

MINUTES OF THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN SOCIETY OF AQUATIC SCIENTISTS
52th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD on the 1 July 2015 @ 16h10, Champagne Sports Resort, KwaZulu Natal, South Africa

AGENDA

1 WELCOME AND OPENING

Prof Nico Smit, the society vice-president, chaired the meeting. All members were welcomed and the conference organizing team were thanked for their efforts

2 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Members: Nico Smit (chair), Janine Adams, Ian Bailey, Guy Bate, Mike Coke, CJ Curtis, Chris Dickens, Bruce R Eady, Wesley Evans, Martin Ferreira, Phumelele Gama, Mandisa A Gibixego, Mark Graham, Byron Grant, Richard Greenfield, Rob C Hart, Liesl Hill, Chandrasekar Kurugundla, Simone L Liefferink, Bonani Madikizela, Wynand Malherbe, Ntuthuko F Masikane, Ryaz Musa, Gordon C O'Brien, Brilliant M Petja, Peter Ramollo, Russell Tate, Denise M Schael, Mike Silberbauer, Gavin C Snow, Christa Thirion, HJ Johan Van Vuren, Victor Wepener, Olaf Weyl, Alan Whitfield, Darragh J Woodford, L Vumazonke

Student members: Olalekan Agboola, Elizmarie Bester, Jacques Beukes, Lizaan De Necker, Sipehelele Dyantyi, Claire Edwards, Hazel Govender, Lucienne Human, LM Khuzwayo, Daniel A Lemley, Kholosa Magudu, Sinegugu Mbense, Lucky N Mnisi, Lara Van Niekerk, Jansen Van Rensburg, Dimitri Veldkornet, Carika Venter

Non-members: Kris Bal, Vasha Chetty, Laura Danga, Daisy Kotsedi, Majola, N Sibusiso Majola, Unathi Makati, Zanele Nyamende, Selunathi Sakwe, Joseph Sara, Simangele Sithole, Willem Smit, Susan Taljaard, Mukundi Vanessa Tshifango, Petrus Venter

Apologies: Brian Allanson, Helen Dallas, Helen James, Jackie M King, Wilson Mhlanga, Nancy Rayner, Hermien Roux, Jo G Van As, Liesl L Van As

3 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

No new matters were added to the agenda

4 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGENDA

The minutes of the 51st Annual General meeting were accepted as a true reflection of the proceedings. Proposed by Victor Wepener and seconded by Olaf Weyl.

5 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 51ST AGM

These are addressed under individual reports.

6 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(also available on the website in powerpoint format with pictures)

It gives me great pleasure to present my final report as President. Lets start by reminding ourselves of the SASAqS constitution which states "The Southern African Society of Aquatic Scientists is a Society constituted.....

- (a) for the advancement of research into, and management of, southern African inland, estuarine and marine waters and,
- (b) for the benefit of aquatic scientists in southern Africa and other concerned individuals and institutions.

The main activities of the society are the publication of the journal and organization of the congress. In my address I will outline some of the activities of the society over the last four years.

Membership and 2015 conference

All the EXCO members are present at the AGM and so I will leave the details of the Treasurer's and Editor's reports to them. SASAqS currently has 138 paid up members. It would appear that there are a number of people who regularly attend the conference but are not members particularly government scientists. The large number of participants (>150) at the conference indicates interest in the society and so there are indeed opportunities for some growth which will be investigated further by the EXCO.

The 2015 conference was organised with a variety of regional partners namely IWMI (International Water Management Institute), Umgeni Water, Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife and University of KwaZulu-Natal. In particular we thank Dr Gordon O'Brien for his efforts particularly as he has been busy moving organisations. The Water Research Commission is thanked for funding the registration fees of SASAqS student members and for providing support for this over the last number of years.

