



Passion impels them to perform

As promised in the previous edition of the NWU & U, we offer our readers some insights into the pioneering people whose creative outputs earned them awards during the Researcher of the Year event at the end of last year.

T rue creativity requires passion, of which there is clearly no shortage at the NWU.

This passion has inspired creative outputs such as a gripping radio drama, beautiful music and unique graphic works of art. In terms of creativity, staff in various disciplines – such as languages, music and graphic design – are expected to deliver outputs.

Choosing the best of these creative contributions at the NWU is no easy task, but following an assessment by a panel of external judges, awards were made at a gala event at the end of 2011.

Some of the extraordinary contributions by academics from the Potchefstroom Campus are the following:

- Dr Hannes Taljaard from the School of Music's original composition, *Les Sarabandes*, described by one of the judges as "... a highly intelligent composition, meticulously crafted, beautifully structured and almost technically flawless".
- Prof Piet Koornhof's contribution to the CD recording of works of Babadjanian and Vasks, described as "of the highest quality, demonstrating superb and well informed musical artistry..."
- Prof Franci Greyling's radio drama "Die vye is nou ryp" which was broadcast on RSG in April 2011 and which won her a prize in the 2010 RSG/Sanlam radio drama writing competition.
- Mr Richardt Strydom's work of art consisting of reflecting mirrors, a reference to the psychological violence that humans bring upon themselves.
- Mr Wessie van der Westhuizen's short animated film that he based on Ngano-Venda stories portrayed by women in the Limpopo valley through embroidery.



Prof Piet Koornhof from the School of Music on the Potchefstroom Campus is one of the academics who received awards for their creative outputs.