



# OCP NEWS



Newsletter of the Professional Board for Occupational Therapy, Medical Orthotics and Prosthetics and Arts Therapy



# FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

It is a privilege to communicate with members of the professions registered under the auspices of the Professional Board for Occupational Therapy, Medical Orthotics and Prosthetics and Arts Therapy (OCP), through this first newsletter for the new term of office. The new term of office of the Professional Board commenced in October 2015, following the inauguration function on 22 September 2015.

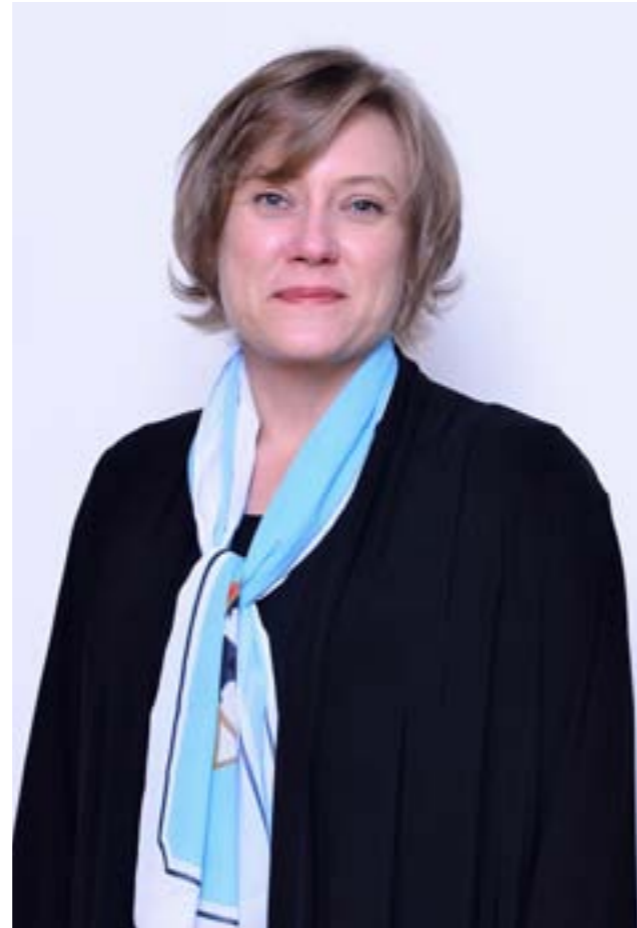
The Board is hopeful that all vacancies will be filled by August 2016. At its Strategic Planning Meeting in February 2016, the Board identified its strategic goals for its five-year term, in alignment with Council's vision of Guiding the Professions and Protecting the Public:

**Mission:** To regulate the professions for quality and equitable services at all levels of healthcare.

**“Mission Statement & Board specific strategic objectives can be obtained in the Strategic Plan 2016/2017 - 2020/21 document”**

**Previous term of office achievements:**

- Revised “standards of practice” documents of all professions
- Developed procedures and processes to evaluate service delivery of professions registered with the Professional Board in terms of “Standards of Practice”
- Raised awareness and improved efficacy of patients’ / clients complaints procedure at the roadshows
- Monitored the manner in which CPD providers cover the scopes of all professions as well as ethics and medical law
- Monitored the implementation of the Revised Minimum Standards of training for all programmes
- Developed a system for the evaluation and accreditation of training programmes that lead to registration of practitioners
- Revised the examination process for foreign qualified practitioners of all of the professions of the Board
- Revised Scope of Profession document for the



profession of Occupational Therapy, pending approval from Council and promulgation.

- Initiated the process of revising the scopes of profession for Medical Orthotics and Prosthetics and Arts Therapy.

The Professional Board in 2014 approved the registration of Orientation and Mobility Practitioners as a new cadre of mid-level worker under the auspices of the Board. In this regard, the Board is completing its submission to Council for approval to enable the Registrations Department to create a register for this profession.

