

Awards and accolades

Unisa women of the year

The annual Unisa Woman of the Year awards celebrate the excellence of Unisa's female staff across all levels of the university.



Dr **Maria Madiope** is the winner of the gender activism: advocacy and promotion of women's rights award and 2013 Unisa Woman of the Year. Apart from her significant accolades, Madiope's energy and passion light up the room, and, when she speaks, she inspires people. She is passionate about technology and education and is a walking dictionary and incredible resource on e-learning. The panel were persuaded that her role as a techno-activist and change agent made a compelling case for her to receive the gender activism award as overall winner for 2013.



Winner of the transformative and servant leadership category is **Nicky Grobler** (OHS Officer). She has been with Unisa for 20 years in the Protection Services Department. The panel was impressed by her professional and tireless efforts to maintain levels of safety awareness and convey the seriousness of not upholding health and safety standards. She takes great pride in her job and appreciation was expressed for the quality of the reports she collates, especially in large units with more than ten committee structures. Her risk mitigation analyses and recommendations lead to practical improvements and safeguard Unisa's tangible and human assets.



Winner of the community service category is **Vuyokazi Maliwa** (Chance 2 Advance). The panel was convinced of her high and professional work ethic and her exemplary commitment to the vision of empowering communities through informal learning. As an ambassador of the values and giving full expression to the strategic intent of community engagement, Maliwa has influenced Unisa's brand positively within communities around the country.



Receiving a commendation for exemplary services over an extended period in the community service category is Sister **Wilma Buys** (Occupational Health). The panel considered the consistent quality and caring services of the candidate, given the current capacity and infrastructure constraints of her working environment.



Winner of the courage in adversity category is **Rose Mashaba** (Chance 2 Advance). The panel were impressed by the comprehensive submission and spontaneous appreciation from participants and collaborators on Mashaba's high quality of professional and caring services in a pressurised environment. Her unparalleled commitment to the vision and empowering aspects of the project, and the ability to manage this mega and complex project in contexts of conflict and danger resonated well with the panel members.

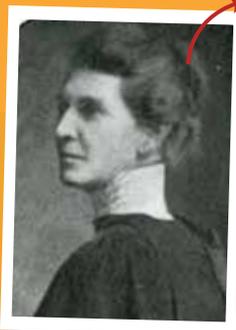
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contribution to the higher education landscape. In women's month 2013, the university salutes some exceptional female forerunners.

Celebrating
140 years
of shaping
futures

1889

Jane Waterston graduated with an MD from the University of Brussels in 1889. The University of the Cape of Good Hope acknowledged her degree and her name appears on the list of graduates of other universities admitted *ad eundem gradum*. Dr Waterston practised as a medical doctor at the Somerset Hospital.



1898

Barbara Buchanan graduated with a MA from Oberlin College, Ohio, USA, in 1898. The University of the Cape of Good Hope acknowledged her degree and her name appears on the list of graduates of other universities admitted *ad eundem gradum*. Buchanan was a professor in Classics at the Huguenot College.



1899

Gladys E Watts, from the then Orange Free State, was the first of the annual music scholarship winners to study at the Royal Schools. Because of the Anglo-Boer War, she could only take up the bursary in 1902.