

**MINE METALLURGICAL MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION
OF SOUTH AFRICA**

COUNCIL : 2002/2003

President

M M Valenta
Western Platinum Refinery
(until March 2003)

S S Smit
Avgold - Target Division
(from March 2003)

Vice-President

S S Smit
Avgold - Target Division
(until March 2003)

N J S Steenekamp
Lonmin Platinum
(from March 2003)

Immediate Past President

S R Flatman
Anglogold – ERGO

Elected Members (until 31 August 2003)

G Donoghue
Anglogold – Mponeng Mine

D Tudor
Anglo Operations Ltd – Coal Division

J E Wepener
Impala Platinum Ltd

Elected Members (until 31 August 2004)

N G C Blackham
De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd

G A Cormack
Kloof G M Co Ltd

R McGregor
Modikwa Platinum

District Representatives

Central District

C C Horsley
Rand Refinery Ltd
(until May 2003)

D D J Clemente
Harmony G M Co Ltd – Randfontein Division
(from July 2003)

Eastern District

K McMillan
SA Coal Estates

Rustenburg District

N J S Steenekamp
Lonmin Platinum

Southern District

J J Watt
Harmony G M Co Ltd

Co-opted

M M Valenta

Hatch Africa

Secretary

M Mason

Offices

Chamber of Mines of South Africa

REPORT OF COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2002

Presented to members of the Association on the occasion of the Twentieth Annual General Meeting held at the St Helena Club, Welkom, on Friday, 31 October 2003.

FINANCE

Financial Statements

The financial statement appended to this report shows that revenue for the year amounted to **R 240 224**, made up of subscriptions received from members during the year, interest earned from funds deposited with the Chamber of Mines Investment Services and revenue earned on the sale of Association publications and memorabilia, plus the surplus arising from the seminars and social events held during the year under review.

Expenditure amounted to **R 228 330**. Accumulated funds at the beginning of the financial year amounted to **R 303 172** and, with the transfer of the current year's net surplus, an amount of **R 315 064** will be carried forward to the new year.

Subscriptions

In terms of the powers vested in it by the Association's Constitution and Rules, Council fixed subscriptions for the year under review at **R 400** for Ordinary Members, **R 375** for Associate and Affiliate Members, **R 60** for Student Members and **R 50** for Retired Members.

Although the Chamber of Mines' publication subsidy will remain in place for the foreseeable future, the subsidy towards operating costs has now been phased out completely, therefore Council's decision to increase membership fees in line with inflation was taken in order to maintain the Association's strong financial base.

A major cause of concern in recent years has been that of subscription collection, which is often extremely slow and members are requested to assist in this process by informing the Secretariat of any change of address.

In order to assist members in this regard, an abridged version of the membership database has been added to the website and a facility has been added so that members can complete a “membership update form” and send it electronically to the Secretariat.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Association as at 31 August 2003 was **487** (476) members, made up of **117** (114) Ordinary Members, **75** (69) Associate Members, **264** (264) Affiliate Members, **4** (5) Student Members, **18** (15) Retired Members and **9** (9) Honorary Life Members. This represents a net increase of **11** members.

A strong membership base ensures the success and longterm survival of the Association, therefore Council, in its endeavours to identify new members, appeals to existing members to assist in this process.

SAFETY

In keeping with the adopted policy of “Safety First” this item continues to be taken as the first item at Association meetings. Your Council believes that it makes a valuable contribution to continued safety awareness with its involvement in the following safety initiatives:

Safety Incidents

As part of Council’s proactive approach to safety “Safety Flashes” are regularly circulated to senior members.

Chemical and Allied Industries Association

Your Association maintains close links with this forum and continues to receive reports of meetings. Any safety items of particular interest are subsequently disseminated to the membership at various Association meetings.

