

**GENERAL INTRODUCTION  
TO  
INSTITUTIONAL AWARDS**



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Institution has a long history of making awards and some fine traditions have been developed over many years. These traditions should be maintained and extended to honour contributions of members and to promote civil engineering.

This document updates the awards structure and defines the occasions where the awards will be conferred. In some case special awards ceremonies will be arranged. Arrangements for such ceremonies should be discussed with the National Office.

## 2. OBJECTIVES

Awards should be viewed as one of the means for achieving Institutional objectives, namely:

- to promote the art and science of civil engineering
- to promote the profession, and
- to protect the justifiable interests of its members

In addition, awards should provide full and proper recognition for the achievements of members.

Awards can contribute to the realisation of these objectives by:

- providing an incentive to members to increase the standard of civil engineering in South Africa and by acknowledging achievements in this regard
- providing a means for recognising the engineering contributions of members to the profession, to the Institution and to society
- providing a medium for extending public awareness of the role of civil engineering in society and of the contributions made by civil engineers.

## 3. STRATEGY

The system of awards should contribute to Institutional objectives, taking cognisance of other corporate activities and the resources available. Awards should be given to individuals, groups of individuals or projects for outstanding performance such as advancing technology, teaching, research, engineering construction or management.

While outstanding performances should be identified and rewarded, special attention must be given to a limited number of prestigious awards. Care should be taken not to create meaningless awards.

Presentation of awards should be arranged to realise their maximum public relations value and to suitably honour their recipients. The form of awards should therefore provide lasting recognition and be suited to the recipients and to the performance. The human element should be emphasised at all times, and in the case of awards for projects, the engineer behind the project should also be recognised. There should also be significant input in nominated projects from SAICE members.

## 4. AWARDS STRUCTURE

Although they are closely related, awards may be divided into two main categories, viz, people awards and project awards. As a general rule, people awards should be in the form of medals or certificates while project awards should be certificates and/or plaques.

### 4.1 People Awards

- 4.1.1 The Gold Medal is the premier personal award for outstanding contributions in civil engineering both in the technical and professional fields.

- 4.1.2 Honorary Fellowships should be conferred on those who have made notable contributions to the advancement of civil engineering in South Africa and may include non-members of the SAICE.
- 4.1.3 The Award for Meritorious Research should be made to a person or team for outstanding research.
- 4.1.4 The President's Award for Meritorious Service should be to a person or persons who in the opinion of the President have rendered excellent service to the Institution or the Profession.
- 4.1.5 In addition to the above Institution awards, the Technical Divisions make a number of people awards:
- Geotechnical Medal Geotechnical Division
  - Chairman's Awards for Meritorious Service to the Transportation Engineering Profession – Division of Transportation Engineering
  - Water Engineering Award – Division of Water Engineering
- 4.1.6 Awards are made to "Persons" of the year in 10 categories and form part of the annual Awards competition and are presented at the Annual Awards Function.

## 4.2 Project Awards

- 4.2.1 The premier project award is for "The Most Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement" in four categories.

## 5. CONTROL

All matters pertaining to Institution awards are under the control of the Events Committee, while Branch and Division awards are under the direct control of the unit involved.

It is, however, required that details of these awards should be sent the Events Committee for record, review, and to ensure wide media coverage.

## 6. ADJUDICATION

The nominations for each award should be considered by the appropriate person, panel or committee.

## 7. PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

In order to gain the maximum benefit from making awards, careful consideration should be given to the presentation of awards. Some awards are of interest to a wide spectrum of people, while others are only of importance within the Institution. This distinction is the main criterion for determining the method of presentation. Different occasions present opportunities for handing over awards and should be used as follows for Institutional awards:

### 7.1 Presidential Inauguration

The Presidential Inauguration will take place at the end of the year when any accepted nominations for the Gold Medal and Honorary Fellowships will be presented in front of an invited audience of public figures and members of the Institution.

### 7.2 National Awards Function

The National Awards Function will take place in the second half of the year when the premier awards with public interest will be presented in the presence of an invited audience of public figures and members of the Institution. The awards most suitable for presentation at this function are:

- The Award for the Most Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement (Technical Excellence Projects) in the sub disciplines or categories Civil Engineering and Structural/Building Projects
- The Award for the Most Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement (Community-based Projects)
- The Award for the Most Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement (International Projects)
- The Award for the Most Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement (Reports, Studies and Investigations)
- Various People Awards for Graduate/Young/Senior in categories (Engineer/Technologist/Technician) and Project Manager.

### 7.3 Annual General Meeting

This is the occasion where the Institution meets to review its affairs and is appropriate for the recognition of achievements within the profession such as:

- President's Award for Meritorious Service . This award is made by the President of the previous year.

