

NEWSLETTER

Promoting the study and advancement of Earth Sciences since 1895



The GSSA wishes all of our members all the best for 2024, and a safe and happy year-end break. 2023 has been an eventful year, and I'm sure 2024 will be similar. Check the events page on the website for the years' events, and in particular watch for updates for the Merensky Reef conference, a celebration of the 100th anniversary of the discovery.

The GSSA office will be closed on the afternoon of December 14th, and re-open on January 2, but the email traffic will be checked periodically.

The next issue of the Newsletter will be end-January, 2024

Craig Smith

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- President's Column
- 2024 Alex du Toit Lectures
- 2024 Provisional Events Calendar
- African Exploration Showcase Photos
- GSSA Award - SACNASP
- 100 yrs of the Merensky Reef
Registration Open
- Past online course recordings
- Mentor breakfast invite
- SAMCODES Snippets
- Event Sponsors Adverts
- NC Branch Committee 2024
- New Fellows
- 12IKC
- Fellows Dinner Photos



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STEVE MCCOURT

GSSA PRESIDENT

In a previous newsletter, I mentioned the return of the A L du Toit Lecture Series in February 2024. I am now able to share the lecture schedule with you and provide an outline of the talk plus a short biography of the A L du Toit Lecturer.

<p>Lecture 1 : Stellenbosch University, Western Cape Date: Thursday, 15 February 2024 Venue: WP de Kock Lecture Hall, Room 1004 Time: 18:00 for 18:30 Contact: Dr Tahnee Otto : tahneeotto@sun.ac.za</p>	<p>Lecture 2 : University of Free State, Bloemfontein Date: Tuesday 20 February 2024 Venue: Lecture Hall 1, Geology Department Time: 17:00 for 17:30 Contact: Ernest Moitsi : moitsime@ufs.ac.za</p>
<p>Lecture 3 : University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg Date: Thursday 22 February 2024 Venue: 'GLT' ground floor Geosciences Building, East Campus, Wits University, Braamfontein Time: 18:00 for 18:15 Contact: Dr Grant Bybee : Grant.Bybee@wits.ac.za or Robyn Symons : robyn.symons@wits.ac.za</p>	<p>Lecture 4 : University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, KZN Date: 26 February 2024 Venue: UKZN Westville Campus, Senate Chamber Time: 17:00 for 17:30 Contact: Dr Tanja Reinhardt : ReinhardtT2@ukzn.ac.za</p>

36th A L du Toit Lecture: Eight boreholes and three tunnels: ICDP Project BASE probes the Moodies Group of the Barberton Greenstone Belt

Units of the up to 3.7 km thick Moodies Group (~3.22 Ga) of the Barberton Greenstone Belt, South Africa and Eswatini, comprise some of the oldest and best-preserved, sedimentary strata on Earth. They were deposited within a time span of only a few million years in alluvial to pro-deltaic settings, with a dominance of coastal plains and tidal deltas. The strata consist of widespread quartzose, lithic, tuffaceous and arkosic sandstones, polymict conglomerates, common siltstones and shales, and rare BIFs and jaspilites, all interbedded with rare dacitic air-fall tuffs and several lavas. Moodies Group strata preserve abundant sedimentary structures and represent a very-high-resolution record of Paleoproterozoic surface processes. Microbial mats, early diagenetic vadose-alteration zones and tidal rhythmites are locally common. Moodies Group strata provide a unique opportunity to investigate Paleoproterozoic surface environments and to constrain the conditions under which bacterial life spread and thrived in coastal-zone and terrestrial settings on Early Earth.

The ICDP Barberton Archean Surface Environments (BASE) Project drilled eight inclined boreholes of 280 to 497 m length through steeply inclined or overturned Moodies Group strata between November 2021 and July 2022. The unweathered and continuous core record was complemented by sampling in three several-km-long tunnels and by detailed surface mapping. Two to three rigs operated concurrently, delivering 20 to 60 m of high-quality core daily. This core was processed in a large, publicly accessible, hall in downtown Barberton. An exhibition provided background explanations for visitors and related this fundamental-geoscience research project to the geology of the Barberton-Makhonjwa Mountains World Heritage Site. The archive half of the core, nearly 3 km total, remained in South Africa, the working half is curated at the ICDP core repository in Berlin, Germany.

