



ASSOCIATION OF MINE RESIDENT ENGINEERS
REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED
28 FEBRUARY 2011

COUNCIL

President

G Bullen
TWP Consulting (Pty) Ltd

Vice-President

J B Potgieter
Goldfields Ltd

Second Vice-President

K L Willemse
Lonmin Platinum

Immediate Past-President

O N Letsholo
Read Swatman and Voigt

Elected Members

A J Kleynhans
Xstrata Alloys SA

J Kruger
Impala Platinum

J F Jansen van Rensburg
AngloGold Ashanti – S A Metallurgy

B P O'Connor
Anglo Platinum - Corporate Engineering

C D Swanepoel
Read, Swatman and Voigt

R K Wardle
TWP Consulting (Pty) Ltd

F K Botha
Read, Swatman and Voigt

District Representatives

East Rand

Vacant

Free State

F Heyneke
Goldfields Ltd – Beatrix Mine

Klerksdorp

J Harmse
AngloGold Ashanti – Kopanang Mine

Northern

E G Van Der Berg
Xstrata Eastern Mines

Rustenburg

W Stemmet
Margaret Water

West Rand

L Neveling
Goldfields Ltd – Driefontein Mine

Co-opted

S Bierschenk
Harmony

Secretary

L Jacobs
Mines Professional Associations' Secretariat

Offices

Chamber of Mines Building
Johannesburg

PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE ASSOCIATION: 1924 – 2009

1924/25	Smythe, G M	1968/69	Davidson, R E
1925/26	Dickson, A	1969/70	Seaward, H E
1926/27	Farris, T	1970/71	Dunn, C
1927/28	Lowes, J	1971/72	Gibbs, R S
1928/29	Andrews, G T	1972/73	Martin, C
1929/30	Olsen, A C L	1973/74	Parry, D F
1930/31	Merrifield, J M	1974/75	Greyling, H A
1931/32	Innes, J D	1975/76	Brokenshire, R H
1932/33	Watson, W S	1976/77	Felix, M J
1933/34	Mitchell, W H	1977/78	McAdam, L R
1934/35	Reekie, J	1978/79	Walker, R G
1935/36	Steele, P H	1979/80	Kruger, C C
1936/37	Craggs, W B	1980/81	Taylor, A R
1937/38	Wakelin, W F	1981/82	Grove, A C
1938/39	Cowin, T E	1982/83	Jooste, F
1939/40	Allin, A D	1983/84	Calver, H A
1940/41	Malcolm, A	1984/85	O'Connor, R H
1941/42	Ainsworth, A	1985/86	Brasher, B H
1942/43	Spiers, J T	1986/87	Mills, G R W
1943/44	Hewitt, B F	1987/88	Robinson, J E
1944/45	Petrie, J W	1988/89	Hunter, E C
1945/46	Cotton, F A	1989/90	Farrell, K M
1946/47	Hutton, W B	1990/91	Mossner, W
1947/48	McChesney, J	1991/92	Brink, A J
1948/49	Wain, H	1992/93	Brokke, A J
1949/50	Gray, E W	1993/94	Farrell, K M
1950/51	Paton, G	1994/95	Menzies, I D
1951/52	Bungay, F R	1995/96	Brear, F S
1952/53	Stain, A F	1996/97	Bester, E
1953/54	Robinson, L R	1997/98	Betton, D R
1954/55	Van Wyk, C F B	1998/99	Swanepoel, C D
1955/56	Shillaw, C	1999/00	O'Connor, B P
1956/57	Woods, G H	2000/01	Whitley, J A
1957/58	De Villiers, J W	2001/02	Dempsey, G
1958/59	Dent, J H	2002/03	Jansen van Rensburg, J F
1959/60	Watson, R	2003/04	Moxham, K A
1960/61	Ashton, W D	2004/05	A J Whibley
1961/62	Van der Spuy, J P	2005/06	J C Joao
1962/63	Gore, C A S	2006/07	J Kruger
1963/64	Bylass, J	2007/08	F K Botha
1964/65	Lewis, G C	2008/09	A J Kleynhans
1965/66	Gibbs, K D	2009/10	O N Letsholo
1966/67	Casey, J	2010/11	G Bullen
1967/68	MacMillan, K A		

REPORT OF COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 2010/2011

Presented to members of the Association at the Eighty-Seventh Annual General Meeting held in the Platinum Room, GoldReef City, Johannesburg, on Friday, 13 May 2011.

