Delivered monthly to your Inbox!

IITPSA PRESIDENT'S AWARD FINALISTS ANNOUNCED!

PRESIDENT'S PODIUM

This October marked the 20th annual international Cybersecurity Awareness Month, a programme that has become increasingly important as digital technologies make their way into every facet of everyone's lives.

The IITPSA took this opportunity to focus on cyber security and raise awareness – not only of the importance of being more secure online, but also to highlight the opportunities for professionals in this sector. There remain significant gaps for skilled cyber security professionals worldwide – and South Africa's bright young graduates could fill them.

We will need security-focused professionals and white hat hackers in ever greater numbers as AI and generative AI become more important – and these technologies must be governed, ethical and secure, in order to build trust around them. Africa stands on the brink of a transformative AI revolution, and the IITPSA SIGAIR and Social & Ethics Committee invite you to a free webinar that explores how responsible AI can drive economic progress and human development on the continent and we encourage members to register to attend.

To raise awareness and encourage more students to enter the profession, the IITPSA's increasingly active cyber security special interest group – SIGCyber – took to the road with two cyber security roadshows recently. The first, at the Nelson Mandela University in Gqeberha, kicked off the new roadshow series, which is designed to encourage interaction in the SIGCyber community, and between industry and students. The event featured a guest speaker and an industry panel discussion focusing on cybersecurity skills development, and a student cyber challenge.

Together with the Western Cape Chapter, the SIGCyber staged the second roadshow in Cape Town. This event featured a topical CISO panel discussion on burnout in cybersecurity professionals, and an exciting cyber challenge where UCT students engaged in vulnerability and troubleshooting challenges.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the top performers in the 2023 IITPSA Programming Olympiad, who received their medals at a ceremony at Die Hoërskool Menlopark in Pretoria earlier this month. In recent years, this event has surfaced several repeat star performers. However, we are also committed to growing the number of participants and diversifying the cohort, as well as improving access to such competitions for all ordinary high school learners. As the IITPSA has noted in the past, initiatives like our Talent Search and Computer Olympiads help prepare our young people for a digital world, where they can compete for opportunities in a global digital job market. Therefore, we must increase access to – and awareness of – these initiatives.

Warm regards,
Senele Goba,
President of the IITPSA

CEO'S COMMUNIQUE

November brings with it one of the highlights of the IITPSA's year – the annual President's Awards. Our awards judging panel has now concluded the adjudication process, and a worthy cohort of finalists have been announced.

Among the nominees and finalists were numerous young innovators and entrepreneurs, which we take as an encouraging sign that South Africa has a strong emerging digital economy and has the potential to grow into a future 'Silicon Valley' of Africa.

We were also pleased to note how many nominees and finalists are committed to upskilling and empowering others in the digital world – a mission the IITPSA heartily supports.

Please note that space is limited at the awards breakfast on 28 November, so reserve your seat or table at the event as soon as possible. See the notice in the newsletter below.

Best regards,
Tony Parry

IN THE NEWS

2023 President's Awards finalists announced!

The finalists for the 2023 IITPSA President's Awards have been announced.

To see the full list of finalists, and show your support for those you believe to be most deserving of an award, go to:

Annual Presidents Awards Finalists

The IITPSA regrets that it is unable to present the Visionary CIO award this year due to circumstances beyond our control. We look forward to the return of the award in 2024.

The winners will be named at the President's Awards breakfast at The Wanderers Club in Illovo on 28 November, where we will recognise South Africa's most exceptional IT leaders, visionaries and innovators. To secure a seat at this event please register here:

Click here to register

IITPSA SIGCyber hits the road for Cybersecurity Awareness Month

The IITPSA SIGCyber took to the road to mark international Cybersecurity Awareness Month, hosting in-person events for security professionals and students in Gqeberha and Cape Town.

SIGCyber also recently hosted a webinar on proactive protection from cyber risk. See the recording of that event here:

Click here to watch video

IITPSA congratulates top performers in the 2023 Programming Olympiad

Congratulations to the top performers in the 2023 **#IITPSA** Programming Olympiad, who received their medals at a ceremony held at Die Hoërskool Menlopark in Pretoria on 09 October 2023.

A gold medal was awarded to Minkyum Kim – Grade 12 at Reddam House Durbanville in the Western Cape. Silver medals went to Hugo Bruwer – Grade 12 at Paarl Boys' High School in the Western Cape and Youkyum Kim – Grade 12 at Reddam House Durbanville in the Western Cape.

Bronze medals were awarded to Muhammad Shah Khan – Grade 12 at UJ Metropolitan Academy Gauteng, Noah Jacobsen – Grade 11 at St John's College Gauteng and Erik Senekal – Grade 9 at Die Hoërskool Menlopark in Gauteng.

