



Wendy Orr, MD

Dr. Wendy Orr has over two decades of experience in transformation, organizational culture, and diversity work that spans a range of organizations. Of note, she served as the Deputy Chairperson of the Reparation and Reconciliation Committee of [South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission](#) (TRC), whose objective was to achieve national unity and reconciliation through investigations into gross violations of human rights after the fall of the apartheid regime. The TRC examined the role of the health profession in human rights abuses during apartheid. Dr. Orr witnessed many abuses during her career as a district surgeon and is most known for having provided detailed records of these abuses and testimony to the Supreme Court of South Africa. [From Biko to Basson](#) is the autobiographical account of her experience on the TRC. She also served

as Director of Transformation and Employment Equity at the [University of Witwatersrand](#). Most recently, Dr. Orr served as Head of Group Inclusion for the [Standard Bank Group, South Africa](#), where she was responsible for Diversity and Inclusion, and Employee Wellbeing. She also managed the Corporate Social Investment portfolio from 2012 to 2020. From January 2020, she led the bank's response to the COVID-19 pandemic from a people risk, health, and safety point of view.

Dr. Orr is the inaugural Executive-in-Residence for the African Business Initiative (ABI). The ABI is led by Paul T. Harper, Clinical Assistant Professor in the Katz School of Business. The purpose of the ABI is to raise the visibility of African business leadership and achievement in business school networks. Plans are currently underway to establish new global partnerships, student mobility programs, and faculty research and teaching exchanges. The ABI is funded in part through support from National Resource Centers grant, U.S. Department of Education, attained by the Center for African Studies.

Dr. Wendy Orr will be in residence at the University of Pittsburgh May 1-6, 2023. She will also be participating in the Center for African Studies' Spring Conference entitled "Africa in the Classroom: Pedagogy, Community, Decolonization" taking place on May 5-6.

Please contact either Prof. Harper with meeting requests at ptharper@katz.pitt.edu or Dr. Catherine Koverola at koverola@pitt.edu. Dr. Orr is available to meet with interested groups and individuals during her residency at the University.

A schedule of public events will be posted by April 15, 2023.