



# SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE FOR ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL GEOLOGISTS

## NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 03-04  
NOVEMBER 2004

### FROM THE EDITOR...

Welcome to last edition of the newsletter for 2004.

Wow, to think that we've reached the end of yet another year, all in the blink of an eye! I'm sure many of you are frantically scrambling around to get projects completed before knocking off for Christmas and New Year.

It has been a fruitful year for SAIEG, a few highlights being the very successful AGM and Gold Award Ceremony, followed by the successful engineering and environmental geology session at Geoscience Africa and capping the year off by proudly making history and becoming the first organizational affiliate member of AEG.

This issue of the newsletter features various report backs namely on the Geoscience Africa Congress, the IAEG activities as discussed at the 32<sup>nd</sup> International Geological Congress held in Florence in August, as well as the information session held by the Council for Geoscience on the revised approach to development on dolomitic land.

Other items of interest include information on the new SACNASP Act and developments within the Department of Geology at Tukkies. The Geotechnical Division has issued a Call for Abstracts for the upcoming Young Geotechnical Engineers Conference (YGE), planned for June 2005.

SAIEG would like to congratulate Monté van Schalkwyk and Frank Netterburg, who have been chosen as the honored recipients of the SAIEG Gold Medal Award to be presented at the next AGM.

And last but by no means least, a special congratulations and vote of support goes out to Gary Davis and Tony A' Bear, who have been unanimously elected as President and Vice-President, respectively for the incoming period.

### **CONTACT DETAILS:**

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### A CHRISTMAS CAROL...

Dear Members,

No this is not Lionel Barrymore or Charles Dickens, this is el Presidenté!

I have not heard from most of you during the year but I am still convinced that there are some SAIEG, AEG and IAEG members out there!

So here it is, my Presidential Christmas contribution to the Newsletter!

It has been two years of consolidation and I believe that SAIEG has come through this difficult period stronger and more resilient. With our new affiliated status with AEG we now have a powerful ally in the US geological "fraternity". IAEG moves along quietly and for most of us, in the background. Our affiliation with SAIMM still needs to be massaged and developed and our close friendship with GSSA consolidated.

Our Geotechnical Division friends keep us on the mark and constantly remind us that as geologists we have an important contribution to make but need to find our space and mark our territory in the geotechnical arena.

Our growing involvement of our members in the environmental industry further extends the broadness of our brush!

Whew! We have so many hats and so few heads!

I think this is our biggest problem and one that the new committee and leadership will need to come to terms with urgently.

I challenged the membership two years ago to re-define our role and move the professional forward. Has this been done? Some believe not and have said as much to me. I see as one of greatest failings is the lack of University support for our profession. We are simply not training enough geologists with engineering subjects that will be able to fill the huge demand that is growing for competent engineering geological graduates.

Our second biggest threat is the absence of a training system for graduates. Besides the Government and a few local authorities, it is my impression that there is precious little opportunity for mentorship of new entrants. So we frequently lose even the few that do come through Tukkies or Natal or the Wits environmental programme to the mining houses and other professions and thus to engineering geology as a profession.

I believe that Education and Training are the two most critical areas we need to address in order for us to survive as a professional group. I hope to be able to do something in this regard over the next two years as past President.

Let us make engineering geology a profession of which we can be proud. The legacy of Tony Brink tells us that we are geologists first then engineers and environmentalists. Let us never forget that and use it to our advantage. Let's aim at being truly great geologists and the rest will follow.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas, a safe Ramadaan, a joyous Diwali and peaceful Hanukah!

Sincere regards

*Oliver Barker*  
*President*

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## **MEMBERSHIP**

### ***Arrear Membership Fees***

Members in arrears were recently contacted by a Council member as a reminder to pay their outstanding dues. To those that have not as yet responded to the numerous requests, you will be struck off the membership roll and be held liable for all unpaid dues. Please note that should you decide to resign from SAIEG, all unpaid fees will still be due.

The non-payment of subscriptions places enormous stress on the finances, and, if this trend were to continue, could threaten the very existence of SAIEG.

