



Unisa Library and Information Services

“Community over Commercialization”

Prof Mpho Ngoepe

BIOGRAPHY

Prof Mpho Ngoepe is a C2 NRF-rated professor and Executive Director of Library and Information Services at the University of South Africa (Unisa). He was previously the Director of the School of Arts, Acting Deputy Executive Dean and Head of Information Science at the same institution. He worked for several organisations, including the National Archives of South Africa and the Auditor-General of South Africa, the Bloemfontein Legal Deposit Library, and the United Nations Children’s Fund to mention just a few. He has published widely in the areas of library Science and information science, corporate governance, auditing, archives, records management, indigenous archives, authentication, oral history, literature, and archival theories. Prof Ngoepe features among the World’s Top 2% Scientists for 2023 announced by Elsevier and Stanford University. He is currently the editor-in-chief of SAJLIS.

Prof Ngoepe served on the National Committee of the South African Society of Archivists (2019-2022) as the Editor of the journal. He also served on the board of the Eastern and Southern Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives (2009-2019) as the Editor of the journals. Prof Ngoepe was also a Member of the National Archives Advisory Council (2016-2019) in the capacity of chairperson of the Gauteng Provincial Archives Advisory Council (2015-2020). He is the recipient of the 2004 IVAISLIP/SABINET Information Officer of the year award. In 2007, he was recognized by the South African Human Rights Commission and the Open Democracy Advice Center for implementation of the Promotion of Access to Information Act at the Auditor-General South Africa. In 2015, he was recognised by the Department of Information Science at the University of South Africa as alumnus of the year. In March 2020, he was awarded the Chancellor’s Prize for Excellence in Research, a coveted bi-annual prize that is given to outstanding and deserving active UNISA researchers or research groups. This prestigious prize is aimed at recognizing and rewarding researchers producing excellent, high-quality research at UNISA.

He has also supervised over 40 Master’s and Doctoral students to completion. From 2013 to 2018, he has been the Director of the African Team for the International Project on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems (InterPARES) Trust, which was coordinated by the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada. The InterPARES Trust, which was funded through a 5-year Partnership Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, is comprised of seven teams: North America, Latin America, Europe, Africa, Asia, Australasia, and Transnational. He also serves on the Ethics Committee of the American-based Archival Education Research Institute, as well as the Technical Committee of Encoded Archival Description (2023-2024).