The 2015 conference has highlighted the innovative high quality research and student training by aquatic scientists. Areas of concern have been identified such as the urgent need for improved gauging and monitoring of our country's water resources. Future activities for the Society were discussed for example written resolutions after annual conferences on issues of national interest. Communication of research can be improved using tweets, podcasts and summaries after each conference. In addition the Water Research Commission communication channels could be used (policy and technical briefs).

International student travel award

During my time as President of the society the student travel awards have been initiated. This is a prestigious award to the value of R20 000 that will be awarded to a deserving student for travel abroad. Two awards were made in 2015; Daniel Lemley from NMMU will be attending ECSA 55 (Estuaries and coastal seas in a rapidly changing world) conference in London during September and, Gerhard du Preez from NWU will be attending the Symposium for European Freshwater Sciences in Geneva during July.

Reflections from outgoing president (July 2012 – July 2015)

It has been a great privilege to be involved with SASAqS activities over the last few years. We have had successful annual conference and have awarded medals every year after a lapse for a number of years. The common factor for the success of the conference has been the involvement of a professional conference organizer, Savetcon. This relieves the administrative pressure from the organisers who can then focus on the scientific programme. The other common dominator has been financial support from the Water Research Commission that has been used each year for student registration fees and prizes.

	2012	2013	2014	2015
<i>Venue</i>	Cape St Francis Resort, Eastern Cape	De Herberg Arniston, Western Cape	Black Mountain, Free State	Champagne Sports Resort, Drakensberg, KwaZulu-Natal
<i>Organising institutions</i>	SAIAB & NMMU	CapeNature & CPUT	University of the Free State & Free State DETEA	UKZN Umgeni Water, Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife
<i>Organising individuals</i>	Olaf Weyl Janine Adams Petrie Vogel	Pierre De Villers Dave Walker Petrie Vogel	Liesl Van As Deidré West Petrie Vogel	Gordon O'Brien Petrie Vogel
<i>Medal recipients</i>	Bronze: Bruce Ellender	Bronze: Ryan Wasserman Gold: Jenny Day	Gold: Pete Ashton	

In 2012 we gave special awards and recognition to the “wise ones” retired or close to retiring aquatic scientists who have contributed to the society and aquatic science in South Africa. This included Prof Guy Bate (NMMU), Dr Nancy Rayner (UKZN), Dr Ricky Taylor (UKZN), Mike Coke (Journal Editor), Prof Johan Van Vuren (UJ) and Prof Jackie King (formerly UCT, now UWC). At the 2012 conference we had the launch of Jackie King and Harrison Pienaar’s book on the “Sustainable Use of South Africa’s Inland Waters”. This was followed by a memorable dancing party. Field trips were held on the last day of the conference.

The regional conferences have provided a distinctly local flavour so for example in the Eastern Cape (2012) there was a large group of NMMU students while in the Western Cape (2013) a large group of former staff and students from the Freshwater Research Unit (UCT) were present. The Department of Zoology and Entomology of the University of the Free State and the Free State DETEA hosted the 2014 conference. This was a highly efficient effort by Prof Liesl Van As, Deidré West and Petrie Vogel. In 2015 the Drakensberg conference has been a showcase of research and aquatic management for the area. It also shows the strength of collaboration and co-operation and is indeed an opportunity for working towards a common aquatic goal.

At the 2013 conference we celebrated 50 years of the Society and Prof Brian Allanson a founding member gave an excellent talk on the history of the society. Part of this history has also been documented in Ashton et al’s 2012 Water Research Commission Report (TT 530/12). It is said that at the “1963 annual meeting of the South African Association for Advancement of Science, Mark Chutter, Graham Noble & Brian Allanson thought that this association had little to offer those who specialised in limnology. They walked out of the conference, met in a pub across the street and decided that it was time to start a new society that would serve the interest of limnologists. They also decided that Arthur Harrison (who was a good friend of the three but absent during their discussions) should be the first president of the new society – The Limnological Society of Southern Africa (LSSA).” LSSA later changed its name to Southern African Society for Aquatic Scientists to include marine and estuary researchers as well as managers within the group

Special awards

Some special awards will be made during this annual meeting to acknowledge member’s contributions. Firstly to the society’s dedicated website manager – while preparing on the history of our society I scrutinized our website which is quietly and diligently maintained by Mike Silberbauer. You are an absolute asset to the Society Mike and so please accept a certificate to acknowledge your fantastic contribution to SASAqS.

