



## SAIP Physics Education Award 2024

### Purpose:

To recognize an individual who has exhibited sustained commitment to excellence in physics education in South Africa.

### Eligibility

Through this award, the SAIP seeks to recognize and honour individuals who have selflessly supported and contributed to the efforts of the SAIP to improve, support, pioneer and entrench best practice and suitable methods of teaching and learning of physics at all levels of physics education in South Africa.

*After careful deliberations the SAIP Awards Committee decided that in 2024, it is presenting this award to two recipients.*

The two recipients are, in no particular order, Prof Nnditshedzeni Eric Maluta from University of Venda and Dr Derek Fish from University of Zululand.

### Citation for Prof. Maluta:

Prof. Maluta has a sustained contribution to Science Education. He has shown a genuine interest in and has contributed to the advancement of learning at the pre-tertiary level, notably through the science education programmes that were funded by Mvula Trust, then work with the Vuwani Science Resource Centre. He has demonstrated exceptional support for the SAIP, highlighting his strong involvement and commitment to improving physics education, and championed the SAIP national teacher development programme. He represented the country in IUPAP in the Commission for Physics for Education. His research in physics education is evident through his collaboration in Science Education and supervision of Science Education postgraduates, highlighting his dedication to advancing the field through academic initiatives.



Prof Eric Maluta

## Citation for Dr. Fish:

Dr. Fish is well known for his long-term contributions to the University of Zululand Science Centre and excellence in Science Demonstrations in support of the curricula. He has significant contributions to physics education, particularly in developing materials, professional service, and teacher development. He is a distinguished researcher in the field of physics education, with one publication and numerous conference proceedings in the field. He was a recipient of the prestigious Fulbright fellowship in recognition of his contribution to physics education.



Dr Derek Fish (Left) is pictured here with one of his past pupils, Mr Jabulani Sibiya, Principal of Nkosiyethu Primary School in Nongoma, visiting the Science Centre today with his Grade 3 learners. Mr Sibiya shared how he visited the Science Centre 30 years ago, in 1994, when it was still on the Unizulu main campus