

Nominees announced for the 2015/2016 NSTF Awards in partnership with South32

The [National Science and Technology Forum \(NSTF\)](#) is pleased to announce the 18th year of [NSTF Awards](#) Nominees. This is for the 2015/2016 NSTF Awards, in partnership with South32.

The NSTF awards recognise outstanding contributions to science, engineering and technology (SET) and innovation for researchers and other SET-related professionals. This includes experienced scientists, engineers, innovators, science communicators, research and engineering capacity builders, organisational managers/leaders, and research managers.

The NSTF Awards is referred to as the ‘Science Oscars’ of South Africa, as it is the largest, most comprehensive, and most sought-after national Awards of its kind. It was also the first science awards in the country. This year’s NSTF Awards proudly present the following new features:

- **The Capacity Development Awards now include Awards for Engineering Capacity Development.** Eskom’s sponsorship will support two awards, one male and one female, in capacity development in the engineering space. The NSTF will make one additional award for capacity development in other disciplines.
- **The NSTF is making a special award for a contribution in Crop Science and Food Security** this year, in honour of the 2016 International Year of Pulses, as declared by the United Nations.
- **The Non-governmental organisation (NGO) category was changed previously to include technology transfer and education/training contributions to science, engineering and technology.** The broader scope opens up the NSTF Awards to a wider range of organisations and allows for recognition of social innovation efforts. This would include worthy *projects run by professional bodies*. Just please note that professional bodies as such (as entities) are not considered in this category.

Join the NSTF membership and its partners/sponsors, in applauding the [2015/2016 NSTF Awards Nominees](#). These comprise individuals, teams and organisations that have made an outstanding contribution to SET and innovation under the categories below:

Lifetime Award

(for an outstanding contribution to SET and innovation by an individual over a period of 15 years or more)

- Anandjiwala, Dr Rajesh - Chief Researcher, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and Honorary Professor, Department of Textile Science, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University
- Ashwal, Prof Lewis - Professor of Geology, School of Geosciences, University of the Witwatersrand (Wits)
- Bekker, Prof Andriëtte - Professor and Head of Department of Statistics, University of Pretoria (UP)
- Berger, Prof David Kenneth - Professor, Department of Plant Sciences, UP
- Cousins, Prof Ben - Emeritus Professor, Department of Science and Technology (DST)/National Research Foundation (NRF) South African Research Chairs Initiative (SARChI) Chair: Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies, University of the Western Cape (UWC)
- Dampies, Mr Karel - Volunteer Representative, National AIDS Convention of SA
- Fourie, Prof Bernard - Extraordinary Professor, Department of Medical Microbiology, UP
- Harding, Mr Vernon Victor - Director: Vuselela Energy (Pty) Ltd
- Harrison, Prof Sue - Director: Centre for Bioprocess Engineering Research, DST/NRF SARChI Chair: Bioprocess Engineering, University of Cape Town (UCT)
- Henning, Prof Michael - Research Professor in Mathematics, Department of Pure and Applied Mathematics, University of Johannesburg (UJ)
- Horak, Mrs Ruurdje (Rudi) - Manager: Sci-Enza Hands-on Science Centre, UP
- Isaac, Dr Thavendran - Managing Member: Pulse Education Services cc
- Iwuoha, Prof Emmanuel - DST/NRF SARChI Chair: Nanoelectrochemistry and Sensor Technology, Senior Professor in Chemistry, UWC
- Klumperman, Prof Bert - Distinguished Professor of Polymer Science, Stellenbosch University (SU)
- Knight, Prof Jasper - Professor of Physical Geography, School of Geography, Archaeology and Environmental Studies, Wits

- Labuschagne, Prof Maryke - Professor and Head: Plant Breeding, DST/NRF SARChI Chair: Disease Resistance and Quality in Field Crops, University of the Free State (UFS)
- Pretorius, Prof Zacharias (Zakkie) - Department of Plant Sciences, UFS
- Prodingler, Prof Helmut - Professor, Department of Mathematical Science, SU
- Samways, Prof Michael - Distinguished Professor and Academic Principal, Department of Conservation Ecology and Entomology, SU
- Strydom, Prof André Michael - Professor of Physics, UJ
- Taylor, Prof Maureen Beatrice - Professor and Rand Water Chair in Public Health, UP
- Thomson, Prof Jennifer - Emeritus Professor, Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, UCT
- Wood, Professor Robin - Director: Desmond Tutu HIV Centre, Emeritus Professor of Medicine, UCT

