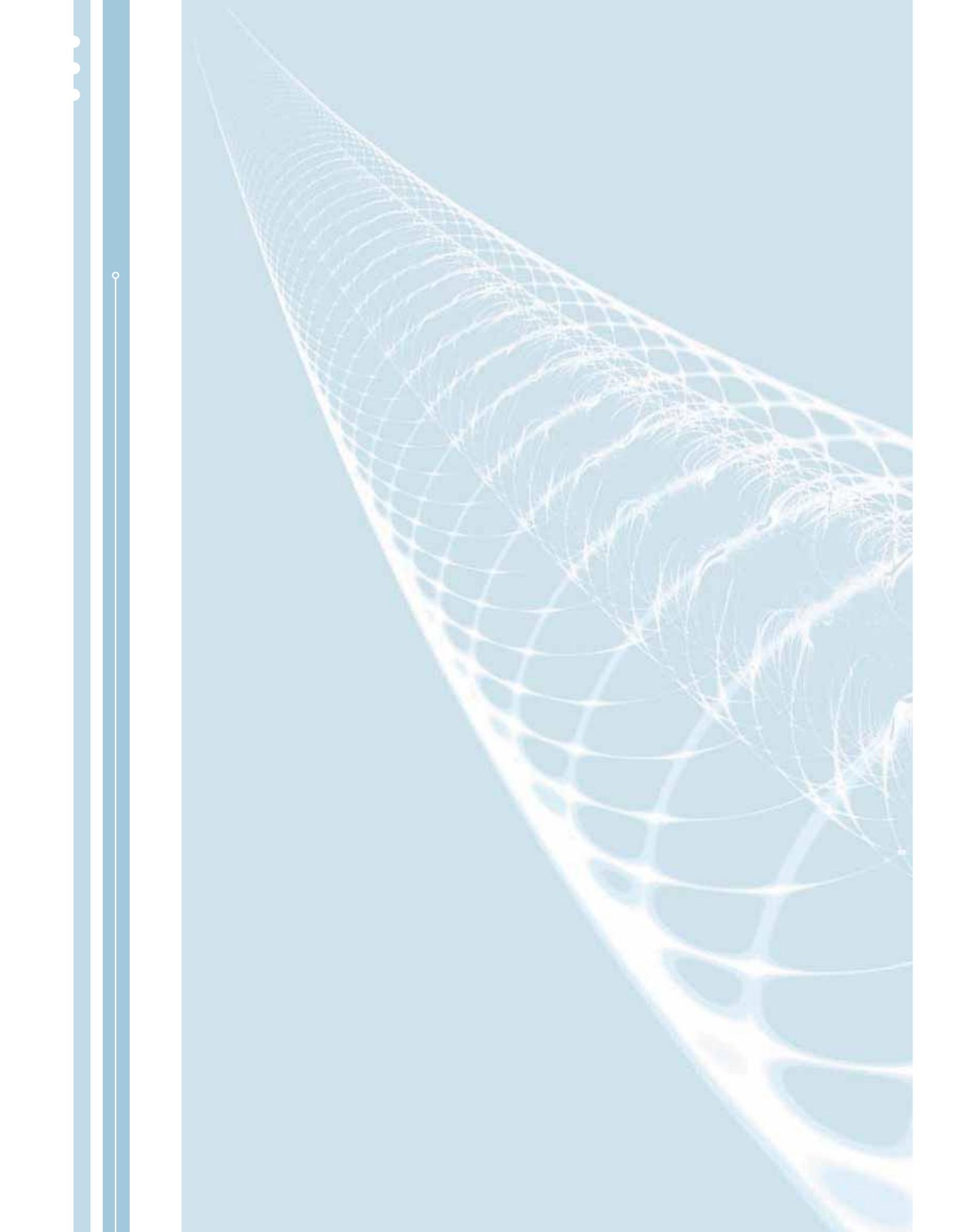
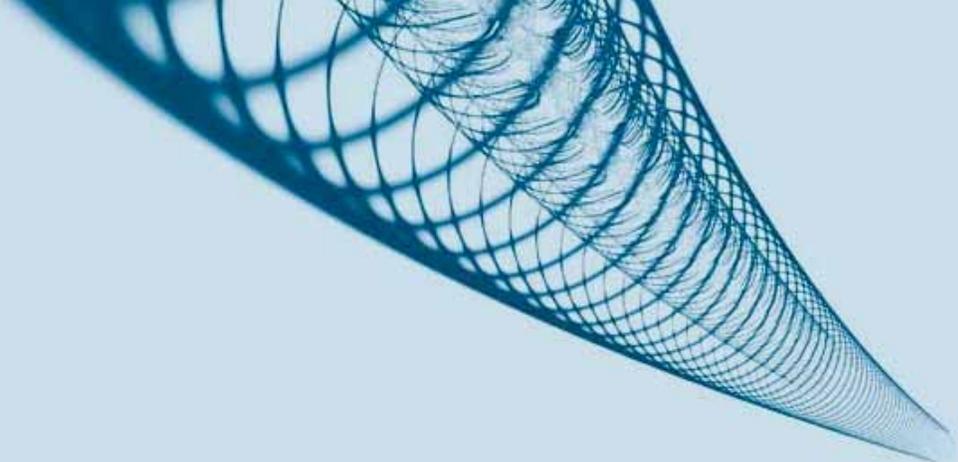




National Science  
and Technology Forum

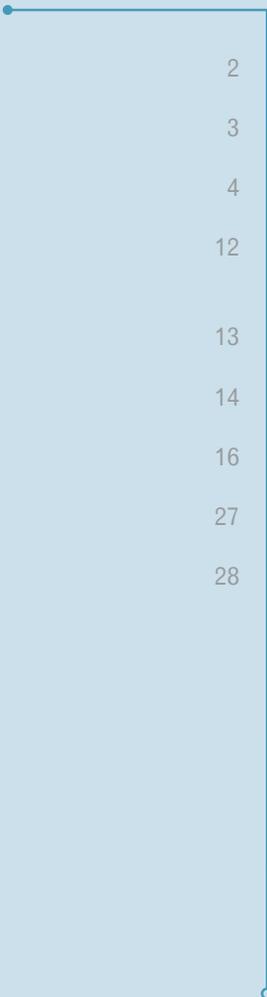
ANNUAL REPORT 2007 • 2008





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## The National Science and Technology Forum

The National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF) is a voluntary, broadly-representative stakeholder body with expertise and experience that seeks to influence science, engineering, technology and innovation (SETI) policy formulation and delivery in South Africa.

### Vision

A SETI system that is responsive to the needs of the nation.

### Mission

To promote SETI and influence SETI policy in the interest of socio-economic growth.

### Operational Strategy

To proactively promote science, engineering and technology (SET) through various initiatives, by interacting and networking within the SET sectors and community and mapping out pathways based on SET innovation. Operations are conducted through Plenary Meetings, the Executive Committee and the Secretariat.

### Support Base

#### Membership Constituencies

- Science Councils and Statutory Bodies;
- Small, Medium and Large Business and State Utilities;
- Civil Society and Labour Sector;
- Higher Education Sector;
- Government Sector; and
- Professional Bodies and Learned Societies – The professional bodies and learned societies are represented by the Scientific, Engineering and Technological Societies and Allied Professions Group of South Africa (SETAG) which liaises with all sectors regarding all matters-professional.

