



## PRESIDENT'S PEN

Dear Colleagues/ Corporate Members

After five weeks of working on my video conferencing skills, sitting in my "office" frustrated that I forgot my Neufert at my real office and soon running out of cartridges, it all seems insignificant when coverage of the Covid-19 pandemic plays in the background.

Seven weeks ago when we approved the year calendar at the Board Meeting, at no stage could anyone visualize a world of confinement, conferences cancelled, sites closed and architects re-thinking the way business is/will be conducted. This morning I received an update from our SAIA President confirming that the Construction COVID-19 Rapid Response Task Team issued revised documents to the Department of Labour (DEL) as requested by COGTA. These include additional clauses and motivations listed as "All Built Environment and design professionals". Unfortunately there is no guarantee that Government will accept the motivation from the Task Team.

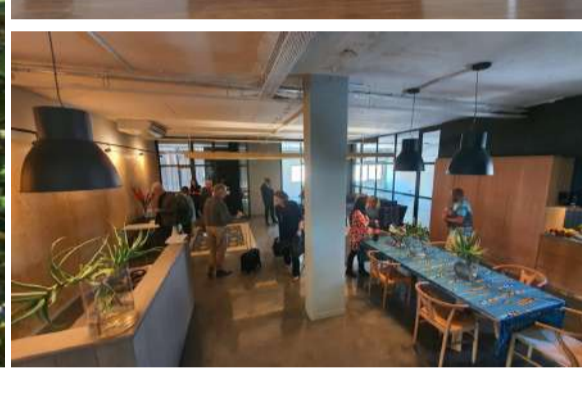
I want to welcome the following new Corporate Members and look forward to develop a mutually beneficial relationship between their respective companies and our members.

Derbit Waterproofing and Dulux signed up this month and I invite you to link to their websites and contact details under "Corporate Member News".

A final reminder to please complete the "SAIA Practice Benchmarking Survey" using the "Unique Link" e-mailed to you on 8 April 2020. See further information under SAIA-EC OFFICE NEWS.

"Architecture is a language. When you are very good, you can be a poet."

Ludwig Mies van der Rohe



On 5-6 March 2020, the first board meeting took place at SAIA's new offices in Rosebank.

### National Office

Appointment of CEO. The second round of interviews commenced in February where 4 people were interviewed and presented with a case study to report back within a stipulated hour. One eliminated after this stage and on Monday the remaining three, of which two are registered architects, will undergo psychometric tests. Appointment expected end of March.

Our CPD Administrator has been incapacitated and off-duty. Interim staffing arrangements have been made to alleviate the backlog in CPD administration and validation activities. SAIA's Membership Assistant, together with supplementary support from ClfA, has been tasked with providing support for CPD.

### Practice Committee

The Practice Guideline documents have been completed and are uploaded fully.

2020 Survey- Practice Benchmarking & Fees. Research team has already contacted more than 80% of all practices in the large Regions. The smaller Regions were given the same telephone script and requested to contact the practices in their Regions. The target is 300+ practices.

Client Guide to appointing a SAIA Architect was uploaded and is available to the public to view or download from the SAIA website. Since December 2019 it has been downloaded over 500 times.

SAIA Client-Architect Agreement & Letter Contract. Final comments were submitted to the drafting team after the November Practice meeting. These corrections, mainly editorial, were incorporated and the documents are ready to be submitted for legal review to the lawyers who also advise PROCSA. Due to a difference of opinion between our representatives on PROCSA, this has not yet been done.

Quality Management Toolkit and the proposals regarding a 'Charter' for SAIA Practices. I reported that the Quality Management System draft is at an advanced stage and that we consulted with a specialist who presented their Management System. We are looking at a specific corporate sponsor. In addition, an implemented QMS could form part of the Chartered Architect status. Above will be presented at the next Practice Committee for approval by the board.

Work on the proposed SAIA Building Contract is also on-going with Eugene Barnard and Emile Paulsen assisting Simmy Peerutin.

On 25 February Gerd Bolt and Rudd van Deventer attended a lecture by Oracle about ISO 19650, the new international standard on BIM. Colin Scott will also be attending the BIM Africa Conference 11-13 March in Johannesburg on SAIA's behalf

### Marketing Committee

SAIA Website. The content of the new website has been improved and phase one of the website developments is complete and live with the refreshed content. Phase two will see the website come alive with imagery and features intended for member and public interaction with SAIA.

Architecture SA- new editorial board has not been confirmed yet.

Corobrik-SAIA Awards. SAIA has received entries from all regions and will be working through them to check if all entries are in order. The function is set to be held 10th September 2020.

