

REPORT TO THE 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

2016 IN BRIEF

A wide variety of events, some with unusually large audiences has kept the Branch on its toes this year. These events - a total of 13 since the last AGM - included some 7 speakers' meetings, events co-hosted with GARP and a briefing on BREXIT we co-hosted with the Cape Chamber of Commerce by Chief Executive of SAIIA, Elizabeth Sidiropoulos on one of her rare but greatly valued visits to the Mother City. The annual Inter-Schools Quiz, held earlier this year on 26 April at Bishops was as ever a great success and the annual Careers evening held at UCT on 14th September was even more successful than last year with a greater and more varied audience and more participants.

BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OPERATIONAL MATTERS

I have almost completed my second year as Chair of the Branch and I have kept the Parliamentary Portfolio where sadly very little interaction has happened. It is still our aim to facilitate an engagement between the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on International Relations and Co-operation and our Director but the Director's hectic programme and the sluggish response from the Portfolio Committee has militated against this so far. GARP intends to establish a closer engagement with Parliamentary Portfolio Committees during the coming year. Other Portfolios include Martyn Trainor (Deputy Chair and Membership), Dr Martha Bridgman (Interschool Quiz), Prof. Chris Saunders (Universities), Anthony Silberberg (Diplomatic Liaison and Corporates), Rob Mackay, Dave Wheeler, Patrick Holloway, Richard Higgs (Honorary Treasurer). Co-opted members are Alex Benkenstein (GARP Office representative), and Luke White, (student liaison UCT),

Pippa Segall has continued her hard work as Branch and Project Coordinator to good effect and Lidia Hall has continued to look after the accounts in an efficient manner for which we are most grateful.

I would like to thank the hard working members of the Branch Executive Committee for their efforts in ensuring that a stimulating programme of meetings and events was realised in 2016. This required regular meetings and much behind-the-scenes hard work by this dedicated team.

We would like to recognise and thank this dedicated group of people who handle the many details of our events. They are the self-styled "Company of Volunteers" [the **COV**] comprising Hannah Billingsley, Bridget Carrick, Peggy de Kock, Lee Hall, Chris Inskip, Lala Nongalaza [GARP Office], Wendy Paisley, John Patten, Pippa Segall, Anthony Silberberg, Martyn Trainor, Dave Wheeler, and Liz Wheeler. They handle all preparations, the arrangements during events, and the clearing up afterwards.

National Office Bearers

We continue to be very grateful to the Mountain Club of South Africa, Cape Town Section for the continued use of their club house at a reasonable rate and for the assistance of their members.

ACTIVITIES

The programme of events for 2016 reflected the big international issues and events of the year, such as the address on Refugees and Immigration in Europe by German Ambassador Walter Lindner, which attracted the largest audience of the year; Prospects and Opportunities offered by Brexit, an outstanding address by SAIIA Chief Executive Elizabeth Sidiropoulos at a lunchtime event organised jointly by SAIIA WC and the Cape Chamber of Commerce; a perspective on a possible junk status rating for South Africa by SAIIA National Council member Michael Spicer and a preview of the US elections by Professor John Stremlau – admittedly a staunch Hilary Clinton supporter!

Our cooperation with GARP yielded two very interesting Africa orientated lectures by a representative of the International Red Cross in Somalia and by Japanese Ambassador Shigeyuki Hiroki presented by Japanese Consul Yasushi Naito on TICAD (Tokyo International Conference on African Development) which took place in August in Nairobi.

We are very grateful for the support we received from the Konrad-Adenauer Stiftung (Foundation) – KAS - which also provided the generous sponsorship needed for our very successful careers evening for students of Western Cape universities.

THE FULL PROGRAMME OF EVENTS FOR 2016 IS GIVEN BELOW.

The full programme of events for 2016 is given below:

Date	EVENT	SPEAKER	Sponsor/co-convenor	Present
9 Dec 15	The responsibility to protect against Mass Atrocity Crimes – ten years on.	Prof Gareth Evans	SAIIA WC at MC	54
23 Feb 16	Refugees and migration.	German Ambassador, Walter J. Lindner	SAIIA W at MC sponsored by KAS	205
14 Apr 16	Somalia – ICRC perspective	Jordi Raich ICRC	SAIIA WC at MC with GARP	65
26 Apr 16	SAIIA WC Inter-school Quiz	Quiz Committee	Bishops. Abe Bailey Trust funded	300
12 May 16	Jan Smuts – forgotten by history?	Richard Steyn	SAIIA WC at MC with JSH support	160

