

# 2008 SOUTH AFRICAN AWARDS FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE

## **BACKGROUND**

The South African Department of Science and Technology has created recognition awards to celebrate "Women in Science" as a direct response to the vision encapsulated in the National Research and Development Strategy of ultimate improvement in the quality of life of South Africans.

The role of women in the development and sharing of knowledge that contributes to improvement in people's economic status and quality of life has been limited. In addition, the contribution of outstanding women in scientific research has not been fully recognised. This lack of recognition has resulted in inequity of access by women to the research professions.

The further lack of prominent women scientists as role models has hampered both the public understanding of Science, Engineering and Technology and the participation of women at all levels of science.

It is with these objectives in mind that the Department of Science and Technology has created various types of recognition awards to celebrate "Women in Science". The 2008 awards are:

- **Distinguished Woman Scientist Award in the area of Life Science**
- **Achiever Award for a Woman Scientist in Industry**
- **Best Emerging Young Woman Scientist Award in the area of Life Science**
- **Two L'Oréal South Africa 2008 Fellowships for Women in Science**
- **Three Women Scientist Fellowships**

The winners of the awards will be announced at a function that will be held in Johannesburg on 8 August 2008.

## **RECOGNITION AWARDS**

### **DISTINGUISHED WOMAN SCIENTIST AWARD**

This award will be made to a female scientist for her outstanding scientific contribution to the advancement of science and building of the knowledge base within the fields of **Life Sciences (Medicine, Pharmacy, Microbiology, Biotechnology, Physiology, Molecular Biology and related subjects)**.

#### **Nomination criteria**

Tertiary Academic Institutions and Research Organisations are requested to nominate women scientists who meet the following criteria:

1. A Ph.D and at least 5 years post-doctoral experience in **Life Sciences**
2. The research project of the candidate must contribute to the advancement of science and building of the knowledge base.

#### **Adjudication Criteria**

1. A proven research publication record.
2. Evidence of international eminence, e.g. presentation of keynote addresses or presentations at international conferences.
3. Experience in supervising researchers.
4. National and/or international acclaim for the research and contribution of research outputs to building the knowledge base.
5. Exploitability of outputs e.g. applicability to improved products, processes and services.

#### **Award**

R50 000

#### **Use of the award**

No restrictions on the use of the award will be imposed, as this is a personal award and is to be used at the discretion of the recipient.

#### **Nomination procedure**

**Nominations should reach the Department of Science and Technology by 14 June 2008. No late entries will be accommodated. Electronic copies can be send to: [WISAwards@dst.gov.za](mailto:WISAwards@dst.gov.za) or posted to:**

Project Coordinator  
SA Women in Science Awards  
Department of Science and Technology  
Private Bag X 894  
PRETORIA  
0001

## **NOMINATION FORM: DISTINGUISHED WOMAN SCIENTIST AWARD: 2008**

Surname	
Name(s)	
Nationality	
Identification Number	
Date of birth	
Postal Address	
Physical address	
e-mail address	
Telephone	
Fax	

### Education background

Institution	Years attended	Field of Study	Qualification obtained

### Employment record:

Employer	Employment period	Post held	Responsibilities

### **Nomination letter from the tertiary academic institute or research organisation**

The letter should motivate and support the nomination by providing the following information:-

- The contribution of the research to the advancement of science and building of the knowledge base
- The candidates involvement with mentorship / coaching programmes,
- Copies of a maximum of 5 relevant research publications.
- Exploitability of outputs e.g. applicability to improved products, processes and services.

### **A full Curriculum Vitae**

The candidate's CV should provide a complete listing of personal and professional data, including involvement with supervision of research and awards received, as well as a full list of publications.

### **Letters of Reference**

Letters of reference from three persons who can discuss professional competence and other personal or professional qualities or interests that make the applicant especially qualified for the award.

**Statement by the candidate**

The nominee must provide a written statement that she accepts the nomination, and is prepared to be bound by the decisions of the adjudication panel, including that she is will participate in The Frances Ames Distinguished Woman Scientist Lecture Series.

**Applications should reach the administrative offices of the Department of Science and Technology by 14 June 2008. No late entries will be accommodated. Electronic copies can be send to: [WISAwards@dst.gov.za](mailto:WISAwards@dst.gov.za) or posted to:**

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0001

## **ACHIEVER AWARD FOR A WOMEN SCIENTIST IN INDUSTRY: 2008**

This award will be made to a female scientist for her outstanding scientific contribution to industry.

