

National Science Week 2019

Facing the harsh realities of climate change

From Cala to Thembalethu

*Celebrating the International year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements (IYPT2019)
and the International Year of the Indigenous Languages (IYIL2019).*

National Science Week is an annual initiative of the department of Science and Technology (DST) together with the South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement (SAASTA). National Science Week is a nationwide celebration of science, with the primary goal of contributing to the development of a society that is knowledgeable about science, critically engaged and scientifically literate. The countrywide celebration of science is coordinated by NRF/SAASTA and takes place simultaneously at various sites, in all 9 provinces. This year Nelson Mandela University will be participating in National Science Week 2019 by hosting events in Port Elizabeth and Cala (Eastern Cape), Thembalethu and George (Southern Cape).

As part of this year's National Science Week programme we will be kickstarting the NSW2019 on the 18th of July as we wrap up our Nelson Mandela centenary celebration which stretched from 18 July 2018. Our pre-NSW2019 activities will take place during the period of 18 - 26 July on our campuses under the sub-theme "*From Cala to Thembalethu*" signalling our intentions of taking the science to Cala in the Eastern Cape (29 & 30 July) and to Thembalethu townships in the Southern Cape (1st & 2nd August). Our institutional NSW2019 theme "*The Periodic Table of Chemical Elements in science, technology, and sustainable development of humankind*" complements the DST NSW scientific theme for 2019, which is, "*Facing the harsh realities of Climate change*". This year NSW2019 will be launched in Kimberley by Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology on the 27 July.



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This will be followed by a focus week of activities which will run from the 29th July to 3rd August. The Faculty of Science will be co-hosting the NSW2019 festivities with Cala community for two days, 29 & 30 July 2019. We will then travel to Thembaletu townships in the Southern Cape to host the activities there for two days, 1st & 2nd August.

The Nelson Mandela University NSW2019 will include activities such as career guidance, night sky viewing, student recruitment and online applications, rocket building, chemistry demonstration and Indigenous language for Periodic Table of Chemical Elements, public lectures, teacher's development workshop and computer coding tank workshops amongst other activities.

The NSW is a mass participation initiative within the Faculty of Science Engagement Strategy (SES):

- To popularise science, engineering, technology and innovation as attractive, relevant and accessible in order to enhance scientific literacy and awaken interest in relevant careers,
- To attract and retain students in STEMI disciplines along the full length of the educational pipeline.
- To develop a critical public that actively engages and participate in the national discourse of science and technology to the benefit of society,
- To inform, engage and inspire the public by sharing the faculty's mission, research, challenges and results.
- To promote science communication that will enhance science engagement in South Africa.
- To profile the Faculty of Science, its science and science achievements nationally and internationally, demonstrating our contribution to national development and global science, thereby enhancing our academic and public standing,
- To engage the public in the Faculty's science activities by providing new pathways for participation.



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For the full programme of our NSW2019 activities visit our Faculty website and follow us on social media:

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