The next awards are made to a number of individuals who have attended and contributed to the last four conferences. You are thanked for your loyal support and active participation in growing aquatic science in South Africa. The awards go to three Professors, Guy Bate from NMMU, Johan van Vuren from University of Johannesburg and Olay Weyl from SAIAB. It has been great to see students graduate with their Doctorates Dr Wynand Malherbe from North West University and others progress from post-doc to gainfully employed (Dr Darragh Woodford, University of Witwatersrand). Finally student member Dimitri Veldkornet from NMMU is acknowledged for his participation in the last four conferences. This group represents the individuals who have attended all four consecutive annual conferences. Let me add that all our EXCO members have also attended. I believe this is a prerequisite for being an EXCO member and certainly hope that this remains the case in the future.

We also acknowledge the support of consultant Mr Alvar Koning (GCS Water & Environmental) and Government scientists Gerhard Cilliers, Peter Romollo (Environmental Affairs, Kimberley) and Thabo Mohlala (SAEON, Kruger National Park).

Thank-you

We need to be passionate about our society as it is the future for our young scientists. I remember attending the conference for the 1st time and meeting the people whose names I was familiar with from journal articles and reports. We all have the responsibility to grow the next generation of aquatic scientists by providing quality training and support. It has been a great privilege over the last few years to watch the careers and research outputs of a number of young scientists develop. While I have been

in office it has been a time of acknowledging the older generation of scientists for their contribution but also a time of supporting student participation as far as possible.

In conclusion, I thank all the EXCO members for their support. Victor Wepener knows everything about the society way more than I ever will. Thank-you Wynand Vlok for your wise words and Gordon O'Brien for your input and organization of the 2015 conference. A healthy society is one where there is an active flow of information which Denise Schael has provided through the mailing list; thanks for this task and all other secretarial input. Mike Coke continues to do an excellent job as editor of our journal. The society is stable and I can confidently depart knowing that it will be under the successful leadership of Prof Nico Smit. Enjoy Nico – have fun and we look forward to an exciting 2015 conference.

7 TREASURERS REPORT

SASAqS Financial report 2015

The report below was delivered by the treasurer, Gordon O'Brien and Adri Joubert (01 July 2015)

In 2012 Gordon O'Brien (University of KwaZulu-Natal) was commissioned to the treasurer role of the society and Adri Joubert (North West University) was appointed to assist the treasurer.

The society began 2015 with a positive gross balance of R 517 628.57 (R 416 632.49 in 2014) of which R 195 721.06 (R188 966.98 in 2014) was the 2015 opening balance in the current account and R 220 911.43 (R222 900.52 in 2014) the opening balance of the investment account.