#### Members of the Executive Committee

Prof. BD Wingfield  
Prof. S Burton

Ms J Niehaus  
Mr D Hunt  
Dr P Mjwara  
Mr D Kramer

Mr S Mpele  
Dr M Bopape  
Prof. J Malherbe  
Dr WvZ de Villiers  
Dr S Liphadzi  
Mr J Marriott  
Mrs WM Eksteen

NSTF Chairperson  
Vice-Chairperson & Professional Bodies / SETAG: SASBMB  
NSTF Executive Director  
Business Sector: SACCI  
Government: DST  
NGOs and Civil Society: Sci-Bono  
Discovery Centre  
NACI  
Professional Bodies / SETAG: SAMF  
Education Sector: HESA  
State Utilities: Necsa  
Science Councils: WRC  
Immediate Past Chairperson  
NSTF Secretariat



Prof. BD Wingfield



Prof. S Burton



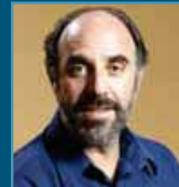
Ms J Niehaus



Mr D Hunt



Dr P Mjwara



Mr D Kramer



Prof. J Malherbe



Dr M Bopape



Dr S Liphadzi



Dr WvZ de Villiers



Mrs WM Eksteen



Mr J Marriott

Not pictured:  
Mr S Mpele

# Chairperson's Message



This year the NSTF had the pleasure of celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its awards programme. This programme has grown tremendously during the last decade and is now a nationally recognised event that acknowledges outstanding scientific achievement in South Africa. We anticipate some exciting additions to the awards programme that will emerge during the course of the next decade. We are also confident that this programme is succeeding in highlighting and thus promoting excellence in SETI in South Africa. We are especially grateful to the Minister of Science and Technology, Mr Mosibudi Mangena, who is the patron and has supported this event with great enthusiasm.

As I write this message, the call for nominations for the 2008/9 Annual NSTF Awards is about to be launched. I must urge all who read this message to be sure to nominate worthy candidates and to diarise the awards event as soon as it is advertised. This year, we again had the advantage of some great publicity for the event including a list of winners and their details published as a supplement in the Mail and Guardian. This has become a regular feature of the awards event and we anticipate many other initiatives to give our winners the best possible recognition.

The National Youth Service (NYS) "Youth into Science" Programme was launched this year. This is a very ambitious project that has been implemented in partnership with the Department of Science and Technology as part of the "role out" of its 10-year plan. Establishing this programme has meant a very busy start to 2008 for the NSTF. One of the central features of this programme is to provide science graduates with additional skills to enable them to find suitable employment in the South African workforce. Already, only six months into this two-year programme, a number of the volunteers have found employment. Thus, even before the end of the first year of the programme, we have evidence that it has been successful. Additional details regarding the NYS Programme are provided elsewhere in the NSTF annual report.

As I enter the second year of my term as Chairperson of the NSTF, I am again very grateful for the tremendous support that I have received from colleagues, friends, the Executive Committee (Exco) and the NSTF members. The NSTF has grown significantly in the last year in terms of its activities and its impact on the promotion of SETI. In addition we have had significant engagement with the Department of Science and Technology as it rolls out policies important to its 10-year plan.

The success of the NSTF lies firmly in the activities of the members and in those of the Executive Director, Jansie Niehaus, who is supported by the NSTF Secretariat. This fine group of people including Wilna Eksteen, Thabo Mphahlele and Khathu Mphaphuli have made my role a relatively simple one and they have my deep appreciation. I am also thankful for the help that comes from the volunteers of the NYS programme in running the NSTF office. I can already see that the interaction between the volunteers and the Secretariat is providing significant synergy and linkage, which will be important to the long-term promotion of SETI in South Africa.

The coming year looks to be at least as busy and exciting as the past one, as we move to promote the growth of our fledgling democracy and new science system. There is currently more funding for SETI than ever before. This however, does not mean that there are not significant challenges ahead. The vision of the NSTF is to be there as a "sounding board" for government in terms of new policy development but also a "watch dog" for the larger scientific community. Ultimately, the aim is to facilitate engagement between those involved in science and government, especially with regard to concerns and opportunities associated with knowledge generation and innovation. We also look forward to working and supporting our stakeholders. Please do not hesitate to contact us with suggestions or any other information that you feel might be helpful in advancing the aims of the NSTF.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Brenda Wingfield".

Prof. Brenda Wingfield  
*Chairperson*

# Executive Director's Report

I am pleased to present this progress report, in accordance with the NSTF's Strategic Plan, adopted in October 2007 and included as Appendix A on page 27 to this report.

## SETI Policy

**Strategic Objective (I):** "to influence and catalyse quality delivery of SETI policy"

During the financial year 2007/08, a number of workshops were held, to engage on SETI policies, strategies and proposed legislation. The two plenary meetings were also devoted to presentations and discussions on SETI policy in the making. The discussions of the workshops and plenary sessions were recorded and summarised, and conclusions and recommendations submitted to the Director-General of the Department of Science and Technology (DST). The presentations by the informative speakers were in most cases made available on the NSTF website, for anyone interested in reading about and following up on the issues. We hope that our engagement of SETI stakeholders and the DST have lead to enhanced understanding and clarity on both sides, and possibly to the fine-tuning of policy to the benefit of all. We extend our gratitude to the DST for its willingness to engage stakeholders and its transparency with regards to policy development.

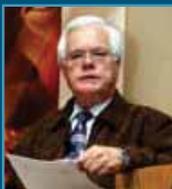
## The DST's Ten Year Plan

The NSTF provided platforms for constructive interaction around the DST's proposed ten year Strategy – "Innovation towards a knowledge-based economy" – which subsequently became officially adopted as Government policy. The NSTF invited the Director-General of Science and Technology, Dr Philemon Mjwara, to present to the NSTF membership at the two Plenary Meetings held in May and October 2007. Dr Mjwara presented in May, and delegated DST officials to present on specific aspects of the Strategy in October (the Technology Innovation Agency, Human Capital Development, Youth into Science Strategy, and Hydrogen Energy). The NSTF recorded and summarised the various discussions, and submitted members' feedback to the Director-General. The NSTF strives in this manner to keep stakeholders informed, and to keep communication open between stakeholders and government.



## IPR workshop

A workshop was held in Gauteng during 2007, on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) as they relate to SETI. Three speakers were invited: Mr McLean Sibanda to speak on the Innovation Fund, Mr Shailesh Maharaj from Sasol, and Mr Andrew Rens from the Shuttleworth Foundation. All three speakers are patent lawyers, and mainly addressed the issues and challenges relating to patenting. A lively discussion was held, recorded and summarised, and conclusions and recommendations were submitted to the DST.



## TIA workshops

Two workshops were held at the beginning of 2008 on the proposed Technology Innovation Agency (TIA), one in Gauteng and one in the Western Cape.

The NSTF circulated the draft TIA Bill among its membership (well before the above presentations) for their input. We received a number of responses, some very detailed and thoughtful, and forwarded them to the DST, for consideration when editing the draft Bill.

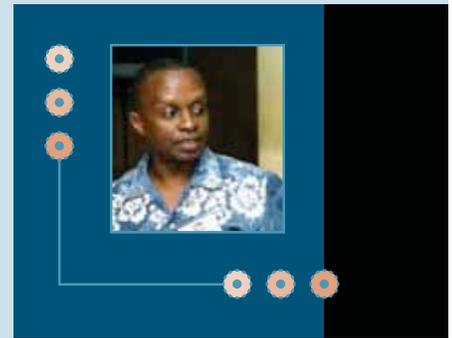
At both workshops, an official from the DST presented the concept and intentions of the establishment of the TIA, and reported on progress and plans in this regard. Both workshops were well attended by interested stakeholders, who were anxious to know how this fairly dramatic policy intervention would impact on the current work and structures they are involved with. We are confident that the workshops helped inform these stakeholders and reassured them to the extent that it was possible, given that much of the impact of the TIA remains to be seen in the course of its actual establishment. Again, the NSTF summarised the comments and concerns of the workshop participants, and submitted them to the DST.



## Support for the DST's Youth into Science Strategy

The NSTF has, on various occasions, provided a platform for stakeholders to hear about the DST's plans and strategies related to ensuring that youth take up and remain in Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) studies and careers. The NSTF participated in the DST's launch of the Youth into Science Strategy (YiSS) in September 2007.

The NSTF now implements certain aspects of the Youth into Science Strategy on behalf of the DST, namely the National Youth Service (NYS) Programme, the Youth Incentive Scheme (mainly a bursary scheme), and the co-ordination of SET Olympiads and Competitions.



### • The DST's National Youth Service

The Government initiated the NYS as a way to address unemployment among the youth as well as equip the youth with skills necessary to obtain employment or start small businesses. The DST's YiSS, launched in September 2007, aims to promote science awareness and understanding among the youth, encourage more young people to study in the sciences and engineering, and to pursue careers in those directions. The DST's version of the NYS Programme is designed to assist in the implementation of the YiSS, in addition to the aims of the broader NYS Programme, by providing young SET graduates to work at the Science Centres, and training them in science awareness work. (Supporting a network of Science Centres is another component of the YiSS). A Memorandum of Agreement was signed between the DST and the NSTF, which outlines the funding to be provided by the DST over a three year period, (until March 2010) and the NSTF's obligations in managing the funding and implementing the NYS Programme.

