

PROTEC, which offers a national programme in STEM education (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) continues to build on its success over the last 33 years.

“Since its inception, this non-profit technological career development initiative has assisted some 30 000 learners from disadvantaged communities to fulfil their dreams to become engineers, scientists, doctors, educators and entrepreneurs,” says Balan Moodley, CEO of PROTEC. “As part of the organisation’s commitment to continue to provide optimum support to a growing number of learners around the country, PROTEC has implemented a strategic plan to promote growth and ensure sustainability of the programme.

“Exciting developments at PROTEC include the launch of post-school and alumni programmes, the support of new private sector funders, a revised legal structure that will assist in securing international funding and the introduction of new school materials that are CAPS compliant and will help equip learners cope with the challenges of the engineering environment. There is also a focus on a new e-learning curriculum which harnesses the importance of technology in education.

“Important news is the introduction of the PROTEC Legacy Club, which has been established to raise funds to assist learners to further their education. Although 20% of PROTEC matriculants secure bursaries to be able to study further and others qualify for financial aid, there are many deserving, disadvantaged learners who are unable to attain a tertiary qualification because of financial restraints.

“The PROTEC Legacy Club encourages corporates and individuals to participate in this initiative, where discretionary funds will be allocated to qualifying PROTEC learners.”

Other initiatives include a refreshed corporate identity and the launch of a new website, enhanced by social media initiatives.

The PROTEC programme runs in conjunction with provincial education departments and with the financial support of private sector funders, to support the growth of technologically skilled young South Africans.

Suggested caption

At the PROTEC AGM held in Johannesburg recently, top 2015 matriculants from around the country were recognised for outstanding results. PROTEC boasts an overall achievement in 2015 of a 97% Matric pass rate and a 71% Bachelor pass rate.

Colin Naiker, branch manager of PROTEC Stanger (centre) accepts top learner award on behalf of Mahesh Naidoo who achieved eight distinctions in Matric. To the left is Caskey Ndaba, PROTEC chairman and Steven Ntlatleng, PROTEC deputy chairman (right).

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