### **Nomination criteria**

Members of Industry, professional bodies and Research Organisations are requested to nominate women scientists who meet the following criteria:

1. A Ph.D and at least 5 years post-doctoral experience.
2. Must be in the fulltime employed in the South African Industrial environment.
3. The candidate must be able to demonstrate sustained high levels of contribution to her chosen industry.

### **Adjudication Criteria**

1. Proven record of industry experience and contribution to innovation and/or improvement to her chosen industry.
2. Evidence of National and International recognition of her contribution, e.g. presentation of keynote address or presentation at international conferences.
3. Experience in Mentoring and guiding young women in her particular industry.
4. Participation in programmes outside of her industry that contributes to the advancement of society.

### **Award**

R50 000

### **Use of the award**

No restrictions on the use of the award will be imposed, as this is a personal award and is to be used at the discretion of the recipient.

### **Nomination procedure**

**Nominations should reach the Department of Science and Technology by 14 June 2008. No late entries will be accommodated. Electronic copies can be send to: [WISAwards@dst.gov.za](mailto:WISAwards@dst.gov.za) or posted to:**

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0001

## **ACHIEVER AWARD FOR A WOMEN SCIENTIST IN INDUSTRY: 2008**

Surname	
Name(s)	
Nationality	
Identification Number	
Date of birth	
Postal Address	
Physical address	
e-mail address	
Telephone	
Fax	

### Education background

Institution	Years attended	Field of Study	Qualification obtained

### Employment record:

Employer	Employment period	Post held	Responsibilities

### **Nomination letter from the industry, professional body institute or research organisation**

The letter should motivate and support the nomination by providing the following information:-

- Proven record of industry experience and contribution to innovation and/or improvement to her chosen industry.
- Evidence of National and International recognition of her contribution, e.g. presentation of keynote address or presentation at international conferences.
- Experience in Mentoring and guiding young women in her particular industry.
- Participation in programmes outside of her industry that contributes to the advancement of society.

### **A full Curriculum Vitae**

The candidate's CV should provide a complete listing of personal and professional data, including involvement in the areas listed above.

### **Letters of Reference**

Letters of reference from three persons who can discuss professional competence and other personal or professional qualities or interests that make the applicant especially qualified for the award.

### **Statement by the candidate**

The nominee must provide a written statement that she accepts the nomination, and is prepared to be bound by the decisions of the adjudication panel, including that she is will participate in The Frances Ames Distinguished Women Scientist Lecture Series.

**Applications should reach the administrative offices of the Department of Science and Technology by 14 June 2008 No late entries will be accommodated. Electronic copies can be send to: [WISAwards@dst.gov.za](mailto:WISAwards@dst.gov.za) or posted to:**

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## **BEST EMERGING YOUNG WOMAN SCIENTIST: 2008**

This award will be made to a young female scientist for her outstanding scientific contribution to the advancement of science and building of the knowledge base within the fields of **Life Sciences (Medicine, Pharmacy, Microbiology, Biotechnology, Physiology, Molecular Biology and related subjects)**.

### **Nomination criteria**

Tertiary Academic Institutions and Research Organisations are requested to nominate women scientists who meet the following criteria:

1. A Ph.D and less than 5 years post-doctoral experience in either **Life Sciences**
2. The research project of the candidate must contribute to the advancement of science and building of the knowledge base.

### **Adjudication Criteria**

1. A proven research publication record.
2. Evidence of international eminence, e.g. presentation of keynote addresses or presentations at international conferences.
3. Experience in supervising researchers.
4. National and/or international acclaim for the research and contribution of research outputs to building the knowledge base.
5. Exploitability of outputs e.g. applicability to improved products, processes and services.

### **Award**

R50 000

### **Use of the award**

No restrictions on the use of the award will be imposed, as this is a personal award and is to be used at the discretion of the recipient.

### **Nomination procedure**

**Nominations should reach the Science, Gender and Disability Unit of the Department of Science and Technology by 14 June 2008. No late entries will be accommodated. Electronic copies can be send to: [WISAwards@dst.gov.za](mailto:WISAwards@dst.gov.za) or posted to:**

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SA Women in Science Awards  
Department of Science and Technology  
Private Bag X 894  
PRETORIA  
0001

## **BEST EMERGING YOUNG WOMAN SCIENTIST: 2008**

Surname	
Name(s)	
Nationality	
Identification Number	
Date of birth	
Postal Address	
Physical address	
e-mail address	
Telephone	
Fax	

### Education background

Institution	Years attended	Field of Study	Qualification obtained

### Employment record:

Employer	Employment period	Post held	Responsibilities

### **Nomination letter from the tertiary academic institute or research organisation**

The letter should motivate and support the nomination by providing the following information:-

- The contribution of the research to improvement in the quality of life of women
- The candidates involvement with mentorship / coaching / community outreach programmes.
- Copies of 3 - 5 relevant research publications.
- Exploitability of outputs e.g. applicability to community development, improved products, processes and services,

### **A full Curriculum Vitae**

The candidate's CV should provide a complete listing of personal and professional data, including involvement with supervision of research and awards received, as well as a full list of publications.

