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## President's Podium

I recently had the pleasure of making a submission to a [WSIS Forum 2023 IFIP Task Force workshop](#) on Sustaining relevant digital inclusive education for young people (5-18 years of age). The workshop discussed findings arising from a wide consultation process that has drawn on effective actions that nations and international groups have already put into place, including: raising aspirations; ensuring diversity, inclusion, the digital divide and the under-represented; implementing computational thinking and its links to problem-solving; developing effective teacher practices; and pursuing short- and long-term plans and actions, as well as the importance of addressing these key features in working towards the vision for 2025.

In the submission, we made the point that digital inclusion is central to the promise of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and that we have to ensure digital education is accessible to everyone,

and noted that we have to engage the under-represented and improve access and support to bridge the digital divide.

Education and skills development remain key focus areas for the IITPSA. Indeed, we believe we need to mainstream ICT education in schools as a matter of extreme urgency, lest children in Africa fall behind those elsewhere in the world. Read the recent thought leadership article on ICT in education [HERE](#), and view thought leadership videos [HERE](#).

As part of our work to bridge the digital divide and stimulate interest in ICTs, the IITPSA's annual Talent Search got underway around the country this month. Watch our newsletter and social media pages for updates on the success of this year's challenge.

## **Admire**



## **(Acting) CEO's Communique**

Dear Members,

Due to an unfortunate fall, our CEO, Tony Parry, is on extended medical leave. He is currently recuperating at home, and we wish him a speedy recovery.

In the interim, I am taking over the reins and overseeing the day-to-day operations at the office, with remote guidance from Tony. I am committed to ensuring that our business continues to run smoothly, and I have complete confidence in the team to assist me in achieving this goal.

I urge all members to make full use of the **member's portal features**, and to reach out to our office for any further assistance you may require

We encourage all members to renew their membership and save, before our fee increase comes into effect on 5 April 2023.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.



**Nashia Rajcoomar**  
Acting CEO



In The News

**Committees elected at chapter AGMs**



The Western Cape, Eastern Cape, KwaZulu Natal and Women in IT (WIIT) Chapters held their AGMs and elected their committees for the coming year. The IITPSA thanks all of our members who participate actively, and who are willing to contribute their time and efforts to ensuring the ongoing growth and success of the Chapters.

At the Western Cape AGM, Athenkosi Khonzani from the University of Cape Town also received the SCEG 'Top IT Learner' trophy.

**The committee members are as follows:**

**Western Cape Chapter:** Pearl Pasi, Terence Govender, Howard Makan, Brendan Jackson, Amakan Agoni, Joseph Omidosu, Wisdom Pasipamire, George Chinowaita and Llewellyn Kearns.

**Eastern Cape Chapter:** Prof. Lynn Futcher, Kudakwashe Nyamutsambira, Harry Paleochoritis, Prof. Andre Calitz, Belinda Samuels, Prof. Kerry-Lynn Thomson, Luzuko Tekeni, Elana Blom and Dr Ifi Fashoro.

**KwaZulu Natal Chapter:** Bryan Baxter, John Singh, Senele Goba, Tigere Chapanduka, Rimmon Kisten, and Marshall Masanga.

**Women in IT (#WIIT) chapter:** Dr. Bukelwa Ngoqo, Senele Goba, Pearl Pasi - Chair of the IITPSA Western Cape Chapter, Eleni Kwinana, Jane Buisson-Street, Prof Lynn Futcher, Dr Unathi Somagaca, and Prof Kerry-Lynn Thompson.



**Team SA gears up for IOI**

Top achievers in the IITPSA Computer Olympiad took part in a second training camp in Cape Town this month, to prepare them for the 35th International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI 2023) to be held in Szeged, Hungary later this year.

The South African team has just this week been announced for the prestigious International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI 2023) in Hungary, where informatics students from around the world will compete against each other in August this year. The team of four was selected after a lengthy process in which the top participants in the 2022 IITPSA Computer Programming Olympiad have been trained and prepared for the IOI over several months. We wish the team great success this year.

**The team members are:**

- Minkyum Kim, Reddam House Durbanville
- Youkyum Kim, Reddam House Durbanville
- Benjamin Kleyn, Parel Vallei High
- Emmanuel Rassou, SA College School
- Reserve: Muhammad Shah, UJ Metropolitan Academy



### **ICYMI – catch up on our popular recent webinars!**

Adding more value to membership, the IITPSA has stepped up our webinars and online events to cover a growing number of areas of interest, so that IT professionals across the country can benefit from connecting with their peers and learning about new topics.

