



Report to the Annual General Meeting

1 December 2009

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2009

SAIIA Western Cape this past year facilitated discussion on the impact for South Africa of the global economic slowdown that followed the financial crisis of late 2008, and also ventured into discussion on the effects of climate change on Africa. The annual Interschool Quiz began a new upward trajectory, growing to include more schools as well as preparatory workshops run by Tim Hughes for 10 teams from disadvantaged schools, with most inspiring results. Finally, the branch joined in supporting SAIIA's 75th Anniversary fundraising campaign, hosting SAIIA National Chairman Fred Phaswana and National Director Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, and speaker Dr Mamphela Rhamphele. The latter delivered a visionary address on the future of South Africa's International Relations that included a call for the creation of a tertiary institution of excellence focused on preparing South Africans for working in the field of International Relations. This call is under consideration at the Institute's headquarters in Johannesburg.

BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MATTERS (Martha Bridgman)

A volunteer run organisation such as the Western Cape Branch of SAIIA relies upon the energy of a great many people to run its affairs. The Branch Executive Committee, while undergoing changes mid-year, continued to work together as a team, with excellent support from Branch Project Administrator **Pippa Segall**. I thank them each for their efforts.

The Parliamentary Liaison Portfolio changed hands mid year, as **Sheila Camerer** left for Bulgaria where she now serves as the South African Ambassador. I thank her for the many potential speakers she approached on our behalf, as well as for the generous donation of wines from *Welgegund* for our receptions. Her successor is **Kayum Ahmed**, who works in Parliament's International Section. **Langa Malimela**, our universities liaison, also moved on and **Ryan Lobban**, a post-graduate student at UCT, has come forward to fill this role in the second half of 2009. Mary Carson is standing down from the Schools Quiz Chair role after a very successful year, and Ada Watson will again take up that role for 2010. Many thanks go to each new committee member for stepping forward.

Lidia Hall serves as the branch honorary treasurer, and her competence and cheerful assistance in delivering financial statements are greatly appreciated.

Various other branch members have served the branch in other capacities. In respect of PA equipment, member **Charles Sacks** has provided valued assistance and expertise. **Julian Hobbes** has managed the publications donated from Jan Smuts House for our members. **Dave Wheeler** has served in the unsung role of minute taker. Thanks to these members for their contributions of time.

Finally, the branch must acknowledge the supportive role played by **Jonathan Stead**, the Chief Operating Officer at Jan Smuts House, whose encouragement to the Chair throughout the year, and whose presence at the Quiz, was most appreciated.

ADMINISTRATION

Branch administration has run smoothly in this second year of operations with a Project Administrator, Ms Pippa Segall, who makes valuable contributions not only in the running of meetings but also in sourcing speakers and venues. Meetings continue to be held for the most part at the Centre for the Book. The branch enjoys the co-operation of the staff at the CFB, as well as recent availability of improved PA equipment.

PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES (Martha Bridgman)

The following events comprised our programme of activities in 2009.

- 12 February:** **Tim Hughes**, Director of the SAIIA Governance of Africa's Resources Programme, on "Africa: Lifting the Resources Curse".
- 10 March:** **Richard Wood**, the UK Consul-General, spoke on "The future of multilateralism in a global economic crisis".
- 15 April:** **Simon Lacey** of the Trade Law Chambers on "World in Crisis – Can the Trading System still serve developing nations?" and reception sponsored by the Trade Law Chambers.
- 13 May:** **Caltex/SAIIA WC Interschool Quiz** at Bishops College, with radio personality John Maytham as Quizmaster.
- 29 July:** **Professor Geoff Brundrit** on "The Impact of Sea Level Rise on the Great Harbour Cities of Africa - Alexandria, Lagos and Cape Town".
- 18 August:** **Michael Power** of Investec on "In search of greener pastures: The new world of emerging markets".
- 14 September:** **Dr Mamphela Ramphele** on "What Vision for South Africa's International Relations?", for SAIIA's 75th Anniversary Campaign fundraiser, with proceeds going towards the Jan Smuts House planned Youth Development Programme. A reception followed sponsored by Woolworths.
- 28 October:** **Vincent Williams** of Idasa on "The Politics of Migration and its implications for Democracy".
- 1 December:** **Rear Admiral Rusty Higgs** on "The SA Navy in 2009: Supporting South Africa's Foreign Policy", and SAIIA WC Branch AGM. A reception followed.

