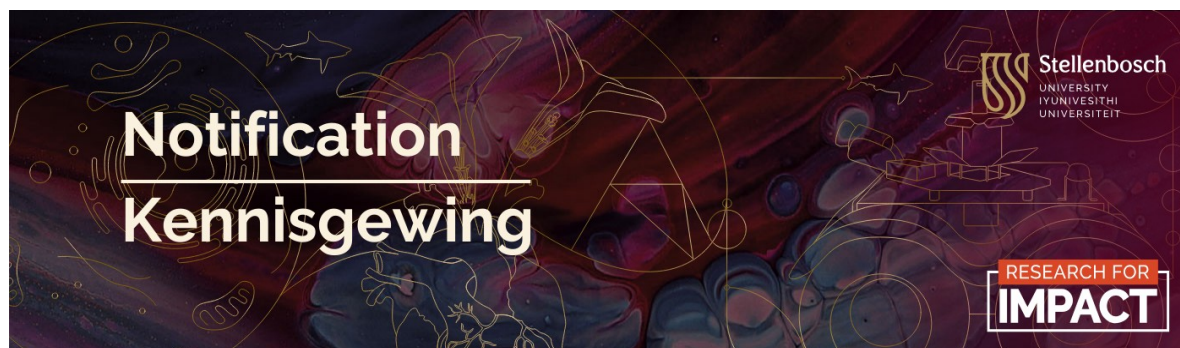


**De Wet, Tashwell, Mr [tashwell@sun.ac.za]**

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**From:** Brodovcky, T, Dr [taniab@sun.ac.za]  
**Sent:** Friday, 12 December 2025 14:01  
**To:** De Wet, Tashwell, Mr [tashwell@sun.ac.za]  
**Cc:** Gey van Pittius, NC, Prof [researchfhs@sun.ac.za]; Rodrigues, E, Mev [erodrigues@sun.ac.za]; Hendricks, Lauren, Mrs [laurenv@sun.ac.za]  
**Subject:** Internal closing dates update: 2026 NRF Rating Call  
**Attachments:** Rating application template\_narratives.docx; Rating information package\_2025.pdf

This notice has been sent to all SU academic staff and Postdoctoral Fellows, where relevant, on the DRD "listserv", as well as the secretaries and research coordinators of FMHS Divisions/Departments/Centres to further distribute as deemed appropriate. | Hierdie kennisgewing is aan alle US akademiese personeel en Nadoktorale Genote, waar toepaslik, op die ANO-verspreidingslys ("listserv") gestuur asook aan sekretaresses en navorsingskoördineerders van FGGW Departemente/Afdelings/Sentra vir verdere verspreiding na goeddunke.



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**TO: ALL SU RESEARCHERS | AAN: ALLE US NAVORSERS**

**Dear colleagues | Beste kollegas**

Further to my earlier communication (see [below](#)), please note that we have **adjusted our internal timelines for the upcoming NRF rating cycle**. This adjustment is due to the **NRF call not having opened yet**.

**The revised internal deadlines are listed below.**

**December 2025:**

**Call for rating applications open**

<b>05 February 2026:</b>	<b>First internal closing date for all applications. *All applications must be submitted on NRFConnect to be eligible for internal review.</b>
<b>06 February 2026:</b>	<b>Applications are sent to internal panel members for evaluation and feedback</b>
<b>06 February - 19 February 2026:</b>	<b>Panel members work through applications and prepare feedback</b>
<b>19 February 2026:</b>	<b>Panel members send written feedback to the Division for Research Development or to the applicant directly. Division for Research Development open applications on NRFConnect for revision.</b>
<b>4 March 2026:</b>	<b>Second internal closing date for all applications. *All applications must be submitted on NRFConnect to be eligible for internal review.</b>
<b>16 March – 20 March 2026:</b>	<b>Committee meetings take place</b>
<b>31 March 2026:</b>	<b>Expected</b> final closing date for all applications on the NRF system.

An update will be provided as soon as the NRF officially opens the call.

