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NSTF-South32 Awards 2022-2023



Winners of the NSTF-South32 Awards 2022/2023

UKHOZI AWARD: SILVER JUBILEE



Dr Philemon Mjwara, Department of Science and Innovation

LIFETIME AWARD



Prof Jonathan Jansen, Stellenbosch University (SU)

TW KAMBULE-NSTF AWARD: RESEARCHER



Prof Novel N Chegou, SU

TW KAMBULE-NSTF AWARD: EMERGING RESEARCHER



Prof Usisipho Feleni, Unisa



Dr Daniel W Hart, University of Pretoria (UP)

MANAGEMENT AWARD



Prof Paxie W Chirwa, UP

ENGINEERING RESEARCH CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AWARD



Prof Nosipho Moloto, Wits



Prof Onesimo Mutanga, UKZN

NSTF-WATER RESEARCH COMMISSION (WRC) AWARD



The Centre for Water Resources Research, UKZN (Prof Jeff Smithers)

NSTF-SAMRC CLINICIAN-SCIENTIST AWARD



Prof Salome Maswime, UCT

GREEN ECONOMY AWARD



Prof Andrew Thatcher, Wits

DATA FOR RESEARCH AWARD



Freshwater Biodiversity Information System, Freshwater Research Centre and Kartoza (Dr Helen Dallas)

INNOVATION AWARD: SMALL, MEDIUM AND MICRO ENTERPRISE



LignOrganic (Tshepo Mangoele)



Pegasus Universal Aerospace (Dr Reza Mia)

COMMUNICATION AWARD



Prof Roger Deane, Wits

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION AWARD



Community Keepers (Gerrit Laning)

SPECIAL ANNUAL THEME AWARD: OCEAN SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Prof Andrew Green, UKZN

Durban University of Technology – your gateway to a brighter future



LOOKING to shape a brighter future? Look no further than the Durban University of Technology (DUT) – a globally recognised institution that stands at the forefront of higher education, technological training, research, innovation and entrepreneurship.

As an engaged university with innovative curricula and research that develops adaptive graduates, DUT is positively contributing to improving lives and livelihoods. Situated in KwaZulu-Natal, DUT boasts seven strategically located campuses in Durban and Pietermaritzburg. The university has six faculties and covers a diverse range of disciplines including accounting and informatics, applied sciences, arts and design, engineering and the built environment, health sciences, and management sciences.

With 20 diverse research focus areas, DUT actively promotes cutting-edge research aimed at addressing real-world challenges.

Over the years, DUT's commitment to academic excellence has been consistently recognised. The 2023 Times Higher Education Sub-Saharan Africa University Rankings placed DUT among the top 13 universities in the region. Similarly, in the prestigious 2023 Times Higher Education World University Rankings, DUT maintained its impressive standing by securing a Top 5 ranking in South Africa. The university's global impact was acknowledged in the 2022 Times Higher Education World University Impact Rankings.

DUT's dedication to nurturing young talent has

led to an impressive 112th position out of more than 1 600 universities in the 2022 Times Higher Education Young University Rankings.

The institute's success extends beyond academic achievements; emphasising holistic development and entrepreneurship. The Faculty of Management Sciences has the recently established DUT Business School, which focuses on applied business practices and equipping future leaders with the skills to drive socio-economic transformation.

For those with an entrepreneurial spirit, DUT offers the innobiz DUT Centre for Entrepreneurship and Innovation. This centre provides both practical and theoretical entrepreneurial learning opportunities, and aims to produce innovative, problem-solving entrepreneurs ready to make a positive impact on society.

With undergraduate and postgraduate applications currently open, aspiring scholars can choose from an array of programmes tailored to their passion and career goals.

For comprehensive information on academic programme offerings, admission requirements and application procedures, visit www.dut.ac.za. Make the Durban University of Technology your first choice and embark on a transformative educational journey that nurtures your potential and prepares you to make a positive impact on the world. Dare to dream big and choose DUT as your academic home for a future full of possibilities.

