



Local Government in South Africa and Beyond

postgraduate
symposium

LOCAL GOVERNANCE AS A SITE OF POLITICAL
CONTESTATION, ASPIRATION AND INNOVATION
TACKLING THE INNER WORKING
OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

14 October 2026 | Johannesburg



14 October – Postgraduate symposium

PARI launches a one-day postgraduate student workshop directed to all postgraduate students whose research broadly covers the study of local government and governance, with specific interests in:

- Local government development and alternative forms of local development
- Digital governance and its critiques
- Service delivery
- Local government fiscal frameworks
- Public participation processes
- Spatial transformation
- Coalition governance

Those who are selected will be presenting and receive feedback on their work over a one-day workshop.

We thus invite postgraduate students that are currently conducting research/ writing up their research on these topics to apply to take part in this workshop.

If you are interested, please send a motivation letter indicating why you want to attend and what you will be presenting/workshopping, a CV and a sample of your writing by August 7 to Federica Duca, federicad@pari.org.za. Selected participants will be notified by August 20 and will be required to submit the piece of writing you will be discussing by September 25.