Western Cape Chapter celebrates spring – and AI

The IITPSA Western Cape Chapter hosted an evening networking session to celebrate spring and discuss the impact of AI. The thought-provoking conversation addressed AI: the good, the bad and the ugly, with panellists considering the impact of AI on society, organisations and workforces. Our experts discussed AI and innovation, and automation vs redundancy, ethics and risk.

Gauteng Chapter hosts get-together

The IITPSA's Gauteng Chapter committee hosted its chapter meeting as an informal, after work networking session open to all Gauteng-based members. Members learned more about member benefits and future plans, and how to become more active participants in Institute activities.

IITPSA partners with ITWeb CX Summit

IITPSA President Senele Goba and Kelvin Nhlapo, Head of Business Development at IITPSA, were on site to promote the Institute at the ITWeb CX Summit in Sandton.
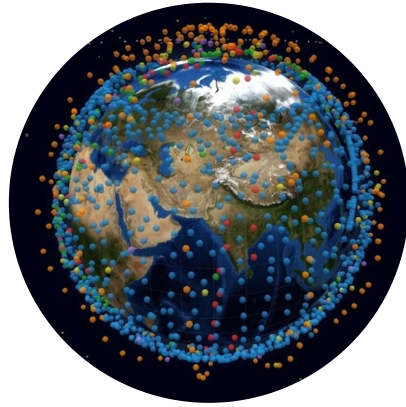

IITPSA participates in Data Saturday

IITPSA Vice President Pearl Pasi represented the Institute at Data Saturday in Cape Town, where she outlined the IITPSA's work and membership benefits to attendees. Data Saturday is a free community-focused event dedicated to educating and engaging members of the local technical and business community.

ETHICS CORNER

Striking the balance between People & Planet: The environmental impact & sustainability of Low-Earth Orbit(LEO) satellite internet service.

Contribution by: Kudzayi Chipidza who is a non-executive director on the IITPSA Board of Directors, member of the IITPSA Social & Ethics Committee, Professional Member of the IITPSA and a Cloud Support Engineer for one of the leading international Cloud Service Providers. Kudzayi discusses the proliferation of Low-Earth Orbit(LEO) satellite internet, highlights what the technology is, its advantages/disadvantages and delves into the sustainability issues.

Read more

IN THE MEDIA

Energy drinks and sleepless nights – SA's cyber security professionals risk burnout

A panel discussion at the recent SIGCyber roadshow in Cape Town highlighted the pressure cyber security professionals are under. Read the reports:

SA Business Integrator

SA Profile Magazine

Cloud doesn't always have a silver lining

Channelwise reported on the recent IITPSA virtual round table for professional CIOs (Pr.CIO®).

Channelwise

Digital empowerment for young women

A report on a project to empower young women with digital skills referenced the 2022 JCSE - IITPSA ICT Skills Survey.

FutureSA

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

1 November

Responsible AI in Africa: An IITPSA SIGAIR and Social and Ethics Committee Event

The IITPSA SIGAIR and Social & Ethics Committee invite you to a thought-provoking free webinar that explores how responsible AI can drive economic progress and human development on the continent. Dr. Fredah Banda and Josine Overdevest will take you on a journey through the real-world applications of AI in Africa.

Read more and register

2-3 November

AI Expo Africa

IITPSA will be a partner to the 6th Edition of AI Expo Africa in Sandton this November. AI Expo Africa 2023 will unite thousands of decision makers, investors, buyers, suppliers, innovators, SMMEs and NGOs focused on real world 4IR technologies. Common themes in the conference will include expert discussion on 4IR tech trends, ethics, privacy, standards, regulation, policy as well as cross cutting themes such as Smart Cities, Smart Citizen & National Strategies.

Learn more

8 November

A Practical Approach to Performance Testing: An IITPSA SIGiST Event

Automating performance testing practices is a valuable part of ensuring quality software is being delivered at speed. This presentation, delivered by Leela Putten, Co-Founder at Qualiblaze Consulting, Specialist IT Consultant, Educator and Conference Speaker aims to look at practical ways to approach performance testing successfully in your organisations by tackling the **WHY, WHAT, WHEN and HOW** behind a good performance strategy.

Read more and register

9 November

Is TOGAF 10 making it easier to integrate Scaled Agile and Enterprise Architecture frameworks? An IITPSA Gauteng Chapter Event

The Gauteng Chapter of the IITPSA invites you to this deep dive into the scaled Agile development in the context of TOGAF 10.

Join experts Daven Symes and Marius Snel to unpack Scaled Agile and Agility in the context of TOGAF 10, the need for both Agility and Architecture in today's evolving business landscape, and SAFe and Agile Principles in the context of Architecture Development.

Read more and register

ANNOUNCEMENTS / REMINDERS

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 our events, partner offerings, and thought leadership content.

Catch up on the Green Blockchain webinar!

In this combined IITPSA Social & Ethics Committee & Blockchain SIG webinar, Josine Overdevest and John Singh discussed the environmental impact of software in general and blockchain in particular.

Green Blockchain webinar

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

YouTube

Follow and engage with us 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!