



**THE SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL
for the
QUANTITY SURVEYING PROFESSION
DIE SUID-AFRIKAANSE RAAD vir die
BOUREKENAARSPROFESSIE**

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE DESK OF THE REGISTRAR

As we are nearing the end of the year 2005, this newsletter serves as a final communication between the Council and our members. Since the previous newsletter, most of the recent developments have already been placed on the SACQSP and ASAQS websites for the information of our members. This newsletter merely serves to ensure that our members remain well informed and up to date with latest developments.

MEMBERSHIP STATUS

As at 16 November 2005, the South African Council for the Quantity Surveying Profession (SACQSP) had a total of 2392 members made up as follows:

Registered members (PrQS)	:	1727
Candidate members (CandQS)	:	665
TOTAL	:	2392

At the same stage, there were a total of 3628 members registered with the Association of which 706 were student members.

NEW COUNCIL ELECTED FOR 2005/2009

In terms of the requirements of the Quantity Surveying Profession Act (49 of 2000), the first four-year term of office of the Council expired earlier this year. A new Council has been elected for the second term for the period 2005/2009. We are pleased to announce that the newly elected Council is made up of the following members (in alphabetical order):

Prof PA Bowen, GT Chaane, RL Chauke, M Grant, MP Kgole, Prof MJ Maritz, KM Mogodi, JS Moodley, NM Mteza, Prof RN Nkado, G Pasley, Prof RG Pearl, El Pieterse, FJ Pretorius, NC van der Hoven, HB van der Kolf, Prof JJP Verster and EF Wortmann (ex officio).

During the first full Council meeting held on 4 October 2005, the following members were elected to the Executive Committee:

Prof RN Nkado (President), NC van der Hoven (Vice President), RL Chauke (Immediate Past President), Prof JJP Verster (Education Standards & Research Committee), M Grant (Finance & Resources Committee) and EF Wortmann (ex officio).

We wish to congratulate all members on the new Council on their election onto the Council and thank them for their willingness to serve the profession in their official capacity.

NEW COMMITTEES ON COUNCIL

In order to achieve the goals set itself by the Council for the second term of office, it was resolved that the following committees be formed (Chairpersons in brackets):

1. Education, Standards & Research (ESR) (Prof Verster)
 - 1.1 Research (Prof Basie Verster)
 - 1.2 Education (Prof Rob Pearl)
 - 1.3 Standards (Prof Paul Bowen)
 - 1.4 Registration Policy Committee (Ellie van der Hoven)
 - 1.5 Continuing Professional Development (Prof Verster)
2. Registrations (Barry Probert)
3. Fees (Francois Pretorius)
4. Finances & Resources (Mark Grant)
5. Legal & Legislative (Jessica Moodley)
6. Preliminary Investigation (Prof Basie Verster)
7. Disciplinary Tribunal (Jessica Moodley)

OUTSTANDING SUBSCRIPTION FEES OF THE COUNCIL

The Council wishes to thank all the registered Council members who have paid their registration fees timeously and who are in good standing with the Council. The Council is however experiencing a disturbingly large number of members who have not yet paid their full registration fees for this as well as previous years. Detailed lists of these offenders are enclosed as an attachment to this newsletter.

The Council resolved that where members have consistently failed to pay their fees in spite of numerous reminders, that the following action will be taken where applicable:

- Defaulting members will have their Council registration cancelled and be struck
- The list of names of struck members will be placed on the Council website for public scrutiny
- The names of struck members will be submitted to Government and Quasi-Government departments for their information and records.
- The names of struck members that still owe monies to the Council may be handed over to the National Credit Bureau to ensure that any outstanding fees are paid and the outstanding accounts settled.

Should any defaulting members not have paid their dues as a result of experiencing financial hardship, the Council would welcome an approach to the Council offices so that special payment arrangements may be agreed. Every case will be considered on its merits and handled in the strictest of confidence.

The Council regrets having to take this firm action but it simply can no longer accept the situation where members willfully fail to pay their dues whilst enjoying full registration with the Council.

In terms of the Quantity Surveying Profession Act (49 of 2000), members are obliged to pay the registration fees within a maximum period of 60 days on presentation of an invoice. The Council is thereafter empowered to cancel the registration of a defaulting member with immediate effect. It must be pointed out that it is a criminal offence (in terms of the Act) for such struck members to continue to practice and to hold themselves out to be registered Quantity Surveyors.

