



SAAFECS

South African Association of
Family Ecology and Consumer Science

10 March 2026

SAAFECS 2024 & 2025: PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is my honour to present an overview of the work done by SAAFECS, through the efforts of the Executive Committee (EXCO), to achieve our organisation's aims and serve our members over the past two years.

The following members served on the SAAFECS EXCO in 2024 and 2025, and I would like to express my sincere thanks to them for their hard work and the many hours they poured into this organisation.

Dr Lorna Truter served as SAAFECS's **Vice-President** and **Webmaster**. She contributed vast amounts of time and energy to support me in executing our work, and I am extremely grateful for her support and dedication to the work of SAAFECS. She has maintained the SAAFECS website, presenting our work to our members and the world at large, with interesting and relevant information as it emerged.

Prof Joseph Roberson served as **Editor** of the Journal of Consumer Sciences. He has managed to elevate the Journal to a recognised and respected publication for research in the fields of Consumer Sciences, Home Economics and related disciplines. (Please also see the attached report from the Journal Editor). Prof Roberson's exceptional work behind the scenes is appreciated immensely. We would also like to recognise the additional support provided to him in this task by Prof Marike Venter-De Villiers, who served as guest editor for **Special Editions** in the same Journal. She ensured the publication of additional work related to papers presented at the 2024 SAAFECS Conference.

Dr Cate Makwena Molotja served as the SAAFECS **Administrator**, and most of our SAAFECS members would have had some interaction with her in 2024. Unfortunately, Dr Molotja could not continue her tasks in this role and we thank her for her previous efforts. We are grateful for the assistance of Dr Chanelle Kemp and Dr Lorna Truter in sharing the tasks necessary to fulfil this role while it was vacant.

Ms Reba Motlogelwa served as the **Social Media and Marketing Coordinator** in the SAAFECS EXCO. She was responsible for expanding SAAFECS' digital footprint on Instagram and Facebook. We appreciate her initiative, attention to detail, and creative approach to developing an inclusive and welcoming community and a sense of belonging for our members. Her efforts have increased the visibility of our organisation's work.

Dr Tshinakaho Nyathela-Sunday initially served as the EXCO **Secretary** but reverted to the role of additional member. She was replaced as secretary by Dr Chanelle Kemp. They were responsible for setting agendas and taking minutes of our monthly EXCO meetings. It was a time-intensive task, and we appreciate their time and energy in completing these critical documents in a timely and professional manner.

209-760 NPO 2025 SAAFECS EXCO: President: Adri Du Toit (dutoit.adri@nwu.ac.za; +27(0)768742097)

Vice-President: Lorna Truter

Secretary: Chanelle Kemp

Administrator: Cate Molotja

JCS Editor: Joseph Roberson

Treasurer: Mariette Strydom

Marketing: Reba Motlogelwa

Additional members: Neil Muller, Tshina Nyathela-Sunday, Marike Venter-de Villiers



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Dr Mariette Strydom continued her role as **Treasurer** of SAAFECS. She has spent much time sorting out the details of the portfolio and enabling the smooth running of finances for this non-profit organisation. She will present an overview of the portfolio at the SAAFECS BGM on 10 March 2026.

Dr Neil Muller and Dr Cheryldene Moodley served as **additional members** on the EXCO. Dr Muller provided excellent input and support through his creativity and design skills in developing several portfolios of documentation and marketing materials. We are grateful for their support.

Some of the EXCO members collaborated to arrange several webinars over the past two years – three in 2024 and another four in 2025. Most of the webinars formed part of a series to support postgraduate students in their studies. The series of webinars will continue in 2026, following the Conference.

We were happy and privileged to host the World Council Meeting of the International Federation of Home Economics in March 2026, as part of the 17th International SAAFECS Conference. The Conference was attended by delegates from 20 countries and provided a meaningful platform for the dissemination of research across the disciplines in our field.

We look forward to the next instalment and working together to serve families, consumers, educators, and our members.

Respectfully yours,

Prof Adri Du Toit
SAAFECS President

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