FINANCE

ASSOCIATION FUNDS

The Financial Statements reflect that revenue for the year amounted to **R 1 515 041**, made up of membership subscription fees received events and interest earned on funds invested with the Chamber of Mines Cash Management Department. Expenditure amounted to **R 1 594 735**.

The expenditure includes the amounts of **R66 276** paid for the Gala Dinner of 2009, a provision of **R48 120** for bad debts, overstatement for 2009 Presidential Visit of **(R106 194)** and a Payment to Kloof Country Club for the July 2009 Seminar for the amount of **R25 004**. Should these costs not have been occurred during this Financial year end, the Audit report would have reflected a profit of **R165 901**.

Accumulated Funds brought forward from the previous financial year amounted to **R 384 474** and, with the transfer of the current year's net Deficit of **R 79 693** an amount of **R304 781** has been carried forward to the New Year.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

In terms of the powers vested in it by the Constitution and Rules of the Association, the Council has set subscriptions for the ensuing year at R800.00 for all grades of membership, i.e. Ordinary, Associate, Affiliate and Student. Council's decision to increase subscription fees in line with inflation was taken in order to maintain and strengthen the Association's financial base.

Your annual subscription now includes costs related to attendance at all General and Annual General Meetings, as this is thought to be a more equitable method of covering costs than the previous system of invoicing mines.

Your Council wishes to report that the current year did not see an excellent collection rate; however an improvement was noticed from October 2010. This still remains an extremely slow and onerous process. The Association relies heavily on this income for its monthly operating costs and members are requested to assist in this process by ensuring that their subscription has been paid, and also by informing the Secretariat of any change in their contact details.

ASSOCIATION BURSARY

AMRE Council decided to sponsor a second student in 2009. The decision was made to again select a bursar who was already familiar with working in the mining industry, as this was thought to be the best method of ensuring that once the degree was obtained, the student would remain within, and be an asset to, the mining industry.

Mr Theron continued studying towards his degree in electrical engineering at North West University (formerly Potchefstroom) and has graduated in December 2010 with outstanding results. Mr du Plessis continues studying his degree in Electrical engineering at Tshwane University of Technology and is doing well.

MEMBERSHIP

The total membership of the Association as at 28 February 2011 (2010) was **690 (667)** members, made up of **400 (375)** Ordinary members, **48 (46)** Associate members, **39 (39)** Affiliate members, **173 (154)** Student members, **30 (30)** Honorary Associate members and **23 (23)** Honorary Life members.

This reflects a total increase of **23** members over the previous year.

It is pleasing to note that, despite the many fluctuations currently being experienced in the mining industry, the stability of the Association has not been compromised, however it is considered that a strong membership base is essential to the continuing success of the Association and Council appeals to all members to assist in identifying and recruiting prospective new members.

SAFETY

In keeping with the importance of Safety as a priority, AMRE Council endeavour to circulate safety flashes as and when these become available, to members. 'Safety' continues to be the first item on the Agenda at Council, General and District meetings. With its many safety interventions, Council believes that the Association makes a valuable contribution to continued safety awareness.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY COMMITTEE (OH&SPC)

Council would like to thank the Chamber for making documents emanating from this Committee, which is the main employer caucus for the Mining Regulations Advisory Committee, available to Council, as in this way, members can be kept informed of DRM's, draft guidance notes, etc, thereby enabling them to take up any issues of concern within their individual Groups.

SAFETY ACHIEVEMENTS

Your Council wishes to place on record its congratulations to those mines and their respective managements and staff which have achieved note worthy safety achievements during 2010.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Your Council, in its efforts to fulfil the function for which it was elected by members, i.e. to represent and promote the interests of engineers in the mining industry, has initiated many projects, with the objective of improving the operational effectiveness of the Association.

