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Table of Contents

A Tribute to a South African icon in Public Administration and Management	vii
Editorial	ix
<i>E J Nealer</i>	
Catchment management through integrated water resource management and co-operative governance in a municipal area	1
<i>P Pillay</i>	
The relationship between public administration and good governance	18
The case of South Africa	
<i>J P Cedras</i>	
The registration of professional designations on the NQF	32
A South African Policy Predicament?	
<i>T K Sekgala and N Holtzhausen</i>	
An overview of training and development on performance enhancement	44
<i>E Mantzaris</i>	
Innovative leadership against corruption in the public sector	59
The case for South Africa	
<i>D J Fourie</i>	
Technical budgeting problems in Anglophone African countries	70
A strategy to minimise the problems	
<i>J O Kuye</i>	
Quangos and Chapter 9 institutions in the governance of the state	86
Leadership issues and reforms in developing and emerging nations	

T I Nzimakwe and T E Ntshakala

Implementing performance management in local governance in South Africa

A case study of West Rand District Municipality

110

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3. The article should represent an original contribution to the current knowledge in the subject field AND/OR provide a comprehensive review of the current body of knowledge.
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A Tribute to a South African icon in Public Administration and Management



Professor Dr Jacobus Johannes Nicholaas Cloete

10 December 1917–20 October 2015

In an era of transition and change like we have in South Africa, certain South African icons that have propagated the classic notion of the importance of Public Administration, as enshrined in the Constitution of South Africa 1996, deserve recognition, academic and professional accolades. Professor JN Cloete was a dedicated proponent of Public Administration and constitutional preservation until its transition.

Professor Jacobus Johannes Nicholaas Cloete is synonymous with Public Administration in South Africa. It is fitting that the *African Journal of Public Affairs* pays tribute to him in a Journal devoted to the Discipline to which he devoted most of his life.

Cloete (commonly known as Koos Cloete) was born on 10 December 1917 in Calitzdorp in the Cape Province (now Western Cape). He left school before matriculating, but completed his secondary education through private studies. He joined the Department of Posts and Telecommunications in 1934. He was appointed in the former Public Service Commission in 1948 as Professional Officer: Public Administration. He obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration in 1946, the Magister in Public Administration in 1952 and D Phil degree a few years later through the University of Pretoria. He was the first head of the newly established Department of Public Administration at the University of Pretoria in 1965. Cloete was the author of the first book on Public Administration entitled: *Sentrale, provinsiale en munisipale instellings van Suid-Afrika* (Central, provincial and municipal institutions of South Africa) in 1964. *Inleiding tot die Publieke Administrasie* (Introduction to Public Administration) followed in 1967. These two books were prescribed at most South African universities and had been revised several times. The book *Introduction to Public Administration* has seen its tenth revision now entitled *South African Public Administration and Management* undertaken by Prof Chris Thornhill, Emeritus Professor, University of Pretoria in 2012. Various other books on topics such as personnel administration, public accountability and municipal government and administration also flowed from his pen. He wrote a total of 60 books which were all published by Van Schaik Publishers, Pretoria. He could truly be considered as the most prolific South African author on South African public administration to date.

He has received numerous accolades and awards such as the Carnegie of New York Fellowship in 1962, Stals Prize for Political Science in 1980, the Honorary Award of the Public Servants Association of South Africa in 1984 and the Percy Fox Foundation Annual Award in 1986. He was also declared Grand Master of the Order of the Leopard of the former Bophuthatswana in 1980. He was awarded several honorary doctorates including the former University of Bophuhatswana and the University of the Orange Free State.

Professor Cloete was instrumental in establishing the South African Institute for Public Administration in 1963 and was appointed as the first Director. He also initiated the publication of the *Journal of Public Administration* in 1965. The Journal is still being published, bearing testimony to the role played by its first editor.

His legacy will live on as long as Public Administration is taught and enshrined in the Constitution of South Africa of 1996. The Fraternity of Public Administration globally recognises the contributions of Professor JJN Cloete. We will miss you Prof Cloete.

Professor Chris Thornhill

**Former student, colleague and now Emeritus Professor, University of Pretoria,
South Africa.**

2016-05-05



Editorial

The protection of any legally and democratically binding Constitution is vivid, important and essentially paramount in the adjudication of law, executive procurement and Parliamentary decorum within the grand framework of Public Administration in the governance of the state.

Woodrow Wilson argued that (public) administration is government in action. This dictum is as true today as it was in 1887 when he identified the need to study this action that is required to translate government decisions into action. The complex state actions performed in the contemporary state require complex administrative and managerial systems and processes. It is important to note that all administrative and managerial actions are performed by human beings. These public servants of the state have to honour the principles and adhere to the norms contained in the *Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996* as the basic law of the country. This fact has recently been confirmed by the Constitutional Court. The ruling did not only gave credence to the Public Protector's report, it also confirmed that even Parliament is subordinate to the Constitution. As this has now been established with the concurrence of all eleven judges attention should be given to rulings regarding any inappropriate actions by public servants and political office bearers. Should the Auditor-General publish an adverse audit opinion regarding a department, the accounting officer should be held accountable. This would require not only reporting that the financial affairs were not in order, but steps **MUST** be taken to recover any losses the state may have suffered. Public administration does not only provide a system within which officials have to manage public affairs. It provides the ethical as well as the legal framework for action and accountability. The recent Constitutional Court ruling provides a new impetus for the promotion of efficient and effective administration and management with the knowledge that the Constitution is supreme and that all officials and political office bearers are bound by the rules set in this document. This cements the justification for the study of Public Administration and for publishing scholarly articles on topics related to any matter affecting the public sector's actions in the governance and protection of the legal and Constitutional tenets of the Republic of South Africa and elsewhere

The eight articles in this issue cover a wide spectrum of policies and implementation issues of government touching nearly every aspect of society's life. **Nealer's** article focusses on catchment management through integrated water resource management in which he emphasises the need for cooperative action between municipalities to optimise the utilisation of water. **Pillay's** contribution concerns the relationship between public administration and good governance thus adding to the issue raised in the editorial. **Cedras's** article highlights the diverse nature of the activities of the public sector by discussing the complexity of registering professional designations to ensure proper recordkeeping of the quality of the various professions. **Sekgala and Holtzhausen** address the effects of training and development on performance enhancement. **Montzaris** investigates the role of innovative leadership as a bulwark against corruption in the public sector. **Fourie** takes a wider view of budgeting by considering the technical problems in Anglophone countries and proposes a strategy to deal with municipal financial problems. **Kuye** considers the role of Quangos and chapter 9 institutions in the administration of the state's activities from a

leadership perspective. The last article by **Nzimakwe** deals with the challenges involved in the implementation of performance management in local governance by investigating the case of one district municipality.

J O Kuye
Chief editor

ERRATUM

The article entitled *A review of local government experience in South Africa – successes and failures* by J Govender and P S Reddy published in the *African Journal of Public Affairs*, Vol 8, No 4 is hereby withdrawn for techno-specific reasons and documentation.

J O Kuye
Chief Editor

