



A50

MINUTES OF THE 50TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SAIP HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA, PRETORIA ON 7 JULY 2005 AT 16:00

1 OPENING AND WELCOME

The President of the SAIP, Prof. E.C. Zingu chaired the meeting and welcomed all present. He stated that he was pleased to see so many present at the meeting.

2 ATTENDANCE

Apologies were received from Ms. J. Padayachee, Dr. K.A. Meyer, Prof. H von Bergmann and Prof. F. Scholtz. The meeting was attended by **76 members** and **4 non-members**.

3 MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION UNDER GENERAL

Membership for a particular category of physicists.

4 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 July 2004 (A49) were approved without correction.

5 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

6 PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 2003 – 2004

Prof. Moraal took over as chair and Prof. Zingu presented his report (see App. 1) for the year 2004 – 2005.

The report was accepted without comment. Prof. Moraal then handed the chair back to Prof. Zingu.

7 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2003 – 2004

The Treasurer, Prof. Engelbrecht tabled the audited statements for the financial year 1 April 2004 to 31 March 2005 (see App. 2). The financial statements were accepted with thanks to Prof. Engelbrecht.

8 BUDGET FOR 2005 – 2006

Prof. Engelbrecht presented the budget (see App. 3) for the next financial year. He explained the following:

- The amount of R100 000 shown in the budget was to provide for the SAIP's contribution to the running of the proposed SAIP office.
- The small proposed increase in membership fees would, in part, go towards the expenses of the proposed SAIP office.
- The R1 000 indicated for the Science Olympiad would, instead, be donated to the Physics Olympiad.
- Owing to the considerable amount of interest earned on the SAIP's investments it may be necessary to investigate the tax liability of the SAIP and how this could be avoided.

Prof. Engelbrecht again appealed to members to inform him if membership fees have been deposited directly into the SAIP account so that he can track who has paid.

Comments on Budget: It was suggested that:

- The possibility of registering the SAIP as a charity organization to solve the tax situation could be investigated.
- A job list for the secretary of the proposed SAIP office should be included in the documentation to be submitted to the NRF.

The meeting approved the proposed increases to membership fees for 2006.

The budget was approved with thanks to the Treasurer.

9 SHAPING THE FUTURE OF PHYSICS IN SOUTH AFRICA

As Prof. Zingu had already given an update on the present status of the documentation with regard to *Shaping the Future of Physics in South Africa* in his Presidential report there was nothing to add. There was no further discussion on this item.

10 PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

The changes to the by-laws (see App.4) were formally adopted by the meeting without further discussion.

11 INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PHYSICS 2005

This item was dealt with in detail in Prof. Zingu's Presidential report. There was no further discussion.

12 REPORTS FROM SPECIALIST GROUPS

12.1 Applied and Industrial Physics

The chairperson, Dr. K. Meyer, sent in the following:

1. *Feedback on the "Shaping the future of physics in South Africa" report.*

After discussion amongst members of the group, a formal response to the report was submitted to Council. The response can be summarised by: the group is currently a point-of-contact, and that it will support anyone who needs its help and will facilitate communication where possible. The group is currently acting as a forum for discussion.

2. *Contribution to the South African J. of Science, special edition.*

After numerous requests were sent out to various industrial and industrially active people, four responses were received. Three of the responses were combined into a single "general response" document, the other was submitted as a "letter to the editor".

The respondents were:

Dr. G. Hough (Envirovision Solutions), Dr. R. Lynch (ISS International Ltd) and Dr. J. Waltham (Thoroughbred Technologies (Pty) Ltd.). Dr. K. Meyer and Ms J. Padayachee provided additional content and performed final editing.

3. *Web-site*

A web-site was created for the group by the group chair. The initial content is intended to give an indication of the group's presence and ideals, and to establish a presence on the world wide web.

4. *Student prizes*

Dr. E. Meyer of the Institute of Technology at the University of Fort Hare has kindly sponsored R2 500 for student prizes in Applied and Industrial Physics at the 2005 SAIP Conference. Together with the SAIP's contribution of R1 000, two PhD prizes of R1 000 and two MSc prizes of R750 could be awarded.

5. The chair would like to apologise for not providing more support to the group, but business pressures have been exceptionally high since the previous conference.