Special Award in Crop Science and Food Security

(selected from any one of the nominations in the other Award categories in celebration of the 2016 International Year of Pulses as declared by the United Nations)

- Berger, Prof David Kenneth - Professor, Department of Plant Sciences, University of Pretoria (UP)
- Botes, Mr Willem C - Senior Lecturer and Head: Genetics and Plant Breeding Laboratory, Department of Genetics, Stellenbosch University
- Duodu, Prof Kwaku Gyebi - Associate Professor, Department of Food Sciences, UP
- Farrant, Prof Jill Margaret - Department of Science and Technology (DST)/National Research Foundation (NRF) South African Research Chairs Initiative (SARChI) Chair: Systems Biology Studies on Plant Desiccation Tolerances for Food Security, and Professor in Molecular and Cell Biology, University of Cape Town
- Labuschagne, Prof Maryke - Professor and Head of Plant Breeding, DST/NRF SARChI Chair: Disease Resistance and Quality in Field Crops, University of the Free State
- Moleleki, Prof Lucy Novungayo - Associate Professor, Microbiology and Plant Pathology, University of Pretoria

- Mudau, Prof Fhatuwani Nixwell - Chair of Department: Department of Agriculture and Animal Health, College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, UNISA
- Rey, Prof Emma Marie Christine - Professor of Microbiology and Cell Biology, University of the Witwatersrand

TW Kambule-NSTF Awards: Research and its outputs

(for an outstanding contribution to SET and innovation by an individual over a period of up to 15 years after award of a PhD or equivalent, predominantly in South Africa)

- Christoffels, Prof Alan - Director: South African National Bioinformatics Institute; and Department of Science and Technology (DST)/National Research Foundation (NRF) South African Research Chairs Initiative (SARChi) Chair: Bioinformatics and Public Health Genomics, University of the Western Cape (UWC)
- Duodu, Prof Kwaku Gyebi - Associate Professor, Department of Food Sciences, University of Pretoria (UP)
- Görgens, Prof Johann Ferdinand - Director: Stellenbosch Biomass Technologies (Pty) Ltd, and; Director: Centre for Process Engineering, Stellenbosch University (SU)
- Henkel, Prof Ralf Reinhold - Senior Professor, Head of Department, Medical Bioscience, UWC
- Klumperman, Prof Bert - Distinguished Professor of Polymer Science, SU
- Knight, Prof Jasper - Professor of Physical Geography, School of Geography, Archaeology and Environmental Studies, University of the Witwatersrand
- Kotze, Prof Louis - Research Professor of Law, North-West University (Potchefstroom Campus)
- Lund, Professor Crick - Director: Alan J Flisher Centre for Public Health, University of Cape Town
- Mishra, Prof Ajay Kumar - Professor, Group leader research area Nanomaterials, Composites and Nanocomposites and Water, UNISA
- Mudau, Prof Fhatuwani Nixwell - Chair of Department: Department of Agriculture and Animal Health, College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, UNISA

- Opara, Prof Umezuruike Linus - Distinguished Professor and DST/NRF SARChi Chair: Postharvest Technology, SU
- Schönfeldt, Prof Hester - Professor Extraordinaire, Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, UP
- Strydom, Prof André Michael - Professor of Physics, University of Johannesburg (UJ)
- Twala, Prof Bhekisipho - Director: Institute for Intelligent Systems, Professor of Artificial Intelligence and Statistical Sciences, UJ
- Valverde, Dr Angel - Research Fellow, Centre for Microbial Ecology and Genomics, UP
- Wagner, Prof Stephan - Professor, Department of Mathematical Sciences, SU
- Zungu, Prof Lindiwe - Research Professor, UNISA

Research or Engineering Capacity Development

(contribution by an individual over the last 5-10 years - Eskom sponsors two awards for a male and a female for contributions in Engineering and the NSTF will make an award for a contribution in other disciplines)

