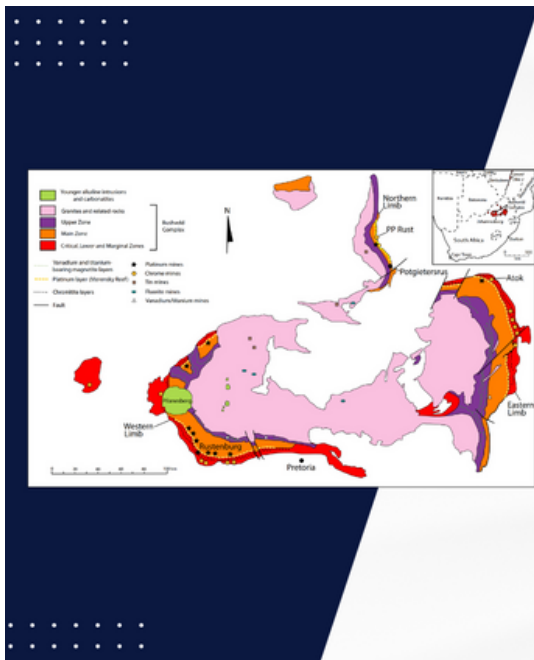


NEWSLETTER

Promoting the study and advancement of Earth Sciences since 1895



100 YEARS OF THE MERENSKY REEF MINERALS, METALS AND MINING

15 - 23 AUGUST 2024

[REGISTER NOW](#)

We are now two months into 2024, and it will be a busy year for the GSSA. There are some 25 events planned for the year, including the conference commemorating the centenary of the discovery of the Merensky Reef. Anyone working or researching any aspect of the Bushveld Complex will find this event of value. The conference will be staged at Hunters Rest outside Rustenburg from August 20 – 22, with pre- and post-conference field trips and workshop. It's not too early to register, particularly you bring family along to enjoy the facilities while you are conferencing. See https://www.gssa.org.za/?page_id=7330 for more information.

Looking ahead a bit further into 2025, the Namaqualand Diamond Meeting will be staged March 11 to 20, and the next Geocongress will be held in Bloemfontein in mid-July.

There are significant cost reductions for Members in good standing, and you are reminded to please pay your membership fees. There are a number of Members still owing for 2023; you will not enjoy reduced costs to events if you are behind in your fees.

Craig Smith

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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- NDC Photo Competition
- 2024 Membership Fees
- Members to Update Information
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- Bushveld & NCape Branch Events
- GSSA Mentorship Programme



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www.gssa.org.za





STEVE MCCOURT

GSSA PRESIDENT

Society activities during February have been dominated by the relocation of the GSSA Office from the Mandela Mining Precinct to a virtual office in Thornhill Office Park, Midrand and the 36th Alex du Toit Memorial Lecture Series. The exit from MMP was managed by the office staff and I take this opportunity to recognize Lully and her team and to thank them for their hard work. Following the closure of the physical office, the rock collection has been relocated to Wits Geosciences and the generic library has been moved to CIMERA at UJ.

After an absence of 5 years, the Alex du Toit Memorial Lecture was presented by Prof Christoph Heubeck from the Friedrich-Schiller-University, Jena, Germany between February 15th and 28th. Lectures were held at Stellenbosch University (WCB), University of the Free State, Wits University, UKZN in Durban (KZN Branch) and in Barberton (Barberton Branch). In addition, to accommodate those members unable to reach any of the venues, the lecture at Wits on February 22nd was recorded and has been uploaded to the GSSA YouTube Channel. All the lectures were very well attended and feedback to date has been very positive. After the lecture in Durban, Christoph was presented with the newly introduced A L du Toit Medal and certificate in recognition of his appointment.

The number of applications received for financial support from the GSSA Research, Education, and Investment (REI) Fund has increased steadily over the last few years and applications in 2024 continue this trend. The REI committee, chaired by Reinie Meyer, will evaluate the applications over the next few weeks after which the recommendations made will be sent to the GSSA Management Committee (Manco) and then Council, for ratification and approval. These meetings are scheduled for April 3rd (Manco) and 6th (Council) and successful applicants will be informed immediately thereafter.

The call for nominations for the GSSA Student Awards was published in the January Newsletter and is still open. The responsibility for adjudicating the submissions lies with the Fellows Committee of the GSSA. As in previous years it is hoped to announce the names of the awardees at the AGM which this year is on July 16th. To achieve this target the Fellows Committee requires digital copies of the final dissertation/thesis, together with a short motivation from supervisors/advisors, by mid-April 2024. Details of the various student awards, and the qualifying criteria, are listed on the GSSA website.

Planning for the Merensky 100 Anniversary Meeting in August is on track and registration for both the scientific meeting and the related field trips is open (see the Events tab at www.gssa.org.za). Looking further ahead the next, biennial, Geocongress will take place in Bloemfontein during July 2025 with Martin Clarke from UFS taking the reins as Chair of the Local Organizing Committee. Geocongress follows on the Namaqualand Diamond Centenary conference and associated fieldtrips in March 2025 which is organised by Tania Marshall in conjunction with the Northern Cape Branch.