AfriSam-SAIA Awards. Calls to enter have gone out to the membership and public via newflashes and on social media. In March, SAIA embarked on an incentive encouraging regions to get their members to enter projects into the AfriSam SAIA Awards programme.

Digital Marketing Strategy. On Wednesday, 26 February 2020, the Chair of Marketing met with a digital content manager. The meeting was to discuss the development of a digital marketing strategy for SAIA.

### SACAP/ SAIA Stakeholder Engagement Meeting

On 6 March, most of the morning was taken up with SACAP/ SAIA meeting. The president stated the separate mandates of SACAP/ SAIA and noted that the current draft of MOU perceived as legalistic and punitive and members not comfortable with the draft presented. Discussion going forward should complement each other and be solution driven.

Discussions ensued with reference to the Act and Rules relating to our affiliation. An MOU is voluntary and require further discussions with SACAP to find a way to draft the document as a collective. A SAIA task team was set up to draft an MOU. It was mentioned that VA representatives do these tasks without compensation and SACAP should allow sufficient time.

SACAP reported as follows:

|                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| Registered persons | 11 300 |
| Registered Pr Arch | 4153   |
| SAIA members       | 1600   |

IDOW draft was submitted to CBE. Competitions commission commented and revised document submitted.

Fees guideline. SACAP presented the draft 2020 fee guideline to the competitions commission (2015 fees were interpreted as colluding and forceful). Thanks to SAIA who shared the Fee survey information to SACAP and together with an appointed actuary, they built a case to prove professional fees cannot be free market. They compared fees to other industries and could prove, after "rebuilding" what fees should be, that the profession will fail and loose people to other industries. There is a good chance that fees will revert to the old Simple/ Complex Building categorisation. SAIA assisted by supplying historical data on the above.

CHARLES LOUW  
SAIA-EC President

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# POST MODERN ARCHITECTURE IN THE EASTERN CAPE

South African Architecture today.  
A biased overview by Danie Theron.

*"Yet thanks I must you can,  
that you are thieves professed;  
that you work not in holier shapes:  
for there is boundless theft  
in limited professions . . ."*

Timon of Athens.

THE post modern movement in South African architecture is not only alive and well, it is positively bursting in the (often badly constructed) seams. In the homelands offsprings of the movement wander across the barren hills; on the highveld they set the landscape ablaze with their semaphoric colours and in the Cape they claim respectability by historic reference. Their swashbuckling postures often border on belligerence, although individual performance, as one critic remarked, seems by and large to buckle rather than swash.

A generation (some older than others) of architectural yuppies, reared on a diet of fruit cereals, Fischer Price Toys, Leggos, airbrush and crayon techniques and electronic collages have brushed the secret formula of the movement from place to place, adding in the process a succession of South African and regional ingredients.

On the southern highveld, where Things Happen, the mix is heady, but major distinguishable ingredients are Ethnic Symbolism, Signage, Colour, Form and Personal Whim. Context is largely ignored, as the Reef cities are in any case merely collections of buildings being lonesome together. Dwellings squat on small suburban sites, enveloping every seamy square centimeter of property with stepped, curved, undulating and squirming lapa walls; insignificant entrances are elaborately celebrated with pilasters, pediments, gables, timber trusses, dentals and mouldings. Impudent face-facades, inspired by a well-known personage whose name escapes me for the moment, peer myopically over fragmented, jutting roof-scapes. Wit is replaced by the unexpected explosion of laughter (everything is funny as long as it is happening to somebody else). Architectural language seems to consist mostly of a series of grunts and squeaks. The urgency to Paint, to Decorate, to Ornament and to Create Form, for time is precious, causes nonrecycled houses, synagogues and discarded churches to tremble to the foundation.

Northwards the laughter subsides and the buildings grow more gaunt, more solemn, often with frowns and scowls. Architecture here is a serious business. The squat, over-worked gables, the stocky columns and the heavy brick-work proclaim Firmness and Commodity and sadly, but very correctly, very little Delight.

If time is something that the North "ain't got", it is certain-

ly something that the South "ain't got nothing but". Buildings, according to architectural blurb, are "carefully considered", "immaculately constructed" and "masterfully crafted". Tradition decrees Sensitivity, Elegance, Delicacy and Subtle Wit. Well mannered buildings may smile, but they should not laugh. Taut, taut facades relax at appropriately discreet junctions to reveal glimpses of an architectural thigh or the soft swelling of a rounded form. Wit, one imagines, is delicately pumped into the buildings interiors, rather like pink noise.