Two recent events proved particularly successful: the Careers in IT event, and the latest Blockchain SIG webinar.

Our highly successful Careers in IT webinar featured IITPSA IT Personality Award winner 2022 and CEO of WeThinkCode, Nyari Samushonga, IT Personality Award winner 2019 and COO of Geekulcha, Tiyani Nghonyama, and IT Personality Award winner 2013 and the co-author of the JCSE-IITPSA ICT Skills Survey, Prof. Barry Dwolatzky, Emeritus Professor and Director of Innovation Strategy at Wits University, who outlined study directions and opportunities in IT. The webinar was moderated by IITPSA CEO, Tony Parry. If you missed the event, review the recording [HERE](#).

Blockchain SIG chair John Singh's insights are helping to demystify cryptocurrency for growing numbers of our members. In his latest webinar, John provided a report back on Blockchain Africa 2023, with independent research and analysis to complement the material presented at the event. John also hosted a webinar outlining how an investigator would go about tracking the flow of money and narrowing down the probable owners of the illegally gained cryptocurrency. If you missed them, see the recordings [HERE](#).



### **IITPSA partners with leading events**

The IITPSA's partnerships with leading IT industry events saw us on-site at the ITWeb Business Intelligence Summit 2023 in Sandton this month. This was one of many industry events IITPSA will partner with this year, securing our members discounted registration fees and CPD points for attending.



## **IITPSA – IITPSA Olympiad Champions shine in Entelekt Challenge Hackathon**

The IITPSA again partnered with Entelekt for the Entelekt Challenge 2023 hackathon for our members. The one-day event offered R20,000 in prizes and gave participants an opportunity to showcase their skills, connect with other professionals, and learn from industry experts. Entelekt notes that the partnership highlights their commitment to promoting innovation and excellence in the ICT sector in South Africa.

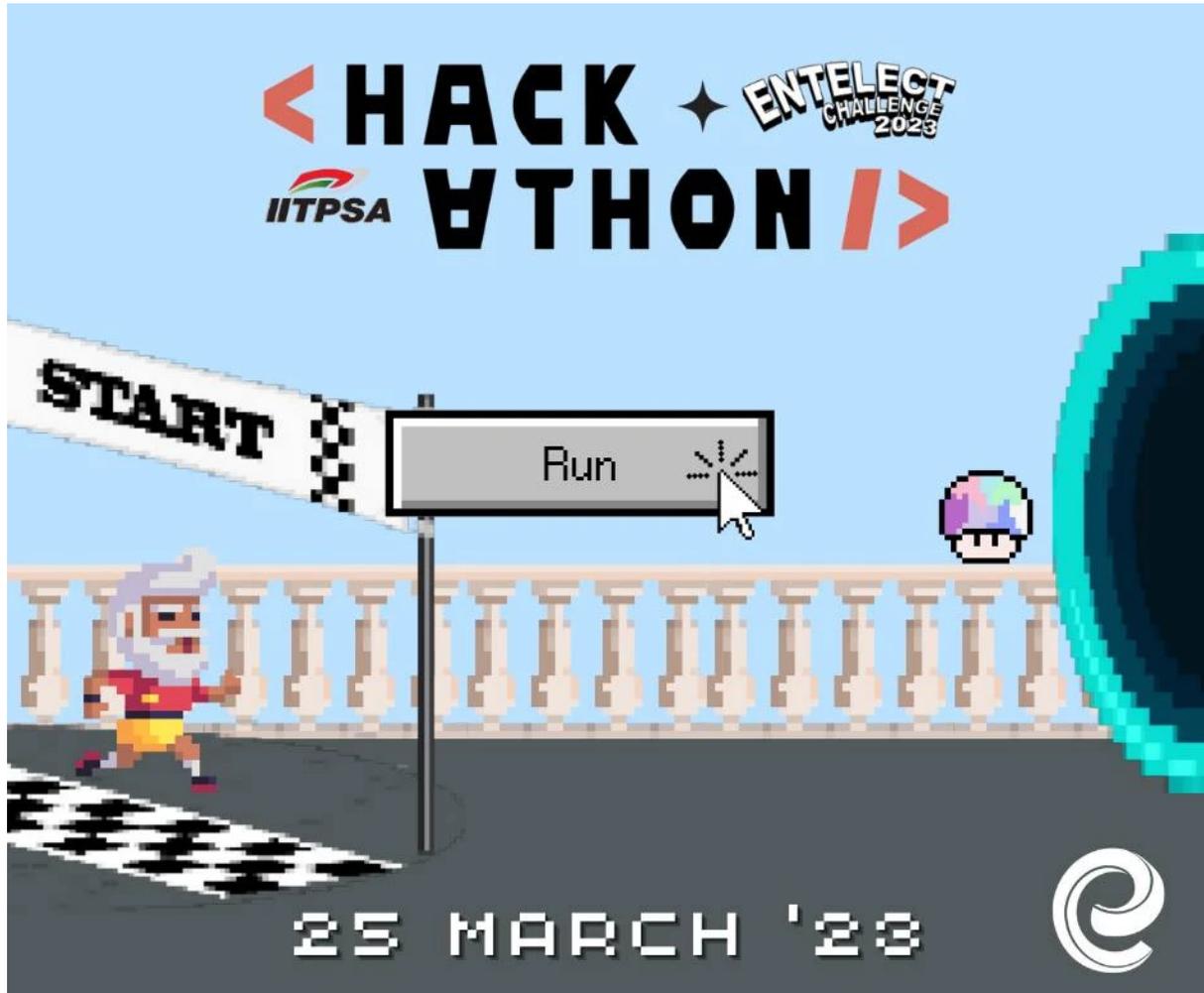
The Entelekt Challenge IITPSA Hackathon held on the 25th of March from 10am to 3pm was an exciting event that brought together some of the brightest minds in the IITPSA. Participants were tasked with solving an optimization problem by generating an algorithm that could best run a kind of marathon. The algorithm needed to choose the best combination of 5 different trainers, like feet or