### **Letters of Reference**

Letters of reference from three persons who can discuss professional competence, and other personal or professional qualities or interests that make the applicant especially qualified for the award.

### **Statement by the candidate**

The nominee must provide a written statement that she accepts the nomination, and is prepared to be bound by the decisions of the adjudication panel.

**Applications should reach the administrative offices of the Department of Science and Technology by 14 June 2008. No late entries will be accommodated. Electronic copies can be send to: [WISAwards@dst.gov.za](mailto:WISAwards@dst.gov.za) or posted to:**

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## **The L'Oréal 2008 Fellowships of the “ FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE “ South African Initiative, with the support of the National Commission for UNESCO and in association with the Department of Science and Technology**

### **General Provisions**

#### **A. Eligibility**

Applicants must meet the following general criteria:

1. All applications must be submitted with the required documentation on the official application form. All applications should be addressed to the President of the Fellowship Jury.
2. Fellowships are open to applicants who have graduated with a PhD between January 2007 and June 2008.
3. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered
4. Applicants must be South African citizens or permanent residents.
5. The Fellowship amount is R 60 000 each awarded to the two Best Academic PhD students of the year and is to be at the discretion of the fellow. The fellowships are awarded for academic achievements.
6. In 2008, Fellowships shall be awarded in the field of **LIFE SCIENCES** (Biology, Botany, Zoology, Microbiology, Biotechnology and related subjects) and **MATERIALS SCIENCE** (applied physics and chemistry, as well as chemical, mechanical, civil and electrical engineering).
7. Applications must be submitted by **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2008.**
8. All applicants will receive written notification of the Jury decision in due course.
9. The selected beneficiary will be awarded her FELLOWSHIP at a ceremony that will take place on Friday 8th August 2008.

## B) Application Procedure

1. Applications must be submitted on the official application forms and sent to attention of :  
**The Project Coordinator  
SA Women in Science Awards  
Department of Science and Technology  
Private Bag X 894  
PRETORIA  
0001**
2. Applications can be sent by mail to the above address or electronically to the following address: **[WISAwards@dst.gov.za](mailto:WISAwards@dst.gov.za)**
3. Each application must be approved (signed) by the Dean / Head of the institution in which the candidate is studying or working.
3. The following must be included in the application:
  - application form
  - curriculum vitae
  - contact details including telephone, fax, email address, postal address
  - certified copies of degrees or diplomas (including grade transcripts)
  - detailed description, one to two page(s) (maximum), of the candidate's research work
  - scientific advisor/supervisor's supporting letter
  - list of scientific publications
  - copies of abstracts of major publications
4. Presentation and format of applications must be of high standard
5. Applications that are incomplete or have been submitted after the due date shall not be considered.



**The L'Oréal 2008 Fellowships of the " FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE " South African Initiative, with the support of the National Commission for UNESCO and in association with the Department of Science and Technology**

## **Application Form**

**Surname** .....

**Date and place of birth**  
.....

**Contact details :**

**Physical Address :**

**Postal Address :**

**Telephone ( H ) :**

**Telephone ( W ) :**

**Fax :**

**e.mail :**

**Education background**

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Years attended</b>	<b>Fields of Study</b>	<b>Qualification obtained</b>

**Employment record:**

<b>Employer</b>	<b>Employment period</b>	<b>Post held</b>	<b>Responsibilities</b>

## Part 2

### **Hypothesis :**

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### **Objective of the research :**

- 1 :** .....  
**2 :** .....  
**3 :** .....

### **Major methods of models applied in the research : .....**

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### **Major results: .....**

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### **Explain the practical application of your research.....**

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### **Describe what is unique or original about your PhD research.....**

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List conference presentations indicating information on whether the conference was national or international and whether an oral or poster presentation was made.....

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**Publications: Please indicate author status and mark with an asterisk which of the published outputs arose directly from your PhD research.**

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**Other (non-scientific) interests:** .....

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.....  
.....