The 36th A L du Toit Lecturer

Christoph Heubeck is a German regional geologist, sedimentologist and stratigrapher studying deformed sedimentary basins at the pore- to basin-scale worldwide. Following his undergraduate degree at Würzburg University, Germany, he completed his MSc degree in Austin, Texas, and his PhD at Stanford University, California, all in Geology, the latter with research on the Moodies Group. After six years of international assignments in the oil and gas industry with Amoco and BP, Christoph returned to Germany to take up a faculty position at the Freie University Berlin, where he worked with students in the field in South America, China and Kazakhstan. He returned to the BGB with his own students in 2008 and has been active in the region ever since. Community involvement has included the R40 Geotrail and the Barberton-Makhonjwa Mountains World Heritage Site. Academic projects include developing the potential of the BGB in Eswatini and co-coordinating the ICDP research drilling program BASE. Christoph is currently Chair of General and Historical Geology at Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena, Germany.

This is the last Newsletter of the year; thus, I would like to take this opportunity to thank every GSSA member for their continued support throughout 2023 be it by timeous payment of fees or registration at our various meetings starting with Geocongress in January and ending with the African Exploration Showcase in November.

The GSSA is a voluntary association, and our continued success is directly linked to both the members of the various committees/editorial teams who volunteer their time and expertise and the hard-working office staff of Craig, Lully, Marliese and Sally. Thank you all for going the extra mile or more than one occasion. To everyone, stay safe this holiday season, whether you are travelling or enjoying downtime at home.

GSSA AWARDS



DRAPER MEDAL

Prof Chris Harris,
UCT, Cape Town



DES PRETORIUS AWARD

Dr Hielke Jelsma,
Anglo American



JUBILEE AWARD - (BEST PAPER IN SAJG)

LC Vonopartis, R Booysen, PAM Nex, JA Kinnaird and LJ Robb, 2022, Combined Satellite and Portable XRF Exploration Mapping of the Zaaiploats Tin Field, South Africa, SAJG 125.1, pp 45-60.



Date	Event	Location
20 February	UNFC Workshop More Info Register Now	Online – Free
12 March	CPD Workshop More Info Register Now	Online – Free
18 April	Advanced Excel for Geoscientists (Earthlab)	Online
26 April	Titans of Industry	Jhb
2 & 3 May	Sampling & Data Management	Online
25 – 26 May	KZN Brittle Deformation Field trip	KZN North Coast
6 June	GIS for Exploration	Online
3 & 4 July	Map Making (MINROM)	Online
6 August	Intro to Drilling workshop More Info Register Now	Online – Free
15–24 August	100yr Merensky – Conference and Field Trips More Info Register Now	Pre-conference field trip, Eastern Limb Conference and post-conference field trips Rustenburg
Sep	ESG Update Workshop	Online – Free
3 – 24 Sep	Drilling Methods & Techniques – Colin Rice	Online
26 & 27 Sep	Data Analytics / Machine learning – Glen Nwaila	Online
1 October	Professionalism & Ethics More Info Register Now	Online – Free
8 October	3D Geological Modelling – Ian Basson	Online
23 & 24 Oct	Mineral Economics (MR Classification, financial valuation, sustainability)	Online
13 & 14 Nov	African Exploration Showcase	Jhb

**REGISTRATION
OPEN**

100 YEARS OF THE MERENSKY REEF

HANS MERENSKY - BUSHVELD COMPLEX

One hundred years later, the Geological Society of South Africa (GSSA) believes that this is a milestone worth celebrating. To honour Hans Merensky, platinum and all things Bushveld Complex related, the GSSA is organising a two-day scientific/technical conference (including a poster session as well as a trade show), combined with various pre- and post-Conference field trips to the Eastern, Western and Northern limbs and different social events during the period 15 -23 August 2024.



