



# SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR THE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL PROFESSION

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## MARCH NEWSLETTER: NO. 1 OF 2015

Dear registered Professionals, Candidates and Stakeholders

Welcome to the first Newsletter for 2015! SACLAP finds that this first part of the year has sped past and brings you the following update:

SACLAP trusts that you have diarised the following important dates:

### **Important update on the provisional dates to diarise for 2015:**

Date	Event	Venue (Details will be confirmed)
31 March	CPD submissions by registered professional	
9 <sup>th</sup> April	RPL Interviews	Cape Town
11 <sup>th</sup> of April	Candidate workshop	Cape Town
14 <sup>th</sup> of April	RPL Interviews	Gauteng
18 <sup>th</sup> of April	Candidate workshop	Gauteng: University of Pretoria, Boukunde 1-10
6 <sup>th</sup> of June	Professional Registration Examination	Gauteng: University of Pretoria, Boukunde 1-10 Cape Town: to be confirmed
23 <sup>rd</sup> of July	Strategic Plan Review	Gauteng: Offices of the CBE

A detailed calendar setting out all the meetings and activities will be place on the website.

## COUNCIL MATTERS

### **Resignation of public representative**

SACLAP received the resignation of Mr Bright Mhlongo on the 9<sup>th</sup> of February 2015. SACLAP has already engaged with the DPW to process his replacement. We thank Bright for his participation on the Council.

### **Review of Strategic Plan and Risk Management**

The review of the Strategic Plan took place on the 4<sup>th</sup> November 2014. This was attended by the SACLAP task team members, its stakeholders, namely: the Voluntary Association representatives from SALI, ILASA and IERM, as well as representatives from the DPW's Strategic Planning Unit and the Council for the Built Environment's Legal Manager.

Subsequently SACLAP has been advised that the Strategic Plan as well as the Annual Performance Plan need to be in National Treasury format. Training to be able to do this is being provided by the National Treasury from 16 – 20 March 2015. Bernadette Vollmer (the Registrar) and Aso Balan (administrative assistant) will be attending such. Please note accordingly as the training is a full day for five days so responses to queries will be delayed. For urgent matters please contact the Registrar on her cell phone.

## REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

The Registration Committee continues to meet on a monthly basis and the following is a short synopsis of the committee's activities:

### Registration Policy

The Registration Policy is in the process of being amended as per the discussions held in August 2014. The current policy will remain valid until the new policy is approved by the Council, and has gone through the required public participation process and then duly gazetted for implementation. SACLAP will advise when the document is gazetted for public comment.

### Professional Registration Exams:

The Professional Registration Exams take place on the **6 June 2015** in both Gauteng (University of Pretoria ) and Cape Town. The final venue details will be communicated and confirmed closer to the time. The potentially eligible candidates were contacted and reminded to make the necessary submissions in order for the Registration Committee to confirm their eligibility. for their exams. SACLAP will provide feedback to all those that made submissions, by no later than 31 March 2015.

### Interview (Recognition of Prior Learning) Route

The registration by review interviews will take place in April 2015, in Cape Town and Gauteng respectively. Thanks to all those who wished to participate and ensured that their documentation, as per the Registration Policy Document was submitted to SACLAP timeously. This documentation is currently being reviewed by the Registration Committee who will provide feedback shortly and confirm all details for the interview days.

## PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE

The key matters to note are as follows:

The process for the **2015 CPD submissions** are as follows:

- ✓ Registered professionals to submit on or before March 2015 in terms of the current policy and template available on the SACLAP website on the download page.
- ✓ Please note that a fee of R900.00 will be payable to cover costs of the review and couriering of the new certificates.
- ✓ SACLAP will inform registered persons by the 1 July 2015 of the outcome of CPD point allocation and then issue new professional registration certificates.
- ✓ In order to issue the new professional registration certificates, SACLAP requires certified copies of the ID and qualifications. Please send through these documents as a matter of urgency if you have not yet done.

In terms of the **Identification of Work** (IDoW), the Competition Commission met with SACLAP on the 23 January 2015 and requested additional information. This has subsequently been submitted and feedback is awaited. The Commission has indicated that they hope to provide such by the end of March 2015.

The Competition Commission has also received the application for exemption from SACLAP regarding the **Professional Fees Guidelines**. No feedback has been received to date. The last gazetted guideline professional fees are dated April 2013 and are available on the download page of the website under the professional practise heading.

The amendments to the **CPD and Voluntary Association Policies** are still in progress and will be gazetted for public comment in April 2015.

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

### **SACLAP Rates 2015-2016**

The rates associated with activities that SACLAP charges has been updated and gazetted for public comment on Friday 27 February 2015. Comments are to be sent to the Registrar's office no later than 27 March 2015. A copy of this document is attached in the email.

It will be effective as of 1 April 2015 for the 2015 - 2016 financial year. The amended information will be published on the SACLAP website as of 1 April 2015.

### **Financial Sustainability of SACLAP**

SACLAP, together with a DPW official, met with the National Treasury on the 17<sup>th</sup> October 2014, to resolve the matter on additional funding for the financial sustainability of SACLAP. In light of this, the budget for SACLAP was projected for a three year period and the gap funding identified. If you are interested in a copy, please drop the Registrar an email. SACLAP has been requested to provide a further motivation for funding. Feedback is awaited

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

The **Accreditation Policy of SACLAP** is in the process of being compared with the accreditation criteria of the Council for Higher Education (CHE). This may require a few amendments to the current policy. It is anticipated that this policy will be gazetted for comment in June 2015.

SACLAP has also been requested by the CHE to identify individuals that may be willing to undertake training and then be **CHE representatives on accreditation visits**. If you are interested, please email the Registrar.

## **NEW REGISTRATION CATEGORIES TASK TEAM**

After a delay at the start of this year, the task team will commence in the month of March with its activities. A tight programme will be followed to ensure that the new categories of registration are brought about in the second quarter of the new financial year.

## **GENERAL**

The following items are shared for your information:

- **Occupational Health and Safety (OHS)** – SACLAP will present a number of workshops and training on the OHS in 2015 as per the need identified at the workshops held in October 2014. More detailed information on the forthcoming workshops will follow.
- **Client landscape architect agreement:** Just a reminder that the SACLAP client landscape architect agreement was withdrawn in 2010. The PROCSA suite of documents now replaces this agreement. This document can be purchased on the internet from the website [www.procsa.co.za](http://www.procsa.co.za). Just follow the links on this page.
- **Council for the Built Environment**  
The CEO of the CBE, Ms Gugu Mazibuko addressed the SACLAP Council at its Meeting on the 19 February 2015. The key issue is transformation – a challenge for the Landscape Architectural Profession and Sector that could not be sufficiently overstated. SACLAP has to commit to aligning to the CBE

Transformation Plan and also prepare a plan of its own for the next Registrar's Forum in May 2015. If there are any volunteers willing to assist with the preparation of this plan please email the Registrar.

SACLAP reminds you to please contact [registrar@saclap.org.za](mailto:registrar@saclap.org.za) for additional queries and comments on matters affecting the Landscape sector and thanks you for supporting and growing the profession.

Yours sincerely

Barend Smit (President)