### *Placement*

According to the agreement, the NSTF is to be the Co-ordinating Institution for the DST NYS Programme, and the NYS volunteers are to be placed at the NSTF office as well as at 21 Host Institutions, being mainly Science Centres, in all nine provinces. A newspaper advertisement was placed in October 2007 to recruit suitable volunteers for the Programme. Of the candidates who applied, 220 were qualified, and were interviewed by the Host Institutions themselves. They selected up to six candidates each depending on the needs of the particular Institution. The target was to engage a total of 125 volunteers, and the initial intake was close to that number.

Seven of the NYS volunteers are placed at the NSTF Office to act as a Co-ordinating Team. Two of this group have Human Resources (HR) knowledge and experience, and maintain a complete database of all volunteers' details, communicate with the Host Institutions on HR issues, and assist with administration of stipends and HR records. The other five Co-ordinating volunteers have various specific tasks entrusted to them, among others: to assist with all the arrangements for training of all the NYS volunteers across the country. Each of them has responsibility for the volunteers at four of the Host Institutions.



### Training

The training of the NYS volunteers is being implemented according to agreed guidelines in the DST's Business Plan, and accredited Training Providers are engaged to do the training, with the assistance of a consultancy called *Siyazithanda*. Umsobomvu Youth Fund's (UYF) NYS Unit has also agreed to fund and arrange some of the training, to the value of about one million rand.

#### Scheduled Training courses:

- Orientation course (completed);
- Project Management course (completed);
- Presentation Skills course (completed);
- Event Management course (completed);
- Facilitation Skills course (completed);
- Computer skills (various courses, and international certification from Microsoft) (in progress);
- Drivers' Licence training for those who already have a Learners' Licence (in progress);
- Life Skills training (sponsored by UYF and completed); and
- Leadership training (for 35 NYS volunteers in 2008) (sponsored by UYF and in progress).

The nurturing of Leadership is encouraged in the NYS Programme. The group of volunteers at each Host Institution were required to choose a Team Leader to represent them, and these are to be included in the Leadership Training group. The Co-ordinating team at the NSTF office is also to undergo this Leadership Training, together with elected representatives of the volunteers on their Concerns Committee.



### Exit opportunities

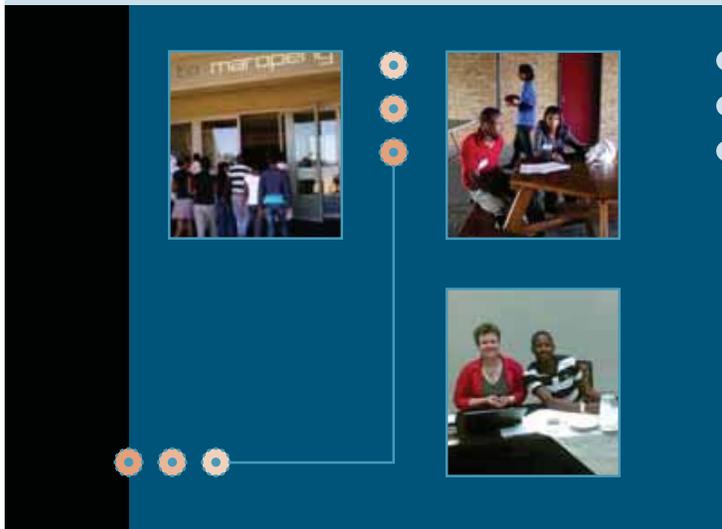
One of the objectives of the NYS Programme is to assist previously unemployed young people to find suitable opportunities to move on to. Thus the NSTF assists the young graduates in the NYS Programme to access information about opportunities for post-graduate study, bursaries, and employment opportunities within various SET sectors. The graduates are encouraged to identify their own strengths and interests, network with professionals in their fields of interest, be pro-active in finding opportunities and building their own confidence and skills. It is hoped that the NYS Programme will equip them with skills they could not otherwise acquire, and that it will assist in retaining talented young people in SET careers.

### Evaluation and reporting

In the planning of the NYS Programme, provision is made for monitoring and evaluation. Data is being collected on an ongoing basis through questionnaires to the NYS volunteers and by the HR Co-ordinators in the NSTF office. Quarterly reports are submitted to the DST, as per agreement.

- **Incentive Programme**

The Youth Incentive Scheme of the DST aims to retain promising undergraduate students in SET related studies. Twelve first year students, studying at various Higher Education Institutions across the country, are currently being supported through this programme, implemented by the NSTF. The support consists of partial funding, depending on the individual students' circumstances and their access to other sources of funding. (It seems remarkable that a number of students with potential are only partially funded by those other sources, making it almost impossible for them to continue with their studies). The Scheme also includes establishment of a peer support network: the students are brought together for a workshop at least once a year, where they establish contact with each other, get information and advice on studying and university life, meet role models, and discuss their concerns and aspirations. The students are further supported by ongoing personal contact and outside interest in their results, and it is the intention to find suitable mentors for these students at the Higher Education Institutions where they are studying.



- **FESTOC**

The Federation of Engineering, Science and Technology Olympiads and Competitions (FESTOC) is an umbrella body of the various existing national SET Olympiads and Competitions. It was decided during youth stakeholder forums organised by the DST, that there was a need for such an umbrella body. Its establishment is now well under way. An interim committee was appointed, on which the DST, Department of Education, South African Association of Science, Technology and Engineering Centres (SAASTEC) and NSTF are represented. It has been agreed that FESTOC should operate under the auspices of the NSTF, and the NSTF office renders administrative support to FESTOC. A brochure with information on the national SET Olympiads and Competitions was produced by the NSTF, and distributed widely to secondary schools nationally (to all provincial Maths and Science co-ordinators at the education departments, to all Dinaledi Schools, to Science Centres, and during National Science Week).

## Health of the SETI System

**Strategic Objective (2):** "to monitor and promote the health of the SETI system"

The monitoring of the implementation of SETI policies is being achieved mainly through recording the feedback from stakeholders at forums organised by the NSTF. As this past year has been a time of intensive policy formulation, our efforts have been concentrated more on this than on monitoring of implementation. Monitoring will be undertaken in a more focused and systematic manner in future. Our efforts to monitor and promote the health of the system include workshops on Ethics in SET, and presentations and discussions of the National Research Foundation's new strategy at the NSTF Plenary meeting in 2008.

### Ethics in SET workshop

A workshop on Ethics in SET was held in Gauteng during 2007, and Prof. Doug Wassenaar from the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) gave a presentation. The discussions were informative and productive, and were summarised. The conclusion from this workshop was that there has been much focus on ethics in research involving human and animal subjects and materials, but not sufficient attention to ethics in other scientific research. It was recommended that the NSTF explore and report on progress in this regard so that the problem areas can be further identified. Another workshop is scheduled for 2008.



### Focus on the National Research Foundation Strategy

During the 33<sup>rd</sup> Plenary of the NSTF, two presentations were given: *NRF Vision 2015* and *Practical Implications for Research Awards 2007*. These were received with interest from the attendees. The issues related to the challenges faced by the National Research Foundation (NRF) in the implementation of its new strategy. The impact of the changes on the funding of research and the role of the NRF in human capacity development are both broad and varied, involving the government, academic, science councils, business, industry, education, state corporations, civil society and labour sectors, most of which were represented in the breakaway groups at the meeting. Some people were uninformed about the NRF funding programmes as well as the funding process and found the NRF presentations particularly helpful in this respect.

