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SACI NEWS

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Time moves ever forwards and already March is upon us. Much activity within SACI has been going on these past two months of 2014; but this action takes place behind the scenes and is only evidenced by what I would call, the final output. Thus, what members will see are final drafts to Constitution changes, an actual conference event, and the presentation ceremonies and so on. Hopefully the Newsletter will give some indication of some of these outputs. Included for example is a report on the SACI Convention held in December 2013. What is impressive is that Adebola (Bola) Oyedeji and her team in the Eastern Cape were organising a conference for the first time ever, and pulled off a truly remarkable and financially successful event. This shows the depth of capabilities within our Chemistry community.

16 *Neil Coville*

SACI office: KZN address

Below are listed the new details for our SACI Head Office

Laila Smith; SACI, School of Chemistry and Physics
University of KwaZulu-Natal, Westville Campus, Private Bag X54001, Durban 4000
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Advertising in the SACI newsletter

The newsletter provides a means of getting messages to our membership. Currently the SACI membership stands at over 1000. This newsletter thus provides a means of advertising employment opportunities, conferences and workshops, and even for companies/Universities to promote themselves. We encourage members to use the Newsletter for advertising purposes.

All SACI related conferences and events are advertised for free; if not a SACI related event there could be a small charge.

For advertising costs contact Laila at the SACI office

SACI scarves and ties



The SACI scarves (for women) and ties (for men) are now available from Laila in the SACI office. Cost of either is R100 (+ postage).

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Obituary – Prof Neuse



It is with great sadness that the University has learnt of the passing of Professor Eberhard Neuse who died on 10 February 2014 at the age of 88 at his home in Blairgowrie after a long battle with cancer. An A-rated Professor of Polymer Chemistry, Neuse spent many years in the Wits School of Chemistry. He will be remembered for his dedication to science research and his devotion to his students of whom he was extremely proud.

Born on the 7th of March 1925 in Berlin, Germany, Neuse obtained his BSc (1948), MSc (1951), PhD (1953) in Hannover, Germany and his DSc (1976) at Wits. He joined Wits in 1971 as a Reader in Polymer Chemistry (then as Professor of Macromolecular Chemistry) and continued his research activities as an Honorary Professorial Fellow until 2012. He has been an Emeritus Professor at Wits since 1991. His key research area focused on polymeric anti-cancer drugs. He remained active and supervised various students until 2012. Since 1974, he graduated at least 15 PhD and at least 22 Masters students. His last student graduated in 2013.

Neuse has held his A-rating since 1984 and was an internationally recognised researcher with over 200 publications, patents, book chapters and refereed conference papers. He is survived by two sons, his daughters in law and four grandchildren. For further details contact Gaby.Meirim@wits.ac.za

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SACI Convention

The National Convention for SACI 2013 was held 1-6th December, 2013, at River Park, East London. A total of 263 people attended the conference of which 248 were registered delegates. The remaining 15 people were resource persons such as drivers, WSU cooperate team (who assisted with registration, media etc). 85% of the delegates were from South Africa, while the remaining 15% came from India, Nigeria, Egypt, Mauritius, France, Italy, Finland and Sweden. Five (5) exhibitors were also present throughout the duration of the conference. 221 abstracts were received out of which 203 was accepted for either oral or poster presentation.

The convention was graced with 28 invited speakers, 108 oral speakers and 95 poster presenters. The fields covered include; Inorganic Chemistry, Physical Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Environmental/ Analytical Chemistry, Fluorine Chemistry, Chemical Engineering and Chemical Education.

The largest group was the Analytical/ Environmental group followed by the Organic group and Physical chemistry group. The Chemical Education group was poorly represented. Fluorine/Chemical Engineering group turnout was noteworthy and this group brought in a new perspective into SACI convention.