<b>Membership Status</b>	<b>Bulletin</b>	<b>No Bulletin</b>
Fellow	R600	R380
Member	R550	R330
Associate Member	R510	R290
Affiliate Member	R400	R180
Retired Member	R400	R180

Cheques can be made out to "SAIEG" and posted to us at:

**PO Box 2812**  
**Pretoria**  
**0001**

Or you can transfer your contributions to\*:

**SAIEG Account No: 1602070423**  
**Nedbank Hatfield**

\*Please remember to furnish us with proof of payment

### ***Change of contact details***

The Institute is aware that the member contact list is not as updated as one would wish. Please assist us in this regard by informing us of any changes of address and contact details.

#### Contact:

Secretariat: Robbie Cameron & Associates

Contact Person: Ursula Wandrag

Tel: +27 11 728 8173

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[ursula@rca.co.za](mailto:ursula@rca.co.za)

[www.rca.co.za](http://www.rca.co.za)

#### Or post to:

SAIEG

P O Box 2812

Pretoria

0001

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### ***Student Membership***

SAIEG membership is ageing. In order to represent the interests of all that are working in the field of engineering geology, it was felt that the membership and therefore awareness of the Institute's activities as well as that of affiliated organisations should be extended to include anyone who is interested, intending to practise or who is practising in the fields of engineering and environmental geology. As part of this drive, students can now become members of SAIEG.

Students majoring in the fields of engineering and environmental geology can join SAIEG as affiliates at a **reduced rate of 30% of the normal rate (currently R60.00 per annum)**. Further details are available from representatives at various tertiary institutions.

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**GEOSCIENCE AFRICA 2004**  
**A REVIEW OF SYMPOSIUM 5.5 AND SEISMICITY**  
**SHORT COURSE**

*Background*

In 2003, SAIEG were invited to take part in what was to be one of the most important geological / geotechnical meetings of recent times, Geoscience Africa 2004 (GSA2004). For those of you who did not read the many notices we sent out, the GSA 2004 had at its core the following objective:

*GeoScience Africa 2004 is an international conference that will focus on geoscientific developments and their importance and implications for the African continent. The conference will provide a forum where African geoscientists and professionals and those from other continents can come together and share experiences, knowledge and ideas for the future, as well as forge new international links and partnerships to promote the development of African geosciences and geotechnology.*

Over the past twenty years the SA Section of the Association of Engineering Geologists has been actively promoting ties between SAIEG and the AEG in the US. Since 1997 the AEG Subcommittee of SAIEG has arranged bi-annual visits to SA of eminent speakers and teachers. This process of reciprocity culminated in the invitation to Professor Bob Watters the 2002 Jahns Lecturer of the AEG to be invited to give a short course on Seismicity and Landslides as part of the GSA 2004. This course developed the 2000 theme of Palaeoseismology which the AEG Subcommittee successfully ran for SAIEG in Stellenbosch.

Thus engineering geologists were to be offered the opportunity of taking part in a symposium on the engineering and environmental geology and a short course. It was a challenge to arrange both of these events but we did it!

*Organisation and Activities*

The short course and symposium was convened and run by Oliver Barker with help from Louis van Rooy and Phil Paige-Green. Robbie Cameron and Associates gave us some valuable and key logistical assistance.

*The Symposium*

The original objective was to try to get as many of our members to submit papers that we would be able to use to begin to update Tony Brink's series of books on SA Engineering Geological Case Studies. Unfortunately the response was poor. However we eventually got a sufficient number of abstracts together that adequately filled an entire day long symposium and even allowed us to run a specific landslides and seismicity theme within the symposium. 15 papers were presented and we had some 60 people registered to attend it, so the symposium was a success.

*The Short Course and Field Trips*

Technically the Short Course was voted a success and the field trips added great value to the information provided in the two days of lectures and short presentations.

*In Gauteng:*

It was agreed that there is certainly an argument for the definition of a landslide belt along the northern scarp of the Witwatersrand quartzites between Bedfordview in the east and Krugersdorp in the west. It was commented on the way back to Johannesburg by Bob Watters that there seemed to be potentially a lot of work in the future if the developments that are climbing up the hillsides along the ridge line, especially west of Northcliff, to the Cradle of Humankind, are not carefully planned and implemented!

We will see.

*In Cape Town:*

By contrast the debate raged on regarding the proposals by Oliver Barker that there was even a landslide behind Simon's Town.

