

Election Statements

PENSIONER MEMBER TRUSTEES



DR ROBERT ADAM

Rob has worked in the NGO, university, government, SOE, private and, currently, consulting sectors. He has a PhD in Nuclear Physics from UNISA and was awarded Honorary DSc degrees by UCT, Stellenbosch and Wits.

Rob retired as MD of the South African Radio Astronomy Observatory in 2022 and now provides expert advisory services to companies and organisations worldwide.

He has held academic positions in the UK, Holland and SA and has co-authored over 50 refereed articles in physics and astronomy. He is currently a Professor of Physics at both the University of Stellenbosch and Unisa.

He was Director-General of the Department of Science and Technology, CEO of the South African Nuclear Energy Corporation, Group Executive at Aveng, and Director: SKA South Africa. He is currently Chair of the Association of former DGs.

Rob brings a passion for excellence and a lifetime of commitment to ethical public service.



FREDERIK JOHANNES NICOLAAS BOTHA, BCOM (ACCOUNTANCY)

Specialized Forensic Investigator | Governance & Compliance Expert

A highly analytical and integrity-driven professional with a BCom in Accountancy and extensive global training in financial oversight. With a career spanning the South African Revenue Service (SARS), the Special Investigating Unit (SIU), and "Big Four" consulting at KPMG Forensic, Compliance Manager at G5 Group, I offer a unique combination of financial literacy and investigative rigor.

As a candidate for the GEPF Board of Trustees, my mission is to serve as a guardian of the fund's integrity. My extensive experience in forensic auditing and compliance ensures I am uniquely equipped to provide robust oversight, identify fiduciary risks, and ensure that the retirement savings of South Africa's public servants are managed with absolute transparency and legal compliance. I am committed to upholding the "fit and proper" standards of the GEPF and ensuring sustainable, ethical investment growth.



PIETER WILHELM JOHAN COETZER

I served in the SANDF as a Military Legal Practitioner for 34 years and retired at the rank of Colonel. Degrees: B Com (Law), LLB, LLM, LLM (Labour Law).

I am an Admitted Attorney of the High Court and am currently employed as a Regional Representative of the LWO Employers Organisation.

I am member of the IPEBLA, the PLA and the IODSA.

I served as a Substitute Member Trustee on the GEPF Board of Trustees (2014 – 2018) and as a Member Trustee on the GEPF Board (2018 – 2022). I was member of the BAC, GLC, REMCO, and Finance and Audit Committees.

If so elected, I shall

- Take all reasonable steps to ensure that the interests of members/pensioners in terms of the rules of the Fund and the provisions of the Law are protected at all times.
- Act at all times with due care and diligence and in good faith.



DR G. CRISP

Dear GEPF members I am writing to formally nominate myself for a position on the GEPF Board. I served for many years with pride in the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) until my retirement, and I believe my skills and background align well with the needs of the Government employee Pension Board.

During my tenure in the SANDF, I served in various management positions, namely risk management officer, hospitality manager, facilities manager and supervised multiple building projects. Additionally to these appointments I were appointed on security complex Board of Trustees. It allowed me to gain valuable experience in leadership, interpersonal skills such as writing, communication, and budget planning. I firmly believe my ethical and moral background would be valuable in supporting the GEPF Board in achieving its success.

Thank you for considering my nomination.

Yours sincerely

Maj (Dr)(Ret) G. Crisp



PIERRE FRANCOIS DE VILLIERS

I am a retired Chief Education Specialist (Curriculum Development) from the DHET, with extensive experience in management, governance, and strategic oversight. I have also served as the Chairperson of Primary / Secondary School Governing Bodies. Currently, I serve as a Board of Trustees member at the Government Employees Medical Scheme (GEMS).

