

# **ETHICS IN THE 4IR**



President's Podium

With the annual IIT PSA President's Awards coming up, I had pause to reflect on the theme of this event - Generation NE><T - and what it means for us in practice. These are exciting times indeed, with the arrival of Gen Zs in the workplace, and the Fourth Industrial Revolution making its impact felt.

While South Africa considers the infrastructure and strategies needed to thrive in a 4IR world, elsewhere around the globe people are hotly debating the ethics of the 4IR – looking at issues such as the moral obligations of those developing AI, and balancing the right to privacy with an IoTenabled environment in which every move can be tracked.

But there are more basic ethical considerations in the emerging 4IR. For us in Africa, an ethical approach to the 4IR has to include ensuring every citizen has equal access to the connectivity, devices and 4IR tools that empower and uplift.

Our 4IR strategy has to upskill people who are at risk of losing their jobs to new technologies. We have to ensure that every child is equipped with the skills they need to compete in a 4IR world.

we enter this new era with ethical practices top of mind, we could pave the way for unprecedented opportunities for our people. Many South Africans are already innovating using 4IR technologies, and many are using technology to uplift society. We will celebrate some of them at the President's Awards, where we also hope to

For South Africa's ICT sector, what comes NE><T will be both challenging and exciting. As long as

meet representatives of the NE><T generation of ICT change makers. We look forward to seeing you all there.

### Thabo Mashegoane



This year's IITPSA President's Awards celebration will also welcome the next generation of ICT professionals into the world of work, and will seek to empower them by introducing them to established industry professionals.

As we prepared for the President's Awards, we also took advantage of the knowledge-

sharing opportunity presented by this event. We asked the industry leaders among our finalists for their views on the challenges and

opportunities they expected to see emerging in the 4IR. Their insights were enlightening, and we invite you to read more about their views below. For those members who cannot attend the President's Awards, please follow our social media

pages for the announcement of the winners and coverage of the event @IITPSA. Best regards Tony



## IFIP Update

SA attends IFIP TC13 INTERACT 2019

The International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP), of which IIT PSA is the South African country member, recently staged IFIP TC13's biennial flagship INTERACT 2019 Conference, the 17th IFIP T C13 International Conference on Human-Computer Interaction, in Paphos, Cyprus. South Africa had three representatives at the Conference: the two South African

representatives on IFIP TC13, Prof Janet Wesson (Director of the School of Computing Science, Mathematics, Physics and Statistics, Nelson Mandela University) and Prof Paula Kotzé (Extraordinary Professor, University of Pretoria), as well as Dr Sue Petratos (Director of the School of Information and Communication Technology, Nelson Mandela University).





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### 2019 President's Awards to celebrate Generation NE><T The highlight of our calendar, the 2019 IITPSA President's Awards, will be held in Johannesburg on 27 November, celebrating the most outstanding ICT professionals in the country. This year's event

change the future of our sector.

Click Here to See This Year's Finalists

celebrates the next generation of ICT professionals and the emerging 4IR technologies set to

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New skills needed in the 4IR ICT professionals will have to cultivate ethics, professionalism and a range of new skills to thrive in future, says IIT PSA's Moira de Roche. Education and professional development will need to focus on new areas such as creativity and entrepreneurship, according to Moira de Roche, non-executive director of the IIT PSA and IFIP IP3

### Speaking at the Computer Society Botswana's Annual Symposium in Gaborone on "The Future ICT Professional: What makes a professional? What skills do you need for the future?" de Roche said

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professionalism in the industry was as important as professionalism in other key sectors, such as medicine, law, accounting and engineering. Read More



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