



NUUSBRIEF JUNIE 2009 / NEWSLETTER JUNIE 2009

In hierdie nuusbrieff stel ons die nuwe SAILI Raad bekend en deel bietjie geskiedenis met u.

In this newsletter we introduce the new SAIAE Council and share some history with you.

Die Raadslede van die Instituut wat gedurende die periode 2007/2008 op die Raad gedien het se amptelike termyn het op die 28ste Februarie 2009 verstryk en daar is op die SAILI Raadsvergadering van die 29ste Oktober 2008 te Pietermaritzburg nominasies ontvang waaruit 'n nuwe Raad verkies is. Die lede van die nuwe Raad word hieronder uiteengesit waarop 'n kort biografie van elk volg.

As the term of Office of the Council Members for the period 2007/2008 ended on the 28th Februarie 2009, a new Council was elected at the SAIAE Council meeting held in Pietermaritzburg on the 29th October 2008, from nominations received. The Members of the new Council are listed below, followed by a short biography of each.

J.C. Smithers	President
A. T. van Coller	Vice President / Vise President
C.J.B. Bezuidenhout	Immediate Past President Pas Uitgetrede President
F.B. Reinders	Honorary Secretary Ere Sekretaris
D.J. Clark	Branch Chairman - KZN Tak Voorsitter - KZN
F.P. Dafel	Branch Chairman - Pretoria Tak Voorsitter - Pretoria
K. Hundley	Branch Chairman - Western Cape Tak Voorsitter - Wes Kaap
P.W. Lyne	Council Member / Raadslid
M. van Rooyen	Council Member / Raadslid
T.E. Simalenga	Co-opted Council Member Gekoöpteerde Raadslid

Professor Jeff Smithers

Prof Smithers graduated with a BSc Engineering (Agricultural) degree in 1982 and completed his MSc Engineering in 1984, both degrees awarded by University of Natal. After completing his National Service, he worked as an Engineer in the Directorate of Agricultural Engineering, Department of Agriculture. He joined the University of Natal in 1989 as Senior Research Fellow to work on research contracts in the hydrological field. After being employed on research contracts for more than 10 years, he joined the permanent lecturing staff as a Senior Lecturer in 2001.

His initial thoughts when joining the University in 1989 were to gain some experience in the water field before moving on to new pastures, but discovered that the lure of new knowledge kept him within the University environment and he was awarded a PhD degree in 1999 by the University of Natal.

He was promoted to Associate Professor in 2002 and appointed as Professor of Agricultural Engineering in 2004. He has been Head of the School of Bio resources Engineering and Environmental Hydrology since July 2002.

Prof Smithers is a registered professional engineer, is a fellow of the South African Institute of Agricultural Engineers and is currently president of the Institute, was vice-president of SAIAE for two periods (2003-2004; 2007-2008) and has served as chairman of KwaZulu-Natal Branch of SAIAE for two periods (1993-1994, 2002-2004). He is also a member of the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers, the American Geophysical Union, and the International Association of Hydrological Sciences.

His research experience includes Engineering & Design Hydrology and Hydrological Modeling, and he has research interests in technology for optimum resource utilization and in anything related to Bio Resources Engineering.

Prof Smithers and his family have spent two sabbatical leaves at Perdue University in Indiana, USA.

Prof Smithers is married to Kary and they have two (generally delightful) children, Jonathan and Bronwen. When not sitting behind his desk, he is often found cycling on his mountain bike, running along the road or on the squash court!

Felix Reinders

Felix Reinders is the honorary Secretary of the Institute. He is involved with SAIAE since 1980 and was also a previous President. He is married with Rika and they have 5 children and one grandchild. As Manager Agricultural Water Use and Conservation of the Agricultural Research Council, Institute for Agricultural Engineering (ARC-IAE), he plays a pivotal role in the co-ordination of especially irrigation research, development, testing and design. With his experience in the irrigation field and as Chairperson of the SA National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (SANCID), he has the opportunity to present South Africa on International committees and interact with international counterparts on irrigation matters. At present, he serves on several International committees and is Vice-President Honoraire of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) and chairperson for the ICID Working Group for On-Farm Irrigation Systems. He is also a council member of the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA)

Neels Bezuidenhout

Neels Bezuidenhout begin sy loopbaan in 1979, waar hy aangestel is by die Afdeling Landbou-Ingenieurswese in Silverton as Toegewese Student. Totdat hy sy B Ing (Land) aan die Univ van Pretoria in 1984 behaal het, was hy betrokke by die ontwikkeling van kantele operasietafels vir beeste asook die toetsprogram op melkmasjiene. As 'n ingenieur-in-op-leiding was hy betrokke by die ontwerp van melkportale, melkmasjiene, nulbeweidingsstelsels, mishantering, vleisbeeshanteringsfasiliteite en dierebehuising.