### 7.4 Branch/Regional Awards

These presentations should either be made at a special function sponsored by the recipients, at the Branch/Regional annual dinner, or at their AGM provided it is held prior to the National Awards event. These awards are currently discontinued as branches are not receiving sufficient entries to hold meaningful events.

### 7.5 Divisional Awards

Divisional awards should be presented at either a special function or the Division AGM.

## 8 PREVIOUS AWARD WINNERS

### 8.1 MEMBERS WHO HAVE RECEIVED THE GOLD MEDAL AWARD

<b>Year</b>	<b>Recipient</b>
2019	Neil Macleod
2017	Sam Amod & Kevin Wall
2015	Nazir Alli
2013	Alec Hay
2012	Trueman Goba
2005	Allyson Lawless
2001	Mr RA Pullen
1996	Mr KG Witthaus
1995	Prof K Knight
1994	H A Loots
1993	Dr A C Liebenberg
1992	E J Hall
1991	H C Blersch
1990	Dr R J Laburn
1989	Dr J P Kriel
1979	Prof D C Midgley
1978	T C Watermeyer
1973	Prof D W de Vos
1968	Col W P F McLaren
1963	Prof J E Jennings
1958	Prof W G Sutton
1953	F E Kanthack

### 8.2 HONORARY FELLOWS

<b>Year</b>	<b>Honorary Fellow</b>
2023	Errol Kerst
2022	Francis Gibbons, Arthur Taute, Peter Baird, Dr Malcolm Mitchell
2021	Jan Viljoen
2020	Adv Hubert Thompson
2019	Prof Yunus Ballim
2018	Willie Claasen, Mike Deeks, Dr Martin Van Veelen
2017	Trueman Goba, Hendrik Kirsten, Allyson Lawless, Seetella Makhetha, Dr Ron Watermeyer, Peter Kleynhans (Posth)
2016	No nominations received
2015	Tom McKune, Prof Mike Miller, Dr Pine Pienaar
2014	No nominations received
2013	Johan de Koker, Neil Macleod, Jack van der Merwe
2012	Sam Amod, Dr Kevin Wall
2011	David Botha, Faried Allie, Mike Shand, James Metcalf
2009	Dr Peter Day, Tony Murray, Desmond Webb
2008	Theo van Roebroek
2007	No nominations received
2006	Prof Will Alexander
2005	Alec Hay, Dr Bingle Kruger, Ross Parry-Davies
2004	Brian Bruce, Gary Jones, Donald Macleod
2003	No nominations received
2002	RA Fone
2001	Dr GLD Ross, L De Waal, Prof A Kemp, SM Gounden
2000	No nominations received
1999	Prof F Hugo, Prof D Sparks

1998	CM McMillan
1997	Prof GE Blight
1996	RA Pullen
1995	A van Niekerk
1994	G W Donaldson
1993	Prof K Knight
1992	K G Witthaus
1991	Dr A C Liebenberg
1990	B A Kantey, E Hall, MT de Waal
1989	H A Loots
1987	H C Blersch
1987	C Skeen, Dr H Olivier
1985	Dr R J Laburn, Dr J P Kriel
1984	The Hon. Min. H Schoeman
1982	Prof D C Midgley, Dr S S Morris
1981	Prof D W de Vos
1979	C Harris, A S Robinson, Sir Angus Paton CMG FRS
1978	D C Robertson, The Hon Min S P Botha , F J Hugo
1977	T C Watermeyer, R D Hawkins
1976	Prof J E Jennings
1975	H R Moffat, Dr D F Kokot
1974	F Jackson
1967	Prof W G Sutton
1962	Prof Baker of Windrush (Prof Sir John F Baker),
1958	Dr N Stutterheim

### 8.3 AWARD FOR MERITORIOUS RESEARCH (Discontinued)

<b>Year</b>	<b>Awardee</b>
2019	no award
2018	no award
2017	no award
2016	no award
2015	no award
2014	no award
2013	no award
2012	no award
2011	no award
2010	no award
2009	no award
2008	no award
2007	no award
2006	Dr K Wall
2005	Dr K Wall
2004	no award
2003	no award
2002	Prof G Heymann
2001	no award
2000	no award
1999	no award
1998	RD Little
1998	Prof Alex Visser
1997	no award
1996	Prof F Hugo
1996	Mr PGJ Meiring

1996	Dr CE Herold
1995	no award
1994	no award
1993	no award
1992	Dr W V Pitman
1991	no award
1990	no award
1989	no award
1988	no award
1987	no award
1986	no award
1985	no award
1984	no award
1983	no award
1982	no award
1981	Eddie Otte

