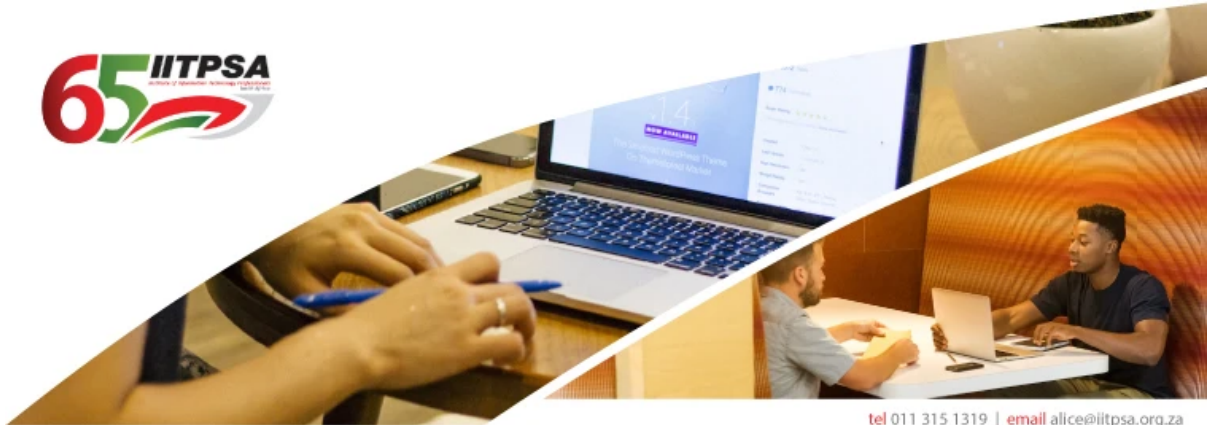Delivered monthly to your Inbox!

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IITPSA MAKING A DIFFERENCE

President's Podium

Greetings, IITPSA members!

Welcome to the May edition of our monthly newsletter. In this edition I will share valuable insights gained from our visit to the Zambia ICTAZ Conference, highlighting the importance of collaboration with other bodies in the region. As May is Africa Day month, we will also emphasize the significance of local engagement within the IT profession.

Insights from Zambia ICTAZ Conference

IITPSA had the privilege of attending the Zambia ICTAZ Conference, a gathering of IT professionals from across the region. The conference proved to be a hub of knowledge exchange and a platform for discussions on the latest trends, challenges, and opportunities in the IT industry. We were inspired by the expertise and passion of the participants and gained valuable insights that we believe will greatly benefit our members.

One key takeaway from the conference was the power of collaboration. The IT landscape is rapidly evolving, and no single organization or individual can navigate it alone. Collaborating with other bodies, both within our immediate communities and on a regional scale, enables us to pool our resources, share knowledge, and tackle challenges collectively. By working together, we can leverage our strengths, address common issues, and drive innovation in the IT sector.

Collaborating with other bodies in the region is crucial for the growth and advancement of the IT profession. Through partnerships and alliances, we can foster cooperation, build networks, and collectively advocate for policies and initiatives that benefit our members and the broader IT community. These collaborative efforts enable us to amplify our impact, influence industry standards, and drive positive change.

During the Zambia ICTAZ Conference, we witnessed several successful collaborative projects and initiatives that highlighted the strength and potential of regional partnerships. From knowledge sharing platforms and joint research endeavours to capacity-building programs and policy advocacy, these collaborations demonstrated the power of working together towards a creating sustainable digital economy and careers in ICT.

Africa Day: Celebrating Local Engagement

As we celebrated Africa Day this month, we are reminded of the importance of local engagement within the IT profession. Our continent boasts a wealth of talent and innovation, and it is essential that we harness and nurture this potential at a grassroots level. By supporting local IT initiatives, encouraging entrepreneurship, and investing in the development of IT skills, we can create a vibrant ecosystem that empowers African IT professionals and drives innovation and technological advancements.

Local engagement also plays a pivotal role in bridging the digital divide. By focusing on underserved communities and providing access to technology, training, and opportunities, we can ensure that all individuals, regardless of their background, have equal chances to thrive in the digital era. As IT professionals, it is our responsibility to contribute to the growth and inclusivity of our local communities.

Conclusion

I encourage all IT professionals to embrace the spirit of collaboration and engage actively with local initiatives. By working together and supporting each other, we can shape a brighter future for the IT industry in South Africa.

Thank you for being part of our community, and we look forward to bringing you more exciting updates and insights in the upcoming editions of our newsletter.

Wishing you a successful and fulfilling month ahead!

