

Dear Scholars

We are pleased to invite you to participate in the **Social Justice and Engaged Scholarship Dialogue Series, 2026** to commence on **27 May 2026 at 1pm**. As introduced during the Connecting Events earlier this year, and shared across our online platforms and scholar communities, the Dialogue Series forms an important part of the collective intellectual engagement and leadership development within the Canon Collins network.

The series is aimed particularly at new and second-year scholars and reflects our ongoing commitment to fostering critical inquiry, collaborative learning, and meaningful engagement across the scholarship programme. While participation is not compulsory, scholars are strongly encouraged to attend and contribute to the discussions throughout the series.

Purpose of the Dialogue Series

The overall purpose of the course is to build critical understanding of the relationship between Socially Engaged Scholarship and Social Justice.

Through the series, scholars will have the opportunity to:

- Situate social justice within historical and contemporary contexts
- Explore the theory and practice of social justice through discussion and lived experience
- Develop deeper theoretical and practical understandings of the relationship between social justice and engaged scholarship
- Engage participatory research methodologies and approaches that advance social justice
- Build collective learning, solidarity, and socially engaged scholarship practices

The Dialogue Series will bring together scholars, practitioners, artists, and public intellectuals working across diverse disciplines, research areas, and social contexts.



Facilitators

The facilitators for the online series are two highly experienced scholars. **Leigh Ann Naidoo (PhD)**, is lecturer in the School of Education at the University of Cape Town and **Asher Gamedze (PhD)** is lecturer at the Department of Historical Studies at the University of the Western Cape. Both scholars are public intellectuals with deep experience in social justice.

CCT Online Learning Management Platform

The Dialogue Series will be conducted using the Canon Collins Online Learning Management Platform (LMP). Learning support materials will be available and accessible to all participants through the LMP. Lindia Trout provides technical assistance for the LMP.



All participants can register to participate [here](#) or scan the QR code here

Sessions

The Dialogue Series consists of 7 sessions of which the first session will serve as an orientation session. Below you will find a breakdown of the sessions, dates and times.

Orientation Session

Wednesday, 27 May 2026 | 13:00–15:00 - Introduction to the Learning Management Platform

Session 1

Orientation and the Question of Engaged Scholarship
Thursday, 25 June 2026 | 13:00–15:00
Featured scholar: Ivor Baatjes

Session 4

Museums, Archives and Public Engagement
Tuesday, 15 September 2026 | 13:00–15:00
Featured scholar: Matseliso Motsoane

Session 2

Practice as Research – oudano – odaalate
Thursday, 30 July 2026 | 13:00–15:00
Featured scholar: Nashilongweshipwe Mushaandja

Session 5

The Question of Engaged Scholarship
Thursday, 1 October 2026 | 13:00–15:00
Featured scholar: Rasigan Maharajh

Session 3

Research as/and Solidarity – Political Economy and Analysis
Thursday, 27 August 2026 | 13:00–15:00
Featured scholars: Nisrin Elamin and Yusra Khogali

Session 6

Blow it Open / Wrap it Up–Projects, Pathways, Publication and Revolutionary Papers
Thursday, 29 October 2026 | 13:00–15:00
Facilitators: Asher Gamedze and Leigh-Ann Naidoo

The Dialogue Series is an important space for critical reflection, rigorous discussion, collaboration, and community-building among scholars working across different disciplines and contexts. We warmly welcome you and encourage you to participate and contribute to the conversations.



Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact **Catherine Sofianos** on catherine@canoncollins.org or **Ivor Baatjes** on ivor@canoncollins.org

Kind regards,

Ivor Baatjes

Executive Director,
Canon Collins Trust



Ivor Baatjes
