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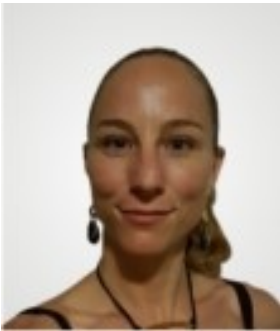**National Institute for
Theoretical and Computational Sciences**

NITheCS Colloquium
Monday, 6 June 2022, 16h00 – 17h00
Dr Kim Martin (Stellenbosch University)

'Research Software Engineering (RSE) as a component of a healthy academic ecosystem'

ABSTRACT

While it is recognised internationally that reproducible research across all disciplines requires a growing supply of individuals with expertise in both research and software development (increasingly given the label 'Research Software Engineers' or 'RSEs'), there is as yet little awareness in South Africa of what has become a growing movement overseas.

In this talk I will introduce you to the history, importance and diverse manifestations of RSE as it has developed overseas, and highlight how the movement has been finding footholds – and new expression – in the South African context.

BIOGRAPHY

Dr Kim Martin is a Hans Merensky Postdoctoral Fellow at Stellenbosch University, and a Software Sustainability Institute (SSI) International Fellow.

She has a background in tissue engineering, and is currently in the EucXylo group, focusing on the cambium (the layer of stem cells that produces the xylem) to understand its role in eucalypt adaptation to environmental conditions.

Kim is an avid proponent of the role of Research Software Engineers (RSEs) in the Academic ecosystem, and has been working to establish an RSE community in Stellenbosch University. This has led to the creation of RSE@SUN (inspired by RSE Groups at leading overseas universities).

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