Arrival and Evening Welcome Function

The registration and ice-breaker was held at Golf Club, East London from about 3 to 8pm. Registration was smooth with very little hiccups - with few omissions of names. This was sorted out on the basis of proof of payment as most of the omission was due to last minute payment. Student accommodation was a serious challenge as the Backpacker Hotel which was booked for 68 students was not habitable. The picture of the rooms and facilities on ground was a great variance to the impression we saw on the internet and telephone. The students were immediately moved to Mimosa, Osner and Protea Hotels at a reasonable cost while we requested for the full refund of the deposit paid to Backpacker Hotel. The welcome function was chaired by the Eastern Cape SACI President Prof Zeni Tshentu. The Acting Vice Chancellor of Walter Sisulu University was on ground to welcome the delegates with a short opening speech.

Opening Ceremony and Gold Medal Award

The opening session which was held at river Park witnessed dignitaries such as Honourable Minister of Science and Technology Mr Dereck Hanekom, Walter Sisulu University Administrator Prof Van Staden, representatives of the Mayor of Buffalo Municipality and the Premiere of the Eastern Cape Province. Media – SABC 3, Daily Dispatch, Radio FM and Eastern Cape Radio Station were present. The Honourable Minister and the WSU administrator centred on the need for new innovation and collaboration. Prof T Nyokong (2012 Gold medal recipient) and Prof B Klumperman (2013 Gold medal recipient) delivered their stimulating “gold” lectures.

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SACI Convention

Plenary and Keynote lectures

Six plenary lectures and twenty-six keynote lectures was given during the duration of the conference. The speakers were drawn from within and outside the shores of South African. The lectures synchronise into the breakaway sessions.

Breakaway Sessions and Poster Session

Four parallel sessions was taken at each breakaway session. It was observed that 75 % of the oral presentation was by students. This is remarkable as it gives insight into the wealth of upcoming young scientist under grooming. All posters were presented on Tuesday and it was well attended.

Social events

The braai night was held at the Golf Club, which was also well attended. Three excursions were organized for the convention – Mpongo Park, Lion Park and Mandela Museum/house. The first two groups had a great time while the Mandela museum group did not as the tour guide was hospitalised few hours to the time. This distorts the program for the day. An emergency resource person was asked to take up the challenge but the delegates wanted more. A refund of R250 was given back to each of the delegate. The Gala dinner was well attended.



Helpers and delegates at the SACI2013 Convention

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SACI Convention

Conference Venue

The two venues used during the conference was strategic as it was far away from most of the BB and Hotels which therefore made delegates to attend all programme for the day with full attendance. It was also far from the shops which turned out to be an advantage. Both venues were quite roomy and conducive for the programme.

Transport

Transport was available all through the conference to pick and drop-off delegates from their various accommodation to the conference venue and the airport.

SACI 2013 NATIONAL CONVENTION REPORT

GC-MS Workshop

Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture & Technology, Kenya, 25-29 August 2014

Applications are invited from researchers, lecturers and students pursuing PhD in relevant topics for the above workshop which will cover the practical aspects of Gas Chromatography, method development, quantitative analysis and spectral interpretation of GC-MS. Applications giving detailed description of teaching and current research work, CV and letters of introduction from one referee (in case of students) should reach the PACN Kenya office by **15th March 2014**. Opportunities are limited to **15** positions only. Those who qualify will be informed by 15th April 2014. **Limited travel allowances will be provided by PACN Kenya for those who request and are deemed deserving.** For more information contact: **Erick O. Awas**, Administrator, PACN Kenya, Department of Chemistry, University of Nairobi, P.O. Box 30197, 00100, NAIROBI, Tel: +254 20 444 6140; Fax: +254 20 444 6140, pacn@uonbi.ac.ke

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2014 SACI Award Nominations

For recognition of achievements in 2013.
See SACI webpage for nomination forms

THE JAMES MOIR MEDALS

The medals shall be known as **The James Moir Medals of the South African Chemical Institute**. The medals are struck in bronze, and bear the Institute's name and crest on the obverse, and the name of the medal together with the name of the recipient and the date on the reverse. Medals shall be awarded to the best BSc Honours student in chemistry at each University and University of Technology. **To be eligible for the award the student must have achieved a minimum final pass mark of 75%**. One medal shall be available for award annually for each University and University of Technology in the Republic of South Africa. The medal shall be accompanied by a suitably inscribed scroll.