"DUT envision 2030 – Creative, distinctive and impactful"

RECOGNISING OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS SCIENCE AND WATER RESEARCH



DUT congratulates Professor Ajay Mishra for being shortlisted as Finalist for the NSTF-South32 Awards



Professor Ajay Mishra

Professor Ajay Mishra from the DUT Department of Chemistry was shortlisted as a finalist in the 2022/23 National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF)-South32 Awards for the **TW Kambule-NSTF Award: Researcher**. This award recognises researchers for their research and its outputs by an individual up to 15 years into their research career, predominantly in South Africa. His second finalist award was for the **Water Research Commission Award**, where researchers are recognised for their work towards achieving sustainable water management, knowledge generation, and solutions with demonstrated leadership and impact, by an individual or an organisation over the last 5 to 10 years.

Besides being shortlisted as a finalist for the NSTF Award, Professor Mishra has won several national and international awards.

Read more about him on the website www.dut.ac.za.



Professor Keolebogile Motaung

Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research, Innovation, and Engagement, Professor Keolebogile Motaung, who nominated him based on his excellent academic performance over the years, expressed how proud she is of Professor Mishra and how his shortlisting as a finalist talks to DUT's ENVISION2030 strategic objectives, which highlight that DUT will be creative, innovative, entrepreneurial, and adaptive to the changes of the world.

DUT RESEARCH FOCUS AREAS

At DUT, research and innovation are key to scientific and technological progress. More importantly, innovation is a catalyst in resolving society's deep and pressing socio-economic challenges while also supporting commercialisation. DUT has identified the following key research focus areas for research and innovation for the next 10 years:

- ▲ INSTITUTE FOR SYSTEM SCIENCE
- ▲ THE URBAN FUTURES CENTRE (UFC)
- ▲ AFRICAN INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS RESEARCH
- ▲ COMPUTATIONAL MODELLING AND BIOANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY
- ▲ FOOD & NUTRITION SECURITY
- ▲ GREEN ENGINEERING
- ▲ SPACE SCIENCE AND SMART GRID
- ▲ ICT AND SOCIETY
- ▲ TRANSFORMATION THROUGH THE ARTS AND DESIGN
- ▲ GLOBAL HEALTH AND SUSTAINABILITY
- ▲ INTERNATIONAL CENTRE OF NONVIOLENCE (ICON)
- ▲ CENTRE FOR AFRICAN GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT (CAGD)
- ▲ COMPOSITE RESEARCH GROUP (CRG)
- ▲ ENZYME TECHNOLOGY
- ▲ GENDER JUSTICE AND HUMAN HEALTH DEVELOPMENT (GJHHD)
- ▲ PLANT BIOTECHNOLOGY
- ▲ ENERGY
- ▲ MATERNAL HEALTH
- ▲ MANAGEMENT STUDIES

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.DUT.AC.ZA.

ENVISION2030 transparency • honesty • integrity • respect • accountability
fairness • professionalism • commitment • compassion • excellence
CREATIVE. DISTINCTIVE. IMPACTFUL.



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NSTF-South32 Awards 2022-2023



NSTF-South32 Awards honour SA's leading innovators in science, engineering and technology

THE National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF) held its prestigious annual NSTF-South32 Awards to honour and recognise outstanding South African contributions to the world of science, engineering and technology (SET).

The country's first science awards and dubbed the "Science Oscars", the NSTF Awards marks its 25th anniversary this year as the largest SET and innovation awards in SA. It is a celebration of South African excellence through this flagship project of the NSTF.

The gala evening took place on Thursday, July 13 and was live-streamed from Johannesburg and Cape Town.

The NSTF Awards was established in 1998 as a collaborative effort to recognise teams, organisations and individuals who have made outstanding contributions to SET and innovation. The contributions are awarded in the following broad areas:

- Scientific research
- Technological innovation
- Management and related activities
- Capacity development in engineering research
- Environmental sustainability and biodiversity conservation

- Water research and innovation
- Medical research and innovation
- Data management
- Communication and outreach
- Special annual theme award

This year's theme is "ocean science for sustainable development". The United Nations (UN) proclaimed 2021-2030 the "International Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development" under the slogan "the science we need for the ocean we want". The NSTF presented a special theme award for an outstanding contribution to SET and innovation from research and development in ocean science for sustainable development.

