

Exceptional academic achievers

At the beginning of 2009, the University of Pretoria (UP) honoured two staff members of the School of Information Technology for exceptional academic achievement: Prof Jan Eloff and Prof Judith Bishop.



Prof Jan Eloff

Prof Eloff is an extraordinary professor and former head of the Department of Computer Science. He also chaired UP's School of Information Technology from 2005 to 2008. He is one of the founders of the Information and Security Architectures (ICSA) research laboratory in the Department of Computer Science, and was a steering committee member of the IT Coachlab at the Innovation Hub. He serves on several professional bodies, and represents South Africa as an expert member on the Information Security Committee of the International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP). Prof Eloff regularly serves on programme committees, acts as chairperson and delivers research papers and invited presentations at national and international conferences. He has published extensively in a wide spectrum of accredited international journals, and is a member of the editorial or review boards of various journals. Among the many awards he has received is the nomination in 2008 as one of the University of Pretoria's 100 leading minds over the past century. He has since taken up a position as research director at SAP Meraka UTD.



Prof Judith Bishop

Prof Bishop is a former professor in the Department of Computer Science. Her expertise is in programming languages and distributed systems. Her recent work, performed with the Polelo Research Group and collaborators at the Politecnico di Milano, Italy, has drawn together the principles of modern languages and adaptive and mobile systems. She has 90 publications, including 15 books that are available in six languages and are read worldwide. Her most recent book, *C# 3.0 Design Patterns*, was published in 2008. Other recent successes include a system called SMSec for secure cryptography, for which her student won the S₂A₃ bronze medal, and Krystal, a social network system that went to the national finals of the Imagine Cup. Prof Bishop serves on international editorial, programme and award committees. She is recognised nationally and internationally for her work. She received the South African Computer Society Fellowship Award and was nominated as one of the 100 leading minds at the University of Pretoria over the past century, both in 2008. She is currently the director of Core Computer Science at Microsoft External Research. [➦](#)