**The following regulations are at various levels of approval and promulgation within the Council structures:**

- Scope of profession – Occupational Therapist – Council for approval

Continued from page 04

- Regulations relating to the qualifications for registration of Occupational Therapy Technicians – submitted via the General Manager for Council approval
- Regulations pertaining to registrations of intern Arts Therapist in Drama – Approved by the Board
- Regulations relating to the qualification for registration of Arts Therapists – Approved by the Board
- Registration of Orientation and Mobility Practitioners – At Boards comments stage.
- Occupational Therapy Association of South Africa (OTASA)
- South Africa Institution of Sensory Integration (SAISI)
- Cerebral Palsy Association (EASTERN CAPE)

I would like to express my sincere gratitude on behalf of the Board to all the CPD Accreditors and Accredited Service Providers for their continued efforts to provide quality continued professional education activities to all practitioners registered under the auspices of the Board.

**The Professional Board recently approved the following CPD Accreditors and Accredited Service Provider for the term of office:**

- International Society of Prosthetic and Orthotics – USPO
- Occupational Therapy Association of South Africa – OTASA
- South African Network for Arts Therapies Organisation – SANATO
- South Africa Orthotic and Prosthetic Association – SAOPA
- University of Stellenbosch – Faculty of Health

The Board is looking forward to a fruitful term of office. I sincerely thank all members of the professions for their continued support and dedication to the public whom we serve. We always welcome constructive input and suggestions to enable us to fulfil our mandate.

*Mrs Matty van Niekerk  
Chairperson: Professional Board of Occupational Therapy, Medical Orthotics and Prosthetics and Arts Therapy*

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS OF THE BOARD



**Front:** Mr Sibusiso Nhlapho; Mrs Seetha Reddy; Mrs Amor Malan; Dr Buyiswa Mjamba-Matshoba; Ms Carmenita Dampies; Mrs Geraldine Kintu **Back:** Mrs Naledi Mphafudi; Ms Bongzi Nzuza; Mrs Maggie Munsamy; Mrs Jennie McAdam; Mrs Mariette Schmidt; Prof Lana van Niekerk; Mrs Matty van Niekerk.

**HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE**

- Arts Therapy internship in drama
- OCP Board to create register for Orientation & Mobility Practitioners
- Occupational Therapy Technician (OTT) Top-Up Examination Project Ends
- Registration of MOP Technicians
- Dr E Luruli's Obituary

## ARTS THERAPY INTERNSHIP IN DRAMA

*A Historic Moment for the Arts Therapies Professions in South Africa and the Professional Board for Occupational Therapy, Medical Orthotics and Prosthetics and Arts Therapies.*



*From Left to Right. Heather Schiff - HPCSA accredited Internship Supervisor, Yaela Orelowitz, Rozanne Myburgh, Rafaela Dennill, Pearl Qhobela, Tamara Gordon-Roberts - OCP Board - Arts Therapies representative, Hanna Yarmarkov, Naadiya Shaik-Omar, Monique Hill, Mmabatho Mogomotsi, Linda Mdena, Nonkululeko Faith Busika, Warren Nebe - Director Drama for Life*

The Professional Board for Occupational Therapy, Medical Orthotics and Prosthetics and Arts Therapies (OCP Board) is proud to provide details regarding the new Arts Therapy Internship in Drama.

In 2013 'Drama for Life' at the University of Witwatersrand launched the first ever training in Drama Therapy in Africa. 'Drama for Life' offers a BA Honours in the field of Drama Therapy and a Master of Arts in the field of Drama Therapy. The Honours is a pre-requisite but does not guarantee entry into the Masters. For further information on application requirements and the degrees please visit [www.dramaforlife.co.za](http://www.dramaforlife.co.za).

On completion of the Master's degree in Drama Therapy a graduate is required to register with the HPCSA as an Intern Arts Therapist in Drama in order to complete the clinical practice hours required for registration with the Board. The Internship is coordinated by the Arts Therapy representative for the OCP Board in collaboration with 'Drama for Life' at the University of Witwatersrand.

### The Internship requirements are as follows:

- A minimum of one year and/or plus six hundred hours of practice.
- Practice includes Clinical Individual and Group Drama Therapy
- Community-based and/or education-based Drama Therapy, as well as,
- Advocacy through Drama Therapy.

The Internship can take place within one formal clinical site that provides space for all of the above-mentioned requirements or a combination of formal and informal clinical and or community-based and or education-based sites that together fulfil all the above-mentioned requirements. For full internship requirements kindly, see the 'F16o AT IN Manual' soon to be available on the HPCSA website. Interns register with the University of Witwatersrand for the short course which ensures the ongoing training and supervision of Interns.