Kind regards

Aasima

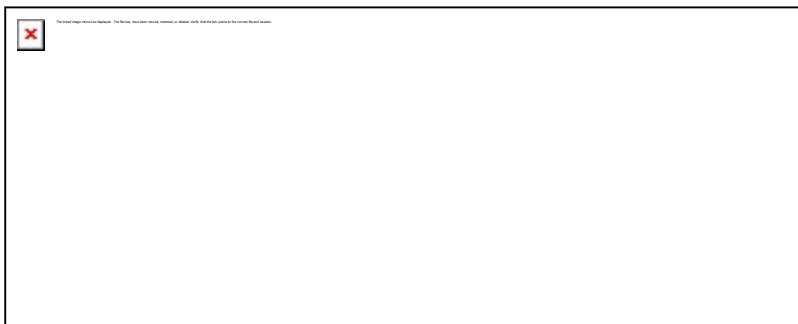
**Aasima Gaffoor** MPhil: Science and Technology Studies (Science Communication)

Coordinator: Research Communication & NRF Rating | Koördineerder: Navorsingskommunikasie & NNS-evaluering

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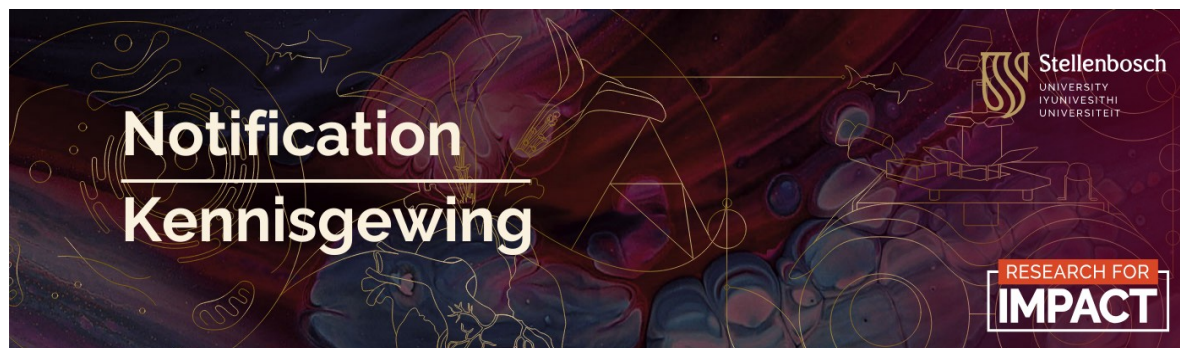
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**From:** Gaffoor, Aasima, Miss [aasima@sun.ac.za]

**Sent:** Friday, 05 December 2025 14:09

**Subject:** 2026 Rating Call Communique



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**TO: ALL SU RESEARCHERS | AAN: ALLE US NAVORSERS**

**Dear colleagues | Beste kollegas**

Please note that the NRF rating applications have **not** opened on NRFConnect yet.

We have received a communique from the NRF (see [below](#) or attached) indicating that they are aiming to open the rating applications before the end of December.

In the meantime, I encourage you to update your CV on [NRF Connect](#) and to use the attached template to prepare your narrative sections (career profile, self-assessment, brief description of completed research and ongoing, and future-planned research), as well as other key sections such as your best five research outputs from the past eight years and suggested reviewers. These sections can be copied into the online application on NRFConnect once it becomes available.

I will share more information as soon as I receive an update.

Kind regards  
Aasima

**Aasima Gaffoor MPhil: Science and Technology Studies (Science Communication)**

Coordinator: Research Communication & NRF Rating | Koördineerder: Navorsingskommunikasie & NNS-evaluering  
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**From:** Pinky Matjeka <[SM.Matjeka@risa.nrf.ac.za](mailto:SM.Matjeka@risa.nrf.ac.za)>

**Sent:** Friday, 05 December 2025 12:26

**Subject:** NRF: 2026 Rating Call Communique

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the Stellenbosch University network. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Designated Authorities

The NRF rating system is a vital component of the NRF's mission to cultivate a globally competitive science system in South Africa. It serves as an essential tool for benchmarking our researchers' quality against the world's best.

The NRF is in the process of finalising improvements and updates to the Rating Call application template. These enhancements are intended to ensure the effective implementation of the system and provide a transparent audit trail for all rating processes. We acknowledge the importance of timely communication for planning purposes and are committed to open the call before the end of December 2025.

Please share this update with both new and re-evaluation applicants at your institution. The rating team greatly appreciates your patience and understanding in this matter, and we sincerely apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Best regards,

Dr James Meiring



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