PROCEDURE FOR NOMINATION/APPLICATION

The merits of the work of candidates may be brought to the notice of the Council by the Heads of the Departments of Chemistry who desire to recommend

THE GOLD MEDAL

The medal shall be known as the **Gold Medal of the South African Chemical Institute**. The medal is gold-plated, and bears the Institute's name and crest on the obverse, and the name of the medal, together with the name of the recipient and the date on the reverse. The award shall be made to a person whose scientific contributions in the field of chemistry or chemical technology are adjudged to be of outstanding merit. The medal shall be accompanied by a monetary award to the value of R5000, together with a suitably inscribed scroll.

THE RAIKES MEDAL

The medal shall be known as **The Raikes Medal of the South African Chemical Institute**. The medal is gold-plated, and bears a likeness of Humphrey Rivaz Raikes with his name on the obverse, and candidates (nominations).

Nominations should be received by the Institute not later than 31 March 2014.

The Council may at its discretion suspend any or all of these awards in any year in which there are no suitable candidates.

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2014 SACI Award Nominations

the Institute's name and crest, and the name of the recipient and the date on the reverse. The award shall be made to a person, under the age of 40 on 31 December proceeding the year of the award, whose original chemical research shows outstanding promise, as judged by the person's publications in reputable journals. It is further stipulated that the research shall have been performed in South Africa. The medal shall be accompanied by a monetary award to the value of R2500, together with a suitably inscribed scroll.

THE CHEMICAL EDUCATION MEDAL

The medal shall be known as the **The Chemical Education Medal of the South African Chemical Institute**. The medal is struck in silver and bears the Institute's name and crest on the obverse, and the name of the medal, together with the name of the recipient and the date on the reverse. The award shall be made to a person who has made an outstanding contribution to chemical education, as judged by the person's published work in the previous five years. Published work may be in any form and may be related to any level or educational context. The medal shall be accompanied by a suitably inscribed scroll.

THE SASOL CHEMISTRY INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR MEDAL

The medal shall be known as **The Sasol Chemistry Innovator of the Year Medal**. The medal is gold-plated, and bears the SASOL logo together with the inscription "Chemistry Innovator of (the year)" on the obverse and the Institute's name and crest and the name of the recipient on the reverse. The award shall be made to a person whose scientific contributions in the field of chemistry or chemical technology during the year preceding the award are adjudged to be outstandingly innovative. The award shall comprise, in addition to the medal a monetary award to the value of R20000, together with a suitably inscribed scroll. The recipient of the award shall be known as the "SASOL Chemistry Innovator of the Year". Past medalists are ineligible for nomination for a second award of the medal. Any member of the Institute may submit nominations for the award. The person submitting the nomination shall supply the following information:

1. A complete curriculum vitae of the candidate, detailing all academic achievements.
2. A motivation from at least two persons detailing why the nominee should be considered the most innovative chemist during the year under consideration.
3. Any relevant supporting documentation that may assist the Awards Committee in reaching a decision.
4. A draft outline of a citation, including personal information about the candidate, for possible use at the presentation ceremony.

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2014 SACI Award Nominations

The nominations for the Award shall be sent by the Awards Committee (SACI) to at least two former recipients of the Gold Medal of the South African Chemical Institute and two representatives nominated by SASOL. The recipient of the Award shall be required to deliver the SASOL Chemistry Innovator of the Year Lecture during the presentation ceremony, on a suitable occasion determined by the Council in consultation with the relevant Section Committee. Wherever practicable, the presentation ceremony and lecture shall take place during a Convention. The recipient of the Award shall be required to prepare a written form of the SASOL Chemistry Innovator of the Year Lecture, or a review based upon the subject of the lecture, for publication by the Institute/Sasol.