Vanaf 1989 tot 1991 was hy werksaam by Westfalia Separator waar hy mede verantwoordelik was vir al die verskillende fasette van melkmasjiene en hulle gebruike. Sedert 1991 was hy werksaam by Eskom as Senior Ingenieur verantwoordelik vir die Akkerbou portefeulje, wat behels produkontwikkeling, bemerking en opleiding van adviseurs. Sy spesialis velde sluit in die droging, verkoeling, besproeiing en prosessering van akkerbou produkte. Tans word gekonsentreer op besparingsmoontlikhede van elektrisiteit in die landbou en die gebruik van alternatiewe energiebronne.

Hy tree tans ook op as 'n deeltydse lektor aan die Universiteit van die Vrystaat in die Dept Voedselwetenskap en spesifiek gemoeid met Voedsel ingenieurswese.

Hy is betrokke by SAILI op verskillende gebiede. Behalwe as lid vanaf 1985 was hy die Voorsitter van die Sentraaltak van 1997 - 1999. Van 2003 - 2007 hanteer hy die bemerkingsportefeulje op die Raad en in 2007 word hy verkies as President van die Raad tot 2009. Tans is hy die Pas Uitgetrede President.

Hy is 'n kranige sportman en in die tydperk 1986 tot 2001 behaal hy onder andere N Tvl Kleure in bofbal, Vrystaat kleure vir beide bo 36 aksiekrieket en bo 40 buitemuurse krieket. Sedert 2006 nou betrokke by gholf aktiwiteite in die Vrystaat wat insluit beide Vise President en President van die Vrystaat/Noord-Kaap afdeling van die SA Junior Gholfstigting. Tree ook op as Junior Onderkaptein en Onderkaptein van die Vrystaat Nomads Gholfklub.

Hy is getroud met Estelle in 1987 en hulle seun Wicus is gebore in 1989.

Marius van Rooyen

Marius matrikuleer te Hoërskool Evander. Skryf in by Yskor, as vakleerling, vir die ambag Pas- en-Draaiwerk. Yskor stuur hom ook na die Technikon Pretoria vir diploma studies in Meganiese Ingenieurswese. Sit sy studies voort aan die Universiteit van Pretoria in Meganiese Ingenieurswese. Neem “noodgedwonge” ‘n reses waar hy by Kentron werk as Meganiese tegnikus. Hy besluit om van studierigting te verander, en skryf in vir Landbou Ingenieurswese aan Tukkies.

Begin sy loopbaan as ingenieur by Dept Ontwikkelingshulp in die Pretoria en veskuif later na Nelspruit. Hy is betrokke met watervoorsiening, riolering en stormwaterdreinerig in tuisland dorpsgebiede. Werk by R&R Tabakvervaardigers as Projek Ingenieur in hul Heidelberg fabriek waar sigarette vervaardig word. Hy verskuif na Laeveld Tabak Koöperasie waar hy besproeiings ontwerp vir boere hanteer. Hy begin voltyds klas gee by die Landboukollege Laeveld in 1991 tot 1994 en deelyds tot 1997. Vanaf 1994 werk hy vir die Mpumalanga Departement van Landbou, aanvanklik verantwoordelik vir Meganisasie en Konstruksie, maar raak algaande meer betrokke by besproeiing. Marius is tans Hoof Ingenieur in die Mpumalanga Departement van Landbou.

Marius is getroud met Christa, ‘n Fisioterapeut. Hul bly nou al meer as een-en-twintig jaar in Nelspruit, waar hul twee dogters dan ook grootgeword het. Die oudste studeer Natuurlewebestuur. Die jongste besluit nog tussen Argitektuur en Musiekteater. Hy doen kleiduifskiet, en jag eende met sy labrador honde wanneer die geleentheid hom voordoen

Hy het ook ‘n bergfiets met vars modder, waarmee hy naweke in die berge van die laeveld rondry.

Peter Lyne

Peter spent most of his life in the School of Bioresources Engineering and Environmental Hydrology at UKZN, where he completed all his studies at the University of Natal and his PhD was an automated control system to maximise tractive efficiency. His interests were in machinery systems, the optimum use of agricultural machinery and alternative fuels for diesel engines. He spent many years as head of the school and retired from there, he always had a goal of attracting students to a career in Agricultural Engineering / Bioresources Engineering. He currently works for the SA Sugarcane Research Institute (SASRI) where his interests are transport systems for sugarcane production, semi-mechanised harvesting systems, compaction, conservation agriculture and vehicle design.

Peter's hobbies range from hiking in the mountains, racing mountain bikes and aeroplanes, radio controlled ones and flying micro lights. Peter's three children are in South Africa, England and Australia

Kevin Hundley

Kevin is a registered Agricultural Engineer working for Aurecon (a new global company formed by the merger of Ninham Shand, Africon and Connell Wagner), as a consulting engineer in the field of bulk water. He is passionate about all aspects of bulk water supply, whether for municipal or agricultural purposes. On the personal side, Kevin and his wife Cheryl have been married for six years and the two of them are expecting a new addition to the Hundley household early in June this year. His hobbies are surfing and mountain biking.

