

## KENTON CONFERENCE 2008 Kenton ko Thabeng tso Mogale

# 350 YEARS OF FORMAL SCHOOLING IN SOUTH AFRICA: WHERE TO FROM HERE?

The 2008 Kenton Education Association Conference will be held at Magaliesberg Conference Centre in Broederstroom, Gauteng ( <http://www.magalies.co.za> ) from 23-26 October, 2008.

### FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS

2008 marks the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formal establishment of the first school in South Africa. This school was established by Jan van Riebeeck, Commander of the refreshment station at the Cape of Good Hope, on Wednesday the 17<sup>th</sup> April, 1658 for the male and female slave children brought to the Cape on the slave-ship, the *Amersfoort*. The entry in his journal announcing the event goes as follows:

*Fine Morning. Arrangements were started for establishing a school for the Company's male and female slaves brought here from Angola by the Amersfoort, which had taken them off a prize Portuguese slaver. The sick-comforter Pieter van der Stael of Rotterdam has been entrusted with the task of giving them instruction in the morning and afternoon.... To encourage the slaves to attend and to hear or learn the Christian prayers, it is ordered that after school everyone is to receive a small glass of brandy and two inches of tobacco. All their names are to be written down and those who have none, are to be given names, paired or unpaired, young or old. All this is to be done in the presence of the Commander, who will attend for a few days to put everything in proper order and subject those people to proper discipline....<sup>1</sup>*

As this journal entry indicates, the reproductive intent of schooling in South Africa has been present from its inception. While its forms and functions have undergone various changes, schooling in South Africa has consistently reproduced and continues to reproduce various and varying forms of inequality – from the subordination and disciplining of slaves, through the subjugation of the majority of South Africans through Bantu Education, to the reproduction of “two economies” with its attendant “two types” of schooling currently. Kenton 2008 hopes to focus on the various challenges schooling and education in South Africa face in order to create an educational system that is based on a culture of human rights, democracy and social justice.

The following are some conceptual binaries, often used to think about formal schooling, which may assist prospective participants in preparing their contributions to the conference. They may also be contested:

- Formal and/or informal education
- Local and/or global influences on education
- School knowledge and/or everyday knowledge
- Acquisition of and/or participation in knowledge
- Processes and/or the products of schooling
- Face-to-face and/or distance schooling
- Universalism and/or specificity of knowledge in schooling
- General and/or particular forms of knowledge and schooling
- The roles of experts and/or stakeholders in education

---

<sup>1</sup> Molteno, F (1984) The historical foundations of the schooling of South Africans, in: Kallaway, P (Ed) Apartheid and Education: The Education of black South Africans ( Johannesburg, Ravan Press); Soudien, C (2007) Youth identity in contemporary South Africa: Race, culture and schooling (Claremont, New Africa Education); and, [http://www.iziko.org.za/sh/resources/slavery/slavelodge\\_life.html](http://www.iziko.org.za/sh/resources/slavery/slavelodge_life.html)

**A Call for Papers is hereby being made for participants to present papers at the Kenton Conference to be held from 23 – 26 October 2008**

Participants are requested to submit their abstracts for paper presentations which link up with the theme of the conference to the conference administrator, Mapaseka Nkosi, at [mapaseka.nkosi@wits.ac.za](mailto:mapaseka.nkosi@wits.ac.za) , by **31 July, 2008**. Presentations may be single papers (abstract max of 300 words), multiple paper sessions (overview of presentation max of 300 words plus an abstract for each constituent paper) or poster presentations (abstract max of 300 words). Please indicate clearly how the paper(s) links up with the theme of the conference or any of the sub-themes (the binaries) indicated above. Participants will receive feedback on their submitted abstracts by the **end of August, 2008**.

**Conference Fees**

<b>Before 15<sup>th</sup> August 2008:</b>		<b>After 15<sup>th</sup> August 2008:</b>	
Full conference package	R1580.00	Full conference package	R1738.00
Day package	R895.00 and R565 for a second day.	Day package	R975.00 and R565 for a second day.
½ day package	R 660.00 and R330 for a second ½ day.	½ day package	R725.00 and R330 for a second ½ day.
Student full conference package	R1110.00	Student full conference package	R1220.00
Student day package	R730.00 and R400 for a second day.	Student day package	R800.00 and R400 for a second day.
Student ½ day package	R555.00 and R225 for a second ½ day.	Student ½ day package	R600.00 and R225 for a second ½ day.
(includes lunches)		(includes lunches)	

**Note that these fees all include membership of the Kenton Education Association for the coming year, which entitles you, amongst other benefits, to receive copies of the association’s official academic journal, *Journal of Education*.**

**Accommodation**

**Accommodation may be booked at the conference centre for three nights as follows:**

- Option 1.** DB & B Single accommodation, deluxe, 3 nights @ R560 per night
- Option 2.** DB & B Single accommodation, ensuite bathroom, 3 nights @ R380 per night
- Option 3.** DB & B Shared accommodation, ensuite bathroom, 3 nights @ R300 per night
- Option 4.** DB & B Single accommodation, one bathroom shared between 2 rooms, 3 nights @ R 325 per night
- Option 5.** DB & B Shared accommodation, one bathroom shared between 2 rooms, 3 nights @ R 250 per night
- Option 6.** DB & B Shared student accommodation, one bathroom shared between 2 rooms, 3 nights @ R 200 per night

**Alternative accommodation** may be booked by delegates themselves in a number of venues close to the conference centre. Mapaseka Nkosi will be pleased to send you a list of recommended venues.

**Note that we shall allocate participants to shared accommodation only if they explicitly request this, and if they mutually specify the colleague with whom they wish to share.**

Participants travelling from outside of Gauteng should book flights landing at **Lanseria Airport**. A shuttle service will operate from this Airport to the conference venue. The cost will be R40-00 per person one way or R75-00 return. Depending on demand, we shall also set up a transport service **at specified times** from **Oliver Tambo International Airport**, but the costs of this will be considerably higher.

Mapaseka Nkosi will be happy to send you an application form for the conference. Please contact her at [mapaseka.nkosi@wits.ac.za](mailto:mapaseka.nkosi@wits.ac.za) for this and any other queries regarding the conference.