A strategic planning workshop will be held at the end of May, in conjunction with the first meeting of the newly elected President and Council, and members will be kept informed of progress regarding strategic initiatives at the various Association meetings.

MPA STEERING COMMITTEE

Your Association continues to play a very active, significant and recognized role in regard to the implementation of OBET-compliant competency standards in the SA Mining and Minerals Sector through external bodies and forums such as the Mining Qualifications Authority (MQA) and the Engineering Standards Generation Body (ESGB) through the MPA Steercom.

During the past year the MPAs' Steercom Committee met on a regular basis to deal with issues relating to the implementation of an OBET-compliant dispensation in the SAM&MS. More Associations are seeing the need to be aligned with the participating MPAs which are currently composed as follows:

Full (contributing) members: SACMA; SACEA; AMMSA; AMRE; MVS (SA); MMMA and SACEPS

Co-opted (non-contributing) members: CMEESA; ASPASA; SANIRE; SAIM&MS; AMA; IoMSSA and NCMMA

The report card for 2010 reads:

- Preparation and submission to the MHSC and MRAC of the ECSA/MPA “*Position Document: Towards a New Model for CEs*”.
- Presentation of the ECSA/MPA “*Position Document: Towards a New Model for CEs*” to the Education Advisory Committee and the Consulting Mechanical and Electrical Engineers of the CoMSA.
- Contribution to the Cheadle and Thompson Research Report in regard to Certificates of Competency (DMR and CoMSA).
- Submission of the *Equivalency Analysis: GCCs for Certificated Engineers and Managers* to the MQA Board.
- Preparation of an appropriate draft Rationale for the Equivalency Analyses: GCCs in the SAM&MS which has led to the SGB for Mining and Minerals’ resolution that EAs are required for the implementation of OBET-compliant competency standards in the SA Mining and Minerals Sector.
- Collaboration with CoMSA’s OH&SPC which has led to a mutual CoMSA/MPAs’ agreement that a “*liazze fair*” approach towards promoting and expediting the dormant levels 5 to 8 issues need to be replaced with a more pro-active approach.
- Re-establishment of the Classification-of-Mines’ Task Team and approval of its new Terms-of-Reference.
- Preparation by the CoMTT of a draft generically applicable Risk Matrix and proposed list of generically applicable OH&S-related hazard factors.
- Performance by the SACMA driven Technical Reference Group (TRG-15) of a comprehensive Gap Assessment of the generic (common)/portable Fundamental and Core components for the Level 5, National Higher Certificate: Mining Practice.
- Performance by the SACMA driven TRG-15 of a comprehensive Gap Assessment of the Specialisation Elective component of the technical profile for the U/G Coal Mine Overseer.
- Completion of the *Level 5: National Higher Certificate: Mining Practice* with domains (streaming) for U/G Hard-rock, U/G coal Mining and Surface Mining.
- Development of a draft Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO)-complaint competency standard (Level 5, Occupational Award) for Mine Overseer with domains (streams) for U/G Hardrock Mining, U/G Coal Mining and Surface Mining.
- Completion of the Specialisation Elective competency standards for the Underground Coal Mining Mine Overseer domain (stream) which will, in future, replace the GCC: M/O (Fiery Mines).
- Obtaining agreement in the M&MSGB that the Industry needs to develop and implement a *Policy: How to deal with dual/combined technical and supervision management and leadership (SML) competency profiles/ standards*.
- Obtaining agreement in the M&MSGB that the Industry need to develop a *Policy: Implementation of OBET-complaint competency standards in the SAM&MS* which deals, inter alia, with the critical issues of PROCESS and CHAMPIONSHIP (CUSTODIANSHIP).
- Involvement of members of the participating MPAs in the CoMSA’s Certificates-of-Competency (CoC) Steercom and Working Groups which intends:
 - (a) maintaining the 25 CoMSA CoCs until 31-DEC-11; and

