



## NSSA newsbits

### Nutrition Congress 2018

With reference to the *ADSA Directions* feedback on the Nutrition Congress held on 5–7 September 2018, NSSA would like to thank each person involved in a successful congress. The quality of abstracts and speakers was of high standard. The scientific programme consisted of seven plenary sessions which allowed delegates to be updated on topics presented by local and international speakers. The ARP Walker Memorial Symposium was arranged independently by the local organising committee. Prof Zandile Mchiza, recognised by NSSA, and Jane Badham, recognised by ADSA, presented at this symposium. For the first time, the Nutrition Congress had a mobile application (an app) which could be used to view the programme, abstracts, venue layout, exhibition information



and messages. A networking session where delegates could talk one-on-one to nutrition leaders was held as a morning 'Coffee with the Experts' which was received very well. Five updates (masterclasses) were held on the afternoon of Friday 7 September. The programme allowed for 13 Continuous Education Units (CEUs) plus two ethics CEUs and an additional four CEUs for attending the updates. Delegates received their CEU certificates a week after the congress via e-mail.

### Nutrition Society Award 2018

The Nutrition Society Award 2018 was awarded to Prof Shane Norris for his work in public health and nutrition. Shane is a professor in the Department of Paediatrics at Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital; the Director of the SA Medical Research Council's Developmental Pathways for Health Research Unit at the University of the Witwatersrand; and Director of the African Centre for Obesity Prevention (ACTION) also at the University of the Witwatersrand. He has 20 years research experience in cohort studies and life-course nutrition epidemiology with expertise in maternal and child health and nutrition; and developmental origins of health and disease. He is the co-principal investigator of the Birth to Twenty Plus cohort (Africa's longest running birth cohort study – ongoing for 26 years) and he is the principal investigator of the Soweto First 1 000 Days cohort.