democracy**
- 4) **Building sustainable democracy through Education**
 - Educational contents delivery and accreditation
 - International partnerships and Education
 - Educational budget, economy and sustainable democracy
- 5) **Economic liberalization**
 - Electoral practices and sustainable democracy
- 6) **Achieving political democracy**
 - Policy choices and democracy
- 7) **Policy agenda, changes and improvements and sustainable democracy**
- 8) **Support structures for democratic management of a sustainable economy**
- 9) **Commitment to democracy and transparency**
- 10) **Disadvantaged groups/communities and sustainable democracy**

Submission of abstracts

Abstracts for the Symposium should not be more than 150 words. They should include the following:

- Title
- Name of Author/Authors
- Email and Postal addresses
- Telephone and fax numbers

The abstract should indicate the specific sub-theme that will be addressed in the paper/report, and should describe the purpose of the study, the methodology used, the results and conclusions. The topic of the paper should not be more than fifteen (15) words.

IMPORTANT DATES

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 18th March 2009 | Submission of abstracts |
| 30th April 2009 | Notification of acceptance |
| 29th May 2009 | Submission of full papers,
(Paper length: maximum 8 pages and strictly APA style) |

ABSTRACTS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO BERA OFFICE AT bera@mopipi.ub.bw

Attention Monica or Tebogo, BERA office

P O Box 70205 Gaborone, Botswana, Telephone: (267) 3552838

Please make copies to the following:

E-mail: matsogaj@mopipi.ub.bw, **Dr. J. T. Matsoga**, Chairperson Department of Educational Foundations, University of Botswana, P/Bag 0022, Gaborone, Botswana. Telephone Number: (267) 3555112.

E-mail: lekokorn@mopipi.ub.bw, **Dr. R. N. Lekoko**, Deputy Chairperson, Department of Adult Education, University of Botswana, P/Bag 0022 Gaborone, Botswana. Telephone Number: (267) 3552065.

VISAS AND ACCOMMODATION

Some visitors to Botswana will require a visa for entry into the country. Travellers are therefore advised to contact the nearest embassy or consulate as soon as they get this information. If you require a letter for the purposes of applying for a visa then send an email to the below listed people:

Monica & Tebogo, BERA office
 P O Box 70205 Gaborone, Botswana, Telephone: (267) 3552838
bera@mopipi.ub.bw

Participants travelling by air from outside of Gaborone should book flights landing at Sir Seretse Khama International Airport. A shuttle service will operate from this airport to the conference venue. If you opted for accommodation outside the venue please arrange for your own transport.

For more information on travelling visit our Airline: www.airbotswana.co.bw or make arrangements with travel agents of your choice.

Accommodation may be booked at the conference centre as follows:

University of Botswana Dormitories

- Masters self catering rooms, single rooms and shared ablutions BWP 80.00
- Single rooms BWP 33.00
- Double BWP 66.00

Alternative accommodation may be booked by delegates themselves in lodging facilities close to the conference centre. Participants may choose from the following:

Name & Room type	Contact Information	Rates in BWP	Km's from Venue
Mondior Summit	Tel: (267) 319 0600 Fax: (267) 319 0660 www.mondior.com/gaborone		
Studio room		905.00	1.2
1 Bedroom suite		1140.00	
2 Bedrooms suite		1670.00	
Metcourt Inn	Tel: (267) 363 7905 Fax: (267) 3910402		
Standard Room		417.00	8
Executive Room		477.00	
Lolwapa lodge	Tel: (267) 3184865 Fax: (267) 3184865		
Standard Room Single		210.00	A walking distance
Standard Room Double		245.00	
Executive Room Single		255.00	
Motheo Apartments	Tel: (267) 318 1587		

Studio apartment 1 bedroom 2 bedrooms Town house	Fax: (267) 318 1741	468.00 514.00 852.00 930.00	2
Oasis Motel: Standard Executive	Tel: (267) 392 8396 Fax: (267) 392 8568	332.00 387.00	6
Gaborone Hotel Single/Double	Tel: (267) 392 2777 Fax: (267) 392 2727	276.00	4.5
Cresta lodge Standard Room	Tel: (267) 397 5375 Fax: (267) 390 0635	797.00	2.5
Gaborone Sun Standard Bed & breakfast Luxury Suite Presidential	Tel: (267) 361 6000 Fax: (267) 390 2555 www.suninternational.com	1035 1800 2500 3500	1

****NB: Rates are in Botswana Pula (BWP) ****

Symposium Fees:

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|-----|-------------------------|--|
| (a) | Local students: | P120 (Early bird registration)
P150 (Late registration) |
| (b) | International students | 120USD (Early bird registration)
150USD (Late registration) |
| (c) | Local participants: | P500 (Early bird registration)
P600 (Late registration) |
| (d) | International Delegates | 150 USD (Early bird registration)
175 USD (Late registration) |

Organizations willing to reserve spaces for their employees can do so at reduced prices as follows:

- | | | |
|-----|--------------|---|
| (a) | 5 Employees | P2000 (Early bird)
P2500 (Late registration) |
| (b) | 10 employees | P4500 (Early bird)
P5000 (Late registration) |

NB: All fees should be deposited before 30th June to be considered as early registration.

BERA account details are available on request for depositing cash.

The fees include payment for publication of proceedings to be circulated to participants.

Participants (Who should attend the conference)

All educators and non educators are targeted.

Conference Organizers

- Botswana Educational Research Association (BERA)
- Lesotho Educational Research Association (LERA)
- Swaziland Educational Research (SERA)
- Namibia Educational Research (NERA)
- Ministry of Education and Skills Development (MoE)
- University of Botswana (UB)