

Report of Nuclear, Particle and Radiation Physics (NPRP) **Division for SAIP2016 AGM**

1. The new Director of iThemba LABS, Dr Faical Azaiez, took up his position effective 1/5/16.
2. In response to the recent NRF call for Strategic Research Infrastructure Funding, iThemba LABS was awarded R60M.
3. R19M was awarded to iThemba LABS for the purchase of three high-purity germanium (HpGe) clover detectors along with three bismuth germanate (BGO) Compton-suppression shields.
4. Over eighty (80) abstracts were submitted to the Division for SAIP2016, the bulk of which requested oral presentation. As with SAIP2015, this necessitated parallel sessions to be implemented.
5. Prizes for Postgraduate presentations were again supplied by the SAIP and Mr Oscar Redivo of Bio-teknik.
6. Elections for Divisional office bearers will proceed in due course.
7. In response to the recent call from the NRF for equipment in the range of R15-35M, a UWC-led proposal for an array of Compton-suppressed HpGe clover detectors will be submitted. This, along with the existing AFRODITE detectors and those mentioned in point 3, will constitute the GAMKA array.
8. A presentation on the Rare Ion Beam (RIB) facility was made to the Divisional Meeting by the Project Leader, Dr Rob Bark.
9. The Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS) facility at iThemba LABS (Gauteng) – the first in Africa – is on the verge of performing analyses of real samples. Standards have been run which have confirmed that the facility can perform at a level comparable to the best AMS facilities in the world.