Approval to commence with the internship is granted

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The following members were appointed and sworn into office for a five-year term (September 2015 – September 2020)

### Appointed Members: Occupational Therapists:

- Ms M van Niekerk (Chairperson of the Board)
- Ms J C Mc Adam (Chairperson of the Education Committee)
- (Two vacancies, pending appointment)

### Medical Orthotists and Prosthetists:

- Ms M Schmidt (Chairperson of Preliminary Committee)
- (One Vacancy, pending appointment)

### Occupational Therapy Assistant / Technician:

- Ms C Dampies

### Assistant Medical Orthotist and Prosthetist, Leatherworker, Orthopaedic Footwear Technician or Orthopaedic Technical Assistant:

- Vacant (Pending appointment)

### Arts Therapist:

- Ms T Gordon-Roberts

### Person appointed by Higher Education South Africa (HESA) registered with the Board and representing educational institutions accredited by the Board:

- Prof L van Niekerk (Vice Chairperson of the Board)

### Person representing the Department of Health:

- Ms M Munsamy

### Community Representatives:

- Ms A Malan
- (Two vacancies, pending appointment)

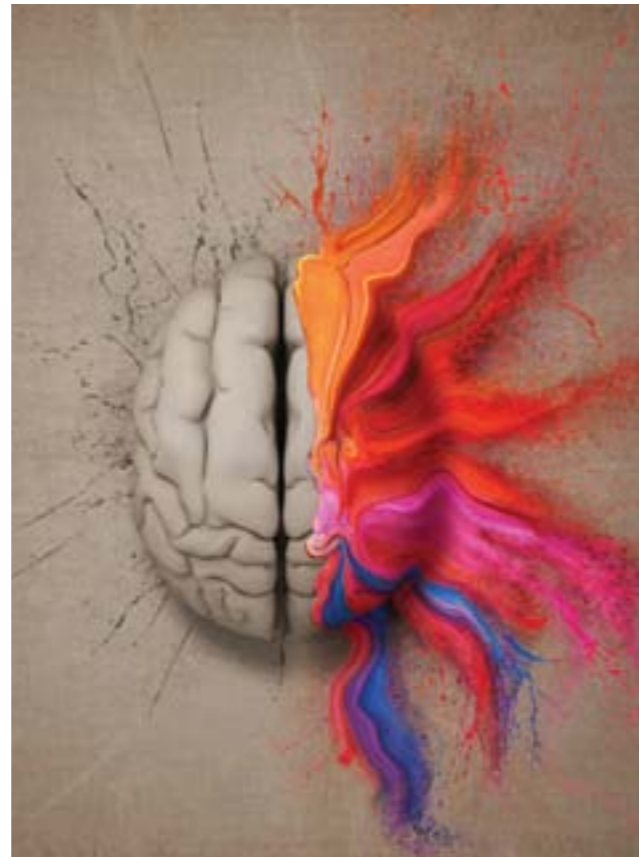


*From left Bongzi Nzuza (Secretary), middle new Board Manager Sibusiso Nhlapho and right Mamokete Maimane (Acting Committee Coordinator)*

to candidates who have successfully completed the pre-requisite basic qualifications, inclusive of the 400 hours of clinical and community-based observation and placement, as well as the required Research Report for the final degree. The intern must also have complied with the collaborating university and the HPCSA registration forms and internship placement procedures.

The first cohort of Arts Therapy Interns in Drama are currently completing their internship and preparing for registration with the Board. This momentous milestone will be the first in the history of the OCP Board and the Drama Therapy profession in South Africa that South African trained Drama Therapists will register with the Board. The 2015-2016 Interns have practiced across diverse sites, in varying contexts and locations. They have been challenged to meet the extensive psychosocial needs of our communities. They have advocated for Drama Therapy as a health profession which is actively responding to the need for diverse, culturally appropriate, best practice approaches to mental health care in our context. As such they have made meaningful and invaluable contributions to the field and our communities. On 27 June 2016 a graduation celebration was held at Drama for Life, Wits University to honour the ten (10) Arts Therapy Interns in Drama.

The OCP Board and 'Drama for Life' at Wits University is immensely proud of these extraordinary pioneers in the field and we wish them every success with their future endeavours.



