

On 2 February 2024, the Board of The Ethics Institute (TEI) announced that **Dr Liezl Groenewald** has been named the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Executive Director of TEI.

“Following a rigorous recruitment process that started in 2022, the Board confirmed Dr Liezl Groenewald’s appointment as TEI’s new CEO, effective 1 April 2024,” said Ms Fay Hoosain, Chairperson of TEI’s Board. “Having joined TEI in 2008, Dr Groenewald has been instrumental in spearheading a range of projects relating to the governance of ethics, whistleblowing management and the institutionalisation of ethics. The Board is excited to be working with Dr Groenewald as she brings valuable insights and expertise to drive the organisation’s growth and geographic expansion.”

Dr Groenewald will be succeeding Prof Deon Rossouw who has served TEI first as CEO Elect and then as CEO for close to 14 years.

“The Board thanks Prof Rossouw for the dedication and foresight with which he has led TEI over the years,” said Ms Hoosain. “During his tenure, Prof Rossouw engaged the Boards of countless public and private companies in South Africa and abroad, impressing upon them the importance of ethical leadership, collective action and the role of Boards’ social and ethics committees. In changing the name from the Ethics Institute of South Africa (EthicsSA) to The Ethics Institute (TEI) in 2016, Prof Rossouw helped to clearly signal the organisation’s intent to move from a largely local remit to that of a global player. Today, TEI is active in more than 27 countries and has delivered training or other services in 66 countries and in three languages, English, Portuguese and French.”

As the outgoing CEO, Prof Rossouw said, “Having worked with Dr Groenewald as a colleague during my term as CEO, I am confident that she has the character, competence, and energy to lead TEI in making a meaningful difference in the societies in which we operate. I care deeply about TEI and the work we have done. It is wonderful to hand over the reins to capable hands that will continue to guide the organisation.”

On her appointment as the CEO Elect, Dr Groenewald responded, “Building on Prof Rossouw’s legacy is a significant responsibility and earning the Board’s trust on my credibility and capability truly humbles me. Having been part of the TEI family for nearly 16 years, I have deeply internalised the organisation’s mission and vision, making it a fundamental part of my identity. I also recognise and appreciate my work colleagues whose dedication to TEI runs deep. With their unique skills and expertise, and the support of our donors and other stakeholders, I am committed to the growth of TEI, and I look forward to this journey of continuing to build an ethically responsible society.”

Dr Groenewald completed her doctoral thesis in Applied Ethics, focusing on the moral justifiability of fracking assessed against the Principle of Double Effect. Outside of TEI, Dr Groenewald co-founded the non-profit organisation, The Whistleblower House, which provides whistleblowers with access to legal, psychological and security professionals, along with

essential financial support. She also served as President of the Business Ethics Network of Africa.

About The Ethics Institute

The Ethics Institute is an independent institute producing original thought leadership and offering a range of services and products related to organisational ethics.