



The Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences of South Africa Conference 2023

Prof Varsha Bangalee

Conference convener

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Set against the breathtaking backdrop of Durban's pristine coastline, The Capital Zimbali Resort provided the perfect setting for this academic and scientific rendezvous. Nestled within lush vegetation and overlooking the Indian Ocean, the resort not only offered a tranquil ambiance but also inspired creative thinking and collaboration, ensuring that the impact of this event would resonate long after its conclusion.

Themed Riding the Waves of Change, the event not only embraced change but also surmounted it with resounding success, exceeding all expectations in terms of attendance, content, and networking opportunities. The conference featured a rich and diverse array of sessions and discussions as well as international guests and local industry luminaries. The programme catered to a wide spectrum of interests and expertise giving participants opportunities to delve into the latest trends, research findings and best practices in pharmaceutical sciences.

Conference 2023 did not stop with knowledge exchange but also celebrated excellence. Awards were presented to recognise outstanding contributions by young scientists, distinguished teachers, best publications in the various core fields of Pharmacy and best poster presentations. These awards highlighted the significance of innovation and dedication fostered across all Pharmacy schools.

Awards

Young Scientist Winner – Laboratory Sciences

Emmanuel Kiyonga (SMU)

Co-crystal systems for solubility enhancement of raloxifene HCl in breast cancer and osteoporosis therapy

Distinguished Teacher of the Year

The 2023 winner was Dr Jacques Joubert from the University of the Western Cape.

Publication Awards

Pharmaceutical Chemistry

Lesetja Legoabe (NWU)

Investigation of quinolone-tethered aminoguanidine as novel antibacterial agents

Pharmaceutics

Yahya Choonara (Wits)

A nano-enabled biotinylated anti-LDL theranostic system to modulate systemic LDL cholesterol

Pharmacology

Nicole Keuler (UWC)

Sub-analysis of CYP-GUIDES data: Assessing the prevalence and impact of drug-gene interactions in an ethnically diverse cohort of depressed individuals

Pharmacy Practice

Hannelie Meyer (SMU)

Vaccine hesitancy drives low human papillomavirus vaccination coverage in girls attending public schools in South Africa

Poster award

Monique Labuschagne from North-West University

One of the most remarkable aspects of the conference was the exceptional presentations delivered by the dedicated postgraduate students. Their enthusiasm, innovation, and commitment to advancing pharmaceutical research were truly inspiring. The organisers express deep gratitude to the supervisors and mentors who nurtured and supported these budding scientists, guiding them to excel and shine on such a prestigious platform. The supervisors' tireless efforts and guidance have played a pivotal role in shaping the future of pharmaceutical sciences, and the organisers are immensely proud of the outstanding work accomplished by both students and their mentors.

The APSSA Conference 2023 was an exceptional platform for learning, sharing, and preparing for the dynamic future of pharmaceutical sciences. As the waves of change continue to reshape our field, the knowledge and insights gained at this event will undoubtedly steer the pharmaceutical community towards excellence and innovation.

We extend our gratitude to the University of KwaZulu-Natal for hosting this extraordinary event, the speakers and presenters for their valuable contributions, and all attendees for their enthusiastic participation. We are particularly proud of the remarkable presentations delivered by our postgraduate students, showcasing the bright future of pharmaceutical research.

Exhibitors and sponsors

Thank you to all the exhibitors and sponsors for their generous contributions:

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Until we meet again at the next APSSA Conference, let's continue "Riding the Waves of Change" together, advancing healthcare for a brighter tomorrow.

Conference Book: <https://protect-za.mimecast.com/s/LsJOC66V KkCEPGOVtp2XIE?domain=pharmacy.ukzn.ac.za>

Conference Posters: <https://pharmacy.ukzn.ac.za/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Poster-Slideshow-1080-x-1920.pdf>



Delegates that attended the APSSA conference



Young Scientist winner Emmanuel Kiyonga with Lorraine Thom (APSSA Chair)