Occupational Health and Safety Policy Committee

Council would like to thank the Chamber for making documents emanating from this Committee available to Council as, in this way, it can keep abreast of developments in

Certificates of Merit

AngloGold – ERGO Operations Gold Plant
 AngloGold – West Wits Metallurgy Mponeng Mine
 Avgold – ETC Consort
 Avgold – ETC Sheba
 Bank Colliery No. 5 Seam Plant
 Greenside Colliery No. 5 Seam Plant
 Harmony G M Co Ltd – Deelkraal
 Harmony G M Co Ltd – Virginia
 Kloof G M Co Ltd – No. 2 Gold Plant
 Messina Platinum Mines – API Concentrator
 Namakwa Sands – Mineral Separation Plant
 Namakwa Sands – Secondary Concentration Plant
 Samancor Ltd – Millsell
 Samancor Ltd - Moinooi

Category 3 – Winner

Impala Platinum Mineral Processes Laboratory

Certificates of Merit

Anglo Coal Central Assay Laboratory
 AngloGold – ERGO Operations Chemical Laboratory
 Anglo Platinum Union Section Assay Laboratory

AngloGold - West Wits Metallurgy Chemical Lab
 Harmony G M Co Ltd – Assay Laboratory
 Northam Platinum Laboratory
 Rand Refinery Analytical and Assay Lab
 Samancor Western Chrome Mines Chemical Laboratory
 Western Platinum – Lonplats Laboratory

Category 4 – Winner

Northam Platinum Smelter

Certificates of Merit

AngloGold – VRO West Acid Plant
 AngloGold – ERGO Operations Acid Plant
 AngloGold – VRO - East Acid Plant
 Rand Refinery Smelter

Category 5 – Winner

Impala Platinum – BMR and PMR Refineries

Certificates of Merit

Harmony Refinery
 Northam Platinum BMR

PUBLICATIONS

The following technical papers have been published during the course of the year under review in Circulars 2/2002 and 1/2003:

“The Total Manager – a Guide to a Successful Management System”	:	C A Roode
“Vortex Ring Mixing Technology”	:	T Burger
“Commissioning and Optimization of the Inline Leach Reactor”	:	J A Botha
“Sampling of Tailings Deposits”	:	D R Lings
“Multi-variable Control Applied to Concentrators”	:	P Steenekamp

Council has long expressed concern at the lack of suitable papers available for the bi-annual publications which, as well as useful reference documents, are a permanent record of the Association’s achievements throughout the years, and appeals to members to submit any papers they may think suitable to the Editorial Sub-Committee. Alternatively, members are also requested to consider adapting presentations into suitable format for publication.

Council would like to place on record its appreciation to the Chamber of Mines for the annual publication subsidy, which enables the Association to continue to publish these prestigious Circulars.

AWARDS FOR BEST PAPERS PRESENTED

The Editorial Sub-Committee of Council evaluated papers published in Circulars 2/2001 and 1/2002 and agreed that the following authors were deserving of awards:

Gold Medal	“Flotation with the Multicell. An Integrated Approach” by S Opperman
Certificates of Merit	“Design of a Modern Milling Facility for ROM Milling of Witwatersrand Ore” by A J Macintosh
	“An Investigation into the ROM Go-belt Sampling Precision at two AngloGold Mines” by I C Spangenberg

“The Development of the FCTR 2” by C M Goodall, H G Knopjes and J J Steyn

“Ultrasonic Beneficiation – The Future of Coal Processing”
by E P Magubane

“Overcoming the Limitations of Conventional Membrane Systems Using Vibratory Shear Enhanced Technology”
by M Langton

“Water Treatment – New Technology for Current and Future Mining” by P Gunther

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Your Council, in its endeavours to fulfil the function for which it was elected by members, i.e: to represent and promote the interests of metallurgists in the mining industry, has initiated the following projects, which are being progressed by all Council members:

- Purpose of the Association
- Benefits of Membership
- Marketing of the Association
- Composition of Districts

With regards to the latter point, the two smallest Districts, namely Free State and Western, have now been combined and renamed “Southern” as it was felt that this was in the best interests of members situated therein.

These initiatives are ongoing and members will be kept informed of progress at the various Association meetings.

THE ASSOCIATION AS A FORUM

In pursuit of its declared objective to address issues relevant to the metallurgical discipline within the mining industry, the Association has addressed many topical and pertinent matters during the year under review.

The Association’s continued viability and success largely depends on active participation by members at the many diverse meetings and functions which, for the

most part, have attracted excellent attendance levels. Council would like to stress that members, rather than feeling obligated to take part in Association activities, should actively enjoy their participation.