- Qualifications:
- National N Diploma (Engineering Studies) – Ekurhuleni West TVET College
 - Teacher’s Diploma – University of Pretoria
 - Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) – University of Johannesburg
 - Master of Education (M.Ed.) – University of Johannesburg

I am a member of the Institute of Directors South Africa (IoDSA), and actively serves as the Chairperson of the Risk, Social and Ethics Committee for GEMS, providing ethical leadership.

My commitment is to protect the interest of pensioners by ensuring responsible oversight and transparent decision making. I will stand firmly against fraud, waste and corruption to safeguard the sustainability of pensioners benefits.



ANDRIES LOURENS DE WIT (MAJOR GENERAL (RETIRED))

I stand for election as a Pensioner Trustee committed to uphold the highest standards of governance, integrity, and service to all GEPP pensioners. With 17 years of senior executive leadership in the SANDF and 16 years of experience as a GEPP Trustee (12 years as Chairperson of the GEPP Benefits and Administration Committee and 2 years as GEPP Board Deputy Chairperson) - I offer deep institutional knowledge and proven capabilities. My priority is to ensure that the Fund meets its fiduciary obligations amid current socio economic pressures and ongoing pension reform. I am dedicated to safeguard the growth and long-term sustainability of GEPP assets through rigorous oversight, accountability, and strong risk management practices. I will continue advocating for fair, inflation or higher related pension increases and improved service delivery in light of recent years of unacceptably low pension adjustments. Your pension deserves experienced ethical leadership and commitment to protect your lifelong benefits



DR TSHENGEDZENI DEMANA

I am a seasoned governance leader and the current Chairman of SANAS Board. I offer a unique blend of quality and standards management expertise and proven oversight on various boards. I have over 25 years of experience as a senior manager in Government. I hold a Ph.D in Chemistry from the University of Michigan and my qualifications are SAQA certified.

I am standing for election to ensure every government employee retires with the dignity they have earned. My board career includes serving in Investment, Audit&Risk as well as HR& Remco committees. I will translate this expertise to provide uncompromising scrutiny over the PIC to ensure that retirement savings are invested profitably and ethically. I will demand that GPAA reduce turnaround times and make use of online and call centre modes to serve members quickly. I am committed to advance the GEPP mandate with transparency and professional excellence - serving you members.



PIETER JAN HENDRIK DU PLESSIS

- I retired as Chief Education Specialist in 1994.
Other senior management positions held:
1. Head of Ministerial Liaison (Ministers' Council)
 2. Head of Public Relations, respectively, for the Ministers of Education, National Housing, and Public Works.
 3. Head of Public Relations, Sage Financial.

- Senior leadership positions:
1. District Governor of Toastmasters International (Southern Africa)
 2. Vice Chairman of the Interdepartmental Liaison Forum (which coordinated the strategic communication for all government departments and Ministries).
 3. Member of the National Communication Policy and Strategy Committee, appointed by the State President

If elected, I will serve the interests of GEPP members, in particular pensioner members, to the best of my ability and serve as their voice on the Board.
I will apply my varied leadership and management experience and advanced post-graduate qualifications (including Financial Planning Law, Economics, Communication, Management, and Investment planning) to their benefit and to promote the best interests of the GEPP.



DR PETRUS C DUVENAGE

Themba, Tshepa, Vertroue, Tshemba, Fulufhelo!

As pensioners, we rightly expect efficient service, annual increases that keep pace with the cost of living, and strong oversight of GEPP assets.
While many candidates commit to these goals, I offer proven experience, sound knowledge, and integrity – a trustee you can trust.
I am Dr Petrus (“Beer”) Duvenage, a fellow pensioner with 37 years of distinguished service in the military, education, and mainly state intelligence structures. I retired at a level equivalent to Brigadier General. My career and academic background provide experience critical to the role of a trustee. I hold two doctorates (DCom and PhD), as well as advanced qualifications in business and project management.
I ask for your vote of confidence. Together, we can secure fair cost-of-living increases, ensure well-managed GEPP funds, and optimise service for every pensioner.

Trust experience. Trust integrity. Trust your decision to vote for me.



