



REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

13 December 2011

2011 IN BRIEF

SAIIA Western Cape has enjoyed a variety of speakers and programs in 2011, ranging from the UN, the Sudan and development, to Israel, France, climate change and Burma. One talk at UCT was followed by a snap debate on development issues, organised by the Branch student liaison with the UCT debating society. The annual interschool quiz reached its 19th year and continues to expand in scope with significantly increased funding from branding sponsor Chevron/Caltex. And, after a strategic planning process and negotiations with the national office, the planned collaboration with the Institute's Cape Town-based Governance of African Resources Program (GARP) will next year include up to four jointly run public meetings in 2012.

BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MATTERS

Thanks to a reliable core and to the excellent support of the Branch Project Coordinator Pippa Segall, the Branch Executive Committee has carried out its responsibilities competently once again. Lidia Hall continued to serve as the branch honorary treasurer in a most competent and congenial manner. I proffer my great thanks to the committee members for efforts expended in their volunteer roles for the branch.

Subsequent to the AGM in late 2010, the following changes occurred during the year: Alex de Jager, a master's student at UCT, took over early in the year as the student liaison; Alex Benkenstein from GARP joined the committee as a representative of that team under Program Director Kathryn Sturman, and Yusuf (Joe) Emeran, recently retired President of the Cape Chamber of Commerce, was co-opted onto the committee.

A strategic planning process was initiated mid-way through the year, in view of expected changes in the committee make-up, to re-evaluate the operations of the branch, and to consider the proposed increased collaboration with SAIIA's GARP team in offering jointly run events through the year. The resulting agreement envisions up to four such events annually, while the Branch will continue to organise the balance of the eight events promised to Branch members each year. Branch members will continue to enjoy the benefits offered in previous years, but will now have the advantage of the expanded network of speakers and panellists that GARP can bring to the table at SAIIA events in Cape Town. I trust this arrangement will serve to enhance the reach and impact of SAIIA in the Western Cape and the benefits to Branch members.

PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES

The following events featured on the Branch programme of activities in 2011.

23 February 2011	Ambassador Kaire Mbuende	Africa and the United Nations – Reform, Resistance and Responsibility
1 March 2011	Dr Tim Murithi	The Birth of a Nation: An Independent South Sudan and the Prospects for Peacebuilding and Development
28 March 2011	Tom Wheeler, Pieter Wolvaardt and Werner Scholtz	From Verwoerd to Mandela: South African Diplomats Remember

13 April 2011	Dr Brian Levy	Democracy and Development
17 May 2011	Tim Hughes and Africa Melane	19 th Interschool Quiz
7 June 2011	Dr Petrus de Kock	Upheaval in the Nile Basin: a tour from Lake Albert, through Southern Sudan, to Cairo
29 August 2011	Ben Pogrud	Is Israel the New Apartheid?
19 September 2011	Dr Richard Moncrieff	France and Africa: What was it all about and is it changing?
20 October 2011	Peter Draper	Trade and climate change – implications for Southern Africa?
17 November 2011	Her Britannic Majesty's Consul General Mr Chris Trott	Democracy in Burma: the historical context
5 December 2011	Prof Daniel Bach (co-hosted with GARP)	Can the neo-patrimonial state in Africa be developmental?
13 December 2011	AGM and Rear-Adm Philip Schoultz	The SANDF: South Africa's involvement in operations on the Continent

ADMINISTRATION (Pippa Segall)

SAILA head office has kindly offered to allow the branches to use its new online database where all members' details can be captured. Newsletters and notices of meetings will be sent using this database free of charge to the branch. This will result in a small saving to the branch since we will no longer need to be buying credit for email distribution services via Graphicmail, which we have been using for a number of years. We will pilot distribution using this database in the near future.

MEMBERSHIP (Martyn Trainor)

The overall membership pool of the branch has remained more or less constant. The individual and family membership numbers are slightly down, but the student numbers have increased. A significant proportion of the people attending Branch events are visitors. The Branch, with Chevron/Caltex as co-sponsor, has given institutional membership to the 48 schools that participated in the Chevron/Caltex Inter-school Quiz. Due to an increase in costs, membership fees for the 2011 – 12 year were increased: individual and consular R195 [from R190]; family/donor R275 [from R255]; students R60 [from R55]; and institutional/educational R150 [from R140]. Honorary memberships went to Jane Saner and Grace Daniels, on retirement after several years as active members.

