Meet the 2015 SAIT Board Members

The SAIT board plays a central role in fulfilling the Institute’s vision of being the professional tax body of choice for tax professionals in South Africa which is recognized internationally, respected and influential with both government and the general public.
Adv. Lucia Hlongwane
Lucia is the Barclays Africa Group Head of Tax and is responsible for the entire tax function in South Africa and the other Africa jurisdictions where Barclays has a presence, about twelve corporate entities outside South Africa.

Prior to joining Barclays, Lucia worked as the Africa Head of Tax for Shell Oil Products, and was responsible for Compliance and Advisory in all African countries where Shell had a presence.

She holds a BProc and an LLB from the Witwatersrand University; an LLM in Taxation from the University of Pretoria; a Mining Taxation Diploma from Unisa and an Insolvency Law Diploma from AIPSA. She also completed a Wits Business School Program in Executive Leadership Development.

Her passion lies in tax risk management, case law and leadership. She enjoys reading and talking to enthusiastic young adults who are trying to find the right fit in the professional world.

Dr. Nara Monkam
Nara is a Director of Research and Capacity Development at the African Tax Administration Forum and member of the Davis Tax Committee.

She is a former Chief Director of the African Tax Institute associated to the University of Pretoria. She provided training in the areas of tax policy and tax administration to government officials and customised training courses for senior government officials in the area of Fiscal Decentralisation and Local Governance.

Nara is a Public Finance Economist with experience in public economics, intergovernmental fiscal relations, and sub-national government finance.

Her qualifications include a PhD in Economics from Georgia State University in Atlanta Georgia, an MA in Economics and a BS in Economics from the Facultats Universitaires Notre-Dame de la Paix Namur in Belgium.

Prof. Annet Oguttu
Annet is professor in law at the University of South Africa and a member of the Davis Tax Committee. She teaches Income Tax Law and her areas of specialisation are Income Tax Law and International Tax Law.

Her qualifications include an LLD, Tax Law (Unisa), LLM with Specialisation in Tax Law (Unisa), HDip in International Tax Law (Unisa), LLB (Makerere) and Diploma in Legal Practice (Law Development Centre - Makerere).

She is rated as a category C2 researcher as from 2010 by the National Research Foundation (NRF).


Neill Wright
Neill is a Certified Financial Planner with ABSA Bank and holds a M Com in South African and International Taxation. Neill acts as the Institute’s regional representative in KwaZulu-Natal.

Dr. Nara Monkam
Nara is a Director of Research and Capacity Development at the African Tax Administration Forum and member of the Davis Tax Committee.

She is a former Chief Director of the African Tax Institute associated to the University of Pretoria. She provided training in the areas of tax policy and tax administration to government officials and customised training courses for senior government officials in the area of Fiscal Decentralisation and Local Governance.

Nara is a Public Finance Economist with experience in public economics, intergovernmental fiscal relations, and sub-national government finance.

Her qualifications include a PhD in Economics from Georgia State University in Atlanta Georgia, an MA in Economics and a BS in Economics from the Facultats Universitaires Notre-Dame de la Paix Namur in Belgium.

Annet is professor in law at the University of South Africa and a member of the Davis Tax Committee. She teaches Income Tax Law and her areas of specialisation are Income Tax Law and International Tax Law.

Her qualifications include an LLD, Tax Law (Unisa), LLM with Specialisation in Tax Law (Unisa), HDip in International Tax Law (Unisa), LLB (Makerere) and Diploma in Legal Practice (Law Development Centre - Makerere).

She is rated as a category C2 researcher as from 2010 by the National Research Foundation (NRF).


Neill Wright
Neill is a Certified Financial Planner with ABSA Bank and holds a M Com in South African and International Taxation. Neill acts as the Institute’s regional representative in KwaZulu-Natal.
Mr. R. Smith

Rodney is a professional accountant in practice Port Elizabeth. He is the chairperson of the Eastern Cape region.

Ernie Lai King

Ernie is the Head of Tax Practice at Hogan Lovells South Africa. Prior to joining Hogan Lovells Ernie was Head of the ENSafrica China practice. He has 29 years experience as a specialist tax practitioner and specialises in mergers and acquisitions, dispute resolution, structured finance and international tax.

He was appointed as a member of the Income Tax Special Court of Appeal (a State President appointment) in 1993, and is past Chairman of the South African Chamber of Business Tax Committee.

Ernie engages with the Commissioner’s Office of the South African Revenue Services and National Treasury on general tax matters, tax policy and new tax legislation prior to their promulgation into law.

Andrew Carlsson

Andrew is the Chief Executive of the Institute of Certified Bookkeepers. He is the independent non-executive director.

Len Vorholt

Len is the regional chairperson of the Limpopo and Mpumalanga region.