- Diale, Prof Mmantsae - Associate Professor, Department of Physics, University of Pretoria (UP)
- Dunsby, Prof Peter - Professor of Cosmology, Co-Director: Astrophysics, Cosmology and Gravity Centre, Department of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics, University of Cape Town
- Görgens, Prof Johann Ferdinand - Director: Stellenbosch Biomass Technologies (Pty) Ltd, and; Director: Centre for Process Engineering, Stellenbosch University (SU)
- Govender, Dr Gonasagren - Research Group Leader: Advanced Casting Technologies, Materials Science Manufacturing, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
- Henkel, Prof Ralf Reinhold - Senior Professor, Head of Department, Medical Bioscience, University of the Western Cape
- James, Dr Angela - Cluster Leader, Science and Technology Education; Senior Lecturer, Science Education, University of KwaZulu-Natal; and Co- Faculty Advisor, ENACTUS
- Klumperman, Prof Bert - Distinguished Professor of Polymer Science, SU
- Loots, Ms Anita - Associate Director: Special Projects, Square Kilometre Array South Africa

- Majozi, Prof Thokozani - Department of Science and Technology(DST)/National Research Foundation (NRF) South African Research Chairs Initiative (SARChI) Chair: Sustainable Process Engineering, School of Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering, University of the Witwatersrand
- Meyer, Prof Josua Petrus - Chair: School of Engineering, and; Head: Department of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering, UP
- Moema, Mr Shumane Joseph - Head: Physical Metallurgy, Advanced Materials Division, MINTEK
- Mulaba-Bafubiandi, Professor Antoine - Head: School of Mining, Metallurgy and Chemical Engineering, University of Johannesburg
- Mudzielwana, Mr Moudy Ngwedzeni - Tshikovha Environment and Communication Consulting
- Opara, Prof Umezuruike Linus - Distinguished Professor and DST/NRF SARChI Chair: Postharvest Technology, SU
- Ray, Dr Suprakas Sinha - Chief Researcher and Director: DST-CSIR Nanotechnology Innovation Centre, National Centre for Nano-structured Materials, CSIR
- Steenkamp, Prof Vanessa - Professor and Head: Department of Pharmacology, UP

TW Kambule-NSTF Awards: Emerging researchers

(for an outstanding contribution to SET and innovation by an individual - post-doctoral in a period of up to 6 years after award of a PhD or equivalent in research)

- Archibald, Prof Sally - Associate Professor, School of Animal, Plant and Environmental Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand (Wits University)
- Badenhorst, Dr Heinrich - Senior Lecturer, Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Pretoria (UP)
- Coetzee, Dr Vinet - Lecturer, Department of Genetics, UP
- De Maayer, Dr Pieter - Research Fellow, Centre for Microbial Ecology and Genomics, UP
- James, Dr Angela - Cluster Leader, Science and Technology Education; Senior Lecturer, Science Education, University of KwaZulu-Natal; and Co- Faculty Advisor, ENACTUS
- McLaren, Dr Melanie - Research Fellow, School of Physics, Wits University

- Mhlongo, Dr Gugu - Senior Researcher, National Centre for Nano-Structured Materials, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
- Moleleki, Prof Lucy Novungayo - Associate Professor, Microbiology and Plant Pathology, UP
- Mpofu, Dr Khumbulani - Head of Department of Industrial Engineering, Tshwane University of Technology
- Nandi, Dr Malumbazo - Project Manager and Section Head: Coal Laboratory, Council for Geoscience
- Niemand, Dr Jandeli - Lecturer, Department of Biochemistry, UP
- Oberholzer, Dr Hester Magdalene Nanette - Lecturer, Department of Anatomy, UP
- Oni, Dr Tolu - Head of Department and Director: School of Public Health and Family Medicine, University of Cape Town (UCT)
- Peter, Dr Jonathan - Head of Division of Clinical Immunology, Department of Medicine, Groote Schuur Hospital, UCT
- Segalo, Prof Puleng - Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, UNISA
- Sivarasu, Dr Sudesh - Senior Lecturer, Biomedical Engineering, UCT

Management and related activities

(for an outstanding contribution to SET and innovation over the last 5-10 years by an individual)