Best regards,

Admire

CEO'S COMMUNIQUE

Following time off to recover from an unfortunate fall, I am back at my desk. My thanks to Nashia Rajcoomar for so diligently managing the Institute's affairs as Acting CEO during my absence.

It is busy season for the IITPSA, with participation in numerous events, preparation of the Annual report,
planning underway for this year's President's Awards, and an office move taking place. Effective 01 June 2023, the IITPSA will be relocating our business operations to: Level 1 West, Gallagher House, Gallagher Convention Centre, 19 Richards Drive, Midrand. Our contact information and postal address remain the same.

A reminder to members that upgrading your membership is an excellent way to signal your competency and commitment as an ethical and credible IT professional.

You may qualify for Professional CIO (Pr.CIO®) – a SAQA Registered and IFIP IP3 accredited professional designation that recognises qualifications and experience at the highest level, Professional Member (PMIITPSA®) – also a SAQA Registered and IFIP IP3 accredited professional designation, or Certified Member of IITPSA (CMIITPSA). Please review the criteria and consider applying for upgraded designations via the members' portal.

A courtesy reminder that each member of the IITPSA, as a practising ICT professional, is expected to adhere to the Institute's Codes of Behaviour (Code of Ethics and Code of Good Practice).

Best,
Tony

IN THE NEWS

IN MEMORIAM: PROF. BARRY DWOLATZSKY

This month, the Institute was deeply saddened at the passing of Professor Barry Dwolatzky, Emeritus Professor in the School of Electrical and Information Engineering at Wits University, founder and Director of the University's Joburg Centre for Software Engineering (JCSE) and founder of the Wits Tshimologong Digital Innovation Precinct.

'Prof Barry' was a good friend of the Institute for many years and was the IT Personality of the Year in 2013, as well as holding an IITPSA Distinguished Service in IT Award. He worked closely with the IITPSA on the JCSE-IITPSA ICT Skills Survey, contributing invaluable time and knowledge to South Africa's understanding of ICT skills demand and shortfalls.

"We are grateful for the opportunities we – and our members – have had to know and learn from him. His legacy will live on in generations of ICT practitioners who benefited from his guidance."
- Admire Gwanzura

"It was my privilege to work with Barry for more than 15 years and, along with many colleagues, I will always be grateful for his support and friendship."
- Adrian Schofield

"Prof. Barry was indeed a giant in the ICT Profession in this country - a software engineer, leader, mentor, teacher, innovator and friend. We appreciate all the opportunities that he created and the significant contributions he made over so many years."
- Tony Parry

Click here to read the tribute on ITWeb

IITPSA FOR AFRICA

In line with our continued efforts to expand to increase knowledge sharing and collaboration with professional bodies across Africa, IITPSA President Admire Gwanzura attended and presented at the Information Communication Technology Association of Zambia (ICTAZ) Conference and Expo in Livingstone this month.

The theme was: promoting an inclusive and sustainable digital economy though ICT. This was an opportunity for meaningful engagement and included participation by the Honourable Felix C Mutati, Minister - Technology and Science, Zambia, Clement Sinyangwe, President of ICTAZ, and other dignitaries.

IITPSA EVERYWHERE

Events season is in full swing, and the IITPSA participated in a number of leading industry events this month.

Kelvin Nhlapo was on site at Sentech Africa Tech Week at the Century City Conference Centre in Cape Town, where members secured a 20% discount and CPD points.

Kelvin also donned his sneakers to fit in with the developer community at DevConf Pretoria.

The IITPSA also endorses the ITWeb Security Summit, where our members benefit from discounted access and CPD points. Gauteng Chapter Chair, Saba Rahimi , will chair a session in the Industry Insights track at Security Summit in Sandton. At Security Summit Cape Town, IFIP Vice President & IP3 Chair, and former long-serving non-Executive Director of the IITPSA, Moira de Roche, will chair a panel discussion in the Next Generation Security track.

IITPSA MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Congratulations to Veda October, a young IT professional and recent IITPSA Bursary holder, who credits her success to IITPSA members.

Veda recently wrote:

The IITPSA has helped mould my future, and I can honestly say that I wouldn't be where I am today if it wasn't for the Institute.

The IITPSA introduced me to the IT field when I was in grade 10. At the time, I did not know the joy and passion it would give me in the future. I studied Java as my 9th subject at school and went on to study a BSc Information Technology specialising in Software Engineering (Java) at Eduvos, where I graduated with a magna cum laude.

During my final year I started applying for internships and got accepted at Sintrex. The day after my last exam, I started as a Quality Assurance tester (Test Analyst) at Sintrex. Through my journey I have learnt lots of self-discipline, patience, and endurance.

