

REPORT TO THE 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

2019 ACTIVITIES IN BRIEF

During another active year we achieved a total of 10 Speaker's meetings as well as our two youth events: the annual Interschools Quiz and the Careers Evening at UCT. Again, we have tried to focus on important trends and events internationally as well as on our own continent and their relevance for South Africa. BREXIT and the UK's relationship with Europe have been dominant themes in international affairs this year and so we kicked off in January with an insightful address by arch-Brexitteer Robert Jackson – former Minister for Higher Education in both the Thatcher and Major governments and nowadays a swallow in the Western Cape – on the future of the European Union. It was one of our best attended sessions.

Japan has been in the news a lot this year with various world summits and world sporting events being held there – our President's visit to the final of the Rugby World Cup was his third this year – and so we were happy to host Japanese Ambassador Norio Maruyama to address us on Japan and South Africa's shared interests – apart from rugby. It was another well attended talk.

We also hosted India's Consul General in Cape Town, Abishek Shukla who spoke about the ties between our two countries, past present and future. He has now returned to India after 2 years in the Mother City to join Prime Minister Modi's staff.

This year we have hosted a number prominent academics addressing various aspects of foreign policy such as Dr Jan Erk on secession and separatism in Africa; Dr Chris Williams on evaluating SA's foreign policy after 25 years of democracy; Dr Wilmot James on surviving global catastrophes; Professor Faizel Ismail on the new African continental free trade agreement; Professor Lyal White on Brazil and populism in South America and Tim Hughes on corporate diplomacy. All gave us a lot of food for thought.

The 27th Interschools Quiz – always a highlight of our year - was held once again on 22nd August at Bishops with 47 school teams participating and a successful Careers Evening with some 250 students and exhibitors participating was held at UCT in September. Full reports about these events as well as a full table of events appear below.

BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OPERATIONS

Our core group of Exco members have worked hard this year to ensure that our programme was carried out. We have been joined by some new members including Peggy de Kock, Jeremy Wiley and John Hauser. My own portfolio, Diplomatic Liaison, in which I am now joined by Rob Mackay kept

me busy attending embassy and consular functions and recruiting speakers from the diplomatic corps. I am also looking after the Parliamentary Liaison portfolio which regrettably is not very active right now since the Foreign Affairs spokesperson of the Official Opposition, Stevens Mokgalapa left Parliament to become the Mayor of the Tshwane Metro. Members may recall his interesting address of African Liberalism last year. Our vice chair, Martyn Trainor has kept membership up to date and he and his "company of volunteers" handle all the preparations and arrangements before and after our events. We owe this dedicated group which includes veteran member Chris Inskip, Richard Morris, Lee Hall, Peggy de Kock, Stephen Craven, John & Joy Hauser, Gail & Mark Ogram and Luke White who all work together with Pippa Segall, a big debt of gratitude. Prof. Chris Saunders ably assisted by Luke White who deals with student liaison at UCT looked after the Universities portfolio and Luke did a great job chairing the Careers evening. Richard Morris who joined Exco last year has a firm grip on our finances and accounts for which we are very grateful.

Dr Martha Bridgman in cooperation with Pippa Segall and her team did a great job as usual with the 27th interschool quiz. Hayley Mclellan of the Two Oceans Aquarium was keynote speaker and the charming Africa Melane of Cape Talk Radio MC'd the quiz as usual. A particular thanks go to David Lin, head of the Taipei Liaison Office in Cape Town who made a generous donation of tablets to each member of the winning team.

Pippa Segall, our branch and project coordinator again had a busy year and assisted the branch by keeping the books up to date. Her hard work on the successful Careers evening is greatly appreciated.

Our particular thanks to the Konrad Adenauer Foundation and the new head of their liaison office in Cape Town, Christiaan Endres who partner with SAIIA WC on many of our events. We believe we have established a firm and fruitful relationship and we are very grateful for their support and also for their generous sponsorship for the Careers evening.

We continue to be grateful to the Mountain Club of South Africa, Cape Town section for the continued use of their club at reasonable rates and the kind assistance of their members at our events.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership numbers of the Branch [see table below] have dropped slightly but remain healthy. There is a steady flow of new members.

Honorary Memberships for outstanding contributions to SAIIA over extended periods were conferred on John and Wanda Patten, Sara and Alec Pienaar, and Dave and Liz Wheeler.