Imaginary conversation in An Important Office Building:  
First impeccably dressed Secretary:

*"I do not think that I shall ever tire of the witty manner in which this capital corner column manages to avoid all beams in order to retain its soaring, non-load bearing elegance . . ."*

Second, equally impeccably dressed Secretary:  
*"Deliciously off-beam, don't you think . . .?"*  
*A titter ran through the atrium.*

In the east, and especially in the far east the First World/Third World indaba burdens and cloags architectural minds, with spasms of self-examination. A guilty conscience, however, is often the mother of invention. Glimpses of astonishing shapes and forms, colours and patterns confirm the ingenuity with which images from the international glossies are grafted onto native soil. Speaking of soil, on the central plains the seeds of the "post modern" movement seem to have fallen on rather barren terrain — or may be a bit of architectural *broedertwis* is preferred to architectural exploration.

If this rather brief and thoroughly unsatisfactory overview of the state of the art (blame it on the editor: ". . . a thousand words . . ." he said) seems to be unnecessarily derogatory, let me hasten to add that I believe that the potential is being explored. The golden rule now seems to be that there are no golden rules, and I am firmly on the side of architectural invention and (dare I say it) experimentation. Ever since I came across the rather implausible theory that, given a million monkeys with a million typewriters, the perfect novel could well sooner or later be produced, I have been fascinated by the idea. Suppose the typewriters would be replaced by Kuhlmann drawing boards . . .? The ensuing Institute of South African Architect's National Award of Excellence function would be an occasion that I, for one, would certainly not miss for all the tax perks in the world.

Danie Theron 1988

*(All buildings and architects referred to in this essay are fictitious and unreal.)*

ARTICLE TAKEN FROM MODUS VOLUME 3 ISSUE 1/88

## INTERESTING LINKS:

[SMART LIFTS, LONELY WORKERS, NO TOWERS OR TOURISTS: ARCHITECTURE AFTER CORONAVIRUS](#)



[THE ARCHITECTURE INDUSTRY IS GETTING SLAMMED BY COVID-19](#)



[ARCHITECTURE SCHOOLS ADAPT TO AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE](#)



# SAIA-EC OFFICE NEWS:

2020 SAIA PRACTICE SURVEY

**DEADLINE EXTENDED!  
THURSDAY 30 APRIL 2020**

## SAIA 2020 Survey – President's Notification For Urgent Members' Attention

Dear Colleague,

When SAIA launched the 2020 Practice Benchmarking Survey at the beginning of this year, there was little indication of the most critical upheaval we, along with the rest of the world, would experience as a result of the Novel Corona virus pandemic. Following the 21-day nationwide lockdown announced by President Ramaphosa on 23 March to curb the spread of COVID-19, there is great uncertainty regarding our profession and the survival of many practices could be in question. Our ways of working have had to change and will probably change forever as we cope with the impact of the lockdown. SAIA is doing what it can to ensure that the impacts of the built environment are addressed at the highest possible level. With reference to the 2020 Survey, we have to accept, that for the Members the Survey could be the last thing to be thinking about at this stage and we understand this. We accept therefore, that the uncertainty and work-related pressures over the past two months may have affected the urgency with which members approached their commitment to participating in the survey. However, we are seeking to remain optimistic about the future and would appeal for members, wherever possible to consider how to utilise the "lockdown as an opportunity" for us to complete the survey as best as we can, so that we can derive maximum benefit from this situation. Currently the feedback is 15%, way below previous surveys and we appeal for members to participate.

In this context, we wish to notify Members, that the survey **deadline has been extended until the end of April** to give everyone an opportunity to participate and complete the online questionnaire.

The survey is growing in relevance:

- The 2020 Survey will provide a three-year cycle of our Survey which has become valuable information regarding the status of our profession. SAIA would like to complete this cycle;
- Information shared with SACAP was presented to the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Public Works in 2019 and this has yielded great results;
- Information was used in deliberations with the Competition Commission and the CBE in support of the discussions around Fees;
- As a result of these and other submissions, the procurement regime for professional services in the public sector is under review because the survey provides information which was unknown before; and
- We wish to thank the members and practices who have participated and urge our members to participate. We shall review the status of this survey going forward including cost sharing opportunities.

The survey is entirely confidential as the data is stored electronically in a secure environment. It will only be seen by the external research team. All data will be used for statistical purposes only and will be aggregated; no individual practice will be identifiable in the final reporting.

