

Actuarial Society Update – August 2016

Key Dates for the Year

Event	Cape Town	Johannesburg	Other venue	
Seminars				
Life	5 May	13 May		
Health	11 May			
Investments		8 Jun		
Retirement		1 Aug		
Short term		5 Sep		
Risk mgt		19 Oct		
Banking	22 Nov			
Annual general meeting	8 Jun	8 Jun		
Golf days	14 Oct	20 May		
IAA meetings			St Petersburg Cape Town	25-29 May 18-21 Nov
Education seminar	1 Sep			
Young members convention		10 June		
Convention	23-24 Nov			
Africa Seminar	22 Nov			
A100/A200 & F106 exams	12-21 April & 27 Sept – 7 Oct			
A301 exams	3-4 May & 10-11 Oct			
A302 exams	16 May & 21 Oct			
F201-F206 exams	19 May & 24 Oct			
F101-F105 exams	25 May – 3 June & 28 Oct – 9 Nov			

The Banking and Africa seminars are timed to coincide with the IAA and convention.

New education executive

I am delighted to announce that Conrad Backeberg has joined the Society as the Education Executive. Conrad's wealth of experience in industry and consulting, his proven leadership record and experience as past chairman of our accreditation committee will stand him in good stead as he leads us through the education challenges ahead.

I wish Conrad every success in this new role as he continues the work of ensuring we provide relevant, high quality actuarial education that ensures our qualifying actuaries continue to be respected as amongst the best educated in the world.

For your shopping pleasure

ASSA has launched its own local online Web Shop!

Initially the shop is selling only F200 study material in both hard copy and eBook format.

Secure credit card payments are accepted to provide an immediate payment option resulting in speedy delivery of the study materials without any wait for invoices and EFT payment confirmations.

We expect the shop as well as the underlying credit card payment mechanisms to soon support a wider range of transactions. [ASSA Online Web Shop - http://shop.actuarialsociety.org.za](http://shop.actuarialsociety.org.za)

The wisdom of the elders

Among the highlights of the year for the ASSA president are the Past-Presidents' lunches held in both Johannesburg and Cape Town. This year was no exception as the President and President-elect met with two past presidents in Johannesburg and 7 in Cape Town. In each case the president and president elect benefited from the wisdom and experience of people who have previously led the Society. With 382 years of post-qualification experience between them, there was no shortage of either wisdom or insight into issues impacting our profession and the industries where we work.



The Cape Town lunch was attended by (from left to right) Desmond Smith (president: 1996), Peter Doyle (2010-11), Reg Munro (1998), Tony van Ryneveld (1981), John Rich (1992), Roseanne Murphy da Silva (President), Peter Bieber (1987, 1988), Peter Withey (President-elect), Mike McDougall (CEO), Peter Temple (2014-15).

In Johannesburg they met with Louw van Wyk (1991) and Janina Slawski (2004-2005).

Election

2016 has been a big year for elections and referenda with many delivering surprise or even shock results. The clear message from all of them is that you need to participate in the process if you want to have any influence on the result.

I therefore encourage you to either make yourself available for election to Council or to nominate someone who you feel will be able to best serve the profession through serving on Council. As per the circular sent to members on 29 August, there are vacancies for 3 ordinary members of Council, one newly qualified member (admitted as a Fellow no earlier than 2014) and one student member. Nominations close on 23 September.

For both the Society and profession to be able to thrive and fulfil their potential contribution to South Africa it is important that we have a Council that is diverse, has a broad understanding of the areas we operate and the areas we could operate and a clear appreciation of the professional promise and standards that define us.

Someone elected to Council this year could be taking the first steps on the road to joining the illustrious ranks of the ASSA past presidents!

Convention

Registration for the annual convention is continuing apace – with over 1 000 already registered to attend this year's convention. With wise and influential plenary speakers as well as peers with a wide range of ideas and experience speaking in the parallel session, the 2016 convention should not be missed.

Neighbourly support

The Society was one of the sponsors of the Botswana Risk and Finance conference – with public policy actuary, Neil Fourie, one of the speakers. This is in line with the Society's strategy of increasing the standing of the Society as well as FASSA's in neighbouring countries and other targeted African countries where our members work.

Golf

With the start of Spring, Cape Town based members who have been hibernating through the warm dry winter months are reminded to get to the driving range and get into shape for the Golf Day on 14 October. If you haven't registered your four ball yet do so now. All the proceeds from the day go to the Actuarial Education Trust. Some children will have a better chance in life because you took time out of your busy life to hit a golf ball! A tough sacrifice but someone needs to do it!

Education trust

Thanks to the generosity of members of the Society, the Education Trust was able to join Investec and Breweries in providing top quality maths and science resources to over 3 250 school children in the Western Cape in one week!



Regards



Mike McDougall