Nikes, each more suited to a specific terrain type than the other, to achieve the highest speed and most steps for 4 tracks of increasing difficulty.

The hackathon saw several impressive entries, but the top three places were ultimately taken by some of the IITPSA IOI 2023 team members, Minkyum Kim, Benjamin Kleyn, and Youkyum Kim. These participants demonstrated exceptional skill in developing algorithms that were both efficient and effective, allowing them to achieve the highest possible score on the tracks.

Overall, the Entelect Challenge IITPSA Hackathon was a great success and a testament to the talent and creativity of the participants. Congratulations to the top three winners and to all those who participated in this exciting event!

Keep an eye out on [challenge.entelect.co.za](https://challenge.entelect.co.za) for the main Entelect Challenge event launching in April! The Entelect Challenge is an annual coding competition where students, professional developers, and enthusiasts develop an intelligent bot to play a game.





## COLUMN: ETHICS IN IT

### Reviving digital white elephants to benefit the public good

Josine Overdeest, MD of Flying Cows of Jozi and chair of the IITPSA Social and Ethics Committee, highlights the unused or dysfunctional devices, computer centres and digital platforms that can be found in community centres and schools in rural areas and townships everywhere, and how a change in perspective could hugely increase the chances for success and truly benefit the public good in a sustainable way. Reviving digital white elephants to benefit the public good | IITPSA.



'image created by DALL-E 2'

[Read More](#)



Spotlight On



**Professional Member Spotlight:  
Karen Adendorff**

Karen Adendorff is a Senior Advisor: Programming for Eskom in the Energy Management System (EMS) and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) areas. Karen is part of a team responsible for the maintenance and support of the integrated EMS and SCADA systems required to monitor and control the Eskom Transmission Interconnected Power System. This covers a broad and varied spectrum of technologies, including hardware, networking, software, and telecommunication interfacing. Karen has participated in the design and implementation of both replacement and upgrade solutions for the currently installed EMS/SCADA system. Karen has a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science and a Bachelor of Theology degree. Prior to joining Eskom, Karen was an apprentice with Siemens and completed a Trade as an Electronic Equipment Mechanician in 1991. Being a member of the IITPSA is beneficial to Karen, as it contributes to the level of confidence in her professionalism and willingness to engage in life-long learning and improvement.



