



# SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR THE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL PROFESSION

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## Newsletter No. 1 of 2011

Dear registered professionals and candidates,

SACLAP would like to wish you a prosperous 2011!

This year for SACLAP has started with a bang and many challenges. The Department: Public Works has requested SACLAP to participate in a process of ensuring that our "ducks are in a row" as it were. Due to the SACLAP resource constraints many things are in line, but others require improvement.

As a result of this process SACLAP has embarked on developing a Strategic Plan for the years 2011 – 2014. The aim of this **three year plan** is to set the tone for the action items that need to be addressed in order to assist government with transformation and meeting the national imperatives. This plan together with the "costing of the mandate – SACLAP's legal responsibility" will be on completion presented to the Minister for funding.

Through the newsletter, SACLAP will continue to communicate with its registered professionals and candidates. Please participate in the processes of providing input and comment as and when requested as this will ensure that the profession can grow. Without your active participation the future of the profession does not look rosy – but jointly this can change. It will also ensure that you are kept up to speed with the latest changes and developments.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### REGISTRATION ISSUES

The annual examinations will be held on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March 2011. SACLAP trusts that all candidates are well on their way in terms of preparations. SACLAP wish all candidates well in the endeavour to pass the professional registration examinations.

The Registration by Review of Landscape Technologists commenced in the final quarter of 2010. Few applications were received. The interview process will be concluded in January and the results will be available thereafter.

An amended final draft Registration Document that sets out all aspects relating to Registration is posted on the website. Please provide SACLAP with any comments on this document as soon as possible. A section to assist Mentors and Candidates has also been included.

### CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SACLAP has been requested to align its CPD policy with the framework of the Council for the Built Environment (CBE). This framework is in the final stages of approval. As soon as it has been concluded the SACLAP amended policy will be circulated to all for comment and then final ratification by SACLAP. Please note that this implies that the CPD submissions will only be required to be submitted later in the year (2011) and not between March and May. SACLAP will advise soonest as to the amended deadline. Please do have your CPD documentation in order as this is one of the requirements of professional registration and failure to comply could result in deregistration.

The Registrar would like to apologise for not returning copies of CPD submissions documents with comments as requested by some individuals. Hopefully, as the resourcing aspect improves, this information can be disseminated.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Registered persons and candidates are notified that there will be a market related increase in the annual registration fees that are payable. The predominant reason for this is the additional administrative requirements that SACLAP has to address as requested by the Minister as well as the appointment of the Registrar.

The Professional Practice and Fees Protocol has also been amended and completed. This document is also available on the website.

Please note that the recommended professional hourly rates will also be gazetted soon as soon as possible.

### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

The accreditation workshops have taken place and progress has been made in amending the Accreditation Documentation in terms of processes and criteria in terms of the validation of courses and programs offered by Tertiary Institutions. A further stakeholder workshop has take place on 1 February 2011. This suite of documents is nearing completion and will be made available to the registered professionals and candidates for comment in due course.

### **COUNCIL MATTERS**

Council members have a large task to undertake all that they are mandated to do (as per the Act). We are a very small profession and all need to take hands and work together in fulfilling the mandates. It has now become time that registered professionals realise that they have a social responsibility towards the profession and not only the few Council members. Registered professionals will be called on to assist on standing and at hoc committees for which they will receive CPD credits.

### **COUNCIL FOR THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The CBE is hopefully going to become the Council that it was intended to be with through the leadership of the new Chair, Portia Tau-Sekati who is working very hard to ensure the proper functioning of the CBE administration and the various committees.

Attached also please find the first of a series of articles from the CBE. The other articles in the series will follow in due course.

### **IDENTIFICATION OF WORK DOCUMENT**

In late November the CBE together with the professional Councils embarked on the process of resolving the overlaps between the professions. This process is taking longer than anticipated to resolve.

The draft Regulations are well advanced and will be promulgated for comment as soon as the overlaps have been addressed to a satisfactory level.

### **PROFESSIONAL PRACTISE MATTERS**

The Code of Conduct has been reviewed to ensure that it is in line with the CBE framework and also takes into account the Identification of Work. The draft thereof is available on the website. It will be published shortly in the gazette for comment where after it will be amended if necessary and then come into effect.

The Disciplinary Process has also been put in place. The draft thereof is available on the website. It will be published shortly in the gazette for comment where after it will be amended if necessary and then come into effect.

Please contact the Registrar should you feel Council can be of assistance to you.

Your faithfully,

Hendrik van der Hoven  
*President of Council*