

Glen Nwaila Bio

Glen Nwaila serves as Director of the Wits Mining Institute and Associate Professor at the University of Witwatersrand.

He holds a MSc in Chemical Engineering from the University of Cape Town and PhD in Economic Geology from Würzburg University (Germany).

Glen's research focuses on improving ore characterisation and predictive modelling to optimise target exploration, ore extraction, processing and mine waste valorisation.

Specifically, Glen and his students work on geometallurgy, machine learning, and spatial data analytics research projects related to multiscale and multivariate data integration, big remote sensing, and geochemical data analysis to enable optimal decision-making in the presence of uncertainty. Glen's research interests are (1) the genesis and evaluation of ore deposits, (2) machine learning applied to geoscience and extractive metallurgy, (3) metal accounting, and (4) process optimization in hydrometallurgical plants. The emphasis of his most recent work has been on the impact of digital transformation in the mining industry and the move toward dry labs and data banks for process simulation and method development.