



2020 WiPiSA Call for Proposals Women in Physics in South Africa (WiPiSA)

There is a great global concern about the perpetual decline of students at higher education institutions enrolling for, and graduating in, physics. South Africa, among many other countries, experiences the under-representation of women in physics in all institutions. These include academia, research and development, government institutions and industries. Consequently, in November 2005, Women in Physics in South Africa (WiPiSA) was launched. WiPiSA's goal is to attract more girls into physics and encourage women to take up careers in physics.

We aim at accomplishing the following:

- Change the stereotypes for girls and women in physics,
- Encourage young girls to join the physics stream,
- Improve the physics curricula and the teaching techniques to be gender friendly,
- Support successful physics careers, including mentoring and evaluation,
- Getting women into higher positions in institutions and leadership structures,
- Support balancing both successful career and family lives,
- Identify opportunities to create more jobs, and
- Improving the institutional structure and climate for women in physics.

However, given the current coronavirus pandemic, it has become difficult to implement intervention programs for schools in order for us to reach out to as many young people as possible.

WiPiSA is therefore encouraging the physics community to find alternative ways to lobby for women in physics without risking lives and adhering to all lockdown regulations and protocols. We are therefore inviting proposals for projects of up to **R10 000** that will help achieve WiPiSA goals. These proposals are to be submitted by **31 August 2020** and should be sent by email to Dr R. Modiba (rmahlangu1@csir.co.za). Funded projects must be completed by **28 February 2021**, and a complete report must be submitted by **15 March 2021**.

Proposals should meet the following criteria:

- The specific aims of the project that correspond with those of WiPiSA
- A clear indication of the people involved in the project, what knowledge and experience they uphold that is relevant to the project and an attachment of abbreviated CVs of the team members.
- Who the intended beneficiaries are of the project (the target group).
- How the success of the project will be evaluated.
- A project plan; including what the programs will be, where it will be held and the respective dates with a detailed budget.

Funds will not be transferred into the accounts of individuals. Arrangements must be made with a public or private organisation, such as a university, national facility or NGO, to administer and account for any funds awarded for successful proposals.

In assessing the proposals, the following criteria will be considered:

1. Aims: the match between the aims of WiPiSA and the aims and intended outcomes of the project.
2. Project team: their knowledge, skills and experience in relation to the proposed project.
3. Proposed activities: how appropriate and feasible they are for achieving the stated aims.
4. Budget: whether it offers value for money, is realistic, and includes an adequate breakdown of all relevant expenses.
5. Evaluation: whether appropriate information will be collected and made available about the extent to which the project was successful.