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NSTF e-Newsletter

S.E.T. for socio-economic growth

The acclaimed climate scientist, the climate crisis and the crystal ball

Message from the NSTF Executive Director, Ms Jansie Niehaus

The death of renowned climate scientist Prof Bob Scholes reminds us of his warning that we need global temperature increase to be kept far below one degree on average. The environmental effects of harsh COVID-19 lockdown measures world-wide indicate that we can indeed make a difference to the level of CO₂ emissions if we want to. [Read](#) the ED's message.

Tribute to Prof Bob Scholes: Foremost climate scientist, university teacher and mentor, and much-loved colleague passed away on 28 April 2021. [National Science and Technology Forum \(NSTF\)](#) extends condolences to colleagues, students and the international community of climate scientists. Read the NSTF Exco [statement](#).



Celebrating **20 YEARS** of the
Brilliants Programme



www.nstf.org.za

NSTF News

Twenty years of recognising youth excellence in physical science and mathematics

“An achiever carries the quality of perseverance. Perseverance is the ability to continue in the course of action even when one has faced a lot of discouragement, opposition, competition or failure. With perseverance, they gain the ability to learn from the mistakes, they always compete with themselves as a way of motivating themselves and they are not afraid of failing because they know that failure is a crucial part of learning.” – [Ms Siphokazi Magagula](#) is studying mathematical science at the University of the Witwatersrand. She attended Sitintile Secondary School in Mpumalanga.

“Set clear and lofty goals, and ensure that everything you do each day is a step towards them.” – [Mr Tiisetso Molata](#) is studying electrical engineering at the University of Pretoria. He attended PJ Simelane Secondary School in Dobsonville, Soweto.

“An achiever is someone who has an ambitious vision, and who gives it their all to make that vision a reality, no matter the circumstances that they find themselves in”. – [Mr Keano Kanto](#) is studying civil engineering at the University of Pretoria. He attended high school at Willowridge in Pretoria.

These are quotes from the current (2020) group of NSTF Brilliants programme students. (Read the inspiring [interviews](#) with some of these young people).

NSTF has been recognising and promoting science, engineering, technology (SET), including mathematics and innovation among the youth since 2001. Through its [Brilliants programme](#) (initially the Education Recognition Programme) the NSTF celebrates the performance and potential of youth as future role players within the SET community, as well as South Africa’s society.

Selecting students: The Brilliants programme involves 18-20 (more than 18 when there is a tie) [bright first-year students](#) with a passion for science, and registered at South African universities for SET related qualifications. The NSTF selects the top performers with grades of 90-100% in physical science and mathematics (in the National Senior Certificate) with the assistance of the provincial education departments. A young man and woman from each province who matriculated at public schools are selected. The Ministry and Department of Basic Education have given their support from the start to find these students, together with the Department of Science and Innovation (DSI) that provided the initial funding.

Recognition: Each year, these bright young minds are [recognised and profiled](#) at the prestigious NSTF Awards (known as the ‘[Science Oscars of South Africa](#)’). The NSTF Awards event annually assembles the who’s who in SET and innovation in South Africa, together with the patron, the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, to celebrate outstanding contributions within the community. The Brilliants students [feature on stage and their speeches](#) are a highlight of the evening.

Inspire and motivate: Further inspiration is provided through a motivation session with invited speakers and a tour of science related sites and facilities:

- To [expose them to SET in the field](#), contact with potential role models and mentors, and [advice from experts](#) who can address their concerns
- To inspire top students to complete their science, engineering and technology (SET) studies
- To encourage top students to pursue a career in SET to its highest level
- To provide advice for successful studies and careers

Support: Incentives are provided by means of bursaries, mainly through the [DSI](#) and sponsors like the [Carl & Emily Fuchs Foundation](#) that donated seed funding towards the NSTF Bursary Fund. Other contributors to the fund are the [South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions](#) (SACNASP) and businesses such as Mazi Capital. Many deserving students, particularly the previously-disadvantaged, have been assisted with bursaries during their first year of study.

