

NEWSLETTER

Promoting the study and advancement of Earth Sciences since 1895



Craig Smith

2022 Membership Fees

Welcome to the September newsletter

Invoices for 2022 fees are being sent this week, with an average increase of 4.2% for Members and Fellows. 2021 fees were not increased from the prior year, but it is not feasible to continue to hold fees at 2020 levels through 2022. The early bird special will apply, however; if fees are paid prior to January 31, you may remit at last year's rate.

There are still a number of Members who have not paid 2021 fees, and who we are having difficulty contacting. Please keep us up-to-date at info@gssa.org.za if your address has changed.

Members are reminded that October 10-16 is internationally celebrated Earth Science Week

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PRESIDENTS COLUMN

GEOHERITAGE

DR TANIA MARSHALL

On Heritage Day (24 September) South Africans are encouraged to celebrate their culture and the diversity of their beliefs and traditions, in the wider context of a nation that belongs to all its people. The first Heritage Day was celebrated in 1995 and in the early 2000's National Braai Day started gaining momentum as a way to celebrate South Africa's culinary tradition of gathering round a fire to cook.

In South Africa, we have an especially rich heritage of natural features of geological significance – typically celebrated by various Geoheritage organisations. But more than that, we have a rich heritage of geological luminaries, Alex du Toit, Hans Merensky, Andrew Geddes-Bain, George Corstophine, George Stowe, to name but a few, who first put South African geoscience front-and-centre on the global stage (Rogers, 1937).

Just as important as the historical figures, however, is the role that has been played by ordinary geologists in our mining industry. And on this Heritage Day, I would like to pay tribute in terms of:

- The effort of both academic and industry geologists in determining that the Wits Basin was a far bigger entity than initially thought.
- The application of rational scientific thinking plus early-stage geophysics between the 1930's and 1950's leading to the discovery, of four major goldfields and the establishment of more than 25 gold mines.
- The exploration and prospecting strategies that led to the discovery and exploitation of numerous platinum, base-metal, coal and diamond mines, making South Africa one of leading mining countries in the world and the basis that this laid for major economic development post WW2.

Even in these times of Covid-19, the minerals industry has been a pillar of support to the South African economy. In April 2020, after the first full month of lockdown, total mining production fell by more than 47% year-on-year (Basquill, 2020).

However, despite mining GDP falling by 4%, the industry managed to sustain itself through the COVID-19 pandemic somewhat better than might have been expected at the beginning of the lockdown (Minerals Council of South Africa, 2021).....

[READ MORE](#)

2022 MEMBERSHIP FEES

On behalf of the Council of the GSSA, I would like to thank you for your continued support and involvement with the Society.

The South African Journal of Geology (SAJG) is accessible online through GeoScience World via the member portal on the GSSA website, and we encourage all members to make use of the service. Our quarterly publication Geobulletin is also available on the GSSA website.

The option to receive a physical copy of SAJG is still available at an additional cost noted in the fees table, the higher rate partially covers printing and surface mail charges. Note that we cannot guarantee timely delivery of your printed copy of SAJG because of delays in the South African Post Office Hubs.

Voluntary donations additional to the fees are always welcome, and we gratefully thank those who have made additional donations in past years. There is a donation option on your invoice. We encourage members to pay online on our website: www.gssa.org.za , please login to your member portal and enter your card details, it is 3D secured.

2022 membership fee invoices were emailed to members on the 27 September 2021. Please contact accounts@gssa.org.za for any finance related matters.

