

Testimonials and Feedback:

“Firstly, I would like to thank Dr Singh and the team for taking such good care of me and making me feel so welcome. The conference venue was beautiful. From my side, I really enjoyed and benefitted from the keynote speakers and the plenary sessions. I also liked the diversity of topics. It was very interesting to gain some insight into other fields of study apart from IT and IS. I must admit giving me the role of report writing was a new experience for me and it really did keep me focused in many of the presentations. It was interesting to capture the essence of most of these topics. This also assisted me with my presentation. The conference bags and the contents was also extremely useful. The road maps and little notebooks and pens were really appreciated from my side. The gala evening was also very lively and entertaining. It really was a good way to end the conference. It was my first time, and as I mentioned, it was an amazing experience for me to be a part of such a prestigious function.” Ms Sumaya Hoosen, PhD student, DUT.

“Thank you for your leadership. It was definitely better organized than the first one. It is a great achievement to have 72 papers presented and keynote addresses over 2 days is amazing. Well done to Dr Singh, OU and UKZN team. It felt great having our Dean there with us and we really appreciate.” Prof Maxwell Phiri, eMIG Organising Committee Member.

“The conference was a resounding success and thanks to Dr Singh and Mr Appavoo for putting up such a great project. I especially enjoyed the keynote speakers and the fact that the conference was opened by the acting president of the republic. The venue was splendid and I really enjoyed my time out in Mauritius. One of the areas of improvement I would suggest is perhaps having the conference spread over 3 days. Or at least 2.5 days just to allow a little bit more flexibility in terms of attending the various tracks. And also, the conference programme needs a little more time than we had this time around to make sure that it is accurate and that delegates present in the correct tracks, with accurate presentation titles and author names.” Mr Siyabonga Mhlongo, PhD Student, UJ.

“I would like to thank Dr Singh and the rest of the E-mig organising team very much for putting together such an insightful multidisciplinary conference. It was my first travel to Mauritius, and the date, time, location of the conference were perfect for me. As an beginning academic, I was delighted and grateful for such an opportunity to present two papers at an international conference. It was great to make connections with beginning academics and more experienced academics, to get feedback about my research, and learn about the work of other presenting delegates. Thanks so much for organising the site visit tours. It was wonderful to visit such beautiful sites of Mauritius and experience the warm reception from Mauritians. Perhaps a visit to the OU could also be added to a future E-mig conference in Mauritius. I also recall one of the keynote speakers saying that “we should strive to think in a non-linear fashion to produce unique results...” And I think this is a fundamental skill needed in academia which can aid our research solve some of the most significant concerns in Africa.” Ms Nuria Cadete, PhD Student, UKZN.

“One of the best world class organized conference from planning, logistics, accommodation, sessions and post activities. Highlights of the events for me both keynote speakers, gave fundamental insightful thoughts one has never tapped on. Changed the existing mindset one had and though they were sufficient only to found out you have not even touch the surface. Level of connection within delegates was on a common warm ground, no hierarchical structure existed. One of it’s kind perfectly executed, shared love, laughter and happiness. I concur with the suggestions by Director OU to have one day on research added. To Dr Upasana & Prof Mutula you are serving your calling thy shall prosper & be blessed.” Ms MaNgcobo Gumede, PhD Student, UKZN.

“Thanks to Dr Singh & the organizing committee for a superb conference. The level of professionalism & meticulous planning has paid dividends. As academics a visit to OU would have been very insightful. Networking which was not possible during the conference, could have been done during a scheduled visit.” Dr Anisha Ramsaroop, Lecturer, UKZN.

