



NEWSLETTER

Promoting the study and advancement of Earth Sciences since 1895



GSSA
Geological Society of South Africa

SACNASP
South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions
Integrity in Science

ONLINE
SOFT SKILLS
FOR GEOSCIENTISTS
17 JULY 2025

FREE

REGISTER NOW

SOFT SKILLS FOR GEOSCIENTISTS

You have your degree. Where to now? This workshop will provide insights into the "soft skills" that will help you get the most from your career. Topics will range from how to get your dream job, being professional, the importance of mentorship to perfecting communication. A panel of experienced geologists will be on hand for you to ask questions and give advice.

Join us to find out why soft skills aren't soft, why emotional intelligence has nothing to do with intelligence and what's crucial about crucial conversations. And so much more!!!!



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STEVE MCCOURT

GSSA PRESIDENT

The Council Meeting of May 31st was the last of the current term. In keeping with the By-Laws of the Society the members of the next Council will be announced at the AGM on July 17th and will meet for the first time on Saturday July 26th.

Council is responsible for the management of the affairs of the Society although day-to-day operational activities are delegated to a Management Committee (Manco). That said membership of Council is a commitment to the Society and all members of Council are expected to attend at least half of the six meetings held each year.

Nominations for the next Council are now open, and members are encouraged to avail themselves of this opportunity to serve the Society. Membership of Council is restricted to Corporate Members and Fellows of the Society of not less than three year's standing and whose fees are not in arrears. The term of office is one year although standing members can be nominated for additional terms.

Other important administrative news is that the project to replace our legacy WordPress website with a modern, custom-built web platform is close to completion. The new platform emphasises simplicity, consistent design, usability, and enhanced functionality while moving critical business processes to the cloud.

On May 30th Craig Smith and I held an online meeting with the leadership of the student branch at the University of Venda. The branch is led by Mr Mashudu Matsa, who chairs a committee of ten members studying towards a Bachelor of Earth Science in either Mining and Environmental Geology or Hydrology and Water Resources although there are also additional members on the committee studying Bachelor of Environmental Sciences. Following the meeting, the GSSA sent a Letter of Recognition to the branch which we hope will facilitate access to resources at the University and thereby assist the branch with field trips and on campus meetings.

The LOC for GeoCongress2025 held a final planning meeting on May 23rd, and all is on track for what we anticipate will be a successful meeting next month. Based on the abstracts accepted, there will be 180 oral papers presented in 4 parallel sessions supported by poster sessions on both Wednesday and Thursday. Delegate numbers are expected to be close to 300 including a group of 39 students sponsored from the REI Fund.

In preparation for the AGM on July 17th, members of the Management Committee and Chairs of Branches and Divisions have been hard at work compiling their contributions to the 125th Annual Report. Deadline for contributions is May 31st, after which the Annual Report will be compiled by Lully Govender from the GSSA Office and distributed electronically to Corporate Members and Fellows in good standing.

SAJG Alert

The March issue of the South African Journal of Geology (128-1) has been sent to our Technical Editor, Mike Knoper, for online publication in June. The issue has 114 pages and contains 5 original, peer-reviewed, papers. Special issues of the SAJG with papers related to the Merensky Reef 100 meeting in August 2024 and updates on selected chapters of The Geology of South Africa are progressing well.



The graphic features a stack of books in the background with titles 'Financial Report', 'Annual Review', 'ANNUAL REPORT', and 'REPORT & ACCOUNTS'. The GSSA logo (Geological Society of South Africa) is in the top right. A large blue and white geometric shape on the left contains the text 'GSSA 125th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING INVITATION'. Below this, a dark blue box titled 'DISCUSSION & INSIGHTS' contains three icons: 'FINANCES' (bar and pie chart), 'MANAGEMENT' (gears), and 'ANNUAL PLANNING' (clipboard with target). To the right, the date and time '17 JULY 2025 18:00 - 19:00' are listed, followed by 'ONLINE EVENT VIA ZOOM' and a 'REGISTER NOW' button with a play icon and a mouse cursor pointing at it.

GSSA 125th
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
INVITATION

DISCUSSION & INSIGHTS

FINANCES

MANAGEMENT

ANNUAL PLANNING

17 JULY 2025
18:00 - 19:00

ONLINE EVENT
VIA ZOOM

REGISTER NOW



CALL FOR COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

Attached find nomination forms for the 2025/2026 GSSA Council. Most current Council members are willing to serve another term. As in prior years, there will be an election only if the nominations exceed the number of Council openings, and the By-Laws allow flexibility as to numbers. Council members are requested to make themselves available to serve on one of the management subcommittees.

NOMINATION FORM

2025 GSSA EVENTS : JUNE – NOVEMBER

GSSA Events		
23 – 27 June	<u>Geocongress 2025</u>	UFS Bloemfontein
17 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soft Skills for Geoscientists • GSSA AGM – 6pm 	Online – Free
5 August	Introduction to Drilling Workshop	Online – Free
9 September	Professionalism & Code of Ethics Workshop	Online – Free
20 & 21 September	Structural Geology Course & Field trip	<u>Southbroom KZN Coast</u>
TBD September	Data Analytics & Machine Learning	Online
29 & 30 September	SAMREC/SAMVAL Compliance and JSE Reporting / <u>25th</u> Anniversary of SAMREC	<u>Jhb Country Club</u> (Hybrid)
14 & 15 October	<u>Geometallurgy Conference</u>	<u>Muldersdrift</u>
21 & 22 October	Mineral Resources Mastery: Tools, Trends and Industry Insights	Online
12 & 13 November	African Exploration Showcase	JHB Country Club (Hybrid)






CELEBRATING 130 YEARS OF THE GSSA



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2025**

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COLLABORATION

23 - 27 JUNE 2025

<https://geocongress2025.org.za/>

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SAMCODES SNIPPETS

New Logo

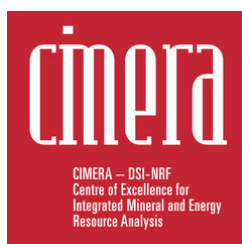
As we celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the SAMREC Code this year, we have introduced a refreshed logo that symbolises our ongoing commitment to mineral reporting and the evolving role of minerals in a sustainable future.

[READ MORE](#)

The GSSA wishes to acknowledge our **2025 Sponsors**

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