



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

## *NEWSLETTER*

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



This year, 2007, has been an eventful year for the SACQSP. The year began with intense discussions between the SACQSP and the ASAQS on the possible separation of administrative functions and offices. These discussions were triggered by the planned move of the ASAQS administrative office to a newly purchased property

at Thornhill Office Park by the end of June 2007. At a meeting in October 2006, Council resolved and in March 2007 ratified the decision to establish its own administrative unit in a distinct office location, thus ending the decades-long combined administrative operation with the Association.

Council has recently appointed a compliment of full-time administrative personnel for its new office at B26 Lone Creek, Waterfall Office Park, Midrand : Professor Gaye Le Roux (Registrar), Ms Lisa Le Grange (Administrative Assistant – General), Ms Mathilda Nel (Administrative Assistant – Education and Registration), Mr Alfred Nhlapo (General Facilitator) and Ms Mabatseba Mabeba (Receptionist).

I appeal to all registered persons to support Council in its commitment to fulfilling its statutory mandate in an independent context while maintaining cordial relationships with the ASAQS and future Voluntary Associations. Registered persons should ensure that their registration fee is paid up and familiarise themselves with, and respond to, the revised and simplified Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programme requirement of Council.

Registered persons and pertinent stakeholders should expect dedicated and excellent service from Council's new team of committed and competent administrators.

Professor RN Nkado  
President

### FROM THE DESK OF THE REGISTRAR

As we are edging towards the end of June 2007, my position as Registrar of SACQSP is also nearing the end of its term. Having served the SACQSP for over four years, it is time to hand over the reigns to my successor, Professor Gaye le Roux. As I reflect back over the last four years, it has been an enriching experience for me personally and a pleasure and honour to have been granted the opportunity to serve the profession in this capacity.

Whilst over this period I have fulfilled the dual role as Executive Director of the Association of South African Quantity Surveyors (ASAQS), as well as Registrar of SACQSP, the separation of administrative functions and offices of the two organisations no longer makes

that possible. As from 1 July 2007 I will therefore now dedicate my full-time energies as the Executive Director of the ASAQS and continue to serve the profession in that capacity.

I wish Professor Gaye le Roux all the best in her new position as Registrar of SACQSP. Under her guidance and leadership I believe that the SAACQSP will go from strength to strength. I personally pledge in future not only to support her personally, but also the aims and objectives of the SACQSP. The best interests of the profession will undoubtedly be best served if the SACQSP and ASAQS continue to work together in a friendly, co-operative and supportive spirit. We serve the same profession, so it is imperative that the ASAQS and SACQSP compliment each other to achieve the best results.

This being my last newsletter before I hand over the reigns as Registrar of SACQSP, herewith an update of some of the recent developments at the SACQSP.

### OFFICE RELOCATION

As was stated earlier by the President, the office administration of SACQSP will be relocating from the present offices at Howick Gardens Building to B26 Lone Creek, Waterfall Office Park, Midrand. The actual move will occur on **Friday 29 June 2007** and the offices will be closed for business on that day. We would thus request your patience and indulgence during this unsettled period for staff and registered persons alike, as the normal services will no doubt be negatively affected during this period. The staff needs your support and understanding over this period.

A general announcement will be made as soon as all the relevant contact details of the SACQSP (postal address, telephone numbers, facsimile numbers, e-mail addresses, etc) have been finalised and confirmed. Please consult the SACQSP website ([www.sacqsp.org.za](http://www.sacqsp.org.za)) for further developments in this regard.

## **NEW SACQSP STAFF COMPLIMENT**

As from 1 July 2007, the SACQSP staff compliment will be comprised of the following personnel appointed in a full-time capacity:

- Professor Gaye Le Roux (Registrar)
- Ms Lisa Le Grange (Admin Assistant : General)
- Ms Mathilda Nel (Admin Assistant : Education and Registration)
- Mr Alfred Nhlapo (General Facilitator), and
- Ms Mabatseba Mabeba (Receptionist).

We congratulate them on their respective appointments and wish them well in their new positions.

## **SACQSP WEBSITE**

Registered persons are reminded that the Council website ([www.sacqsp.org.za](http://www.sacqsp.org.za)) has for some years now been fully operational for general use. The Council website contains a wide range of information such as the QS Professions Act, the 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, Recommended Hourly Rates, lists of registered persons, etc. We would encourage registered persons to make use of this facility, which is also linked to the website of the Association ([www.asaqs.co.za](http://www.asaqs.co.za)).

## **STATUS OF REGISTERED PERSONS**

As at 27 June 2007, the SACQSP had a total of 2560 registered persons made up as follows:

Professional registered persons (PrQS)	:	<b>1756</b>
Candidate registered persons (CandQS)	:	<b>804</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	:	<b>2560</b>

## **TARIFF OF PROFESSIONAL FEES 2007**

Registered persons are advised that the recommended "Tariff of Professional Fees for Quantity Surveying Services (2007 Edition)" has been gazetted and came into effect on 1 January 2007. Copies of this document may be viewed on the Council website ([www.sacqsp.org.za](http://www.sacqsp.org.za)).

Registered persons are reminded that reference should be made to the Council Fee Scale, and not the Association Fee Scale. 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 penalised for alleged collusion or "price-fixing" through the medium of the recommended tariff of fees.

## **RECOMMENDED HOURLY RATES FOR 2007**

Registered persons are advised that the Recommended Hourly Rates to be charged for Quantity Surveying Services (for both the Private and Public Sectors) for 2007 have been finalised by the Council, with effect from 1 January 2007. They can also be viewed on the Council website ([www.sacqsp.org.za](http://www.sacqsp.org.za)).