Discussion related particularly to: the strategy of dramatically increasing the overall number of Doctoral degrees, funding for academic research, provision of bursaries, and administration of funds. The conclusions included the following:

- There was concern that because more knowledge creation requires more funds, the actual funds available for research ought to be increasing, and this is not so;
- There was mixed reaction to the NRF focus on the 'PhD as the driver'. While the sectors support the principle of encouraging postgraduate research that has a PhD as its ultimate goal (which is in line with international approaches), the NRF strategic plan seems to ignore the critical need for the development and training of technicians;
- The overarching opinion on the NRF funding of research grants is that the value of bursaries is often too low. The NRF funding instruments should be more flexible in order to allow funding of new developments arising from research;
- There is much support for the new bursaries programmes offered by the NRF. The 'Blue Sky' initiative is commended, and the move away from focus areas is welcomed;
- There is a concern about how best to address funding needs at all levels. The fact that bursaries for undergraduate study are insufficient for students without other sources of funds at their disposal means that the NRF will have to consider an all-inclusive bursary, catering for this need; and
- Several issues relating to the administration of bursaries required clarification by the NRF. The speed of the flow of money between the NRF, universities and researchers seems to be problematic and will be addressed by the NRF.

### Publicising results of SETI policies

As part of monitoring and promoting the health of the SETI system the NSTF would like, in future, to publicise well-researched reports critically evaluating SETI policies and their implementation. At present, we make members aware of events and especially Parliamentary Portfolio Committee discussions of relevant Committees and issues, through the NSTF electronic newsletter, NASTEF, and the NSTF website. We also made members aware of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Report: *The South African National System of Innovation: Structures, Policies and Performance – Background Report to the OECD Country Review of South Africa's National System of Innovation* (2006), and attended the workshop organised by the National Advisory Council on Innovation (NACI), to present and discuss the Report.

### Celebration, Recognition and the Reward of Excellence

**Strategic Objective (3):** "to celebrate, recognise and reward excellence within the SETI sector"

### Quality and reach of the NSTF Awards

This past round of the NSTF Awards was also the celebration of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Awards. The Gala Dinner was held on 27 May 2008 at Emperor's Palace in Gauteng. The Minister of Science and Technology, Mr Mosibudi Mangena, graced the celebratory event with his presence, presided over the presentation of the Awards, and gave one of his inspiring speeches. Although the Minister plays this role at every NSTF Awards Gala Dinner, and many awards events besides that of the NSTF, we remain most grateful for his 'blessing' of our event, and his good-natured participation.

At this 10<sup>th</sup> NSTF Awards event, we paid tribute to all previous winners of the past nine years, partly in the form of a photo parade on the 'big screen'. We traced the history of the NSTF Awards and marvelled at the growth of the event and process. The attendance of the NSTF Awards Gala Dinner was greater this year than ever before, and more media representatives were present. Subsequent media coverage of the Awards was good, although the NSTF continues to work on increasing the coverage, and the profile of the Award Winners. The NSTF Awards Publicity Committee chaired by Ms Marie Ashpole of South African Institution of Civil Engineering (SAICE),



The NSTF Awards Publicity Committee



Mr Richard Cock  
(Master of Ceremonies)



Mr Mosibudi Mangena  
(Minister of Science and Technology)



Ms Penny Vinjevold  
(Deputy Director General, Department of Education)



Mr Denis Hunt  
(Chief Adjudicator, NSTF Awards)

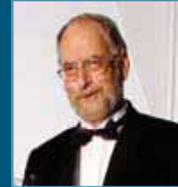
the Medical Research Council's Web and Media Technologies Unit, Kashan Publishers, and our sponsorship partners (notably the South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement (SAASTA) and the NRF) all deserve credit for their input, hard work, and ideas, that contribute to making the event, and follow-up events with the Awards Winners, a resounding success. They have done so for several years now, are committed to continuing, and are even now, preparing for the next round of NSTF Awards.

Although we are confident that the Awards Gala Event, and the processes leading up to it, as well as those that follow after the Gala Event, are all of high quality, the following challenges are identified:

- Ensuring that participation in nominating candidates for the NSTF Awards is as wide as possible. The nominations procedure should be as accessible as possible to our target audience. Awareness of the Awards and publicity do contribute to robust participation levels, and we should ensure that we continue to do our best in this regard; and
- Ensuring that sufficient sponsorship is raised every year. The NSTF is most grateful for the loyal and active support of our long-term sponsors: the NRF, SAASTA, Eskom, CSIR, DST, **the dti** through the THRIP Programme, and BHP Billiton, as well as several smaller sponsorships. The national Department of Education has also contributed sponsorship this year and we are pleased, as much by this appropriate collaboration, as by the funding they provided. Despite these valuable and much valued relationships, the NSTF Awards requires more sponsorship and of a longer term nature, in order to plan ahead, and make the most of the NSTF Awards' potential. As has been shown repeatedly, the NSTF Awards have the potential to inspire others to achieve similar levels of excellence, to inspire and inform young people and the public, and to promote the following values: innovative work, persistent hard work, mentoring of younger people, and communicating about scientific research.

**Winners in the respective categories were:**

**The category A award: 'Individual over a lifetime' – Prof. Johann R E Lutjeharms**, Professor of Oceanography and Ocean Climatology, University of Cape Town



**The category B award: Research and its outputs over the last five years or less – Prof. Leonard J Barbour**, SARChI Research Professor, Department of Chemistry and Polymer Science, University of Stellenbosch



**The category C award: Activities other than research and its outputs over the last five years or less – Ms Allyson Lawless**, Chair SAICE Section 21 Company Board and Managing Director of her own consulting company



**The category D award: Innovation developed through a corporate organisation or institution – FARMOVIS - PAREXEL Team**, Chemistry Department, University of Free State



**The category E award: Innovation developed through an SMME – electronic Water Quality Management System (eWQMS), eManti Management (Pty) Ltd**, Stellenbosch



**The category F award: Innovation developed through an NGO / Not-for Profit Organisation (NPO) or Community Based Organisation (CBO) – Technology Research Activity Centre Programme of SET Education Support (TRAC)**, Department of Civil Engineering, University of Stellenbosch



**NSTF awards 2007/8**

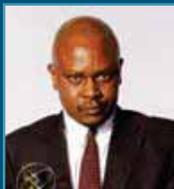
**Platinum and Gold Sponsors and Partners**



**The female recipient of the Eskom sponsored category G award: Researcher, for Research Capacity Development over the last 5-10 years – Prof. Maryke T Labuschagne, Professor and Head of Plant Breeding, Plant Sciences, University of the Free State**



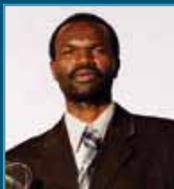
**The male recipient for the Eskom sponsored category G award: Researcher, for Research Capacity Development over the last 5-10 years – Prof. Ron D Sanderson, Head of Department Chemistry & Polymer Science, Director: Institute of Polymer Science, University of Stellenbosch**



**The male recipient of the NRF sponsored T W Kambule category H award: Senior Black Researcher over the last 5 to 10 years – Prof. Christian T Chimimba, Associate Professor Department of Zoology and Entomology, University of Pretoria**



**The female recipient of the NRF sponsored T W Kambule category J award: Distinguished Young Black Researcher over the last 5 to 10 years – Dr Vima D Leaner – Senior Lecturer, Medical Biochemistry, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Cape Town**



**The male recipient of the NRF sponsored T W Kambule category J award: Distinguished Young Black Researcher over the last 5 to 10 years – Dr Robert Tshikhudo, Senior Scientist, MINTEK**



**The recipient of the SAASTA sponsored category K award: Science Communicator award over the last 5 years – Mr Mark Horan, GIS Programmer, School of Bioresources Engineering and Environmental Hydrology, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg**



Minister Mangena and Ms Niehaus with recipients of the Education Recognition Programme certificates: principals of the top schools in Mathematics and Science, top educators in Mathematics and Science, girl learners who did the best in Grade 12 Mathematics and Science in 2007, and top female participants in the SET Olympiads and Competitions.

### Consultation and co-ordination with other Award processes

The Executive Director has attended other Awards celebrations and discussed with other organisers, both to compare processes and scope, and to explore whether winners of other localised awards processes could be eligible for participation in the NSTF Awards. Other NSTF Exco members have also observed and compared awards processes. We are discussing possible collaborations, our unique role as the NSTF, and are planning to engage with the other major Awards organisers over the next year. We are convinced that the NSTF Awards indeed occupy a unique space in the SETI landscape – being a joint communal effort, all-inclusive, and focusing mainly on the research end of the research and development spectrum, but with consideration for impact on society, research capacity building, and communication. Concerning the latter feature, not only do we host SAASTA's Science Communication Award, but in collaboration with the Medical Research Council, we arrange opportunities for NSTF Award winners to share their work with the public and students at Higher Education Institutions. This is indeed a unique benefit to the winners and to society.

