**Dr Tozama Qwebani-Ogunleye’s Bio**

Dr Tozama Qwebani-Ogunleye is a Senior Lecturer: Chemistry and Project Manager at Dihlare, a Vaal University of Technology and Industrial Development Cooperation company that focuses on Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Medicine. She serves as a member of the South African Young Academy of Science (SAYAS), a member of the 2022 World Science Forum steering committee and she also serves in the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development-Global Science Forum (OECD-GSF) mobilising science in times of crisis working group.

She has a deep desire to see the youth succeed and as such mentor and supervise the next generation of scientists. She has been invited to attend the 8th annual meeting of the [Science and Technology in Society](https://www.womeninscience.africa/covid-19-calls-for-a-push-towards-stem-education-and-learner-support/) (STS) forum and is also invited to the Young Leaders Program special session, “dialogue between Young Leaders and Nobel Laureates”, to be held on, 30 September. The “Young Leaders Program” is a dialogue between Young Leaders and Nobel Laureates, where young leaders have fruitful and productive discussions with Nobel Laureates in a friendly atmosphere. Dr Tozama will be one of the representatives of South African Young leaders, the under 41. She is expected to contribute her own perspectives and perspectives of the younger generation, to the interactive dialogues of the forum. She recently launched her second book, 100 Nuggets: Pearls of Wisdom.

Dr Tozama pushes boundaries and this has resulted in a number of accolades. These include being one of the winners of the 2019 Inspiring Fifty South Africa. In 2018, she was the recipient of the TechWomen Fellowship. TechWomen is an initiative of the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. It is a platform for emerging women leaders in STEMI and the award encompasses a one month working visit to the San Francisco’s Silicon Valley. In 2016 she was one of the Mail and Guardian top 200 Young South Africans and in 2011 she was one of the recipients of the DST and TATA Africa Women in Science Award under PhD catergory.

Website/interview links:

<https://www.vut.ac.za/blog/prominent-vut-scientist-on-steering-committee-of-international-science-forum/>

<https://nsesafoundation.org/stem-wow-tozama/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-DVN_jiylDU>

<https://iono.fm/e/922036>

<https://www.vut.ac.za/>