

Dr Heidi E. Prozesky



Research interests

Women in science

At present the overwhelmingly male scientific population of South Africa is not representative of the country's demographics. Women scientists are not only underrepresented in numbers, but they also contribute to less than a quarter of our nation's scientific output. Although the South African National R&D Strategy explicitly recognises the need for a clearly defined gender perspective in any human resource development approach, in South Africa very little systematic research has as yet been devoted to gender issues surrounding the active participation and productivity of women in science. My research is aimed at providing information on the nature and extent of the publication productivity of women scientists, in order to inform science policy strategies aimed at a more productive utilisation of women's talents and abilities in our R&D system.

Recent research projects

A gender-focused bibliometric analysis of the field of invasion biology, 1990-2005

The publication productivity of South African women scientists: a gender analysis

Designing and developing a monitoring and evaluation framework to benchmark the performance of women in the South African NSI

[Women in science, engineering and technology \(SET\)](#)

Primary Research for Social and Labour Plan (SLP), Cullinan Mine

Current teaching commitments

Undergraduate modules

Sociology 142: Social institutions

(Full semester; 6 credits; 1 lecture presented twice per week; 550-600 students)

Metascience 364: The sociology and ethics of science

(Full semester; 12 credits; 2 lectures per week; 200-250 students)

Convenor for the metasciences

Postgraduate supervision

Masters

Fanella, Beverly (MPhil Community and Development, current). *Post-matric programmes and skills development in South Africa: A case study of SCIMATHUS*

Kalaba, Felix (co-supervisor with Dr. P.W. Chirwa) (MSc Forestry, current). *The role of indigenous fruit trees (IFTs) in the livelihoods of the rural communities in the Copperbelt province, Zambia.*

September, Deidre (MPhil Community and Development, current). *The location of youth in development.*

Winter, Sue (co-supervisor with Prof Karen Esler) (Masters in Ecological Assessment, cum laude, 2004). *The use of landowner willingness to prioritize conservation action in renosterveld.*

Honours

Green, Michael (Honours in Sociology, 2005). *The effect of divorce on parent-child attachment relationships among teenagers and young adults.*

Postgraduate examining (internal/external)

Masters

N.J. Mavhungu (MPhil, Social Research Methods)

D. Laugksch (MPhil, Social Research Methods)

Publications

Theses

Prozesky, HE (1998). *The principles and characteristics of participatory action research: a critical evaluation.* Thesis presented in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Philosophy at the University of Stellenbosch.

Prozesky, HE (2006). *The Publication Productivity of South African Women Scientists: A Gender Analysis.* Dissertation presented for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy at Stellenbosch University.

Research reports

Kritzinger, AS, HE Prozesky & JH Vorster (1995). *Die arbeidsopset in die Suid-Afrikaanse sagtevrugte-uitvoerbedryf, Deel III: Plaaswerkers - werkopset & gesin, gemeenskap en aftrede (The labour situation in the South African deciduous fruit export industry, Part III: Farm workers – work situation & family, community and retirement).* Department of Sociology, University of Stellenbosch.

Prozesky, HE (1999). *Literature review: youth and gender issues in South Africa, teenage girls in South Africa and teenage girls on commercial farms in South Africa.* Stellenbosch: Women on Farms Project.

Prozesky, HE (1999). *Review of legal obligations towards youth.* Stellenbosch: Women on Farms Project.

Prozesky, HE (1999). *Role players in the area of youth in South Africa with specific focus on the Boland region.* Stellenbosch: Women on Farms Project.

Bailey, T. (ed.), Boshoff, N. Davids, S., Galant, J., Hunter-Hüsselmann, M., Mouton, J., Prozesky, H. & Ritchie, F. (2004). *Women in Science, Engineering and*

Technology in South Africa. Report to the Department of Science and Technology. University of Stellenbosch: Centre for Research on Science and Technology.

Galant, J., Mouton, J. (project leaders), Boshoff, N., De Beer, J., Esau, S., Prozesky, H. & Lorenzen, L. (2005). *A Monitoring and Evaluation Framework to Benchmark the Performance of Women in the NSI*. Final Report to the SET4W Reference Group. University of Stellenbosch: Centre for Research on Science and Technology.

