



# Celebrating Women in Mathematics

8th edition in 2026

SAMS Women in Mathematics Division invites you to attend a talk:

## Nuggets of wisdom for building a research profile

Speaker:

**Prof Dephney Mathebula-Periola**  
(University of Fort Hare)

Chair:

**Dr Cerene Rathilal**  
(University of KwaZulu-Natal)



**FRIDAY, 22 MAY 2026**  
14H00-15H00



**ONLINE**

### ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Dephney Mathebula-Periola is a Full Professor of Mathematics at the University of Fort Hare.

She obtained her PhD in Mathematics from the University of Venda in 2018, becoming the first South African to do so at the institution. Her research focuses on mathematical modelling of infectious diseases, including malaria, influenza and COVID-19.

In 2024, she was named among Africa's Top 100 Career Women and received the Mail & Guardian Power of Women Award in 2025. She is committed to mentoring young people in the STEM fields.

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