MEMBERSHIP (Marty Trainor)

The membership of the branch has not changed significantly over the past year, per the table below. There has been an increase in the number of visitors and guests attending branch activities, probably because of a wider distribution of notices via email and the media. This has been a source of new members. A new membership drive amongst MPs is underway. Because of rising operating costs the subscriptions for the branch year July 2009 to June 2010 were increased by about 10%, the first increase since 2007.

SAIIA Western Cape Membership Figures as at October 2009 (cf 2007 and 2006):

Category	2009	2008	2007
Company Nominees	14	6	10
Corporate	11	-	6
Diplomatic/Consular	37	38	50
Educational/Institutional	11	18	14
Family/Donor	50	40	24
Fellow	1	1	1
Honorary	3	1	1
Individuals	98	104	79
Members of Parliament	32*	32	70
Students	22	35	38
TOTAL	279	275	293

(*Provisional number. **Non-paying categories are Fellows, Honorary & MP's. Nominees and Corporates are members of the Institute nationally, but served by SAIIA WC in Cape Town.)

FINANCE (Lidia Hall)

The financial statements presented at this meeting have been prepared by myself and signed by Mr Karl Stulpner. We thank him once again for his kind service. Thanks also to members who have paid their subscription dues timeously, as this has assisted the committee with its budget and plans.

The 2009 Interschool Quiz expenses were again covered by sponsorship. We owe Caltex, the branding sponsor, much gratitude for its substantially increased support in 2009. We believe this investment in the global awareness of South Africa's youth is well placed. Many thanks are due to our other sponsors, noted in the Quiz annual report.

Thanks are also due to Jan Smuts House, which approved a further proposal for Matching Funds to sponsor activities designed to attract members from sectors of South African society currently under-represented in the branch membership, including students.

WEBSITE/ADVERTISING (Chris Inskip)

SAIIA Headquarters, at Jan Smuts House in Johannesburg, continue to provide valued support by providing a page for the Western Cape Branch on their website (www.saiia.org.za). This page contains information on past and upcoming Branch activity, and makes Branch documents (annual reports and membership application form) available for downloading. This support has latterly been augmented in a valued manner by SAIIA HQs' including mention of our upcoming events in their emailed Members Newsletter.

We appreciate the support of local newspapers and radio stations, which have carried mention of our upcoming events, the result of which has been a good proportion of newcomers attending our meetings.

DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY (Rob Mackay)

The diplomatic community in Cape Town continues in its support for SAIIA and regularly attends and participates in our meetings. We plan to address a meeting of the Consular Corps to better publicize SAIIA WC events among diplomats in 2010. We remain alert to source visiting dignitaries who may be appropriate guest speakers for the branch. We look forward to further cementing the growing links with the Diplomatic Community in Cape Town.

PARLIAMENT (Kayum Ahmed)

The primary focus of this portfolio has thus far has been to invite Members of Parliament (MPs) to attend various SAIIA events, via e-mailed invitations supplemented by posters placed in areas visible to MPs. However, the number of posters placed throughout Parliament has been limited because of insufficient space. Furthermore, e-mailing MPs has proven to have a limited impact. Therefore, targeted e-mails to specific Portfolio and Select Committees were sent out inviting MPs to become complimentary members of SAIIA WC, per branch policy. Specific MPs have also been contacted and invited to address SAIIA meetings. The impact of this targeted approach will be assessed in the coming year.

