

Pre-Call Announcement

Nominations for 2024/2025 NSTF-South32 Awards

The [National Science and Technology Forum \(NSTF\)](#) call for nominations for the 27th NSTF-South32 Awards is expected to open on the **5th of November 2024**. These prestigious [awards](#) focus on Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) and Innovation in South Africa. The call targets emerging and established researchers and teams that have made outstanding contribution to SET and innovation under 14 different [categories](#). The Special Annual Theme for this round will be about Quantum Science and Technology. More details about the theme and submission deadlines will be made available once the call is open.

Nomination process

The nomination is a two-step process that requires an online Registration and an Application. **For step 1**, Nominators (internal or external to UCT) must register eligible candidates for nomination for one of the [award categories](#) by **December 2024**. Registrations will be done through an NSTF online nomination form (see example from the previous round [here](#)). Only eligible successfully registered candidates will proceed to step 2.

For step 2, Nominees must complete a **lengthy nomination application form**, which includes research achievements and research publications. The NSTF submission deadline will be in **March 2025**. **NB:** To avoid missing the deadline, nominees are advised to start completing their nomination forms as soon as they receive it from NSTF. This is to reduce the number of significant deadlines in the first quarter of the year, such as student registrations, the start of T&L activities, research funding applications, and the submission of progress reports.

The Research Office will also serve as a nominator for interested candidates. Support will include the registration of eligible nominees, review feedback on nomination forms submitted by the internal deadline, and submission of full applications to NSTF by the deadline.

If you would like to be nominated by the Research Office in one of the categories, or to recommend someone or a team for consideration, please email Amanda.Raman@uct.ac.za.

Award categories

Please see a full list of the [award categories](#) below and visit the [NSTF website](#) for more information.

1. Individual Awards	a) Lifetime Award – outstanding contribution over 15 years or more. b) TW Kambule-NSTF Researcher Award – outstanding contribution through research and its outputs over a period from 6 years up to 15 years of research work from the commencement of the research career, predominantly in SA. c) TW Kambule-NSTF Emerging Researcher Awards – outstanding contribution through research and its outputs over a period of up to 6 years of research work from the commencement of the research career, predominantly in SA. d) Management Award – outstanding contribution through management of SET and innovation and related activities over the last 5 to 10 years in SA.
2. Engineering Research Capacity Development Awards – outstanding contribution by an individual or a team over the last 5 to 10 years.	

3. <u>NSTF-Water Research Commission (WRC) Award</u> – outstanding contribution by an individual or an organisation towards sustainable water management, knowledge generation and solutions over the last 5 to 10 years.	
4. <u>NSTF-SAMRC Clinician-Scientist Award</u> – outstanding contribution through research and its outputs over a period of up to 6 years of research work from the commencement of the research career, predominantly in SA, and focussed on work to enhance life and to improve the health of the community.	
5. <u>Green Economy Award</u> – outstanding contribution by an individual or an organisation towards achieving biodiversity conservation, environmental sustainability and a greener economy over the last 5 to 10 years.	
6. <u>Science Diplomacy for Africa Award</u> – outstanding contribution by an individual or a team in SA, which has led to impactful solutions and/or collaboration in the SET and innovation fields, within the last 10 years, through science diplomacy between and among countries, for the benefit of SA and the African continent.	
7. <u>Data for Research Award</u> – outstanding contribution by an individual or a team for advancing the availability, management and re-use of research data.	
8. <u>Innovation Awards</u> – for innovations and their research and/or development	a) Corporate Organisation – outstanding contribution by an individual or a team over the last 5 to 10 years. b) SMME – contribution by an individual or a team in an SMME over the last 5 to 10 years.
9. <u>Communication Award</u> – outstanding contribution for outreach and creating awareness of SET and innovation by a team or individual over the last 5 years.	
10. <u>Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) Award</u> – outstanding contribution by an NGO including technology transfer, and education and training activities over the last 5 to 10 years.	
11. Special Annual Theme Award (awarded according to criteria in any of the other categories). For 2024/2025 the award will be made for an outstanding contribution to SET and innovation through RDI in Quantum Science and Technology.	