

POSTGRADUATE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE IN A CONSORTIUM PROGRAMME COORDINATED BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN GRAPE AND WINE RESEARCH INSTITUTE (SAGWRI) FOR 2025

Several *potential projects* are available at PhD and master's level for 2025 **in a multidisciplinary programme titled: Grape4Green: From grape waste to delivery devices for improved biocontrol application".** The consortium programme is *under evaluation for funding* by SA Wine from 2025 onwards and will involve partners from the SAGWRI, the Department of Chemical Engineering and the Department of Chemistry and Polymer Science.

Project description:

The projects will investigate the use of grape waste (pomace and stalks) as a source of biopolymers (cellulose, hemicelluloses and lignin) and bioactive compounds (waxes, oils and polyphenols). The biopolymers will be used to synthesise biobased biocontrol delivery systems, and when "loaded" with the bioactive compounds they will improve the application of biocontrol agents in the vineyards.

Application:

Please send your CV, as well as a cover letter, complete academic record, and degree certificate(s) to any of these contacts by the end of July 2024 to indicate your interest in this opportunity.

For questions regarding the available projects contact:

Prof Annie Chimphango (Department of Chemical Engineering) achimpha@sun.ac.za

Dr Helen Pfukwa (Department of Chemistry and Polymer Science) helenc@sun.ac.za

Prof Melané Vivier (Department of Viticulture and Oenology) mav@sun.ac.za

General contacts for SAGWRI:

Prof MA Vivier: Director of SAGWRI

mav@sun.ac.za

Mr Charl Newman: Postgraduate Admin Officer

cnewman@sun.ac.za