

## Policy Conversation:

### Film Festival – Transforming South Africa’s Tertiary Institutions

Youth Lab, in partnership with the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung invites you to join a unique Policy Conversation, sparking dialogue through film.

#### Theme: Transforming South Africa’s Tertiary Institutions

- Why did it take this long to have an honest discussion about transformation at universities?
- What would real transformation entail?
- What is the character of a real South African university?
- Is there a legitimate argument for the ownership of space and how can this be challenged?

#### The Conversation

Policy is not enough, and as the so-called born-free generation have learned and subsequently reminded South Africa, change begins among grassroots movement. After more than twenty years of lethargic transformation policy, it took the anger and action of students to ignite real change and spark debate about the racial and social identity of South African universities.

Too often, universities remain spaces where the majority of South Africans feel marginalised and isolated by the very institutions meant to equip them to participate in building in a post-apartheid South Africa. This exclusion is found the curriculum, teachers, and even architecture of these institutions. The determination of student politics that has brought the conversation to the attention beyond the university walls, showing that South Africa’s young people are determined to have agency in the policies that affect their lives.

How does these movements maintain momentum, and articulate their beliefs so that they are heard? What will a new policy look like? What about the universities left behind? These are some of the questions we hope to address in this unique Policy Conversation that combines a film screening and discussion. The Policy Conversation will begin with the a screening of the films *Luister* – the short film that exposed racial inequalities at Stellenbosch University – and *Decolonising Wits*, the feature length film unpacking the slow pace of transformation at the University of Witwatersrand. This will be followed by a discussion with representatives from various student movements.

#### The Conversation Starters

- Open Stellenbosch – Stellenbosch University
- Rhodes Must Fall – University of Cape Town
- Decolonising Wits – University of the Witwatersrand
- Black Students Movement – Rhodes University

#### What to bring

- Your opinion
- Your attitude
- An open mind
- And a friend, of course

**Date: 23 September 2015**

**Venue: Constitution Hill**

**Time: 16:30 for 17:00**

For more information, email [info@youthlab.org.za](mailto:info@youthlab.org.za) or find us on Twitter @YouthLabZA, or Facebook Youth Lab ZA