- Kramer, Prof Beverley - Assistant Dean: Research and Post-Graduate Support, and Professor of Anatomy, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand
- Mudzielwana, Mr Moudy Ngwedzeni - Tshikovha Environment and Communication Consulting
- Phakeng, Prof Mamokgethi - Vice Principal Research and Innovation, UNISA
- Ray, Dr Suprakas Sinha - Chief Researcher and Director: Department of Science and Technology-Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) National Centre for Nano-structured Materials, CSIR
- Viviers, Prof Wilma - Director of TRADE (Trade and Development) Research focus area – North-West University

NSTF-GreenMatter Award towards achieving biodiversity conservation, environmental sustainability and a greener economy

(for an outstanding contribution to SET and innovation by an individual or an organisation - sponsored by GreenMatter)

- Badenhorst, Dr Heinrich - Senior Lecturer, Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Pretoria (UP)
- Harding, Mr Vernon - Vuselela Energy (Pty) Ltd
- Kotzé, Prof Louis - Research Professor of Law, North-West University
- Mondi Ecological Networks Programme - Team Leader: Prof Michael Samways, Distinguished Professor and Academic Principal, Department of Conservation Ecology and Entomology, Stellenbosch University
- Mudzielwana, Mr Moudy Ngwedzeni - Tshikovha Environment and Communication Consulting
- Nhamo, Prof Godwell - Chief Researcher and Exxaro Chair in Business and Climate Change, UNISA
- Plant Health Products (Pty) Ltd - Team Leader: Dr Michael Morris
- Taylor, Prof Maureen Beatrice - Professor and Rand Water Chair in Public Health, UP
- The Shaster Foundation for Community Development - Team Leader: Mrs Dianne Womersley
- Vuselela Energy (Pty) Ltd - Team Leader: Mr Jacques Malan

Communication for outreach and creating awareness

(for an outstanding contribution to SET and innovation by a team or individual)

- Blumenthal, Dr Ryan - Senior Specialist and Lecturer, Department of Forensic Medicine, University of Pretoria (UP)
- Dampies, Mr Karel - Volunteer Representative: National AIDS Convention of SA
- Farrant, Prof Jill Margaret - South African Research Chairs Initiative Chair in Systems Biology Studies on Plant Desiccation Tolerances for Food Security, and Professor in Molecular and Cell Biology, University of Cape Town

- Forbes, Dr Patricia - Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry, UP
- McKay, Dr Ian James - Director Education and Outreach, Evolutionary Studies Institute, University of the Witwatersrand
- McKay, Mr Leonard – Volunteer Youth Facilitator, Kakamas, Northern Cape
- Mudzielwana, Mr Moudy Ngwedzeni - Tshikovha Environment and Communication Consulting
- Rossouw, Prof Theresa Marie - Associate Professor, Faculty of Health Sciences, UP
- Smit, Prof JJA (Jan) - Manager Science Centre, North-West University (NWU)
- Van der Walt, Prof Izak Jacobus - Professor: Philosophy of Science and Engineering, NWU
- Van Rensburg, Ms Nickey Janse - Lecturer and Energy Movement Programme Manager, University of Johannesburg

Research leading to innovation by a corporate organisation

(for an outstanding contribution to SET and innovation by a team or individual)

- Advanced Casting Technologies, Materials Science Manufacturing, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) - Research Group Leader: Dr Gonasagren Govender
- After Sales Service and Technical Team, Samsung Electronics - Director: Mr Richard Chetty
- Botes, Mr Willem - Plant Breeding, Stellenbosch University
- The Movie Ride FX Team, Waterston Entertainment (Pty) Ltd - Team Leader: Mr Grant Waterston
- The Neutron Diffraction Team, South African Nuclear Energy Corporation (Necsa) - Team Leader: Prof Andrew Venter
- Padayachy, Dr Llewellyn - Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital, University of Cape Town (UCT)
- Sivarasu, Dr Sudesh - Biomedical Engineering, UCT
- SMME Technology Support Team, MINTEK - Mr Nirdesh Singh
- TRADE (Trade and Development) Research Focus Area, North-West University - Prof Wilma Viviers
- Vuselela Energy (Pty) Ltd - Mr Vernon Harding

Research leading to innovation by an SMME

(for an outstanding contribution to SET and innovation by a team or an individual)

