



sasas

South African Society for Animal Science



Call for Candidate Animal Scientists

The South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP) is pleased to announce that the South African Society for Animal Science (SASAS) has been appointed to roll out a Candidate Mentoring Phase (CMP) program for 2022/23 to 25 Candidate Natural Scientists in the field of Animal Science. SASAS has subcontracted the administration of the program to Keystone Collection under the management of Mrs. Jackie Tucker.

Objectives

The Keystone Collection, together with SASAS, is committed to becoming a critical voice and form part of the solution to assist in the development of the skills required by young animal scientists for them to make significant contributions to the sustainability of agricultural food production in the future. Agriculture (feeding people) is the backbone of our society, and we need people to be learning faster than the rate of change happening in our world. We need creative and innovative people that are focused on humanity and ethics in business to look at challenges and opportunities differently.

We aim to make use of many years industry experience to help candidate scientists thrive, develop, and add value to the dynamic industry they enter. By adding value in assisting people to make more effective and profitable decisions for efficient food production, using both soft skills and technical/scientific skills, we can retain a talent pool for sustainable food production in southern Africa.

There is a need to implement systems that provide exposure and development of the required skills by conducting training programs with strategies to better prepare animal science graduates for the future.

SASAS contribution

SASAS is a voluntary association (VA) and aligned to the goals of SACNASP in that of continued professional development (CPD) and mentorship.

True to the VA's slogan, *Experientia docet*, our mission is to advance animal science and promote viable animal production systems, while sustaining natural resources and the environment and thereby to serve in the interests of human welfare. The emphasis and focus are on relevant issues pertaining to the southern African region. The scope of our interests includes all facets of the husbandry of farm livestock species (cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, poultry, ostriches, and horses) including the products derived from them (meat, milk and dairy products, wool, mohair, leather, and eggs) as well as relevant aspects of aquatic and wildlife species. The main disciplines of interest are nutrition, genetics, physiology, meat science, wool science, and pasture science. Sociological and managerial aspects of well-defined livestock production and farming systems are also of interest.

With the support of various institutional members and industry bodies, a large group of professional registered scientists are members of this organisation, therefore we will be able to form a group of suitable mentors for the period of the CMP. With active branches throughout Southern Africa, the association is well placed to support mentees across the country.

SASAS is committed to ensuring the success of the implementation of the CMP with support from Keystone Collection.

Program outline

	Activity
1	Identification of mentees/mentors
2	Meet and greet virtual event
3	Mentee/Mentor plan to be submitted - Needs identification
4	Training interventions (short courses and conferences)
5	Keystone collection personal development, and career wellbeing event
	Minimum 25 hours mentoring to be completed by end 2022
6	Mentee/Mentor job shadow week
7	Mentee feedback on progress session with VA - Identify further interventions needed
8	Mentor feedback progress session with VA
9	Further training workshops
10	Feedback session/workshop to SACNASP on CMP program (workshop – in person); Mentee and mentors to present learnings
	Minimum 25 hours mentoring to be completed by end May 2023

The way forward

We kindly request that registered Candidate Natural Scientists in the field of Animal Science please send an email to jackie@keystonecollection.co.za to gain access to the program. There are only 25 mentee positions available therefore, these will be allocated on a first come first serve basis. The deadline for submissions is the 19th August 2022. If you receive this letter as a professional scientist and know of one or more candidate scientists in your employment, please also send us their information so we can contact them.

If you as a Professional Scientist are interested in joining as a mentor for this program, please also contact Jackie via email: jackie@keystonecollection.co.za or cell: 0825712165. Your experience and investment in the development of young animal scientists will be greatly appreciated.

By creating a successful CMP program for the 2022/23 financial year, we envisage that further funding from SACNASP will be allocated to future programs, therefore candidates who do not get an opportunity now, should receive one in the future.

Thank you.

Kind Regards



Mrs. Jackie Tucker

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Director - Keystone Collection