The Mandated Principal (Director/Partner) should complete the survey as soon as possible. **The survey closes on Thursday, 30 April 2020.**

SAIA Practices have all received an email from SAIA Practice Benchmarking ([benchmarking@saia.org.za](mailto:benchmarking@saia.org.za)). It contains a unique link for each practice to access the online questionnaire.

If you have any general queries about the survey, please email Su Linning on [practice@saia.org.za](mailto:practice@saia.org.za). For specific queries about any of the questions, please contact Vincent Shahim of Leading Edge Research on [vincent@leadingedgeresearch.co.za](mailto:vincent@leadingedgeresearch.co.za) or on +27 84 612 1217

Best of health to all,  
Dr Luyanda Mpahlwa  
President: SAIA

## NEWS:



**ARCHSTORMING**  
ARCHITECTURE COMPETITIONS

## AFRICAN HOUSE DESIGN COMPETITION A HOME FOR THE JOREJICK FAMILY

[Click to Enter](#)

[/ARCHITECTURE COMPETITION/](#)

African House Design Competition in Tanzania  
Visit the website and download the brief. Please note the registration dates.

## CORPORATE MEMBER NEWS:

### NEW CORPORATE MEMBERS

We would love to welcome our latest Corporate Members, Dulux and Derbit to the team. Together we can achieve great things.

Contact them for your coatings needs and waterproofing respectively.



[WWW.DERBIT.CO.ZA](http://WWW.DERBIT.CO.ZA)

For further information please contact:  
Harland Dix-Peek - 082 820 6410  
[Harland.dixpeek@derbit.co.za](mailto:Harland.dixpeek@derbit.co.za)

DERBIT is a wholly owned South African subsidiary of IMPERBEL Belgium, making DERBIT one of the few waterproofing membrane suppliers in South Africa that not directed under franchise, agency or private distributor. In 2016, IMPERBEL, (DERBIGUM International), resumed its presence in South Africa with the acquisition of TANAPROX (Pty) Ltd, and commenced activities under the name DERBIT SA (Pty) Ltd.

With over 1000 000m<sup>2</sup> of DERBIT waterproofing membrane applied in South Africa since acquisition, DERBIT has grown to being one of the trusted leading choices of many professionals.

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DERBIT SA also supplies the VAEPLAN synthetic membrane system, which is growing in favour due to its seamless application and "non penetration" PV attachment abilities. (VAEPLAN is a member of the IMPERBEL DERBIGUM group)

The DERBIT valued mission is.

*"DERBIT South Africa aims to be the reference provider of sustainable waterproofing solutions that safeguard buildings from the elements of nature".*



[WWW.DULUX.CO.ZA](http://WWW.DULUX.CO.ZA)

For further information please contact:  
Kylie Allers  
076 577 2159  
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AkzoNobel Paints is the world's biggest coatings manufacturer and number one in decorative paints and performance coatings. Technology and innovation have always been at the heart of the AkzoNobel Group. As one of the world's largest paint manufacturers and the world's leading brand of premium quality paints, our success is often enhanced by our ability to meet market needs with quality products and value-added services.

DULUX IS THE FLAGSHIP BRAND FROM THE WORLD'S LARGEST PAINT COMPANY, AKZONOBEL.

Voted "Most Loved Paint Brand in South Africa" for three consecutive years in the TGI ICON Brands Survey\*, Dulux is at the forefront of decorating and protecting the spaces we live and work in.

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Dulux boasts a comprehensive range of fine decorative products developed and perfected through local and international R&D initiatives.

From the silky sheen of Dulux Luxurious Silk for inspiring interiors to the remarkable toughness of Dulux Weatherguard for ultimate exterior protection, Dulux is synonymous with the aesthetic enhancement and reliability expected from an international brand.

Join us to colour your world...

Ref: [www.dulux.co.za](http://www.dulux.co.za)

\*TGI South Africa, independent research survey results for 2011, 2012 and 2013

## POST-COVID-19 MAKANA BRICK NEWS

"... we are still positive at Makana Brick. We are planning and strategizing to start manufacturing immediately after Lockdown and we are planning on becoming more efficient by automating some functions in plant even further.

We trust that everybody is staying safe and we look forward on seeing everybody after this unprecedented occurrence".



BUILDING TODAY FOR TOMORROW

[WWW.MAKANABRICK.CO.ZA](http://WWW.MAKANABRICK.CO.ZA)

Hendrik White  
Sales Manager Makana Brick



Corporate Titanium Member



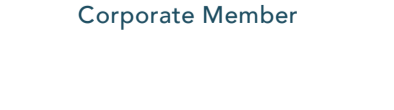
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