- (b) developing appropriate OBET-complaint competency standards which will replace the current Levels 2 through 4 CoMSA CoCs in the area of Rock Engineering, Survey and Mapping and Environmental Engineering and Occupational Hygiene.
- The ESGB established an SGG for the development of the following qualifications to complete the Frame-work of Engineering Qualifications i.e. Level 7, Advanced Diploma in Engineering and a Level 8, B. Eng. Tech. (Honours).
 - The ESGB obtained agreement from relevant stakeholders for the qualification for Certificated Mechanical and Electrical Engineers and Certificated Managers (Mining) captured by the proposed draft Stage 2 Qualification at level 7 ("*broadly defined practice*") on the NQF. The participating Mines Professional Associations which include the SAIMM, have played a significant role in achieving this critical milestone. This generic qualification also provides the competency profile for practitioners in Factories, Transport and Marine Sectors.
 - The ESGB/MPA's joint Task Team has produced an ECSA Position Paper: New Model for the Regulation of Certificated Engineers/Managers under the Built Environment Act 2000, Act 43 of 2000 and the Mine Health and Safety Act 1996, Act 29 of 1996 as amended;
 - ECSA and the MPA's have jointly formulated the appropriate way forward for the registration of Mine Environment Engineering Practitioners with the ECSA;
 - The SGG: Certificated Engineers of the ESGB has ratified the draft 140 Credits, Level 7, Advanced Diploma in Engineering to be appropriate as future minimum Stage 1 (educational) requirement for registration in the categories Candidate Professional Certificated Engineer and Professional Certificated Engineer;

ECSA

Council keeps abreast of activities within this body by various means such as representation on the Registration Committee and participation in the Presidents Forum, as well as ECSA workshops.

Ongoing feedback has been given on the different topics being discussed.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD)

AMRE as an Association is recognised by ECSA as a Category A Voluntary Association, which means that the Association can allocate a Category 3 Accreditation for Engineering Related activities.

The MPA's steering committee will continue to assume the function of establishing and overseeing a common CPD policy for the participating Associations.

As part of its service to members, an annual statement of CPD credits in Categories 1 and 3, applicable to attendance at the various meetings of the Association, will be prepared and will be available to individual members on request. Please take note that credits can only be awarded if members have signed an attendance register, which will be archived in the MPAS offices in the event of audit.

THE ASSOCIATION AS A FORUM

In line with the Association's declared objectives of addressing issues relevant to the engineering discipline within the mining industry, focus has been directed towards many topical and pertinent matters at the many diverse meetings of members.

The Association's continued viability and success largely depends on active participation by members at these meetings and functions which, despite difficulties currently being experienced in the industry, have attracted good attendance levels. Council would like to stress that member, rather than feeling obligated to take part in Association activities, should actively enjoy their participation.

In addition to the regular monthly Council meetings, members have had the opportunity to participate in the following meetings and activities.

DISTRICT MEETING

Council is pleased to report that these meetings held regularly during the current year and incorporating technical visits, attracted satisfactory attendances.

Your Council acknowledges the hard work of the District Representatives in organising these meetings and relies heavily on them to disseminate information to the membership on Association matters and activities.

GENERAL MEETINGS

The General meetings and technical visits held during the year under review achieved excellent attendance levels and once again continued to maintain the high standards required by members.

The August 2010 meeting once again took the form of a joint AMRE/SACEA function, which was hosted by SACEA at Matla. This was well attended by Members from both Associations. Council is pleased to report that the relationship between the two engineering Associations continues to strengthen.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Eighty-Sixth Annual General Meeting and Dinner, was held on 14 May 2010 at the Johannesburg Country Club in Johannesburg. The Guest speaker for the evening was Mr Robin Banks a motivational speaker on “Mindset”.

MEETINGS OF PRESIDENTS AND VICE PRESIDENTS

As has become the practice over recent years, meetings of Association Presidents and Vice-Presidents were held during June and November 2010. The next meeting is scheduled for June 2011.

