South African Institute of Physics



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Call for WiPiSA Departmental Lunches 2021/2022

The WiPiSA Executive Committee would like to invite female academics, postgraduate students and non-academic female SAIP members to apply for the 2021 Hybrid (virtual/physical) WiPiSA Lunches to be held at their respective Physics Departments or virtually (compliance to the lockdown regulations).

Two of the main objectives of WiPiSA are to:

1) Encourage and stimulate an interest in girls and women to study physics, and

2) Support girls and women to work in physics-related careers and assist in removing/overcoming obstacles and barriers for girls and women in their studies and at the workplace.

To meet these objectives, we initiated an idea to have departmental lunches across Universities within South Africa. The lunch activity is expected to bring women in physics together, for example, academics, those in leadership roles and students (both undergraduates and postgraduates). During the event, they interact, initiate mentoring, encourage and stimulate interests in others to study physics, networking, and talk about some challenges they face as women in physics.

WiPiSA will provide funding of **<u>R4000-00</u>** only for your institution to organise the virtual lunch. We, therefore, request you to help us accomplish this goal; by sending an email entailing the name and contact information of the representative from your department to facilitate this activity.

Organisers are expected to submit the following after the lunch:

- 1) A short report about the event (venue, number of attendees, activities, etc).
- 2) The outcomes of the event (students were motivated, links established, etc.).
- 3) Few event pictures,
- 4) Article to be published in Physics Comment Magazine, and
- 5) In the case of virtual lunches, the organisers are expected to submit names of attendees so that they can be compensated for data used to connect to the event.

For further correspondence, kindly contact:

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Other Council Members

Prof. E.E. Van Dyk (Treasurer, NMU); Prof. M.L. Chithambo (President-Elect, RU); Prof. P. Woudt (Past-President, UCT); Dr. R. Nemutudi (iThemba LABS); Dr. J. B. Habarulema (SANSA); Dr. Z. Katamzi-Joseph (SANSA); Dr. R. Harris (UFS); Dr. I. T Usman (WITS); Dr. R. Erasmus (WITS)