



3. Automotive

INVITATION: Working Group

1. Marine Studies, 2. Aviation and Aeronautical Studies, **3. Automotive**, 4. Energy, 5. Space Study and Square Kilometer Array, 6. Fourth Industrial Revolution and Digitalisation, 7. Natural Sciences (Biotechnological studies), 8. Health Studies/Medicine, 9. Feminist, Womanist, Bosadi Theorisations, 10. Student Support and Co-Curricular Activities.

Working Group Session

You are cordially invited to the 2nd 2026 series of CGS-facilitated Catalytic Niche Area Working Group meetings for Automotive Studies. The theme for series 2 is “Relevance, Responsiveness and Societal Impact Beyond Academia”. In this series, we explore how to enhance the societal relevance and public value of catalytic niche area research through intentional engagement with stakeholders beyond the university.

Reading:

Reading: Macpherson, W. E., Werner, A., & Mey, M. R. (2023). “Talent approaches for the South African automotive industry.” *SA Journal of Human Resource Management*, 21, a2224.

<https://sajhrm.co.za/index.php/sajhrm/article/view/2224/3392>

Please reflect briefly on the following before the session:

- Which automotive challenges require engagement beyond the university?
- Which stakeholders should help shape Automotive Studies research priorities?
- How can industry, government and education partners support future skills?
- What would public value look like in this catalytic niche area?
- What evidence would show societal impact beyond academic outputs?



Wednesday, 3 June 2026
11:00 – 12:00

Join the Session on MS Teams

<https://tinyurl.com/4k2rtz4c> OR
[Teams Link](#)

ENQUIRIES:

CGScatalyticnicheareas@unisa.ac.za

FACILITATOR:

Prof Jessica Murray

