



SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR THE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL PROFESSION

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Dear SACLAP registered Professionals and Candidates and Stakeholders

SACLAP trusts that this newsletter finds you well and wishes to update you regarding matters relating to Council mandates and activities.

COUNCIL MATTERS

Replacement of professional representative

SACLAP is happy to welcome Neal Dunstan a professional representative, appointed by the Minister of Public Works on the 11 May 2015. Neal is no stranger to the profession – he has served on the SACLAP council from 2009 – 2013 and was the chair of the Education Committee during that tenure. At a recent Council meeting in August 2015, he was appointed as the chair of the Finance Committee that has been under-resourced for some time.

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

The Registration Committee continues to meet on a monthly basis and is currently attending to the following matters:

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. The Registration Committee anticipates the comment period to be during October 2015.

Professional Registration Examinations 2016

It should be noted that in terms of this amended Registration Policy, there is also an update to the core competency table. This has an impact on the candidates. Council will provide a detailed brief as to what the transitional arrangements will be as soon as these have been finalised. Candidates are however advised to make use of the **free workshop** opportunity next year and those that are eligible to write should try to ensure that they write the professional registration examination, in terms of the August 2011 core competencies, in June next year.

Candidate workshop in Cape Town

9 April 2016

Candidate workshop in Pretoria

16 April 2016

Professional Registration examination for the landscape architectural profession is on 4 June 2016

SACLAP will also host a series of mentor workshops early in the next financial year (May / June 2016) to brief all involved of the new core competencies and amended registration processes.

Mentors are requested to please assist candidates proactively with the preparation for the professional registration examinations and submit the required reports timeously to SACLAP.

Professional Registration Examination outcome 2015

The Professional Registration Exams took place on the 6th June 2015 in Gauteng (University of Pretoria) and Cape Town (University of Cape Town). Twelve eligible candidates sat the exams and SACLAP is very happy to announce that ten of the twelve candidates have passed the exams. Nine are eligible to register as professional landscape architects and one as a professional landscape technologist. The two candidates that did not pass the exams can either register for exams in 2016 or they can register as professional landscape technologists.

SACLAP welcomes all the new professionals and looks forward to their contribution towards building and strengthening the landscape sector.

Interview (Recognition of Prior Learning) Route

SACLAP planned to hold a second round of interviews in Gauteng in August 2015. Due to the lack of response from the sector, the interviews did not take place. These reviews will now take place in March 2016. Should you know of someone interested in registering through this process, kindly contact the Registrar for more information.

The **provisional dates** for the landscape architectural professions **RPL interviews** are as follows:

Gauteng: 16 March 2016

Cape Town: 9 March 2016

All individuals wishing to participate need to submit their documents to SACLAP no later than **29 January 2016**.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE

The following key matters should be noted:

The process for the 2015 CPD submissions and new Registration Certificates

SACLAP is happy to report that the CPD submissions for 2015 are now completed and the report was ratified by the Council on the 26th August 2015. In summary:

- Professionals whose CPD points were due in 2015 had their submissions reviewed and those approved had their registration renewed and new registration certificates issued.
- Professionals, whose CPD points were due in 2015 but were not approved for various reasons, were given an extension for one year to make up their outstanding points. These are to be re-submitted by the end of March 2016.
- Professionals whose CPD points are due in 2016, 2017, 2018 will only be issued with certificates then. To confirm the year in which you need to submit, please refer to the table on the SACLAP website on the download page under Professional Practice.

The Registrar's office kindly requests all professionals to please acknowledge receipt of their certificates if you have not done so yet, via email to administrator@saclap.org.za with your name in the subject line. This will be highly appreciated.

Competition Commission

The Competition Commission met with SACLAP on the 4th of June 2015 with regards to the progress relating to the exemption application for **Guideline Professional Fees**. Since then, the Competition Commission posed another list of queries to SACLAP which is currently being attended to.

No feedback has been received regarding the outcome of the Identification of Work process.

Continued Professional Development and Voluntary Association Policies

The amendments to the above mentioned policies have reached conclusion and gazetting for public comment is anticipated in October 2015 subject to resources and funding.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Financial Sustainability of SACLAP

SACLAP received an official response on the 26th of August 2015 from the DPW regarding a request for funds earmarked for SACLAP. However, the final availability of this funding is still subject to an approval from the National Treasury. With this delay in funding from DPW the financial sustainability of SACLAP remains a serious concern in the medium and long term.

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) and this is currently being amended and worked on. It is anticipated that this policy will be gazetted in October 2015 along with the Registration, CPD and VA policies, subject to resources and funding.

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. Responses to date have been minimal.

Academic Forum

The SACLAP Academic Forum replaced the ILASA Forum meetings and two constructive meetings were held since its inception earlier this year.

NEW REGISTRATION CATEGORIES

The development of the new registration categories process is back on track. SACLAP has met with the IERM and SALI and numerous meetings have been set up with both future voluntary associations for September 2015 and all stakeholders will be updated in forthcoming newsletters.

GENERAL

The following items are shared for your information:

- **Occupational Health and Safety (OHS)** – the workshops have been put on hold subject to funding issues.
- **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. These

documents can be purchased on the internet from the website www.procsa.co.za. Just follow the links on this page.

- **Council for the Built Environment**

Advocate Pieter Fourie, has been appointed as the Acting CEO of the CBE since the beginning of April 2015.

- **Meeting with the DPW**

SACLAP held a constructive meeting with the advisor to the DPW Minister in June 2015. On the 26th of August 2015, SACLAP received a letter from the DPW committing funding to SACLAP in the tune of R621 000 over three years, to address prevailing challenges. The budget approved will cover the 2015/2016, 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 financial years. Unfortunately, the transfer of payments will only be effected after obtaining the concurrence by the Minister of Finance.

- **Support to the Registrar's office**

Due to funding challenges, the personal assistant to the Registrar has been retrenched with effect from the end of September 2015. SACLAP thanks Aso Balan for all her hard work and dedication and wishes her well in her future endeavours.

SACLAP reminds you to please contact 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)