



## Southern Africa Accounting Association (SAAA) Webinar Series

Webinar invitation

### **If assessment drives learning, what are we driving? Designing assessment for competencies, engagement, and student success in accounting education**

Date: May 27, 2026

Time: 2 – 3 pm (SAST)



**Dr Nikki Schönfeldt**

**About the facilitator:** Nikki Schönfeldt is the Associate Director for Teaching and Teaching Innovation and a Senior Lecturer of Accounting at the UWA Business School, Western Australia. She is a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy and a recipient of an Australian Award for University Teaching (AAUT) Citation for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning. With over twenty years' experience in higher education, Nikki's work focuses on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, particularly digital learning design, assessment innovation, and the development of students' behavioural and professional competencies. A Fellow Chartered Accountant, she integrates industry-relevant technologies to enhance student engagement and employability. Nikki co-leads institutional Communities of Practice in active and flipped learning, AI in Business, and contributes to national and international education initiatives through roles with Accounting & Finance Association of Australia and New Zealand (AFAANZ) and IFAC-affiliated projects. Her research is published in leading accounting education and disciplinary journals.

**About the webinar:** This webinar interrogates this question by rethinking assessment as a deliberate mechanism for developing competencies, enhancing engagement, and improving student success. The session centres on the paradigm shift from assessment *of* learning to assessment *for* learning, positioning assessment as an embedded, continuous process that actively shapes how students learn rather than merely measuring outcomes. In an increasingly AI-mediated educational landscape, the webinar explores process-driven assessment, emphasising how thoughtful design, iterative feedback, and transparency can make learning visible and meaningful. A further focal point is the role of gamification in accounting education. Drawing on recent scholarship published in the Accounting Education journal, the discussion examines how gamified approaches can enhance student engagement, motivation, and retention, offering practical insights for curriculum innovation. Supported by the International Association for Accounting Education and Research (IAAER), the webinar contributes to ongoing global conversations on pedagogical transformation. It is designed to stimulate critical reflection among accounting educators on how to align assessment practices with the demands of a rapidly evolving, technology-driven profession.

**Contacts:** Joseph Akande ([jakande@wsu.ac.za](mailto:jakande@wsu.ac.za)) and Tarish Jagwanth ([Tarish.Jagwanth@mandela.ac.za](mailto:Tarish.Jagwanth@mandela.ac.za))

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