



S.E.T. for socio-economic growth

National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF)

eNews

NSTF News

Nominees for the 'Science Oscars of South Africa' announced

A record number of [nominees](#) for the prestigious 2023/2024 [NSTF-South32 Awards](#) for outstanding contributions in science, engineering, technology (SET) and innovation in South Africa (SA) have been announced. Known as the 'Science Oscars' of SA, it is the largest, most comprehensive, and most sought-after national awards of its kind in SA. It was also the first science awards in the country. Read the [announcement](#) for more information.

Special Annual Theme Award: The NSTF's theme for 2024 is the **Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) in SA**. The NSTF is making a [special award](#) recognising contributions in this regard. The 26th annual [Awards Gala Event](#) taking place on **11 July 2024** will celebrate this theme – save the date and watch your mailbox for further announcements.

Today's research ... tomorrow's innovation



NSTF and DSI celebrate brilliant students from around South Africa

Join the [National Science and Technology Forum](#) (NSTF) and sponsor, the Department of Science and Innovation (DSI) in applauding the 20 first year students, selected from all nine provinces in SA for the 2024 [NSTF Brilliants Programme](#). This annual programme is unique to the NSTF, selecting, recognising and inspiring students for their outstanding performance in the National Senior Certificate (NSC) examinations in physical science and mathematics, and their choices of studies in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) related courses. These top performers will be honoured in front of the prestigious audience from the science, engineering and technology (SET) community at the annual [NSTF-South32 Awards](#). Three of these students have been sponsored by the DSI to participate in the annual London International Youth Science Forum (LIYSF) exposing them to world renowned scientists, lectures and laboratories. [Read](#) the media release to find out more.

SET for our future professionals!

Bursaries available

Visit the NSTF [Bursary Directory](#) for the latest available bursaries in science, engineering and technology (SET).

NSTF Discussion Forums News

Annual Energy Crisis Discussion Forum
The presentations delivered at the [Annual Energy Crisis Discussion Forum](#) of 24-25

Undergraduate bursaries:

- [Grand Gaming Bursary](#) (Deadline: 31 May 2024)
- [Mineral Processing Guru \(MPG\) Bursary](#) (Deadline: not specified)
- [PG Group Bursary](#) (Deadline: not specified)
- [WBHO Bursary](#) (Deadline: not specified)
- [Worley Bursary](#) (Deadline: not specified)

Postgraduate bursaries:

- [Queen Elizabeth Commonwealth Scholarships \(QECS\)](#) (Deadline: 24 May 2024)
- [Paper Manufacturers Association of South Africa \(PAMSA\) Bursary](#) (Deadline: 7 June 2024)

Bursary providers can notify [Ms Seipati Moleleki](#) of any SET-related bursaries that become available to feature free of charge on the popular [NSTF Bursary Directory](#). To enquire or apply for any of the bursaries, *contact the bursary providers directly.*

SET for life!

NSTF welcomes new Executive Committee (Exco) representatives for Higher Education Sector

- **Prof Nnnesi Kgabi**, Director: Research Support at [North-West University](#) has been appointed as the new main representative for the [Higher Education sector](#). She was promoted from the alternate representative position and has been serving on the Exco since 2020.
- **Dr Priscilla Mensah**, Director: Research Development at [Nelson Mandela University](#) has been appointed as the new alternate for the [Higher Education sector](#).

The [National Science and Technology Forum](#) (NSTF) is a broad civil society forum that brings together more than [130 organisational members](#) involved in science, engineering and technology (SET) and innovation in six membership sectors, as well as government. The NSTF is an instrument of democracy, encouraging free speech and critical voices on matters related to SET and innovation in South Africa.

SET for socio-economic growth!

Meet our 2024 Brilliant students – top performers in STEM

[Rachel Meiring](#) is studying medicine at

April 2024 are now available. Watch your mailbox for the media release summarising the salient points and outcomes.

Current Challenges in Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) Systems in South Africa

This online discussion forum: [Current Challenges in Research, Development and Innovation \(RDI\) Systems in South Africa](#) takes place on 13-14 August 2024. This event is held in collaboration with the [NSTF Science Councils and Statutory Bodies Sector](#). Watch your mailbox for news.

Make your voice heard!