2022 Fee Schedule



**Login to your member profile and
pay your member fee**





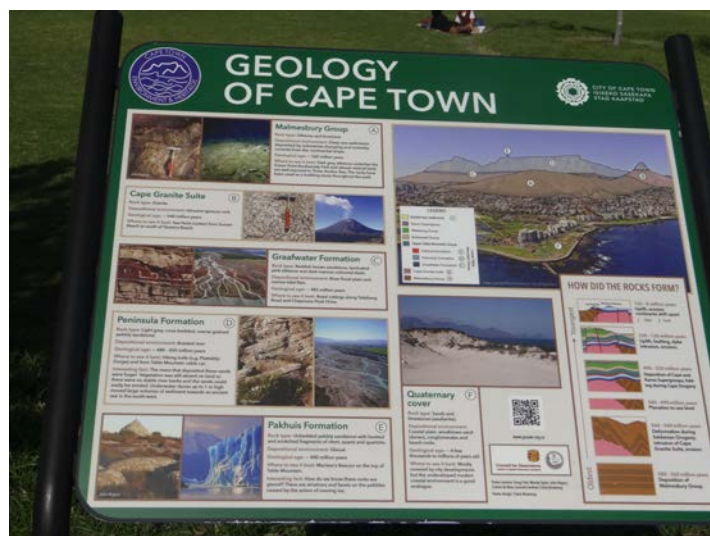
2022 Call for Grant Applications: 35 IGC Legacy Fund support

The generous support received from sponsors, donors and over 4,000 registered delegates resulted in a financial surplus after the 35th International Geological Congress that was held in Cape Town during 2016. Provision has been made for the investment of these funds that are administered by the Board of 35IGC Legacy Fund to ensure that the legacy of this successful event will benefit the South African geoscience community long into the future.

Annual grants will be advertised to promote geoheritage themes or activities in support of deserving geoscience students and researchers. An annual thematic focus will be identified every year. The level of funding available annually for disbursement will vary in relation to investment income and the need to maintain or grow capital from which sustainable support can be provided.

[READ MORE](#)

Geoheritage Committee of the Western Cape Branch has erected a new plaque at Green Point Urban Park, highlighting the geology of Cape Town





VP - MEETINGS

NOLEEN PAULS

[EVENTS CALENDAR](#)

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ANNUAL EVENT SPONSORS

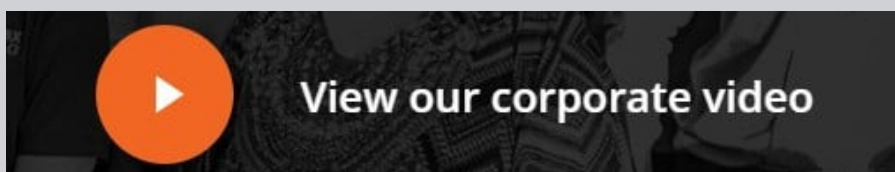


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and presentations](#)

3D GEOMODELLING

08 OCTOBER 2021

CPD POINTS

8 GSSA
1 SACNASP

ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

Recent trends in mining and exploration are set to further accelerate the demand and growth of 3D geological modelling software. These trends include the inevitable increase in cost per ton of resource and global economic slowdowns. These require companies to constantly cost-cut during extraction and to improve resource delineation. Add to this the trend that new discoveries are deeper and in more structurally-complex setting, and it's apparent that a great deal of attention needs to be focused on getting the geometry of a deposit, as early as possible in the exploration and mining value chain, correct.

REGISTRATION

Members - **R3,000**

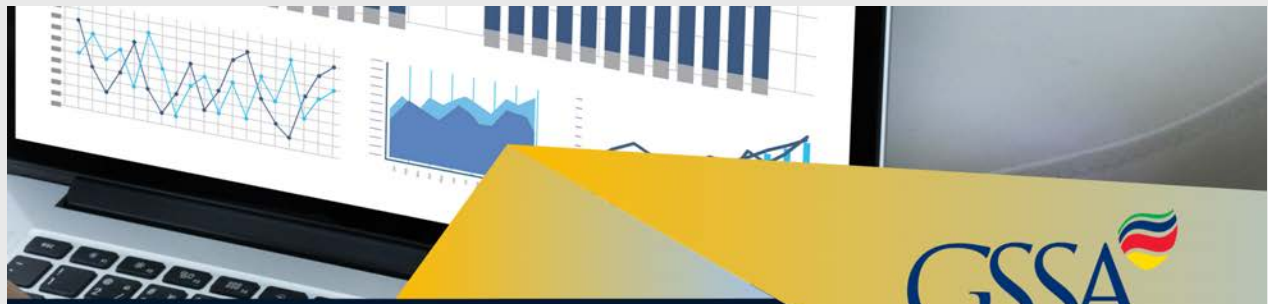
Non-Members - **R3,500**

Students/Retired/Academic - **R2,000**

REGISTER NOW



COURSE INFO



DATA ANALYTICS AND MACHINE LEARNING FOR GEOSCIENTISTS

19 OCTOBER 2021

CPD POINTS

8 GSSA
1 SACNASP

ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

This one-day virtual workshop introduces the theory and practical applications of Data Analytics and Machine Learning within the geoscience discipline.

