

SPOTLIGHT ON PRIS 2026

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF RANGELANDS & PASTORALISTS

UKZN's College of Agriculture, Engineering and Science (CAES) is hosting the 2026 Postgraduate Research and Innovation Symposium (PRIS) in person at Coastlands Hotel, Musgrave. CAES provides all Masters and PhD students in the School of Agriculture and Science and from the School of Engineering with the opportunity to showcase their research through oral and flash presentations.



Professor Frank Matose

*Professor and Environmental
Sociologist, University of Cape Town*



Professor David Lokhat

*Professor in Chemical Engineering,
University of KwaZulu-Natal*



Dr Kiara Worth

storyteller and photographer



PRIS KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Professor Frank Matose
*Professor and Environmental Sociologist,
University of Cape Town*

Frank Matose is professor and environmental sociologist in the Department of Sociology, University of Cape Town, South Africa.

His research focuses on the political ecology of conservation, collaborative forest management, and commons governance in Africa. His current research project is titled Resilient and Equitable Nature-based Pathways in Southern African Rangelands (REPAiR).

SCIENCE WITH JAZZ

Full Professor in the Discipline of Chemical Engineering at UKZN, where he also received his BSc Eng, MSc Eng and PhD degrees. He joined the Institution in 2013 as a lecturer and ascended to the position of Full Professor in 2024.

Lokhat was the Academic Leader for Chemical Engineering from 2019 to 2026 and is currently the uMngeni-uThukela Water Chair in Water Resources Research and Innovation, and the African Rainbow Minerals Chair in Sustainable Engineering and Process Intensification.



Professor David Lokhat

Professor in Chemical Engineering, University of KwaZulu-Natal



Lu Dlamini

Vocalist, Composer and traditional instrumentalist

Durban-based vocalist, composer and a traditional instrumentalist. Dlamini, who hails from the Natal South Coast and comes from a musical family, is known for her distinctive style, as showcased in her previous album, “Ulimilam.” In her reflections, Dlamini draws on South Africa’s complex history, noting the contrast between the hopeful songs of the past and the current challenges faced by many.

GALA DINNER KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Dr Kiara Worth
Storyteller and Photographer

Dr Kiara Worth is a storyteller and photographer based in Cape Town, South Africa, known for her work in sustainability activism and international negotiations. She has a background in political science and agriculture, and she covers topics such as climate change, biodiversity, and sustainable development in her photography and writing.

Kiara has been featured in major publications like the New York Times and The Guardian, and she has worked as a photo-journalist in Papua New Guinea, using her stories to communicate sustainability issues.



PRIS 2026 LAUNCH



HIGHLIGHT VIDEO



YouTube

For more information

Dr Sally Frost
Frosts@ukzn.ac.za
031 260 7642

Siphesihle Shezi
SheziS4@ukzn.ac.za
031 260 7878

Nqobile Mthuli
MthuliN@ukzn.ac.za
031 260 8563



www.pris.ukzn.ac.za

INSPIRING GREATNESS