Profiling: The NSTF website publishes the inspiring stories of the Brilliants students on the [Mzansi Bright Sparks](#) web page. These stories also feature in the NSTF eNews, which is circulated to over 13,000 contacts in SET and innovation. The stories explain what motivates and inspires these young stars, and also act as inspiration and study advice for other learners. **Please pass on the information to learners – especially those in the senior grades – to inspire and motivate them.**

2020/2021 NSTF-South32 Awards nominees announced

The [nominees](#) for the prestigious 2020/2021 [NSTF-South32 Awards](#) for outstanding contributions in science, engineering, technology (SET) and innovation in South Africa were announced recently. Join the NSTF membership and [partners/sponsors](#) in applauding the individuals, teams and organisations nominated this year.

Look out for the announcement of the finalists, which should arrive in your mailbox later this month. If you have any questions, please email awards@nstf.org.za.

Today's research ... tomorrow's innovation

Gala Events to celebrate the NSTF-South32 Awardees

The [gala event](#) of the 2020/2021 [NSTF-South32 Awards](#) will take place on 29 July this year. The NSTF is planning a hybrid event broadcast live simultaneously from Johannesburg and Cape Town. Details will follow soon.

The NSTF's theme for 2021 is **Creative Economy for Sustainable Development**, aligned with the United Nations [International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development](#). This will also be the theme of the Awards gala event.



Save these dates for upcoming Discussion Forums

Save the dates of **10-11 June 2021** for the NSTF [Discussion Forum](#) on **Plant Health**. The invitation will be circulated soon.

The Discussion Forum under the auspices of [proSET](#) will be on **4IR Technologies and Connectivity**. It is scheduled for 9-10 September.

The Discussion Forum on the international theme **Creative Economy for Sustainable Development** is planned for 14-15 October. The NSTF aims to highlight initiatives that bridge the gap between creativity and

Proceedings of Discussion Forums now available

Internet of Things technologies and 5G roll-out

The [Discussion Forum](#), which took place on 23 November 2020, informed people about the new technologies (Internet of Things (IoT) and 5G (or fifth generation standards of digital wireless/mobile Information Communication Technology (ICT) and their potential). It equipped attendees in terms of the controversies and debates around these kinds of technologies, the roll-out of 5G and beyond. The proceedings are now available [here](#).

science/technology, and to discuss significant societal issues relating to these.

Please send ideas of topics and speakers for these Discussion Forums to [Ms Gabriela Mankune](#).

New member welcomed

The NSTF welcomes its new member:

- [Twenty20Science](#) (T20S) under the Business Sector: SMMEs

If you are interested in becoming a member, visit the [Membership section](#) on the website for more information about the NSTF. Request an application form from [Mr Matome Mphela](#) on email.

Preparing for epidemics in South Africa – human and animal

The NSTF Discussion Forum on '[Preparing for epidemics in South Africa – human and animal](#)' provided insight into infectious diseases that have caused, or can cause, epidemics in South Africa. Of special interest were lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic, viral and zoonotic diseases. The Forum was hosted with the NSTF [Science Councils and Statutory Bodies Sector](#). Read the [proceedings](#) and the [policy recommendations](#) from the event.



NSTF-proSET STEMulator 2021 competition – prizes to be won!

Prizes will be awarded to five individuals who find/contribute new quality content to feature on the [STEMulator.org](#). Participants must be members/employees of [NSTF member organisations](#). The prizes are worth R12 000 (twelve thousand rand) each. If the contributed content is the IP of an institution/organisation, entrants need to include a letter of authorisation from the institution/organisation stating that the material may be shared on the STEMulator website, and how the originator should be acknowledged. The organisation will be fully acknowledged in publicity and on the STEMulator.

Entry forms are available from [Ms Gabriela Mankune](#). Send in your animated material together with the entry form to the NSTF, also for the attention of [Ms Mankune](#) by the closing date for entries: **20 July 2021**. Look out for our communication about the winning contributions by the end of **September 2021**.