Category	2011	2010	2009
Corporate/nominees	11	17	25
Diplomatic/consular	27	30	37
Institutional/educational	55*	10	11
Family/donor	38	38	50
Fellow/complementary	10	3	1
Honorary	6	4	3
Individual	79	93	98
Members of Parliament	32**	32**	32**
Students	34	18	22
TOTAL	292	245	279

*includes 48 schools. Co-sponsored with Chevron/Caltex **nominal number

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 2011 Interschool Quiz expenses were again covered by sponsorship. We owe Caltex/Chevron, the branding sponsor, much gratitude for its support, which was greatly increased this year enabling the quiz committee to offer workshops and other preparatory activities to developing schools. 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.

Increased subscription rates were necessary to support the activities of the Branch. While we ended the financial year with a slight deficit (R127), the financial position of the Branch is secure.

The Branch also received financial support from Jan Smuts House to cover the costs of two speakers travelling from Johannesburg, for which we extend thanks.

WEBSITE/TECHNICAL SUPPORT/ADVERTISING (Chris Inskip)

SAIIA Headquarters, at Jan Smuts House in Johannesburg, continue to provide valued support by including a page for the Western Cape Branch on their website www.saiia.org.za. This page contains information on upcoming Branch activity, and makes Branch documents (Annual Reports, the membership application form, newsletters) available. SAIIA HQ also includes mention of our upcoming events in their emailed Members Newsletter. We appreciate the continuing support of local newspapers and radio stations, which have carried mention of our upcoming events.

The Centre for the Book provides a venue for many of our meetings and we appreciate the assistance of their staff on these occasions, as well as recent availability of improved PA equipment.

DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY (Rob Mackay)

The diplomatic community in Cape Town continues in its support for SAIIA and regularly attends and participates in our meetings. Equally SAIIA is privileged to attend national day celebrations and other activities hosted by members of the diplomatic community. We plan to address a meeting of the Consular Corps to better publicize SAIIA WC events among diplomats. 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 (Tim Hughes)

A series of meetings with Parliamentary Leadership was convened for the National Director. This included meetings with the Chairs of the Portfolio Committees on International Relations and Defence and Military Veterans. Meetings were held with the leader of the Democratic Alliance and COPE as well as their respective national spokespersons. Briefings were also conducted with Parliament's research Department and its Secretariat.

Parliamentary studio commentary was provided on SAFM immediately after the State of the Nation address. The debates on the State of the Nation were attended, as well as the delivery of the National Budget and Medium Term Expenditure Review.

Courtesy meetings were held with the Deputy Minister of Finance, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, the Minister of Science and Technology, the Deputy Minister of Sport and Recreation, as well as the Director General of Trade and Industry.

A lunch time meeting was held with Minister Rob Davies and discussions held with the Deputy Minister of International Relations and Co-operation. A meeting was also held with the Deputy Minister of Tourism. An interview was conducted with the Parliamentary Advisor of the Deputy President.

A meeting was held with the Western Cape Provincial Minister responsible for International Relations.

Parliamentary briefings were provided to the Danish Ambassador, the Ambassador of Sweden, the Ambassador and Deputy Ambassador of Norway, the Ambassador and Deputy Ambassador of Finland, the Ambassador of Switzerland, the Consul General of the United States as well as the Consul General of the United Kingdom

CORPORATE COMMUNITY (Anthony Silberberg)

The world's current economic woes have resulted in diminished opportunities for business development by South African companies in their traditional markets of North America and Europe. Fortunately the emerging markets, and Africa in particular seem to be less affected and it is forecast that a healthy 5% per annum GDP growth can be expected from Africa through to 2015. It is

understandable that many Cape Companies are eager to expand into the rapidly growing African market.

With this in mind I attended several talks and discussions on business and investment opportunities in African countries during the year. It is clear that SAIIA, with its focus on research on Africa has much to offer business and small business in particular. Small and Medium Size Enterprises (SMME"s) that are unable to afford their own research investigations can benefit from a soon-to-be rolled out SAIIA Western Cape Small Business Membership in the form of attendance at seminars and access to selected research papers that are made available from time to time.

INTERSCHOOL QUIZ (DVD to follow) (Mary Carson)

2011 was an exciting year for the Interschool Quiz which was held on 17 May. Chevron had increased their support from R63 000 in 2010 to R150 000 in 2011 for a three year period. The Committee comprised of Pippa Segall and Mary Carson were therefore able to develop the Quiz to new horizons. Fifty schools participated this year, including 15 less resourced schools and thus fulfilled the objective to further create interest and raise awareness among a wider range of learners of the importance of international affairs.