Members of IITPSA made me feel significant from our first meeting when I was a young grade 10 girl, through to when I became the qualified person I am today. One of the IITPSA members in particular, Moira De Roche, has held my hand every step of the way and acknowledged my every achievement, no matter how small. I am forever grateful to her as well as to IITPSA CEO Tony Parry, who always complimented my performance.

The IITPSA has made me feel that I am worth the investment they made and thus I am a confident female in the IT industry today.

IITPSA GAUTENG CHAPTER CHAIR AND PMIITPSA ADDRESSES UJ HACKATHON

Gauteng Chapter Chair, Saba Rahimi, was invited to be the keynote speaker at the UJ hackathon on 26 May. He discussed "digitisation in the workplace".

ETHICS CORNER

'WHAT AI YOU LEARNING'

In this column, Kudzayi Chipidza, non-executive director on the IITPSA Board of Directors and member of the IITPSA Social & Ethics Committee, discusses racial and gender bias in artificial intelligence systems.

Read it here

CATCH UP ON RECENT EVENTS

POPIA COMPLIANCE: AN IITPSA CYBERSECURITY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIGCYBER) WEBINAR

This discussion gave an overview of the POPIA Compliance Assessment Toolkit (PCAT): System, presented by CSIR senior researchers/cyber security specialists Sipho Ngobeni and Terrence Moabalobelo, and NDC CIO Devan Naidoo.

Click here to watch

RANSOMWARE, LOADSHEDDING MAKE HEALTHCARE INCIDENT RESPONSE PLANNING A MATTER OF LIFE OR DEATH

Veronica Schmitt, co-founder of the DFIRLABS Digital Forensics and Incident Response practice, Assistant Professor at Noroff University in Norway, Security researcher at Medtronic in the US, and professional member of the IITPSA warns on planning for common threats facing healthcare services now.

Click here to watch

INVESTIGATING CRYPTOCURRENCIES: AN IITPSA BLOCKCHAIN AND CRYPTOCURRENCY SIG

At this recent webinar, John Singh explained on how to go about tracking the flow of money and narrowing down the probable owners of illegally gained cryptocurrency.

Click here to watch

IN THE MEDIA

AI should prompt IT professionals to upskill

The emergence of next-generation AI should not be seen as a direct threat to IT professionals, but rather as an opportunity to upskill and master the new technology, IITPSA President Admire Gwanzura said.

Read the media coverage here:

ABRBuzz

ITWeb

ITOnline

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

7 JUNE 2023
MITIGATING RISKS IN LOAD SHEDDING: AN IITPSA CIO ROUND TABLE

The IITPSA invites all CIOs, IT Directors and IT Managers to this webinar event for a frank discussion on the potential risks of load shedding, and how IT leaders are moving to mitigate them.

Click here to register

8 JUNE 2023
ETHICS AT WORK: MEET THE AUTHOR OF 'YOUR PHONE, MY LIFE'

An IITPSA Social & Ethics Commitee and IITPSA Women in IT (WIIT) Event

Join this lunchtime webinar to hear from Ineke Botter, one of the very few female mobile network CEOs and author of 'Your phone, my life: or, how did that phone land in your land', as she reflects on how the world built its mobile networks over the past 30 years. Moderated by Josine Overdevest, chairperson of the IITPSA Social and Ethics Committee, this event will also explore ethics in Botter's work.

Click here to register

22 JUNE 2023

AN IITPSA CYBERSECURITY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIGCYBER) EVENT, SIGCYBER EASTERN CAPE ROADSHOW AND CYBER CHALLENGE - ADDRESSING THE CYBERSECURITY SKILLS SHORTAGE

The in-person SIGCyber Roadshow will be hosted in the Eastern Cape at the Nelson Mandela University on Thursday, 22 June. This Roadshow is the first in a series of Roadshows to encourage interaction in the SIGCyber community and between industry and students. Industry members are invited to the Roadshow for cybersecurity-related guest talks and panel discussions, as well as networking with fellow industry professionals. A Student Cyber Challenge will run alongside the Roadshow and student teams will engage in various vulnerability testing and troubleshooting challenges.

Click here to register

The IITPSA has partnered with ITWeb on leading industry events throughout the year. 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

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

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

Events Calendar

ANNOUNCEMENTS / REMINDERS

Review our IITPSA webinars

Visit our YouTube channel to catch up on IITPSA webinars you may have missed, and see insights from IITPSA thought leaders!

YouTube

Get social with the IITPSA

Are you following IITPSA on Facebook? Twitter? LinkedIn? Instagram? YouTube? IITPSA is active on all social media platforms, 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

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 and click on 'Careers' 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!