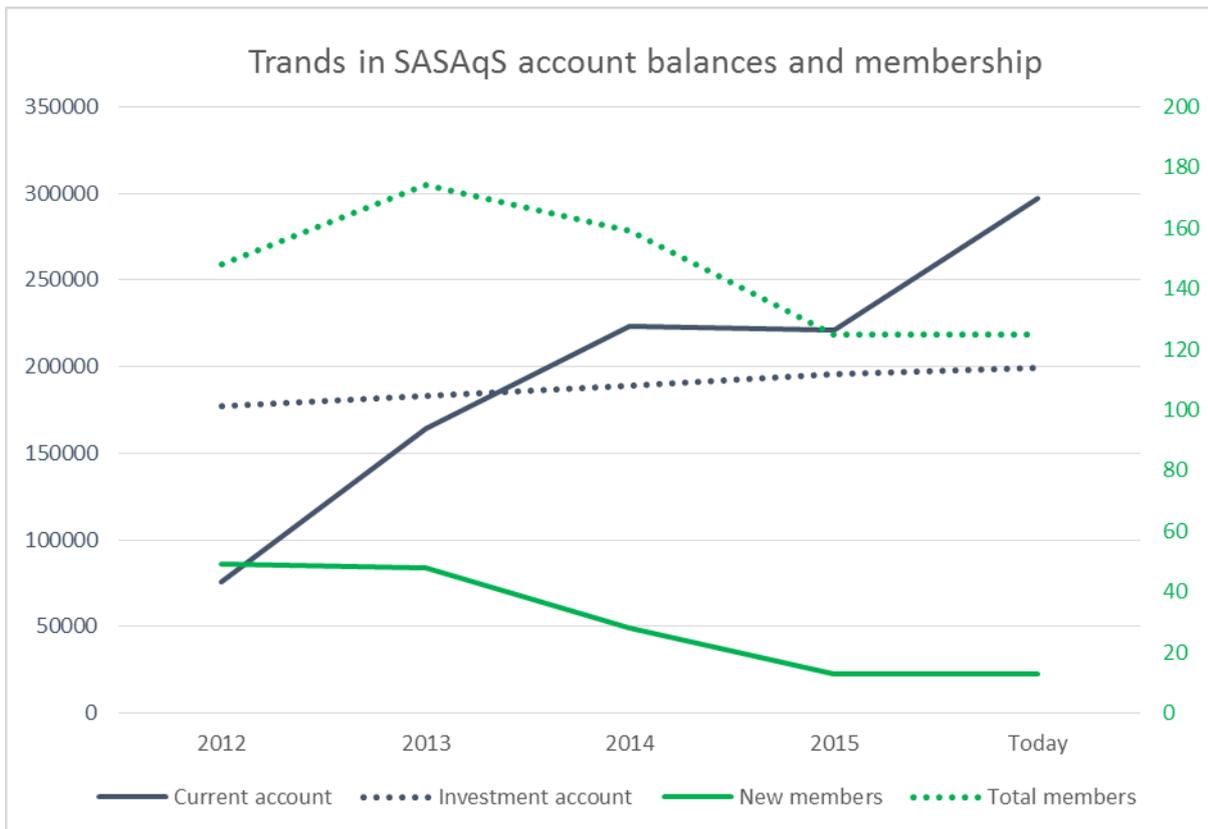
In addition to the profit made from the 2014 conference of R 16 717.79 an additional net interest of R 6 754.08 was earned primarily from the money market account (Total profit R 23 471.87). The society continues to be maintained in a good financial position.

On-going expenses of the society include the payment of the life members' membership fees, the editor's honorarium (Mike Coke – R30 000) and the bookkeeper fees (Adri Joubert – R10 000) and the auditing fees (R5000). The student travel grants (2014/5) were awarded in 2015 to Daniel Lemley (NMMU) and Gerhard du Preez (NWU). No additional expenses in 2014.

In 2014, 28 new members joined the society, seven cancelled membership and the fees of 36 members from 2014 remain "outstanding". The current membership of SASAqS is 159 (compared with 174 in 2014). This includes 132 full members and 32 students. Student membership continues to be primarily incentivised by discounted registration fees offered to members for conferences. **Supervisors of students are still encouraged to discuss the benefit of SASAqS membership with students and not only use the reduction in conference fees as an incentive for membership.**

The current annual Membership fees, established in 2014 which include online access to the African Journal of Aquatic Science, is R435 (from R410 in 2014) across all categories (RSA, Rest of Africa and Overseas). Student membership R50 (no access to AJAS). Take note that R410 of the membership is payable to NISC for access to the journal and the remaining R25 per which is payable to the society. The student membership fees of R50 per year has not change in from 2013.

