

NEWSLETTER

Promoting the study and advancement of Earth Sciences since 1895



Craig Smith

Welcome to the first GSSA newsletter of 2021.

We trust everyone had a good break, despite coinciding with the peak of the second COVID Wave. The pandemic is still with us, unfortunately, and looks to be a factor for most of 2021. With the best of intentions, South Africa is unlikely to have vaccines available for all by mid-year, given the roll-out problems seen elsewhere in the world.

For this reason, we have again postponed Geocongress as a contact event until 2022. Nevertheless, there will be an on-line precursor event mid-year, which will take the form of a number of free on-line lectures and panels. The Organizing Committee will be setting the program over the next two months; we will communicate details as they become available. We had all hoped a contact meeting would be possible by mid-year, but the uncertainties about possible third and fourth waves, consequent lock down restrictions on travel and the uncertainty of venue availability are unpredictable risks that we can avoid.

On a positive note, we may be moving into a resource upswing, despite the pandemic and the political circus in the United States.

Early movers in the markets and in exploration and mining may well be handsomely rewarded. 2021 is shaping up to be a world of rapid change and major uncertainty. I am sure the GSSA will successfully 'ride the wave'.

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VP - EVENTS

NOLEEN PAULS

CALENDAR OF
EVENTS

DIGITAL
SPONSORSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES

GSSA YOUTUBE
CHANNEL

maxgeo
Annual Sponsor

2021 GSSA Zoom Events

VP Meetings - Noleen Pauls: noleen@fastmail.fm

DATE	EVENT
9 February – 2 March (4 x ½ days) + self-study	Drilling Methods and Techniques in Resource Exploration
26 February	REI colloquium
15 March	CPD Workshop
24 March	GSSA WIMSA – Fostering a safer workplace for Geoscientists
16 April	Clean & Green Day
11 May – 15 June (6 x ½ day)	Foundations for a Geological Career
17 – 19 May (3 x ½ day)	Economic Analysis in Minerals
25 June	Precious Metals Day
14 July	Geotechnical Workshop
25 July	Teaser to Geocongress 2022
20 – 22 August	Advanced Structural Geology/Field Trip
27 August	ESG Workshop
7 – 28 September (4 x ½ days) + self-study	Drilling Methods and Techniques in Resource Exploration
16–17 September	Project Management for Geologists
8 October	3-D Geological modelling
19 October	CPD Workshop
27 October	Coding/Programming 101
11 November	Technology Day
12 November	African Exploration Showcase



REI
FUND



RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND INVESTMENT

REI COLLOQUIUM | 26 FEBRUARY 2021

The GSSA Research, Education and Investment Fund (REI Fund) was established during the 1980s originally known as the GSSA Trust Fund. The Fund annually invites applications from its members for financial assistance to support a variety of earth science research costs, including analytical and field work costs, conference attendance, and publication costs. Projects that promote and support earth science awareness such as geoheritage, geotourism and geo-education are also supported.

Applications from post graduate student members are most welcome. Academic staff at South African universities often apply for grants, not only to support their own research interests, but also attract post graduate students to enroll for higher degrees in such research projects by obtaining additional financial support from the REI Fund for these students. All applications are annually screened by the REI Fund Committee who consider the merit of each application and then make a final recommendation to the GSSA Council.

The REI Fund Colloquium provides the grant recipients an opportunity to inform, not only the GSSA membership, but also the wider South African and international earth science audience, of their research results.

Free Registration

Click here to
REGISTER

info@gssa.org.za

Speakers

TRAINING

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
15 MARCH 2021 | 10AM - 12PM

ABOUT THE COURSE



As you are no doubt aware, CPD (Continuing Professional Development) is becoming more and more important in the world of professional geoscience. In fact, all geoscientists registered with SACNASP are required by law to obtain a certain number of CPD credits per year in order to maintain their registration status. The GSSA has an MOU with SACNASP that allows geoscientists of all backgrounds to log their credits through the GSSA and still be recognised by SACNASP.

This on-line (ZOOM) workshop looks at what CPD is and why it is important. It covers the SACNASP system for CPD, what you can claim and how many points, as well as how to log your points directly on the SACNASP website. It also looks at why geoscientists (GSSA members) might want to log their CPD through the GSSA rather than directly on SACNASP. It shows, in some detail, what type of activities could be considered for CPD credits – it does not specify which courses or workshops, but rather looks at the principles that can be applied to a variety of geoscience-related fields of practice. It also shows you how to log those points on the GSSA website and how to have those points accepted by SACNASP.

The CPD workshop is expected to run for 2hrs and so would attract 2CPD points on the GSSA system (at 1CPD point/hr). For those logging directly onto the SACNASP system this workshop would attract 0.2CPD points (at 1CPD point per 10hrs).