STEMulator.org is the flagship project of [proSET](#) (Professionals in Science, Engineering and Technology), one of seven [membership sectors](#) of the NSTF. proSET represents about 40 professional bodies and learned societies in South Africa. Read more about STEMulator.org in the March issue of [Civil Engineering](#), the SAICE (South African Institution of Civil Engineering) magazine, pages 70-71.

Brilliant students

[Imké Schamrel](#) is one of the students recognised in the NSTF's 2019/2020 [Brilliant students programme](#) (see above) for top marks in mathematics and physical science in the National Senior Certificate Examinations (grade 12). She is studying

Bursaries available

Find the latest news on bursaries in science, engineering and technology (SET) in the NSTF [Bursary Directory](#). Currently available are:

- [Sappi bursary opportunities](#) (Deadline: 30 September 2021)

medicine at Stellenbosch University.

- [FMCSA FORD Bursary](#) (Open)

“An achiever in my eyes is someone who grasps every opportunity to find and fuel their purpose.” – Imké Schamrel

Visit the NSTF [bursary website](#) for information on [SET careers](#) and inspiring people who work in these areas.



proSET (Professionals in science, engineering and technology) is a sector of the NSTF representing about 40 professional and learned societies. This section shares news about [members](#) and introduces new members of the [proSET sector](#).

- **The Engineering Council of South Africa**

Following the media coverage on the deployment of Cuban engineers, the Engineering Council of South Africa ([ECSA](#)) released an official communique, which highlights the mandate of ECSA and how this relates to the deployment of international engineers into South Africa. Click [here](#) to download the document.

- **The South African National Biodiversity Institute**

The South African National Biodiversity Institute's ([SANBI](#)) mourns the death of Bob Scholes. [Read more](#).

The SANBI Annual [Student Research Day](#) looked a little different this year. The two day event that was held at Kirstenbosch on 30 and 31 March 2021 made major strides in exploring and adapting to the digital space. The annual event showcases SANBI's emerging researchers in various disciplines across the many units of the institution. This is an opportunity to appreciate the importance of the postgraduate research and how it fits into the research objectives of the institution, and feeding into SANBI's research strategy and mandate that explore, reveal, celebrate and champion biodiversity for the benefit and enjoyment of all South Africans.

- **Institute of Information Technology Professionals South Africa**

The Institute of Information Technology Professionals South Africa ([IITPSA](#)) has welcomed the government's commitment to strengthening its digital capacity and moving the country into the 4th Industrial Revolution, but has questioned the need for the government to create a new State Owned Enterprise (SOE), and the implementation model and costs associated with some of its plans. [Read more](#) in *EngineerIT*.



SET-related policies currently open for public comment

Policies open for comment allow the science, engineering and technology (SET) community to keep track of the changing regulation environment.

- [Continuing Education and Training Act: Draft: National policy pertaining to conduct, administration and management of examinations of colleges](#) (Comment by 9 May 2021)
- [Standards Act: Standards matters: New standard, revision standard and cancelled standard](#) (Comment by 11 May 2021)
- [Electronic Communications Act: Regulations: Equipment Authorisation](#) (Comment by 12 May 2021)
- [Promotion of Access to Information Act: Regulations](#) (Comment by 17 May 2021)
- [Pharmacy Act: South African Pharmacy Council: Pharmacist who provides pharmacists initiated management of antiretroviral therapy \(PIMART\) services](#) (Comment by 22 May 2021)
- [National Road Traffic Act: Regulations: Amendment](#) (Comment by 22 May 2021)
- [Competition Act: Guidelines on local procurement in the implementation of the South African Value Chain Sugarcane Master Plan to 2030](#) (Comment by 22 May 2021)
- [National Environmental Management Act: Amendment to financial provisioning regulations](#) (Comment by 22 May 2021)
- [Standards Act: Standards matters: New standard, revision standard and cancelled standard](#) (Comment by 28 May 2021)
- [Petroleum Products Act: Liquefied Petroleum Gas Rollout Strategy](#) (Comment by 30 May 2021)
- [Petroleum Products Act: Regulations: Mandatory blending of biofuels with petrol and diesel: Correction](#) (Comment by 31 May 2021)
- [Astronomy Geographic Advantage Act: Revised exempted radio frequency spectrum for the Karoo Central Astronomy Advantage Area](#) (Comment by 6 June 2021)

SET-related policy news

Some articles included in the section below are opinion pieces. The opinions expressed in these articles do not necessarily reflect the views of the NSTF Executive Committee, Directors, Secretariat or Members.