In the end the consensus was that there is a complex sequence of debris and possibly both colluvial and marine origin. These sediments have gone to make up what is patently not a totally satisfactory base for the development of houses and a township. Many of the houses show signs of distress and it looks like there is need for careful development of the township with an eye to cumulative impacts on the soils.

The Cape Town trip started off with a slick presentation by Dave Haskins on the Chapman's Peak project. A visit to the project left many still confused as to how it could be justified and whether it is sustainable in the longer term.

It was unfortunate that only 5 or 6 of the twenty Capetonians who booked for the trip turned up for what was a really interesting event. Cape Town also delivered one of its most perfect days with clear skies and almost no wind! Those that did come had a great time and we learnt a great deal from each other under the enthusiastic guidance of Richard Galliers.

Thanks to all who helped and made it all possible. Thanks especially to those who gave up their time to prepare papers and to turn up to the symposium, short course and field trips! In the end we made a small profit but learnt a great deal.

Thanks especially to Bob Watters for travelling all this way and for the enthusiastic manner in which he embraced our geology, geotechnical problems and interests. He is reported to have measured the temperature of the short course lecture room at Wits and proclaimed it the coldest place in which he had ever had the pleasure of teaching. Gary and Leon will confirm that!

Please note that copies of the documents, including course notes and the field trip booklet are available at a cost of R250, with the CD. Enquiries can be made via the secretariat.



Our booth with our sister organizations Thanks to GSSA for hosting our presence!

GSSA 2004 was a very large gathering of over 700 delegates.



Drs Phil Paige-Green, Roy van Arsdale and Bob Watters in the Townhouse, Cape Town Our "Core Group"

*Oliver Barker  
Convenor*

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**REPORT BACK:  
ANNUAL IAEG EXECUTIVE AND COUNCIL  
MEETINGS  
HELD IN FLORENCE, ITALY, AUGUST 2004**

Greetings to you all

Before I report back on the activities of our parent organization on the occasion of the 32<sup>nd</sup> International Geological Congress in Florence last month, I would like to thank SAIEG for partly sponsoring my trip to one of the most beautiful cities in Europe. The architecture, art and people were just out of this world.

In excess of 8000 delegates attended the Congress held in the Fortezza da Basso, an old fort building very similar in size and shape to the Cape Town Castle, appropriate for this size of military exercise.

The IAEG meetings ran for two full days over the weekend of the 21/22 August, punctuated by a truly Tuscan experience when Prof. Paolo Canuti, Vice President Europe invited the IAEG Executive together with some other guests to his weekend retreat off the famous Arno River valley on the

Saturday evening. The Tuscan ambience, entertainment, hospitality, food and wine (chianti) will be remembered by all present.

Now about the meetings

### **1. IAEG Executive Reports**

Dr Niek Rengers, the IAEG President, ran both the Executive and Council meetings very well, getting through what initially appeared to be a very ambitious agenda, on time. The two major points on the agenda that had to be discussed and voted on were the Task Force 'Core Values of Engineering Geology and IAEG Commission Work' report and approval for the President to pursue the creation of a federation between IAEG, ISRM and ISSMGE.

Both meetings commenced with the reports of the President, Secretary General, Dr Michel Deveughele and Treasurer, Pierre Potherat.

A serious decline in membership was recorded for the year 2003 with a 6% reduction to 4634 members. However, like SAIEG, many of the National Groups reported that they were carrying a lot of dead-wood and had clean-outs to remedy the situation. There were also a number of National Groups expelled during 2003 because they had not paid their annual subscriptions for the past three years. A further three countries, Georgia, Peru and India, have this year received their final warning regarding their poor financial standings. Some relief is being provided to developing countries but the Executive is to formulate new criteria by which a National Group from a developing country can apply for financial assistance. South Africa will not qualify though.

Of the total membership there is a near 50:50 split between those receiving the bulletin and those not. SAIEG has a 33:66 split respectively. An obvious consequence of the reduced number of members is that there will be an increase in the unit cost of the bulletin and hence an increase in our annual subscriptions. An increase was approved such that members with bulletins will pay an additional 2€ (R 15.00) per annum and those without the bulletin an additional 4€ (R 30.00) in the next financial year.