There was a small, below inflation, increase in the subscription rates for the 2019/2020. Visitor fees were increased to R60 per person [students R30] to ensure that visitors also contribute to the overheads of the Branch.

Membership Table as at 18 Oct 19

Note 1. The figures for 2019 and the preceding years have been adjusted so that the nominal figures relating to Members of Parliament [44] and Schools [50 schools] are NOT included in the overall membership total.

Note 2. The key revenue producing categories [Diplomatic; Institutional; Family/Member Plus 1; Individual; and Student] are shown in bold.

Category	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Corporate nominees for JSH	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	3
Diplomatic	9	7	7	7	3	X	X	X
Institutional	4	4	4	X	X	X	X	X
School	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal
Family/Member Plus 1 [2 people]	92	86	74	76	90	76	56	30
Fellow/ Complimentary	10	10	10	10	10	7	7	5
Honorary	12	8	8	8	8	6	6	5
Individual	56	76	73	82	77	64	64	73
Members of Parliament	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal	Nominal
Students	13	18	15	20	22	15	12	10
TOTAL	201	214	196	208	215	173	150	126
TOTAL: REVENUE PRODUCING	174	191	173	185	192	155	132	113

List of events for 2019:

1	21 Feb 19	The European Union and its future	Robert Jackson	SAIIA at MC	108
2	14 Mar 19	The Scots, Catalans and Quebecois of Africa: studying secession, separatism, and border change in uncertain	Dr Jan Erk	SAIIA at MC. Sponsored	62

		times		by KAS	
3	2 May 19	Views on Japan and South Africa's shared interests	Mr Norio Maruyama, Ambassador designate of Japan	SAIIA at MC. Food from Japanese Embassy	106
4	27 May 19	India – South Africa ties: Past, present and future	Abhishek Shukla. Indian Consul General in Cape Town	SAIIA at MC. Food from Indian CG	65
5	13 Jun 19	Re-evaluating South African Foreign Policy studies 25 years on	Dr Chris Williams	SAIIA at MC. Sponsored by JSH	65
6	4 Jul 19	Solidarity or Death? Surviving global catastrophes.	Dr Wilmot James	SAIIA at MC	64
7	15 Aug 19	How can the Continental Free Trade Agreement benefit all African countries	Prof Faisal Ismail	SAIIA at MC Sponsored by KAS	76
****	22 Aug 19	Inter-School Quiz	Quiz Committee	SAIIA at Bishops. Sponsored by the Abe Bailey Trust	250 [Ballpark figure]
8	17 Sep 19	Corporate Diplomacy: What is it and why is it important?	Tim Hughes	SAIIA at MC Sponsored by KAS	46
****	19 Sep 19	Careers Evening for Students	Careers Evening Committee	SAIIA at UCT. Sponsored by KAS	250 [Ballpark figure]
9	11 Nov 19	Brazil's Populist Pendulum: The outcome and lessons from the failure of populism in Latin America for economic progress and	Prof Lyal White	SAIIA at MC. Sponsored by KAS	???

		democratic change.			
10	26 Nov 19	South Africa in the Era of the Clash of Civilisations	RW Johnson	SAIIA at MC. [AGM]	???

FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial situation of the SAIIA Western Cape Branch at year-end, 30 June 2019, is satisfactory. The bank and cash balances [market linked account, current account and petty cash] totalled R 212,079. Of this, R 19,080 relates to the Branch account, R 184,099 relates to the Quiz account and the remainder of R 8,900 represents 2019/2020 subscriptions received in advance at 30 June 2019.

The large balance in the Quiz account is due to the bulk of the 2019 quiz expenditure taking place in the 2019/2020 SAIIA financial year. The quiz account balance is significantly reduced after the branch financial year end.

For the year, the Branch receipts exceeded expenses by R 8,794 but this was mainly due to a recovery from KAS in July 2018 that related to an event near the end of the 2017 / 2018 SAIIA financial year. This means that overall the branch was run at close to a breakeven for the year to 30 June 2019.

We are, as ever, grateful to the membership for the funding from subscriptions. This is the basis of the Branch's financial well-being and we will strive to continue hosting events which members feel add value.

We also greatly appreciate the substantial sponsorship we receive from the Abe Bailey Trust for the Inter-School Quiz, the Konrad-Adenauer Foundation for the Careers Evening and several joint events. We likewise value the continued contributions of SAIIA head office towards our WC branch administration and events that they agree to support.

