



SOUTH AFRICAN
INSTITUTE OF
ARCHITECTS
SAIA

E A S T E R N C A P E

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 9

NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S PEN

Dear Colleagues/Corporate Members

It is my privilege to introduce our newly branded newsletter, complete with new logo, layout design and (as can be expected) in electronic format. We welcome our Corporate Members, Corobrik and Penetron, and look forward to a long association with your companies.

Through this newsletter it is further our intention to create a forum for members to communicate with the SAIA-EC committee. We would therefore welcome your views, suggestions and comments on the format, website, articles of interest and committee matters.

This week SAIA posted an extract on their Facebook page from a survey conducted in the UK by Inbuilding.org. I'm not sure whether I find it amusing or downright discouraging that of the survey respondents "15% do not know [that] architects design buildings, 22% do not know [that] architects prepare detailed drawings, 48% do not know [that] architects prepare specifications of material and workmanship, 86% do not know

[that] architects manage the contract/contractor, 91% do not know [that] architects run the financial accounts", and the list continuous. While pondering whether a local survey would have produced similar results, I scrolled further and the article became more interesting. The editor, Richard Buxton, commented that "the results support what she (Gabrielle Omar) said in an interview with The Architects' Journal about the public not knowing what architects do, and the profession being in need of a brand overhaul."

As a committee we have become increasingly aware of this challenge and will meet next Thursday, at a special meeting, to discuss how we can re-think the SAIA-EC. Although the main purpose is to investigate different finance models, it will naturally migrate to re-inventing our proud institute on the eve of our 120th year.

CHARLES LOUW
President SAIA-EC

PORTFOLIO UPDATES:

MARKETING:

Dal Venables

Focus for this year will be given to the bi-annual SAIA regional awards, with special attention been placed on the planning required for adjudication and the awards ceremony to follow later this year.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Daniël Bezuidenhout

Last year saw the launch of SAIA-EC's completely revamped website to bring it in line with contemporary trends and a simplified user experience. We are in the process of rolling out the 2nd phase, which is the use of the members-only portal with new content to download. All members are to make sure that they are paid up and request their log in details through the website, granting them access to new content. We are also requesting members to submit anything they see fit and useful to SAIA-EC to be uploaded if relevant.

2019 is an awards year and we will focus on bringing you the latest in awards news as well as interesting throwbacks to awards winners in years gone by. We will call on members for information on previous winners where we might lack in photos and more, so keep an eye out for these!

Finally we will continue to bring you the latest through our social media platforms, Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, and aligning these to make sure all members get the same news, regardless of which of these platforms they use. Please make sure to follow us to be aware of upcoming events. Also make use of these platforms to post vacant positions and other information. Our Facebook followers are close to 900, including many students and other aspiring job seekers.

TRANSFORMATION:

Penny Murray

Being a new member on the committee and given a portfolio which has no precedent in our region is both a daunting and exciting task! Our goal for 2019 is to get the TRANSFORMATION portfolio up and running and follow through with some exciting ideas identified at the Transformation Indaba, held earlier this month, to enable transformation within the architectural profession in our region. Our aim is to reach and engage with our local students as well as the younger generation of architects in the Eastern Cape.

CPD/EDUCATION:

Brad Wale

SAIA Eastern Cape is working progressively towards the enhancement of CPD opportunities for its members each year through both the development and accreditation of new content. The continuation of the popular monthly Practice Breakfast Series which focusses on topics impacting local practices, has again been made possible by our generous sponsors, Makana Brick. In addition, the Committee is planning several key events this year featuring international architects and professionals, including our own BIM Conference which will offer more than CPD points for attending practices. A series of noteworthy architectural films, documentaries and presentations is being developed, aimed at being a casual yet inspirational new event in the calendar. Through the development of our industry contacts, we are continuously attracting key role-players to present information on up and coming construction products and trends, as well as technologies affecting the architectural profession. For more details on upcoming events, please look out for the CPD Calendar to be distributed soon...

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