Chapters in books

Prozesky, HE & Mouton, J (2001). The participatory research paradigm. In Coetzee, JK, Graff, J, Hendricks, F & Wood, G (eds.). *Development: theory, policy, and practice*. Cape Town: Oxford University Press Southern Africa.

Teaching manuals

Prozesky, H.E., Wagenaar, T.C. & Babbie, E. (2003). *The practice of social research: instructor's manual*. Cape Town: Oxford University Press Southern Africa.

Contributor to:

Babbie, E & Mouton, J (2001). *The practice of social research* (South African edition). Cape Town: Oxford University Press Southern Africa.

Bailey, T. (ed) (2004). *Women in Science, Engineering and Technology in South Africa*. Report to the Department of Science and Technology. University of Stellenbosch: Centre for Research on Science and Technology.

Department of Science and Technology & South African Reference Group on Women in Science and Technology (2004). *Synthesis report: women's participation in science, engineering and technology*. Pretoria: DST & NACI. [[download](#)]

Articles in accredited journals

Prozesky, HE (in press) Gender differences in the publication productivity of South African academic authors. *Society in Transition*.

Winter, S.J., Prozesky, H.E. & Esler, K.J. (in press). A case study of landholder attitudes and behaviour towards the conservation of Renosterveld, a critically endangered vegetation type in the Cape Floral Kingdom, South Africa. *Environmental Management*.

Prozesky, H.E. (under review). A career-history analysis of gender differences in publication productivity among South African academics. *Science Studies*.

Presentations at conferences and elsewhere

Prozesky, HE *Vryetydbesteding van Vroue Plaaswerkers (Leisure of Women Farm Workers)*. Paper delivered at Post-graduate Interdisciplinary Discussion Forum, October 1995.

Prozesky, HE *Changing concepts of communication in science, and between science and the public*. Paper delivered at Post-graduate Interdisciplinary Discussion Forum, May 1996).

Winter, S.J., Esler, K.J., Prozesky, H.E. & M. Botha. *How willing are landowners to conserve? A case study of landowner attitudes towards a threatened vegetation type in the Cape floral kingdom, South Africa*. A presentation at the 29th Annual Natural Areas Conference, 2-5 October 2002, Asheville, NC.

Prozesky, HE. *Gender differences in the publication productivity of South African academic authors: an analysis of SAKnowledgebase data*. Paper delivered at the CREST STS Masters and Doctoral Colloquium, March 2005.

Prozesky, HE. *Gender, journal publication productivity, and rank attainment among South African academic authors*. Paper delivered at the SASA Congress, Polokwane, June 2005.

Prozesky, HE. *Ervarings van 'n opkomende navorser (Experiences of an emerging researcher)*. Invited speaker at Second Colloquium on Women in Research (theme: "Managing the challenges for women in research"). Stellenbosch University; July 2005.

Prozesky, HE. *Of weeds and well-being: developing a research profile for Sociology at the C.I.B.* Paper presented at CIB Annual Research Meeting, Stellenbosch University, November 2005.

Prozesky, HE. *Gender differences in publication productivity: a summary of the most important findings*. Paper presented at the Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology postgraduate seminar series (Society in Focus), June 2006.

Prozesky, HE. *A career-history analysis of gender differences in publication productivity among South African academics*. XVI ISA World Congress of Sociology, Durban, South Africa, July 2005.

Prozesky, H.E. *Do assessment systems discriminate against women scientists?* Invited speaker at SAWISE/HERS-SA Discussion, Kirstenbosch Research Centre, August 2006.

Prozesky, HE. *A gender-focused bibliometric analysis of the field of invasion biology, 1990-2005*. Paper presented at CIB Annual Research Meeting, Stellenbosch University, November 2006.

Workshops attended

Women in Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) Consultative Conference. Hosted by DST & NACI, May 2005, Cape Town.

Women in Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) Consultative Forum. Hosted by DST & NACI, May 2005, Durban.

Research Directors Forum. Hosted by CREST, March 2006, Technopark, Stellenbosch.

1st Research Day of the Department of Conservation Ecology and Entomology, May 2006, Stellenbosch University.

Publishing in the 21st century: a guide to the rejected and perplexed. Hosted by the DST-NRF Centre of Excellence for Invasion Biology, September 2006.

Membership of scientific societies

Member of the South African Sociological Association (SASA)