Prof Jeffrey Mphahlele, NSTF chairperson, believes the world is looking to the scientific community to provide much-needed scientific and technological solutions to the UN's sustainable development goals and the challenges of the ever-changing volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous (VUCA) world.

"At this annual gathering of the great and the good in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), the NSTF honours members of the scientific community for pioneer-

ing and offering such solutions to society. The NSTF takes enormous pride in showcasing the diversity of the great talent in South Africa and beyond.

"One of the three NSTF strategic objectives is to promote and celebrate excellence in research, SET capacity building and education, innovation, SET communication, and SET activities that have a positive impact on society, including those that contribute to sustainable development.

"This year's celebration is special and historic; it is the 25th anniversary of the NSTF Awards. In celebration of the silver jubilee, the NSTF Exco decided to make a second NSTF Ukhozi Award - a special award for an exceptional contribution to the NSTF as an organisation, and to SET and innovation in South Africa over many years."

The finalists and awardees were announced and celebrated via a live hybrid broadcast to the NSTF YouTube channel. This allowed the rest of the SET community and the general public to join in, making the ceremony accessible to many more guests.

"It is an honour to be nominated, an achievement to reach the finals, and an exceptional milestone of excellence to be a winner."

UJ leads fight against poverty and ascends global impact rankings



THE University of Johannesburg (UJ) has achieved a remarkable milestone - ascending to 46th position in the prestigious Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings. Moreover, it has secured the top spot worldwide for the impact ranking on SDG1: No poverty.

This outstanding achievement reflects UJ's unwavering dedication to finding solutions for the enduring challenge of poverty. Through innovative research, community partnerships and a commitment to providing world-class education to students from disadvantaged backgrounds, UJ is making a substantial impact.

The THE Impact Rankings evaluate universities based on their re-

search, teaching, resource stewardship, and outreach efforts related to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). With specific regard to SDG1: No poverty, the rankings emphasise universities' investments in ensuring access to education for students from underprivileged backgrounds.

UJ has long prioritised accessibility, exemplified by the establishing of the Missing Middle Fund - a bursary initiative designed for students who don't qualify for government financial support but lack the means to pay university fees. Remarkably, 68% of UJ's students benefit from this fund which proudly reflects the university's commitment to diversity

and inclusivity. Almost one third of UJ's student body hails from South Africa's most impoverished schools.

In tandem with its dedication to accessibility, UJ has made substantial investments in driving research excellence in the field of development - with a specific focus on poverty. The university's Centre for Social Development in Africa (CSDA) stands as a prime example of this commitment. A significant proportion of the research submitted for THE impact rankings stemmed from the efforts of researchers, students and associates affiliated with the CSDA.

The CSDA adopts a social justice approach to research, which has played a pivotal role in UJ's ascent

in the impact rankings. This model centres on research excellence that influences social development as well as shapes social policy theory and practice. However, the core objective of this research remains the promotion of social change toward equitable outcomes. To uphold this value, CSDA researchers collaborate closely with local communities, national government partners and regional stakeholders.

UJ's rise to the 46th position globally and its top ranking in SDG1: No Poverty serve as testament to its commitment to eradicating poverty through innovative research, community partnerships and accessible education.

SACNASP

South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions

Integrity in science

SACNASP, the regulatory body for natural scientists in South Africa, extends its warm congratulations to all the finalists of the NSTF Awards

Legal Compliance with NSP Act (27 of 2003)

Recognition as a Professional

Public Confidence

Marketability (Employers Require Registration)

Code of Conduct - Ethical Conduct

Input to Government - SACNASP Advocates for Members

Networking Opportunities

Professional Indemnity Insurance - Preferential Rates

Career Advertisements - SACNASP Website and Social Media

Access to Voluntary Association Event

Facilitates Lifelong Learning that is Crucial to a Professional's Career Path - Candidate Mentor Programme

Continuing Professional Development - Online Learning

WHY REGISTER

SACNASP congratulates award finalists and Brilliants participants

THE South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP) recognises the importance of nurturing the youth for the advancement of South Africa, and encourages young students to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). It is for this reason that SACNASP is a proud sponsor of the Brilliants programme for the second consecutive year.