The STEMulator inspires young minds at the SAIEE Career Day in Kwa-Thema

On 20 April 2024, the [STEMulator](#) team had

the University of Cape Town (UCT). She matriculated at the Rhenish Girls' High School in Stellenbosch in the Western Cape. Rachel wants to specialise in neurosurgery to help those who suffered in the same way as her aunt.

“You are so much more than a number. Do not become disillusioned with yourself; be proud of everything that you have accomplished”.

Gwiba Nonkenge is studying BEng (Mechatronics Engineering) at UCT. He matriculated at Toli Senior Secondary School in the Eastern Cape. Gwiba is studying mechatronics to be better suited for the 4th industrial revolution and the future we're heading towards.

“Just keep your head down and work as best as you can as frequently as possible, the results of that are life changing”.

The 2024 [NSTF Brilliants Programme](#) recognises the top achievers in physical science and mathematics and is proudly sponsored by the [Department of Science and Innovation](#) (DSI)

STEM for life!

the honour of exhibiting and presenting at the [South African Institute of Electrical Engineers' \(SAIEE\) Career Day in Kwa-Thema](#), east of Johannesburg.

The event was attended by over 300 learners from grades 9-11 across five different schools from Johannesburg. The primary objective was to encourage these young individuals to embrace careers in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics).

During the team's presentation, the virtual landscape of the STEMulator.org was demonstrated. This innovative virtual learning tool is designed to ignite curiosity and passion for STEM subjects among learners.

The STEMulator team set up an exhibition table to give learners an interactive experience of the STEMulator. Additional educational material such as [career talk videos of award winning scientists](#) were on display. The learners were rewarded for their interest with gift packs containing the NSTF STEM [career booklet](#) with insightful information on a plethora of careers.

The NSTF thanks the [SAIEE](#) for providing the learners who attended with an extraordinary opportunity to delve into the world of STEM.

Explore>Discover>Learn

STEMulator



proSET (Professionals in science, engineering and technology) is a sector of the NSTF currently representing about 47 professional and learned societies. This section shares news about [current members](#) and introduces new members of the [proSET sector](#).

- **176 schools participate in IITPSA Talent Search**

176 schools countrywide participated in this year's Computer Olympiad Talent Search, an initiative run at schools across the country by the [Institute of Information Technology Professionals South Africa](#) (IITPSA). [Read more](#).

- **Booyensdal hosts GSSA Eastern Limb Relaunch!**

On Tuesday, 30 April 2024, Northam Booyensdal Mine hosted the [Geological Society of South Africa](#) (GSSA) for their Eastern Limb Branch Relaunch at the South Mine Lapa. The event also included the introduction of the newly-appointed Interim Committee.

Geologists, including interns and graduates from the Eastern Limb mines, were present. [Read more.](#)

- **Condolences from CESA**

[Consulting Engineers South Africa](#) (CESA) expressed its sorrow at the tragic collapse of a five-story building that took place in George on Monday, 6 May. [Read more.](#)

- **Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens re-opens for visitors despite nearby fires**

The [South African National Biodiversity Institute](#) (SANBI) has confirmed that the Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens are open for patrons after the veld fires in the vicinity. [Read more.](#)



SET-related policies currently open for public comment

Keep informed and have your say!

- [Electronic Deeds Registration Systems Amendment Draft Bill](#) (Comment by 23 May 2024)
- [Construction Industry Development Board Amendment Draft Bill](#) (CIDB) (Comment by 31 May 2024)
- [Draft 9th National Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report](#) (Comment by 2 June 2024)
- [Draft Safety Management Systems Determination](#) (Comment by 4 June 2024)
- [Draft Gas Master Plan](#) (Comment by 15 June 2024)
- [Draft Sectoral Emission Targets 2025 to 2030](#) (Implementation of updated NDC) (Comment by 28 June 2024)

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.

