



SPRING SCHOOL

Research in Engineering Education: Towards Sustainable Transformation

BUILDING RESEARCH CAPACITY FOR ENGINEERING EDUCATION FUTURES



27–30 October 2026



University of Cape Town, South Africa

Hosted by the **Centre for Research in Engineering Education (CREE)** at the University of Cape Town in collaboration with KTH Royal Institute of Technology (Sweden) with the **Intra-Africa Mobility Consortium** and international partners.

An Immersive Research Development Experience with African Roots and Global Reach

The **Engineering Education Research Spring School** brings together doctoral candidates, early-career researchers, and established scholars from across Africa and beyond for four days of intensive engagement in engineering education research (EER).

Grounded in **African and Global South perspectives**, while engaging deeply with international scholarship and the broader European Engineering Education community, the Spring School creates a space for participants to critically explore the future of engineering education research in rapidly changing social, technological, and sustainability contexts.

Through plenary panels, interactive workshops, mentoring engagements, peer dialogue, and reflective activities, participants will strengthen their research capacity, deepen methodological understanding, and develop meaningful scholarly networks across institutions and regions.

The programme places particular emphasis on:

- Sustainable transformation in engineering education
- Research design and methodological coherence
- Publication and scholarly communication
- Academic identity and career pathways
- Mentorship and collaborative inquiry
- Connecting research and practice in diverse educational contexts

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

The Spring School is designed for:

- Masters and PhD candidates in Engineering Education Research
- Early-career researchers
- Academics exploring Engineering Education scholarship
- Researchers interested in sustainability, transformation, and innovation in higher education

International participants are warmly welcomed.

Further information regarding registration, accommodation options, and programme logistics will be shared soon.

PRE-SPRING SCHOOL PREPARATION

As part of the preparation process, participants will be required to complete an **Expression of Interest form** prior to attending the Spring School. The form will include a short outline of their research project and current progress.

This submission must:

- Be written in the participant's own words and without AI assistance
- Clearly describe the research topic and its context
- Outline the research questions and current stage of the study
- Indicate planned next steps and areas where support or feedback would be valuable

More detailed guidelines for preparing this outline will be shared with selected participants in advance of the Spring School.

This preparation is intended to support meaningful participation in mentoring activities, workshops, peer discussions, and the matching of participants with relevant mentors and sessions throughout the programme.

TUESDAY 27 OCT: DAY 1 – ORIENTATION, COMMUNITY, AND RESEARCH JOURNEYS

The Spring School begins by building a collaborative scholarly community. Participants and mentors will share their research journeys, identify key challenges in their projects, and establish personal learning goals for the week ahead.

Highlights include, research sharing with peers and mentors, reflective goal setting, community building and networking

WEDNESDAY 28 OCT: DAY 2 – RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGICAL PATHWAYS

This day focuses on strengthening research design and methodological decision-making in engineering education research. Through plenary discussions and parallel streams, participants will explore both qualitative and quantitative approaches while critically considering coherence between research questions, theory, methods, and analysis.

Parallel streams include:

- Interview methods in Engineering Education Research
- Quantitative approaches in Engineering Education Research
- Mentor-supported refinement of research designs

THURSDAY 29 OCT: DAY 3 – RELEVANCE, SUSTAINABILITY, AND SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION

Participants will critically engage with questions of relevance, impact, and sustainability in engineering education research. Sessions will explore writing for publication, peer review processes, and sustainable development perspectives in engineering education.

Highlights include writing for journals and conferences, sustainable development perspectives in research, one-on-one mentoring sessions, constructive feedback and peer review practices

FRIDAY 30 OCT: DAY 4 – ACADEMIC IDENTITY AND FUTURE PATHWAYS

The final day focuses on academic identity, ethical leadership, and building sustainable careers in engineering education research. Participants will synthesise their learning and share key take-home insights through short presentations.

Highlights include academic identity and career development, ethical leadership in Engineering Education Research, participant presentations and reflections, closing dialogue and future collaborations



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<https://intra-africa-cb4ee.co.za/index>

