



SACNASP Newsletter 2/2017

March 2017

Dear Registered Scientist

Continuous Professional Development (CPD) is almost upon us. We received a number of emails after our last newsletter enquiring about specific issues. This was appreciated as it indicates to us that our scientists are interested in this topic. It is important for all of us to know that CPD is viewed as an enabler at SACNASP hence your comments on how to improve the system or make changes that will be of further benefit to you is always welcome. SACNASP regards CPD as a living system and changes may be implemented from time to time as we learn. Remember CPD is something that belongs to all of us.

COVERED IN THIS EDITION

1. INTRODUCTION TO VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATIONS
GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA
2. UP ENTERPRISES AND CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT
3. FROM THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTRATION MANAGER
4. FROM THE OFFICE OF THE FINANCE MANAGER

Introduction to Voluntary Associations

As indicated previously, SACNASP will be publishing a series of small articles on the Voluntary Associations aligned to SACNASP. As indicated the aim in publishing is to inform the registered scientists about the VAs that are out there, a bit about their history and what constituency they represent. This is to act as information and also create opportunities for networking. The last newsletter covered the Entomological Society of Southern Africa and this time it is the;

Geological Society of South Africa

The Geological Society of South Africa (GSSA) is the voluntary society for the Geology and Earth Science professions. With a total membership of over 3600 members, the GSSA prides itself as a body of professionals as membership is granted only on stringent vetting of applications. Further, SACNASP commends the GSSA as it is one of the VAs that actively promotes professional registration at SACNASP. The GSSA and SACNASP are members of the Task Group on Global Geoscience Professionalism. Having been established in 1895, it is one, if not the oldest professional societies in South Africa and has gained international recognition with about ten percent of its membership living and working abroad.

According to the GSSA, "the objectives of the Society have remained essentially unchanged since inception and are summarised as:

- To promote and advance the study of the earth sciences
- To promote the best interests and relevance of the earth sciences, the earth science professions, and earth scientists
- To promote, serve and represent the best interests of the GSSA membership
- To uphold high professional and ethical standards amongst its members for the professional and public good
- To promote cooperation and synergy with related structures and societies in Africa"

For those interested, The GSSA has an active website www.gssa.org.za and Facebook page, www.facebook.com/GeologicalSocietyofSouthAfrica/
(Adapted with special thanks from the VA report compiled by Management Committee of the GSSA)

UP Enterprises and Continuous Professional Development



Above (from left to right): Dr Elmar de Wet (Executive Manager: Research Solutions), Ms Hermien Dorfling (Executive Manager: Training Solutions), Dr Pradish Rampersadh (Executive Director: SACNASP), Dr Gerda Botha (President: SACNASP), Mr Deon Herbst (CEO: Enterprises UP), Ms Estelle Viviers (Business Manager), Mr Kabelo Serutle (Relationship Manager).

The South African Council for Natural Scientific Professionals (SACNASP) in its attempt to establish stronger ties with our Higher Educational Institutions, recently visited Enterprises University of Pretoria (Pty) Ltd (Enterprises UP). This is an entity established by the University of Pretoria to be a training and research partner for commerce, industry and society at large.

UP Enterprises, apart from being a research entity, offers an impressive array of short courses. Hence the discussions focused on continuous professional development and programme development at UP Enterprises that could assist the registered scientist. Discussions are still ongoing but this is the first of such

interactions with HEI's and SACNASP wishes to establish such relationships with most if not all HEI's in South Africa.

Extension and Advisory Conference North West Province – Taung Village



It was an honour for SACNASP to be invited to one of the most important conferences within the Agricultural sphere in the North West Province. It was an eventful week with presentations about the army worm, Donkey production trade and different outreaches within Manthe and Taung village.

The conference kick started with the Taung auction outreach of different stocks from local farmers. About 364 large and 259 small stock was sold during the auction bringing a total turnover of 2.5 million for the day.

Hon Premier Supra Mahumapelo encouraged farmers to be part of the auction as it can change their lives. He also applauded the department for bringing such events to the villages as this boosts their market access. We also had a chance to plant pecan nuts trees and learn more about them. This also exposed us to how an Extension Scientist works.

MEC Manketse Tlhape mentioned the importance of the Extension Scientists registering with SACNASP in order for them to be professionally recognised. Extension Scientists were reminded once more to own and serve their profession with pride.

Extension officers were recognised for their performances at a Gala Dinner where awards were handed over on the last day of the conference.

From the Office of the Registration Manager

SACNASP is currently upgrading the registration systems to a more automated process. This will entail automatic e-mails, reminders and updates being sent out to pending applicants and their referees. The onus however lies with the applicants to follow-up on any outstanding documentation. Application Requirements (and Procedures) can be obtained directly from the SACNASP office or by accessing the SACNASP website.

From the Office of the Registration Manager

Annual Fees

Annual fees are due by 31/3/2017. On receipt of your payment, you will receive a new certificate which will have an expiry date. All other certificates without a valid expiry date will be invalid from April 1 2017.

Access to the CPD portfolio website will be denied if accounts are not fully up to date.

Long term debtors

We have been working through our database and have now cancelled all long outstanding debtors. In the 2018 financial year we will remove ANY registered scientist who has not paid their annual fees for 2017. Please ensure that we have your correct contact details so that we can send invoices and new certificates.

A note to those registered scientists who have not as yet paid their current annual fees: Please pay urgently as this was due earlier this year. If you have any enquiries please contact the office.

For further information on fees, documents required and the submission process, please contact the SACNASP offices on: +27 (0) 12 748 6500 or www.SACNASP.org.za