12.2 Astrophysics and Space Science

Dr. S. Goedhart submitted the following report:

The terms of reference, goals & portfolios were debated and decided by the committee and have been submitted to Council. The portfolios will be filled at the election of the specialist group committee next year.

One of our committee members is collecting relevant links for the group website. Information on a proposed bill to preserve South Africa's geographical astronomical advantage will be placed on the group website in the near future.

Patricia Whitelock was nominated, by a large majority, to represent the group at the IUPAP meeting in Cape Town next year.

An astrophysics summer school under the auspices of the Organisation of Theoretical Physicists has been organised for January 2005. The title is "The dark side of the universe".

Annual Conference

1. Student interest is strong: there were 8 entrants for the MSc presentation awards and 6 PhD entrants. There were also presentations by several Honours students, one third-year student, and one second-year student. All were of high quality.
2. A total of R3 000 was obtained for student prizes. We would like to thank SAAO, HartRAO and SAIP for their generous sponsorship.
3. It was decided unanimously that the criteria by which student presentations are judged for the student awards should be made available on the group website. This will make the judging process more transparent

and will enable student entrants to prepare themselves better.

4. Members have requested that there be a category for Honours/undergraduate presentations.
5. The group has agreed to organise conference presentations into themed sessions next year. This will alleviate the problem of conflicting parallel sessions.
6. The overwhelming majority of members present at the AGM in Pretoria (2005) prefer an extra day at the annual SAIP conference rather than parallel sessions.

12.3 Physics Education

The Chairman reported as follows;

Committee for 2005/6

Case Rijdsdijk – Chair

Sadha Pillay

Ubbo Smith

Tom Netshisanlu

Diane Grayson

Alfred Tsipa

Activities 2004/2005

There had been an ongoing liaison with the Departments of Education, and Science and Technology (DoE and DST) to hold a two-day workshop on 8 – 9 September 2005 for representatives of all university Physics Departments in order to familiarise them with the new OBE Physics FET curriculum as a first step in the development of courses for Physics teachers around the country. Diane Grayson and Max Braun are coordinating the workshop as funding has at last come from DST.

The SAIP has been involved in several SET Weeks around the country promoting the “It’s Your Physics” theme for the International Year of Physics, IYP.

The University of KwaZulu Natal held a “Be a Physicist for a Week” programme.

As a part of the IYP programme DST funded several projects including money for:

- the “Physics on Parade”, PoP, programme,
- bringing Prof. Gibor Basri to SA,
- the SA Physics Olympiad
- the “Physics in Film” lecture series around SA,
- the “Physics of Toys” exhibition.

Prof. Gibor Basri was to officially open IYP during the SASOL SciFest in Grahamstown. Unfortunately he had an accident and was unable to do this and Dr Thebe Medupe from the SA Astronomical Observatory stood in for him.

The PoP was successfully held as part of the “Einstein Day” during the last conference in Pretoria. Activities on the day included the Physics Demonstration Competition for University Physics departments, won by Derek Fish and Alfred Tsipa from the University of Zululand. This funding also enabled 87 teachers from around South Africa to attend the conference for the “Einstein Day” and many of those expressed an interest in joining the SAIP afterwards. This is something that will be followed up with council.

The group also liaised with the SA Association for Science and Technology Advancement, SAASTA, to allow the ISPAT-ISCOR (now MITTAL) Olympiad finalists to attend the Einstein Day as well, during which Kevin Govender entertained them at the University of Pretoria’s Science Centre.

The first SA Physics Olympiad has been organized and a report on this will be included in report for 2005/6, as will reports on the final two activities.

Suggestions for Future Conferences

In line with the request from the SAIP Council that the specialist groups take a more active role in planning their activities for future conferences, the group discussed this during their meeting and the following were agreed on:

1. The timing of the Education Specialist Group meeting. It was felt that as the ESG was one of the groups which had members in all the other groups, that in future the time slot made available for the ESG meeting should be such that it allowed members of other SAIP specialist groups to attend.
2. That the ESG, and other specialist group meetings be held before the meeting between the Specialist Group chairs and Council.
3. That the time slots for oral presentations be increased to allow for some discussion at the end of a presentation. It was recommended that the oral presentation slots be 20 minutes (15 mins + 5) and 40 minutes (35 mins + 5).

