

MEDIA RELEASE	PSA encourages participation in Human Sciences Research Council Annual Conference 2026
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) wishes to bring to the attention of public servants, academics, researchers, students, policymakers, practitioners, and members of the public the upcoming Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) Annual Conference 2026, scheduled for 15 and 16 September 2026.

For more than five decades, the HSRC has played a pivotal role in shaping South Africa's social and economic development through evidence-based research. As the largest research institute on the African continent focusing on the social sciences and humanities, the HSRC conducts and disseminates research that helps address critical national challenges, including poverty, inequality, unemployment, and social development. Its work supports the development of policies and programmes that improve the lives of South Africans whilst fostering innovation and sustainable development. The HSRC does not merely generate knowledge - it actively works to ensure that research findings influence public policy, service delivery, and development outcomes. Through strong local, regional, and international partnerships across the public, private, and community sectors, the HSRC contributes significantly to informed decision-making and social progress.

The PSA welcomes the HSRC's call for abstract and paper submissions for presentation at the 2026 HSRC Annual Conference. The Conference presents an important platform for sharing research, innovative ideas, and practical solutions to the social, economic, and governance challenges facing South Africa and the African continent. Submitted abstracts be between 250 and 300 words and clearly state the research problem, objectives, methodology, and key findings or arguments. Abstracts must include the title of the paper, identify the relevant conference theme, include up to five keywords, and include the author's name, affiliation, position, and contact details.

The abstract submission deadline is 15 July 2026 with notification of acceptance on 20 July 2026. Full paper submission is due on 15 August 2026. The final programme will be released on 10 September 2026. Selected papers may be considered for publication in an edited volume, special journal issue, conference proceedings, or policy brief series. The PSA calls on interested persons and institutions to seize this opportunity to contribute to research, policy development, and nation-building by submitting abstracts before the closing date.

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