4IR and information technologies

- [South Africa key to continent's ICT development](#) (itweb.co.za)
- [South Africa's draft AI strategy needs more work, say pundits](#) (itweb.co.za)

Agriculture

- [BRICS+ offers an opportunity to lift South Africa's agricultural exports](#) (agbiz.co.za)
- [How effective are policies in reducing the environmental impacts of agriculture?](#) (ourworldindata.org)
- [South Africa's agricultural policy after the elections](#) (wandilesihlobo.com)

Basic education

- [Basic Education Laws Amendment \(BELA\) Bill: public hearings](#) (pmg.org.za)
- [Bela Bill stalls at Council of Provinces](#) (citizen.co.za)

Higher education

- [New national commission needed to probe state of HE – Expert](#) (universityworldnews.com)

Energy

- [Call for comments on draft Gas Master Plan](#) (sanews.gov.za)
- [DMRE calls to procure generation capacity from battery energy storage](#) (devdiscourse.com)
- [NERSA approves Sasol Gas application](#) (sanews.gov.za)
- [R500 billion 'day zero' for South Africa is coming](#) (businesstech.co.za)
- [New gas 'master plan' for South Africa – including changes for Eskom power stations](#) (businesstech.co.za)

Environment and climate change

- [Positive feedback for South Africa's new Climate Change Bill](#) (farmersweekly.co.za)

Health

- [NHI bill a reflection of government's poor planning: Health Funders](#) (sabcnews.com)
- [The NHI Bill: SA's step towards inclusive health care](#) (www.iol.co.za)

Infrastructure

- [Govt must level the PPP playing field to encourage private sector investment](#) (infrastructurenews.co.za)



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

- [An intro to Artificial Intelligence for professionals](#), Online, 21-23 May 2024
- [The 11th world conference of sampling and blending](#), Hybrid (online and in-person), Johannesburg, Gauteng, 21-23 May 2024
- [Unleashing Data Potential](#), Online, 21 May 2024
- [Junior Indaba 2024: For Explorers, Developers and Investors in Junior Mining](#), Johannesburg, Gauteng, 21-22 May 2024
- [Wired4Women Awards](#), Johannesburg, Gauteng, 22 May 2024
- [Invitation to a webinar on "AI has gone too far OR has it only just begun"](#), Online, 22 May 2024
- [Enlit Africa](#), Cape Town, Western Cape, 21-23 May 2024
- [ITWEB Security Summit Cape Town 2024](#), Cape Town, Western Cape, 27 May 2024
- [The eLearning Africa Annual Conference 2024](#), Kigali, Rwanda, 29-31 May 2024
- [Eighth SA TB Conference 2024](#), Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, 4 June 2024
- [Food Safety Summit 2024](#), Sandton, Gauteng, 4-5 June 2024
- [Wake-up call to business and industry: Implications and impacts of CBAM on South Africa and the continent](#), Online, 6 June 2024
- [Implementing a Continuous Improvement System in a structured approach](#), Online, 6 June 2024
- [46th Annual SAPICS Conference](#), Cape Town, Western Cape, 9-12 June 2024
- [An Introduction to Supervised Learning in the MMM Industry](#), Online, 12 June 2024
- [WISA Biennial Conference and Exhibition](#), Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, 12-14 June 2024
- [SAIIE Conference Webinar Series: How to write a good review](#), Online, 13 June

2024

- [29th Annual National Congress of the Association for Mathematics Education of SA \(AMESA\)](#), Kimberley, Northern Cape, 17-21 June 2024
- [SAIEE KZN centre one-day conference](#), Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, 26 June 2024
- [6th DIRISA Annual National Research Data Workshop](#), Pretoria, Gauteng, 3-4 July 2024
- [Food For Mzansi's Farm Management Winter School](#), Pretoria, Gauteng, 7-9 July 2024, and Wellington, Western Cape, 14-16 July 2024
- [28th SBMB Congress](#), Polokwane, Limpopo, 7-10 July 2024
- [CLEAN-Air Forum 2024, Lagos, Nigeria](#), 8-12 July 2024
- [Private capital: The catalyst for unlocking African Infrastructure development](#), Cape Town, Western Cape, 16-17 July 2024
- [Coal & Energy Industry Day 2024](#), Johannesburg, Gauteng, 23 July 2024
- [2024 SAIIE Awards & Gala Dinner](#), Stellenbosch, Western Cape, 14 August 2024
- [53rd Annual ORSSA Conference](#), Nombolo Mdluli Conference Centre, Skukuza Rest Camp, Kruger National Park, 25-28 August 2024
- [57th SASAE Conference](#), Bloemfontein, Free State, 26-29 August 2024
- [From roar to revolution: Unleashing the future of IEM](#), Rustenburg, North West, 27-30 August 2024
- [DRC-Africa Battery Metals Forum 2024](#), Kinshasha, Democratic Republic of Congo, 17-18 September 2024
- [SA Innovation Summit](#), Cape Town, Western Cape, 17-19 September 2024
- [18th SAGA Biennial Conference and Exhibition](#), Windhoek, Namibia, 1-4 October
- [34th SAIIE Conference](#), Vanderbijlpark, Gauteng, 14-16 October 2024
- [Communicating Discovery Science](#), Stellenbosch, Western Cape, 18-20 November 2024