## OCP BOARD TO CREATE REGISTER FOR ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY PRACTITIONERS

**O**rientation and Mobility Practitioners render essential services to persons with low vision and blindness, by providing training to optimise their independence and mobility. An application for the registration of Orientation and Mobility Practitioners with the HPCSA was made to the Professional Board for Occupational Therapy, Medical Orthotics and Prosthetics, and Arts Therapies (OCP Board).

After a comprehensive engagement process with Gladys Evans Training Centre, the Orientation and Mobility Association of South Africa and the National Department of Health, it was proposed that the new register for the Orientation and Mobility Practitioners as a new category of mid-level workers be placed within the OCP Board. A consultation process with all of the Professional Boards under the auspices of the

HPCSA followed and the proposal for the creation of the new register category is currently at the level of the HPCSA Council, for final approval.

The OCP Board has set up a Task Team that will continue to work together with the relevant stakeholders to finalise the proposed Scope of the Profession and Scope of Practice, as well as the Minimum Standards of Training for the Orientation and Mobility Practitioners, who will have a South African Qualification Authority (SAQA) registered 240 credit exit level qualification. The OCP Board is proud to move forward with the creation of the registration framework for Orientation and Mobility Practitioners. This new category of mid-level worker will assist in optimising service delivery to Persons with Disabilities with low vision and blindness.

## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY TECHNICIAN (OTT) TOP-UP EXAMINATION PROJECT ENDS!

**T**he OCP Board embarked on a project to change the Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTB) qualification to a 240 credits level Occupational Therapy Technician (OTT) certificate. In view of this, registered Occupational Therapy Assistant practitioners were given the opportunity to sit for an 'OTT Top-Up' Board examination, and upon passing this examination, to then be registered as Occupational Therapy Technicians. The OCP Board wishes to inform all stakeholders that the 'OTT Top-Up Examination' project has come to an end, with the last examination for new applicants having been held in October 2015.

The OCP Board is proud to announce that a total of

1 041 OTB practitioners have completed the 'OTT Top-Up' examination, which was carried out in eight venues around the country over a period of seven years. The Board extends its congratulations to all of the successful practitioners and wish them well in their future careers as OTTs.

The Board takes this opportunity to thank the numerous colleagues who supported the Board with the organisation of the examinations, as well as with assisting as examiners, moderators and markers – thank you all for dedicating so many hours to ensuring the success of this project, which has contributed immensely to the development of the OT profession in South Africa.

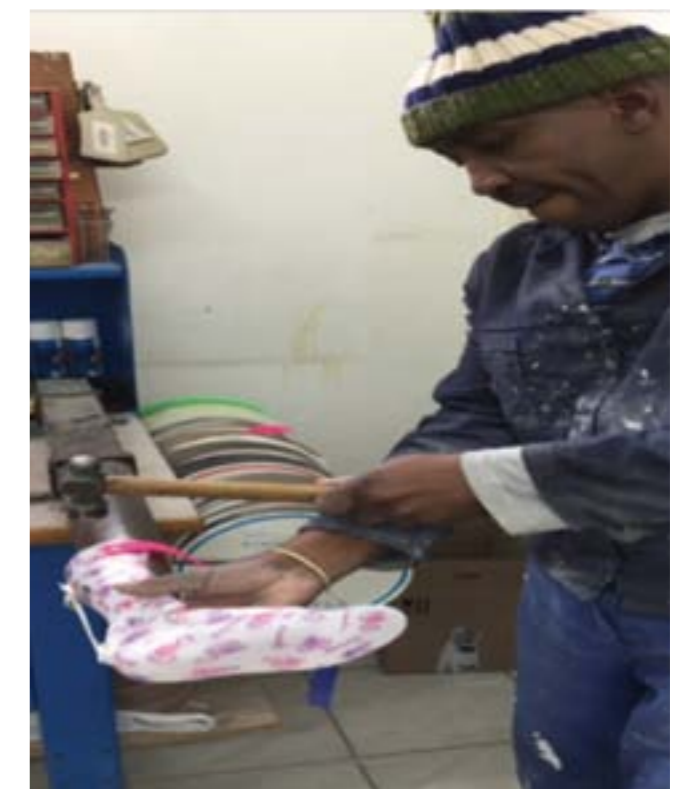
## REGISTRATION OF MOP TECHNICIANS

**T**he OCP Board registered two categories of MOP (Medical Orthotic Prosthetics) mid-level workers after completion of a 2-year in-service training programme, namely Medical Orthotics and Prosthetics Technicians (OSA) and Footwear Technicians (OB)

Several challenges were experienced with the registration of technicians and footwear technicians and the OCP Board wished to inform practitioners that the following arrangements have thus been made to accommodate applicants until a training institution offers a formal programme. The minimum standards of training and the scope of practice documents have been developed for both of the above-mentioned mid-level worker categories, and will serve as guidelines for applications for OSA and OB registration. These can be downloaded from the HPCSA website [www.hpcsa.co.za/OCP](http://www.hpcsa.co.za/OCP).

