

## SAHELA Workshop and SAAIR Conference Summary Overview

### SAHELA Workshop

This workshop was presented by three different presenters and the attendees were also presented with the opportunity to raise issues and ask questions. It provided the attendees with the platform to discuss learning analytics as it should be targeted toward students, lecturers and management. It also provided the attendees with the knowledge that learning analytics combine techniques for data analysis and visualisation with an understanding of the teaching and learning process.

### SAAIR Conference

The conference included participants from different academic institutions within South Africa and the neighbouring states. There was also a guest speaker from Australia. It provided me with a valuable learning experience. It provided me with an excellent opportunity to come together, interact and exchange views during conference sessions, coffee breaks and conference gala dinner. Consequently, I have known a number of individuals from different institutions who are in a similar and related field of employment. It is so easy to become wrapped up in the details of the routine activities required to make an institutional research function day-to-day. I find that sometimes it can be difficult to keep in mind the broader scope of the profession. The conference reminded me that we do not work in isolation and that we are not facing unique dilemmas. The companionship and sense of connection I encountered at the conference helped renew and reinvigorate my interest and excitement in institutional research related work. I now know what to expect from future conferences and have begun to create a professional network

Finally, I would like to thank SAAIR for awarding me the scholarship and the opportunity to attend this well-organised and successful workshop and conference. I am looking forward to the next conference in Namibia.