

PERSONAL PROFILE

HELENA VAN ZYL

Helena van Zyl matriculated from Mariental Secondary School in Namibia. She completed her B.Com, B. Com. Hons (cum laude), M. Com (cum laude) and D. Com at the University of the Free State.

She was appointed as junior lecturer in the then Dept. of Money and Banking at the University of the Free State in 1982, thereafter promoted to lecturer, senior lecturer, associate professor and eventually professor in 2000. Since September 2001 she is Director of the School of Management.

Although Helena mainly serves in a management capacity currently, she wrote several accredited academic articles and presented many papers at national and international academic conferences. Several Masters and PhD students completed their studies under her supervision. Apart from her academic responsibilities Helena serves on several University and Faculty management committees. The University awarded a centenary medal to her for her outstanding role as a member of the turn-around team which turned around the financial position of the University of the Free State and created a sustainable basis for academic growth, as well as her pioneering role as a woman in a senior management position at the School of Management. In addition, the Alumni Society of the university (Kovsie Alumni) awarded her with a management award for her exceptional service to the University of the Free State in view of her managerial role in expanding and developing the School of Management.

She also serves on the Standing Committee for the Revision of the Banks' Act (SA Reserve Bank) since 2002, appointed by the Minister of Finance.