CORPORATE COMMUNITY (Anthony Silberberg)

In order to bridge the gap between individual membership and the major Corporate sponsors that are managed directly from Jan Smuts house in Johannesburg it has been agreed that a new Cape Business category be created. The intent is to develop this category in a format that will provide added value for Cape based companies on the one hand while not placing an excessive burden on the scarce resources of the Western Cape Branch of SAIIA. To this end an attractive membership package has been created that we feel will be of interest to Cape companies. It is envisaged that this will be launched around April 2010 coupled with a membership drive to enrol new members

INTERSCHOOL QUIZ (Mary Carson)

Caltex, part of the global Chevron Corporation, and the Western Cape Branch of SAIIA, hosted their 17th Annual Interschool Quiz on Wednesday, 13 May 2009. Our long-term sponsor Caltex/Chevron's

increased funding in 2009 enabled us to both expand the quiz and focus on several developmental activities. Ten more schools were added to the competition, making this the largest quiz to date, which required a new venue. We thank Mr Phil Court and the Diocesan College (Bishops) for so readily offering us their facilities. In addition, in late March SAIIA programme director Tim Hughes ably conducted a workshop to assist 10 less resourced schools in their preparation for the quiz, also at Bishops. On the night of the quiz the school teachers present enjoyed a light pre-quiz reception, while SAIIA committee members ran a careers table adjacent to the registration area. The Mallett Centre was all-but-full to capacity with learners, a very supportive audience and personnel totalling approximately 500 people. Belgravia High School from Athlone topped the log with 41 points (out of a possible 45!) winning the first prize of R4000 and taking home the Caltex Floating Trophy. Jan van Riebeeck High School was second, and Rhenish emerged in third place from a tie break with Cravenby Secondary School and Westerford High School. A total of 1500 books, wall charts and posters were donated to all participating schools by various Cape Town publishers.

Jonathan Stead was the Master of Ceremonies and John Maytham, the well known Cape Talk radio host, was the Quiz Master. Paddy Attwell, Director of Communications for the Provincial Department of Education, was in attendance, as was Public Affairs Manager of Chevron, Miranda Anthony.

The Quiz Committee hopes to build on the developmental experiences and help prepare more students for the quiz, as well as educators for their teaching of international affairs, through more workshops.

UNIVERSITIES (Ryan Lobban)

As universities liaison the key emphasis for the latter part of 2009 has been to raise awareness about SAIIA's public forum presentations and publications among student on campus. UCT's Vula forum remains a key IT network tool that should be utilized by SAIIA to distribute notices regarding SAIIA's upcoming events and publications. Thus far, SAIIA events are displayed to all post-graduate political science students at the University of Cape Town via Vula. The plan for 2010 will be to further utilize Vula to advertise SAIIA events to all students within the undergraduate political science stream as well as students within other disciplines, where permitted. SAIIA WC is also in the early stages of establishing a collaboration between the South African Association of Political Studies (SAAPS) and SAIIA. This will allow us to invigorate an interest in international affairs amongst students at UCT, UWC and the University of Stellenbosch. In early 2010, the branch plans to hold a discussion on the UCT campus in conjunction with UCT's History and Current Affairs Society.

CONCLUSION: (Martha Bridgman)

SAIIA Western Cape remains in a healthy state among the Institute's branches nationwide, and looks ahead to a full programme of events already taking shape for 2010. Many thanks to the membership for continued support, which will no doubt be met with renewed energy on the part of the Branch Executive Committee for generating public discussion on issues of South Africa's foreign policy and international affairs in the coming year.

Martha Bridgman

Chair, SAIIA Western Cape

1 December 2009

ELECTION OF WESTERN CAPE BRANCH COMMITTEE:

The following is the proposed slate for 2010.

Martha Bridgman	Chair
Kayum Ahmed	Parliamentary Liaison
Rob Mackay	Diplomatic Liaison
Ryan Lobban	Universities Liaison
Anthony Silberberg	Corporate Liaison
Martyn Trainor	Membership Portfolio
Ada Watson	Interschool Quiz Committee Chair
Chris Inskip	Technical Support/Logistics Portfolio
Dave Wheeler	Minutes Secretary
Lidia Hall	Honorary Treasurer