

ICER 2024

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Mini Track on SoTL – the Pitfalls and Practicalities of Researching your own Teaching and Learning Practices

Mini Track Chair: Professor Gerda Reitsma, Independent Higher Education Consultant, South Africa



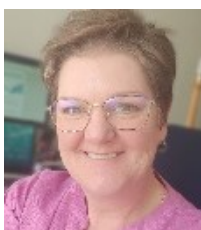
Researching your own teaching and learning practices can contribute to better practices and increased student success. The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) is a scientific process of understanding the **what**, **why** and **what** if of teaching and learning practice through applied educational research methodology. However, the ethical and scientific pitfalls associated with the lecturer as researcher, using your own students as research participants and classroom as research setting requires a careful

and sensitive approach to this kind of research.

In this track, we will share with you best practices and recommendations for ethical and scientific research methodology to conduct SoTL research in a way that will a) produce publishable research findings; b) adhere to ethical requirements; c) impact teaching and learning practices; and d) contribute to student success.

Topics of interest include but are not limited to:

- SoTL – where to start – from idea to research topic.
- Qualitative or Quantitative? Choosing a research design for SoTL research.
- The lecturer as researcher – flagging the ethical issues in time.
- Where and how to publish SoTL research.



Prof Gerda Reitsma is an independent Higher Education Consultant providing education and research related services and training to individuals and higher education institutions for the past two years. She has more than 30 years' experience in teaching, research, and management in the Higher Education sector. She was previously the Director of the Centre for Health Professions Education at the NWU, and before that SoTL researcher and mentor at CTL NWU. Prof Reitsma has published and co-published more than 30 international and national articles and book chapters during her academic career, where she focussed on the development of lecturers as university teachers, mentoring academics in SoTL and supervising post-graduate students in education-related research studies.

Submission details

In the first instance a 300 word abstract is required, to be received by **1st May 2024**. Submissions must be made using the online submission form at: <https://www.academic-conferences.org/conferences/icer/icer-abstract-submission/>

If you have any questions about this track please email the mini track chairs: gerdaRconsultancy@gmail.com

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