

**Engaging e-Learning in Higher Education:
Issues and Challenges****S. Kigundu***Walter Sisulu University, East London Campus, Republic of South Africa
E-mail: skigundu@wsu.ac.za***KEYWORDS** e-Learning. Engagement. Learning Management Systems. Learning. Higher Education. e-Learning Tools

ABSTRACT Many higher education institutions have adopted a variety of Learning Management Systems (LMS) as platforms for e-learning. The key to effective e-learning implementation courses is not multimedia, rollovers, or drag-and-drop interactions. It is how the students get engaged by the content. A desktop review was carried out to explore and establish conceptions of how e-learning tools can enable and sustain students engagement in the learning processes. The review indicated that e-learning tools can enable and sustain students content engagement through content presentation tools, critical engagement through collaboration tools, self-regulated learning through assessment tools, self-engagement through the variety provided by e-learning tools, on-task engagement through access to information through hyperlinks, and substantive engagement through the ability for students to skip material they already know and understand, and concentrate on new knowledge. It was concluded that regardless of the available tools, e-learning can be implemented by foregrounding the student activities as the means by which to achieve engagement.