POPIA compliance

- To promote understanding and compliance with POPIA within the research community in South Africa, a [Code of Conduct for Research](#) is being developed through a transparent and consultative process led by the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf). Researchers can [submit their comments and questions](#) for consideration by the Committees.

Energy

- [Minister Ebrahim Patel stresses need for "green" hydrogen](#) (energize.co.za)
- [Energy committee votes against probe into how Karpowership SA and others won bids](#) (news24.com)
- [Schools and other government buildings in South Africa to be solar powered: minister](#) (businessstech.co.za)

Environment

- [Global leaders support bold action on climate change adaptation for Africa](#) (infrastructurenews.co.za)

- [Tackling climate change a top priority](http://sanews.gov.za) (sanews.gov.za)
- [South Africa's planned harmful gas limits 'off target'](http://mg.co.za) (mg.co.za)

Agriculture

- [Political rhetoric to speed up land reform is not matched by action](http://businesslive.co.za) (businesslive.co.za)
- [Expropriation Bill is not as bad as portrayed, but the crux lies in implementation](http://businesslive.co.za) (businesslive.co.za)

Education

- [Minister Nzimande welcomes launch of School of Climate Studies at SU](http://sun.ac.za) (sun.ac.za)
- [Microsoft to train 20,000 young South Africans in software development](http://bizcommunity.com) (bizcommunity.com)
- [Young aspiring scientist to represent SA at US science fair](http://capetownetc.com) (capetownetc.com)
- [Grit matters when a child is learning to read, even in poor South African schools](http://theconversation.com) (theconversation.com)
- [South Africa's higher education funding system can be more realistic without betraying ideals](http://theconversation.com) (theconversation.com)

Technology and the 4th Industrial Revolution

- [Sanral investigating facial recognition and machine learning for traffic control in South Africa](http://businesstech.co.za) (businesstech.co.za)

Infrastructure

- [Sisulu calls on South Africans to embrace Cuban Engineers](http://infrastructurenews.co.za) (infrastructurenews.co.za)
- [Construction industry set to bounce back in 2021](http://infrastructurenews.co.za) (infrastructurenews.co.za)

Medicine and Health

- [Four factors blocking medicines made in Africa](http://bhekisisa.org) (bhekisisa.org)
- [UP lecturer part of BRICS research project to strengthen fight against COVID-19](http://up.ac.za) (up.ac.za)



The events posted below are correct as far as we could establish at the time of preparing this newsletter. Please check the relative websites for changes to dates and venues.

- 'The Discomfort of Uncertainty and the Certain Uncertainty of Scientific Research', the second seminar in a 10-part Climate Change Series, will be delivered by Dr Pali Lehohla (former Statistician-General, South Africa: Professor of Practice, University of Johannesburg; Research Associate, University of Oxford): Zoom meeting, 6 May 2021, 17:30-18:45. Contact naomi@saifac.org.za for the link to the meeting. The seminar will also be live

streamed on the Facebook page of SAIFAC:

<https://www.facebook.com/SAIFACOnline/>.