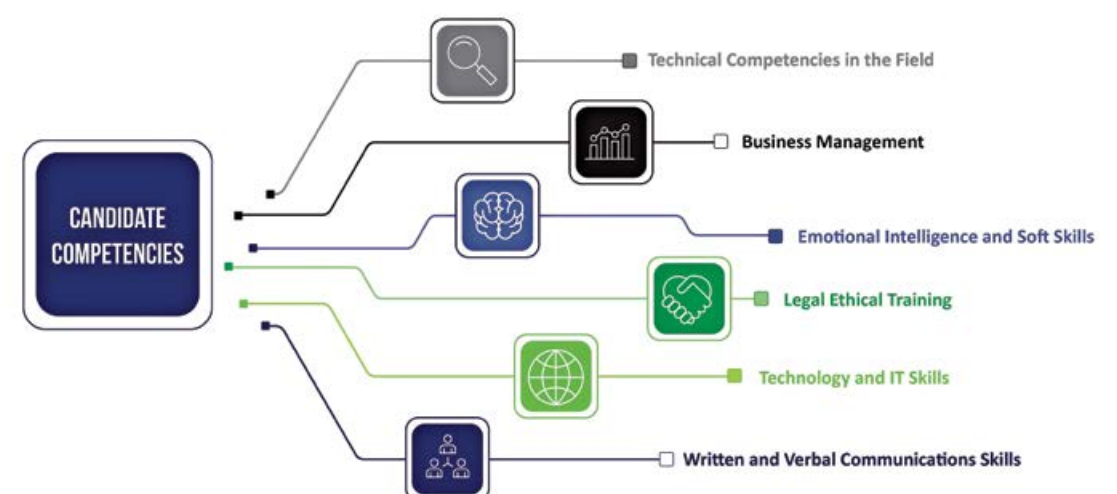
Once students graduate, they have the opportunity to engage in lifelong learning programmes with SACNASP, as well as with other professional or regulatory bodies within their fields of practice. SACNASP values the partnership among all stakeholders participating in youth education and development in the country; and is committed to supporting the attainment of

the 2019 White Paper on Science, Technology and Innovation and the Decadal Plan aspirations.

This programme aims to guide and assist promising young scientists and is in line with the objectives outlined in Section 9 of the National Development Plan (NDP).

As the NSTF celebrates its 25th anniversary of influencing the formulation and implementation of science, engineering and technology (SET), SACNASP is greatly honoured to be part of this partnership with key stakeholders within the National System of Innovation (NSI).

The council is committed to leaving no one behind, as the youth drive today's research for tomorrow's innovation to forge a prosperous South Africa, Africa and the world.

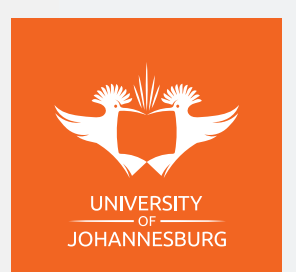


CELEBRATING UJ FINALISTS IN NSTF AWARDS

Join UJ in celebrating four of our esteemed researchers, trailblazers all in fields like Nanomaterials, Environmental Science, Biochemistry, and Public Health who have earned a spot among the finalists at the prestigious 2022/2023 National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF) Awards: Profs. Samuel O Oluwafemi, Soraya P Malinga, Refilwe Nancy Phaswana-Mafuya and Dr. Fidele Tugizimana.

With UJ success is always in reach — congratulations all!

THE UNIVERSITY OF POSSIBILITIES



The Future Reimagined

uj.ac.za/41R