#### 8.4 AWARD FOR THE MOST OUTSTANDING CIVIL ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

##### Technical Excellence:

Year	Project
1965	Sugar Terminal, Durban
1966	Umtamvuma River Bridge
1967	Cape Town Freeways
1968	-
1969	The Standard Bank Centre, Johannesburg
1970	Paul Sauer Dam
1971	Van Stadens River Arch Bridge
1972	Hendrik Verwoerd Dam
1973	The Orange Fish Tunnel
1974	Johannesburg M1 and M2 Motorway System
1975	Richard's Bay Broodsniersplaas Harbour and Railway Line
1976	Sishen Saldanha Railway Line and Harbour
1977	Gouritz River Bridge
1978	Steenbras Hydroelectric Pumped Storage Scheme
1979	Mitchells Plain
1980	Theewaterskloof Berg River Project
1981	Drakensberg Hydroelectric Pumped Storage Scheme
1982	Koeberg Nuclear Power Station
1983	Grootdraai Dam Emergency Augmentation Scheme
1984	Tsitsikama National Road and Bridges
1985	Mariannhill National Route 3 Project
1986	Uncle Charlie's Complex
1987	Palmiet Pumped Storage Scheme
1988	Huguenot Tunnel
1989	Rietvlei Rehabilitation Scheme
1990	Northern Access Route to Katse Dam Site.
1991	Bothasfontein Bridge
1992	Michell's Pass (Wolseley to Ceres)
1993	Widening of National Route 3: Key Ridge to Nchanga
1994	Riviersonderend/Palmiet River Water Augmentation Scheme
1995	Rehabilitation of Shongweni Dam
1996	Concorde East Overpass Bridge



- 1997 Katse Dam
  - 1998 Delivery tunnel north / Ladysmith flood control scheme
  - 1999 Paris Dam
  - 2000 Meiringspoort
  - 2001 Moddergat
  - 2002 -
  - 2003 Mohale Dam  
Project of the century - Katse Dam
  - 2004 Thesen Islands Development
  - 2005 The Cradle of Humankind
  - 2006 Durban Harbour Tunnel
  - 2007 Berg Water Project
  - 2008 Joint Winners: Foundations for the Moses Mabhida Stadium Arch  
Gansbaai Water Treatment Works
  - 2009 Joint Winners: Port of Ngqura  
Soccer City
  - 2010 Joint Winners: Buitengragt Structural Steel Pedestrian Bridge  
Granger Bay Boulevard and Green point Roundabout /traffic circle
- From 2011 further categories of awards were introduced.

- 2011 Joint Winner – Community-Based: eThekweni Zibambele Alleviation Programme  
CRU Project Refurbishment
- 2011 Joint Winner – Technical Excellence: Upgrading of Koeberg Interchange  
Kraaifontein Waste Management Facility
- 2012 Winner – International Project: M10 Senenge to Maziba Bay Road
- 2012 Winner – Technical Excellence: Johannesburg Water Northern Wastewater  
Treatment Works Biogas to Electrical Energy
- 2012 Winner – Community-Based: Labour Intensive Construction of L1756  
Under the EPWP Programme
- 2013 Winner – Technical Excellence Northern Wastewater Treatment Works – Biogas  
to Electrical Energy
- 2013 Winner – International Project M10 Senanga to Maziba Bay Road
- 2013 Winner – Community Based Labour-Intensive Construction of L1756
- 2014 Winner - Technical Excellence Karatara River Weir and the KwaMashu Interchange  
(Joint Winners)
- 2014 Winner - International Project Metolong Dam Pedestrian Bridge
- 2014 Winner – Community Based Upgrading of Road DI506
- 2015 Winner – Technical Excellence: Kirstenbosch Centenary Tree Canopy Walkway
- 2015 Winner – International Project: Jorf Lasfar Slurry Pipeline Project
- 2015 Winner – Community Based: Upgrade of Main Road 100
- 2016 Winner - Technical Excellence Ingula Pumped Storage Scheme
- 2016 Winner – Community Based Upgrade of Main Road 104
- 2016 Winner – International Project Mokhotlong–Sani Pass Road Project
- 2017 Winner - Technical Excellence M25-C9 Underpass
- 2017 Winner – Community Based ePhatheni Bulk Water Supply Scheme
- 2017 Winner – International Project Metolong Dam
- 2018 Winner - Technical Excellence PwC Tower, Midrand
- 2018 Winner – Community Based Habu Community Water Supply Project and the  
Upgrading of Themba Road L3096 (Joint winners)
- 2018 Winner – International Project St Helena Airport, Wharf and Access road.
- 2019 Winner - Technical Excellence Construction of Tugela River Bridge Mabhobhane  
(Joint Winners) and Improvement of Olifants River Bridge Crossing
- 2019 Winner – Community Based Sani Pass Phase 2 Structures and Department of  
(Joint winners) Public Works Cluster I Technical Support
- 2019 Winner – International Project Azambi Hydropower Project

