

Staff members are appointed to leadership positions in industry associations

Two of the University's leading academics have been appointed to leadership positions in prominent industry associations. Prof Thokozani Majozi of the Department of Chemical Engineering has been elected as vice-president of the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA), while Prof Madeleine du Toit of the Department of Materials Science and Metallurgical Engineering has been appointed as president of the Southern African Institute of Welding (SAIW).

Prof Majozi is an associate professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering. His main research interest is batch process integration. His major contributions to research are the development of a continuous time framework for the synthesis of batch plants and a novel technique for near zero-effluent batch chemical facilities. Both these contributions have been adopted by industry.

He has received numerous awards for his research, including, most recently, the South African Institute of Chemical Engineering (SAIChE) Bill Neal-May Gold Medal Award for outstanding achievement and international recognition. This prestigious award is presented to an individual or group of individuals who have made a significant contribution to the chemical engineering discipline. In particular, the award recognises the international relevance of the contribution. The main criteria are unusually competent chemical engineering efforts carried out essentially in southern Africa, including commercial implementation (where relevant) and with an element of innovation.

Prof Du Toit is head of the Department of Materials Science and Metallurgical Engineering. She is a registered professional engineer, as well as an international welding engineer and the first woman to hold this position. Her main research interests are welding engineering, welding metallurgy of stainless steels and the general physical metallurgy of steels and stainless steels.

She feels positive and energetic about her new role as president of the SAIW and looks forward to helping make positive changes, especially in assisting the institute in upgrading technology. She believes that many people in government could have a better understanding of what is happening in the South African welding industry and it is encouraging that many of the industry players are willing to be part of a process that brings government closer to welding. Prof Du Toit is a South African delegate to the International Institute of Welding (IIW) and a member of its technology management board. [+](#)



→ Prof Madeleine du Toit, head of the Department of Materials Science and Metallurgical Engineering.