Finally, while in 2014, R40 000.00 was provided by the WRC for student attendance, we would like to highlight the incredible contribution of R122 000 from the WRC to the 2015 conference for student fees and to allow the society to invite and cover the costs of the international plenary presenter/delegate Prof. Paul van den Brink. **Thanks to the WRC for their continued support.**



Gordon was thanked his good service as treasurer.

ACTION Transfer surplus finance from Current Account to Investment Account. Nico Smit pointed out that a buffer in accounts is important to keep, for instance in the case of a failed conference and other contingencies.

ACTION It was suggested by Olaf Weyl to investigate the possibility for a Prestigious Bursary for students, but more thought needs to put into financial implications for continuous funding or if it would be an occasional award to a deserving nominated student. Keeping funds going for year-on-year bursaries is not feasible for our society as it stands currently and other avenues would have to be explored.

ACTION A proposal for an increase in the Student Travel Bursary, comensurate with current increasing exchange rates, be raised to R30 000 per award per year. Motion made and carried by the membership.

ACTION A proposal for SASAqS sponsorship for students (those presenting papers) and a student activity at annual conferences was made by Chris Dickens and seconded by Dimetri Veldkornet. It will be explored as to financial feasibility.

ACTION Look into more active recruitment to boost new membership and revenue. It was suggested that access to credit card facility for payment of memberships to make it easier for foreign nationals to pay fees. Foreign currency transfers for some countries is not only difficult but costly and makes membership extremely difficult.

ACTION Olaf Weyl suggested SASAqS look into community service and SASAqS promotion through the purchase and donation of SASS/MiniSASS kits for distribution to volunteer “Citizen Science” groups, such as schools or community environmental groups.

The treasurers report was accepted.

SASAqS Editors report June 2015

Introduction:

First, the good news In 2014 AJAS published more papers (55) and more pages (481) than ever before. We also earned our highest Impact Factor to date - 0.647. This was the second year in which we produced four issues of the journal, thus potentially shortening the time between receipt and publication of manuscripts. It was also the first year in which the journal had a colour photo on its cover, which has boosted its image considerably.

However.... having been allocated a page increase to 512 pages per year by our publisher, NISC, we didn't manage to fill all of them. Also, we again found ourselves scrabbling anxiously to finalise 'accepted' papers well after manuscript-handover date so as to generate reasonably full issues.

Manuscript flow:

In 2014 we received 172 manuscripts [Table 1], so the pressure on us continues to increase year-on-year. However, in recent years up to 68% of the manuscripts received have been rejected as unsuited to AJAS [i.e. beyond our scope] or unpublishable, or been deleted for lack of author action in response to reviewer comments, or have been withdrawn by their authors. Many of these represent wasted effort on the part of our reviewers and myself. As authors, SASAqS members were again far fewer than non-members, although twice as many South African papers were published compared to those from southern or northern Africa [Table 2].

Table 1 AJAS activity from 2009 to 2014.

* = Volumes with 4 issues. Peaks indicated in **bold type**.

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
No. of MSS received	93	75	104	152	153	172
No. of MSS rejected, deleted or withdrawn	41	42	71	94	104	[100]
	44%	56%	68%	62%	68%	[58%]
AJAS Vol. Number	34	35	36	37	38*	39*
Total No. of pages	304	311	343	353	471	481
Total No. of papers	33	35	38	38	53	55
	4	2	1	1	1	1
Total No. book reviews						
2-yr Impact Factor	-	0.479	0.471	0.446	0.500	0.647
5-yr Impact Factor	-	-	-	-	0.593	0.682
MS authorship						
	15	17	8	10	12	8
SASAqS members						
	18	18	31	27	36	47
Non-members						
Number of articles published per region						
South Africa	13	18	12	24	21	27
Southern Africa	9	5	5	3	14	13
Northern Africa	11	12	21	6	15	15
Africa general					3	0
Overseas	0	0	1	5	0	0
TOTAL	33	35	38	38	53	55