Leon Andre Coetzee

Leon is the Head of Group Tax at the FirstRand group, a major listed financial services group which includes brands such as FNB, RMB, WesBank and more recently Ashburton.

Prior to joining FirstRand, Leon worked as the Head of Tax at Momentum Group Ltd, now MMI Holdings, a major insurance, asset management and financial services group.

Leon holds a B.Com and B.Com.Hons degree from the Nelson Mandela Bay University as well as Masters Degree in Tax Law from the University of Cape Town. He is a Chartered Accountant (SA).

Stiaan Klue

Stiaan is the founder and Chief Executive of the South African Institute of Tax Professionals.

As a “previously disadvantaged” student at Point High School in Mossel Bay, North-West University offered him a full bursary to study chartered accountancy. In 2003 Stiaan completed his studies and joined Deloitte in Johannesburg. He continued his studies during his training contract and in 2005 he completed his masters degree in taxation cum laude and top of his class.

In addition to his full time position as Chief Executive of SAT, he also serves as the Chairperson of the Centre for Association Research and Intelligence which he founded, and acts as the Vice president of the Southern African Institute for Business Accountants. Stiaan was instrumental in the establishment of the African Association of Tax Institutes where he serves as Vice President. In 2011 Stiaan was elected President of the International Tax Directors’ Forum - the global forum for tax professional bodies.

Prior to establishing the South African Institute of Tax Professionals, Stiaan was a full-time academic supervising post graduate masters students with specialisation in taxation. After his short stint in academia, he continued to lecture part-time, published articles in various peer reviewed journals and delivered papers at international conferences. Stiaan founded and is the managing author of Silke on Tax Administration with co-authors Professor Jackie Arendse (Rhodes) and Dr Bob Williams (UKZN).

As an entrepreneur himself, he has a revolutionary passion for entrepreneurship. Although SAT is no longer a small enterprise, Stiaan remains an activist and champion for small businesses development. In May 2014 President Zuma established a dedicated Ministry for Small Business Development. Subsequently Stiaan was appointed to the ministerial task team developing a SMME colloquium with the objective to ultimately present a master plan for small business development in South Africa.
Prof. Keith Engel

Keith was a partner in the Africa Tax Practice of EY, and former Chief Director: Legal Tax Design at National Treasury. Keith obtained his Masters of Laws of Taxation at Georgetown Law, and holds a professional doctorate (J.D) at Georgetown Law.

Following graduation, Keith clerked for the Hon. Judge Smith of the U. S. Claims Court, was attorney / advisor to Assistant Chief Counsel (Corporate) of the Internal Revenue Service, and attorney / advisor to Associate Chief Counsel (International) of the Internal Revenue Service.

At Washington and Lee School of Law he taught International Income Taxation, Partnership Taxation, Basic Income Taxation, and Corporate Taxation.

Keith has authored the following publications:


Seelan Mutayan

Seelan is a Director with BDO in Johannesburg and currently oversees the Indirect tax practice at BDO.

Seelan is an admitted Attorney of the High Court of South Africa with 17 years of legal and tax experience. He has gained extensive tax experience and was previously employed as a senior manager at EY in the Indirect tax practice. Seelan was also employed by the South African Revenue Service as an operational specialist focusing on domestic direct and indirect taxes. Prior to joining the South African Revenue Service, he was the Group Tax Compliance Manager of a JSE listed company.

Seelan holds a BProc and LLB degree from the University of Port Elizabeth and LLM Masters (Tax Law) degree from Unisa.

He enjoys woodworking and growing Bonsai in his spare time.

Craig Hirst

Craig is a professional accountant in practice and holds a M Com in Taxation. Craig is the Western and Northern Cape regional executive.

Michelle Landman

Michelle is the head of operations at the SAIT, and holds a B Com Accounting and B Com Industrial Psychology from the University of Johannesburg.

Kabelo Malapela

Kabelo is a Partner in the tax practice of EY in Johannesburg, specialising in corporate tax.

Prior to joining EY as an associate director, Kabelo was responsible for setting-up the tax practice at Ngubane & Co. Kabelo was appointed partner at EY on 1 January 2008.

Over and above looking after a demanding client portfolio as Lead Financial Services Tax Partner, Kabelo is currently part of the Africa Tax Leadership team as the Africa Sub-Area Learning and Development Leader and the Training Officer for the Tax Trainee Programme.

In addition to her full-time position at EY, Kabelo serves other institutions including the National Development Agency as a member of the Audit Committee and she is a founding Board member of the African Women Chartered Accountants Forum (AWCA).

Kabelo is a Chartered Accountant (SA) and holds a B Acc, CTA and H Dip Tax Law from the University of Johannesburg.

Rodney Smith

Rodney is a professional accountant in practice Port Elizabeth. He is the chairperson of the Eastern Cape region.