REVISED CATEGORIES OF REGISTRATION

The decision was recently taken by Council that tiered membership registration with the Council will be introduced during the coming year 2006 under the Quantity Surveying, Construction Management and Technologist qualifications respectively, each with their own respective routes to registration. In addition, the registration categories will be extended to include the following categories:

Registration Category	Professional Abbreviation
Registered QS Assistant	RQS Assistant
Registered QS Technician	RQS Technician
Registered QS Technologist	RQS Technologist
Registered QS Candidate	Candidate QS
Registered QS Professional	PrQS

The above categories will broadly be based on the defined levels of competency as determined by the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) from levels 4 to 7. These are currently being written and developed by the QS Standards Generating Body (QS SGB) and will hopefully be completed during the second quarter of the year 2006.

Comment on the revised registration categories of the Council will be invited through future newsletters and will also be gazetted for official public comment before final adoption. This will be undertaken as soon as the detailed proposals have been finalised by the committee tasked to finalise these matters.

SACQSP WEBSITE

Members are reminded that the new Council website (www.sacqsp.org.za) is now fully operational and ready for general use by the members. The website is however still in the initial stages of development and the volume of available information will increase with time as it is further populated and developed. The Council website contains a wide range of interesting information such as the QS Professions Act, Rules and Professional Code of Conduct of the Council, routes to registration, registration categories, various other Acts of the built environment, levels of competency for registration, the Tariff of Professional Fees, etc. We would encourage members to make use of this facility, which is also linked to the website of the Association (www.asaqs.co.za).

RICS RECIPROCITY AGREEMENT

Members are reminded that during May 2005 the Council entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) whereby the two organisations agreed to accept each other's registration standards and admission criteria. This reciprocity agreement is considered to be a major boost for our members who wish to gain international recognition of their professional standing.

Full details of the agreement and steps to be followed by members who wish to apply for membership with the RICS are available to members on the SACQSP website (www.sacqsp.org.za). Any further queries may be directed at the offices of the Council (telephone 011-315 4140) for further clarification.

Needless to say, members not in good standing with both the Council and the Association will not be permitted to benefit from this agreement. All fees need to be fully paid up before the reciprocal membership will be permitted.

TARIFF OF PROFESSIONAL FEES 2006

Members are advised that the recommended "Tariff of Professional Fees : 2006" for the QS profession will be gazetted early in the new year. This will include the hourly time charges, disbursement and travelling rates for the public sector.

Members are reminded that reference should be made to the Council Fee Scales, and not the Association Fee Scales. As only the statutory Councils have been granted exemption from the Competitions Act restrictions as far as professional fees are concerned, this safeguards the Association against possibly being accused of collusion or "price-fixing" through the medium of the recommended tariff of fees.

RULES AND PROFESSIONAL CODES OF CONDUCT

Members are reminded that the updated Rules and Codes of Professional Codes of Conduct of the Council have been formally gazetted and approved during the early part of this year. Copies are freely available on request from the offices of the Council (telephone 011 – 315 4140) and may also be sourced from the Council website (www.sacqsp.org.za) for general reference for the members.

CPD PROGRAMME

In compliance with the Quantity Surveying Profession Act (49 of 2000), all registered Quantity Surveying members are obliged to undergo continuous professional development (CPD) and to submit annual submissions for consideration and approval. Although many members have complied with this requirement, a number of members have to date failed to submit their submissions as required by the Act. Defaulting members are urgently requested to complete their submissions and to bring their CPD programme up to date.

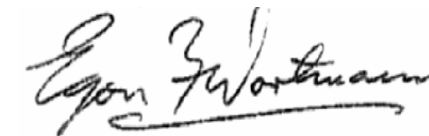
It should be noted that future registration with the Council will be conditional upon the compliance with the CPD requirements as from year 2007. More of that in future newsletters but members are strongly encouraged to get their house in order in this regard.

CHRISTMAS OFFICE CLOSURE 2005

Members are advised that the offices of the Council will be closed for business over the festive season from 12h00 on Thursday 15 December 2005 and will re-open on Tuesday 3 January 2006. During this period, a telephone answering machine will advise all callers that the offices are closed and that normal business will resume on 3 January 2006.

On behalf of the Council, we would like to wish all our members and business colleagues a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May the year 2006 be a successful and fruitful one to one and all.

Regards



EGON WORTMANN
REGISTRAR

DECEMBER 2005