



SACNASP Newsletter 4/2017

November 2017

Dear Registered Scientist

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

In April 2017 CPD was initiated at SACNASP for all Professional and Certificated Natural Scientists. This is still a learning curve for SACNASP but there has been a very positive response to from Scientists, Voluntary Associations (VA) and Service Providers. A simple breakdown of the expectation is 25 points over 5 years so 5 points a year in across all 3 categories. The link to the portal to update CPD points is <https://cpd.sacnasp.org.za/#/>

COVERED IN THIS EDITION

1. INTRODUCTION TO VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATIONS
INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
PROFESSIONALS OF SOUTH AFRICA
2. FROM THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTRATION MANAGER
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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 create opportunities for networking.

Institute of Information Technology Professionals of South Africa

The Institute of Information Technology Professionals of South Africa (IITPSA NPC), a SACNASP recognised VA, serves the fields of Computer Professionals and Information and Communication Technology Practitioners and Professionals. Formally known as the Computer Society of South Africa, it has a long history of almost sixty years and as indicated by IITPSA, is the third oldest Computer Society in the world. This is testament to the level we were working at in this field even sixty years ago. It now boasts a membership of 6700 members.

IITPSA has placed a lot of emphasis on training and professionalism and in this regard "played an active role in the formation of the Sector Education and Training Authority". It was also involved in developing the Unit standards for the field and in the compilation of the BEE ICT Charter. IITPSA is a SAQA recognised professional body and its professional designation has been internationally accredited. It has also established various regional and international agreements and sits on Councils and Boards on behalf of the members. IITPSA has indicated that there has been a huge growth in the ICT industry resulting in specialization and segmentation of the field. These are all tracked by the IITPSA to ensure that they are all represented by the VA. IITPSA has various categories of membership and those interested can find out more from their website <https://www.iitpsa.org.za/>

(Adapted with special thanks from the VA report compiled by Tony Parry of IITPSA NPC)

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTRATION MANAGER

The final registration meeting for 2017 will be in November 2017. To all pending scientists please follow up with the office to see what outstanding documentation is required your contact by alphabet is:

A – GUS	Agnes Ledwaba	012 748 6521
GUT – MAKWA	Violet Modiselle	012 748 6526
MAKWB –MNI	Iris Popella	012 748 6516
MNJ – NEK	Khanyi Lukwe	012 748 6529
NEL – SC	Boitumelo Semanya	012 748 6518
SD- Z	Vuyiswa Malhangu	012 748 6519

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE FINANCE MANAGER

Annual Fees

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

Long term debtors

We have been working through our database we have now deleted all long-term debtors. In 2017 we will remove ANY registered scientist who has not paid their annual fees for 2016. 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

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE OPERATIONS MANAGER

Koeberg networking session

South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP) hosted a networking session for registered members at the Koeberg Nuclear Power Station, Western Cape, on 20 September 2017. The event was attended by 38 delegates from various organisations such as government, research councils, industry, etc. The guest speaker, Mr. Kevin Govender, from the International Astronomical Union (IAU) and the first South African recipient of the 2016 Edinburgh Medal gave an interesting talk.

The IAU is the international astronomical organisation that brings together more than 12 000 professional astronomers from

around the world with the intent to promote and safeguard the science of astronomy in all its aspects through international cooperation. Mr. Govender emphasised that astronomy can make a difference because all things are linked to it – mathematics, physics, biology, chemistry and science. He further highlighted that astronomy is linked to culture, basic things such as the moon and sun captured the minds of human beings and that astronomy is a powerful tool to make people think and make people approach problems in certain ways. Vanessa McBride, an Astronomer at IAU, who acts a link between the professional astronomer community and the development community gave an interesting presentation on the various projects IAU is involved. The SACNASP Executive Director, Dr Pradish Rampersadh, highlighted on the progress of SACNASP.



Delegation at the Koeberg Nuclear Power Station, Western Cape.

Protecting indigenous knowledge in South Africa

The Department of Science and Technology together with Mpumalanga Provincial Government hosted the 2017 Indigenous Knowledge Expo at Mbombela, Mpumalanga Province, 26-28 September 2017. The theme of the event was "Indigenous knowledge, protecting it for future generations". The event was opened by Science and Technology minister, Naledi Pandor, and the MEC for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Refilwe Mtsweni.

Minister Pandor urged the youth to pursue careers in indigenous knowledge to preserve the country's rich history and culture. She also encouraged older generations to pass on their indigenous knowledge to the youth to promote and develop indigenous knowledge systems through technology and innovation. Ms Mtsweni indicated that the loss of indigenous knowledge will have a negative impact on innovation and commercialisation especially amongst vulnerable communities. The event was attended by community members, government departments, research institutions, universities and regulatory bodies such as the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions.



Traditional healers visiting the SACNASP exhibition stand

Science contributes to economic development

SACNASP had an opportunity to attend the 4th Annual Rural Festival that was held at Tivumbeni Multipurpose Centre, Nkawkawa, Limpopo Province from 11-15 September 2017. The festival played a significant role in promoting science and technology literacy among all sectors particularly learners. The main theme of the event was "Science contributes to economic development". There were various institutions that participated in this initiative addressing topics such as life sciences, engineering, physics, space science and chemistry through exhibitions, lectures, displays as well as demonstrations.



High school learners from various schools in Nkawkawa, Limpopo Province

SACNASP had an opportunity to engage with learners, teachers, researchers, scientists and community members that attended the festival.

FUTURE EVENTS

SACNASP Discussion Forum

6 December 2017, CSIR International Convention Centre, Pretoria, South Africa

The two major topics to be covered are:

- (1) The role of a professional registering body and its constituent voluntary associations in the national systems of innovation (NIS);
- (2) Determining competency of professional natural scientists.

Further information will be communicated at a later stage.

2nd international Women in Science Without Borders conference



On behalf of the organising committee it gives us great pleasure to invite you to attend the 2nd international Women in Science Without Borders conference which will be held during 21-23 March 2018 in Johannesburg. This is a gender-inclusive conference, as no workplace is single-gender! We have exemplary plenaries who will share their thoughts around the theme of the conference which is 'Resilience in Diversity'. Besides parallel sessions devoted to scientific/technical talks around trans-disciplinary problems - we will have a very clear scope within the conference to discuss and deliberate on gender aspect within STEM research.

The conference website is <http://wiswb2018.co.za/> where the abstract submission details are available. Submissions is open now!

Note: Delegates can also accumulate 1 SACNASP CPD point per day of the conference.

EXCITING JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT SACNASP

SACNASP has two job opportunities for permanent positions in Pretoria

- 1) Registration Manager
- 2) Paralegal to support the Committee Secretary

Please see our website <http://www.sacnasp.org.za/news-views-events/employment/offered.html> for further information.

ANNUAL REPORT

It is with great pleasure to announce the publication of 2016/2017 SACNASP Annual Report. Please visit the link below to read SACNASP's annual report 2016/2017:

<http://www.sacnasp.org.za/about-us/annual-report.html>