IITPSA News Ed. 147 - December 2019

Delivered monthly to your Inbox!

INTO 2020 WITH PRIDE AND PASSION

President's Podium

Since my formal election as IITPSA President on 1 August 2019, I have met many passionate ICT professionals who, like me, take pride in our profession. This passion drew us to enter this profession to begin with, and our pride in our work has kept us ethical. However, from time to time we hear of those for whom ethics, pride and passion are not top of mind. This raises the question: how do we ignite pride, professionalism and passion across the industry?

At IITPSA, we believe networking and knowledge-sharing with industry leaders is an excellent way to reignite the passion and innovation within ICT professionals. IITPSA is structured to facilitate exactly this, with numerous chapter and national events, Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings, our annual awards, and regular updates via our website and social media.

Whether you are a proud and passionate ICT professional, or you feel your motivation flagging, we encourage you to participate actively in our activities to help keep the flame alive.

We urge you to 'Learn. Engage. Gain knowledge. Network. Participate.' The more proactive you are as a member, the more benefits you will realise. Therefore we urge you to start 2020 by following our social media channels for news and events that you can participate in.

Attend the events, take advantage of the member discounts, participate in the free SIG meetings and become a passionate Ambassador for our profession.

Best wishes for a restful holiday season and productive New Year.

Thabo Mashegoane

CEO's Communiqué

IITPSA is proud to reflect on the achievements of the past year, in which great strides were made at every level of our profession.

Professional career development is a key objective of IITPSA, and 2019 saw noteworthy progress across several initiatives – from our Computing Olympiads for young learners, growth in the number of SIG and chapter events and increased event participation, improved performance of our online IT scholarship holders, through to the launch of the Pr.CIO™ designation.

We also recognized a new wave of remarkable individuals and initiatives in SA at our annual President's Awards and furthered our efforts to mentor students and young women entering the ICT sector.

IITPSA's impact extended across the country, with our regional chapters showing growth and stepping up their efforts to build ICT professionalism and share knowledge throughout the year (see news of their annual highlights below). We congratulate our remarkable team of leaders in the regional chapters.

Adding impact and reach to our initiatives, IITPSA this year stepped up communication and marketing campaigns, with the result that our news articles and thought leadership columns were published in leading ICT and business publications throughout the year, achieving over R2.8 million worth of value in media exposure this year. This exposure is intended to enhance the Institute's national profile and further increase our member numbers to the benefit of all our members.

Focus will remain on career and skills development; through initiatives such as our skills survey, more guidance on skills development for our members, and more events, learning and networking opportunities.

Please follow our social media pages to stay up to date with news and events throughout the year.

Best wishes for the holiday season and New Year.

Best regards
Tony

In The News

President's Awards recognise shining stars, future of ICT

The annual President's Awards, staged this year as a breakfast event themed NE><T, was a resounding success. Geekulcha COO Tiyani Nghonyama was named IT Personality of the Year and Alexander Forbes Group CIO Sandra La Bella was recognised as the Visionary CIO for 2019. Aerobotics, represented by COO, Timothy Willis, was awarded the Technology Excellence Award and Frans Kalp, CEO of Ligbron E-Learning Systems, won the Social Responsibility/Community Award.

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2019 a festival of ICT, SIG events

IITPSA participated in several key ICT industry events in the past year, and our chapters hosted 22 well- attended chapter and special interest group (SIG) events in 2019. We'd like to thank the heads of each chapter and special interest group for their efforts to arrange topical and informative sessions for members.

The Gauteng chapter, chaired by Dickson Willie, participated in key industry events such as the ITWeb Security Summit and Leaderex and also celebrated Women's Month with a sweet treat for women in ICT – a lesson in chocolate-making in Bedfordview.

The KwaZulu Natal chapter, chaired by Marshall Masanga, had a number of highlights in 2019. Among them were participation in the Ethekwini Youth Employability Indaba & KZN Careers Expo, from 22-24 May at the Durban ICC, aligning with the students, academics and industry. The chapter also hosted a KZN CIO breakfast at the Durban Country Club on 28 May, to network and collaborate with ICT decision makers and visionaries, and held a Women in ICT breakfast to celebrate dynamic women in ICT on 28 August at the Vodacom offices in Umhlanga.

The Eastern Cape chapter, chaired by Lester Cowley, staged its Regional ICT Awards at a Gala Dinner held at the Radisson Blu Port Elizabeth on the evening of 22 May. The chapter also hosted a talk on 'Growing your own technology business from anywhere' in March, a session on Industry 4.0 and IIoT in August, a briefing on COBIT 2019 by Prof Wim Van Grembergen of the University of Antwerp at the Nelson Mandela University School of ICT in Port Elizabeth in October.