- Custos Team, Custos Media Technologies - Mr Fred Lutz
- SensiCardiac, Diacoustic Medical Devices (Pty) Ltd - Dr Thys Cronje
- Kirkonsult (Pty) Ltd - Dr Robin Kirkpatrick
- Research and Development Team, Stellenbosch Nanofiber Company - Dr Eugene Smit
- Sister JennyJEN-TIL TOUCH
- Strait Technologies Holdings (Pty) Ltd) – Chief Executive Officer (CEO): Professor Peter Zilla
- SUN Magnetics (Pty) Ltd - Prof Coenraad Fourie, Stellenbosch University
- Tshikovha Environmental and Communication Consulting - Mr Moudy Ngwedzeni Mudzielwana
- Umvoto Africa (Pty) Ltd - Ms Rowena Hay

Non-governmental organisation

(for an outstanding contribution to SET and innovation including technology transfer or education and training activities)

- Chamane, Mr Thamsanqa - Co-Founder and Director: TJM ICT Trading
- Mobile Agri Skills Development & Training (MASDT) NPC - Ms Lynette Bezuidenhout
- Siyafunda Community Technology Centre - Mr Ishmael Ahmed
- SmartXchange - Mr Jonathan Naidoo

Background: The annual [NSTF Awards](#), in partnership with South 32, is the flagship project of the [National Science and Technology Forum](#). The NSTF is the most representative multi-stakeholder non-profit forum in South Africa promoting science, engineering and technology (SET) and innovation through collaborative effort. Founded by the SET community in 1995, the NSTF has a proud history and list of milestones promoting socio-economic growth.

The NSTF Awards were introduced in 1998, when there were no comparable awards for research, and research & development (R&D).

They were initiated to mobilise the joint resources and efforts of the broader SET and innovation community. Over the years, an NSTF Award became a very prestigious honour bestowed on researchers and related fields and organisations.

Adjudication: An adjudication panel of independent judges representing six different sectors within the NSTF membership, as well as the award partners, will review the nominations to select the finalists and winners. A panel of experts, appointed by the NSTF Executive Committee, will assist the panel by reviewing and validating the final selections.

Youth programmes: Two NSTF [Youth](#) outreach programmes, are run annually in conjunction with the NSTF Awards.

The [Brilliants Programme](#) identifies and celebrates some of the top achievers in physical science and mathematics from the previous year's matric examinations. It exposes these young people to the SET community. Eighteen students (a man and a woman from each province) are recognised as the future innovators of our nation.

The [Share 'n Dare Programme](#) profiles Award winners as role models to the youth. Award winners give talks at Science Centres and Universities across the country and encourage the youth to take up careers in SET. Thousands of South Africans are also reached through community and campus radio station awareness talks.

Award finalists and winners: The announcement of the NSTF Awards [finalists](#) will be circulated through the NSTF e-newsletter during **May 2016**. The announcement of the [winners](#) will take place at the prestigious NSTF Awards gala dinner taking place on **30 June 2016** in Gauteng. The Patron of the NSTF Awards, the Minister of Science and Technology, presides over the programme. The event is an open (public) and glamorous affair attended by the cream of the crop of the SET community and the largest event of its kind. Over 500 guests attend the event annually. The community are invited to book tables for their organisations to celebrate the achievements of the nominees and finalists. Contact Ms Makwena Ramaru at the contact details below.

Media Partners and advertising campaign: The two media partners of the NSTF Awards, **Business Report**, distributed through The Star, Pretoria News, Cape Times, and The Mercury; as well as the **Mail & Guardian** ensure national public recognition to the winners. Both these newspapers will carry supplements of the winners the day after the Awards Gala Dinner (Friday, 1 July 2016). Unique advertising

opportunities are available for your brand. Contact Ms Wilna Eksteen at the contact details below.

Partnerships and sponsorships: Organisations are invited to join hands with the NSTF to widen the reach and impact of the Awards and Youth programmes. Partnerships are available on new and existing Award categories and outreach programmes. Contact Ms Makwena Ramaru at the contact details below.

Theme: The theme for the 2015/2016 NSTF Awards is the [2016 International Year of Pulses](#) as declared by United Nations. Join the [Pulse Feast](#) to raise awareness of the health, nutrition and sustainability benefits of pulses for people, animals, and the planet.

Please forward this email to your colleagues, business contacts and all interested persons to promote the Who's Who of SET and innovation in South Africa!