4. There was also a request for a 2 – 3 hour symposium on a particular theme or topic so that this could be discussed in depth.

5. Greater care should be taken in the selection of oral presentations and that the ESG become a little more pro-active in getting SAIP members to present papers. In particular it was felt that there should be more poster presentations, especially from students. There was also a strong recommendation that some time should be made available for teachers and that there should be some “How I Teach” sessions.

These points would be brought to the attention of the LOC of the next conference at the University of the Western Cape.

The Chairperson wanted to thank Prof. Edmund Zingu and the SAIP Council for their support during the year, all those who had participated, organized and set-up the various activities and especially DST for their generous support for many of the year's activities.

12.4 Lasers, Optics and Spectroscopy

Dr. E.G. Rohwer reported as follows:

1. SAIP 2005

The 2005 conference has once again been a success for the group, with around 40 oral and poster presentations.

As we have become accustomed, the NLC user group report back meeting will be held on Friday, as an extension of the SAIP conference. The representative of the NLC, Dr. Andrew Forbes, has requested us to convey that it is appreciated that the SAIP and the conference organisers have once again been willing to host the event. We trust this arrangement is to the benefit of all concerned, and would like to continue with this model.

The subgroup again managed to secure sponsorship from The NLC, Scientific Development and Integration, A&J Scientific and the SAIP for student prizes.

2. *The Development of a Strategy for Femtosecond Laser Research and Applications in Africa.*

The subgroup “Lasers, Optics and Spectroscopy” initiated a workshop on “High power femtosecond lasers and applications” held in Pretoria on the 28th September 2004. This was in response to comments and recommendations made in the “Shaping the future of Physics” review panel report, namely to identify possible interdisciplinary flagship projects in physics research and, in particular, in laser research. As a result a document, “The Development of a Strategy for Femtosecond Laser Research and Applications in Africa”, was produced. This document sets out a process for arriving at a strategy, and to develop a proposal, for a driver project in fs laser science. This was submitted to Council for further attention. In the meantime this effort will be further pursued by the subgroup, starting with cooperation between the NLC, the Laser Research Institute, Prof. Dino Jaroszynski, Director: Strathclyde Electron and Terahertz to Optical Pulse Source (TOPS), and Dr. Heinrich Schwoerer from the TeraWatt Titanium:Sapphire laser system in Jena, Germany. This will kick off in September, with Dr Schwoerer installing a fs laser from Strathclyde in the RSA and setting up first experiments.

3. *The ALC*

Meetings of the ALC were held in Pretoria in July 2004 and May 2005. The ALC is now being registered as a section 21 company. The directors that represent SA are Dr. P. Mjwara and Prof. H. von Bergmann. Several cooperative projects in Africa are already running and an ALC laser course, run jointly by the NLC and the LRI was held in Stellenbosch in February 2005. Fifteen delegates from all over Africa attended this successful course.

4. *Outreach*

The subgroup has started a programme, called “Public Awareness and Understanding of Lasers” (PAUL), aimed at students in grade 10-12. The intention is to encourage students who are intending to study in science or engineering, to consider a career in laser science. This is supported by the NLC and the LRI at this stage.

Details of these activities can be obtained from our website: lasers.co.za.

12.5 Nuclear, Particle and Radiation Physics

The Chairman, Dr. Z.Z. Vilakazi reported as follows:

At this year's SAIP meeting, 35 oral and 2 poster presentations were made – this is arguably one of the highest participation rates to date. Three prizes were awarded in the categories of best oral MSc presentation, best oral PhD presentation and best poster presentation. The chairman would like to thank the judges for their

generous service to this community. Once again prizes were kindly sponsored by Oscar Redivo (BioTeknik) and once again, special thanks to him for his relentless support over the years.

New developments:

The webpage – as promised at last year's meeting – is ready (in template form) and is on course for being posted on the SAIP webpage. The page will be maintained at the "Schonland" centre by Mark Dalton (PhD student at WITS).

New activities in sight for next year are:

- Fast neutron workshop hosted at UCT.
- At the time of compiling this report, no new information on the status of the Nuclear Physics summer school – to be hosted by the Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo – was available.
- 2006 SAIP will be hosted by: Hermanus Magnetic Observatory, iThemba LABS, South African Astronomical Observatory and the University of the Western Cape. It is expected that the nuclear physics community might play a major role.