Click here to
REGISTER

Registration Fee - R500

info@gssa.org.za

GSSA & WIMSA - FOSTERING A SAFER WORKPLACE FOR GEOSCIENTISTS

24 MARCH 2021 | 08.30AM - 5PM


wimsa
WOMEN IN MINING SA

8 GSSA
1 SACNASP
CPD
POINTS

ABOUT THE COURSE

An up-to-date look at harassment in the modern geoscience - workplace and how best to prevent incidents while providing adequate support for those who come forward. A review of frameworks for accountability and why it matters will be provided. The talk will also look at the unique challenges facing geoscientists today in industry as well as in academia.

"I think a webinar like this would be of special importance because field geologists regularly find themselves in isolated areas with problematic, creepy or even threatening male co-workers or supervisors. I do realize men can also be harassed, another item that should be addressed. In the past two months I've had two friends quit their positions because of sexual harassment and the appalling, ineffectual handling of their reports. This included the leaking of confidential emails which resulted in intensified harassment with added bullying. I think a refresher for employers on how to handle such incidents is necessary." - Anonymous

Free Registration

Click here to
REGISTER

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CLEAN AND GREEN DAY
16 APRIL 2021 | 08.30AM - 5PM

8 GSSA
1 SACNASP
CPD
POINTS

ABOUT THE COURSE

The world is attempting to shift towards more sustainable sources of energy to power our ever-growing world of technology. At the same time, the mining industry is constantly under pressure to reduce its impact on the environment, along with any further damage in the years that follow the closure of a project.

This one-day online event aims to give you insights into the cleaner, greener renewable energy sources available, as well as the innovative technologies being implemented by well-established mines to reduce environmental impact. The short course is aimed at geologists, environmentalists, engineers and researchers, as well as anyone with a background knowledge and understanding on the fundamentals of renewable energy and cleaner mining.

Registration Fee

Member - R1000 | Non Member - R1500 | Student/Retired - R500

Click here to
REGISTER

info@gssa.org.za



VP - MEMBERSHIP

DUMI SIBIYA

NEW MEMBERS

Ratified by Council on 29 January 2021

Luke Carlton, Heike Fourie, Percy Makakaba, Vivian Makoro
Tsholofelo Mokoka, Omphile Phala, Almamy Keita, Ludwich Visser

NEW STUDENT MEMBERS

Lebogang Babedi, Victoria Courtenay, Tshiami Mokoto, Mothae Namane
Thalukanyo Mudau, Shaunelle Pretorius, Xichavo Ngobesi

DECEMBER ISSUE OF THE GEOBULLETIN



2021 MEMBERSHIP FEE LETTER AND SCHEDULE

[Click here](#)



Membership queries
please email
info@gssa.org.za

Join us



The GSSA Research, Education and Investment Fund (REI Fund) is inviting applications from GSSA paid up-members (including current post-graduate student members) for grants from the Fund, to be received at the GSSA office not later than 31 January 2021.

[READ MORE](#)



[Registration form](#)



SAMCODES NEWS January 2021

[User Guide
SAMCODES App](#)

[READ MORE](#)

Drilling Skills for Geologists



This course is for the more experienced geologists looking for a deeper understanding of drilling concepts in order to better manage drilling projects.

The objective of every exploration project is to obtain representative samples of as high a quality as possible, safely and efficiently. The key concepts here are quality, safety and efficiency and this program is designed to provide candidates with the necessary knowledge and skills to improve their effectiveness in identifying the source of problems and managing these three key aspects of a drilling project.

[READ MORE](#)



UNESCO Lecture Series

Earth Materials for a Sustainable and Thriving Society
Organised in collaboration with IUGS and iCrag

[READ MORE](#)

FOR SALE

LEICA GEOLOGICAL MICROSCOPE WITH CAMERA



Used Leica DM750P geological microscope with Leica EC3 digital camera attached. Rarely used and in an excellent condition. Specifications listed below. Asking price R45 000 (including VAT) but negotiable. Located in Pretoria.

For enquiries please contact Izak Breytenbach (izake@soilkraft.co.za)

Specifications

Leica DM750P Microscope

- *Koehler Illumination (LED)*
- *Polariser*
- *Universal Power Supply*
- *Manual 30 degree Binocular Pol Tube*
- *Bertrand Lens Module*
- *Lambda Compensator*
- *4X, 10X, 40X magnification*

Leica EC3 Camera

- *70X C Mount Adapter*
- *Tube HC L1TP 4/5/7, binocular phototube*
- *Leica Application Suite Software included*