

Presenter:

Cross-Border themed tourism routes in the Southern Africa region – practice and potential

Indigenous Story Tellers (ISTs): Northern Cape as a case study



Prof Karen Leigh Harris is the Head of the Department of Historical and Heritage Studies at the University of Pretoria, lecturing undergraduate and postgraduate students in history as well as heritage and cultural tourism. She is also the Director of the University Archives; the Chairperson of the Historical Association of South Africa; Executive Board Member of the International Society for the Study of Chinese Overseas and is also an accredited tourist guide. She is the principal investigator for the research projects conducted as part of a Memorandum of Understanding between the National Department of Tourism and University of Pretoria. She holds editorial positions on both local and international academic journals. She was recently a keynote speaker at the 18th World Federation of Tourist Guides Association Convention held in Tbilisi Georgia where she presented a paper on tourist guiding entitled; “Breaking Boundaries, Building Bridges”. One of her most recent publications on tourism, “Taking History of Tour: Lowering the disciplinary drawbridge”, appeared in the *Journal of Tourism History*, in 2017. Apart from being a pioneer in the teaching of the field of heritage and cultural tourism at tertiary level, Prof. Harris also conducts comparative work on minority groups within a South African context.