These meetings serve the purpose of fostering an *esprit de corps* amongst the Associations and provide an excellent forum. Matters of concern, mutual interest and possible methods of improvements and enhancements that are beneficial to the 11 Mines Professional Associations may be discussed at an inter-Association level, as well as with senior officials of the Chamber of Mines.

MPAS COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

The Committee of Management, comprising representatives of the 11 MPA's, addresses many issues such as MPAS functions, tightening-up of accounting practices, etc.

The MPA's have long valued their relationship with the Chamber. The MPA now forms part of the Chamber; although no formal agreement has ever been made regarding being under its auspices for functions such as staff conditions and salaries, HR functions, etc.

MEETINGS WITH THE DMR

It has been agreed by all parties that these annual meetings are extremely useful in voicing concerns regarding the mining engineering discipline.

An initiative of the Association which continues to be practised is that of inviting a member of the DMR attend at the start of Council meetings. This takes place in March of each year. Here open discussions can be held on areas of mutual concern.

During the year under review, the DMR also attended the Safety Seminar held on the 20th April 2010, Mr A Coutinho was a presenter and Mr D Allen was one of the presenters at the Seminar held on the 22 July 2010. Various information of relevance is shared with members by the DMR at such events.

CM & EE SUB COMMITTEE

The Council has been involved in meetings with the CM & EE Sub Committee, where matters of mutual interest and concern are discussed.

SEMINARS: 2010/2011

Council arranged for two Seminars to be held during 2010/ 2011, the first Seminar was on the 20th April 2010 at Driefontein Country Club and the second one on 22 July 2010 at Kloof Country Club. Both these seminars proved to be very successful and very well attended. Delegates also received CPD certificates for attendance at these accredited seminars, which is of assistance when accumulating credits for submission to ECSA each year. Feedback had been provided that student engineers awaiting to undertake the exams for GCC certificates finds these seminars very beneficial.

Council would like to place on record its appreciation to all involved in the organisation of these prestigious seminars, both of which attracted attendances of almost 350 delegates and which have now become a highlight of the Association's calendar. Your council would like to extend it's gratitude to the sponsor and organizers of these events as well as to the Committee Secretary. A profit of R229 812 was made from both these events.

PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

An enjoyable and informative visit was attended from 28-31 October 2010 to Namibia. This was attended by 31 members. Members participated in a very interesting and exciting programme, which included extensive technical visits to Rossing Uranium and Areva Dissemination plant. The visit concluded with a one night stay in Walvis Bay and two nights stay in Swakopmund. Activities included, sand boarding and quad biking in the Namibia Desert.

Council wishes to place on record its sincere gratitude to the hosts of the technical visits, and their staff members, as well as all others who contributed towards the success of the visit.

Council would also like to stress that, although the technical content of these visits is of great interest and value, the sharing of ideas and information as well as the sense of camaraderie that is generated during such visits is of the utmost importance to participants.

DINNER DANCE

The Ninth Association dinner dance for members and their respective partners was held on Friday, 25 February 2010, at GoldReef City. This event also showed a profit of R45 362.

This very successful and enjoyable function attracted **220** guests, entertainment included a magician, a comedian and a DJ. Council would like to extend a special note of appreciation to Ms L Jacobs, for all the arrangements for the event. This was certainly one to remember.

GOLF DAY

The Association golf day Sunday, 17 October 2010, at Randpark Golf Club and was enjoyed by all the golfers. Council extends its appreciation to Mr B O'Connor, Mr G Bullen, Mr S Bierschenk and Ms L Jacobs for the professional manner in which this recurring annual event was organised. The Association also wishes to thank the sponsors for the generous gifts and the players that took the time to participate.

SPONSORSHIP

Council wishes to express its appreciation at the continued generosity of Association sponsors, which enables Council to undertake its educational initiatives.

Council would also like to record its appreciation to all involved in the organisation of these enjoyable social events.

Last but not least to the various companies that allow council members, the members of the Association not only to participate in the organizing and attendance of events, but also in sponsoring members to attend these events.

