



The Role of the Media in Contemporary Democratic Societies

Media organisations have the responsibility to report news in an objective manner and inform their audiences without bias. In democratic societies they have a central role in ensuring that citizens are able to hold the government, organisations, and powerful individuals accountable. The aim of this panel discussion is to inform and engage students and the general public on the role and responsibility of the media in dynamic and changing environments.

About the Speakers

Denver Kisting is a seasoned journalist with more than ten years' experience. Currently, he is a Senior Journalist at *Republikein*, the flagship Afrikaans daily newspaper at Namibia Media Holdings (NMH). Kisting is a host of Good Morning Namibia (GMN), a breakfast show on the Namibian Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) television. Kisting has worked for other reputable media companies, including Bloomberg and *The Namibian*.



Nicole Hess has a Doctorate in German Language and Literature and a MAS in Culture Management. From 1998 to 2003, she was the Cultural Editor for *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* and *Tages-Anzeiger*. From 2004 to 2006, she was the Head of Film Editorial Department and Manager of cultural policy dossier for *Tages-Anzeiger* and Deputy Head of Funding Department at Migros Culture Percentage from 2011 to 2015. Today, Hess is the Deputy Secretary General of the Federation of Migros Cooperatives FMC and a Freelance Culture Manager.



Phillip Santos is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Communication at the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST). He holds a PhD in Journalism and Media Studies from Rhodes University. His research interests are in the areas of political communication, mediated social memory, mediated discourses on conflict, identity, justice, gender and development, de-colonial theory and modernism, as well as the sociology of digital mediation in contemporary society.



Frans Nghitila is the Deputy Director in the Directorate of Print Media Affairs at the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology. He holds a postgraduate qualification in media and management studies and has over 20 years of experience in the media industry, both public and private.



Date: Tuesday, 06 August 2019

Venue: Auditorium 1, NUST Lower Campus

Time: 18:30

Enquiries and Registration

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