Ms Jansie Niehaus  
Executive Director

# Scientific, Engineering and Technological Societies and Allied Professions Group of South Africa Sector Report

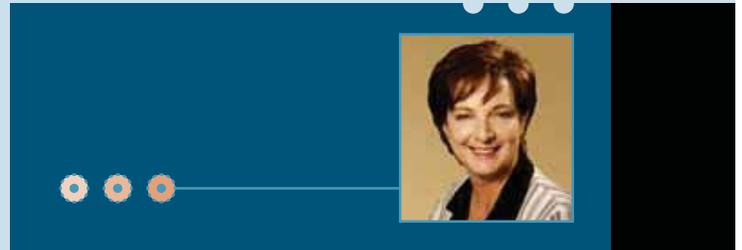
The period covered by this annual report has been a challenging one for the SETAG sector, with changes in the Executive Committee leadership and a shortage of new Exco members. Professor Mathume Bopape became the Chair of SETAG in March 2007, but was unable to continue in the role of Chair in 2008 due to pressure of new responsibilities that came his way. We thank him for his contribution over recent years but hope still to have his contribution at the regular SETAG meetings. Professor Stephanie Burton, then the Vice-Chair, took over as Chair of SETAG in February 2008. Mr Ralph Gunn recently accepted the position of Vice-chair of SETAG, and we thank him for his willingness to take on the position. We would like to thank all the members of SETAG as well as the Exco for their contributions over the past year.

The Exco has spent some time this year discussing the role of SETAG in the context of the NSTF. These roles include:

- To assist in the provision of careers guidance, expert knowledge and support for SET education at school and university level;
- To represent its members in issues of research, professional practice and skills development;
- To facilitate public understanding of SET; and
- To serve the DST as an advisory and a discussion forum.

Among its activities in the first of these roles, SETAG has initiated the formation of a database of members who are specialists and who can advise stakeholders, including the young volunteers involved in the Science Centres as part of the YISS programme, and student bursars of the programme.

In representation of members with regard to skills issues and research issues, we have continued to engage with the DST as they roll out their 10-year strategy and their plans for human capacity development and the NRF in the initiation of their 15-year plan. The SETAG Exco is attended by a representative from the DST who advises and listens to discussion on these issues.



SETAG's role in facilitating public understanding of SET and SET issues takes place through its interaction with SAASTA (who are also represented on the Exco) as well as its General meetings.

In interacting with the DST, the SETAG network is at the disposal of the DST when expert knowledge is required. Through its Exco and through participation in all NSTF meetings, SETAG seeks to keep its members informed of new developments in the DST and in related government policy, and to act as a channel for communication with policy makers.

In keeping with its role of informing its membership about current developments in the SET arena, we have given attention to energy and environmental issues as well as policy and strategy issues. The SETAG General Meeting held in September 2007 included a most interesting presentation on the Solar Challenge, a competition to develop solar powered cars. At the General Meeting in June 2008 we had a presentation on Energy Security and its challenges.

The Executive Committee has been short of members for some time, and calls for nominations have unfortunately not been answered by the membership. We continue to appeal to members of SETAG to consider playing a more active role by accepting a position on the SETAG Exco. The current SETAG Exco is listed on page 15 of this report.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Stephanie S. Burton'.

Prof. S Burton  
Chairperson: SETAG



# Science Councils and Statutory Bodies Sector Report



## Introduction

The Science Councils and Statutory Bodies Sector is one of the NSTF sectors with representation in the Executive Committee of the NSTF. It comprises of 8 Science Councils with a complementary focus:

- Agricultural Research Council (ARC);
- Council for Mineral Technology (Mintek);
- Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR);
- Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC);
- Medical Research Council (MRC);
- National Research Foundation (NRF) including the South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement (SAASTA);
- Water Research Commission (WRC);
- And one Statutory Body;
- Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf).

The Science Councils and Statutory Bodies Sector supports and promotes the NSTF by giving expert input to government policy and by providing a platform to express the views of its member organisations regarding SETI matters.

These institutions play various roles in the upliftment of South Africa through, among many others, undertaking scientific research that informs policy development in the country, initiating and developing innovations and technologies aimed at improving the standard of living for South Africans, and are all engaged in technology transfer and capacity building.

The sector has a committee, consisting of a representative of each member organisation, which runs the activities of the sector. The main purpose of the committee is to promote and extend communication, collaboration and information among members. To achieve this purpose, meetings are held quarterly and each Science Council or Statutory Body is required to delegate one or two staff members to represent it. In the year 2006 members agreed that venues of the meetings be rotated among members' premises. The aim was to create an opportunity to visit all member organisations and to understand their core businesses. Also, it was aimed at providing members with exposure to each Council in order to raise interest about each other. In each visit or meeting a senior member of the management of the host institution was invited to give an oral presentation about his/her organisation, which was followed by questions and discussions. Other issues that are common to all members of the sector were continuously listed on the agenda and discussed with the view of helping each other in finding solutions or sharing experiences. The first round of the visits, started in 2006, concluded in the first quarter of 2008. The second round of meetings will focus on Capacity Building programmes of member organisations.

## Activity plans and initiatives of the sector

During 2007 a number of issues emerged during the sector's meetings. These issues centred around the challenge of skills shortages in the country. In engaging with these issues members

tried to come up with ideas as to how Science Councils and Statutory Bodies can contribute towards bringing solutions to the crisis of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education. Some of the critical issues discussed and their resolutions are briefly presented below:

### Quality of graduates beginning science or research careers

The issue of quality and quantity of graduates pursuing the science fields or research was a big concern among all the science councils. There was a view that massification of science and technology qualification programmes in the institutions of higher learning should be carefully implemented to avoid compromising quality of the throughput. However, Councils agreed that this point may need to be thoroughly investigated as it is not the only factor at play that determines the quality of a graduate. The members indisputably viewed Science Councils as having a critical role to play in the training and mentoring of young scientists through effective orientation and accommodating graduates from different backgrounds. Due to resource challenges experienced by some South African Universities, designing or adapting staff orientation programmes to suit each new employee can be very important in South Africa.

### Workshops on issues common to all members of the sector

Science sector representatives believe that there are common issues among the councils that could be explored through workshops. The sector committee assigned two members to investigate the hosting and running workshops that will involve all science councils and statutory bodies. The themes of the workshops will be based on issues raised and discussed during each institutional visit or meeting. The intention is to have all member organisations participate in different ways and forms. However, we will encourage oral and poster presentations as well as exhibitions of research products.

### Booklet that captures what Science Councils do

The skills shortage in South Africa has been attributed to numerous factors including limited publicity about Science and Technology. Therefore, council members decided that a booklet that briefly captures what each science council does should be developed. The aim is to make public the great work of the councils, which scores of South Africans are not aware of. It was agreed that the NSTF will be tasked to collate this information into a booklet that will be accessible to all, irrespective of background.

## Conclusion

Although we had some success in what we do and discuss, there are still challenges that the Councils face and need to overcome. The main challenge is the implementation of plans or decisions undertaken by the members. Presently, the sector does not have resources specifically assigned to implement its plans and activities. This lack has so far hindered the implementation of most plans and presents a risk to delivery on the expectations of our members. Planned projects cannot materialise without financial and human resource support. However, an option whereby member organisations will be requested to support activities or projects of the sector that are of benefit to them will be explored in the future. The sector is very keen to pursue an agenda that yields tangible results and will do everything to avoid empty talk shows.

Dr S Liphadzi  
Executive Representative of the Science Councils  
and Statutory Bodies Sector

During the review period, the NSTF formalised its status as an Association, incorporated under Section 21 of the Companies Act, (Act No. 61 of 1973). The name of the organisation remains the same, 'National Science and Technology Forum'. The registration number is 2007/029165/08. The decision to register as a Section 21 company was made on the basis that the NSTF would take on projects on behalf of the Department of Science and Technology, and in particular the NYS Programme. Taking responsibility for larger amounts of funding, as well as projects of a greater size and complexity than before, necessitated that we ensure that a high level of rigour and accountability be sustained. The Executive Committee was of the opinion that it would be best to become such an entity.