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 Bodies

- **ARC:** [Water – A precious resource](#) (arc.agric.za)
- **CSIR:** [Abulele Adams appointed to Board of International Association for Impact Assessment](#) (csir.co.za)
- **HSRC:** [Gaining ground in the fight against TB: finding the missing cases](#) (hsrc.ac.za)
- **HSRC:** [New work \(open access\): Gender and equity considerations in AMR research: a systematic scoping review](#) (hsrc.ac.za)
- **HSRC:** [Preliminary results on agrarian livelihoods to be presented at 2024 Tshintsha Amakhaya National Indaba](#) (hsrc.ac.za)
- **Mintek:** [Three Mintek Scientists nominated for the NSTF Awards](#) (mintek.co.za)
- **NRF:** [South African Risk & Vulnerability Atlas \(SARVA\) workshop at the University of Free State Centre for Global Change](#) (nrf.ac.za)
- **NRF:** [The National Research Foundation features at the 9th STI Multistakeholder Forum for the SDGs held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York](#) (nrf.ac.za)

- **SAEON:** [Agent of change. Meet the manager of SAEON's Fynbos Node](https://enews.saeon.ac.za) (enews.saeon.ac.za)
- **SAMRC:** [SAMRC grants UFH researchers R1M for an innovative study on workplace safety among nurses in South Africa](https://ufh.ac.za) (ufh.ac.za)
- **SAMRC:** [A humanist with an unblinking gaze - Professor Ntobeko Ntusi takes the hot seat at the SAMRC](https://news24.com) (news24.com)
- **SANSA:** [Solar Storms to Collide with Earth](https://sansa.org.za) (sansa.org.za)
- **SANSA:** [Southern African Skies light up with Aurora as Historic Solar Storms Collides with Earth](https://sansa.org.za) (sansa.org.za)

Higher Education Institutions

- [Academics with disabilities: South African universities need an overhaul to make them genuinely inclusive](https://theconversation.com) (theconversation.com)
- [Child speech database research project attracts international attention](https://bizcommunity.com) (bizcommunity.com)
- [Exciting discovery of honey badger at UCT](https://news.uct.ac.za) (news.uct.ac.za)
- [Higher education department revitalises technology and science skills in TVET colleges](https://msn.com) (msn.com)
- [More than 560k students in South Africa in debt, many unable to graduate](https://citizen.co.za) (citizen.co.za)
- [North-West University to establish South Africa's 11th medical school](https://bloemfonteincourant.co.za) (bloemfonteincourant.co.za)
- [NWU will contribute to world-class medical doctors](https://news.nwu.ac.za) (news.nwu.ac.za)
- [Realising digital health innovation through a Swedish-South African student virtual exchange Hackathon](https://ufh.ac.za) (ufh.ac.za)
- [SA continues to struggle with university dropout rates](https://bizcommunity.com) (bizcommunity.com)
- [South Africa's national student financial aid scheme has helped millions but is in trouble: here's why](https://theconversation.com) (theconversation.com)
- [UCT academics collaborate with global leaders to decarbonise concrete](https://bizcommunity.com) (bizcommunity.com)
- [Unisa celebrates its 2024 graduates living with disabilities](https://unisa.ac.za) (unisa.ac.za)
- [Unisa probes over 1,400 cases of cheating in online exams](https://iol.co.za) (iol.co.za)