Before the Quiz Pippa and Mary visited many of the new Workshop Schools to familiarise them with the work of the Institute and give them motivation and encouragement to participate. For the first time we ran a workshop for the teachers. Tim Hughes tutored these teachers and ran a short quiz for them. The learners' workshop followed later in March and was run by Martha Bridgman. These workshops were of enormous value and we were thrilled to see how two participants, Elsie River and Masibambane, did exceptionally well at the quiz. From among the lower performing schools in 2010, Hector Peterson and Sans Souci improved notably.

Further developments included all schools receiving free membership to the Branch for a year. They may attend our meetings and receive useful publications from SAIIA, which can be posted onto the large Caltex/SAIIA notice boards which all the schools received. An important DVD has been produced and will be used by both Chevron and SAIIA for their future purposes.

Bishops were the winners this year. Tied second were Livingstone, Jan van Riebeeck and Westerford. Tim Hughes was the Question Master, Africa Melane the Quiz Master, Martha Bridgman our Judge, and we had many valuable volunteer helpers from SAIIA WC, GARP, Bishops and friends.

We thank firstly Chevron for their increased encouragement in what we are doing. Further thanks go to our partners at Bishops, who give us the training venues for the two workshops as well as the Mallett Centre for the Quiz; to the Cape Times for delivery of the papers to the schools; to the 20 publishers in Cape Town for the record number of educational books that were presented to the schools on the night; and to our many other sponsors in kind. We also thank the Hall family for their untiring assistance with tabulating the results of the quiz each year.

UNIVERSITIES (Alex de Jager)

Through advertising by a combination of mailing out notices and placing posters on notice boards, student attendance at events at the start of the year was high. Beyond targeting Politics (and in particular postgraduate Politics) students, advertising was extended to student organisations with a particular interest in the work that SAIIA does. These included the UCT Debating Union, the History and Current Affairs Society, and the Model United Nations Society. This generated a much broader awareness of SAIIA amongst the student body. There was also an event hosted at UCT which was more specifically aimed at students, which included a talk by World Bank economist Dr Brian Levy and followed by a short debate by the UCT Debating Union.

Although there was some attendance by students from UWC, a greater effort could be made in future years to build more permanent connections with other campuses in the Western Cape. Furthermore, many students opt to come to single events that are of interest to them, rather than sign on for year-long membership. This should be considered when discussing how to approach students with regard to advertising SAIIA, as well as how to price membership and attendance to talks. Finally, continued relations with student organisations is advisable, as it increases the awareness of SAIIA amongst the student body and draws a diverse group of students who have a keen interest in the issues which SAIIA deals with.

CONCLUSION: (Martha Bridgman)

SAIIA Western Cape has, since 1934 when the institute was founded, carried out the vision of SAIIA's founders to generate public discussion on issues of South Africa's foreign policy and international affairs. The Branch met that charge well in 2011, I believe.

In looking ahead at 2012, there are a few changes to be announced at this meeting: With Alex de Jager moving on from UCT, upcoming UCT honours student and past SRC president Sizwe Mpofu-Walsh has agreed to fill the role of student liaison. Lidia Hall will be retiring as the bookkeeper after a stint of nearly seven years; Rob Mackay will likewise be standing down after nearly eight years as the Branch diplomatic liaison to be succeeded by Ms Arifa Parkar, and Tim Hughes will leave his post as Branch parliamentary liaison, although he will maintain his involvement with the Branch interschool quiz, he assures us.

Finally, I will be standing down as Branch Chair. I made a call for nominations for a successor at the last AGM, you may recall, in the firm belief that it was time to hand on to new leadership. I believe the nominee subsequently identified will bring a new energy to take the branch on from strength to strength. That nominee is Joe Emeran. His long years of work among the business community in Cape Town, and his international exposure through various involvements, will bring a new perspective to the role, and will no doubt bolster Branch efforts to roll out a small business membership option in the foreseeable future. I have made myself available to serve on the SAIIA WC interschool quiz committee, and will of course continue to be an active member in attending Branch events.

After nine years in this role, I thank you for the privilege of serving SAIIA Western Cape and, in the interests of broadening the public debate on matters of international affairs in our day, wish the new Branch Executive Committee well.

Martha Bridgman

Chair, SAIIA Western Cape

13 December 2011

ELECTION OF WESTERN CAPE BRANCH COMMITTEE:

The following is the proposed slate for 2012.

Joe Emeran	Chair
Ms Arifa Parkar	Diplomatic Liaison
Sizwe Mpofu-Walsh	Universities Liaison
Anthony Silberberg	Corporate Liaison
Martyn Trainor	Membership Portfolio
Mary Carson	Interschool Quiz Committee Chair
Chris Inskip	Technical Support/Logistics Portfolio
Dave Wheeler	Minutes Secretary