

Activities associated with SASAC and the SARChI Chair in Systems Analysis (Mary Scholes)

THE SASAC PROGRAMME WAS FUNDED FROM 2016-2018. THE CHAIR IS FUNDED FROM 2016-2020.

THERE WERE THREE COMPONENTS TO THE SASAC PROGRAMME

1. HONOURS COURSE IN GLOBAL CHANGE AND SYSTEMS ANALYSIS
2. PHD PROGRAMME IN SYSTEMS ANALYSIS
3. EMERGING RESEARCHERS PROGRAMME

A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF **SKILLED POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS HAVE BEEN TRAINED AND MANUSCRIPTS PUBLISHED**

- 12 HONOURS STUDENTS ARE TAUGHT A 7 WEEK COURSE AT WITS, EVERY YEAR, IN GLOBAL CHANGE AND SYSTEMS ANALYSIS WHICH INCLUDES A MODELLING COMPONENT USING APPROPRIATE SOFTWARE
- 68 EMERGING RESEARCHERS WERE OFFERED A 2-3 WEEK OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP A KNOWLEDGE OF SYSTEMS ANALYSIS. THIS COURSE WAS TAUGHT IN RURAL AND URBAN SETTINGS AND THE RESEARCHERS WERE EXPOSED TO IDEAS, SOFTWARE APPLICATION, COMPLEX GAMES AND POLICY ENGAGEMENT. 35 PUBLICATIONS EMERGED – AN EXCELLENT RETURN ON INVESTMENT

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POLICY ENGAGEMENT

- NATIONAL RESEARCH FORESTRY FORUM, THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BODY ON R AND D, WAS MANDATED TO REVIEW THE NATIONAL FORESTRY R AND D STRATEGY IN 2019.
- THIS WAS CONDUCTED THROUGH STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENTS (OVER 80 PARTICIPANTS) AND A WORKSHOP ON SYSTEMS ANALYSIS.
- THE ENTIRE REVIEW WAS BASED ON THE CONCEPT OF CONSIDERING ALL COMPONENTS OF THE VALUE CHAIN. SYSTEMS ANALYSIS WAS ESSENTIAL TO ENABLE THIS
- THIS APPROACH WILL CONTINUE WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS E.G DTI

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LOOKING FORWARD

AS THE SUSTAINABILITY OF THE PLANET IS UNDER SEVERE THREAT WE NEED CAPACITY TO BE ABLE TO ASK THE RIGHT QUESTIONS, TO CO-CREATE INFORMATION AND TO DEVELOP POLICIES THAT CAN BE IMPLEMENTED.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO

- 1) OFFER THE HONOURS PROGRAMME AT WITS AS IT IS A CRITICAL SECTION OF THE PIPELINE**
- 2) ATTEMPT TO RAISE FUNDS TO CONTINUE THE EMERGING RESEARCHERS PROGRAMME AS THESE ARE THE SUPERVISORS OF POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS OF THE FUTURE.**
- 3) DEVELOP A NEW INTEGRATED MASTERS PROGRAMME BY COURSE WORK AND RESEARCH REPORT WHICH WILL BE OFFERED AT WITS IN 2021.**
- 4) WORK WITH A NUMBER OF THE GOVN MINISTRIES ESPECIALLY THOSE INVOLVED IN AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, WATER AND SANITATION, LAND REFORM AND TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION.**
- 5) WORK WITH INDUSTRY**