In order to apply to be registered as OSA "Form 27 OB/OSA" must be completed and accompanied by a detailed report compiled by the registered supervising Medical Orthotist and Prosthetist, as well as evidence of the pre-requisite two years of in-service training for MOP Technicians.

For orthopaedic footwear technicians, "Form 27 OB/OSA" must be completed and accompanied by a detailed report compiled by the registered supervising Medical Orthotist and Prosthetist, as well as proof of three years of in-service training.





## IN MEMORIAM

*In Remembrance of Dr. Edward Luruli*

It is with great sadness that the HPCSA and the OCP Board learned of the tragic passing of Dr Edward Luruli, his young son and a friend of his son's, were involved in a car accident on 23 June 2016. The Board extends our condolences to their families and friends.

Dr Luruli was a valued member of the Professional Board for Occupational Therapy, Medical Orthotics and Prosthetics and Arts Therapy for two consecutive terms of office from 2004 to 2014, where he served selflessly and with distinction. He was also previously the Ministerial appointee on the Professional Board for Physiotherapy, Podiatry and Biokinetics. Dr Luruli took his responsibility towards the Boards very seriously and contributed to lively discussions, ensuring that the decisions taken by the Boards were well-reasoned and in line with the mandate of the HPCSA. His experience and wealth of knowledge of the public sector served the Boards well and his membership to Board Committees and tasks teams was invaluable during discussions pertaining to issues affecting public health service delivery. Dr Luruli's level-headed approach to challenges also made him a valued member of the Committee of Preliminary Inquiry, which deals with complaints regarding practitioners. He never allowed himself to be side-tracked from the real issues at hand, nor let an opportunity to advocate for patients' rights pass him by.

Dr Luruli held a Master's degree in Public Health from the University of the Witwatersrand, with the title of his research report being 'Development of a measuring tool for an evaluation of client satisfaction regarding services rendered by CRWs in Limpopo Province'. He was awarded a PhD entitled 'Improved Model for Provision of Rural Community-Based Health Rehabilitation in Vhembe District of Limpopo Province' from the University of Venda in September

2015, which reiterated his commitment to the community-based rehabilitation.

Dr Luruli never failed to remind his colleagues at the Boards of the difficulties facing practitioners in rural and less-resourced environments. He was a fierce supporter of mid-level workers and contributed tirelessly to the development of Community Rehabilitation Worker and Occupational Therapy Technician training, and more recently, to the acknowledgement of the Orientation and Mobility Practitioners. Dr Luruli also provided key inputs to OCP Board and task team discussions about assistive devices, which eventually culminated in a draft 'Position Paper on Assistive Devices'. Over and above all of these invaluable contributions, Dr Luruli had an incredible sense of humor and his smile was legendary! It has been a privilege to have served the Health Professions Council of South Africa alongside a colleague of the calibre of Dr Edward Luruli - may it be of some comfort to his loved ones to know that Edward's contribution to the Occupational Therapy Profession and the rehabilitation and disability sectors has been enormous, and that the seeds sown by him during these first two decades of our Democracy will continue to bear fruit for many South African generations to come. Dr Edward Luruli's reasoned and strategic voice has been silenced far too soon, and he will be greatly missed. The following quote by Harold R. McAlindon epitomises Dr Luruli's remarkable contribution: "Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path, and leave a trail."

'And he shepherded them with integrity of heart; with skillful hands he led them'

Psalm 78 v 72  
Rest in peace, Edward...

## BENEFITS OF REGISTERING WITH THE HPCSA

The responsibility for maintaining high professional standards rests with the practitioner, who is in turn supported by the office bearers of the Council. Registering with the HPCSA confers many benefits on practitioners, including ensuring overall standards within the professions.