## The Board of Directors of the Section 21 Company is as follows:

Name	Status	Date of appointment
Prof. B Wingfield	Chairperson Independent Non-executive	November 2007
Prof. S Burton	Independent Non-executive	July 2008
Ms J Niehaus	Non-independent Executive Director	November 2007
Mr D Hunt	Independent Non-executive	November 2007
Mr D Kramer	Independent Non-executive	November 2007
Dr S Liphadzi	Independent Non-executive	November 2007
Prof. J Malherbe	Independent Non-executive	November 2007
Dr WvZ de Villiers	Independent Non-executive	November 2007

## The management structure of the NSTF

The NSTF is a broad stakeholder forum, at present representing about 110 organisational members in six distinct categories (or sectors).

## Plenary Meetings

Each member organisation is represented at the twice yearly Plenary Meetings of the NSTF, by an official representative appointed by them.

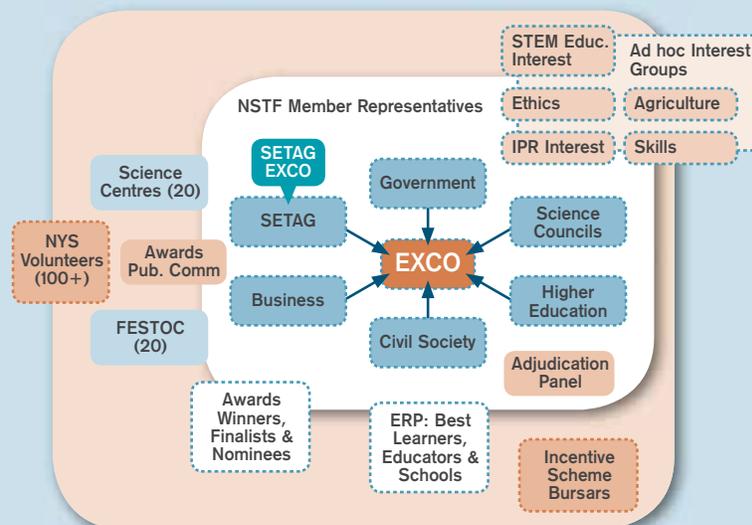
## Executive Committees

### NSTF Executive Committee

The six sectors elect representatives to the Exco, which meets monthly. The Exco positions are voluntary. The members of the Exco were as follows:

Name	Sector
Prof. B Wingfield, Chairperson	-
Prof. S Burton, Vice-Chairperson	Professional Bodies / SETAG
Ms J Niehaus, Executive Director	-
Mr D Hunt	Business Sector
Dr P Mjwara	Government Sector
Prof. J Malherbe	Higher Education Sector
Mr D Kramer	Civil Societies Sector
Dr M Bopape	Professional Bodies / SETAG
Dr WvZ de Villiers	State Utilities
Dr S Liphadzi	Science Councils
Mr S Mpele	NACI
Mr JN Marriott, Immediate Past Chairperson	-
Mrs W Eksteen, Secretariat	-

Two NSTF sectors, namely the SETAG sector and the Science Councils and Statutory Bodies sector meet regularly. The SETAG sector has its own executive committee which guides its activities.



**The SETAG sector executive members were as follows:**

Name	Position
Prof. S Burton	Chairperson, Scientist from the South African Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (SASBMB)
Mr R Gunn	Vice-chairperson and Engineer from the South African Institute for Industrial Engineering (SAIIE)
Mr D Botha	Immediate Past Chairperson and Engineer from the South African Institution of Civil Engineering (SAICE)
Mr M Gow	Advisor and Engineer from the Chamber of Engineering Technology (CET)
Mr B Hadebe	Advisor, Science Missions and Human Capital, DST
Prof. A Visser	Advisor and Engineer, Advisor from SAICE
Mr F Von Glehn	Advisor and Engineer, from the Mine Ventilation Society of South Africa (MVSSA)

**The Science Councils and Statutory Bodies sector members were as follows:**

Name	Organisation
Dr B Bantwini	HSRC
Mr K Keatimilwe	CSIR
Dr S Liphadzi	WRC
Dr X Mati	ASSAf
Dr M Motuku	Mintek
Mr T Mudau	ARC
Ms R Ramoutar	NRF
Dr P Zawada	Council for Geosciences (CGS)
Representative	MRC

**Human Resources**

The NSTF Secretariat consists of four staff members: the Executive Director, Office Manager, Office Administrator, and Administrative Assistant. The roles are clearly defined in job descriptions and performance agreements. The Office Manager is also the Financial Manager, and supervises the office as a whole. The Secretariat is assisted by seven graduates participating in the NYS Programme. Two of them are Human Resources officers and are essential in managing HR matters relating to the NYS volunteers (well in excess of 100) countrywide. The other five play a co-ordinating role with regards to all the NYS volunteers, particularly in organising training courses. They also have specific responsibilities related to the Youth into Science Strategy, and make it possible for the NSTF to participate actively in these DST initiatives.

**The breakdown of NSTF employees in terms of race and gender**

The four members of the secretariat are all female; two are white, and two African (thus 50% African). The seven NYS co-ordinators are two males and five females. All are African. Thus the breakdown for the 11 people currently serving the NSTF office is as follows: 82% African, 18% White, 82% Female and 18% Male.

The breakdown of the National Youth Service participants employed by the NSTF nationally is approximately as follows: 90% African, 4% Coloured, 2% Indian, 4% White, 33% Male and 67% Female.

# Annual Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2008

## Contents

17	Report of the Independent Auditors
18	Directors' Responsibilities and Approval
19	Directors' Report
20	Balance Sheet
20	Income Statement
21	Statement of Changes in Equity
21	Cash Flow Statement
22	Accounting Policies
23	Notes to the Annual Financial Statements
	The following supplementary information does not form part of the annual financial statements and is unaudited:
25	• Detailed Income Statement – National Science and Technology Forum
26	• Detailed Income Statement – National Youth Service Project
26	• Detailed Income Statement – Incentive Scheme

# Report of the Independent Auditors

## To the members of the National Science and Technology Forum (Association incorporated under Section 21 of the Company's Act)

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the National Science and Technology Forum (Association incorporated under Section 21 of the Company's Act), which comprise the directors' report, the balance sheet as at 31 March 2008, the income statement, the statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes, set out on pages 20 to 24.

### Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The company's directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with South African Statements of Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### Qualification

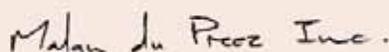
In common with similar organisations, it is not feasible for the National Science and Technology Forum to institute accounting controls over cash collections from donations, membership and subscriptions prior to the initial entry of the collections in the accounting records. Accordingly, it was impractical for us to extend our examinations beyond the receipts actually recorded.

### Opinion

In our opinion, except for the omission of the information included in the preceding paragraph, the annual financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the company as at 31 March 2008, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with South African Statements of Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, and in the manner required by the Companies Act of South Africa, 1973.

### Supplementary Information

We draw your attention to the fact that the supplementary information set out on pages 25 to 26 does not form part of the annual financial statements and is presented as additional information. We have not audited this information and accordingly do not express an opinion thereon.



*Malan du Preez Incorporated*  
Registered Auditors  
Per: JJ Marais

19 June 2008  
42 Lebombo Road, Ashlea Gardens  
Pretoria 0081

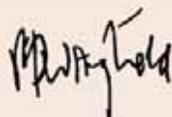
## Directors' Responsibilities and Approval

The directors are required to maintain adequate accounting records and are responsible for the integrity of the annual financial statements and related financial information included in this report. It is their responsibility to ensure that the annual financial statements fairly present the state of affairs of the Forum as at the end of the financial year and the results of its operations and cash flows for the period then ended, in conformity with South African Statements of Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. The external auditors are engaged to express an independent opinion on the annual financial statements.

The annual financial statements are prepared in accordance with South African Statements of Generally Accepted Accounting Practice and are based upon appropriate accounting policies consistently applied and supported by reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates.

The external auditors are responsible for independently reviewing and reporting on the company's annual financial statements. The annual financial statements have been examined by the company's external auditors and their report is presented on page 17.

The annual financial statements set out on pages 20 to 24, which have been prepared on the going concern basis, were approved by the board of directors on 19 June 2008 and were signed on its behalf by:



Prof. BD Wingfield  
*Chairperson*



Ms J Niehaus  
*Executive Director*

# Directors' Report

The directors submit their report for the year ended 31 March 2008.