## **RULES OF THE COUNCIL**

Registered persons are advised that the Rules of the Council have been updated and have been gazetted. Some of the main areas of change include the following:

- Annual Re-Registration of Members
- Continuing Professional Development (CPD)
- Recognition of Voluntary Associations
- Tiered Levels of Registration

Copies of the updated Rules and Code of Professional Conduct documents are available on request from the

offices of the Council and may also be viewed on the Council website ([www.sacqsp.org.za](http://www.sacqsp.org.za)).

## **REVISED CATEGORIES OF REGISTRATION**

The Council has firmly resolved to introduce a system of tiered levels of registration. Although the process is well under way and the required documentation for implementation is nearing completion, the introduction of this new system has been postponed to 1 January 2008, to coincide with the start of the new year. The system has already been gazetted for comment, but registered persons are nonetheless invited to make further comment. The registration categories will be as follows:

Registration Category	Professional Abbreviation
1. Professional QS	PrQS
2. Registered Candidate QS	Reg Cand QS
3. Registered QS Technologist	Reg QS Technologist
4. Registered Candidate QS Technologist	Reg Cand QS Technologist
5. Registered QS Technician	Reg QS Technician
6. Registered QS Assistant	Reg QS Assistant

The above categories are broadly based on the defined levels of competency as determined by the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) from levels 4 to 7. These have been written and developed by the QS Standards Generating Body (QS SGB) and have also been gazetted for comment.

Comment on the revised registration categories and defined levels of competencies of the Council are invited from registered persons before final adoption. Comments are to be addressed in writing to the Registrar (e-mail address [percylr@mweb.co.za](mailto:percylr@mweb.co.za)).

## **CPD PROGRAMME**

In compliance with the Quantity Surveying Professions Act (49 of 2000), all registered Quantity Surveyors are obliged to undergo continuing professional development (CPD) and to submit their annual records to the Council for approval. A special letter (dated 27 October 2006) was sent to all registered persons explaining the entire process and urging professional Quantity Surveyors to complete their submissions and to bring their CPD programme up to date.

As indicated previously, the SACQSP resolved to make some amendments to the existing CPD policy. The main implication of this is not the policy itself, but the fact that as from 2008, every registered person will annually have to apply for re-registration with the SACQSP. One of the requirements for re-registration will be that individual CPD submissions must be up to date (that is to the end of 2007).

Regarding the policy itself, CPD will be based on hours and not on points anymore, with a minimum requirement of 25 hours of CPD activities within each year. Furthermore there will only be two categories in lieu of the current three categories. Category 1 will be based on activities arranged by "external" organisations such as conferences, congresses, lectures and seminars, etc. Category 2 will be informal "internal" activities such as in-house training, small group discussions, self-study, etc.

Registered persons will be required to either submit proof of their activities when applying annually for re-registration, or they may submit an affidavit in which they declare their CPD compliance. Random audits will however be conducted on at least 20% of such affidavit submissions annually.

## **CANDIDATE QUANTITY SURVEYORS**

It has become apparent that a number of persons registered in the Candidate QS category have remained

in that category for far too long. Before the PrQS status can be conferred on a Quantity Surveyor, it is necessary to follow a process to professional registration by submitting logbooks of experience, writing Council examinations (where applicable) and finally fulfilling the Assessment of Professional Competence (APC). This candidacy phase should generally not exceed a period of five or six years, depending on the qualification.

Where some of our Candidate QS registered persons have far exceeded this period, every effort should be made to make the necessary arrangements to achieve conclusion and finality in terms of their route to registration. It is not the intention that this candidacy category be viewed as a permanent category but rather as a temporary phase only leading to full professional registration.

My office will in due course contact those Candidate QS persons to whom this notification is applicable. They will be obliged to address this matter as soon as possible, or face cancellation of their registration in this category.

## **EMPLOYERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO PAY REGISTRATION FEES ON BEHALF OF EMPLOYEES**

We wish to point out that where registered persons pay their annual registration fees (to the SACQSP and/or ASAQS) in their individual capacity, they are no longer permitted to deduct such payments from their taxable income when calculating their personal income tax. This is the latest SARS ruling, which is mandatory. When however their employers pay such fees on their behalf, under certain circumstances the employers are allowed to make such deductions through the practice when the tax payable by the practice is calculated.

We would thus encourage employer firms to consider paying the registration fees on behalf of their employees. Please consult your tax adviser to achieve maximum tax efficiency whilst staying legal and within the law.

## **AMENDED ACCREDITATION POLICY OF TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS**

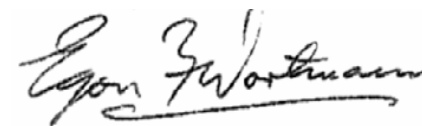
I am pleased to advise that the SACQSP has finalised and agreed the revised Accreditation Policy documents. This outcome followed a process of review, of making amendments and finally the formal adoption by the full SACQSP Council. These are the documents that will determine the basis of all future accreditation visits to tertiary institutions (whether currently accredited by the SACQSP or not). Registered persons are thus encouraged to study these documents very carefully to ensure that the planning towards future accreditation visits is correctly focused and structured. Failure to do so may simply lead to unnecessary effort and time wastage.

The following documents may be viewed on the SACQSP website ([www.sacqsp.org.za](http://www.sacqsp.org.za)):

- SACQSP Accreditation Policy
- SACQSP Accreditation Submission Template
- SACQSP Accreditation Policy- Appendix A
- SACQSP Accreditation Policy - Appendix B

Of particular interest should be the contents of Appendix B, which sets out the provisional programme of events that the SACQSP is obliged to follow so as to comply with the requirements of the CHE/HEQC in terms of the obligatory accreditation of all tertiary institutions. Please take particular note of these time frames.

Regards



**EGON WORTMANN**  
**REGISTRAR - SACQSP**

**26 JUNE 2007**