In addition to the regular monthly Council meetings, the following meetings were also convened:

Annual General Meeting

The Nineteenth Annual General Meeting was held at the Rand Refinery, Germiston, on 25 October 2002 and was attended by 120 members and guests.

Three interesting and topical presentations were delivered, with the guest speaker at the luncheon being Mr K H Williams, Executive Director, Marketing, AngloGold, who gave an extremely entertaining, lively and thought-provoking address to members and guests present.

General Meeting

The General Meeting, incorporating technical visits, was hosted by Karee Mine on 16 May 2003 and attracted some 83 members and guests and at which four very diverse presentations were delivered.

District Meetings

Council is pleased to report that meetings held during the current year have continued to maintain the high standards required by the Association.

Your Council acknowledges the hard work of the District Representatives in organising these meetings and relies heavily on them to disseminate information to the membership on Association matters and activities.

Council would like to place on record its thanks to the hosts for providing the venues for all Association meetings.

Meetings with other Professional Associations

During the year under review the Association was once again represented at meetings between the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the 11 Mines Professional Associations and senior officials of the Chamber of Mines.

These meetings continue to be a useful forum and an ideal opportunity to receive feedback on the Chamber's activities, particularly regarding new legislation being promulgated.

The valuable information gained from briefings at these meetings is communicated to members through various channels.

Seminars / Workshops

An extremely successful seminar entitled "The Application of New Technology in Metallurgy" was held on 18 July 2003 at the Sparkling Waters Hotel, Rustenburg. The seminar attracted a record attendance of 101 delegates.

Council wishes to place on record its appreciation to the organisers of Association seminars and colloquia, which have long been a highlight of the Association's calendar.

Presidential / Technical Visit: 2003

An extremely successful visit to Namibia was held from 27 to 31 August 2003. Members participated in extremely interesting and informative visits to Skorpion Zinc and Okorusu Fluorspar. The visit concluded with a very enjoyable two night stay in Etosha National park.

Council wishes to place on record its sincere appreciation to the hosts of the technical visits and their staff members, as well as to all others who contributed towards the success of the visit.

It should be pointed out that, although the technical content of these visits is of great interest and value, the sharing of ideas and information as well as the sense of camaraderie that is generated during such visits are also of paramount importance to participants.

Golf Day

The seventh annual golf day was held on Sunday, 13 April 2003, at Randfontein Golf and Country Club. The 72 players, representing all the Mines Professional Associations, enjoyed an extremely successful day. The floating trophy, generously donated by New Vaal Colliery, was this year awarded to Mr H Daniel.

Race Day

The fourth annual race day was held at Turffontein Race Course on Saturday, 14 June 2003 and enjoyed by all the Association race-goers.

Association Dinner

The fourth annual dinner will be held in the Oppenheimer Room, Gold Reef City on 20 September. It is anticipated that a convivial evening will be enjoyed by the 300 guests, with entertainment being provided by De King and I. Council is pleased to note that this function has proved to be an immensely popular innovation.

Sponsorship

Council would like to express its appreciation to all those companies who offered generous sponsorship for these social functions and would like to stress that any surplus funds arising from functions are used for the benefit of young metallurgists by way of Council's educational initiatives.

Council also wishes to place on record its grateful thanks to all who contributed to the success of the three social functions. It would also like to encourage those members who have not yet participated to take advantage of Council's efforts to promote social activities.

OTHER ISSUES

Other issues addressed by Council, and its Sub-Committees, during the year under review include:

Mines Qualifications Authority (MQA)

Council has long realised the importance of keeping abreast of developments regarding the MQA. Mr P Barnes regularly briefs Council on progress and the Association has been in a position to comment and suggest amendments to the new B Tech (Eng) and N Dip (Eng).

ECSA

Your Council is pleased to report that the Association has been officially acknowledged by ECSA as an Affiliate to that body. This has resulted in a substantial

decrease in subscription fees to ECSA upon receipt of proof of MMMA membership. Members can obtain a letter in this regard on request to the Secretary.

The issues of Compulsory Registration and Licence to Practise is currently under the spotlight and the Association is ably represented at various meetings on these topics.

