

SEMINAR
Higher Education and Economic Development

Friday 21 August 2009

Time: 11h00

**Venue: Conference Centre, Theatre,
North Campus,
Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University**

ABOUT THE SEMINAR

Manuel Castells is the fifth most cited social scientist in the world; he has published 23 books, co-authored 21 and published over 100 articles in academic journals. The trilogy “The Information Age: Economy, Society and Culture” (Blackwell), has been translated into 22 languages, and “The Internet Galaxy” (Oxford) translated into 15 languages. His last book “Communication Power”, an empirically grounded theory of power in the network society, is being published by Oxford University Press in early July 2009. Eleven books have been published about the work of Castells, including Johan Muller, Nico Cloete & Shireen Badat (eds). *The Challenge of Globalization: South African Debates with Manuel Castells*. Cape Town: Longman, 2001

In a lesser known but nevertheless influential paper, ‘*The University System: Engine of development in the new world economy*’ (World Bank seminar, Kuala Lumpur, 1991) Castells alerted the World Bank, amongst others, that higher education will have a more, and not less, important role to play in the emerging global economy. Not only did this paper precipitate the beginning of a shift in World Bank thinking, leading to their new higher education policy as embodied in *Constructing Knowledge Societies: New Challenges for Tertiary Education* (World Bank 2001),

Professor Castells agreed to explore the role of Higher Education in Regional Development in a seminar in Port Elizabeth.

SEMINAR PROGRAMME

11h00	Welcome and Introduction of Prof Manuel Castells – Prof. Derrick Swartz (Vice-Chancellor, NMMU)
11h15	Seminar presentation by Manuel Castells: The role of Higher Education in Regional Development
12h15	Comments and discussion: Chairperson of Session: Prof Richard Haines(NMMU)
12h55	Concluding remarks and closure