LIONEL CORNELIUS PIETER ESTERHUIZEN

I have over 40 years' experience in Public Service and the Legal- and Financial Sectors. I am an admitted Advocate of the High Court and hold the degrees B. Com (Law); B. Com (Hons); LLB, and MSc in Property Studies. After leaving the Public Senior Management Service, I have served as Chairperson of the Western Cape Rental Housing Tribunal and as a Commissioner of the Western Cape Consumer Affairs Tribunal.

As a member of the GEPF, I am sincerely committed to maintain and enhance the fiduciary responsibility of the GEPF. It will also be my aim to promote and achieve sustainable growth of the fund and to ensure timely payment of benefits to members and beneficiaries.

Should I be elected as trustee, I aim to enhance interaction between the Fund and its members, ensuring accountability, transparency, and a strong, secure future for all stakeholders



DR DAVID CHRISTIAN JANTJIES

Holding a Doctorate in Management Studies and postgraduate qualifications in education and management, I am a Pensioner Substitute Trustee on the Board and understand governance, fiduciary responsibilities and strategic oversight of the GEPF. Being a co-founder of the CSPRM, I pursue fair pensioner accountability and redress outcomes for ALL former civil servants, judiciously and responsibly representing pensioners' concerns and upholding sound stewardship of the GEPF.



ENOCH MLINGO MAGAGULA

I am able to work harmoniously with other people. I can contribute to the board by working as hard as I can by dedicating myself to any fiduciary work assigned to me. I can assist with the experience and skills I gained in my teaching career and management in business. I have accounting skills that can be useful on accounting matters. I am good in planning, organising, leading and controlling all.



MR NKHANGWELENI SETH MAKHANI

Have adequate experience as trustee, having served as trustee for Correctional Services Medical Scheme (MEDCOR), 2002-2004. During my three years tenure, served as chairperson of Finance and Audit Committee. Second trustee role was with GEPF from 2014-2018 as employer nominated representative. Stepped down after four-year tenure, three years of which I served as Chairperson of Finance and Audit Committee. Elected trustee at Medshield Medical Scheme in 2017-2020, during my term served as Deputy Chairperson of the Board, and also member of Finance and Investment Committee. Currently nearing end of my second term as trustee, and also serving as Deputy Chairperson of Board, and Chair of Finance and Investments Committee. I have good understanding of GEP Law, and the fiduciary duties and responsibilities entrusted upon trustees. Attended various good governance courses including KING V recently. Will work to grow and protect the GEPF fund. Ready to hit the ground running.



CLIFFORD IVOR NASSON

- Qualifications: BA, B.Ed, LSTD;
- Occupations: Former teacher; former Member of Parliament of SA; former Deputy Director: Department of the Premier: W/C;
- Founder Member, and National Deputy Secretary of the Civil Servants' Pension Redress Movement (CSPRM) until 26 November 2021;
- My passion and life-long mission is the quest for the achievement of pension redress; achievement of restorative justice, and restoration of the dignity of former civil servants who had been discriminated against, disregarded and denied pension redress payments; this quest also includes civil servants of TBVC States and Namibia;
- I am the author of the document: Petition to Parliament: Pension Redress, 2020, and have submitted it, together with the CSPRM, to the Speaker of Parliament on the 10th of November 2020;
- I have now written an informative 150-page book on: The Issue of Pension Redress in South Africa, which will be published in April 2026.



JOHAN NELSON

Retired as Major General: Head: Budget, Expenditure and Accounting Management after 35 years in the SAPS of which 26 years were Senior Managerial positions.

Served on the Board of Trustees of Polmed and sub-committees, Chairperson of the Investment Committee and member of the Board Technical Evaluation Committee. Expertise in governance and strategy, regulatory compliance, risk management and long-term financial planning and budgeting allowed for a positive contribution to the work of the Board to ensure financial sustainability and operational efficiency.

