

SANParks Honorary Rangers National Board Nomination 2026



Nirvanna Rampersad – SHR 1579 appointed March 2014

Pr Eng PMP CPMI GPM-b MBA FSAIChe FSAIMM

M.Inst.D(IoDSA).

BSc Eng(Chemical) (UKZN); MDP (NMMU); BBAH, MBA (US), Data Scientist (Udacity)

My passion is nature conservation through serving the environment and providing sustainable solutions for future generations in an ethical and transparent manner. I am a Certified Sustainable Project Professional specialising in Digital transformation and renewable and alternative energy projects.

Abridged CV

I have been a dedicated SANParks Honorary Ranger (SHR) since 2014. I served on the SHR Board being Chairperson of SESCo (2024-2025), in the Johannesburg Region Regional Management Committee (RMC) focusing on training (2024), and as SHR Interim EXCO Compliance Officer for 2019-2020. My experience in managing other major volunteer organisations is listed below:-

- Director (governing board) of the Project Management Institute South Africa NPC (PMI) for 11 years. PMI is operated by volunteers with 4000 members.
- Elected Council member of the Engineering Council (Governing Board) of South Africa (ECSA) 2020-2025. I am an ECSA Professional Engineer. ECSA is volunteer run with 40000 members.
- Elected Fellow, Executive Council member of the South African Institution of Chemical Engineers (SAIChe) and Gauteng Branch Chairperson. SAIChe is volunteer run with 500 members.
- Elected Council member and Fellow of the South African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (SAIMM) and Johannesburg Branch Chairperson. SAIMM is volunteer run with 4500 members.
- University of South Africa Department of Chemical Engineering Advisory Board Chair
- University of Johannesburg – Chemical Engineering Technology / FEBE Industrial Advisory Board

My established global network has enabled my networking skills proven over a 25 year career resulting in my fundraising, business development and revenue generation, socio-economic development; financial management and project management skills and experience.

SHR fundraising includes Sand River Bush Camp, birding weekends, golf days and PEAP shows. PMI fundraising is through facilitating training courses, technical and networking events and golf days.

NGO Governance and King 5 expertise extends from PMI board duties in South Africa to achieving PMI global Sustainable Development Goals in Tanzania and Kenya. I am a trained member of the Institute of Directors South Africa (IoDSA). I perform governance tasks aligned with King 5 for SHR (Compliance Officer and SESCo Chair), PMI (Company Secretariat) and ECSA (Governing Council) and via Compliance corporate roles (Technical Assurance, ESHQ Manager, CDTO, Technical Director). Socio-economic development experience is via the PMI training centre project for unemployed youths, and setting up reskilling for coal fired power stations, and combustion engines.

Strategy setting and business transformation in ESHQ goal setting, EPMO, CDTO and Technical Director Company strategy setting and implementation. Combined assurance, audit and risk management skills include developing methodologies and providing assurance over the internal control environment, developing systems, identifying, quantifying, managing and reducing risk as Senior Audit Manager, ESHQ Manager, CDTO and Technical Director.

Nature Conservation skills include environmental impact assessments, ISO14001 environmental system implementation including community forum facilitation and participation, conflict resolution between industry/mining and communities. Tourism Management includes GRNP camp duty.

Election Manifest

My goal if elected as a SHR National Board member is to serve the SHR by further transforming and professionalizing the SHR in a financial sustainable and reputable manner to make it the first choice amongst volunteer associations in Conservation. My commitment is conserving and protecting our Parks by active fundraising, improving governance and risk management, enabling socio-economic development, progressing tourism management, nature conservation and formulating and enabling strategy aligned with SANParks. My consultative leadership approach, ethical data-driven decision making, transparent bi-directional communication and my experience that fulfills all the required criteria required by the board enable the achievement of this goal.