

RSSA committee resigns in protest

Six of the eight members of the Research Suppliers of Southern Africa (RSSA) have resigned in protest at allegations from the South African Marketing Research Association (SAMRA) Council of RSSA committee members having vested interests, of not serving the supplier community well and of attempting to "hijack" the committee for their own ends.

RSSA chairman, Jean Green, had this to say: "Following a SAMRA Council meeting during which it was seen by SAMRA chairman, Sifiso Falala, that allegations had been made of RSSA committee members 'hijacking' the RSSA committee and of using RSSA for their own ends, I requested that the names of both the accusers and the accused should be made known to me.

"My reason for this request is that I believe in transparency and I believe that veiled accusations, anonymous allegations of misconduct, or any other secretive behaviour, is not in any way acceptable in the context of a supposedly professional organisation.

"The names were not forthcoming although we did receive an offer from Falala to come to address the RSSA committee. The majority of the members of the committee felt that there was little to be gained by this in the face of the somewhat aggressive allegations being made against them.

"As a consequence, six of the eight members of the committee have elected to stand down, including myself."

She added that after having given much time, effort and money to an honest attempt to establish a strong, thriving supplier body which addresses supplier issues and ethics, she could no longer see her way clear to continuing the effort in a climate of suspicion, secretive allegations and petty politics.

Source: [MARFA](#)