The Western Cape chapter, chaired by Pearl Pasi, was this year's top performing chapter. The chapter participated in key events such as AfricaCom and Gartner IT Symposium/Xpo in Cape Town, and staged chapter events including a talk on IT Assurance in March, a briefing entitled 'How Game Technology is changing Businesses and Education' in April, 'Women in ICT: a dynamic panel discussion on start-ups' in August, and a talk on staying relevant in the Fourth Industrial Revolution in October.

One of the main events of the year was in August, when the chapter hosted 'Women in ICT: a dynamic panel discussion on start-ups' at River Club. Facilitated by Moira de Roche, and featuring speakers Baratang Miya, Maria Kostelac, Dickson Willie and Karen Nadasen, the event drew a full house. "We had to ask for more extra chairs," says Pasi. "People of all ages (From Grade 10 schoolgirls) all races, and genders attended the event. The panel speakers were amazing, and the only regret we have is that we did not record the session. There were so many pearls of wisdom shared at the event." 25 July was another busy day for the chapter, when its committee members attended the Internet Summit in the morning before attending another chapter event – 'Determining the key factors that lead to the adoption of password managers' by Raymond Maclean – that evening.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / REMINDERS

Please note that the IITPSA National Office will be closed from 13h30 on 20 December until 08h00 on 06 January 2020 for the holidays.

You may qualify for Pr.CIO™ status!

The new designation Professional Chief Information Officer (Pr.CIO™), introduced this year, recognises CIO qualifications and experience at the highest level. SA's first Pr.CIOs received their accreditation in August this year.

Learn More Here

Start the new year with a PrivySeal badge.

The dynamic digital seal, implemented through PrivySeal, gives IITPSA members in good standing a unique badge to append to their digital signatures, websites and social media profiles, linking to a verification certificate confirming their membership and credentials in real time. It confirms the individual's professional qualification as a member and their professional designation and contact details.

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Take full advantage of your IITPSA member benefits!

As a member of IITPSA, you belong to SA's trusted, credible professional body for IT practitioners, with over 10,000 members. IITPSA is recognised by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) and IITPSA's Professional Member programme (denoted by the professional designation "PMIITPSA") is accredited by IFIP's IP3 (International Professional Practice Partnership). Qualifying members gain the right to use the respected letters AMIITPSA, MIITPSA, PMIITPSA or Pr.CIO after their names, so identifying them as members of a SAQA-recognised body and professional community. Members benefit from free or discounted access to leading industry events, special invitations and access to exclusive functions and events including our high-profile annual President's Awards and free access to our Special Interest Group (SIG) events.

Read More About Member Benfits

Stay up to date with IITPSA news!

Social media is the best platform to stay up to date with our news and join industry discussions. If you are not yet following our social media pages, please like and follow @IITPSA on Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook.

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

IITPSA participated in six of South Africa's leading industry events in 2019: Security Summit, Gartner Symposium, IT Leaders Africa, Leaderex, ICT Infrastructure Conference and AfricaCom.

In 2020, we will be increasing our participation at leading events, bringing multiple benefits to members – including member discounts, allowing them to learn, engage, and network with their peers. Watch your monthly newsletters, our online events calendar, online events calendar, and our social media pages for news of key events next year!

Click Here To View Online Events Calendar

MEMBER BENEFITS

Anti-Virus Products

AVG is a leading developer of Security Software with over 120 million home and business users around the world.

IITPSA is pleased to advise that we are again being sponsored by AVG South Africa, with the computers at the IITPSA National Office being protected by the AVG Internet Security Suite (Business Edition).

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ITWeb Publications - Brainstorm

ITWeb Brainstorm is available free of charge to Fellows (FIITPSA) and paid-up Professional Members (PMIITPSA) of the Institute.

To subscribe, please contact the IITPSA National Office.

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Career Opportunities

IITPSA has partnered with CareerJunction, SA's #1 Quality Candidate provider, to offer a job search/advertising service on its site. Go to www.iitpsa.org.za and click on 'Careers' in the 'Activities' menu to see it in action, or simply click on the link below.

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Online Backup and Storage

MyData Backup storage (online backup of your data to a secure storage vault) – see www.mydata.co.za –50% discount on the 100Gb account online. 10% discount on all Virtual / Cloud or Server Co-location or Website servers stored in CipherVault for any represented business or member.

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PI Insurance

Professional Indemnity Insurance (PI) at a special rate for IITPSA Members. In the interests of providing added value to Members, the IITPSA has negotiated a special PI Insurance Scheme for Members that provides very competitive premiums, wide coverage and also affords Legal Advice when required to protect your interests.

PIFRS is a juristic representative and division of firstEquity Risk Management Services (Pty) Ltd, an Authorised Financial Services Provider.

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