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Elzandi Oosthuizen set to address Women Changing the Face of Agriculture conference

URBANA – Elzandi Oosthuizen, vice president of global strategy at Monsanto, will empower young women at the 2017 Women Changing the Face of Agriculture (WCFA) Conference on March 10, 2017, at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Oosthuizen will present the keynote address while sharing her passion for promoting diversity and inclusion.

Oosthuizen's 12-year career with Monsanto began in South Africa and includes global and regional roles in the Seed and Traits, Crop Protection, and Vegetable operations. She leads several teams in analyzing current and future trends and technology advances in food and agriculture. Her team implements integrated strategies to create value in categories like data science, plant health and fertility in developing world regions.

Oosthuizen received both her Bachelor of Science in Natural Science and Mathematics and Bachelor of Science Honors in Genetics from the University of Pretoria. She also holds a Master of Science in Agriculture and Horticultural Plant Breeding from the University of the Free State and an MBA from North-West University in South Africa.

She demonstrates her passion for promoting diversity and empowering women through involvement in several initiatives, including Monsanto's Supplier Diversity Mentoring Program, United Way, Kingdom House St. Louis and Global Give Back Circle Mentors. Oosthuizen was recognized by Next Gen Fortune MPW in 2014 and she was named a YWCA Leader in the Workplace in 2012.

Women Changing the Face of Agriculture provides career advice and direction for young women in high school and college who are thinking about a career in agriculture. At the conference, women learn more about careers in the industry, network with women from across the country and interact with others interested in similar careers. To learn more about the conference, visit womenchangingthefaceofagriculture.com.

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