

Report to ASSA from the Scholarships Committee

26 July 2026

From: Claire Flanagan

Scholarships Overview

ASSA currently administers two scholarships:

- ASSA Scholarship – for studies in astronomy, 2nd to 4th year; and
- Cooke Scholarship – for studies in astronomy from 2nd year on.

Both scholarships are currently worth R25,000.

2026 Awards

Nine eligible applications for scholarships were received in 2026, mostly of high enough standard to present the selection committee with a challenge.

The ASSA Scholarship was awarded to second-year student Michael Areington, and the Cooke Scholarship to third-year student Cameron Gall. Both are studying towards BSc degrees in Astronomy & Astrophysics at Wits University.

Zambian Mukadi Chisabi was awarded the Cooke Scholarship in 2025 to study towards a BSc(Hons) degree at UNISA. Due to delays accessing the funds, the scholarship was deferred to 2026.

Scholarships Committee

The current committee comprises:

- Claire Flanagan (Convener)
- Daniel Cunnama (SAAO)
- Ian Glass
- Maciej Soltynski
- Analize Jooste

Claire Flanagan

ASSA Scholarships Convener