

SHORT CURRICULUM VITAE: SONJA SCHOEMAN

1 PERSONAL STORY

Sonja Schoeman was born on 1 May 1956 in Johannesburg. She matriculated from the Hoërskool Dr Malan in Meyerton (Vaal Triangle) in 1973. She then enrolled at the Potchefstroom University for Christian Higher Education where she graduated with a BA degree (cum laude; academic colours) in 1976. She obtained the following qualifications from the University of South Africa: Higher Education Diploma (cum laude) in 1979, BEd in 1982, MEd in 1985 and DEd in 1989. She started her teaching career as a Grade 8 to 10 home language (Afrikaans) teacher at the Hoërskool Grootfontein in South West Africa (Namibia) in 1977; and was substitute teacher for History, Geography and Religious Instruction. She joined the Department of History of Education at Unisa as a junior lecturer in 1989, and became a member of the Department of Secondary School Teacher Education, later renamed as the Department of Teacher Education, in the 1990s. She is married to Rev Chris Schoeman (for 34 years), and has one son Kristoff Schoeman. Her research focus is social sciences and history didactics, teacher education and education feminism. On 1 January 2010 she was promoted to professor in the Department of Teacher Education.

2 RESEARCH, ACADEMIC CITIZENSHIP, TEACHING-LEARNING, ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

2.1 RESEARCH

Her research-related activities include the following: research articles in accredited journals (n=13); research articles in international scientific journals (n=2); peer-reviewed books (n=1); subsidy-earning conference publications (n=2); research articles in other journals (n=15); reviews (n=6); scientific papers at international and national conferences (n=21). With regard to post-graduate supervision of students, six doctoral students and 5 research master's students completed their studies under her supervision – three obtained 75%, one 70% and one 65%.

She currently has seven doctoral students and three master's students.

2.2 ACADEMIC CITIZENSHIP

Her review activities for institutions and scientific journals include – the National Research Foundation, five national journals and two international journals. She is a member of the editorial board of YESTERDAY&TODAY, and became assistant control editor of the accredited journal in 2011. Her involvement as an external examiner comprises four HEIs and the Mpumalanga Department of Education. She is critical reader for two HEIs, and a member of various committees and of the “South African Society of History Teaching”.

2.3 TEACHING-LEARNING

She is responsible for the teaching and learning of the following modules: Subject Didactics History, Learning Area Didactics Life Orientation, Learning Area Didactics Social Sciences, and the Community, citizenship and pastoral role of the educator. Her previous tuition experience includes: Subject Didactics Biblical Studies, Religious Education, Themes in Didactics, History of Education. She was responsible for the teaching of the module Assessment in Social Sciences Education as part of an ACE: Assessment and Evaluation at the University of Pretoria.

2.4 ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP

She is mentoring the following Unisa staff members: Dr N Nkopodi (Department of Further Teacher Education) and Dr M Mbunyuza (Department of Teacher Education).

2.5 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Her community engagement activities include: welfare and religious work, Continuing Professional Development (CPD) of teachers at the Vastfontein Batho Pele Christian School, and the facilitating of mentor teacher training workshops.