PAPERS AND TECHNICAL NOTES

The technical presentations were delivered at the Association's General meetings during 2010/11

The Association would like to continue its established tradition of publishing Bound Volumes of papers and once again **appeals** to members to forward any papers they may have written to the Secretary for consideration by the Editorial Sub-Committee.

Your Council wishes to record its appreciation to the convenors of Association meetings, as well as to the staff of the mines concerned. It would also like to record its gratitude to the management and staff of the respective recreation clubs without whose efforts and co-operation the meetings would have been less successful.

ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

The new website, which is considered to represent the status and professionalism of the Association, is regularly upgraded and is now fully operational. The website gives members valuable information on Association activities, presentations at seminars, etc, as well as contact details for representatives on Council. You are invited to visit the site at www.amre.org.za.

REPRESENTATION

During the year under review, the Association has continued to be represented with distinction on numerous Committees, on which it plays a significant role.

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

East Rand	VACANT
Free State	F P Heynecke
Klerksdorp	J J C Harmse
Northern	J Van Der Berg
Rustenburg	K L Willemse
West Rand	L J Neveling

SELECTION AND ADJUDICATION COMMITTEE

J F Jansen van Rensburg
C D Swanepoel

EDITORIAL SUB-COMMITTEE

J F Jansen van Rensburg
C D Swanepoel

HONORARY TREASURER (PRESIDENT)

G Bullen

PRESIDENTS AND VICE PRESIDENTS

G Bullen
B Potgieter

MPAS COMMITTEE MANAGEMENT

G Bullen
B Potgieter

CM & EE

G Bullen
B Potgieter

BURSARY SELECTION COMMITTEE

J C Kruger
G Bullen

AMRE WEBMASTER

F K Botha

ECSA : REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

BP O'Connor	Representative
C D Swanepoel	Alternate

MQA / MPA STEERING COMMITTEE

O Letsholo
J Kruger
B O'Connor

MPA SUB COMMITTEE

M&M SGB (Alternate Eng Representative)	F K Botha / J Kruger
Eng 5-8 Working Group (Alternate)	G Bullen / B P O'Connor
ESGB / University Qualification (Rep)	J Kruger / B P O'Connor
ESGB / Technikon Qualifications (Rep)	L Neveling / J B Potgieter
ESGB – Stage 2 Engineers (Rep)	J Kruger / O N T Letsholo
ESGB – Stage 2 Technologists (Rep)	A J Kleynhans / J B Potgieter
ESGB – Stage 2 Cert Eng (Rep)	F K Botha / G B Bullen

COMMISSION OF EXAMINERS CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCY

F K Botha	Representative
G B Bullen	Alternate

SIMRAC EXPERT PANEL

C D Swanepoel (R K Wardle)

Your Council wishes to place on record its sincere thanks and appreciation to all those members who gave of their time and effort to represent the Association on the various committees.

AWARD FOR BEST PAPER AND/OR PRESENTATION

The Editorial Sub-Committee considered the presentations made at the various meetings held during the 2010/2011 year. The following awards will be received at the AGM.

J Botha – Best Technical Paper – Full Kruger Rand
H Harmse – Best Presentation – Half Kruger Rand

The council would to put it on record the request for members to make presentations at GM and convert these into technical papers.

PRIZES AND AWARDS

BEST LEARNER/ENGINEERING APPRENTICES

Medals and certificates will be awarded at the 2011 AGM to the best learner/engineering apprentices during 2010, as follows:

A C Mmotsa Xtrata Lydenburg – Gold Achieved a 98% Overall Recommendation Average
M L Annandale Harmony - Silver Achieved a 96% Overall Recommendation Average

CONCLUSION

Finally, the Council wishes to express its appreciation to all members, both old and new, for their support, and especially to those who have provided input in one form or another, as well as to all the mining groups and companies for their continued support of the Association.

The Council also wishes to record its appreciation, on behalf of the Association, for the Administrative services and other facilities rendered by the Chamber of Mines and to extend its gratitude to the Secretariat and its staff for their good management of the Association's affairs.

G BULLEN
PRESIDENT