Eager to contribute to the GEPF's performance, financial health, and governance, bringing a proactive and analytical approach to the board. Committed to dedicating the necessary time to attend Board meetings and ensuring a sustainable funding level.

Obtained vocational training in Government Finance through Tshwane University of Technology Pretoria, including training involving various courses presented by the University of Pretoria: Public Finance Management Academy, the National Treasury and the National School of Government.



MR TV PILLAY

My experience encompasses Finance Management, Policy, Governance, Oversight, Accountability, Monitoring and Evaluation, Institutional Development, Innovation, Mentoring, Training and Capacity Building.

My career and experience in the private sector and as Chief Director at IGR and OAG Divisions at National Treasury spanning 43 years. My policy and administrative skills include finances and good governance, having served in government from 1996 until my retirement in 2003. My professional engagements were with national, provincial, municipal officials and public office bearers. The private sector stakeholder engagements on development finances were also a highlight of my career.

Qualifications

I studied in the fields of accounting, economics, financial management, project management, interpretation of statutes, policy, executive management and leadership.

Conclusion

I am committed to serve the interest of pension members, to promote good governance, transparency and accountability through my leadership skills and to strengthen the decision making of GEPP board to benefit its members.



MOGALE MOSES RABOTHATA

Vision – A transparent, secure, and responsive pension system that delivers timely benefits while upholding pensioners’ dignity and well-being.

Commitments:

- Ensure accurate, timely, and secure pension payments.
- Advocate for transparency and clear communication.
- Champion fair pension increases to protect value.
- Promote accessible support and affordable healthcare for all pensioners.

“Together, we can ensure a secure and dignified retirement for all GEPP members.”



MUKUNDI VICTOR SADIKI

Mr. Sadiki holds a Master in Business Leadership from the University of South Africa (Unisa) -School of Business Leadership (SBL) and Bachelor of Commerce (BCom) Economics from the University of the Witwatersrand.

Mr. Sadiki is an active member of the following professional bodies: The Institute of Directors in Southern Africa (IoDSA), Institute of Risk Management South Africa (IRMSA), and the Ethics Institute (EI).

Mr. Sadiki is a versatile, high energy, result driven Director with multi-faceted leadership in governance, strategy and financial management. He is a seasoned strategist with a strong qualification in strategic planning, monitoring and evaluation, risk management, and projects management.

Mr. Sadiki has done extensive work for the public sector as a Director of Public Entity Oversight for both the National Treasury and DEDET. He supported the Executive Authorities to effectively monitor and evaluate the performance of public entities



MS MATSELANE PATRICIA TLAGADI

I am a seasoned Professional with notable success in directing a broad range of initiatives as a Senior Consultant in Information Technology with 22 years of experience in the private sector and 15 years as a General Manager within the public sector.

My experience covers a broad range of focus areas in technical and pre-sales activities within the private sector and general management within the public sector with emphasis on strategic planning, monitoring, and reporting.

I am proficient in strategic planning at programme, departmental, and cluster level with a good understanding of business principles and project management. The strategic planning experience will ensure that the legislative mandate finds expression in the plans including aligning governance and compliance to the legislative framework. The above are backed by a B.Sc (Chemistry, Computer Science, Mathematics) degree and a Postgraduate Diploma in Management (Sector Monitoring and Evaluation) among other educational achievements



MS BARBARA WATSON

As a former PIC & GEPP board member I am ready to use my knowledge and experience on how to grow the fund and develop investment policies that benefit pension members. I will ensure that investments by the PIC benefit companies that are BBBEE compliant at the point of investing and not later on in the life of the company. GEPP must push for increased investment in companies owned by women, youth and people with disabilities and more social investment projects that benefit GEPP pensioners such as building housing and recreation facilities for pensioners in rural areas. I am a social worker by qualification with a varied experience including financial investments by pension funds. I am a strong proponent of good governance and ethical leadership which is required in the management of institutions. I am a known human rights activist with special interest in empowerment of women and people with disabilities.