**15 - 23
AUGUST 2024**



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https://www.gssa.org.za/?page_id=7330

More Info

AFRICAN EXPLORATION

Showcase

15 & 16 NOVEMBER 2023



Showcase

The image shows three trade show banners for Knight Piésold Consulting. Each banner has a green and white color scheme with a photograph of a relevant site. The first banner is for Geotechnical services, the second for Mining, and the third for Water. In front of the banners is a white table with various promotional items including brochures, a sign, and a small model of a dam.

Geotechnical

- Geotechnical Engineering
- Site Evaluation and Mapping
- Site Investigations
- Scoping and Waste Disposal
- Dolomite Studies
- Sinkhole Rehabilitation
- Mining Infrastructure
- Rock Mechanics

Mining

- Tailings and Waste Management
- Heap Leaching
- Mine Water Management
- Geotechnical Engineering
- Mine Residue Services
- Rock Mechanics
- Mine Closure and Reclamation
- Environmental Permitting

Water

- Pumpstations
- Waste Water Treatment
- Floodline Analysis
- Dam Engineering
- Surface Water Management
- Hydrological Studies
- Urban Drainage

Table Items:

- Brochures for Geotechnical, Mining, and Water services.
- A sign that reads "Knight Piésold".
- A small model of a dam structure.
- A small model of a mine site.



AFRICAN EXPLORATION

Showcase

15 & 16 NOVEMBER 2023



AFRICAN EXPLORATION

Showcase

15 & 16 NOVEMBER 2023



AFRICAN EXPLORATION

Showcase

15 & 16 NOVEMBER 2023





BREAKFAST EVENT

GSSA / SACNASP MENTORSHIP

5 December, 2023 | 07:00am- 10:00am

Venue: 263A, Lakeside 3, West Ave, Die Hoewes, Centurion, South Africa

SPONSORED BY: A&B GLOBAL MINING

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GSSA/SACNASP Mentorship Breakfast Sponsored by A&B Global Mining

A & B Global Mining is proud to sponsor the upcoming GSSA/SACNASP Mentorship Breakfast Event!

Join us on December 5, 2023, for a morning filled with networking, knowledge-sharing, and mentorship opportunities. Our commitment to fostering growth and innovation in the mining industry extends to supporting events like these.

We invite all fellow professionals and enthusiasts in the mining industry to participate and make the most of this valuable experience. We look forward to connecting with you at the event.

RSVP below to secure your spot

REGISTER HERE



NEW FELLOWS



John Astrup
Darryl Bennett
Peter Bloy
Petra Dinham
David Evans
Jacques Nel
Kevin Fischer
Christoph Gauert
Wiebke Grote
Christopher Harding
Nicholas Holleman
Siobhan Joubert
Phumlani Kubeka

Timothy Marais
Rejoice Mashau
Humbulani Mundalamo
Nellia Mutemeri
Jacques Nel
Carlo Philander
Zandile Ethel Sibiya
Anika Solanki
Sara Turnbull
Slindile Wela
Stefanie Wiese



GSSA Award – Candidate Mentoring Phase Prog

This month, SACNASP's celebrated its 20th anniversary. As part of the celebrations, the GSSA received a recognition award for its contribution towards the Candidate Mentoring Phase (CMP) programme. SACNASP and the GSSA have been partners in the mentorship programme since 2020 and 45 young geoscientists have been mentored and given access to GSSA events, coaching sessions and networking opportunities.