The financial status of IAEG is good with a surplus of some 310 000€ (R 2 300 000.00) in the coffers. However there will be some major expenditure this year with the development of the new IAEG website which is going through trials at the very moment. The address will be circulated as soon as it is registered.

All the Vice Presidents provided summary reports of present and planned activities in their regions. Although Africa, like Australasia, is small in terms of membership numbers, Council was impressed with the activities being undertaken by these National Groups. SAIEG received a special mention by the President for the 9<sup>th</sup> IAEG Congress in Durban.

As has already been mentioned, a common problem reported by all the regions but also by ISRM and ISSMGE is the steady decline in membership and an increase in the average age of the members. These are worrying signs and should be actively addressed by all the National Groups with some urgency.

## 2. Task Force Report

Dr Fred Baines, Vice President Australasia, led the task force that wrote the report entitled 'Core Values of Engineering Geology and IAEG Commission Work'. The objective was for the Executive to breath some life into the existing Commissions, to terminate dormant ones and introduce new ones in the spirit of the inaugural Hans Cloos Lecture 'Core Values' presented by Sir John Knill in Durban. Of the 18 Commissions that have seen the light of day, only 8 remain active. The following recommendations were proposed and accepted by the Council in terms of the Task Force report;

- The Task Force considers that after further refinement these 'Core Values' should be used to assist in the planning teaching curricula, research programmes and developing new directions for Technical Commissions.
- The Task Team requests that the Council endorses these conclusions and supports actions by the Executive to remedy this situation.
- The Task Force considers that as a matter of priority the IAEG should have the Bulletin listed on the Citation Index.
- The following actions are proposed;
  - Promote shorter working durations and more limited objectives for the Commissions.
  - Draw up a list of possible Commission subjects.
  - Approach individuals or groups with the idea of forming numerous new Commissions.
- Council should endorse the actions of the Task Force who should develop a strategic plan for both types of Commissions.
- The Task Force considers that the Executive should exercise these powers to manage Commissions wherever it is considered useful.
- Council to endorse the recommendations made for each Commission.
- Council should endorse this reporting format.
- Council should endorse these topics, think of more, and the Executive should proceed to identify suitable appointees and allocate responsibility for working on these Commissions.

The Executive will now carry out the recommendations of the Task Force report and will report on progress at the next annual meeting on the occasion of the Lyon Conference, France, next year.

## 3. Editors Report

Dr Brian Hawkins, Editor-in-Chief, is to vigorously pursue a listing on the Citation Index. This is in line with the recommendations of the Task Force report but more importantly very good news for members wanting to get international exposure and recognition for their publications.

A new editorial board is to be set up soon for the bulletin and SAIEG is invited to send a name(s) to IAEG for consideration.

There will be a slight change in the bulletin format next year but this will not be significant.

## 4. IAEG affiliation with ISRM and ISSMGE Report

As anticipated this issue was hotly debated. The 'old school' believe that all three sister organisations are learned societies with very specific identities and fields of expertise therefore do not need to affiliate while the 'new school' believe that boundaries between the work performed by the three societies is now so diffuse that there is very little distinction in many areas.

The European Joint Technical Committee on Education, which comprises IAEG, ISRM and ISSMGE representatives, have come to the conclusion that very little distinction can be made between geologists and engineers in the field of geotechnics so much so that in some fields geologists, adequately trained, can carry out design work and engineers, likewise, can develop geological models. This was a surprise outcome to us all present considering that ISRM and ISSMGE members are predominantly engineers which have in the past jealously guarded their domain. However like South Africa, the exclusive preserve of certain professions is under constant pressure to become more broad based or inclusive. The outcome of the EJTC report is to be forwarded to the EU for input in policies affecting education, training and professionalism. This document will soon be made available for all to review but obviously will have no impact outside of the EU at this stage but could be a taste of things to come for other countries.

In the end a near unanimous vote was given to Niek Rengers, together with the other two Presidents, to pursue the issue of affiliation and the details thereof. National Groups will only be required to vote on the issue once the details of affiliation have been circulated and studied. The document may be ready for voting at the Lyon meeting this time next year.