## IITPSA in the media

### **ICT insiders share tips on breaking into tech field**

ITWeb reports on the IITPSA careers in IT webinar.

ITWeb

ITWeb reports on more girls participate in key STEM-ICT talent search.

ITWeb

IT-Online reports on closing the gender gap in the STEM-ICT Arena.

IT-Online



## EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES



2-5 MAY 2023

### **IITPSA MEMBERS SECURE A 30% DISCOUNT AT AFRICA TECH WEEK CONFERENCE**

The IITPSA has partnered with the Sentech Africa Tech Week Conference, which will be held from 2-5 May 2023 in Cape Town, South Africa, at the Century City Conference Centre.

This four-day conference is a premier event for technology professionals, innovators, and entrepreneurs in Africa, providing an excellent opportunity to network, learn about new technologies, and explore business opportunities. The event will feature keynotes from leading industry experts, panel discussions, and workshops covering a broad range of topics, including emerging technologies, artificial intelligence, blockchain, cybersecurity, and more.

Use this promocode **IITPSACOMMUNITY** to secure a 30% discount on your tickets. For more information and to explore the conference programme visit [africatechweek.co.za](https://africatechweek.co.za)

[Get tickets here](#)



## ITWEB EVENTS PARTNERSHIP GIVES IITPSA MEMBERS A 20% DISCOUNT!

The IITPSA has partnered with ITWeb on leading industry events throughout the year. ITWeb events are also IITPSA CPD accredited. These include:

- ITWeb Security Summit, JHB – 6-8 June
- ITWeb Security Summit, CPT – 15 June
- ITWeb BPM & Automation – 22 June
- ITWeb CX Summit – 5 October

To book your 20% discount for the ITWeb Security Summit, enter the discount code SS2023-20, or email: [jo-ann@itweb.co.za](mailto:jo-ann@itweb.co.za) for enquiries.

See the full events calendar [here](#), and follow IITPSA's social media for updates. Use the reference 20% discount when booking, to secure your discount at ITWeb events.

Watch our social media pages and events calendar for details of upcoming events!

Events Calendar



## ANNOUNCEMENTS / REMINDERS

### Get your QR coded membership certificate!

IITPSA no longer issues membership cards, and instead produces a QR coded membership certificate. [Click here](#) to login to the member self-service platform and download your QR coded membership certificate.

Member self-serve platform

## Review our IITPSA webinars

Catch up on IITPSA webinars you may have missed, and see the views of IITPSA thought leaders on our YouTube channel!

YouTube

## Get social with the IITPSA

Are you following IITPSA on Facebook? Twitter? LinkedIn? Instagram? YouTube? IITPSA is active on all Social Media Platforms and, in addition to the IITPSA website, is where you can stay up to date with all of our events, partner offerings, thought leadership content and continue to develop your own knowledge and career and remain engaged!

Follow IITPSA's YouTube channel to review online events you may have missed:

YouTube

Follow and engage on:

IITPSA facebook

IITPSA Twitter

IITPSA LinkedIn

IITPSA Instagram



# MEMBER BENEFITS



## THE PROFESSIONAL BODY for ICT Practitioners

 <p><b>My Profile</b></p> <p><a href="#">Update My Profile</a></p> <p><a href="#">My Membership Certificate</a></p>	 <p><b>Membership</b></p> <p><a href="#">Apply to become a Professional CIO</a></p> <p><a href="#">Click here to apply for Critical Skills</a></p>	 <p><b>My Events</b></p> <p><a href="#">Register Now</a></p>
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### Member Self Service is Live!

Did you know that you can now easily access the IITPSA member self-service platform, where you can apply for membership and re-grades, apply for a designation or critical skills, pay your membership fees, and record your CPD activities?

Member Self Service



### **Anti-Virus Products**

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

Anti-Virus



### **ITWeb Publications - Brainstorm**

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

To subscribe, please contact the IITPSA National Office.

ITWeb Publications



## 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](http://www.iitpsa.org.za) and click on 'Careers (Job Ads)' in the 'Activities' menu to see it in action, or simply click on the link below.

[Career Opportunities](#)

## Earn CPD Points

IITPSA members will accrue 1 CPD point for every Tabling Tech or other IITPSA webinar they attend

**Follow us on social media, and check our interactive events calendar [here](#) to stay up to date with new events and special delegate discounts!**