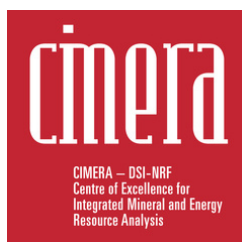
GSSA President Steve McCourt, presenting the A L du Toit Memorial Lecturer Christoph Heubeck, with the newly introduced A L du Toit Medal and Certificate - Durban 26-02-2024



Photo Credit: Tanja Reinhardt, UKZN

The GSSA wishes to acknowledge our **2024 Sponsors**

Annual Sponsors



DMT Kai Batla (Pty) Ltd



Event Sponsors



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**



REGISTER NOW



Sponsorship Opportunities



info@gssa.org.za



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

More Info

2024 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

Affiliate Member	R1100
Retired Affiliate	R470
Dual Member	R2230
Member / Fellow	R1675
Institutional Member	R8780
Retired Member/Fellow	R500
Student Member	Free
Life Member/Fellow/Honorary	Free - Optional contribution towards admin or research /education funding

Payment Methods

- Online via the GSSA website - <https://www.gssa.org.za/GSSA/>
- EFT
- Credit Card

Please email accounts@gssa.org.za for any account related queries.

Members please login and update
your membership information

CLICK HERE >>

GSSA CHARTERED MEMBERSHIP



CERTIFICATE
CHARTER MEMBER

This certificate is presented to

AN Other

GSSA Member Number - 0000


DATE _____ SIGNATURE _____



Have you lodged your application for Chartered Status yet? Deadline (1 April 2024) fast approaching.

If you wish to use your GSSA membership (Member/Fellow) to sign off on Public Documents (as a Competent Person/Valuator or as a Qualified Expert for UNFC), you will need to acquire Chartered Status. After 1 April 2024, only members with Chartered Status will be able to sign off on Public Documents lodged with the JSE and other applicable Stock Exchange jurisdictions. It will also be required for anyone wanting to sign off on UNFC resource documents in terms of the EU Critical Raw Materials Act.

Note: this does not apply to persons using their SACNASP or ECSA registration, only to those using their GSSA accreditation.

For further detail and application forms and procedures, please [CLICK HERE](#) 

SAVE THE DATES

2024 Provisional Events Calendar

CLICK HERE



MISSED OUR PAST 2023 COURSES

**RECORDINGS NOW
AVAILABLE ON THE
GSSA YOUTUBE
CHANNEL**

FREE

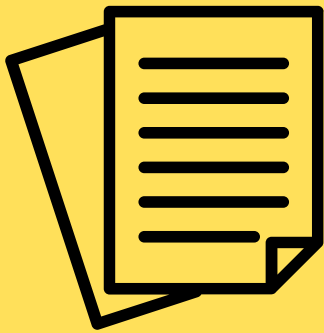
CLICK HERE





100 YEARS OF THE DISCOVERY OF THE NAMAQUALAND DIAMONDS

11 - 20 MARCH 2025



FIRST CIRCULAR AND CALL FOR PAPERS



READ MORE

FIELD TRIPS



For all delegates contemplating joining the fieldtrip, please note that we will be visiting a number of operating diamond mines on which security is a significant part.

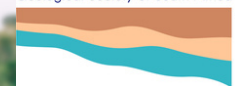
- On-mine (internal) security clearances will be required for Kleinzee, Alexkor and Namdeb – the relevant forms will need to be completed by the end of January 2025. These will be mailed in Q4/2024.
- Namdeb is located in Namibia – a valid passport will be required by all delegates. It is the delegate's responsibility to ensure that their travel documents are in order.
- The restricted areas permit (RAP) for entrance into the Namdeb onshore marine diamond mining operation will require a police clearance certificate, not older than one year. It is any potential delegate's responsibility to acquire this certificate timeously. Currently, in South Africa, such certificates can take 4-6 months, due to the backlog at the SAP. PLEASE APPLY FOR YOUR CERTIFICATE in good time – you will not be able to enter the minesite without it.



100 YEARS OF THE DISCOVERY OF
THE NAMAQUALAND DIAMONDS
11-20 MARCH 2025



Northern Cape Branch
Geological Society of South Africa



NAMAQUALAND DIAMOND CENTENARY

PHOTO COMPETITION

CALL FOR PHOTOS

- Photographs should showcase the wide variety of the Namaqualand West Coast.
- Submissions open to allcomers.
- The judges' decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.
- Entries close 31 January 2025.

Winners will be announced at the Conference

Prizes will be given, including having your photo used as the cover page of Geobulletin in 2025.

SUBMIT 

IGC 2024

The 37th International Geological Congress 2024

Busan, Korea

25-31 August 2024

The Great Travelers:
Voyages to the Unifying Earth



Deadline Extended to 15 Mar 2024

Please Submit Your Abstracts for IGC 2024!

Guidelines for Abstract Submissions

For more information

- To submit an abstract, you must create an account on this website, the official website of IGC 2024.
- Before submitting an abstract, you must select the most relevant theme for your abstract and the best session for its delivery.
- If you have questions about the abstract submission process, please contact the IGC 2024 Scientific Program Committee or the IGC 2024 Secretariat.