THE SASOL POST-GRADUATE MEDALS

The medals shall be known as the **Sasol Post-Graduate Medals of the South African Chemical Institute**. The medals are struck in silver, and bear the SASOL logo on the obverse, and the Institute's name and crest, together with the name of the recipient and the date on the reverse. The medals shall be awarded to students engaged in research towards a MSc or PhD degree at a South African University, or a MTech or DTech degree at a South African University of Technology. The number of medals awarded shall not exceed five per annum, and the awards are limited to one per institution. The recipients of the award shall be known as The Sasol Post-Graduate Medalists. Past Sasol Post-Graduate Medalists are not eligible for nomination for a second award of the medal. The medal shall be accompanied by a monetary award to the value of R2000, together with a suitably inscribed scroll.

The persons nominated should be considered as being "young innovative chemists". The characteristics of such a person are:

1. Innovation.
2. Independence.
3. Enterprise.

The selection criteria applicable to the award are:

1. Has the candidate done something worthy of admiration in the experimental field (e.g. a new, noteworthy, experimental design)?
2. Has the candidate communicated the experimental results in any useful way (in printed form, or at conferences or symposia)?
3. Does the candidate have a broad appreciation of the role and context of chemistry as a science?

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2014 SACI Award Nominations

4. Does the candidate play a productive role in his/her chemistry department?

The persons submitting the nominations shall supply complete curricula vitae of the candidates, detailing all academic achievements. The group of people nominating a candidate must be able to assess the impact the nominee has made in his/her department. Hence a combined process of peer and supervisor review should inform the selection of the candidate. In addition to the backing of the supervisor, the candidate shall require the support of at least one other member of staff of the Department. The candidate must also enjoy the support of a number of fellow post-graduate research students. All the support for a candidate must be submitted in writing. The endorsements should mention how the candidate reflects the qualities enumerated in the list above. Final endorsement may reside with the Head of Department, where appropriate.

PROCEDURE FOR NOMINATION/APPLICATION

The merits of the work of candidates may be brought to the notice of the Council either by persons who desire to recommend candidates (nominations) or by the candidates themselves (applications).

Nominations and applications should be received by the Institute not later than 31 March 2014. Applicants must provide a list of publications, and/or non-confidential internal reports and other appropriate information in support of the application, together with curricula vitae detailing all academic and professional achievements. **In the case of the Raikes medal three reprints each of those publications considered to represent the candidate's most significant work must be submitted.** In the case of the Chemical Education Award copies of the publications to be considered, together with any explanatory or supporting material, must be submitted.

Each nomination or application should include the names of two persons with knowledge of the candidate's work, to whom reference may be made by the Institute.

The Council may at its discretion suspend any or all of these awards in any year in which there are no suitable candidates.

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RSC News

Looking for speakers

Many SACI members, especially those living in Gauteng, will be aware of the Sci Bono “Speak to a Scientist” series of lectures. These are held at the Sci Bono Science Centre in Newtown, Johannesburg, usually on the last Thursday of the month. The lectures are aimed at educating the general public on a variety of scientific issues.

The programme for 2104 is currently being drawn up and the Royal Society of Chemistry, South Africa North section has decided to sponsor talks related to the chemical sciences. To this end, we are looking for potential speakers on the following topics:

- Organic Electronics
- Sustainable Chemistry
- Nutrition
- Bioengineering
- Water Wars
- Stem cell research
- Renewable & Sustainable Energy
- Climate Change

The preference would be to have scientists who work in any of these areas talking about their work and the subject in general. If you work in any of these fields (or know somebody who does) and you (or they) would be prepared to give a public lecture on the subject, please contact Ian Bratt, the Chairman of the RSC North ian.bratt@implats.co.za to register your interest and obtain further details.

