



Prof Pirk het Biologie, Wiskunde en Sielkunde bestudeer aan die Tegiese Universiteit van Berlyn. Sy MSc-verhandeling het gehandel oor die verhouding tussen aggressie en genetiese bevolkingstruktuur in *Formica pratensis* ('n Europese mierspesie). Hy het toe oorgeskakel na navorsing oor heuningbye as modelorganisme en in sy PhD-proefskrif die volgende vraagstuk aangespreek: 'Reproductive conflicts in honeybee colonies'. Die graad PhD in Entomologie is in 2002 deur Rhodes-Universiteit in Grahamstad aan hom toegeken.

Prof Pirk het na Duitsland teruggekeer om nadoktorale navorsing te doen, eers aan die Universiteit van Würzburg en later aan die Martin Luther Universiteit van Halle-Wittenberg. Hy was 'n besoekende navorser aan die Zhejiang Universiteit in Sjina voor hy 'n nadoktorale pos aan UP in 2005 aanvaar het. In 2006 is hy gelys as een van die 50 beste Duitse navorsers op die gebied van gedragsnavorsing. In 2007 is 'n Claude Leon-genootskap aan hom toegeken.

In 2009 is hy as Senior Lektor in UP se Departement Dierkunde en Entomologie aangestel en in 2011 is hy bevorder tot Medeprofessor. In 2009 het hy 'n Y1-gradering van die NNS ontvang.

Prof Pirk het 46 publikasies in portuurbeoordeelde internasionale vaktydskrifte agter sy naam en het bydraes gelewer tot drie hoofstukke in boeke en ook 12 wetenskaplike artikels vir leke gepubliseer. Sy h-indeks is 13, sy artikels is 430 keer aangehaal en die gemiddelde getal aanhalings per artikel is 9.6. Een van sy belangrikste publikasies handel oor die reproduksie van werkerbye en is in die *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science of the USA* gepubliseer. Hy het met sukses as studieleier of medestudieleier opgetree vir drie PhD-, 12 MSc- en vyf BSc-honneursstudente.

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Prof Pirk studied Biology, Mathematics and Psychology at the Technical University, Berlin. His MSc thesis addressed the relationship between aggression and genetic population structure in *Formica pratensis* (European red wood ant). He then changed to honeybees as the model organism and addressed the question of 'Reproductive conflicts in honeybee colonies' in his PhD thesis. He was awarded the PhD in Entomology from Rhodes University, Grahamstown in 2002.

Prof Pirk returned to Germany to do postdoctoral research, first at the University of Würzburg, and thereafter at the Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg. He was a visiting researcher at the Zhejiang University in China before taking a postdoctoral position at UP in 2005. In 2006 he was listed as one of the Top 50 German Researchers in the field of behavioural science. In 2006 he was listed as one of the Top 50 German Researchers in the field of behavioural research. He was awarded a Claude Leon fellowship in 2007.

He became a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Zoology and Entomology at UP in 2009 and in 2011 he was promoted to Associate Professor. He received the Y1-rating from the NRF in 2009.

Prof Pirk has 46 publications in peer-reviewed international journals, he has contributed to three book chapters and 12 popular articles. His h-index is 13, his articles have been cited 430 times and the average citation per article is 9.6. One of his most important publications is on worker reproduction in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science of the USA*. He has successfully supervised and co-supervised three PhD-, 12 MSc- and five BSc honours students.

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Prof Pirk o ithutle Payolotši, Dipalo le Saekholotši Yunibesithing ya Theknikhale go la Berlin. Lengwalo la gagwe la MSc le bolela ka ga kamano magareng ga tlhaselo le tlhamego ya dikokwane tša leabela tša setšhaba ka go *Formica pratensis* e lego tšhošwane e hwibidu ya legonyeng. Ka morago o ile a fetogela go dinose bjalo ka mohlala wa sephedi gomme a šomana le potšišo ye: Dithulano tša go ikoketša ditšhabeng tša dinose (*Reproductive conflicts in honeybeecolonies*) ka lengwalong la gagwe la PhD. O hweditše lengwalo la gagwe la PhD ka Thutadikhunkhwane (*Entomology*) go tšwa Rhodes University go la Grahamstown ka 2002.

Prof Pirk o ile a boela Jeremane go yo dira dinyakišišo tša ka godimo ga tša bongaka. La mathomo o di dirile University of Würzburg gomme morago ga fao a ya University of Halle-Wittenberg. O bile mofatišiši wa moeng University of Zhejiang go la China pele ga ge a tšea maemo a ka godimo ga bongaka ka UP. O abetšwe felošipi ya Claude Leon ka 2007. O bile mofahlošimogolo ka Kgorong ya Thutadiphoofolo le Thutadikhunkhwane go la UP ka 2009 gomme ka 2011 a hlatlošwa go ba Mothušaprofesa. O amogetše maemo a Y1 go tšwa go NRF ka 2009.

Prof Pirk o na le diphatlatšo tše 46 ka ditšenaleng tša boditšhabatšhaba tša go sekasekwa ke ba mphato wa gagwe dithutong. O bile le seabe ditsemeng tše tharo tša dipuku le diathikele tše 12 tšeo di tumilego. *H-intekse* ya gagwe ke 13, diathikele tša gagwe di tsopotšwe makga a 430 gomme palogare ya tsopolo athikeleng ke 9.6. Ye nngwe ya diphatlatšo tša gagwe tše bohlokwahlokwa e ka ga boikoketši bja bašomi ka go *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science of the US*. O akometše le go akomela mmogo ka katlego baithuti ba bararo ba PhD, ba lesomepedi ba MSc le ba bahlano ba honase.