## 1. Incorporation

The Forum was incorporated under Section 21 of the Company's Act on 10 October 2007. For disclosure purposes the prior year figures of the National Science and Technology Forum are incorporated in the financial statements of the company.

## 2. Review of activities

Main business and operations

The company is engaged in the promotion of science and technology in South Africa and there were no major changes in the company's activity during the year.

The operation results and state of affairs of the company are fully set out in the attached financial statements and do not in our opinion require any further comment.

## 3. Post balance sheet events

The directors are not aware of any matter or circumstance arising since the end of the financial year.

## 4. Directors

The directors of the company during the year and to date of this report are as follows:

**Name:**

Prof. BD Wingfield (Chairperson)  
J Niehaus (Executive director)  
FD Kramer  
JB Malherbe  
WvZ de Villiers  
DF Hunt  
MS Liphadzi

## 5. Secretary

The secretary of the company is MDP Secretarial Services (Pty) Ltd:

**Business address:**

42 Lebombo Road  
Ashlea Gardens  
0081

**Postal address:**

Private Bag 2006  
Menlyn  
0063

# Balance Sheet

as at 31 March 2008

	Notes	2008 R	2007 R
<b>Assets</b>			
Non-Current Assets			
Equipment	2	137,128	49,311
Current Assets			
Other financial assets	3	723,413	974,282
Trade and other receivables	4	48,728	47,616
Cash and cash equivalents	5	3,131,515	118,628
		<b>3,903,656</b>	1,140,526
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>4,040,784</b>	1,189,837
<b>Equity and Liabilities</b>			
<b>Equity</b>			
Funding Contributions		65,418	65,418
Accumulated funds		3,834,997	965,098
		<b>3,900,415</b>	1,030,516
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	7	24,136	153,426
Provisions	6	116,233	5,895
		<b>140,369</b>	159,321
<b>Total Equity and Liabilities</b>		<b>4,040,784</b>	1,189,837

# Income Statement

for the year ended 31 March 2008

Revenue		7,237,804	2,036,273
Other income		1,183	-
Operating expenses		(4,495,976)	(1,394,340)
<b>Funds from operations</b>	8	<b>2,743,011</b>	641,933
Investment revenue	9	126,888	62,813
<b>Funds available for the next period</b>		<b>2,869,899</b>	704,746

## Changes in Equity

for the year ended 31 March 2008

	Funding Contributions R	Accumulated Surplus R	Total Equity R
<b>Balance at 01 April 2006</b>	<b>65,418</b>	<b>260,352</b>	<b>325,770</b>
Changes in equity			
Funds for the year	-	704,746	704,746
Total changes	-	704,746	704,746
<b>Balance at 01 April 2007</b>	<b>65,418</b>	<b>965,098</b>	<b>1,030,516</b>
Changes in equity			
Funds for the year	-	2,869,899	2,869,899
Total changes	-	2,869,899	2,869,899
<b>Balance at 31 March 2008</b>	<b>65,418</b>	<b>3,834,997</b>	<b>3,900,415</b>

## Cash Flow Statement

for the year ended 31 March 2008

	Notes	2008 R	2007 R
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Cash received from members and sponsors		<b>7,236,692</b>	2,036,273
Cash paid to suppliers and employees		<b>4,459,761</b>	1,320,033
Cash generated from operations	11	<b>2,776,931</b>	716,240
Interest income		<b>126,888</b>	62,813
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>		<b>2,903,819</b>	779,053
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Purchase of equipment	2	<b>(141,801)</b>	(34,679)
Sale of financial assets		<b>250,869</b>	(657,975)
<b>Net cash from investing activities</b>		<b>109,068</b>	(692,654)
Total cash movement for the period		<b>3,012,887</b>	86,399
Cash at the beginning of the period		<b>118,628</b>	32,229
<b>Total cash at end of the period</b>	5	<b>3,131,515</b>	118,628

## 1. Presentation of Annual Financial Statements

The annual financial statements have been prepared in accordance with South African Statements of Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, and the Companies Act of South Africa, 1973. The annual financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, and incorporate the principal accounting policies set out below.

These accounting policies are consistent with the previous period.

### 1.1 Equipment

The cost of an item of equipment is recognised as an asset when:

- It is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Forum; and
- the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

Equipment is stated at historical costs to the Forum, less accumulated depreciation and impairments.

Depreciation is provided on all equipment on the historical cost using the straight line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets. The methods and rates are determined by conditions in the relevant industry. Rates of depreciation are as follows:

Item	Average useful life
Office equipment	16.67% (6 years)
IT equipment	33.33% (3 years)

The depreciation charge for each period is recognised in profit or loss unless it is included in the carrying amount of another asset.

### 1.2 Financial instruments

#### Initial recognition

The Forum classifies financial instruments, or their component parts, on initial recognition as a financial asset, a financial liability or an equity instrument in accordance with the substance of the contractual arrangement.

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised on the Forum's balance sheet when the Forum becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets consists of accounts receivable, investment and cash equivalents. Accounts receivable is stated at the total nominal value of such accounts and reduced by appropriate allowances for estimated irrecoverable amounts. Investments are stated at cost less any provisions for diminution in value. After initial recognition investments are measured at their fair value. Cash on hand is measured at its face value. Deposits held on call are classified cash and cash equivalents and carried at amortised cost. Due to the short-term nature of these, the amortised cost approximates their fair value.

Financial liability and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. Significant financial liabilities include accounts payable. Accounts payable are stated at cost. Due to the short-term nature of the Forum's accounts payable, the cost approximates their fair value.

### 1.3 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash equivalents are short term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and are subject to insignificant risk in change in value.

### 1.4 Provisions and contingencies

Provisions are recognised when:

- The Forum has a present obligation as a result of a past event;
- it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation; and
- a reliable estimate can be made of the obligation.

The amount of a provision is the present value of the expenditure expected to be required to settle the obligation.

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised.

### 1.5 Revenue

Revenue represents the invoiced value of membership fees and sponsorship received and is recognised at the date of accrual.

Interest is recognised, in profit or loss, using the effective interest rate method.

# Notes to the Annual Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2008

## 2. Equipment

	2008			2007		
	Cost / valuation R	Accumulated depreciation R	Carrying value R	Cost / valuation R	Accumulated depreciation R	Carrying value R
Office equipment	100,401	(53,615)	46,786	56,903	(41,867)	15,036
IT equipment	237,320	(146,978)	90,342	139,018	(104,743)	34,275
<b>Total</b>	<b>337,721</b>	<b>(200,593)</b>	<b>137,128</b>	<b>195,921</b>	<b>(146,610)</b>	<b>49,311</b>

	Opening Balance R	Additions R	Depreciation R	Total R
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### Reconciliation of equipment – 2008

Office equipment	15,036	43,498	(11,748)	46,786
IT equipment	34,275	98,303	(42,236)	90,342
	<b>49,311</b>	<b>141,801</b>	<b>(53,984)</b>	<b>137,128</b>

### Reconciliation of equipment – 2007

Office equipment	15,036	43,498	(11,748)	46,786
IT equipment	34,275	98,303	(42,236)	90,342
	49,311	141,801	(53,984)	137,128

	2008 R	2007 R
--	-----------	-----------

## 3. Other financial assets

Available for sale		
Wholesale call deposit	50,437	80,000
32 Days notice deposit	672,976	894,282
	<b>723,413</b>	<b>974,282</b>

## 4. Trade and other receivables

VAT	31,758	-
Membership fees receivable	16,970	3,929
Expenses paid in advance	-	43,687
	<b>48,728</b>	<b>47,616</b>

## 5. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of:

Cash on hand	2,500	2,500
Bank balances	3,129,015	116,128
	<b>3,131,515</b>	<b>118,628</b>

## 6. Provisions

	Opening Balance R	Additions R	Total R
<b>Reconciliation of provisions – 2008</b>			
Provision for leave pay	5,895	88,833	94,728
Provision for salary bonus	-	21,505	21,505
	<u>5,895</u>	<u>110,338</u>	<u>116,233</u>
<b>Reconciliation of provisions – 2007</b>			
Provision for leave pay	10,470	(4,575)	5,895
		<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
		R	R

## 7. Trade and other payables

Sundry suppliers	<u>24,136</u>	153,426
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## 8. Funds from operations

Operating profit for the year is stated after accounting for the following:

Depreciation on equipment	53,984	57,279
Employee costs	<u>1,320,434</u>	288,335

## 9. Investment revenue

Interest revenue		
Interest received: Bank	<u>126,888</u>	62,813

## 10. Taxation

The organisation is exempt from income tax. Receipts by or accruals to the association are exempt from income tax in terms of section 10(1)(d)(iv)(bb) of the Income Tax Act. Donations by or to the association are exempt from donations tax in terms of section 56(1)(h) of the aforementioned Act.

