

HENDRIK VAN DER BIJL MEMORIAL LECTURE

Title: 10 mistakes I made

Koos Bekker

Non-executive Chairman, Naspers

Koos is the Non-executive Chairman of leading emerging markets media and e-commerce group Naspers. He built the company as CEO of the electronic part since 1985, and since 1997, of the whole Naspers. The company operates in 130 countries and is listed on the London and Johannesburg stock exchanges. It has the largest market capitalisation of any media company outside the USA and China, and is larger than any in Europe (see www.naspers.com).

He obtained his LLB degree at the University of the Witwatersrand. In the 1980s, he received an MBA degree from Columbia University in New York, where he researched pay television while the industry was in the process of being born. Immediately after graduation, Koos and a few young partners created a pay television business in South Africa with shareholding by local newspaper groups. In 1986, M-Net was one of the first pay television ventures anywhere outside the USA.

Since then, the group has grown into one of the most successful media groups globally. Together with partners, it created the mobile telephony group MTN. Later, it entered the internet.

Today, Naspers has partnerships in various e-commerce groups in Eastern Europe, Latin America, Africa and Asia, as well as interests in Tencent in China and Mail.ru in Russia. It manages pay television in 48 countries across the African continent, plus some consumer magazines, newspapers and book publishers.

Koos is a past winner of the South African chapter of the Ernst & Young World Entrepreneur Award. He also received the *Sunday Times* Lifetime Achievement Award. He and his wife are fascinated by gardening and created the renowned Babylonstoren in the Cape.

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1956 – 2016

60
years of
Engineering
Education



Date Thursday 8 September 2016

Time 17:30 for 18:00

Venue Senate Hall, Administration Building, Main Campus,
University of Pretoria, Lynnwood Road, Pretoria

[Click here](#) to RSVP by 26 August 2016.

Please note that owing to the limited number of seats available, your prompt response is required to avoid disappointment.



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