

DealMaker OF THE YEAR PAST NOMINEES

In 2008, DealMakers introduced the DealMaker of the Year award, a subjective award made to the person judged by his/her peers and the Independent Selection Panel, to have provided an exemplary and outstanding service. Any person whose work is involved with corporate finance or the provision of services to deal making in South Africa may be nominated. While aware that this award may be controversial, DealMakers concluded that individuals are entitled to be recognised for the services they provide to an expanding and vital element of the South African economy.

The nominations received for this award over the past 13 years speaks to the point made previously in the Feature's introduction. Just three women have been shortlisted over this period.

DealMakers is fortunate to have on its current **Independent Selection Panel**, two successful and inspirational women - Phuthi Mahanyele-Dabengwa co-founder of Sigma Capital, former CEO of Shanduka and current CEO of Naspers SA (who shares her own experiences on page 40) and Funke Ighodaro, former CFO of Tiger Brands and Primedia, and founder of Kagiso Trust Investment.



2008

Basani Maluleke

In 2008, while still at Rand Merchant Bank, Basani Maluleke was nominated. Having studied law at the University of Cape Town, she served her articles at Edward Nathan & Friedland (now ENSafrica) before moving on to RMB. At the time of her nomination, Basani was noted as being “clearly one of the new breed of up-and-coming corporate finance executive”. She went on to become the first black female Chief Executive Officer of a commercial bank in South Africa, playing an instrumental role in the resuscitation of African Bank.



2010

Angela Simpson

Webber Wentzel's Angela Simpson (page 61), whose special focus is on the private equity industry, was a finalist for the award in 2010. At the time of her nomination, she was described as “.. a go-getter, wastes no time and is constantly aware that the clock imposes its own constraints. She is a good communicator who carries her clients with her”.



2020

Lydia Shadrach-Razzino

Lydia Shadrach-Razzino (page 44), who heads up ENSafrica's Private Equity team and co-leads a large team within the Corporate Commercial department, was, in 2020, the third nominee to be shortlisted. The Independent Panel commented that “she is a pragmatic problem solver, with a stellar and rising credibility ... a young, rising star to watch as a potential future winner.”