



Young alumnus heads engineering faculty

Prof Saurabh Sinha, former Director of the Carl and Emily Fuchs Institute for Microelectronics (CEFIM) at the University of Pretoria, was appointed as Executive Dean in the Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment at the University of Johannesburg as of 1 October 2013.

He holds a BEng degree in Electronic Engineering with distinction, an MEng (Microelectronic Engineering), also with distinction, and a PhD (Electronic Engineering) from the University of Pretoria, where he has been a member of the faculty staff since 2002.

Prof Sinha is recognised as an electrical engineer, a researcher and an educator of high calibre, who led the Electronics and Microelectronics Group at the University of Pretoria for more than a decade. He has authored over 65 publications in peer-reviewed journals and presentations at international conferences. He is also the managing editor of the *SAIEE Africa Research Journal* of the South African Institute of Electrical Engineers.

He has received professional recognition in the form of several awards. In 2007, Prof Sinha received the SAIEE Engineer of the Year Award. In 2010, he received the University of Pretoria Young Laureate Award. His contribution to the field of engineering education was also recognised by the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) when he received the Meritorious Service Citation Award by the IEEE Educational Activities Board (EAB) at an award presentation ceremony in New Brunswick in November 2012.

He was the first South African to receive this award, and was nominated for the award for spearheading the incorporation of the Engineering Projects in Community Service (EPICS) Programme in the IEEE's educational activities and for expanding the programme globally.

Prof Sinha's research has received the support of the National Research Foundation (NRF), the Armaments Corporation of South Africa (Armcor) SOC Ltd, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Eskom and the Square Kilometre Array (SKA), as well as private industry. His current research interests involve mm-Wave integrated circuit (IC) design, and more generally, analogue and mixed-signal ICs.

He is also engaged in a number of large-scale regional and international research projects, including a national energy harvesting project.

The former Executive Dean in the Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment at the University of Johannesburg, Prof Tshilidzi Marwala, is also an alumnus of the University of Pretoria. Prof Marwala was appointed as the University of Johannesburg's Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research, Postgraduate Studies and the Library earlier in 2013. [➔](#)