## 11. Cash generated from operations

Profit before taxation	2,869,899	704,746
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation and amortisation	53,984	57,279
Interest received	(126,888)	(62,813)
Movements in provisions	110,338	(4,575)
<b>Changes in working capital</b>		
Trade and other receivables	(1,112)	(23,514)
Trade and other payables	(129,290)	45,117
	<u>2,776,931</u>	716,240

## 12. Risk management

### Liquidity risk

The Forum's risk to liquidity is a result of the funds available to cover future commitments. The Forum manages liquidity risk through an ongoing review of future commitments and credit facilities.

### Credit risk

Credit risk consists mainly of cash deposits, cash equivalents and trade debtors. The Forum only deposits cash with major banks with high quality credit standing and limits exposure to any one counter-party.

Trade receivables comprise a widespread customer base. Credit risk of customers is evaluated on an ongoing basis.

# Detailed Income Statement – National Science and Technology Forum

for the year ended 31 March 2008

	Notes	2008 R	2007 R
<b>Revenue</b>			
Membership fees		1,125,746	856,073
Sponsorship received		848,900	1,180,200
Administration fees received		600,000	-
		<b>2,574,646</b>	<b>2,036,273</b>
<b>Other income</b>			
Recovery of bad debts		1,183	-
Investment revenue	9	126,888	62,813
		<b>128,071</b>	<b>62,813</b>
<b>Operating expenses</b>			
Accounting fees		-	1,678
<b>Audit fees</b>		<b>18,000</b>	13,680
Website, media relations and advertisements		38,904	37,864
Bad debts		-	19,090
Bank charges		11,689	5,012
Consulting and professional fees		78,443	-
<b>Depreciation, amortisation and impairments</b>		<b>53,983</b>	57,279
Employee costs		208,033	288,335
Entertainment		8,299	2,177
Executive Committee meeting		20,367	6,797
Plenary meeting		64,697	37,983
Recruitment		21,053	9,768
SETAG		17,758	14,206
Provincial workshops		72,866	-
Science and technology awards dinner		797,289	699,308
Rental offices		121,570	76,816
Flowers		3,300	1,532
Communications and annual report		119,025	62,892
Sundry expenses		-	1,339
Postage		14,845	1,390
Printing and stationery		21,142	10,185
Repairs and maintenance		7,598	2,345
Telephone and fax		35,607	36,196
Transport claims		13,266	4,770
Travel and accommodation		5,840	3,698
		<b>1,753,574</b>	<b>1,394,340</b>
<b>Funds available for the next period</b>		<b>949,143</b>	<b>704,746</b>

## Detailed Income Statement – National Youth Service Project

for the year ended 31 March 2008

	Notes	2008 R
<b>Revenue</b>		
Department of Science and Technology		4,385,965
<b>Operating expenses</b>		
Website, media relations and advertisements		201,364
Bank charges		5,403
Employee costs		1,112,401
Entertainment		173
Rental offices		4,658
Office expenses		45,135
Legal expenses		8,698
Mentorship programme		67,000
Administration fee NSTF		500,000
Communications and annual report		28,953
Printing and stationery		4,622
Repairs and maintenance		8,337
Telephone and fax		4,993
Training		902,490
Transport claims		168
Travel and accommodation		166,944
		<u>3,061,339</u>
<b>Funds available for the next period</b>		<u>1,324,626</u>

## Detailed Income Statement – Incentive Scheme

for the year ended 31 March 2008

<b>Revenue</b>		
Department of Science and Technology		877,193
<b>Operating expenses</b>		
Accommodation		54,275
Meals		26,998
Books and equipment		7,671
Contractor – Professional Services		11,500
Administration fee – NSTF		100,000
Mentorship programme		36,000
Orientation workshop		
- Accommodation and conference packages		21,224
- Travelling and shuttle services		23,395
		<u>281,063</u>
<b>Funds available for the next period</b>		<u>596,130</u>

# Appendix A: National Science & Technology Forum Strategic Plan 2008-2012

## Preamble

The NSTF is a voluntary broadly-representative stakeholder body with expertise and experience that seeks to influence science, engineering, technology and innovation (SETI) policy formulation and delivery in South Africa.

## Vision

SETI system that is responsive to the needs of the nation.

## Mission

To promote SETI and influence SETI policy in the interest of socio-economic growth.

## Strategic Objectives

- to influence and catalyse quality delivery of SETI policy;
- to monitor and promote the health of the SETI system; and
- to celebrate, recognise and reward excellence within the SETI sector.

## Values

- Espouses democratic principles as enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa;
- Acts responsibly on behalf of members on matters affecting SETI;
- Promotes open and honest exchange of views and opinions; and
- Fosters cooperation on matters of common interest.

## Structure

The NSTF comprises the following sectors which adhere to the thrusts of this strategic plan:

- Science councils and statutory bodies;
- Small, medium and large business and state utilities;
- Civil society and labour;
- Higher education sector;
- Government sector; and
- Professional bodies and learned societies.

The professional bodies and learned societies are represented by SETAG (Scientific, Engineering and Technological Societies and Allied Professions Group) which liaises with all sectors regarding all matters-professional.

## Actions

By 2012, the NSTF will have:

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>SETI policy</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Promoted and monitored "Innovation towards knowledge-based economy: Ten-Year Plan for South Africa (2008-2018)";</li><li>• Contributed towards the formulation and implementation of SETI policies, strategies and legislation; and</li><li>• Supported the implementation of the Youth into Science Strategy.</li></ul> |
|--------------------|--|

- 
- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Health of SETI system</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Monitored the implementation of SETI policies; and</li><li>• Publicised results of evaluations of SETI policies.</li></ul> |
|------------------------------|--|

- 
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Celebrate, recognise and reward excellence</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved quality and reach of the NSTF Awards; and</li><li>• Consulted and co-ordinated with other Awards processes.</li></ul> |
|---|--|

## Feedback to government and evaluation of actions

- Distil input from plenaries and workshops into an implementable proposal for consideration by DST and Government in general; and
- Keep data base of participants and evaluations of all events, workshops and/or conferences.

## Abbreviations

ARC	Agricultural Research Council
ASSAf	Academy of Science of South Africa
CET	Chamber of Engineering Technology
CGS	Council for Geosciences
CSIR	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
DST	Department of Science and Technology
ERP	Education Recognition Programme
Exco	Executive Committee
FESTOC	Federation of Engineering, Science and Technology Olympiads and Competitions
HESA	Higher Education South Africa
HR	Human Resources
HSRC	Human Sciences Research Council
IPR	Intellectual Property Rights
Mintek	Mineral Technologies Council
MRC	Medical Research Council
MVSSA	Mine Ventilation Society of South Africa
NACI	National Advisory Council on Innovation
Necsa	South African Nuclear Energy Corporation
NRF	National Research Foundation
NSTF	National Science and Technology Forum
NYS	National Youth Service
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
SAASTA	South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement
SAASTECH	South African Association of Science, Technology and Engineering Centres
SACCI	South African Chamber of Commerce and Industry
SAICE	South African Institution of Civil Engineering
SAIIE	South African Institute for Industrial Engineering
SAMF	South African Mathematics Foundation
SASBMB	South African Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
SET	Science, Engineering and Technology
SETAG	Scientific, Engineering and Technological Societies and Allied Professions Group of South Africa
SETI	Science, Engineering, Technology and Innovation
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
TIA	Technology Innovation Agency
UYF	Umsobomvu Youth Fund
WRC	Water Research Commission
YiSS	Youth into Science Strategy





## National Science and Technology Forum

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