Table 2 Number of papers published per country in 1994

Number of papers				
27	6	3	2	1
South Africa	Zimbabwe	Botswana Ethiopia Kenya	Egypt Nigeria Tanzania Zambia	Ivory Coast Malawi Namibia Tunisia Uganda

Total: 55 articles

Growth

In 2014 we published more papers and covered more journal pages than ever before. The journal is now just over three times as big as it was in 2001, and it receives six times as many manuscripts per year as it did back then.

Impact Factor

AJAS has improved from an IF of 0.500 in 2013 to 0.647 in 2014. Notably, our IF is now higher than those of Water SA (0.640), African Zoology (0.612) and Koedoe (0.529).

Rejections

One might ask whether, perhaps because of our internet visibility, we are being 'bombed' with non-African manuscripts, and whether we're being lenient in our reviews of African manuscripts. Of the 100 manuscripts received in 2014 that have been rejected to date [others are still under review], 43 were about non-African waters, coming from as far afield as Mexico and China and including 12 from Turkey, 11 from India and 7 from China, whereas 57 reviewed but rejected manuscripts were African, including 27 from Nigeria and 12 from South Africa. Thus almost half the manuscripts rejected were beyond our journal's scope and so were not reviewed, but we are also rejecting a good many of those that we do review.

Notably, in the four years from 2010 to 2013, 70 to 74% of the articles we published did *not* contribute to our Impact Factor. In comparison, over the past 8 years the figures for African Journal of Marine Science [NISC's best journal] are 36-56%, whereas those for Ostrich are 69-91%. So AJAS is actually doing pretty well in this regard. Whilst we are regularly urged to solicit 'citeable' articles, we also feel it is important to publish worthwhile African research findings that may not immediately interest many readers either in or beyond Africa, but which will in time form a reliable baseline of African data.

Associate Editors:

A total of **16 Associate Editors** handled the manuscripts that got reviewed in 2014. Each of them handles papers within their preferred, sometimes narrow, field and, because we publish on a very wide range of aquatic subjects, we find we need this many Associate Editors. Our list of Associate Editors changed very considerably during the year, with three resigning and nine joining our ranks. Eliot Taylor, Horst Kaiser and Olaf Weyl resigned, whereas Paul Oberholster, Donovan Kotze, Richard Lim, Renzo Perissinotto, Lauren Chapman, Martin Blettler, Sukhmani Mantel, John Simaika and Christa Thirion joined our ranks. Of these people, Wepener handled 7 manuscripts, J Taylor 5 and Booth and E Taylor 4 each. In addition, I handled a fair number of 'general' papers myself because they did not fall within the rather specific fields of interest of our original group of Associate Editors. With more AEs now operating, and therefore more 'fields' being covered, much of that pressure is now off me.

Journal subscriptions (with acknowledgements to NISC for data and information)

After our all-time low of 130 subscriptions in 2011, the total number of subscribers to AJAS grew handsomely in 2012 and 2013, but in 2014 grew by only one subscriber to 159 (Table 3). Whilst SASAqS members made up 134 of those subscriptions, the Society pays in bulk for 150 subscriptions in order to keep our publisher happy. We would do well to increase our Society membership in order to close this gap.

Nevertheless, the 159 subscriptions in 2014 is still well below the high of 174 we had in 2007. Be that as it may, I suspect that a number of library subscriptions are not recorded because they come via bundle-subscriptions to journal collections, including ours. So perhaps the growth of AJAS subscriptions is not really as disappointing as the table makes out.