- [Nature Portfolio: The potential of young African scientists](#). How can Africa empower young researchers to lead a new science renaissance in the continent? Virtual event, 10 May 2021
- [ST-Africa2021](#), the sixteenth in an annual series of Ministerial Level Technology Research and Innovation Conferences hosted by Africa Governments: Virtual conference, 10–14 May 2021. View the [Advance Programme](#). Register [here](#).
- What if South Africa had a special economic zone that was actually special? [CDE Zoom webinar](#), 11 May, 11:00-12:30. Register [here](#).
- [African Utility Week and POWERGEN Africa](#), live event in Cape Town, 11-13 May 2021
- [The Value and Role of Plastic Pipe in Infrastructure](#): SAPPMA webinar, 13 May 2021 at 10:00
- Papillon Annual Fundraising Conference: Zoom event, 19-20 May 2020. To book, click [here](#).
- [Manufacturing Indaba: Bridging the financial gap in the sector](#): Free webinar, 25 May 2021
- [Food Safety Summit SA 2021](#): Online event, 8-9 June 2021
- [10th SA AIDS Conference](#): Ending AIDS & Global Pandemics: Virtual event, 8-11 June 2021
- [XIX International Triple Helix Conference 2021](#): Hosted online by the University of São Paulo (USP), 16-18 June 2021. Theme: "Innovation for a sustainable world: science and technology to enhance the world for the future generations" in conjunction with the [SciBiz – Science Meet Business Conference](#). Submit an [abstract](#) by 30 April.
- [Grassland Society of South Africa Congress 56](#), Oudtshoorn, Western Cape, 26-30 July 2021
- [22nd Biennial ESSA Congress](#) of the Entomological Society of Southern Africa: Tshipise, Limpopo Province, 28 June - 1 July 2021
- [AI Expo Africa 2021](#) will run as a 3-day online live event 7-9 September 2021, followed by 30-day on-demand show. Click [here](#) for a free ticket and to register.
- [SAAFoST 24th Biennial Virtual Congress](#): 20-22 September 2021. [Click here to register](#).
- The [Bio2021 Conference](#) at Spier Wine Estate has been postponed to 26-29 September 2021
- [IFAT Africa](#), Africa's leading trade fair for water, sewage, refuse and recycling: Johannesburg, 2-4 November 2021
- Institute of Waste Management of Southern Africa (IWMSA) [Biennial Seminar and Exhibition "Landfill and Waste Treatment 2021"](#), Durban, 3-5 November 2021
- [2021 IMESA Conference](#): Cape Town, 17-19 November 2021
- [23rd International Congress of Zoology](#): Cape Town, 21-25 November 2021
- [World Science Forum](#): Cape Town, 8-10 December 2021
- The 7th [World Conference of Research Integrity](#) Cape Town, has been postponed to 29 May – 1 June 2022.



Some articles included in the section below are opinion pieces. The opinions expressed in these articles do not necessarily reflect the views of the NSTF Executive Committee, Directors, Secretariat or Members.

Science Councils and Statutory Organisations

- [Webinar on the Impact of Research](#): On 14 April 2021, the National Research Foundation (NRF) hosted a webinar on the impact of research in the South African context. Click [here](#) for more information and the presentation documents.
- [NRF-STFC Agreement on Infrastructure](#) (nrf.ac.za)
- [Groundbreaking ceremony for Space Weather Centre](#) (sansa.org.za)
- [HENSOLDT South Africa and CSIR sign agreements for new radar development](#) (csir.co.za)
- [CSIR Cybersecurity researchers urge parents to protect youth from cyberbullying](#) (dst.gov.za)

Space Science and Astronomy

- [Research by UP-led team reveals eating habits of black holes](#) (up.ac.za)
- [Devastation of Cape Town fire as seen from space](#) (sansa.org.za)
- [Ultra-sensitive radio images reveal thousands of star-forming galaxies in early Universe](#) (sarao.ac.za)
- [eROSITA and SALT witness the awakening of massive black holes](#) (sao.ac.za)
- [Sprite height measured over Africa for the first time](#) (sansa.org.za)
- [On the death of Apollo 11's Michael Collins and the quest to 'boldly go where no man has gone before'](#) (dailymaverick.co.za)