12.6 Condensed Matter Physics and Materials Science (CMPMS)

The Chairperson, Prof. J. Engelbrecht, reported as follows:

The Executive of the CMPMS identified three areas of special interest, following the visit of the International Panel on the Future of Physics. These are: hard materials, photovoltaic materials and pebble bed modular reactor (PBMR) materials. It is envisaged that the Winterschool at the next (2006) SAIP Conference could entail some of these subjects.

A document regarding the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the activities of the specialist group was drafted and discussed. A draft was submitted to Dr Chetty and a final document is being prepared. The ToR will also be included on the website of the CMPMS.

Speakers were identified for the 2005 SAIP conference, viz. Prof. W. Soboyejo as plenary speaker and Prof. P.E. Ngoepe as non-specialist speaker. A speaker was also identified to represent the CMPMS at the meeting of the General Assembly of the IUPAP. The CMPMS will also sponsor a workshop at the upcoming World Conference on Physics and Sustainable Development, to be hosted in Durban. Two further workshops are being planned for 2007/08.

The Awards programme, of which the main goal is to encourage young physicists to present their work at the annual conference, remains one of the main events of the CMPMS.

The election of a new Executive will take place during 2006.

12.7 Theoretical Physics

The chairperson, Prof. H.B. Geyer, reported as follows:

1. The management committee elected for 2005-2007 is H.B. Geyer (Chair), N. Chetty, R. De Mello Koch, W.D. Heiss, F. Petrucione and F.G. Scholtz.
2. A Working Committee for computational physics has been elected to coordinate and promote this field: N. Chetty (Chair/convenor), M. Braun, J. Cleymans, J. Groenewald (AIMS), D.P. Joubert, T. Mosuang and F. Petrucione.
3. DST has given its written support for the proposed National Institute of Theoretical Physics (NITheP). Four members of the OTP Working Committee have met twice with representatives of DST and NRF (N. Chetty, R. De Mello Koch, H.B. Geyer and F.J.W. Hahne) and seed money for the preparation phase has been made available by DST. Target dates are: advertisement for director by Oct./Nov. 2005; partial funding in 2006/7 financial year; full funding 2007/8.
4. The 16th Chris Engelbrecht Summer School took place at Alpine Heath in Jan. 2005 on "Advanced Scientific Computing" and the next is planned for 18-27 Jan. 2006 at the same venue on "The dark side of the universe". Amongst other aims this is planned in support of existing and planned observational cosmology programmes in SA.
5. An international workshop on "The physics of non-hermitian operators" is being organized by H.B. Geyer and W.D. Heiss in Stellenbosch, 23-25 Nov 2005, as part of the local IYP2005 activities.

12.8 Student members

A meeting of physics students was held on 5 July 2005. The following minutes were received:

1. *Opening and welcome*

Dr. N. Chetty opened the meeting and introduced Dr. G. Arendse as the acting chair of the meeting. Dr. Arendse welcomed all attendees.

2. Attendance

W. Koen	wsk@sun.ac.za
A. du Plessis	adpless@sun.ac.za
S. Ombinda-Lenbouna	ombinda@sun.ac.za
S. Ngcobo	sandile@sun.ac.za
R. Botha	roelf@hartrao.ac.za
K. Govender	kg@neicsa.co.za
A. Combrink (acting secretary)	attie@hartrao.ac.za
N. Naidu	203507365@ukzn.ac.za

3. Items for the Agenda under General

A number of items were added to the agenda, as indicated below.

4. Conferences (for information only)

4.1. First "African Conference for Physics Students 2005"

The web address <http://www.ibe.tu-berlin.de/ACPS/> was given as reference.

4.2. SAIP 2006

Students were reminded of the 2006 conference of SAIP at UWC et al.

5. General

5.1. Role of student representative

Suggestions were made that the following tasks be performed by the student representative on Council:

7. Facilitate communication (e.g. via a web-forum)
8. Ensure students be exposed to opportunities (job, study, post-doc, etc.)
9. Organise student activities other than the annual SAIP conference

5.2. Student council

The student representative is to organise a transparent election (nominations and election via e-mail, as is the current convention) of a student council, consisting of one member per specialist group. This council should assist the student representative in his/her tasks.