Practitioners who practise any of the healthcare professions registerable with the HPCSA are obliged to register with Council as a statutory body. Apart from guiding the professions, the role of the HPCSA is to:

### Confer professional status

- The right to practise your profession;
- Ensuring no unqualified person practises your profession;
- Recognising you as a competent practitioner who may command a reward for services rendered.

### Set standards of professional behaviour

- Guiding you on best practices in healthcare delivery;
- Contributing to quality standards that promote the health of all South Africans;
- Acting against unethical practitioners.

### Ensure your Continuing Professional Development through:

- Setting and promoting the principles of good practice to be followed throughout your career;
- By keeping you up to date with healthcare trends;
- Improving clinical care skills.



## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT FEES

**M**ost practitioners enquire how their annual fees are structured. The determination of annual fees for each Professional Board is based on the size of the Board and the activities carried out by the particular Board during the course of the financial year.

Annual fees also include the amount needed to cover all indirect financial costs to run Council, including salaries and administration expenditure. Annual fees are increased to cover direct and indirect expenditure. When budgeting, the Professional Boards always negotiate the lowest possible fees and provide alternative strategies to prevent huge increases.

Council does not receive grants or subsidies from Government or any other institution. Therefore, the HPCSA is funded entirely by income generated from registered practitioners. These include income generated from annual, registration and other fees payable by practitioners.

Council, together with the 12 Professional Boards operating under its auspice are committed to the promotion of the healthcare of the South African population, determining standards of professional education and training as well as setting and maintaining fair standards of professional practice.

Fees paid by practitioners are used to facilitate the processes of quality assurance in terms of evaluation of educational institutions as well as internship training facilities. Prior to the final accreditation of an institution, the Accreditation and Quality Assurance Committee has to appoint evaluators in order to conduct site visits and provide a report for consideration. The annual fees are also used to fund the administrative activities in terms of conducting Board meetings based on the various committees present in the Boards.

### Avoid erasure and restore your status

Erasure applies to those practitioners whose names were erased from the register for not paying their annual fees, non-compliance with Continuing Educational Units, suspension from the register or due to voluntary erasure.

Currently, the HPCSA is notifying those practitioners who have not paid their annual fees to do so. Based on the Health Professions Act, No. 56 of 1947, section

stipulates that practitioners should pay their annual fees and failure to do so will result in the practitioner being erased from the register.

In order for a practitioner to be restored onto the register he/she has to apply to be restored by completing the application for Restoration, Form 18 which has to be submitted together with proof of payment of the restoration fee. The restoration fee is calculated as follows:

1. Restoration within a period of six months after the erasure date is equivalent to two (2) times the current annual fee, plus the outstanding annual fee(s);
2. Restoration after a period of more than six months since the erasure date but within a year, restoration fee is equivalent to four times to the current annual fee, including the outstanding fee(s);
3. Restoration fee after a period of 12 months since the erasure date, restoration fee is equivalent to five (5) times the current annual fee, including the outstanding fee(s).

Restoration after a period of 2 years after a practitioner's name has been suspended from the register will have to comply with the restoration requirements and also the restoration policy of the relevant Professional Board.



## GENERAL INFORMATION



### For any information or assistance from the Council direct your enquiries to the Call Centre

Tel: 012 338 9300/01  
 Fax: 012 328 5120  
 Email: info@hpcsa.co.za

### Where to find us:

553 Madiba Street  
 Corner Hamilton and Madiba Streets  
 Arcadia, Pretoria

P.O Box 205  
 Pretoria 0001

### Working Hours :

Monday – Friday : 08:00 – 16:30  
 Weekends and public holidays – Closed

### Certificate of Good Standing/ Status, certified extracts verification of licensure

Email: hpcsaogs@hpcsa.co.za

### Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

**Helena da Silva**  
 Tel: 012 338 9413  
 Email: cpd@hpcsa.co.za

### Raylene Symons

Tel: 012 338 9443  
 Email: raylenes@hpcsa.co.za

### Change of contact details

Email: records@hpcsa.co.za

### Ethics and professional practice, undesirable business practice and human rights of Council:

**Sadicka Butt**  
 Tel: 012 338 3946  
 Email: SadickaB@hpcsa.co.za

### Service Delivery

Email: servicedelivery@hpcsa.co.za  
 Tel: 012 3389301

### Complaints against practitioners

**Legal Services**  
 Fax: 012 328 4895  
 Email: legalmed@hpcsa.co.za

### Statistical Information and Registers:

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