4IR and information technologies

- [AI tool can convert doctors' notes into accurate lay language](https://news-medical.net) (news-medical.net)
- [Andile Ngcaba lobbies for minister of AI](https://itweb.co.za) (itweb.co.za)
- [Artificial intelligence expands diagnostic horizons in coronary angiography](https://news-medical.net) (news-medical.net)
- [AWS: GenAI to usher in a new future of efficiency and service delivery](https://itweb.co.za) (itweb.co.za)
- [Calls for single network to boost healthcare connectivity](https://itweb.co.za) (itweb.co.za)
- [Contact centres must embrace generative AI or risk being left behind](https://engineerit.co.za) (engineerit.co.za)
- [Expert notes deepfakes' potential to impact national elections](https://ru.ac.za) (ru.ac.za)
- [Fighting AI with AI](https://itweb.co.za) (itweb.co.za)
- [Independent tower industry fundamental for development of African telecommunications](https://engineerit.co.za) (engineerit.co.za)
- [Not again: SA internet disruption caused by new cable fault days after old ones fixed](https://news24.com) (news24.com)
- [SA consumers become more tech-savvy, but payment security concerns remain](https://dailymaverick.co.za) (dailymaverick.co.za)
- [SA opens Africa's first military-focused AI hub](https://itweb.co.za) (itweb.co.za)
- [The Influence of Artificial Intelligence on aviation](https://engineerit.co.za) (engineerit.co.za)
- [The Significance of Diverse Thinking in the Age of AI: Qlik](https://itnewsafrika.com) (itnewsafrika.com)
- [The speed of technological change has made cybersecurity a bigger challenge](https://itnewsafrika.com) (itnewsafrika.com)

- [than ever](#) (engineerit.co.za)
- [Using AI to tailor drugs for Africa](#) (news.uct.ac.za)
- [Winning the cybersecurity war with AI](#) (businesstech.co.za)
- [Workers and the rise of the algorithmic boss](#) (mg.co.za)

Agriculture and food security

- [Agricultural programme sparks a bountiful harvest for emerging farmers](#) (halive2green.co.za)
- [Decline in sugarcane production sparks call to action](#) (foodformzansi.co.za)
- [El Niño wanes, La Niña beckons: Warm, dry winter on the cards](#) (foodformzansi.co.za)
- [Farmers urged to update animal health programmes for winter](#) (farmersweekly.co.za)
- [Foot-and-mouth outbreak in Eastern Cape](#) (farmersweekly.co.za)
- [From mines to maize: Engineer Otukile finds farming fortune](#) (foodformzansi.co.za)
- [How bird flu could threaten cow cuddling. Yes, it is a thing](#) (news24.com)
- [Pressures persist as lower food inflation offers limited relief](#) (foodformzansi.co.za)
- [Private initiative to combat stock theft expanded](#) (farmersweekly.co.za)
- [South Africa now cultivates a unique and 'superior-tasting' fruit](#) (msn.com)
- [South Africans are abandoning smallholder farming – history and policy can help explain why](#) (africaninsider.com)
- [Sustainable grazing key for climate-smart beef farming](#) (foodformzansi.co.za)
- [Vigilance in containing FMD critical for red meat export growth](#) (bizcommunity.com)

Basic education

- [Education department will hire temps to fill 31 000 teacher vacancies](#) (mg.co.za)
- [Equal Education takes education department to court over unplaced learners](#) (bizcommunity.com)
- [Six rural schools reap rewards from online maths and science support](#) (sustainability-handbook.alive2green.co.za)
- [Unesco calls for more teacher support and training in Africa's schools](#) (citizen.co.za)

Biology

- [Insect army winning fight against invasive water hyacinth](#) (ru.ac.za)

Energy

- [Addressing grid bottlenecks: SA Wind Energy Association calls for infrastructure investment](#) (energize.co.za)
- [Bid submission date for Battery Energy Storage Bid Window 3 pushed out](#) (energize.co.za)
- [Big turn for petrol prices in South Africa lined up for June](#) (businesstech.co.za)
- [Climate commission model points to the growth potential of green industrialisation](#) (engineeringnews.co.za)
- [Eskom kissing its R9 billion-a-year headache goodbye](#) (businesstech.co.za)
- [Industry leaders discuss innovation in South Africa's energy sector](#) (energize.co.za)
- [Load shedding remains suspended](#) (sanews.gov.za)
- [Minister calls for completion of gas-to-power plant in Richards Bay ahead of schedule](#) (energize.co.za)
- [Namibia strategically poised to become the sustainable energy capital of Africa](#)

- (engineerit.co.za)
- [Promising SA-first solution to convert paper sludge, food and textile waste into bioethanol](#) (sustainability-handbook.alive2green.co.za)
- [R10 billion solar plan coming to South Africa](#) (businessstech.co.za)
- [Red Rocket starts construction of the largest grid-connected solar farm in Africa](#) (msn.com)
- [Renewables to thank for weeks of no load-shedding](#) (itweb.co.za)
- [SA unlocks investment opportunities for renewable energy](#) (itweb.co.za)
- [South Africa delays shutdown of coal-fired power plants](#) (businessstech.co.za)
- [South Africa's plan to move away from coal: 8 steps to make it succeed](#) (theconversation.com)

