

The Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf)

in partnership with the

University of the Witwatersrand (Wits), University of Limpopo (UL), Rhodes University,  
University of the Free State (UFS) and University of Cape Town (UCT),

will be hosting

**Prof Loretta Baldassar: ASSAf Distinguished Visiting Scholar (DVS) 2023/24**

during March 2024.



Prof Loretta Baldassar is Professor of Anthropology and Sociology, Vice Chancellor's Professorial Research Fellow, and Director of the Social Ageing (SAGE) Futures Lab at Edith Cowan University (ECU). Baldassar was recently named Australian Research Field Leader in Migration Studies and in Ethnic and Cultural Studies. She is lead Chief Investigator on a Medical Research Future Fund Dementia and Migrant Communities project; social support stream lead on the National Frailty Kit project, and co-Chief Investigator of the Youth Mobilities project. Her work is widely acknowledged as foundational to the field of Transnational Family Studies, including *Transnational Families in Africa* (with Marchetti-Mercer & Swartz, 2023).

Her research team is leading innovation in social care across the life-course, contributing social science perspectives and methodologies to the creative and caring professions. Her career has been devoted to better understanding the impact of migration on families and communities, with a focus on the role of social support networks, intergenerational relations, and the social uses of new technologies.

The title of the DVS lecture will be

**Transnational Family Care: from social death to digital kinning over a century of Australian migration** and Prof Baldassar will also engage with emerging academics.

Date/s	City/University
12 – 14 March 2024	JOHANNESBURG WITS
15 March 2024	LIMPOPO UL
18 March 2024	BLOEMFONTEIN UFS
19 – 20 March 2024	EASTERN CAPE RHODES
25 – 27 March 2024	CAPE TOWN UCT, Stellenbosch

More information will be shared closer to the time.

**More about ASSAf Distinguished Visiting Scholars**

The Academy annually invites one or more distinguished scholars from abroad to present lectures at various higher education institutions around the country. The scholars are internationally prominent academics who are inspirational speakers and usually with an ability to bridge the divides between disciplines. The purpose of the Distinguished Visiting Scholars' Programme is to fulfill one of the Academy's strategic goals, viz. the promotion of innovation and scholarly activity. Through interaction with distinguished individual scholars from around the world, ASSAf aims to enrich and stimulate research endeavours at South African higher education and research institutions.

