

Human Sciences Research Council

HSRC and USAf announce nominees for the 2020 Medal in Social Sciences and Humanities

Pretoria, Tuesday 9 March 2021 – The Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) and Universities South Africa (USAf) are pleased to announce the nominees for the 2020 Medal in Social Sciences and Humanities.

The 2020 Awards will, in addition to recognising individual established and emerging scholars, researchers and academics, consider teams which have contributed to South Africa's response to the CoVID-19 pandemic.

The Medal is awarded annually to scholars who have made outstanding contributions through their research in the social sciences and humanities. The panel received an unprecedented list of nominees for the following categories: Established Researcher, Emerging Researcher and the inaugural Team Awards. The nominees, their institutions and their disciplines are indicated hereunder:

| | Name and Surname | Institution | Discipline |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| Established Researcher Nominees | | | |
| 1. | Professor Maureen Nokuthula Sibiya | DUT | Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Teaching and Learning |
| 2. | Professor Samuel Izak Lubbe | Mangosuthu University of Technology | Retired Research Professor |
| 3. | Professor Given Mutinta Mutinta | Nelson Mandela University | Media and Communications |
| 4. | Professor Yaseen Ally | Nelson Mandela University | Psychology |
| 5. | Professor Shaheen Ashraf Kagee | Stellenbosch University | Psychology |
| 6. | Professor Mark Tomlinson | Stellenbosch University | Institute for Life Course Health Research |
| 7. | Professor Leslie Philip Swartz | Stellenbosch University | Professor of Psychology; Editor-in-Chief, South African Journal of Science |
| 8. | Professor Jonathan David Jansen | Stellenbosch University | Education |
| 9. | Professor Tanja Bosch | UCT | Social media research |
| 10. | Professor Mosa Moshabela | UKZN | Public Health and currently Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor Research and Innovation |
| 11. | Professor Irene Govender | UKZN | Applied Sciences in IT and IS, and computer science education |
| 12. | Professor Azwihangwisi Helen Mavhandu-Mudzusi | UNISA | College of Human Sciences Head: Office of Graduate Studies and Research |
| 13. | Professor Mokgale Albert Mokgopa | UNIVEN | Dean: School of Humanities and Social Sciences |
| 14. | Professor Talita Greyling | University of Johannesburg | AI, wellness and happiness |

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|---------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| 15. | Professor Christoffel Hendrik Heyns | University of Pretoria | International and Comparative Law in Africa |
| 16. | Professor Saloshna Vandeyar | University of Pretoria | Humanities Education; Director of the Centre for Diversity and Social Cohesion |
| 17. | Dr Kolawole Samuel Adeyemo | University of Pretoria | Education Management & Policy Studies |
| 18. | Professor Thaddeus Hines Metz | University of Pretoria | Philosophy |
| 19. | Professor James Adera Ogude | University of Pretoria | Director at the Centre for the Advancement of Scholarship |
| 20. | Professor Catharina Schenck | University of Western Cape | DSI/NRF/CSIR SARCHi Chair in Waste and Society |
| 21. | Professor Fortune Ganda | Walter Sisulu University | Accounting |
| Emerging Researcher Nominees | | | |
| 22. | Dr Bronwynè Jo'Sean Coetzee | Stellenbosch University | Psychology |
| 23. | Dr Ryan Nefdt | UCT | Interdisciplinary research with a primary focus on cognitive science, with specialisations in theoretical linguistics and the philosophy of language |
| 24. | Dr Wendy Nokhwezi Phoswa | UNISA | Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology |
| 25. | Dr Fortunate Silinda | UNISA | Chair of Department and a Research Psychologist at Unisa's Department of Psychology |
| 26. | Dr Mahlogonolo Stephina Thobane | UNISA | Criminology |
| Inaugural Team Awards Nominees | | | |
| 27. | Professor Monique Michal Marks | DUT: Urban Futures Centre | CoVID-19 |
| 28. | Professor Albert Wöcke | GIBS Case Study Hub | CoVID-19 |
| 29. | Professor Priscilla Reddy | HSRC | CoVID-19 |
| 30. | Co-PI's Nic Spaul (SU) and Reza Daniels (UCT) | Stellenbosch University University of Cape Town | CoVID-19 |
| 31. | Accelerate Hub, Centre for Social Science Research (UKRI GCRF Accelerating Achievement for Africa's Adolescents Accelerate Hub) | UCT | CoVID-19 |
| 32. | Professor Talita Greyling | University of Johannesburg | CoVID-19 |
| 33. | Professor Kate Alexander | University of Johannesburg | CoVID-19 |
| 34. | Dr Nelly Sharpley and Professor Leslie Bank | Walter Sisulu University | CoVID-19 |

Please register to attend the awards at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FQFLKQJ>

Link to join the awards on 18 March 2021

https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMsc2rqD8sGtM7UHCp6nTp13L39udqi6Vs?_x_zm_rtaid=Q3vKYVZjQpCpLARqJ3ArmQ.1614101524222.e34fbea56389514b9e1707ef757a5819&_x_zm_rhtaid=546

Should you wish to speak to any of the nominees, kindly contact Manusha Pillai on 082 389 3587 or mpillai@hsrc.ac.za

Follow the conversation on

#MedalinSocialSciences

#ResearchExcellence

#BackedByScience

For more information or to set up interviews, please contact:

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Notes to the Editor

About the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC)

The HSRC was established in 1968 as South Africa's statutory research agency and has grown to become the largest dedicated research institute in the social sciences and humanities on the African continent, doing cutting-edge public research in areas that are crucial to development.

Our mandate is to inform the effective formulation and monitoring of government policy; to evaluate policy implementation; to stimulate public debate through the effective dissemination of research-based data and fact-based research results; to foster research collaboration; and to help build research capacity and infrastructure for the human sciences.

The Council conducts large-scale, policy-relevant, social-scientific research for public sector users, non-governmental organizations and international development agencies. Research activities and structures are closely aligned with South Africa's national development priorities.

About Universities South Africa (USAf)

Universities SA is a membership organisation of the 26 public universities and provides for a sector-wide facility to strengthen the institutions in performing teaching/learning and research/innovation. It does this mainly through policy interventions, advocacy, leadership and management development, entrepreneurship development, and research. It works primarily through five strategy groups: the Funding Strategy Group that focuses on the sustainability of the higher education institutions and system; the Teaching and Learning Strategy Group that zooms in on student access and success; the Transformation Strategy Group that seeks to address institutional culture change through the redesign of universities to optimise their role in student growth and development and on the idea of the engaged university; the Research and Innovation Strategy Group that seeks to strengthen the knowledge building capacity of the universities; and finally, the World of Work Strategy Group that builds linkages between the functioning of higher education institutions and the world of work. When it is necessary Universities SA represents the sector.

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