FELLOWS

Dinner

16 NOVEMBER 2023



FELLOWS

Dinner

16 NOVEMBER 2023



FELLOWS

Dinner

16 NOVEMBER 2023



GSSA BRANCHES AND DIVISIONS

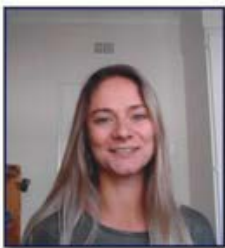
The Northern Cape Branch of the Geological Society of South Africa

"Executive Committee and Additional Members 2024"

Northern Cape Branch
Geological Society of South Africa



Tricia Scott
Secretary



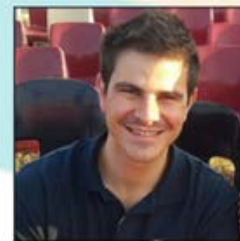
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Vice Chairperson



Loni Gallant
Chairperson



Francois Stassen
Treasurer



Thabang Phakoe
Communications



Eveline Kekana



Kabelo Mongalo



Elmar Human



Leonita Kuhn



Conrad De Kock



Lutendo Mavhungu



Nkosinathi Mthethwa



Vince Schaper



Lorena Tafur



GSSA
Geological Society of South Africa
CHERISH
PROMOTE
PROSPER

The Northern Cape Branch of the Geological Society of South Africa

"The Kalahari Manganese Fields Event & Excursion" In Remembrance of Prof. Nic Beukes

Kuruman, NC, 9th & 10th November 2023



"Every memory we create is a footprint on the path of a life we make together"

Special thank you to Assmang, South 32 and Glosam mines for hosting us and to the speakers for their exciting talks – Prof. Bruce Cairncross, Prof. Bertus Smith, Dr. Bjorn Von Der Heyden and Thomas Rambuda – the diversity in interesting talks were well incorporated and fitting for memorial of Prof. Nic Beukes. Including thanks to Benjamin Ruzive/Lawrence Ngalela (Black Rock), Leonita Kuhn (Mamatwan), Elmar Human (Glosam) and Nkosinathi Mthethwa (Glosam) for hosting the mine site visits.

To all who attended, thank you for sharing the event with us - what an amazing time with you all!
Thank you to our sponsors, your contribution was greatly appreciated."





Make smarter decisions with your data

Are you in the business of working with our earth's valuable resources? If so, you're probably facing a number of challenges, including:

- navigating deeper mines
- exploring increasingly complex ore bodies
- experiencing rising scrutiny of ESG issues from your community
- striving to operate more efficiently while reducing costs and your impact on our earth.

It's a lot to manage.

Get more from your data

That's why data management is critical for companies working with our earth's resources. From mining valuable commodities to monitoring an assortment of environmental aspects acQuire has helped companies make smarter business decisions for over 25 years. Dedicated to the continual evolution of information management, acQuire combines people, process, and technology to translate your data into business-critical intelligence.



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IGC
2024

The 37th International Geological
Congress 2024

The 37th International Geological Congress

25-31 August 2024 Busan, Korea



ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS ARE NOW OPEN!

It is a great pleasure to announce that Abstract submissions for oral and poster presentations for IGC 2024 are now open.

Hosted by IUGS and organized by the organizing committee of IGC 2024, the 37th International Geological Congress provides a wonderful opportunity for academic updates, business exchanges and global networking in geology and geoscience.

Don't miss chances to enjoy Korean culture.

www.igc2024korea.org

IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract Submission ~ 16 Feb. 2024

GeoExpo Registration ~ 31 May 2024

Field Trip Registration 8 Jan. 2024 – 26 April 2024

NSTF-South32 Awards



Today's research ...
tomorrow's innovation

Call for nominations: 2023/2024 NSTF-South32 Awards

Register nominations online by 14 December 2023!
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- Staffs etc...

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- China markers
- Aluminum tags
- Manila tags
- Plastic tags
- Core tray labels etc...

Sampling:

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- Screens
- Plants
- Range of bulk bags
- Bag ties
- Saw blades
- Wet strength paper sample packets
- Sample envelopes
- Flagging tape
- Chip trays
- Gold pans
- Chisels etc...

Geo gear:

- Pencil magnets
- Scribes
- Hammers & Holster
- Acid bottles & Holders
- Hand lens
- Clipboard
- Leather belts & Book holders
- Wet strength note books
- Gloves
- Multi tools
- Vests
- Streak plates
- Triangular scales
- Douglas protractors
- Map cabinets etc...