Visits to Educational Institutions

The strategic planning sub-committee is currently investigating the feasibility of arranging informal visits by Council members to technikons and universities.

The strategy behind this initiative being to inform students about the Association and bring their attention to the prospect of metallurgy in the mining industry as a career choice.

Educational Initiatives

Your Association enjoys a good relationship with the Institutions of higher learning situated throughout South Africa, consequently it has now become a tradition to utilise surplus funds, generated throughout the year from social events, seminars, ect, for the benefit of young metallurgists. During the current year, the following initiatives have been undertaken.

Bursary / Award

A bursary, for full tuition fees, was awarded to Mr T T Matuludi, who is in his second year at the University of the Witwatersrand.

Travel Grant / Technical Visit

The 2003 travel grant was awarded to Miss T Ehrenreich, Impala Platinum. Miss Ehrenreich will deliver a presentation on the visit to Namibia at the AGM.

Donation of Technical Books

The annual book donations, in the amount of R 1 500 each, offered to nine Institutions of Higher Learning on a three year rotational basis, were this year offered to Pretoria University and the Pretoria and Vaal Triangle Technikons.

Best Student Award

The award, in the amount of R 750, for academic achievement for the best overall student, studying towards the National Diploma in Extraction Metallurgy or B.Tech in Extraction Metallurgy, was last year awarded to Mr M I Lesita of the Vaal Triangle Technikon. Mr Lesita achieved an overall 78.83 per cent in his examinations.

Website

The website, which is considered to reflect the professionalism of the Association, is now fully operational and members are invited to visit the site at www.mmma.org.za.

Electronic Mail / Communication

The membership database contains email addresses of members and, as far as possible, the Secretariat is utilising this preferred method of communication. This has resulted in large cost savings in respect of photocopying of documents, telephone and postal charges.

However, Council stresses that for this initiative to be fully successful, the responsibility falls on individual members to keep the Secretary informed of current e-mail addresses and contact details.

REPRESENTATION

The following internal, as well as external, Sub-Committees were formed to assist and advise Council in its deliberations:

Standing Committee

S S Smit	Acting President
N J S Steenekamp	Acting Vice-President
S R Flatman	Imm-Past President
D D J Clemente	Central District
K McMillan	Eastern District
N J S Steenekamp	Rustenburg District
J J Watt	Southern District

Editorial

G Donoghue (**Chairman**)
 R McGregor (**Vice-Chairman**)
 G Cormack

M M Valenta

D Tudor

J J Watt

Membership

K McMillan (**Chairman**)

N G C Blackham (**Vice-Chairman**)

S S Smit

Safety

S R Flatman (**Chairman**)

N J S Steenekamp (**Vice-Chairman**)

K McMillan

S S Smit

Seminar/Workshop

D Tudor (**Chairman**)

S R Flatman (**Vice-Chairman**)

N G C Blackham

G Cormack

K McMillan

M M Valenta

Strategic Planning/Budget

S R Flatman (**Chairman**)

S S Smit (**Vice-Chairman**)

G Donoghue

M M Valenta

J J Watt

Security

G Donoghue (**Chairman**)

S R Flatman (**Vice-Chairman**)

N J S Steenekamp

J J Watt

Presidents and Vice-Presidents

S S Smit
N J S Steenekamp

MPAS Budgetary

S R Flatman
S S Smit (Alternate)
N J S Steenekamp

SAIMM

D Tudor
M M Valenta

MQA

P Barnes (Representative)
G Donoghue (Alternate)

ECSA

G Donoghue

Standing Committee on Security

G Donoghue (Representative)

Chemical & Allied Industries Association

S Flatman (Representative)

Your Council wishes to place on record its sincere thanks and appreciation to all those members who gave of their time and effort to represent the Association on the various committees.

APPRECIATION

Finally, the Council wishes to express its appreciation to all members, both old and new, for their support, and especially to those who have provided input in one form or another, as well as to all mine management for their continued support of the Association.

The Council also wishes to record its appreciation, on behalf of the Association, for the Administrative services and other facilities rendered by the Chamber of Mines and to extend its gratitude to the Secretariat and its staff for their good management of the Association's affairs.

S S SMIT

ACTING PRESIDENT