



SOUTHERN AFRICAN WILDLIFE COLLEGE RECOGNISED AT THE RHINO CONSERVATION AWARDS 2014

The Southern African Wildlife College (SAWC), nominated for the 2014 Rhino Conservation Awards in the category “Best Awareness, Education and Fundraising” for rhino protection and conservation, was recognized at the Rhino Awards gala dinner recently held in Johannesburg (31 July 2014). SANParks’ Honorary Rangers, Counter Poaching Region scooped the top award in the category and the SAWC were delighted to be announced the runner-up.

The Rhino Conservation Awards was founded by Dr Larry Hansen, in an effort to create awareness of rhino conservation issues while recognising exceptional individuals and organisations for their efforts in protecting Africa’s rhino population.

The Awards, sponsored by Barclays Africa Group, are held in collaboration with the Department of Environmental Affairs of South Africa and the Game Rangers’ Association of Africa (GRAA). His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco this year accepted the position of Patron of the Rhino Conservation Initiative and the Rhino Conservation Awards, which added further stature to the awards.

This is the third year that the dedication of people involved in the fight against rhino poaching is being acknowledged. Nominations were invited from African Rhino Range States in five categories, namely: Best Field Ranger, Best Conservation Practitioner, Best Political & Judicial Support, Best Science Research & Technology and Best Awareness, Education or Funding.

The keynote address was given by the South African Minister of Environmental Affairs, Ms Bomo Edna Molewa, and guests were addressed by a representative from the ABSA/Barclays Africa Group, after which Louis Olivier gave some insights into the life of a ranger.



Ruben de Kock (second left) accepted the Rhino Conservation Award on behalf of the College. Pictured with him is Dr Larry Hansen (founder), Ms Xiaoyang Yu (founder and co-sponsor) and Gideon Serfontein (ABSA Senior Executive – sponsor).