5.3. Conference matters

Suggestions were made that the student representative should be consulted during the annual conference programme planning to ensure that:

- informal/social activities, exclusive to the student members, be hosted.
- provision is made for students to have interaction with guests of honour (e.g. Nobel laureates, guest speakers, etc.)
- some time be allocated for visits to the research facilities in the vicinity of the conference centre.

5.4. Duration of funding

A request was made that the SAIP would take up with NRF the issue of the duration of funding for M.Sc.s and Ph.D.s in physics – it seems that the current durations of funding for these courses are not sufficient and should be adjusted (i.e. not the same as for other disciplines and/or fields of study).

6. Closure

The chairperson closed the meeting. No date has been set for the next meeting.

13 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

13.1 SACNASP

It was reported that certain legislative aspects regarding SACNASP had changed. In particular, any person appointed in an advisory or consultative role must be a member. The new Council is elected by the Minister. The SAIP is represented on the Council.

13.2 NSTF

It was reported that Dr. R. Adam would assist with the appointment of foreign scientists.

14 CONFERENCE MATTERS

14.1 Report by Conference Committee

Nothing to report

14.2 Future Conferences

Nothing further to report.

14.3 Further discussion

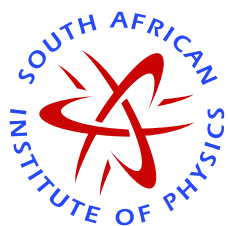
- There was general agreement that conferences should be arranged during the first week of July and that an extra day should be included in future, with the banquet scheduled for the Friday evening.
- It is proposed to hold three winter schools at the next conference. Themes for these should be sent to SAIP2006@tlabs.ac.za.
- It was requested that the AGM be moved to an earlier slot in the conference programme and not be kept as the last event before the banquet.

15 GENERAL

- On the matter of membership for a particular category of scientists Prof. Zingu said that this was in principle already provided for by the Specialist Groups.
- Prof. Zingu mentioned that the number of members nominated to Council was one less than the number of positions available and wished the incoming President, Prof. H. Moraal, well.
- Prof. Moraal, in turn, said a special word of thanks to Dr. Whitelock and Prof. Zingu who took strategies adopted by Dr. Whitelock and put them into action. The growth in strength of the SAIP over the past few years was largely due to them and he congratulated both Dr. Whitelock and Prof. Zingu for their contributions.

16 CLOSURE

The incoming President, Prof. Moraal, closed the meeting at 17:00.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS

7 JULY 2005

Council

The Council was elected into office in 2003 and has served the second year of its term. The members of Council were as follows:

Edmund Zingu	President
Harm Moraal	Vice President
Patricia Whitelock	Past President
Japie Engelbrecht	Treasurer
Jaynie Padayachee	Secretary
Nithaya Chetty	
Simon Connell	
Diane Grayson	
Dieter Heiss	

Executive Committee

Edmund Zingu
 Harm Moraal
 Jaynie Padayachee
 (alternates: Patricia Whitelock, Japie Engelbrecht)

The awards committee comprised of Dieter Heiss (convenor), Krish Bharuth-Ram, Andrew Leitch and Michael Feast, with Robert de Mello Koch as alternate.

Three meetings were held during the past twelve months:

27 October 2004 at SAAO, Cape Town;

20 February 2005 at the University of Pretoria (with the conference organizers);

4 July 2005 (during the conference at the University of Pretoria).

Election of the members of Council for the period: 2005 – 2007

The election of new members of Council for the term: 2005 – 2007 was scheduled for April/May this year. Voting was not necessary because of the limited number of nominations that were received by the due date. I appeal to members of the Institute to make yourselves available to serve on Council and co-direct the development of physics in South Africa.