2020	Winner – Technical Excellence:	V&A Waterfront Swing Bridge and Raising of Garden Route Dam (Joint Winners)
2020	Winner – International Project:	Kashimbila Dam and Hydropower Station
2020	Winner – Community Based:	Mossel Bay Emergency Shared Basic Services
2021	Winner – Technical Excellence:	eZimbokodweni Pipe and Pedestrian Bridge
2021	Winner – International Project:	Port of Maputo Traffic Study
2021	Winner – Community Based:	No Award
2022	Winner – Technical Excellence	Sani Pass Phase 2 Roadworks
2022	Winner – International Project	Upgrade of Omaruru River Bridge, Henties Bay
2022	Winner – Community Based	Construction of the Msunduzi River Bridge

An Investigative Awards Category was introduced from 2022 (No award was made in 2022)

2023	Winner – Technical Excellence	Musina Ring Road, National Route 1 Section 29
2023	Winner – International Project	Lumwana C3 Conveyor Repairs
2023	Winner – Community Based	Pedestrian Bridge over Mbokodweni River, Emansomini
2023	Winner – Investigative Studies	A revolutionary approach to urban solid waste management in Uganda

\* The award is made one year retrospectively.

## 8.5 PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE

Recipient	Year	President
Adrian Oloff Bergh	1997	Prof Alex Visser
Verelene & Johan de Koker	1998	Brian Middleton
Ron Watermeyer	1999	Dr Rodney Milford
Erlyn Snell	2000	Dr Allyson Lawless
Dr Mike Shand	2001	Dr Kevin Wall
Peter Kleynhans	2002	Trueman Goba
Debbie Hogan & Simon Mqamelo	2003	Faried Allie
John Lane	2004	Dr Ron Watermeyer
Willie Claassen	2005	Mike Deeks
Spencer Hodgeson	2006	Sam Amod
Allyson Lawless	2007	Neil Mcleod
Marthelene Buckle & Dudu Mkhize	2008	Johan de Koker
Peter Kleynhans (special award)	2009	Prof Elsabé Kearsley
No Award	2010	Ali Naidu
No Award	2011	Seetella Makhetha
No Award	2012	Dr Martin van Veelen
No Award	2013	Peter Kleynhans
No Award	2014	Stanford Mkhacane
No Award	2015	Malcolm Pautz
No Award	2016	Dr Chris Herold
Deon Kruger	2017	Sundren Naicker
Steven Kaplan	2018	Errol Kerst
Johan De Koker	2019	Brian Downie
Refilwe Lesufi	2020	Fana Marutla
Innocentia Mahlangu	2021	Vishal Krishandutt
Sharon Shungmugam	2022	Marianne Vanderschuren
Tauqeer Ahmed	2022	Marianne Vanderschuren
Michael Mhlanga	2023	Steven Kaplan
Dlozi Mnisi	2023	Steven Kaplan

## 8.6 AWARD FOR THE MOST OUTSTANDING CIVIL ENGINEERING DIVISION ACHIEVEMENT

(This award group has been discontinued from 2020.)

Year	Division	Project
2011:	Winner – Structural Engineering:	Margate Sky Bridge
2011:	Winner – Water Engineering:	Bedford Dam
2012:	Winner – Environmental Engineering:	Sihlanzimvelo Stream Cleaning Project
2012:	Winner – Structural Engineering:	Tugela River Pedestrian Bridge (Kwajolwayo)
2012:	Winner – Project Management Construction Engineering:	FibreCo SA Fibre Optic Cable Project
2013:	Winner – Transportation Engineering:	The Greening of KwaZulu Natal's Roads
2013:	Winner – Water Engineering:	St Helen's Rock Pumpstation, Umzimkhulu Water Scheme
2015:	Winner – Water Engineering:	Ingula Pumped Storage Scheme
2015:	Winner – Transportation Engineering:	Mokhotlong–Sani Pass Road Project
2015:	Winner – Project Management Construction Engineering:	Construction of community infrastructure in the southern region – eThekweni Municipality
2015:	Winner – Environmental Engineering:	Transport Management Plan for the EcoMobility World Festival
2015:	Winner – Geotechnical Engineering:	New Old Mutual Head Office, Sandton
2015:	Winner – Rail & Harbour Engineering:	Reconstruction and deepening of Maydon Wharf Berths 1–4, 13 & 14
2015:	Winner – Structural Engineering:	Pacaltsdorp Pedestrian Bridge