The committee wishes to improve the financial sustainability of the branch through enabling donations or bequests to be made to the branch. At the option of the benefactor such contributions would be added either to the "Sustainability fund" or to general branch funds. The purpose of the "Sustainability fund" would be to accumulate and invest these capital inflows and only use the income generated from the related investments. The committee is in the course of exploring possible arrangements with SAIIA head office that might permit such benefactors to be provided with a Section 18A certificate that will enable an income tax deduction to be claimed.

UNIVERSITIES

The annual SAIIA-KAS Careers Evening was held successfully on 19 September at the University of Cape Town, the intention of which was to provide a platform for university students in the fields of international relations, politics, economics, journalism and law to gain a better understanding of the postgraduate and career opportunities available to them. The Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) generously sponsored the event for the seventh year.

The programme began earlier in the afternoon this year, with students interacting with exhibitors from the Department of Environmental Affairs, Cenfri, Centre for Constitutional Rights, HSRC, KAS, Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance, Study in Sweden, US Consulate, British High Commission, Parliamentary Monitoring Group, Sentinel Trust, Action Volunteers Africa, ALPS Resilience, AGIS, Consulate General of France, SA Navy and the South African Institute of International Affairs.

The speakers were thoroughly engaging and kept the audience enthralled throughout the evening with their entertaining and insightful advice on careers in the international sphere. V/Adm. Martyn Trainor gave the opening remarks and was followed by speakers including SAIIA's own Mike Spicer, Hanne Nyokangi (Dell Young Leaders Programme), Mabel Sitole (Building Bridges Programme), and Thokozani Zulu (Consultant, PDG). Pippa Segall and the SAIIA interns Emma-Jane Fuller and Priyanka Ukabhai, along with Christiaan Endres and his team from KAS, as well as a cohort of volunteers from the branch, all contributed to a seamless and successful evening.

We look forward to working together with KAS again in 2020, when the event will be hosted at Stellenbosch University for the first time.

SAIIA INTERSCHOOL QUIZ

The 27th Annual SAIIA Western Cape Interschool Quiz on International Affairs was held on Thursday, 22 August, at Bishops (Diocesan School for Boys), and featured Ms Desiree Kosciulek of Youth@SAIIA speaking about the Youth Advocacy campaign of UNICEF and SAIIA, and Ms Hayley McLellan, an environmental activist (rethinkthebag.org and the Two Oceans Aquarium) as keynote speaker. Africa Melane of Cape Talk Radio was once again a dynamic Quiz MC, with Advocate Murray Bridgman serving as quizmaster. The true stars of the evening were the school teams participating. Congratulations to teams from St Cyprian's, who took first prize, Oracle Academy of Ottery who came second and Fish Hoek High School who took third place. Westerford High School was awarded the Cape Times trophy for 'Most Improved'.

On behalf of the Quiz Committee, we again thank the Abe Bailey Trust, our major funder for the 2019 quiz, as well as the many other donors who made the quiz possible. A big thanks again to Phil Court and Bishops for the provision of venues and technical support, for both the quiz and pre-quiz workshop that took place on 20 July and included 15 new or developing schools. Pippa Segall's excellent work to pull all the details together must also be noted.

A full report on the 2019 quiz will be posted on the Western Cape Branch page of the SAIIA website.

CAPE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND SAIIA

SAIIA Western Cape branch has an informal bi-lateral relationship with the Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry represented during 2019 on the SAIIA WC committee by Jeremy Wiley. SAIIA WC has been represented at various meetings or receptions hosted by the Cape Chamber for international trade delegations. A strategy on how best to develop a firm relationship with corporate institutions in the Western Cape needs to be developed. SAIIA WC and the Cape Chamber will strive to strengthen and expand their relationship to mutual benefit in 2020.

CONCLUSION

This year our programme has had a fairly academic slant to it with some in-depth discussions on various aspects of foreign policy, particularly with regard to Africa.

We have also managed to complete our goal of hosting diplomatic representatives from all the BRICS countries – last year it was China and Russia, this year India and Brazil.

Together with our partners and sponsors and our team of volunteers we look forward to meeting the challenges of 2020 with some more interesting talks and events in fulfilment of our mandate and to ensure that our members and the growing number of guests remain engaged with and entertained by foreign affairs.

The Chair

Sheila Camerer