Payment or Technical Problems ✉ registration@igc2024korea.org

IGC 2024 Scientific Program Committee ✉ scicommitee@igc2024korea.org

Geological Attractions in BUSAN

Taejongdae



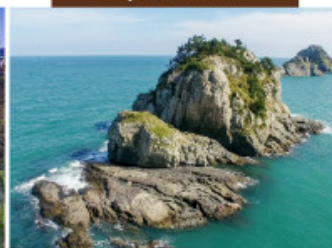
Morundae



Dongbaek Island



Oryukdo Islands



The city of Busan boasts many geological features, including colorful combinations of granite and basalt. The granite of Taejongdae tells a story that goes back millions of years, while the basalt of Morundae has kept a record of Busan's history throughout the ages. Dongbaek Island and the Oryukdo Islets offer incredible geological experiences along Busan's shoreline. Explore the beautiful nature of Busan to discover the many geological stories it has to tell.



As part of the ongoing GSSA mentorship programme, our next online mentoring session on 6 March gives you the chance to ask those hard questions you really want the answers to, but don't want to ask your boss. Everyone is welcome. Registration is required.

GSSA MENTORSHIP PARTNERS

The GSSA works closely with professionals in the industry to provide the best resources for our members. You will already be familiar with Briony Liber and Mark Turpin who have done courses and mentoring sessions for us. They also provide mentoring and coaching, among many other services, in their personal capacities.



Briony Liber does one-on-one coaching as well as online courses including Position your expertise on LinkedIn, Manage your Career like a Business, and Connect with your Business. Briony's Optimise Your Career Mentoring Programme kicks off in mid-March. Look at what the programme offers.

[CLICK HERE](#)



Briony Liber



Mark Turpin is an Executive Coach, Mediator, Organisational Development Consultant and Lecturer. Mark facilitates the GSSA group mentoring sessions.

Mark Turpin

Competent Person (CP) Requirements

Clause 7 of the SAMREC Code notes that “Documentation detailing Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves from which a Public Report is prepared must be prepared by, or under the direction of, and signed by a Competent Person (CP).” Similar clauses are found in the SAMVAL and SAMOG Codes, for a Competent Valuer (CV) and Qualified Reserves Evaluator (QRE), respectively.

The definition of a CP is one of the standard definitions contained in the CRIRSCO template. In terms of the SAMREC Code, a CP is defined in terms of registration and experience.

Registration: a CP needs to be registered with SACNASP (PrSciNat), ECSA (PrEng) or SAGC (Professional Surveyor), or be a Member/Fellow of the SAIMM, the GSSA (Chartered Status), IMSSA or a Recognised Professional Organisation (RPO). A complete list of RPOs can be found on the SAMCODES website (SAMCODES – RPOs). In South Africa, all practicing geoscientists are required by law to be registered with SACNASP, but local, regional and international members of the GSSA wishing to use their GSSA membership to sign-off on Public Reports must apply for Chartered Status (Chartered Status – GSSA). South African engineers are not currently required to be registered with ECSA – consequently any individual wishing to use their SAIMM membership to sign-off on Public Reports must complete the SAIMM peer-review process (SAMCODES – Registration).

Experience: A Competent Person must have a minimum of five years relevant experience in the style of mineralisation or type of deposit under consideration and in the activity which that person is undertaking (Definitions for experience required for CVs and QREs differ in detail – please refer to the SAMCODES website for specifics). For example, a CP signing off on Mineral Resources would need to have experience in Mineral Resource estimation – simply logging boreholes or processing soil samples is not sufficient.

Competency: There are no “competency exams” to become a CP. The SSC (or any of the SAMREC, SAMVAL, SAMOG Code Committees) does not confer competence on anyone. There is also no “list” of approved Competent Persons held by the SSC, the professional or statutory bodies or the JSE. Just completing a SAMCODES workshop/course does not confer competency. Competency is claimed by the author (based on their registration and experience), who must be clearly satisfied in their own minds that they are able to face their peers and demonstrate competence in the commodity, type of deposit and situation under consideration.

GSSA Networking Event



The Geological Society of South Africa's first Networking Event recently took place at The Daily Grind in Bryanston, with an amazing spread of treats and drinks to accompany the flowing conversations.

Thank you to the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP) for the generous sponsorship of this event as part of the SACNASP/GSSA mentorship programme. And as always, thanks to all the attendees!



GSSA Branch Events



SEEQUENT

14TH MARCH | 12:00-16:00 SAST | FREE

Effective 3D Geological Modelling in the Bushveld Complex.

[Register now](#)

Venue:
Sibanye-Stillwater
Recreation Club
Rustenburg

Seequent, The Bentley Subsurface Company



"WEST COAST DIAMONDS" EVENT & EXCURSION

PLACE: PORT NOLLOTH, NC.
DATE: 17 & 18 MAY 2024

**EVENT DETAILS AND
PROGRAMME
TO FOLLOW**

CONTACT US ON:
admin.nc@gssa.org.za



Northern Cape branch
Geological Society of South Africa

SAVE THE DATE

ANNUAL SPONSORS

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