Membership

As of 19 June 2005 the SAIP membership was as follows:

By Category	June 2004	June 2005	By Specialist Area	
Honorary Members	12	12	Applied and Industrial Physics	30
Emeritus	10	11	Astrophysics	92
Ordinary Members	274	260	Education	25
Associate	19	17	Lasers, Optics and Spectroscopy	33
Student	154	166	Nuclear, Radiation and Particle Physics	57
Retired	20	18	Plasma Physics	10
Institutional	4	4	Solar-Terrestrial & Space Physics	19
Honorary Institutional	1	1	Condensed Matters and Materials Science	151
			Theoretical Physics	27
Total Members	494	492	General	9

We note with concern the drop in ordinary membership but we are delighted that the student membership is showing a steady growth. The decrease in ordinary members is due to the fact that names of members who are two years in arrears with their subscriptions are removed from the membership list, having been given a final reminder earlier in the year. The increase in student membership supports the change in the constitution to provide for a Student Member on Council.

Finances

The treasurer, J Engelbrecht, will report on the financial health of the society. The increased membership fees, the increasing number of fee-paying members, coupled with the healthy profits of large conferences, as well as various cost saving measures have all contributed to the positive bank balance.

International Liaison

The interests of the South African physics community in the affairs of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP) is represented by the National Liaison Committee for IUPAP. The Liaison Committee which is appointed by the President of the NRF includes a number of members of the Council. The Liaison Committee did not meet during the past year because it had come to the end of its term of office at the end of 2003 and the expectation was that the new committee would be convened in the course of 2004. The committee was reconstituted at the end of 2004. However, the Council has recommended to the National ICSU Board that the entire Council should in future constitute the IUPAP Liaison Committee. The President of the NRF will have the prerogative to appoint additional members onto the Liaison Committee.

The IUPAP Working Group on Women in Physics has been active and plans to arrange a meeting for Women in Physics in Africa in Pretoria did not come to fruition. Instead an international meeting of Women in Physics was held in Rio in Brazil and two delegates from South Africa participated. The Ministry of Science and Technology has agreed to support an initiative for Women in Physics in South Africa.

Annual Conference

The 49th annual conference of the South African Institute of Physics (SAIP) was hosted by the Department of Physics of the Free State University in Bloemfontein from 28 June to 2 July 2004. This was a very successful event and with 421 participants, it just managed to beat the record attendance of 420 at Stellenbosch in 2003. although the presentations were significantly fewer than the previous year (283 presentations: 181 oral and 102 posters). The five invited speakers from abroad were all from the US. The conference was well attended by post graduate students and several student prizes were awarded for excellent contributions. I wish to commend those Specialist Groups who negotiated with sponsors and secured prizes for the student competitions.

The conference was preceded by a successful Winter School on Surface Techniques, which was attended by 205 delegates. As in the previous year, special activities were arranged for high school learners and educators in the surrounding area. This stimulating initiative will hopefully attract large numbers of students into physics. A special word of appreciation is expressed to Mr Kevin Govender and his colleagues who were responsible for the school programme.

On behalf of the SAIP, I wish to record our appreciation to the members of the Physics Department of the University of the Free State for their tremendous efforts in successfully hosting the 49th Annual Physics Conference of the SAIP.

I am pleased to note that the 50th Annual Conference here in Pretoria has attracted a record number of participants, in excess of 500. We extend our gratitude to the Organizing Committee and members of the Physics Department of the University of Pretoria for the excellent arrangements that were made in hosting such a logistically complex meeting.

Other conferences

Several conferences and workshops are usually organised throughout the year by Specialist Groups or Departments. In some cases the Institute plays a minor role whereas others are organised without any involvement of the Institute. All these initiatives, especially those with international involvement, are welcomed as they stimulate the physics community and supplement the formal training that is being provided by the Physics Departments. I wish to express our appreciation to the organisers and sponsors of the following events and other similar initiatives that we might not have become aware of:

- The Fifteenth Chris Engelbrecht Summer School in Theoretical Physics was held from 21 January to 30 January 2004 at the Alpine Heath Resort, Drakensberg, KwaZulu-Natal.
- An International Physics Education Conference was held in Durban from 5 to 8 July 2004 under the auspices of the International Commission on Physics Education (ICPE) of IUPAP and the South African Institute of Physics (SAIP).
- The International Conference on "Strangeness in Quark Matter" focusing on the physics of strange quarks in matter and heavy flavour production in nuclei was held in Cape Town from 14 to 20 September 2005 and hosted by the Physics Department of the University of Cape Town.