## 5. IAEG and AEG Relationship

The issue of the relationship between IAEG and AEG was raised during the Executive Committee meeting. Prof. Jaques Locat, Vice President North America, confirmed that AEG, being a professional body for the registration of engineering geologists in the USA, is highly unlikely to want to join a learned society as a body. The individual members of AEG are however free to do so if they so wish.

At present there are 91 AEG members who are also members of IAEG. The entire AEG membership (+/- 2900) can read the IAEG newsletter on the AEG website gratis. One wonders if they will reciprocate when the IAEG web-site is up and running.

Niek Rengers will be going to the USA and Canada in the new year with the view to explore common issues and avenues forward for the two organisations.

## 6. Other Issues

Obviously there were numerous administrative issues taken care of during the meetings which consumed much of the time. Enough said.

IAEG will be meeting on the following occasions over the next two years;

- IAEG 2005 - Geoline Conference, Lyon, France
- IAEG 2006 - 10<sup>th</sup> IAEG Congress, Nottingham, U.K.

Finally, a personal observation on my part is that over the past 8 years or so, there has been a marked shift away from academia exclusively running and directing IAEG to one where there is presently a balance between academia and industry jointly carrying out these tasks, which I believe is very healthy. The reason for this I think is that industry is overtaking academic institutions in the field of research and contributing more and more to the advancement of Engineering Geology going forward. It is probably the impetus of industry that is now driving us towards the affiliation with our sister societies discussed above.

All the best to SAIEG President-Elect, Gary Davis, and his Executive for 2005

Regards to you all

*Michel Benet*  
*IAEG Vice President Africa*

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## **REPORT BACK: CGS REVISED APPROACH TO RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT ON DOLOMITE**

The Council for Geoscience (CGS) hosted an information sharing session on 1 October 2004 to share the essence of its revised approach to residential development on dolomite with the fraternity. Briefly outlined, the document includes:

- A new process for the planning of dolomitic site investigations and is dependant on and conditional to the involvement of appropriately experienced persons.
- A revised CGS fee structure as of 1 November 2004, where fees levied for their services will be according to a specific structure which is project size dependant.

- A revised method of dolomite risk classification and resulting appropriate maximum densities. Of note is the introduction of two 'sub-classes' of the typical Risk Class 3, namely Risk Class 3(a) and 3(b), defined by the type of material overlying dolomite bedrock. Similarly, shallow dolomite (typical Risk Class 5) has been further defined into three 'sub-classes' i.e. Risk Class 2(5), 5(3) and 5(6), representative of juvenile, mature and extreme karst environments, respectively.
- Guidelines on the adequate density of borehole information representing a particular Risk Class.

A copy of the information document may be downloaded from the SAIEG website at:

<http://www.geoscience.org.za/saieg/index.htm>

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## **SACNASP NEWS**

Mr Andries de Klerk, Registrar of SACNASP, visited the SAIEG Council during a meeting held on 3 June and provided the Council with information regarding the new SACNASP Act (Act 27 of 2003, promulgated on 16 February 2004). Some of the important points mentioned were:

- The Act is effective from 16 February 2004 but the new Council must still be appointed. The new Council will be more representative of the demographics of the Country and individual societies (such as GSSA or SAIEG) will be able to nominate members although not necessarily be represented *per se*.
- The Professional Advisory Committees (PAC) eg. the PAC for Earth Sciences will fall away and be replaced by a standing committee which will include all disciplines.
- There will be only one type of registered person who will be allowed to practice ie. professional. This will be determined by the NQF level and will include Technologists with a 4 year degree ie. there will be no further registration of Technologists.
- Other categories of registration will be Candidate Natural Scientist and Certified Natural Scientist. Such persons will have lesser experience / education and their work must be signed by a Pr.Sci.Nat.
- At some stage registered scientists will have to re-apply for registration, but this will only be required in a few years time and everyone will be notified.
- The Act allows for very strict policing. Non-registered persons will not be allowed to do scientific work for which they are not qualified and transgression is a criminal offence ie. can be reported to the police.
- No organization can do scientific work if they do not employ a registered scientist who can take responsibility for the work.

The new requirements, along with the full Act, are all defined on the webpage ([www.sacnasp.org.za](http://www.sacnasp.org.za))

*Kobus Venter*

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### **COUNCIL NEWS**

As members are well aware, a call for nominations for members of Council for the period 2005 to 2007 was put forth. We have since received eight nominations and the new Council will be announced at the next AGM in March next year.