Environment, water and climate change

- [Climate change: World's oceans suffer from record-breaking year of heat](#) (bbc.com)
- [DWS reiterates commitment to fast-track bulk water projects](#) (sanews.gov.za)
- [Great white sharks off South Africa's coast are protected by law, but not in practice. Why this needs to change](#) (theconversation.com)
- [Panel highlights the urgency of climate change governance](#) (engineeringnews.co.za)
- [Planting trees in grasslands won't save the planet – rather protect and restore forests](#) (theconversation.com)
- [Prince William's prestigious environmental award to put spotlight on SA's climate solutions](#) (news24.com)
- [Warm, dry winter still on the cards for SA, rains of La Niña beckon](#) (dailymaverick.co.za)
- [Waste pickers play a key role in the fight against plastic pollution – insights from South Africa into how their voices can be heard](#) (theconversation.com)
- [Zoo geochemists measure how animals change the chemistry of their environments](#) (acs.org)

Geology

- [Exploring the world of Geology Safaris](#) (iol.co.za)
- [From Fossils to Fuel: Mozambique's Maniamba Basin's Energy Potential](#) (wits.ac.za)

Health and medicine

- [All systems grow — medicinal cannabis economy gets boost in Eastern Cape](#) (bizcommunity.com)
- [Caesarean births: SA's rates are too high – they can be dangerous for mothers and babies](#) (bizcommunity.com)
- [CHAMPS receives grant to study causes of death in adults with HIV in Africa](#) (wits.ac.za)
- [Codeine misuse: South Africa set to get new guidelines](#) (spotlightnsp.co.za)
- [Diabetes a leading killer in SA...but we don't know who has it or where they are](#) (news24.com)
- [Deskercise: Staying Fit in a Sedentary Lifestyle](#) (news-medical.net)
- [Health dismisses reports of new COVID-19 variant](#) (sanews.gov.za)
- [Health Minister alerts public to monkeypox case in Gauteng](#) (africaninsider.com)
- [High-risk people encouraged to get flu vaccination](#) (sanews.gov.za)
- [New lab a leap forward for oral health in the Eastern Cape](#) (spotlightnsp.co.za)
- [New book outlines simple recollection-boosting techniques to improve learning](#) (news-medical.net)
- [New research unearths plant extracts as safer alternatives to harmful skin-](#)

- [lightening ingredients](#) (uwc.ac.za)
- [Safeguarding samples: The science behind a cutting-edge biorepository](#) (news.uct.ac.za)
- [SA's flu rates anticipated to return to pre-COVID-19 levels](#) (spotlightnsp.co.za)
- [Three health reforms the new government must prioritise for SA](#) (spotlightnsp.co.za)
- [Ultrasounds in hand, midwives are transforming maternal health](#) (gatesfoundation.org)
- [UWC and University of Wisconsin-Madison Study Reveals Critical Insights into Lethal Colon Infection](#) (uwc.ac.za)
- [Gauteng cancer patients continue to die while on the waiting list for treatment](#) (health-e.org.za)

Mining

- [De Beers Group: 'building forever' sustainability goals](#) (miningreview.com)
- [Mining in South Africa: A journey of promise and persistence](#) (miningreview.com)
- [Pan African weighs R2bn Mintails extension as gold powers on](#) (miningmx.com)
- [South Deep gold output well down as Gold Fields implements recovery plan](#) (miningweekly.com)
- [Unveiling the Potential of AI in Africa's Mining Industry](#) (infrastructurenews.co.za)

Palaeontology and Archaeology

- [Africa is full of bats, but their fossils are scarce – why these rare records matter](#) (theconversation.com)
- [Fossilised circles in the sand on South Africa's coast may be artwork by our early ancestors](#) (theconversation.com)
- [New Fossil Bovids from Kromdraai](#) (wits.ac.za)
- ['Urgent' palaeoscience reforms delayed by budget cuts](#) (researchprofessionalnews.com)

Skills for the economy

- [CTFL Masterplan has had a positive impact on local industry](#) (sanews.gov.za)

