SAIIE News

Volume 8 – September 2014

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Dear Members

We now find ourselves in the home stretch with 2014’s finishing line looming – and so much still to be done! Don’t despair, do it the Winston Churchill way, “I am an optimist. It does not seem too much use being anything else.”

Volunteer work towards the development of one’s Profession could be most rewarding in that it allows one to develop leadership skills, and given the difference one can make to one’s Profession.

SAIIE is appointing new members to Council, and creating working committees that will work towards the objectives that Council has set in the various areas we are involved in. The purpose of this letter is to give an overview of the various roles and initiatives to which we want to appoint individuals, either as Volunteers, or part-time workers, and to ask you to become involved in any of these, according to your specific interest and passion.

**SAIE Branches** – We are seeking Branch Leaders to drive the establishment of SAIIE branches in all the main regions in our Country.

**Special Interest Groups (SIGs)** – There are various Special Interest Groups that SAIIE runs, some of which are in association with other Volunteer Organisations. The Operations Research SIG is run in partnership with The Operations Research Society of South Africa, and Elias Willemse is stepping down as the SAIIE representative responsible for convening this SIG. We are looking for someone to replace Elias in fulfilling this role. Other new SIGs which have merit are that of Supply Chain Engineering and Asset and Maintenance Management. We will partner with SAPICS and SAAMA respectively, but we need individuals to get these Initiatives off the ground, from a SAIIE perspective.

We are keen to hear from you, should there be any other SIGs that you would either want to get off the ground in your particular region or in your field of interest, or if you wish to attend meetings of any of the SIGs.

**Online Training** - We want to establish accredited online training content in various fields of Industrial Engineering. If you are a subject matter expert in any particular field in which you believe that online training is warranted, we would love to hear from you Re: a prospective partnership in getting the content and video developed.

**Knowledge Management** - Our website enables us to develop online repositories of articles, best practice, subject matter and service provider contributions and more in any particular fields, such as simulation, maintenance, project management and so forth. Please let us know if you are interested in becoming the content manager in any particular field.

Unlike the other Built Environment Professions, the fee scales of Industrial Engineers are not pegged to the cost of development. We are looking to appoint a chair, and members of a Fees Committee, tasked with making informed recommendations regarding guidelines on Industrial Engineering Fees, published annually in the Government Gazette.

The Task Team on Skills Scarcity in Industrial Engineering has made recommendations on Industrial Engineering Curricula, in line with the future requirements of the National Development Plan and Industry Requirements in general. These recommendations need to be validated by Industry, to guide our Academics in decisions regarding the introduction of new courses in Industrial Engineering. We are intent on appointing a Curriculum Advisory Committee, tasked with making recommendations on the nature and content of under- and post graduate courses, taught at our respective Schools of Industrial Engineering.
After many years at the helm of organising our annual SAIIE Conference, both Dieter and Teresa are stepping down as our Council Members responsible for Conference Organisation. We are looking for volunteers in this role, either as lead Conference Organiser, and member of Council, and as part of a Conference Organising Committee.

These are some of the various initiatives that we invite you to become part of. We look forward to hear from you, should you wish to serve on Council, or as a member of any of the working committees we are intent on establishing.

We are furthermore happy to report that SAIIE membership has increased with 10% since May 2014. A warm welcome to all our new SAIIE members and a special word of thank you to Charles, our Council Member responsible for SAIIE membership, for all his efforts.

SAIIE also welcomes Miss Tharien Guillaume to the Student Membership Portfolio Working Committee. Jacques, our Council Member responsible for Student Membership, with the help of Hanno van Wyk, at the EOS Consulting Training Division, have successfully hosted 2 Train the Teacher sessions on The Fresh Connection (the Supply Chain Game). Lecturers from various Universities and Universities of Technology attended these sessions, and he is looking forward to entering more teams and also more competitive teams for The Fresh Connection International Competition in mid-2015, with a national competition early 2015 as preparation.

