***World Hearing day WITS March 3 2021***

***Adler Museum of Medicine and the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology***

We are thankful for an opening comment from:

***Dr Shelly Chadha* –**  who is the technical officer leading the work on ear and hearing care at the World Health Organization. She is an otolaryngologist and public health expert from India and has worked as professor of otolaryngology in India prior to joining her current position. Her current work focusses on global hearing health, including advocacy for prioritisation of hearing care; technical support to countries for development of hearing care strategies and development of technical tools and guidance.

Our speakers for this webinar are:

* ***Dr Kibachio Joseph Mwangi***

Dr Kibachio Joseph Mwangi is the WHO Medical Officer in charge of the Non Communicable Diseases and Mental Health cluster at the WHO country office in South Africa.  He is a medical doctor with vast expertise in NCD programming,  prevention and control having served as the head the NCD department as well as the head of the department of Strategic National Public Health Programs in the Kenyan Ministry of Health.  Dr Mwangi was a convener of the NCD inter-Sectorial Coordinating Committee and a Co-Chair of the Kenyan Lancet Non Communicable Diseases and Injuries commission and sat as part of the WHO global coordination mechanism expert Working Group 3.1 working on the inclusion of NCDs into other public health programs.  In September 2018, he received the UN Interagency Task Force Award in recognition for outstanding contribution to achieving NCD-related Sustainable Development Goals.

* ***Dr Victor de Andrade***

Dr Victor de Andrade is an audiologist who lectures in the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology at the University of the Witwatersrand, supervises students from the university on their clinical placements, and works in the University Speech and Hearing Clinic.  Victor has been invited to advise and consult on deafness and assistive technology for the WHO and UNICEF and has worked in a variety of settings and contexts in South Africa and abroad. His areas of interest relate to, amongst others, socio-cultural and contextual aspects of deafness, noise in learning environments, the phenomenology and experience of deafness, including third-party disability, Deafness, disability, and assistive technologies.

* ***Mr Hiten Bawa***

Mr Hiten Bawa is an artist, architect, and accessibility consultant based in Johannesburg who is a also profoundly deaf person with bilateral cochlear implants. He holds a Master of Architecture degree from UCT and runs his own creative practice called Studio B. He is currently working on designingHiten Bwawa, Ms Makoatsane, barrier-free environments for people with disabilities across housing, transportation, interior design, urban design, and landscape design. Hiten was a finalist for the inaugural SA TAXI Foundation Art award in 2015 and is part of the J. P. Morgan Abadali Art Collection.

* ***Ms Khethukuthula Makoatsane***

Ms Khetha Makoatsane is a SA Sign Language Interpreter at the University of the Witwatersrand Disability Rights Unit. She holds an Honours degree in Language Practice from the University of the Free State (UFS). She has also completed a Level 1 Sign Language Interpreter training with North West University as well as legal and medical interpreting courses through DeafSA.