Table 3 AJAS subscription statistics: 2007-2013 (data from NISC)

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
SASAqS [RSA]	127	95	95	92	87	103	123	126
SASAqS [Africa]	8	3	2	8	8	10	6	7
SASAqS [Intrnat ^{nl}]	7	7	4	2	5	6	2	1
[SASAqS subtotal]	[142]	[105]	[101]	[102]	[100]	[119]	[131]	[134]
Institution [RSA]	14	14	14	16	14	12	11	11
Institution [Africa]	6	3	3	2	3	2	2	2
Institution [Internat ^{nl}]	12	8	12	9	10	9	10	10
[Institutⁿ subtotal]	[32]	[25]	[29]	[27]	[26]	[23]	[23]	[23]
Individual [RSA]			2	3	2	2	3	2
Individual [Africa]		1	1	2	0	0	1	0
Individual [Internat ^{nl}]					1	0	0	0
[Individ^l Subtotal]		[1]	[3]	[5]	[3]	[2]	[4]	[2]
TOT. SUBSCRIP^{ns}	174	131	133	134	130	144	158	159

Downloads and readership

The total number of downloads via the T&F website jumped an impressive 55% from 9913 in 2013 to 15400 in 2014. Last year our most-downloaded article was Jay O’Keeffe’s 2004 book review of “Measuring Biological Diversity”, which was followed closely by the ever-popular Dickens and Graham (2002) article on SASS5.

AJAS was the main feature in NISC’s recent ‘Human Impact’ month, with a number of articles being promoted on a [bespoke webpage](#). To date, 289 full text downloads have come from this free access promotion, which continues till the end of 2015. The most popular article was Akoll’s (2012) ‘Fish health status, research and management in East Africa: past and present’.

Interestingly, social media now play a significant role in garnering publication citations. Recent research shows that an author who uses social media to promote his/her research is twice as likely to be cited, and the spin-off benefits both the author and the journal.

Mike Coke
25 June 2015

Editor’s report was accepted. Mike Coke was thanked for his continued service in keeping the journal going.

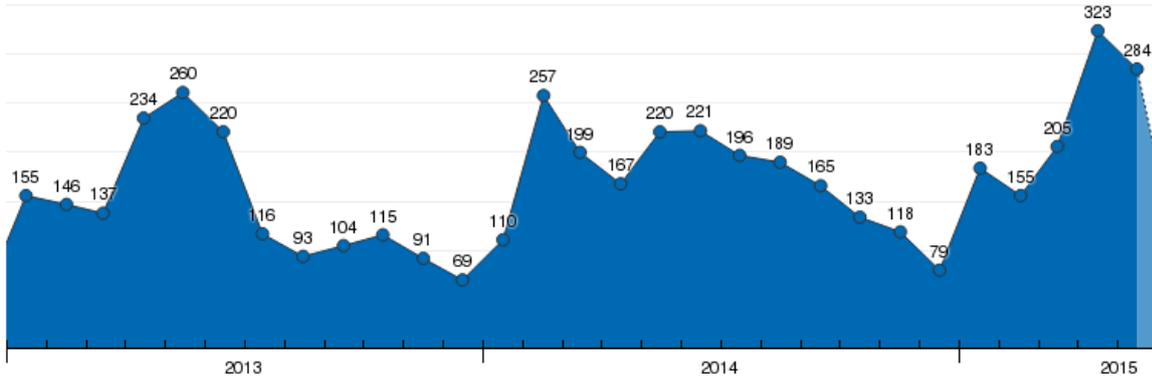
9 WEB MASTERS REPORT

SASAqS on the web

Mike Silberbauer 2015-06-10

<http://www.riv.co.za/sasaqs/index.html>

The number of visitors to the website increased slightly in 2015:



The student Facebook page has been silent, with no photos of favourite invertebrates, kittens or anything else for that matter in 2015. The last faint tweet on Twitter was in 2013. Perhaps a conversation is going on behind the scenes on WhatsApp?

The main communication medium has been the emails that Denise Schael has sent out as required, more than a hundred of them between January 2013 and now. This works very efficiently: thank you Denise!

