



RESEARCH ASSOCIATE SYMPOSIUM (Save the date / Expression of Interest)

6 August 2018

The Sustainability Research Unit (SRU) of the Nelson Mandela University invites you to the 3rd Research Associate Symposium taking place on the 6th of August 2018 at the George Campus.

The Symposium showcases and celebrates research work and its outcomes undertaken by Associates within the SRU and the School of Natural Resource Management (SNRM) on the George Campus of Nelson Mandela University. It provides an exciting day of engagement between research associates, academics, students and practitioners to discuss the impact of on-going and new research in the field of natural resource management and its allied disciplines.

This year the intention is that the proceedings of the day will allow us to reflect on current research on the George Campus and additional areas of potential research and practice within a social ecological framework.

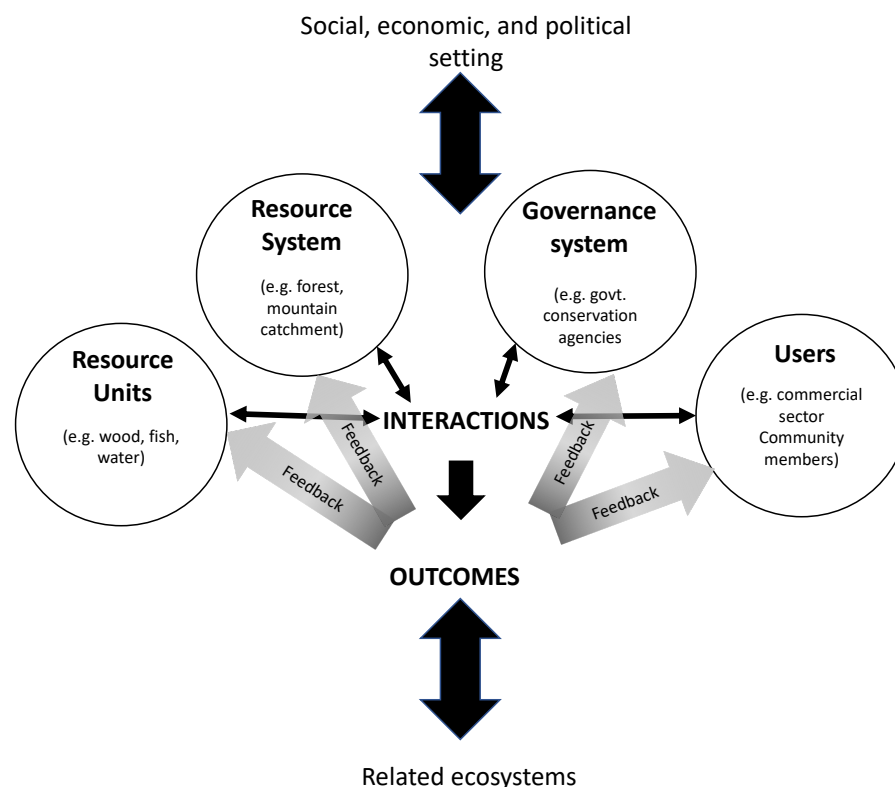
The Research Associate Symposium will include:

- A **keynote address** focused on the role of long term social ecological research (LTSER) in Africa by Professor Herve Fritz.
- Several **10 and 30-minute presentations** showcasing current areas of research, the outcomes of the research, and its significance
- **Small group dialogue** around critical social-ecological systems (SES) issues
- Cheese and wine **social networking event** concluding the 1st day
- Optional extra **field trip** on day 2 examining the restoration and recovery after the Knysna fires. The trip will include a talk out in the field by Dr. Tineke Kraaij, a Fynbos ecologist with a specific interest in fire ecology, alien plant invasion and improving control measures. More details to follow. (Cost: R500)

Inviting abstracts

We are inviting abstracts that illustrate critical issues highlighting one or more of the components (sub systems) found within a social ecological system and how the topic contributes to understanding a particular social ecological system problem.

The relationship between humans and their environment is embedded in a complex social ecological system (SES) in which social and ecological components are integrated. SESs are composed of several subsystems and internal variables at spatial and temporal scales. Anderies et, al. (2004)¹, Ostrom (2009)² and more recently McGinnis and Ostrom (2014)³ provide a common framework by which to assess the social and ecological dimensions and identify the variables for study that can contribute to sustainable resource use and management.



(Parrot et, al. (2012) adapted from Ostrom (2009))

The social ecological systems framework helps to transcend differing resource sectors, geographic areas, biophysical conditions and temporal domains providing a common language and structure in which to describe, diagnose and organise research finding so that they are cumulative.

¹ Anderies, J.M., Janssen, M.A., and Ostrom, E. 2004. A framework to analyse the robustness of social ecological systems from an institutional perspective. *Ecology and Society* 9(1): 18. <https://www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol9/iss1/art18/>

² Ostrom, E. 2009. A general framework for analysing sustainability of social ecological systems. *Science* 325, 419

³ McGinnis, M.D. and Ostrom, E. 2014. Social ecological system framework initial changes and continuing challenges. *Ecology and Society* 19(2): 30. <https://www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol19/iss2/art30/>

4 Parrott, L., Chion, C., Gonzalès, R., and Latombe, G. 2012. Agents, individuals, and networks: modeling methods to inform natural resource management in regional landscapes. *Ecology and Society* 17(3): 32. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5751/ES-04936-170332>



Please register your interest in attending and or presenting at the 2018 Research Associate Symposium by filling out the following form and returning it by 9 July 2018 to:

Ms Luzanne Visagie
SRU Administrative Coordinator
Tel: 044 801 5127
Luzanne.Visagie@mandela.ac.za

SRU 2018 - Research Associate Symposium EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM

Full Name			
Affiliations			
Email address			
Telephone number			
Cell number			
Postal address			
Type of interest	I wish to attend		I wish to present
Format of presentation (if applicable)	10-minute presentation		30-minute presentation
Abstract (300 words) (if applicable)			
Cheese and Wine social event	I wish to attend the cheese and wine social event		
Field trip	I am thinking about attending the optional field trip on the 2 nd day at a cost of R500.		
Special dietary requirements (halal, kosher, vegetarian, etc.)			

Looking forward to seeing you there.