David Clark

His journey as an Agricultural Engineer began in 1990 when he started as a first year Agricultural Engineering student at the University of Natal in Pietermaritzburg. After completing his BSc Eng he went on to complete an MSc Eng, simulating the performance of on-road haulage vehicles.

He then took a break from the books and spent a year backpacking in Israel, Egypt, England, Wales and Australia. During this year the need to earn money resulted in some opportunities to get a "get your hands dirty" view of agricultural engineering including, picking and packing vegetables in Israel and England, and driving a tractor during the grain harvesting and land preparation season in the Cotswolds area of England.

On his return to South Africa he was employed by the Department of Agricultural Engineering at the University of Natal for four years. During this time he did a small amount of lecturing and switched from vehicle performance simulation to the field of hydrological modeling. He then spent a little over two years working at Land Resources International (LRI) where he worked in the field of agricultural and natural resource management. Since September 2004 he has been employed by the School of Biore-sources Engineering and Environmental Hydrology (BEEH) at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), working on Water Research Commission (WRC) projects, developing hydrological decision support framework software and integrating modelling tools for water resources planning and operations.

Towards the end of 2006 he was elected onto the committee for the KwaZulu-Natal branch of the SAIAE and since January 2008 have served as branch chairman.

At van Coller

Mr. At Van Coller was born on February 20th 1957 and holds a B Eng (Agric) degree. He has 26 years experience in soil conservation and rehabilitation, and is registered member of ECSA and SAIAE, and serves on the South African National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (SANCID) as well as belonging to the Project Management Institute.

Throughout his career he has been employed by the Department of Agriculture. From 1983 to 1989 he was responsible for the control of technical designs done by technicians and also for the design of advanced structures and construction supervision.

From 1989 to 1995 he was involved in the implementation of the soil conservation scheme in South Africa and gained experience in the design of major soil conservation structures.

From 1995 to 2001, Mr. van Coller was responsible for water conservation and develop-ment aligning provincial execution of projects with national norms and standards.

From 2001 to 2003 he provided engineering support to the Land care program of the Department of Agriculture.

During 2003 to 2006 he was Director: Water use and Irrigation Development, and from 2006 to date Mr. van Coller is Director: Agricultural Engineering Services with the responsibility of engineering support to infrastructure development agriculture.

His fields of expertise include soil conservation, water management infrastructure, farm buildings, access roads, energy use on the farm, mechanization and agricultural produc-tion support infrastructure. He has been involved in promoting professional conduct, training and continuous development of expertise throughout his career.

FP Dafel

FP was born on September 27th 1979 and holds a B Eng (Agric) degree from the Univ of Pretoria. His main field of expertise is in food processing, but he also has experience in water supply and management, as well as having an interest in alternative energy. Mr. Dafel is a registered member of ECSA, SABI and SAIAE. He holds the position of Chairman of the Pretoria Branch of SAIAE.

FP has gained experience as a research engineer and process engineer from the Agricultural Research Council, Masterfoods GmgH, Biz Afrika 105 (Pty) Ltd, and Grandorff-Africa Consulting (Pty) Ltd. From 2008 to present he has been in the employ of the NWK Limited as a process engineer at EPKO Oil Seed Crushing. The company produces; refines and bottles vegetable oil processed from sunflower seed and maize germ, for human consumption. Mr Dafel is responsible for the production and maintenance of the plant and for planning, design and supervision of expansions and developments.

T.E. Simalenga

Professor Timothy Simalenga is the Research Institute Manager of the Agricultural Research Council's Institute for Agricultural Engineering. He previously lectured at the Univ of Fort Hare and the Univ of Venda. He is passionate about agricultural mechanization with a special focus on animal draught power. Various refereed papers has been published by him.

Die SAILI-embleem

Die SAILI-embleem is gebaseer op 'n ontwerp van Dr Gert Venter en is op die 23ste SAILI Raadvergadering op 30 Augustus 1969 aanvaar . Die drie hoof elemente van die embleem verteenwoordig die landbou-ingenieurswese as volg :



Die ratwiel simboliseer : Om te produseer, asook meganisasie en energie in die landbou.

Die pyl simboliseer : Ontwikkeling en groei, asook strukture, geboue en behuising in die landbou.

Die twee hande simboliseer : Bewaring en benutting van natuurlike hulpbronne, grond en water.

URGENT REQUEST: To be able to keep the member database up to date and correct, each member is requested to please email their name, contact telephone number (office and cell) and correct e-mail address to Luther Siebert at mls@iafrica.com

DRINGENDE VERSOEK : Om die databasis van die lede korrek op datum te hou, word lede versoek om asb hulle naam, kontak foon-nommer (kantoor en selnommer) en korrekte email-adres te e-pos na Luther Siebert by mls@iafrica.com

Alle lede is welkom om nuusgebeure, gebeurtenisse, artikels en ander inligting ook deur te stuur na mls@iafrica.com

All members are invited to send in news items, activities, articles and other information to mls@iafrica.com