Webmaster's report accepted and Mike Silberbauer thanked for keeping the web site updated.

10 COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

None to date

11 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Dimitri Veldkornet reported back on the student meeting held on 30 June, The suggested student group field trip (from Black Mountain Conference) did not happen. The Facebook page and other social media attempts for SASAqS student members has not taken off. It was decided that a student representative would be nominated from each represented university to form a "Student Representative Committee". The students will then have to liaise to drive their issues and generate interest and discussions. There were students from 8 universities present. The following students were elected/nominated to serve for the 2016-17 term.

Claire Edwards – University of Johannesburg

Sinegugu Mbense – NMMU

Tarry Lee Botha – North West University

Samuel Motitsoe – Rhodes University

Kholosa Magudu – University of KwaZulu Natal

Qawekazi Mtabile – University of the Free State

Apiwe Mdumyelusa – University of the Western Cape

Lucky Nhlanhla Mnisi - Wits

11 CONFERENCES

2016 Conference

Prof Nico Smit volunteered NWU to host the 2016 conference. The venue will be Skukuza in the Kruger National Park, the first week of the school holidays, 26/27 June 2016. The first announcement will come out soon, as accommodation will need to be finalised by 30 March to secure the block booking (accommodation not booked will be released back to the park booking system). SAN Parks is to offer residence type accommodation at low cost to students attending the conference. Thank you Nico, NWU and SAN Parks for what promises to be another fantastic conference.

2017 Conference

UJ along with area consultancies have volunteered to host. They were thanked for stepping forward to volunteer and showing further support and commitment to the Society.

2018 Conference

No planned place or organisers to date

12 AWARDS

There were two applicants for the Student Travel Award to assist students to attend international conferences and were both worthy candidates. As no award was given last year, both students, Daniel Lemley (NMMU) and Gerhard du Preez (NWU), were allocated funds.

A call will go out again in November for submissions by students needing financial assistance with international conference attendance for 2016.

An increase of the award to R30 000 was proposed and accepted for the 2016 award.

13 HONORARIA

An increase of 10% for Honoraria for Editor and Book Keeper was proposed by Olaf Weyl and seconded by Chris Dickens and accepted.

14 BY-LAWS

Nothing new.

15 CONSTITUTION

Nico Smit reported that in order to obtain a VAT Clearance certificate from SARS the Society would need to register as an NGO. This then creates a need to amend the Constitution of the Society to add a "winding-up" clause in the event that the Society disbands. There was much discussion around this issue.

1. Should we become an NGO or not? If so
2. Need for "winding-up" clause and what that would mean in broad terms
3. Amend what constitutes a quorum of Society members needed to vote to disband the Society.

ACTION: Need to discuss further and circulate proposals to members for acceptance.

16 EXCO COUNCIL

Out-going members from 2013-2015:

PRESIDENT: Janine Adams
VICE PRESIDENT: Nico Smit
TREASURER: Gordon O'Brien
SECRETARY: Denise Schael
Ordinary members: Victor Wepener, Wynand Vlok, Paul Fouche
Hon. Editor: Mike Coke
Webmaster: Mike Silberbauer

Nominations were open for President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary to serve 2015-2018. There was one nominee for each office. The nominees were presented and voted in to office by the members present at the AGM. The new office bearers are as follows:

PRESIDENT: Nico Smit
VICE PRESIDENT: Victor Wepener
TREASURER: Richard Greenfield
SECRETARY: Wynand Malherbe
Ordinary members: Gordon O'Brien, Stanley Liphadzi
Hon. Editor: Mike Coke
Webmaster: Mike Silberbauer

17 GENERAL

None

18 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

During the next SASAqS meeting at Skukuza Conference Centre, Kruger National Park, 30 June 2016.

19 CLOSING

Signed [Signature]

Vice President (N Smit)

 05 January 2016

Date

Accepted [Signature]

President (J Adams)

 10 November 2015

Date