Palaeontology and Archaeology

- [What triangular patterns on rocks may reveal about human ancestors](#) (theconversation.com)
- [What an unusual fossil reveals about parental care among pre-mammalian ancestors](#) (theconversation.com)
- [Graffiti threatens precious evidence of ancient life on South Africa's coast](#) (theconversation.com)

Geosciences

- [Challenging perspectives on magma chambers](#) (wits.ac.za)

Marine Biology

- [Science and the making of My Octopus Teacher](#) (news.uct.ac.za)
- [We discovered that whale and dolphin brains produce lots of heat. Why it matters](#) (theconversation.com)

Medicine and health

- [Sales of sugar sweetened beverages decline after SA introduces Health Promotion Levy – study](#) (wits.ac.za)
- [UP produces first-of-its-kind solution to encourage safe listening to prevent hearing loss](#) (up.ac.za)
- [Dimming the lights on malaria](#) (wits.ac.za)

Epidemics – human and animal

- [Global path to end a global pandemic](#) (news.uct.ac.za)
- [Temperature monitoring for vaccine rollouts](#) (engineerit.co.za)
- [AI-powered Algorithm released to detect the third wave in South Africa](#) (wits.ac.za)
- [Understand motivations to fight fake news – debate](#) (theconversation.com)
- [Politicised COVID-19 responses undermine trust in science](#) (hsrc.ac.za)
- [Will the pandemic really shape the future workplace?](#) (theconversation.com)

Environment

- [South Africa's paper recycling rate is on the up](#) (infrastructurenews.co.za)
- [Survey highlights the important role of plastic recycling in South Africa](#) (infrastructurenews.co.za)
- [Waste not: Company turns litter into sand, tackling global plastic pollution crisis](#) (news24video)
- [Doubling down on plastic bag producers](#) (infrastructurenews.co.za)
- [Rhodes University becomes first SA university to join Green Chemistry Commitment programme](#) (ru.ac.za)
- [UJ study shows that genetically engineered proteins could transform wastewater treatment](#) (uj.ac.za)

Climate change

- [March 2021 and year to date were among Earth's top-10 warmest](#) (noaa.gov)
- [Africa Climate and Development Initiative presents framework for complex climate change risk assessment](#) (news.act.ac.za)
- [South Africa passes 'grim milestone' after extreme heat kills off birds, bats](#) (mg.co.za)

Science communication

- [Understand motivations to fight fake news – debate](#) (scidev.net)

Energy

- [Eskom's ten-year transmission development plan](#) (energize.co.za)

Infrastructure

- [Lack of formal competency certification costing construction firms](#) (bizcommunity.com)
- [Road maintenance in SA: challenges, progress, and solutions](#) (infrastructurenews.co.za)

Agriculture

- [How nano-fertilizers could boost global food security](#) (news.nwu.ac.za)
- [The link between industrial engineering and the agricultural sector](#) (bizcommunity.com)
- [Bird flu outbreak puts poultry industry in jeopardy](#) (mg.co.za)

- [Researchers unlock the secrets of fungal viruses: why it matters](#) (theconversation.com)

Technology and the 4th Industrial Revolution

- [New Technology Innovation Cluster Program to strengthen South Africa's medical devices and diagnostics innovation industry](#) (samrc.ac.za)
- [Volunteers develop first machine translation benchmarks for 30 African languages](#) (sun.ac.za)

