

FABI LEADERS SHINE AT THE UP ACADEMIC ACHIEVERS AWARDS

The University of Pretoria Academic Achievers Awards function, held on Tuesday 6 May, is a highlight on the calendar of the University. The function celebrates highlights in research, teaching and innovation at the University, which are the core functions of the University, which contributed most towards its standing amongst national and international Universities. Awards are made for 'Exceptional Researchers', 'Exceptional Young Researchers' and 'Teaching Excellence and Innovation'. Researchers who have received 'ratings' from the National Research Foundation in the previous year are also recognized at this function. These ratings reflect evaluations of peers around the world of the quality and impact of the research of the candidates.



Prof Jolanda Roux receives her exceptional academic achievers awards from Prof Cheryl de la Rey (left), and Dr Jeff Garnas being congratulated with his Y rating by Dr Albert van Jaarsveld (Chief Executive Officer of the NRF at the time of the event)

FABI was well represented at the UP achievers function. During the function, Professors Zander Myburg and Jolanda Roux received Exceptional Academic achievers awards. Prof Brenda Wingfield was acknowledged for her NRF A rating, and Doctors Jeff Garnas, Juan Voster and Lucy Molelki for their Y (young researchers) ratings

The function was attended by most of the administrative and academic leaders of the University, as well as high-level leaders in science from outside the University. Amongst the guests was the Director General of the Department of Science and Technology, Dr Phil Mjwara, and Prof Daya Reddy, President of the Academy of Science of South Africa. Prof Reddy was the keynote speaker of the evening, and reflected on the 'beautiful minds' that have defined what true scholarship is over the years. In so many cases, these giants of the academic world have dedicated their lives to making the world a better place to live in, while

at the same time striving to advance the boundaries of human knowledge. The last words of his talk, quoting the mathematician David Hilbert, will ring in our ears for a while: “We must know - we will know”.

Congratulations to all the FABI achievers!