The SAIEG Council has unanimously voted in Gary Davis as President and Tony A' Bear as Vice-President. Congratulations to you both and we look forward to your active role in the Council and Institute going forward.

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### **SAIEG – AEG AFFILIATION**

SAIEG is proud to announce that the Institute has been accepted as the first organizational affiliate member of AEG. In the midst of confusion regarding the state of membership, the Council wishes to clarify that SAIEG as a group is an affiliate member of AEG, with benefits of membership devolving to the individual members of SAIEG.

SAIEG's membership will start effective January 1, 2005. The affiliation provides the following benefits:

- Connection with almost 3000 AEG members in the USA and internationally;
  - Full membership of AEG;
  - Access to annual meetings as members and other reciprocal benefits;
  - Connection with the Geological Society of America (GSA) through AEG's affiliation with the society;
  - Access to AEG online publications (journals, manuals and handbooks)
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### **SAIEG GOLD AWARDS**

The SAIEG Council is proud to announce that the SAIEG Gold Medal, the premier award of the Institute, will be presented to two very deserving individuals, Professor Monté van Scalkwyk and Dr Frank Netterberg. The award is given in recognition of outstanding lifelong service by an individual to the profession of Engineering Environmental Geology in South Africa and comprises a certificate and an engraved gold medal made for the purpose. The award will be presented to these worthy recipients at the 21<sup>st</sup> AGM which will take place on 3 March 2005.

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### **NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA**

A number of changes took place in the Department over the past couple of years. Prof Monté van Scalkwyk retired at the end of 2003 and Louis van Rooy took over most of the engineering geology lecturing duties. Prof Monté is still helping out with some of the lecturing duties from time to time. A hydro-geologist, Dr Kai Witthüser, was appointed and took up lecturing duties from January 2004. He is from the Geological Institute, University of Bonn, where he did research after obtaining his PhD at the University of Karlsruhe, Germany.

Dr Witthüser will be responsible for pre-graduate lecturing in hydrogeology and the environmental portion of the BSc (Hons) degree in Environmental and Engineering Geology. The focus in this option will be on groundwater geochemistry, flow and modeling with some input on characterization and remediation of polluted sites.

A taught MSc will also be presented after approval has been obtained from the relevant authorities. The MSc will also focus on the characterization and remediation of polluted groundwater sites. Members will be informed of the progress regarding the registration and approval of this course. If there are any ideas on the course content, this will also be welcomed as we are presently in the process of writing up the degree content.

Another interesting trend in the Department is the increase in student numbers at pre-graduate level. We are experiencing a dramatic increase in the numbers of previously disadvantaged students. The number of students registering for the BSc Environmental and Engineering Geology study programme is also increasing at pre-graduate level. This places an enormous strain on the present limited facilities in the Department and we are all working harder with additional practical contact sessions and the associated administrative burden.

The Annual TUKS Geology Alumni get together function was held on 3 October 2004 at the Kimiad Bush Pub in Moreleta Park, Pretoria. Round about 55 people attended the late lunch and some stayed for sundowners! This is the one functions where past students come together to carry on with the conversations of last year and years gone by without noticing the time lapse between the years.

It is also tradition to invite the third year class of 30 years ago as guests and to give them the opportunity to share with the others something of their time at TUKS.

It is a pity that more past students don't make use of this opportunity to meet each other again, to make new friends and to strengthen existing friendships.

These functions are usually well supported by past engineering geology students and I would like to

encourage those that don't receive any notices from our Department to contact us with your latest e mail address.

Hope to see you in 2005 at the function.

Louis van Rooy

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**YOUNG GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERS  
CONFERENCE (YGEC) 2005**  
***“Environmental Geotechnology – A  
Contradiction in Terms?”***

A conference organized by the SAICE Geotechnical Division in collaboration with: SAIEG, GIGSA & SANIRE

*Date:* 13 - 15 June 2005

*Venue:* Aventura Swadini, Mpumalanga

*Chairman:* Wynand Greyling

(wgreyling@grinaker-lta.co.za)

Conference organizer: Lesley Stephenson  
(stephensonl@ebe.wits.ac.za)

If you have been to one before expect the same and much more...

