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## EDUCATION

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### University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

- PhD (2006- 2011)
  - Project title: **Some impacts of sulfur and nitrogen deposition on the soils and surface waters of the Highveld grasslands, South Africa.**
  - Project supervisor: Prof. Mary Scholes.
- MSc (1999 – 2001)
  - Project title: **Some effects of prescribed understory burning on tree growth and nutrient cycling, in *Pinus patula* plantations.**
- BSc Hons (1998)
  - Project title: **The rate of nitrogen mineralization in plantation soils, in the presence of *Eucalyptus grandis* wood chips.**
  - Courses: Wetland ecology, Ecophysiology and Environmental studies.
- BSc (1995 – 1997)
  - Botany III, Geography III, Zoology II.

### Alberton High School (1990 – 1994).

- Matriculated with university exemption and a distinction in higher grade Biology.

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## WORK EXPERIENCE

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### Airshed Planning Professionals (Pty) Ltd.

- Environmental Impact Specialist (Mar 2012 – Present)
  - Quantification of air and noise emissions, air and noise dispersion modelling, air quality data monitoring and analysis, noise measurements and software development.

### University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

- Associate lecturer (Jul 2007 – Dec 2009)
  - Prepare and present lecture content and practical sessions. Set and assess assignments, tests and exams.
  - Delivered four courses across undergraduate and postgraduate degrees:
    - Savanna Ecology (2<sup>nd</sup> years), Functional Ecology in Changing Environments (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> years), Global Change (Honours) and Maintaining Ecosystem Processes: Foundations (MSc by coursework).
  - Principal supervisor of MSc research by Mia (née Janse) Angelova. Project is co-supervised by Prof. Mary Scholes.
- Teaching Assistant (Feb 1998 - Nov 2000, Sep 2006 - May 2007; Feb 2010 – Nov 2010)
  - Assisted teaching staff during practical teaching sessions for undergraduate students.

### University of the Johannesburg

- Research assistant (Jan 2006 – May 2007) (Part-time)
  - Ran experimental study investigating soil-water dynamics as a result of water leaking from distribution pipes.
  - Co-ordinated laboratory management including procurement. Assisted with 2<sup>nd</sup> year teaching practical exercises, exam and test invigilating and marking.

### Obsidian Systems (Pty) Ltd.

- Operations Manager (Feb 2004 – Dec 2005)
  - Senior management responsibilities including design and documentation of business processes and procedures.
  - Daily tracking and monthly reporting of operational activities in Training, Development, Support, Consulting and Retail divisions, to company directors.
  - Public relations at industry events.
- Training Division Manager (Jan 2002 – Feb 2004)
  - Strategy planning and budgeting for training division.
  - Initiated and executed ISETT SETA accreditation process for training centre.
  - Weekly reporting of divisional financial and operational activity to upper management.
  - Designed and delivered end-use computer training for “OpenOffice.org”.
- Training Coordinator (Apr 2001 – Jan 2002)
  - Liaised with clients regarding training courses.
  - Built client record system.
  - Divisional administration including sales, invoicing and stock control.

### Phumelela Gaming and Leisure

- Part-time employment during high school and university studies (1991 to 2002)

### PERSONAL INFORMATION, AWARDS AND INTERESTS

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- Full name: Theresa Leigh Bird
- [LinkedIn Professional Profile](#)
- Proudly South African citizen. I have a code EB (08) driver’s license. I am a non-smoker with no chronic health conditions. English is my home language. I can also speak Afrikaans, although less fluently.
- Andrew Mellon Foundation postgraduate Programme Scholarship – 2010 and 2011
- University of the Witwatersrand, Postgraduate Merit Award – 1998 to 2000 and 2009
- Certificate of First class pass for Ancillary Mathematics and Statistics I (half-course) - 1997
- I enjoy reading popular science and good fiction. I love music, gardening, cooking and being out-of-doors.
- I agree with Charles Swindoll who said: "I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. We are in charge of our attitudes."