Jacques is furthermore busy in the development of a Company Database that will become available to students in search of bursaries, vacation training programs and employment opportunities as well as the planning and idea development for the Student page on the SAIIE website, creating a home for the IE students nationally and possibly internationally.

Corné, our Editor of the SAJIE, finalised the 2nd edition of Volume 25. This edition is available at http://sajie.journals.ac.za/pub/index. Hard copies of this edition will be on sale soon. Please contact Lynette at admin@saiie.co.za or lynette.pieterse@up.ac.za for more information.

You are invited to attend the SAIIE Annual General and Special General Meeting on Monday 20 October 2014 at 17:30 for 18:00 at PPS Head Office Indaba, 6 Anerley Road, Parktown, Johannesburg. Join us after the meeting for a great networking opportunity at the Cocktail Function. Click here for more information. RSVP to admin@saiie.co.za or lynette.pieterse@up.ac.za before or on Wednesday 15 October 2014.

Two more Road to Registration for Candidate Engineers, Technologists and Technicians courses, as presented by Allyson Lawless from the Candidate Academy, are scheduled to take place on 10 November 2014 in Pretoria (venue to be confirmed) and 11 November 2014 at the PPS Offices in Parktown. Please register online at http://www.saiie.co.za/events/cpd. Closing date for registration for these courses are 3 November 2014.

On 16 October 2014 the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA) will communicate its repositioning and strategic initiatives to various stakeholders with vested interests in the affairs of ECSA at the Protea Hotel, Big Hole in West Circular Road, Kimberley in the Northern Cape from 17:00 to 20:30. Registration will be at 16:30. There is limited space so please register by Tuesday 1 July 2014. RSVP at Vatiswa Dondashe or contact her on 011 607 9507 or vatiswa@ecsa.co.za. For more information Click here

Following closely is the National Science and Technology Forum’s (NSTF) discussion on INNOVATION – Progress, Potential and Limitations. This will be held on Friday 17 October at Emperors Palace Convention Centre, Kempton Park from 08:30 for 09:15 to 16:00. Key strategic objectives of the NSTF are
to influence and catalyse quality delivery of SETI policies. It is an open forum, not only to members, but to
the community at large. Click here for more information and to register online. Register not later than
Tuesday 14 October 2014.

You are invited to attend the Transport Forum SIG’s monthly meeting on Thursday 6 November 2014,
with the topic “Sustainability and the Impact on the Supply Chain”. The Venue: Auditorium, T-Systems
South African (Pty) Ltd., Avanti Towers, North Block, 4 Churchill Close, Waterfront, Tygerfalls, Bellville from
12:00 to 17:00. Attendance for fee, but booking is essential. Send an email to info@transportsig.com.
Click here for the agenda and to register.

There is a call for entries for the Innovation Prize for Africa by the African Innovation Foundation (AIF) to
submit their entries for the fourth edition of the annual prize. It aims to enable and encourage African
pioneers to develop creative ideas and techniques that will overcome developmental changes faced by the
continent and to support sustainable development. Entries are to be adjudicated on originality,
marketability, scalability, social impact and scientific or technical aspects. There are five categories:
agriculture and agri-business; environment, energy and water; health and wellbeing; information
communication technology applications; and manufacturing and services industries. Please read the
complete article here.

Talking about the developmental state, Peter Bruce wrote a very insightful article in the Business Day of 19
September 2014 called THICK END OF THE WEDGE: A requiem for the Developmental State. Click here
for the full article.

Polytechnic of Namibia is advertising a Professor/Director of Industrial Engineering position. Login to your
profile at www.saiie.co.za and click on “Job Vacancies” for more information.

Industries who would like to advertise job vacancies on the SAIIE webpage are asked to register at
http://industry.saiie.co.za/. Do not hesitate to contact SAIIE Administration for more information on this.

In conclusion, don’t be overly concerned about everything. Do what Albert Einstein, German-born
theoretical physicist, prescribed, “I never think of the future. It comes soon enough.”

Towards the finishing line then – until again!

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