



MALAWI 2025 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

6th to 8th August 2025, Sunbird Nkopola Hotel, Mangochi, Malawi

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The National Council for Higher Education (NCHE), in conjunction with the Universities and Colleges Association of Malawi (UCAM), is pleased to announce a **call for abstracts/papers, poster presentations and displays/exhibitions** at the Malawi 2025 International Conference on Higher Education to be held at **Sunbird Nkopola Hotel in Mangochi** from **6th to 8th August 2025**.

The aim of the conference is to bring together scholars, educators, community representatives, industry experts, policymakers, and other stakeholders to disseminate information regarding research and development, innovations and technologies, quality assurance and accreditation, policy development, trends in higher education, and share experiences and facilitate networking and collaborations on key activities and progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union Agenda 2063.

Conference Theme

The conference will be held under the theme **“Transforming Higher Education”**. The theme has been strategically chosen mindful of the rapidly evolving nature of education due to technological advancements, changing national priorities and societal needs. Higher education must drive national agenda, and systematic transformation is imperative towards realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030 and the AU agenda 2063: The Africa We Want. As part of this needed transformation, higher education must purposely shift from education 3.0 to education 5.0, where innovation and industrialisation are the linchpin for economic transformation. Quality assurance plays a critical role in the successful transformation of education, ensuring that changes align with global standards, learning outcomes and current and future workforce needs.

Therefore, **all submissions must be within the following sub-themes:**

1. Systemic Quality Transformation

- a) Emerging trends in quality assurance
- b) Transformational approaches to institutional development
- c) Systems thinking in higher education quality
- d) Transformation of assessment practices in higher education

2. Leadership and Governance Excellence

- a) Transformational leadership in quality assurance
- b) Institutional governance and management
- c) Academic leadership development
- d) Addressing brain drain challenges

3. Resource Sustainability and Innovation

- a) Income generation and financial sustainability
- b) Research and innovation ecosystems
- c) Resource optimization strategies

4. Digital Transformation and AI Integration

- a) AI in quality assurance processes
- b) Digital innovation in teaching and learning
- c) ODeL quality frameworks
- d) Technology-enhanced quality management

5. Access, Equity, and Student Success

- a) Student services and support systems
- b) Inclusive education practices
- c) Quality metrics for student success
- d) Equity in access and outcomes

6. Industry-Academia Synergy

- a) University-industry partnerships
- b) Work-integrated learning
- c) Industry-relevant curriculum development
- d) Graduate employability frameworks

7. Quality Assurance Framework and Metrics

- a) Internal quality assurance mechanisms
- b) External quality assurance systems
- c) Legal and ethical considerations
- d) Evaluation and assessment frameworks
- e) Sustainable quality assurance systems

Submission Instructions

- Please specify the submission category: **paper** or **poster** or **displays/exhibitions**.
- **Please specify which subtheme your Paper is addressing**
- The title should be concise with not more than 15 words
- Abstracts are limited to 500 words.
- All text in the abstract must have a font size of 12 in Times New Roman, spaced at 1.5 and justified.
- All abstracts must be formatted with 0.75-inch margins all around.
- Abstracts must be submitted as PDF files.

- Authors of accepted abstract(s) will be required to submit full paper(s), which will be peer-reviewed for publication.
- The format for the full paper will be provided only to the authors whose abstract(s) have been accepted.

Abstract Template Title: Corresponding Author: Degree(s), Department, Institution, City, State/Province/District, Country, and e-mail; **Author #2,** Degree(s), Department, Institution, City, State/Province/District, Country; **Author #3,** Degree(s), Department, Institution, City, State/Province/District, Country

Keywords: List three to five keywords; each separated by semi-colons.

Abstract should include:

- 3 to 5 keywords
- Objective, problem under investigation, hypothesis or research goal
- Description of research methods
- Summary of findings
- Statement of how the research advances the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and implementation of Malawi 2063.

Paper Presentations Paper presentations provide authors with the opportunity to present original work related to the conference topics.

- Oral paper presentations will have 20-minute time slots. The Conference organizers will group oral presentations by theme into sessions that will include 10 minutes for questions from the audience.
- Presenters will have the option of using PowerPoint for delivery of their papers.

Poster Presentations There will be a 90-minute poster session, and displays which will provide an interactive forum for authors, innovators and producers to discuss their work.

- Presenters will be assigned locations to put up their posters, which will be organized according to topics.
- Poster boards and pushpins will be supplied, and posters should be attached to the boards for display.
- Presenters are encouraged to bring 1-page hand-outs to accompany their posters.

Exhibitions/Displays

Institutions and other organizations which would like to exhibit their innovations or mount a pavilion will be given space at the Conference subject to payment of applicable conference fees.

Selection of Presenters

Abstracts should be submitted by **Monday, 31st March, 2025**. All abstracts will be blind-reviewed by members of the Peer Review Sub-Committee.

Once an abstract has been accepted, the presenters will be requested to submit a full draft Paper for review and acceptance. Only those whose draft papers will have been reviewed and accepted will be selected to present at the Conference.

Logistics

NCHE and UCAM will sponsor part of the costs relating to the conference venue and conference packages. Presenting authors, delegates will be responsible for their registration, travel, and accommodation costs. **Presenters whose papers have been accepted will be exempted from registration fees.** For international presenters, the Conference organisers will provide transport from and to the airport, including transport from places of lodging to the Conference venue and back. A book of abstracts will be produced and made available to participants. All accepted papers will be published as conference proceedings following a peer review process.

Important Dates

31st March 2025: Deadline for submission of abstracts

1st to 30th April 2025: Review of abstracts

30th April 2025: Confirmation of the selected abstracts and notification of acceptance to authors

31st May 2025: Submission of revised abstracts

8th July 2025: Deadline for submission of full papers

15th July 2025: Conference Programme and book of abstracts published.

6th – 8th August 2025: Conference

To submit your abstract(s), use the google form at <https://forms.gle/VpshgstVGLqj4sg26> or email to ucamalawi@outlook.com

For any enquiries regarding the Conference, please contact ucamalawi@outlook.com