You will learn popular machine learning algorithms, principal component analysis, and geospatial modelling which are the critical methods for data-driven techniques and understanding complex patterns in data. As you build prediction and classification models, you will learn how to train algorithms using training data so you can predict the outcome for future datasets.

REGISTRATION

Members - **R1,000**

Non-Members - **R1,500**

Students/Retired/Academic - **R500**

REGISTER NOW



COURSE INFO



AFRICAN EXPLORATION AND TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE

11 - 12 NOVEMBER

CPD POINTS
PER DAY

8 GSSA
1 SACNASP

**Hosted by Geological Society of South Africa,
Geological Society of Africa, Geological Society of Zambia**

This webinar aims to provide an opportunity for professionals in the industry to be informed about new African exploration projects and current developments. It is an ideal opportunity to learn more about deposits that could potentially add significant economic value to the continent's pipeline.

Our speakers are from major and junior mining companies, and from large consulting companies to independents, which should ensure an interesting event. We will also hear from our sister geological societies about their initiatives.

REGISTRATION PER DAY

Members - R1,000 | **Non-Members** - R1,500 | **Student/Retired** - R500

REGISTER NOW



MATRIX REFERENCE MATERIALS

EXPLORING SOLUTIONS, TOGETHER.



DRILLING SKILLS FOR GEOLOGISTS

**PROUDLY
ENDORSED BY THE
GSSA**

CPD POINTS

40 GSSA
5 SACNASP

ABOUT THE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME

This virtual course has been designed to improve the candidate's understanding of the fundamental processes involved in drilling boreholes and to develop the candidate's effectiveness in identifying the source of problems and managing a drilling project.

The program also examines fundamental aspects of the use and application of drilling fluids and the principles of borehole surveying. A course on economic aspects focusses on the major cost drivers and the structure of drilling contracts.

Who should register

This certificate program is designed for geologists, geological technicians, safety personnel, project managers and engineers who need a deeper understanding of the principles and processes involved in drilling boreholes.

REGISTER NOW





VP - MEMBERSHIP

DUMI SIBIYA

Ratified by Council on 30 September 2021

NEW MEMBERS

Wessel Fick, Eduard Landsberg, Thabang Monyetsane, Yoshen Moodley
Zihle Mpungane, Thobejane Rapolai, Tshedza Shavhani, Leonidas Vonopartis,
Nare Sebola

NEW STUDENT MEMBERS

Kamogelo Baloyi, Henna Draycott, Wilhelm Grassman, Ndivhuwo Manari
Wendy Mhaleni, Batobeleng Monareng, Jean Mutema, Nhlalala Nhlanguwini
Phemelo Raikane

GEOBULLETIN - SEPTEMBER ISSUE



2022 MEMBERSHIP FEE LETTER AND SCHEDULE

[Click here](#)



Membership queries
please email
info@gssa.org.za

Join us



NEIF COP26 Changing Planet Competition

The UN Climate Change Conference COP26 (see <https://ukcop26.org/>) is scheduled for the 31st October to 12th November in Glasgow. The National Environmental Isotope Facility (NEIF) and British Ocean Sediment Core Research Facility (BOSCORF) are hosting an online outreach competition as part of the event. Submissions must be uploaded by the 11th October.

[READ MORE](#)



Postponed to 19th November 2022

5th Southern African Mineral Symposium

A one-day symposium highlighting minerals and mineral and gemstone deposits of southern Africa hosted jointly by the Mineralogical Association of South Africa, University of the Witwatersrand and the South African Micromount Society

Anniversaries Symposium 50 years ago



“SYMPOSIUM ON GRANITES, GNEISSES AND RELATED
ROCKS OF RHODESIA” (SALISBURY, RHODESIA, 1971).

Author :

**Dr Sharad Master Vice-President for
Africa: IUGS International Commission
on the History of Geological Sciences
(INHIGEO)**

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info@gssa.org.za