

HE ON TRIAL

The People vs Higher Education

20 March 2026 | 09:00 – 16:30

Hybrid Event (In-person + Online)

Jointly presented by



Western Cape
Government



Cape Higher Education Consortium

A courtroom-style examination of the future of higher education

Higher education stands at a crossroads.

Is the current system fit for a future shaped by artificial intelligence, rapid labour market shifts, regulatory pressure, and rising public expectations?

HE ON TRIAL places higher education metaphorically in the courtroom – *not to condemn it, but to examine it with courage, evidence, and direction.*

ACT I – THE INDICTMENT

- Governance, policy & system design
- The academic project
- AI, technology & skills mismatch

ACT II – THE DEFENCE

- Higher education as a public good

ACT III – THE VERDICT

- 5 structural, system-level priorities for redesign

REGISTER NOW

» https://forms.cloud.microsoft/Pages/ResponsePage.saspx?k:iq7:id=qRIqgAQIETk_p970m_ZXanPRC/cORIU MHUoUG+twtQo05xdA

(Limited in-person seating. Online participation available).



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White Paper & 2026–2030 Transformation Framework to follow.