

Stals Prize for Library and Information Science

Prof Fanie de Beer, extraordinary professor in the Department of Information Science, recently received the Stals Prize for Library and Information Science. He is a worthy recipient of this award, as he has had a multifaceted career for more than half a century. He has made a meaningful contribution to many associations and conferences, locally and internationally.



As philosopher, Prof De Beer keeps himself busy with the history of philosophy, but also with culture, communication, knowledge, the research process and information. His move from philosophy to information science has been a seamless process that enabled him to make contributions at an unprecedented level, even internationally.

The originality and conceptualisation of his work leads to a remarkable actuality. He reflects on issues of critical importance in our society:

violence, poverty, globalisation, literacy, democracy, the Internet and so forth. His scholarship in philosophy, communication and information science enables him to do interdisciplinary work, and his ability to do critical analyses allows him to reach insights that are not attainable in a single discipline. He also acts as facilitator in his role as member of the editorial committee of *Communicatio*. Furthermore, he has been guest editor of *Tydskrif vir Geesteswetenskappe* on three occasions over the past five years. [➤](#)