Opportunities

- [Funding up for grabs in Startupbootcamp accelerator](#) (itweb.co.za). Applications close on 14 May 2021.
- Acquire cutting-edge Scicomm & Engagement expertise with Stellenbosch [online course](#): 14 June to 30 July 2021. The course will be followed by a practical project that will wrap up by the end of August 2021. Successful participation requires about 2–3 hours per week, as well as attendance of one 60-minute online discussion per week. The enrolment fee: R9 000 per person. Apply on or before 21 May 2021. Contact Rolene Langford at rlm@sun.ac.za for assistance.
- [Teaching Earth and Beyond Competition](#): The SAAO invites all teachers to enter their Teaching Earth and Beyond competition. The aim is to showcase teachers who have implemented innovative ways of bringing this important field across to their learners. To enter the competition send in a 5-10 minute long video of yourself teaching Earth and Beyond in an engaging manner. There will be five winners, all of whom will receive a laptop. Deadline: 31 May 2021
- AstroArt Competition: As part of its 200-year anniversary celebrations the [South African Astronomical Observatory](#) invites all foundation phase learners, grades R to 3, to enter their AstroArt competition. Deadline: 31 May 2021. [Read more.](#)
- Applications for the [2022-2023 Fulbright Foreign Student Program](#) are now open and, due to the global COVID-19 pandemic and revised academic calendar, will close on May 14, 2021. Fulbright is a competitive scholarship program that offers South African citizens and permanent residents the opportunity to complete a Master's or Doctoral degree at any accredited tertiary institution in the United States.
- The [L'Oréal-UNESCO for Women in Science South African National Young Talents Programme](#) call for grant applications for doctoral and postdoctoral is open to South African citizens until 21 June 2021.
- The Food Equity, Equality & Democracy (FEED) has opened applications for the [Ingola FEED Innovation Prize](#). The I Prize seeks to highlight internet-based ideas and solutions that have the potential to create meaningful impact on the food system in South Africa. The winner will receive R100,000 and the runner-up will receive R50,000. Closing date: 25 June 2021 at 17:00.
- The **Council of Academies of Engineering and Technological Societies** (CAETS) of which the SA Academy of Engineering is a member, has established a Communications Committee to find ways of helping the member academies improve the communication of policy, educational initiatives and the importance of engineering and technological sciences in society. Two annual CAETS Communication Prizes are awarded for the best short videos of preferably less than 5 minutes, explaining the societal importance of technological breakthroughs and engineering successes. South African entries will be judged by a national panel and the winners will be announced on 29 June 2021. The winning entries will then be submitted to CAETS for the

international competition. Entries have to be submitted by 31 May 2021. [Read more.](#)

- The Milken Institute and the Motsepe Foundation have launched the [Milken-Motsepe Innovation Prize](#) in AgriTech, a multi-year initiative to focus global innovators and entrepreneurs on developing technological solutions that accelerate progress towards implementing the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a spotlight on the African continent. The winning team will receive a \$1 million grand prize, with \$1 million in additional prizes. Closing date: 08 December 2021.



- [UKZN's first black female head of medicine awarded international medal of honour](#) (msn.com)
- [NMU professor bestowed the IITPSA/ EngineerIT Distinguished Service in ICT award](#) (engineerit.co.za)
- [Diane Grayson: Award recognises a commitment to Teaching Excellence](#) (wits.ac.za)
- [Rhodes University to honour television educator, Mr William Smith at its virtual graduation](#) (ru.ac.za)
- [UP Extraordinary Professor delivers prestigious AMS Einstein Public Lecture](#) (up.ac.za)
- [SAMRC former President and CEO appointed to the newly formed World Health Organization \(WHO\) Science Council](#) (samrc.ac.za)
- [Wits announces death of Professor Bob Scholes](#) (polity.org.za)

About the NSTF

The National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF), established in 1995, is a broadly-representative stakeholder body for all science, engineering and technology (SET) and innovation organisations in South Africa, which seeks to influence policy formulation and delivery.

The NSTF Awards are unique in SA, recognising the outstanding contributions of individuals and groups to SET and innovation.

The science bursaries page provides information on bursaries and bursary providers for science, engineering and related studies.

STEMulator.org attracts learners and students to the exciting world of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). It provides a virtual world full of stimulating content to excite and inform the youth, including STEM career guidance. Established under the auspices of the NSTF proSET membership sector (Professionals in *science, engineering and technology*).

Disclaimer

The NSTF has taken all practical measures to ensure that the material contained in this newsletter is correct. The NSTF reserves the right to make changes as it deems necessary.

Privacy

Registration details submitted to the NSTF will be treated confidentially and will only be used by NSTF to communicate with its members and subscribers.

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