1. ACADEMIC REPORT

**Title of the conference:** The 34th Summer Conference on Topology and its Applications (SUMTOPO 2019)

**Venue:** University of the Witwatersrand, Wits Science Stadium

**Date(s):** 1-4 July 2019

**Website of the Conference:** [http://www.xlconferences.co.za/topology/](http://www.xlconferences.co.za/topology/)

**Statistics of delegates:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONFIRMED</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>DELEGATE STANDARD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>EMERITAS STANDARD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>STUDENT STANDARD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>COMMITTEE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>SPEAKERS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>98</strong></td>
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**Number of countries represented:** 32

**Number of contributed talks:** 83 (for the details of the programme please refer to the website of the conference)

**Number of plenary talks:** 16 below is the list of plenary speakers who spoke on new development of the following fields:

**Topological Algebra and Analysis**
Taras Banakh (Ivan Franko Lviv National University, Ukraine)
Mahmoud Filali (University of Oulu, Finland)
Francesco Russo (University of Cape Town, South Africa)

**Asymmetric Structures and Order**
Szymon Dolecki (Burgundy University, France)
Seithuti Philemon Moshokoa (Tshwane University of Technology, South Africa)
Michel Schellekens (University College Cork, Ireland)
Dynamics and Continuum Theory
Daron Anderson (NUI Galway, Ireland)
Judy Kennedy (Lamar University, USA)
Petra Staynova (University of Leicester)

Set-Theoretic Topology
Rodrigo Hernandez (Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Mexico)
Jan van Mill (University of Amsterdam, Netherlands)
Dilip Raghavan (National University of Singapore, Singapore)

Topology in Data Science
Frédéric Chazal (INRIA, France)
Vladimir Itskov (Pennsylvania State University, USA)
Yusu Wang (Ohio State University, USA)

Winner of the Mary Ellen Rudin Award
Osvaldo Guzman (University of Toronto, Canada)

Attendance figures as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Invited speakers</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate students</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other participants</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>28</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Number of student presentations: 18

List of parallel sessions:
This year, the conference focused on five research themes
- Topological Algebra and analysis
- Asymmetric Structures and Orders
- Dynamics and Continuum Theory
- Set-Theoretic Topology
- Topology in Data Science.

These fields were chosen to be representative of the broad range of research being actively pursued today.

My honest assessment: The 34th Summer Conference on Topology and its Applications was great success on many aspects:
- Great opportunity for postdoc fellows and PhD students mostly from Africa to showcase themselves and disseminate their findings at the highest level on Topology and its related fields
- The second time for this top conference on Topology and its related field to come to Africa after the University of Cape Town hosted it in 2014.
- Interaction between topologists from all over the world with topologist from Africa.