If you've never attended a YGEC make sure not to miss this one, 35 has a tendency to creep up one quite unexpectedly.

For additional information & Call for Abstracts please refer:

<http://www.up.ac.za/academic/civil/geodiv/download/YGECInvite.PDF>

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**OTHER NEWS**

***SANCOT / SAIMM News***

SAIMM corporate membership will be maintained although corporate membership fees are set to increase due to reduced sponsorship from SANCOT funds. One of the benefits for the wider SAIEG membership is that all SAIEG members would qualify for discounted registration fees, for SAIMM organized tunnelling conferences only.

***IUGS News***

The IUGS E-Bulletin #8 issue includes recent information regarding decisions taken by the IUGS Council at the 32nd IGC in Florence, Italy, August 2004.

The IUGS Council made the following decisions:

- The Council ratified the inclusion of four new adhering national bodies (national memberships) to IUGS: Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Peru and Slovenia.

- The IGC and IUGS Councils were officially merged into a single Council, this effort results in a more efficient entity to deal with matters arising from IGC and IUGS.

- The IGC and IUGS statutes were changed in accordance to the decision given above. The new Council requested the IUGS Executive Committee revise and streamline the Statutes to make the Council meetings more effective. As a result, at its first meeting on August 27, the new IUGS Executive Committee decided to establish an ad hoc committee to revise the Statutes.

- Three new affiliated organizations to IUGS were ratified. These are: the International Consortium on Landslides, the International Geoscience Education Organization, and Geologische Vereinigung.

- The following officers of the IUGS Executive Committee were elected:

*President:*

Prof. Zhang Hongren (China)

*Secretary General:*

Prof. Peter T. Bobrowsky (Canada)

*Treasurer:*

Prof. Antonio Brambati (Italy) *re-elected*

*Vice Presidents:*

Prof. Eldridge Moores (USA) and

Prof. Sylvi Haldorsen (Norway)

*Councillors (2004-2008):*

Prof. Ryo Matsumoto (Japan) and Dr. Gabriele

Schneider (Namibia); Prof. Alberto Riccardi

(Argentina) and Prof. Jean-Paul Cadet (France)

*Councillors (2006-2010):*

Prof. Mikhail Fedonkin (Russia) and Dr. Marta

Mantovani (Brazil)

*Past-President:*

Prof. Eduardo F.J. de Mulder

*Past-Secretary General:*

Dr. Werner Janoschek

- The members of the new IUGS Nominating Committee will be:

*Chair:*

Past President Eduardo de Mulder (Netherlands)

*Members:*

Joy Pereira (Malaysia), Eldridge Moores (USA),

Wolfgang Eder (France), Victor Osipov (Russia),

Harsh Gupta (India) and A. Kampunzu (Botswana)

- The Council approved the IUGS Mid-term report.

- The Council adopted the proposed IUGS grant policy.

- The Council approved IUGS' activities in the International Year of Planet Earth and adopted a Declaration requesting UNESCO's Executive Board to support the International Year.

Other Issues:

- IGC Congress venues for the future:

The Nordic countries will host the Congress in 2008 (Oslo)

Australia will host the Congress in 2012 (Brisbane).

- IUGS Booth: The IUGS Secretariat reports that they received at least 5000 visitors to the IUGS Booth that they shared with Episodes and ICS in Florence. A truckload of information regarding Union



activities was distributed and many important first time contacts were established. 2500 happy visitors went home with an IUGS Poster printed in China featuring an attractive migmatitic gneiss formation from western Norway. Also extremely popular were the 2003 IUGS Annual Report, Planet Earth brochures and old IUGS monographs: all distributed at no charge. Several hundreds of visitors requested copies of posters of the History of the Earth (Download at <http://www.stratigraphy.org>) and the Nomenclature of Metamorphic Rocks (download from Results page of <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/SCMR>). IUGS would like to express thanks to all who visited and helped at the booth at GeoExpo.