Future of Physics in South Africa

The revitalisation project, known as the "Future of Physics in South Africa" project, was initiated in 2003 and the report of the International Panel that consisted of three South Africans and five non-citizens (France, UK and US) was tabled last year. In response to the recommendations in the report, various groups and departments have formulated specific projects. The budgeting process of the Ministry is underway and it we are confident that the Ministry will allocate substantial funds in support of physics in its next financial year, in continuation of initial commitments that have already been made.

International Year of Physics

IUPAP has declared 2005 as the World Year of Physics. This declaration has been endorsed by UNESCO and was followed by a resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations to declare 2005 as the International Year of Physics (IYP 2005). The year 2005 coincides with the centenary celebrations of the miraculous year 1905 in which Albert Einstein published three groundbreaking papers on Relativity, Photoelectric effect, and Brownian motion. The year 2005 also commemorates the death of Einstein 50 years ago. During 2004 several planning meetings were held, chaired by the Department of Science and Technology, towards an action plan for 2005 for South Africa. We are grateful to the Ministry of Science and Technology for sponsoring several activities. The following activities have already taken place:

1. The international launch of the International Year of Physics was hosted by UNESCO in Paris: 12-14 January 2005.
2. The national launch of the International Year of Physics on 18 March 2005 in Grahams Town was arranged to coincide with SciFest. The Minister of Science and Technology officiated. Several activities at SciFest were arranged specifically to promote physics amongst the youth in the context of the International Year of Physics.
3. National Science week (9-14 May 2005) throughout the country focused on promoting physics and several physicists participated and gave public lectures and demonstrations on campuses, at science centres and in other public venues.
4. The National Physics Olympiad was launched on 18 May 2005 and administered by Case Rijdsdijk.
5. The Einstein Day programme on 6 July 2005 at the conference

Two important events have been planned for later this year:

1. The General Assembly of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP) will be held in Cape Town from 26th to 28th October 2005.
2. A world Conference on Physics and Sustainable Development will be held from 31st October to 2nd November in Durban. The conference is being co-hosted by IUPAP, UNESCO, ICTP, IAEA and SAIP.

I am pleased to have learnt of various other IYP 2005 activities that have been initiated on campuses and cities around the country. **It's Your Physics.**

General

I wish to record my sincere appreciation for the support that I have enjoyed from members of Council, and in particular the role that the Prof. Moraal (Vice-President) and Dr. Whitelock (Past President) have played. The business of the SAIP would not have been conducted successfully without the financial management of the Treasurer (Prof. Engelbrecht) and the meticulous administration of the Secretary (Ms Padayachee). We are indebted to them for their dedication. I have been privileged to have served the South African Institute of Physics over the past two years as president. These have been exciting years for Physics in South Africa. I wish to thank members of the Institute for the honour, the confidence and the support that I have enjoyed from you, and I trust that the future Councils will be assured of your support.

Edmund Zingu

President

7 July 2005

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2005

Available for download from www.saip.org.za

SAIP PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2007

INCOME	R	EXPENDITURE	R
Donations	100	Affiliation fees	500
Membership fees :		Bank charges	1,500
Institutional members (2 X R 2 000)	4,000	Honoraria	6,000
Ordinary members (200 x R 250)	50,000	Overseas speaker	15,000
Associate members (15 x R 125)	1,875	Science olympiad	1,000
Student/Retired members (160 x R 65)	10,400	Scifest	1,000
		Secretary/Treasurer Expenses	5,000
Interest on 32 day call account	5,000	Travel expenses (Council)	25,000
Interest on SME account	500	Meetings : Specialist Groups	10,000
Conference surplus	50,000	Specialist group prizes	3,000
Sponsorships	1,000	Website + Postnet	2,000
Transfer from 32 Day Account	48,000	Audit of Financial Statements	750
		SAIP Office	100,000
		Excess for year	125
	170,875		170,875

FINAL ACCEPTANCE OF CHANGES TO BY-LAWS

During the AGM of 2004, the changes that needed to be to the constitution and by-laws were agreed upon. These changes were submitted to members for a postal ballot, and the changes were unanimously voted in. The constitutional and by-law changes came into effect immediately when the results of the postal ballot were known however, the constitution requires that the changes to the by-laws be submitted to the next AGM for final approval. The **old** clauses appear on the left and the **current** clauses, which have to be accepted appear on the right. The current version of the constitution and by-laws is available from <http://www.saip.org.za> or on request from the Secretary, if you do not have access to the website.