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IUPAC and related news

Prof Liliana Mammino, University of Venda, was a guest editor for articles on Green Chemistry. One article that would be of interest to readers is entitled Green Chemistry: 30 Years of History (by **Prof. Fabio Aricò**)

Prof Mammino is Chair of the forthcoming IUPAC Conference on Green Chemistry to be held in Durban, Aug 17-21, 2014 (see advert elsewhere). SACI is heavily involved in this event. It is the first time that this important IUPAC conference comes to Africa



See ECTN Association Publication since 2000 - January 2014, Vol. 15, N. 01 - Special Edition Green Chemistry http://www.ec2e2n.info/news/2014/1501_201401

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ACS News

The BOCC conference will be held at Stellenbosch University from 30 Nov - 4 Dec 2014 and will involve organic chemists from SA and the USA. See advert below.

For those interested: the ACS Office of International Activities publishes articles in GlobalChem (see ACS website). Includes information on study Scholarships and so on.

Currently the formation of ACS Chapter is being discussed with possible launch at the above meeting.

African Journals of Chemistry

South African Journal of Chemistry

This Journal is published electronically. The webpage is: <http://www.saci.co.za/>

African Journal of Pure and Applied Chemistry

Table of Content, Volume 8, Issue 2, February 2014 ajpac@academicjournals.org

African Journal of Chemical Education

http://www.faschem.org/images//ajce_january2014.pdf

CAIA Newsletter

The latest issue of CAIA news i.e. **Issue 132 January 2014**, is available. Go to: www.caia.co.za or <http://www.caia.co.za/events.php?cat=n&pg=23> (events) or e-mail: caia@iafrica.com

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SACI and SACI related Conference events

The first announcement for Analitika 2014 will be distributed soon
Contact Patricia Forbes, Patricia.Forbes@up.ac.za the chair of the scientific committee or **Mike Britton**
Email: mike.britton@necs.co.za for preliminary information



ANALITIKA
2014
milestones in measurements

Analitika 2014
- First
Announcement
and Call for
Abstracts

KHAYA
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**CONFERENCE
CENTRE**

*Analitika 2014 will be held
from 7 to 11 September 2014
on the banks of the Vaal River
at Khaya IBhubesi
(Home of the Lion,
www.khayaconference.co.za/)
on the outskirts of Parys,
only 120 km from
Johannesburg.*

This Conference, the seventh in a series since 1992, will for the first time be organised jointly by four SACI Divisions (the Analytical Division, ChromSA, SAAMS and ThermSA), as well as the SA Spectroscopic Society (SASS) and will cover all aspects of analytical chemistry including:

- Chromatography
- Environmental analysis
- Food analysis
- Mass spectrometry
- Metabolomics / proteomics
- Sampling techniques
- Spectroscopy
- Thermal analysis

The theme of the conference, **Milestones in measurements**, will be addressed by several prominent overseas scientists who have been invited to participate as plenary speakers.

Please visit the Conference website (<http://www.analitika2014.co.za/>) for more details and to submit your abstract on line before 31 March 2014.



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SACI and SACI related Conference events

BOCC 2014



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SACI and SACI related Conference events

Others

5th IUPAC International Conference on Green Chemistry

To be held in Durban at the Southern Sun Elangeni Hotel, 17-21 August 2014;

<http://www.saci.co.za/greenchem2014>

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SACI and SACI related Conference events

Others

NanoAfrica conference. 30 March – 2 April 2014 Vaal University of Technology (VUT) Vanderbijlpark. For details – contact: makwenaM@vut.ac.za

The Eastern and Southern Africa Environmental Chemistry Conference (ESAECC) and 10th Theoretical Chemistry Conference in Africa (TCAA). 6th – 11th April 2014, University of Venda, Thohoyandou, <http://www.univen.ac.za/docs/conference-website.pdf>. For information: tecal0esaeecc@gmail.com

The International Conference on Pure and Applied Chemistry (ICPAC) The biennial event organised since 2010. ICPAC-2014 will be held from 23rd to 27th June 2014, in Mauritius.

