

Biography Catharine Esterhuysen

After completing a PhD in crystallography under the supervision of Gert Kruger at the Rand Afrikaans University in Johannesburg, South Africa, Catharine Esterhuysen joined the University of Stellenbosch as a lecturer in 2000. During her studies she developed an interest in computational chemistry, which she was able to develop when an Alexander von Humboldt fellowship allowed her to join the group of Gernot Frenking of Philipps-Universität Marburg in Germany in 2002, and extended with an Alexander von Humboldt follow-up fellowship to work with Tim Clark at the Friedrich-Alexander Universität in Erlangen. Her main focus is now the study of intermolecular interactions, combining her knowledge of computational chemistry and crystallography to explain unusual interactions. She was co-editor of *Acta Crystallographica E* (from 2006 - 2012) and is currently the president of the South African Crystallographic Society. In this capacity she delivered a presentation on crystallography in South Africa at the opening ceremony to the International Year of Crystallography at UNESCO in Paris. In 2012 she was the first woman to be promoted to Associate Professor level in the Department of Chemistry and Polymer Science at Stellenbosch University.