9 Jun 16	How did we get to junk? Domestic and International Dimensions	Michael Spicer	SAIIA WC at MC	83
12 Jul 16	BREXIT: Prospects and Opportunities	Elizabeth Sidiropoulos	SAIIA WC and Cape Chamber of C&I	75
13 Jul 16	South Africa in the World Today: Resetting our Foreign Affairs Doctrine for the 21 st Century	Dr Wilmot James	SAIIA WC at MC	95
11 Aug 16	TICAD 6: Priorities for a Growing Partnership with Africa	Ambassador Shigeyuki Hiroki [represented by Mr Yasushi Naito], Prof Scarlett Cornelissen and Mr Symerre Grey-Johnson	SAIIA WC sponsored by GARP at CftB	75
14 Sep 16	CAREERS EVENING	Pippa Segall	UCT. Sponsored by KAS	150+
25 Oct 16	Joining the Dots Between Global and Domestic Politics	Prof Richard Calland	SAIIA W at MC	110
2 Nov 16	Is America's Presidential Election the most consequential since 1860 and does this matter to South Africa	Prof John Stremlau	SAIIA WC at MC	95
22 Nov 16	WESGRO	Helen Zille and Tim Harris	SAIIA WC at MC [AGM]	TBA

MEMBERSHIP 2016

The upward trend in membership numbers over the past few years has not continued into 2016. There has been a decrease in overall membership numbers of 3.3% in 2016. A consolidation seems to have taken place after spectacular growth of 24.3% in 2015 and 15.3% in 2014.

A number of members have resigned, mainly through moving away from town, and some people have simply not renewed their membership. There is also a steady stream of new members.

Many visitors attend events. Some of them are frequent visitors. The challenge is to recruit them into the ranks of members.

There was a small increase in the subscription rates for the 2016/17 at or below the general inflation rate.

Table of Membership Numbers

NB. Please note that the figures for 2016 and the preceding years have been adjusted so that the **nominal figures** relating to the categories ***Diplomatic/consular*** and ***Members of Parliament*** as well as the ***Institutional/educational*** list separately.

Category	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Corporate/nominees	5	5	5	5	3
Diplomatic/consular	7	3	**	**	**
Institutional/educational	[50*]	[52*]	[57*]	[58*]	[55*]
Family/guest [2x people]	76	90	76	56	30
Fellow/complimentary	10	10	7	7	5
Honorary life	8	8	6	6	5
Individual	82	77	64	64	73
Members of Parliament	[44**]	[44**]	[44**]	[44**]	[44**]
Students	20	22	15	12	10
TOTAL	208	215	173	150	126

[Membership numbers as at 2 Nov 16]

*Includes 50 schools co-sponsored with the Abe Bailey Trust.

**Nominal figures

FINANCE

It has not been possible to produce the Annual Financial Statements for 2016 because the Treasurer is overseas and the Bookkeeper is indisposed. They will be finalised and presented to a Special General Meeting as soon as possible in 2017.

The unaudited situation of the SAIIA Western Cape Branch at year-end, 30 June 2016, shows a cash balance [current account, petty cash and money market] of R 82,700. Of this, R 76,443 is attributable to the Quiz account and R 15,259 to the activities of the Branch itself. The Branch is financially in a sound position.

Many of the Branch activities have been made possible because of the generous donations and financial support from the Abe Bailey Trust for the Interschool Quiz, the Konrad-Adenauer- Stiftung for the Careers Evening, and Jan Smuts House, the GARP Office and other co-sponsors for other activities.

We are extremely grateful for the subscriptions of our members, our financial backbone, which enables us to leverage these additional donor funds as we pursue the purpose and vision of SAIIA and the SAIIA Western Cape Branch.

INTERSCHOOL QUIZ

The 24th SAIIA interschool Quiz on International Affairs took place on Tuesday, 26 April 2016, with a total of 50 teams (200 learners) participating. In the words of one teacher coaching the Glendale Secondary team: *'The challenge is great. The kids learn so much. It's a game changer.'*

The quiz is designed to draw learners of all backgrounds from among the schools in the Western Cape into reading world news, and especially news and analysis about South Africa's international affairs. A pre-quiz workshop gives new teams, as well as schools who did not fare well in the previous year, an opportunity to receive coaching and to practise for the quiz through a 'mini-quiz'.

Quiz MC Africa Melane of Cape Talk Radio performed his role with skill and flair. Advocate Murray Bridgman stepped up to the role of Quiz Master with style and a strong delivery. There were key note speeches from the Provincial Minister for Education Debbie Schaefer, and Cape Times columnist Peter Fabricius.

The winners (taking cash prizes for their schools), after two tense tie breaker rounds: The Oracle Academy of Ottery (First place), La Rochelle Girls High of Paarl (Second Place), and Herzlia High School of Highlands Estate, Cape Town (Third place). A group of quiz winners also attended the Young Leaders Conference in July at SAIIA HQ, Johannesburg.

Thanks go to the Abe Bailey Trust, our main sponsor for the 2016 quiz, to the Cape Times for additional support and free newspapers for the schools, to Bishops for the use of the Mallett Centre, and to Pippa Segall, the Quiz Coordinator, for another star performance.