<i>Clause affected</i>	<i>Old</i>	<i>Current</i>
ByL-2.4.	A person whose membership privileges have lapsed in terms of paragraph 2.2 or been terminated in terms of paragraph 2.3 may apply for reinstatement, and the Council, after review of his professional record, may reinstate him after payment of the outstanding fees, or on such conditions as Council may decide.	A person whose membership privileges have lapsed in terms of paragraph 2.2 or been terminated in terms of paragraph 2.3 may apply for reinstatement, and Council, after review of his/her professional record, may reinstate him/her after payment of the outstanding fees, or on such conditions as Council may decide.
ByL-3.1.	The notice announcing the General Meeting at which a newly elected Council is to take office, in accordance with clause 8.2.1 of the Constitution, shall call for nominations to the Council. The notice shall include the name of the member appointed by Council in terms of paragraph 5.3 of the Constitution.	The notice announcing the General Meeting at which a newly elected Council is to take office, in accordance with clause 8.2.1 of the Constitution, shall call for nominations to Council.
ByL-3.2.	The notice of paragraph 3.1 shall be sent by post to all voting members at least eighty days before the date of the meeting.	The notice of paragraph 3.1 shall be sent to all voting members at least eighty days before the date of the meeting.
ByL-3.3.	Nominations will be requested for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a Secretary (b) a Treasurer (c) six other members of the Council. The same person may be nominated under any of the categories.	Nominations will be requested from voting members for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a Secretary (b) a Treasurer (c) a President Elect (d) four other members of Council. The same person may be nominated under any of the categories. Nominations will be requested from Student Members for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (e) a Student Member on Council

ByL-3.4.	<p>Nominations of candidates for the Council shall reach the Secretary at least fifty days before the date of the meeting. Such nominations shall bear the signatures of proposer and seconder and shall be accompanied by a signed acceptance of the nomination by the nominee.</p> <p>The Secretary shall prepare ballot papers in which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the names of the candidates for Secretary; (b) the names of the candidates for Treasurer; <p>shall respectively appear in alphabetical order.</p>	<p>Nominations of candidates for Council shall reach the Secretary at least thirty days before the date of the meeting. Such nominations shall bear the signatures of proposer and seconder and shall be accompanied by a signed acceptance of the nomination by the nominee.</p> <p>The Secretary shall prepare ballot papers for voting members in which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the names of the candidates for Secretary; (b) the names of the candidates for Treasurer; (c) the names of the candidates for President-Elect; (d) the names of the candidates for Members of Council <p>shall respectively appear in alphabetical order.</p> <p>The Secretary shall prepare ballot papers for Student members in which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (e) the names of candidates for the Student Member <p>shall appear in alphabetical order.</p>
ByL-3.5.	The Secretary shall send out ballot papers for Secretary and Treasurer not less than forty-five days before the meeting mentioned in paragraph 3.1	The Secretary shall send out the ballot papers, in the manner laid down in Section 8 of the by-laws not less than twenty-five days before the meeting mentioned in paragraph 3.1.
ByL-3.6.	Properly marked ballot papers for Secretary and Treasurer shall reach the Secretary not less than thirty days before the meeting.	Properly marked ballot papers shall reach the Secretary not less than five days before the meeting.
ByL-3.7.	The ballot paper for Secretary and Treasurer shall be opened by the Secretary and two scrutineers, appointed by the Council. The signature portions of the ballot papers shall be removed, and the votes shall then be counted by the Secretary and the two scrutineers appointed by the Council, between thirty and twenty-five days before the meeting.	The ballot papers shall be opened by the Secretary and two scrutineers, appointed by Council. The signature portions of the ballot papers shall be removed, and the votes shall then be counted by the Secretary and the two scrutineers appointed by Council.
ByL-3.8.	Addition	In the transition from the old structure of Council to the new structure of council, the President will be chosen as previously, by members of Council, from members of Council, excluding the President-Elect.
ByL -8	Addition	<p>8. Communication with Members</p> <p>8.1. Communication between the institute and its members shall be in the manner selected by members.</p>