

Focus on Pollution at Excellence Awards

The 2008 Excellence in Water Research Awards, held at CSIR in October, had water pollution as a central theme. The Awards, presented by the Water Institute of Southern Africa, the Water Research Commission and CSIR in honour of the late Dr Gerrie Stander, affords three young researchers the opportunity to present their work

with an established water researcher. Michael van der Laan presented his work on modelling agricultural non-point source nitrogen and phosphorus pollution, while Marcelle Marchand's presentation focused on fish health as an indicator of water pollution. Dr Mapitsi Thantsha's research looked at electrochemically activated water for treatment

of biofilms. Acid mine drainage treatment expert Prof Jannie Maree, formerly of CSIR and now with Tshwane University of Technology, presented the Memorial Lecture on water and byproducts from mine water. Prof Maree's career has come full circle, having been one of the young researchers at the first Awards 20 years ago.



Lani van Vuuren

WISA Vice-President Dr Kevin Pietersen welcomes attendees to the Awards function.



Lani van Vuuren

The Excellence in Research Awards winners are Dr Mapitsi Thantsha, Marcelle Marchand, Michael van der Laan and Prof Jannie Maree.



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Bunjy Mokoena, Tshepo Matshika, Athalia Sebayana, Thato Mjona and Tracy Gram were some of the attendees at the Awards function.



Lani van Vuuren

WRC CEO Dr Rivka Kfir hands over a certificate to Prof Jannie Maree.