

Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology

UP applauds winner of L'Oréal-UNESCO award

By Anthea Pretorius

At an event held in Nairobi, Kenya on 6 December 2018, Dr Marilize Everts received one of two postdoctoral awards presented by L'Oréal-UNESCO for Women in Science in Sub-Saharan Africa. Dr Everts is a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering at the University of Pretoria and was one of 488 candidates nominated for this award.

This award recognises and rewards talented young female scientists in the fields of the life sciences (biology, biochemistry, biophysics, genetics, physiology, neuroscience, biotechnology, ecology and ethology) and the physical sciences (physics, chemistry, petroleum engineering, mathematics, engineering science, information science, and earth and universe science).

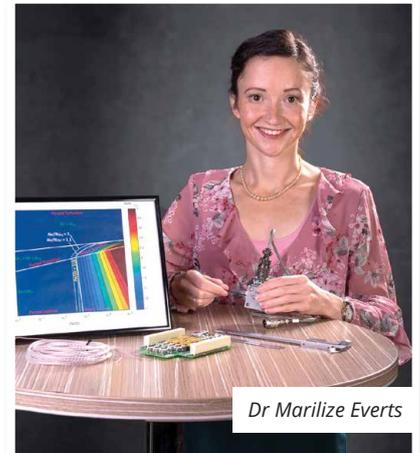
The award included an opportunity to attend a leadership training course in Kenya, which allowed Dr Everts to network with other female scientists from across the continent.

Dr Everts hopes to achieve improved understanding of mixed convection in laminar and transitional flows and her research focuses on the heat transfer and pressure drop of high- viscosity fluids. Her research findings can be applied in air-conditioners, cars, buildings, renewable energy systems (such as solar energy) and the mining industry.

Dr Everts has received more than twenty awards, including:

- The TATA Africa Doctoral Scholarship for Women in Science, Engineering and Technology (in both 2015 and 2017);
- the S2A2 Medal for Original Research at master's level; and
- the Eskom Chairman's University Award for the best final-year engineering student in the country in 2012.

Dr Everts has published eight journal articles and 17 conference papers.



Dr Marilize Everts

She is currently involved in two international research projects, namely the ThermaSmart Horizon 2020 project, which includes 18 universities across five continents and focuses on the phase-change cooling of high-power electronic devices, and a collaboration between the Imperial College of London and the Universities of Pretoria, Nigeria and Mauritius, which is funded by the Royal Society and focuses on unsteady boiling in solar power plants.



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