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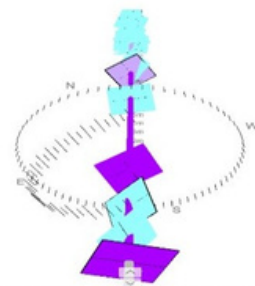
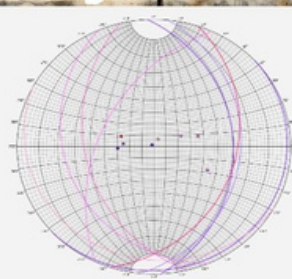
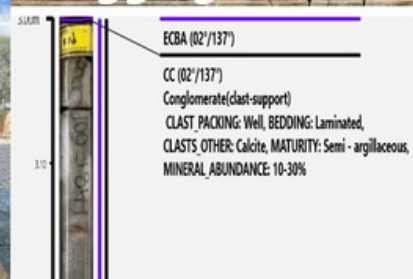
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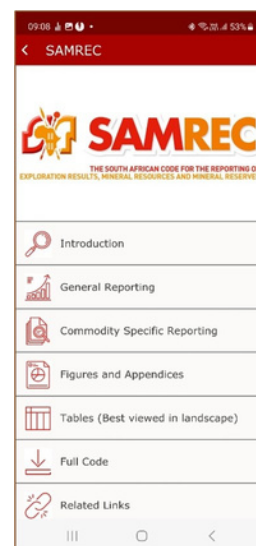
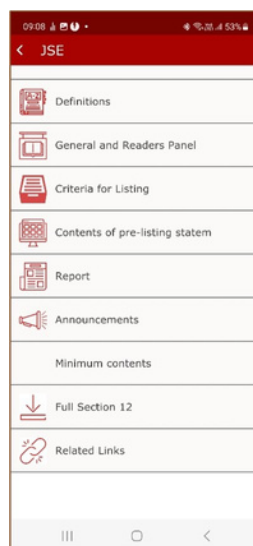
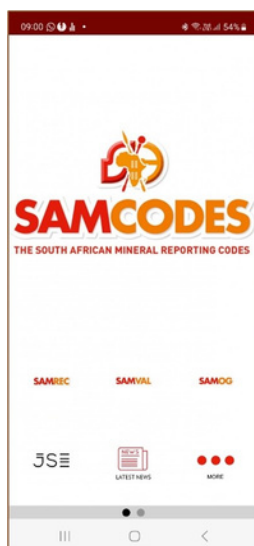
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SAMCODES APP

SAMCODES have an App that allows you to access and search the SAMREC, SAMVAL and SAMOG codes, the JSE Section 12 Listing Rules as well as SAMESG and the Diamond/Precious Stones Reporting Guidelines. It is now possible to have the SAMREC, SAMVAL and SAMOG Codes in your pocket so that it can be available at any time, and you don't have to search through a PDF to find the detail you need.

Download it from your preferred App Store Now.



[Click here to download the User Guide V4 \(PDF 1.5M\).](#)



Complete the monthly Quiz to test your knowledge on the SAMREC code.

Find the Quiz on our app:

Android

Apple



Once you have completed viewing, please send an email to info@gssa.org.za and a certificate will be sent to you to claim CPD points.

- **Introduction to SAMCODES** - 15 & 22 March 2023
- **Advanced Excel for Geologists** - 18 April 2023
- **Sampling & Data Management** - 2 & 3 May 2023
- **Data Analytics** - 26 & 27 September 2023
- **3D Geological Modelling Workshop** - 03 October 2023
- **Mineral Resources & Mineral Economics** - 24 & 25 October 2023
- **Kimberley International Diamond Symposium** - 23 - 27 August 2023
- **African Exploration Showcase** - 15 & 16 November 2023

[CLICK HERE](#)



Registration is now open!

Register for the Conference, Field Trips,
Apply for Financial Support and Submit Short
Abstracts.

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Ekati, Canada's first diamond mine, Northwest Territories. Copyright © Arctic Canadian Diamond Company

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