Space science and Astronomy

- [AI skills pipeline – Lessons from South African astronomy](#) (universityworldnews.com)
- [MeerKAT: the South African radio telescope that's transformed our understanding of the cosmos](#) (theconversation.com)

Transport

- [Newly launched terminal a symbol of resilience](#) (infrastructurenews.co.za)
- [PRASA relocates trains to safety after JHB fire](#) (sanews.gov.za)



- **Call for proposals for the Communicating Discovery Science Symposium:** We invite you to dive into the 'Communicating Discovery Science' theme by

submitting a proposal to participate in this symposium to share experiences and insights into connecting people with basic, foundational science. We encourage diverse forms of participation, such as research papers, practical case studies, and creative approaches to making discovery science accessible and relevant to diverse audiences. The deadline for the submission of proposals is **31 May 2024**. For more details click [here](#).

- **Apply for the Women Agripreneurs of the Year Awards (WAYA):** South African women in agribusiness are urged to apply for the VALUE4HER Women Agripreneurs of the Year Awards (WAYA) and vie for a chance to win a share of a staggering prize pool worth nearly R5.6 million. The deadline to apply is **31 May 2024**. For more details click [here](#).
- **SAIIE 2024 Awards:** The South African Institute for Industrial Engineering (SAIIE) Awards honour and celebrate outstanding contributions to industrial engineering in Southern Africa. The deadline for nominations is **31 May 2024**. For more information on how to nominate industrial engineering professionals, please contact SAIIE via an email: admin@saiie.co.za
- **The International Center for Land Policy Studies and Training in Taiwan – Applications are open:** The 159th and 160th Regular Sessions on Infrastructure Development and Planning- Net Zero and Sustainable Development will take place from **27 September-25 October 2024**. The deadline for applications is **31 May 2024**. For more information on how to apply for the programme, please contact Ms Jacky Smit at JackyS@Dalrrd.gov.za
- **South African Journal of Science (SAJS) - Call for submissions:** Are you a budding publisher, researcher or information scientist? Share your thoughts on the future of scholarly publishing for a chance to be considered for publication in the SAJS anniversary issue and to win a voucher! The deadline for submission is **1 June 2024**. For more information click [here](#).
- **2024 SAICE Awards – Call for nominations and submissions for people and project categories now open:** The deadline for submission is **7 June 2024**. For more details click [here](#).
- **2024 DSI South African Women in Science Awards (SAWISA) - Call For Nominations:** The Department of Science and Innovation (DSI) calls for nominations for the 2024 SAWISA. The awards recognise and reward excellence by women scientists and researchers, and profile them as role models for younger women. The awards will be made to women who are South African citizens or permanent residents. Nominations and applications must reach the DSI by **7 June 2024**. For more information on how to nominate, click [here](#).
- **MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships 2024 – Calls for proposals:** The goal of MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships is to enhance the creative and innovative potential of researchers holding a PhD and who wish to acquire new skills through advanced training, international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary mobility. MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships will be open to excellent researchers of any nationality. The deadline is **11 September 2024**. For more details click [here](#)



- **Dr Thembelihle Angel Maziya:** [Defying poverty to graduate as a medical doctor summa cum laude](#) (yiba.co.za)
- **Prof Florian Luca:** [Global collaboration adds up for mathematician](#) (wits.ac.za)
- **Professor Tulio de Oliveira:** [South African-based professor makes TIME list](#)

- [for second time](#) (universityworldnews.com)
- **Keith Klugman and Shabir Madhi: [Vaccinologists Keith Klugman and Shabir Madhi awarded Sabin's prestigious Gold Medal](#)** (wits.ac.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
- gathers stakeholders around [burning issues of national and global interest](#), across the public and private sectors, including matters of public policy
- includes a [network of professional societies in SET and STEM education](#) (STEM = science, technology, engineering and mathematics) - the [NSTF proSET membership sector](#).
- recognises, awards and profiles the outstanding contributions of individuals and groups to SET and innovation through the prestigious [NSTF Awards](#)
- runs and supports collaborative projects and [youth outreach](#), including recognition of top performance in mathematics and science, role modelling, bursary and STEM career information
- runs and supports the [STEMulator.org](#) which attracts youth and educators to Explore>Discover>Learn the world of STEM including careers. (Established by NSTF proSET)

For more information

www.nstf.org.za

E-mail: enquiries@nstf.org.za

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