Conference List

- **XXVI Int Conf on Organometallic Chem** July 13-18, 2014, Sapporo Japan
icome2014@ec-pro.co.jp
- **Shechtman International Symposium** June 29 to July 4 2014. Fiesta Americana Condesa Cancun All Inclusive Resort in Cancun, Mexico. <http://www.flogen.org/ShechtmanSymposium>.
- **‘NANOCON 014’ on Nanotechnology** 14 – 15 October 2014, Pune, India – smart materials, composites, applications and new innovations. (www.bvunanocon.com)
- **ICPAC-2014** 23rd to 27th June 2014, Mauritius. “Crystallising Ideas: The Role of Chemistry”
<http://sites.uom.ac.mu/icpac/FER>
- **Test and Measurement 2014:** conference and workshop, 29th September - 1st October 2014, Misty Hills Conference Hotel, Muldersdrift, Gauteng, South Africa E-mail: steves@nla.org.za, www.nla.org.zaENCE

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Extra Events (taken from CAIA newsletter)

Introduction to Environmental Management – An Overview of Principles, Tools and Issues, 3-7 March 2014, North-West University (Potchefstroom Campus). Contact: Theresa Bowen, Tel: 018 299 2714; Fax: 018 299 2726; E-mail: ceminfo@nwu.ac.za

Implementing Environmental Management Systems, 31 March – 4 April 2014, North-West University (Potchefstroom Campus). Contact: Theresa Bowen, Tel: 018 299 2714; Fax: 018 299 2726; E-mail: ceminfo@nwu.ac.za

Environmental Impact Assessment: A Practical Approach, 31 March – 4 April 2014, North-West University (Potchefstroom Campus). Contact: Theresa Bowen, Tel: 018 299 2714; Fax: 018 299 2726; E-mail: ceminfo@nwu.ac.za

International Congress on Green Process Engineering, 7-10 April 2014, Sevilla, Spain. Contact: Pedro Lozano, E-mail: plozanor@um.es

Handling, Storage and Transportation of Dangerous Goods and Hazardous Substances 7-11 April, 2014, North-West University (Potchefstroom Campus). Contact: Theresa Bowen, Tel: 018 299 2714; Fax: 018 299 2726; E-mail: ceminfo@nwu.ac.za

An Introduction to Waste Classification in South Africa: Towards Implementation of the National Environmental Management Waste Act, 14-15 April 2014, North-West University (Potchefstroom Campus). Contact: Theresa Bowen, Tel: 018 299 2714; Fax: 018 299 2726; E-mail: ceminfo@nwu.ac.za

Vinyl India 2014, 4th International Vinyl & Chlor Alkali Conference, 24-25 April 2014, Grand Hyatt, Mumbai, India. Contact: Elite India, Tel: +91 22 26000555,56; E-mail: vinylindia2014@elitepus.co.in; www.eliteplus.co.in

Integrated Water Resource Management in the Context of SA Legislation, 5-9 May, 2014, North-West University (Potchefstroom Campus). Contact: Theresa Bowen, Tel: 018 299 2714; Fax: 018 299 2726; E-mail: ceminfo@nwu.ac.za

Occupational Health & Safety Management System OHSAS 18001 Audit: A Lead Auditor Course based on ISO 19011 and ISO 17021, 5-9 May, 2014, North-West University (Potchefstroom Campus). Contact: Theresa Bowen, Tel: 018 299 2714; Fax: 018 299 2726; E-mail: ceminfo@nwu.ac.za

The International Conference on Pure and Applied Chemistry, 23-27 June 2014, Hotel Softel Mauritius Imperial Resort & Spa, Mauritius. Contact: Professor Ponnadurai Ramasami, Chairman o ICPAC 2014, E-mail: icpacmru@gmail.com