

## **Profiles for Keynote Speakers for 2025 Conferences**

### **Keynote Speaker 1**



### **Dr. Yogesh Velankar**

Dr. Yogesh Velankar earned his Ph.D. in Engineering Education from Purdue University, USA; a unique and first of its kind doctoral program in the world. He holds a M.S. in Electrical Engineering, and M.Ed. in Mathematics Education as an Instructional Specialist, both from The University of Texas at El Paso, USA. His B.E. is in Electronics and Telecommunication, Engineering from Mumbai University, India. Dr. Velankar has also held high school Mathematics Teacher Certificate in the U.S., and is a Six Sigma Green Belt holder. Dr. Velankar presently holds the post of Chair Professor at the Indian Institute of Technology Bhilai Innovation and Technology Foundation, India. Dr. Velankar is recognized as an expert on India's National Education Policy 2020 and as a Mentor for Higher Education Institutions by India's Higher Education Regulatory bodies. He has actively provided consultancy services to various stakeholders in the educational ecosystem at all levels, contributing significantly in capacity building, policy making and organizational development initiatives. Dr. Velankar's industrial experiences include strategic talent management, competency and knowledge management, workplace learning, training, and professional development. His areas of interest include educational policy and governance, leadership development, technology enhanced and lifelong learning, strategic initiatives for sustainable development and innovation.

## **Keynote Speaker 2**



### **Professor Jean Greyling**

Prof Greyling is an Associate Professor and Head of Department in Computing Sciences at Nelson Mandela University, Gqeberha. He is mainly involved in teaching and research related to programming and undergrad and postgrad level. His other passion is making learners aware of the great career opportunities in computing. Since 2017 he has been coordinating the Tangible Africa coding project (mainly with the RANGERS and BOATS coding app), introducing learners to coding without the use of a computers. This initiated from an Honours project in 2017. The project has an active footprint in around 15 countries across Africa, Europe as well as Asia. With their latest coding apps Speed Stars (motor racing) and Code Cup (soccer), the team plans to expand their international reach. In April 2022 he received the Distinguished Service in ICT Award from the Institute of IT Professionals South Africa. The project has received various other local, national and global accolades.

### **Keynote Speaker 3**



### **Professor Lawrence Meda**

Professor Lawrence Meda holds a PhD in Curriculum Studies and presently serves as an Associate Professor and Director of Research at Sharjah Education Academy in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Previously, he chaired the Education Studies Department at Zayed University in Dubai. He is a certified online instructor, has authored over 75 publications and possesses extensive experience in supervising Masters and Doctoral Students. Additionally, he has externally examined more than 20 postgraduate theses for universities in South Africa, India, and the UAE. His research focuses on Inclusive Education, Curriculum Studies, and Teacher Education.