For more details, please see the full quiz report on the SAIIA website, under ['Youth'](#).

UNIVERSITIES: CAREERS EVENING

The annual Careers Evening was held successfully on 14 September at the Kramer Law Building at UCT. This is the 4th year that we have partnered with the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) on this event. The four speakers were excellent and came from diverse backgrounds and included Professor Penny Andrews, UCT's Dean of Law, Siqhamo Ntola, candidate attorney at Cullinan & Associates and international environmental law specialist, Loyiso Kula, co-Chair of the Cape Town branch of the Business Women's Association of South Africa and David Bax, formerly employed by the United Nations. About 200 students attended, from UCT, UWC and University of Stellenbosch. We managed to introduce the students to a large number of interesting exhibitors including British High Commission, Human Rights Media Centre, Webber Wentzel, businesses and individuals who work in the sector of international affairs with our regular exhibitors, SANDF, proving to be very popular amongst the students once again. With the help of Luke White, SAIIA student representative and Kwezi Songoni from the SAIIA GARP office, all the arrangements went smoothly. KAS support was wonderful throughout. We look forward to repeating the event in 2017 and doubling the number of students who attend. It is proposed that next year some eats be provided before the speeches. We

were fortunate with our timing: a week after the Careers evening student protests began in earnest on the campus and we would then have been unable to hold it.

YOUTH@SAIIA

Youth@saiia is the SAIIA youth programme based at Jan Smuts House. With support and encouragement from the Branch it also operates in the Western Cape, depending on funding.

One mini Model United Nations programme (mini-MUN) was held in February hosted by Herzlia High School. The topic for mini-MUN was the World Humanitarian Summit. A total of 30 teams of 3 learners each took part. The 4th Young Leadership Conference was held at the end of June at WITS. 66 learners from all over the country participating for 5 days of intensive debating, committees, resolutions and interesting speakers on topics of international interest. Ten learners from our Western Cape SAIIA youth programme took part.

DIPLOMATIC LIAISON

The Branch continues to enjoy an excellent relationship with the Cape Consular Corps and an increasing number of consular members support our monthly talks. We are encouraging the Consulates to also send their more junior members to our functions as the wide variety of important subjects covered will without doubt be of assistance in developing their careers in the diplomatic service. A renewed effort will be made to enhance the Branch profile at ambassadorial level during February 2017 when most are in Cape Town for the opening of Parliament. This year there has been less cyclical movement and we congratulate Swiss Consul General Bernadette Hunkeler Brown on her election to Dean of the Cape Consular Corps and wish her a fruitful and successful term of office. We welcome newly appointed Consul Generals from Germany, Madagascar and Japan. Consul Yasushi Naito from Japan has been particularly active in Branch affairs and presented a talk on TICAD to Branch members, deputising for Ambassador Hiroki who was unfortunately not able to be present. We continue to develop our friendly relations with the New South Wales, Sydney Branch of the Australian Institute of International Affairs, AIIA that has once again been voted the leading Think Tank in the Oceania Pacific Region and we look forward to further collaborating to our mutual advantage. In conclusion the Branch is working hard to continue to enhance the importance and profile of SAIIA Western Cape amongst the diplomatic community in the Western Cape.

CORPORATE LIAISON

A good working relationship has been established with the Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry. On 12 July SAIIA Chief Executive, Elizabeth Sidiropoulos presented a well-attended excellent address on Prospects and Opportunities of Brexit to a combined lunchtime meeting of the Chamber and SAIIA at the Chamber's new premises. It is hoped to follow upon this arrangement when an appropriate topic is available. We congratulate Associate Professor Mills Soko on his important appointment as Director of UCT Graduate School of Business (GSB) with effect from 1 January 2017. Prof Soko has chaired a number of round table meetings with SAIIA on major issues and has been an associate researcher at SAIIA. His appointment presents a significant opportunity to further enhance collaboration between SAIIA and the GSB. The Branch is collaborating with SAIIA Headquarters at Jan Smuts House to create and develop a strong and sustainable Corporate Membership category for the organisation. We look forward to building a strong corporate membership base at the Branch.

CONCLUSION

We come to the end of a hectic year which has seen a series of international events of seminal importance which have shaken up the status quo and which we have attempted to keep abreast of and present perspectives on for our members by way of lectures and seminars. 2017 promises to be no different with President Trump at the helm of the most powerful country in the world and South Africa teetering on the brink of junk status. Watch this space! In cooperation with GARP and KAS we look forward to bringing seminars, round tables and lectures of great interest to our members.

Our team of volunteers has worked together magnificently during this 82nd year of SAIIA WC's existence and stands ready to meet the challenges of 2017.

The Chair
Sheila Camerer