“Thank you for organizing a wonderful conference. I was very grateful for the insights of my colleagues from other disciplines, and returned home with my mind on fire.” Ms Dusty-Lee Donnelly, Lecturer, UKZN

“I appreciated the successful joint planning, organisation, leadership and control systems between OUM and UKZN teams. I also appreciated the involvement of students indiscriminately. The collegial environment the conference provided to all delegates. I valued the plenary sessions and the choice of panellists. I enjoyed the plenary on Governance and Sustainable development and SDGs, and the one on Technology in Education. The students’ papers demonstrated a lot of potential in the future of research in MIG. Areas of consideration for the next e-MIG I suggest a component on Research and Supervision (papers or workshop/seminars). PhD Colloquium papers especially catering for papers of doctoral work in progress and just been completed or even proposal stage. This should function as a supportive session and also a learning platform for those considering to embark on the doctoral journey in eMIG disciplines. From side of our SA delegation (UKZN, NMMU, UNISA among other institutions represented) I am grateful for Upasana's Leadership and coordination. It goes without saying that you worked sleepless nights before and during the conference. Also the colleagues that volunteered to assist with different tasks wrapped with the gala dinner items you did represent us all well and proudly.” Dr Madondo, UKZN

“Compared to other conferences I attended in the past: this was more inclusive in terms of organising and participation. Speakers and Presenters were superb. Speakers broadened my knowledge on 4th Industrial revolution and what to expect. Presenters’ experiences and presentation broadened my knowledge further on research and even prompted me on next research I should work on. Thinking of decolonization beyond languages is something that came up and I enjoyed the discussion on it. Sorry I missed the south tour but posted pictures and videos still kept me involved and the north tour compensated as I equally enjoyed it. In all I enjoyed it.” Mr Martin Ujakpa, PhD student, DUT.

“This conference gave space for new connections to be made in a warm environment. These connections will benefit those we serve. Not only did we connect with local academics but with others from other nations. For that, and the points mentioned, I am truly grateful.” Mr Afikile Sikwaba, PhD Student, NMMU.

“Thank you for a wonderful and stimulating conference. The conference was enjoyable and was a great place to network with other people. The people at the conference were very friendly. The conference generated a lot of ideas on how to continue to expand my skills and my professional qualifications.” Ms Naisha Ramlal, PhD student, UKZN.

“I wanted to thank Dr Singh for her excellent management of what has turned out to be a successful and highly stimulating conference. The conference has been a great success in all possible respects. I hope you continue the series and I wish you all the best with that.” Ms Sheetal Tom, PhD Student, CUT.

“I was the only one from GSB at the EMIG conference, I wish to take the opportunity to thank Dr Singh for the good conference organised and which turned out to be a success. I have conveyed the good news to my fellow colleagues at my school and am convinced that they will attend next time. Keep up the good work. Thank you again” Dr Bibi Chummun, Lecturer, UKZN

“The Conference was very well organised and the academic content was excellent and the deliberations proved to be robust. Positive outcomes of the Conference will be the Conference Proceedings and the Special Issue of the Journal. Perhaps another one of the highlights of the Conference was the Corporate Visit and the Study Tour which enabled participants to gain greater insight on Mauritius as a country - what works and what are some of the good practices we can take back to our respective countries. Mauritius is number one in the SADC Region when it comes to good governance. Much of the credit for the success of the Conference goes to you. It was no easy task

organising an international conference where the host universities are in two different countries. Hopefully, we will continue with this collaborative initiative and we can take it to greater heights in the future.” Prof Purshottama Reddy, eMIG Organising Committee member.

“The Conference was informative and insightful. In my case, I was interested in technological tools and AI in particular. The presentations provided a holistic view of where we are and what the future holds. I have been deliberating on what to focus on with regards to my research career and my ambitions. I had a mind shift as I was able to interact with the experts in research. What stood out for me was the free knowledge that I acquired. I must say that I now have a clear mandate that I received indirectly from the delegates. Am grateful to the experience as this was my first academic conference that I have attended. The environment was conducive and inspiring. Thank you for a well organized conference.” Ms Feziwe Khomo, PhD Student, DUT.

“I would like to add to consider a 3rd day. 5 streams concurrently made it very hard to choose what to attend and we missed many other valuable presentations. I echo the thanks and appreciation for a great conference.” Dr Sue Petratos, Lecturer, NMMU.