**Applicant's signature:** .....

**Date:** .....

**Head of Institution:** .....

**Date:** .....

**Supported by H.O.D:** .....

**Date:**.....

# **WOMEN SCIENTIST FELLOWSHIPS: 2008**

## **Description**

Three awards will be made to women who are currently involved in full-time post-graduate study or research leading towards a Ph.D and who have two years post masters research experience. These awards will recognise outstanding ability and promise in research.

Three grants will be awarded as follows:

1. A postgraduate fellowship for **Women Scientists from African Countries** to study at centres of excellence in South Africa. Special consideration will be given to applicants who show professional promise in innovative or neglected areas of research.
2. A postgraduate fellowship for **Women Scientists** working / studying in an **area where participation by women is traditionally low**, e.g. maths, physics, astronomy, etc.
3. A post graduate fellowship for gender responsive research that **impacts on the lives of girls and women in South Africa**. The awardee may study in a country other than South Africa.

## **Application Criteria**

The following criteria will be used in the selection process:

1. **African Woman Scientist Fellowship:**
  - A female scientist with at least two years post Masters research experience.
  - Special consideration is given to applicants who show professional promise in innovative or neglected areas of research.
  - Confirmed place of work / study on return to home country.
  - Preference will be given to women who reside in their home country at the time of application.
2. **Fellowship award in area where participation by women is traditionally low:**
  - A female scientist with at least two years post Masters research experience.
  - The candidates must have completed a Masters degree in one of the following areas:
    - Architecture;
    - Computer/Information Sciences;
    - Engineering;
    - Mathematics/Statistics;
    - Astronomy;
    - Physics;
    - Astrophysics
3. **Gender Responsive Research:**
  - A female scientist with at least two years post Masters research experience.
  - Special consideration is given to applicants who show professional promise in innovative or neglected areas of research.
  - Planned or confirmed place of work / study after returning to South Africa.

## **Adjudication Criteria**

- Quality and feasibility of the proposed plan of study or research and proposed time schedule.

- A demonstrable need for the specialised knowledge and skills that she plans to acquire.
- Academic and professional qualifications, including research publication record.
- Applicant's commitment to the advancement of women and girls in South Africa / Africa as demonstrated by her previous work and her proposed study or research.

This category is open for applications.

## **Award content**

R100 000

## **Use of the award**

The award is not for normal academic registration and tuition fees but to expand the experience of the awardee. It can be used to purchase additional equipment that is essential for the completion of the Ph.D studies or to enable the awardee to spend three to six months at an institution away from home at an international research facility to improve the outcome of the Ph.D.

## **Application Procedures**

**Applications should reach the administrative offices of the Department of Science and Technology by 14 June 2008. No late entries will be accommodated. Electronic copies can be send to: [WISAwards@dst.gov.za](mailto:WISAwards@dst.gov.za) or posted to:**

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Department of Science and Technology  
Private Bag X 894  
PRETORIA  
0001

## **APPLICATION FORM: WOMEN SCIENTIST FELLOWSHIPS: 2008**

**Fellowship for:** \_\_\_\_\_

Surname	
Name(s)	
Nationality	
Identification Number	
Date of birth	
Postal Address	
Physical address	
e-mail address	
Telephone	
Fax	
Current field of study	
Country of residence	

### **Education background**

Institution	Years attended	Field of Study	Qualification obtained

### **Employment record:**

Employer	Employment period	Post held	Responsibilities

### **A letter of Intent and Candidate statement**

The letter must indicate a desire to be considered for the award.

Each applicant must submit a statement about her qualifications for the fellowship. The following information should be included :-

1. Quality and feasibility of the proposed plan of study or research and proposed time schedule.
2. A demonstrable need for the specialised knowledge and skills that she plans to acquire.
3. Academic and professional qualifications, including research publication record.
4. Applicant's commitment to the advancement of women and girls in South Africa or country of origin, as demonstrated by her previous work and her proposed study or research.

### **A full Curriculum Vitae**

The candidate's CV should provide a complete listing of personal and professional data.

### **Letters of Reference**

Candidates must request letters of reference from three persons who can discuss professional competence, and other personal or professional qualities or interests that make the applicant especially qualified to serve as a Fellow.

Each letter of reference should contain the following points:

- The candidate's relationship to the referee,
- The technical accomplishments and relative standing of the candidate among her peers,
- The candidate's interest and experience in applying her expertise to the improvement of the quality of life of women.
- Contact details of the referee.

**Applications must clearly indicate which category of fellowship is being applied for.**

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