Siyabulela Xuza

At 26 years of age, Siya Xuza is the Founder and Managing Director of Galactic Energy Ventures; an investment holding company focused on creating global opportunities through smart energy by developing and investing in innovative solutions to address the energy needs of emerging markets.

Previously Xuza, conducted research at the Harvard Center for Nanoscale Systems and the MIT Microsystems Technology Laboratories on microfuel cells – distributed energy that could be used to power remote and rural areas. In 2013, his ground breaking work on micro fuel cells was published in the Journal of Electroceramics.

Xuza was awarded a 2010 Fellowship to the African Leadership Network, the premier, invitation-only community of the most dynamic and influential leaders in Africa. In 2011, he served as the youngest member of the African Union – affiliated Africa 2.0 Energy Advisory Panel and was recognised by the World Economic Forum as a Global Shaper.

Xuza's work has been recognised by the US First Lady Michelle Obama, the Nobel Foundation and the NASA affiliated Lincoln Laboratory which named a minor planet, "Siyaxuza (2312)", in his honour for a first place at the 2007 Intel Science and Engineering Fair.

Born in South Africa, Xuza holds a BSc in Engineering Sciences, from the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Harvard University.