All copies of the E-Bulletin are also available from the official IUGS website ([www.iugs.org](http://www.iugs.org))

*The E-Bulletin is compiled by:  
Prof. Sylvi Haldorsen  
Vice President IUGS  
Agricultural University of Norway  
Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences*

### **FROM THE STOREROOM ...**

SAIEG holds a collection of very useful reference books and proceedings which are considered essential for any complete South African engineering geological library. These include:

Title	Author	Publ Date	Price (incl postage)
The Natural Road Construction Materials of Southern Africa	Weinert, H.H	1980	R30,00
Cities of South Africa	AEG Symposium	1981	R50,00
Guidelines for Urban Engineering Geological Investigations	SAIEG/ SAICE	1997	R75,00
A Practical Guide to Soil Movement	SAIEG/ SAICE	1999	R75,00
Proceedings: 9 <sup>th</sup> IAEG Congress (with extended abstracts) - Engineering Geology for Developing Countries, Durban, 2002 (Compact Disc format)	Editors: Van Rooy, J.L. and Jerry, C.A.	2002	R120,00
Geoscience Africa-Symposium Proceedings + short course notes and field trip booklet (including CD)		2004	R250,00

Please contact the secretariat for any of the above items.

### **JOB VACANCY**

An exciting career opportunity exists at McKnight Geotechnical Consulting (Pty) Ltd, who would like to recruit an Exploration Geologist and Engineering

Geologist to their Company. McKnight's exciting current and potential projects will allow the Company to expand and therefore provide any new staff with great exposure and growth.

#### **Dynamic company in Bryanston requires the services of the following candidates:-**

##### **EXPLORATION GEOLOGIST**

Local and international exploration experience essential. Min. 5-6 years exploration experience in platinum, gold and base minerals and carrying out of feasibility studies a definite advantage. Must be prepared to travel. Computer-based resource modelling experience essential, Surpac experience would be an advantage. Salary negotiable (commensurate with experience).

##### **ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST**

Minimum requirement Hons. (Eng. Geol.), 3-5 years experience in consulting engineering geology, Salary negotiable (commensurate with experience). Windows XP (Word, Excel), Dotplot and Surfer an advantage.

For both abovementioned vacancies, please fax brief (3 page) CV to (011) 463-2714 (marked for the attention of Caryn McKnight) or email [caryn@mcknight.co.za](mailto:caryn@mcknight.co.za)

*Engineering / Environmental geological vacancies may be advertised via SAIEG. The advert is circulated to all members (via email and the newsletter) and posted on the website for a couple of days, all for a nominal fee of R 500. Those wanting to make use of this service must contact the editor.*

### **LOCAL EVENT CALENDAR**

#### **NOVEMBER**

**10-12** 10<sup>th</sup> South African Coal Science and Technology Conference - Fff Coal Indaba 2004: *Advances In Coal Production, Characterisation, Utilisation And Environmental, Climate And Health Protection*. Three day conference. Volkswagen Centre, Midrand, Gauteng.

**22-26** Coal Combustion and Power Generation. Five day course for industry personnel. Chamber of Mines Engineering Building, University of Witwatersrand, Jhb.  
[stephensonl@ebe.wits.ac.za](mailto:stephensonl@ebe.wits.ac.za)

### **INTERNATIONAL EVENT CALENDAR**

#### **22 – 23 November**

Orebody Modelling and Strategic Mine Planning, Uncertainty and Risk Management, *Hyatt Regency Perth, Australia*. Contact: [conference@ausimm.com.au](mailto:conference@ausimm.com.au) or: [www.ausimm.com/ommp2004/home.html](http://www.ausimm.com/ommp2004/home.html)

## **2005**

### **9 – 11 March**

6<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Rockburst and Seismicity in Mines, *Perth, Western Australia*. First Announcement and Call for Abstracts. Contact [acg@acg.uwa.edu.au](mailto:acg@acg.uwa.edu.au) or visit: [www.acg.uwa.edu.au](http://www.acg.uwa.edu.au)

### **13 – 15 June**

Young Geotechnical Engineers Conference (YGEC) 2005, *Aventura Swadini, Mpumalanga*. First Announcement and Call for Abstracts. Contact <http://www.up.ac.za/academic/civil/geodiv/download/YGECInvite.PDF>

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We've reached the end of this edition. All the best over the festive season and please be safe!

See you in the new year.

*Regards,  
Ashika Sudu*

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