

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

COUNCIL : 2003/2004

President

S S Smit
Avgold - Target Division
(Until June 2004)

S R Flatman (Acting)
Anglogold Ashanti Ltd– ERGO
(from June 2004)

Vice-President

N J S Steenekamp
Lonmin Platinum
(until June 2004)

N G C Blackham (Acting)
De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd

Immediate Past President

S R Flatman
Anglogold Ashanti Ltd – ERGO

Elected Members (until 31 August 2004)

N G C Blackham
De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd
(until June 2004)

R J van der Schyff
Anglo Platinum Ltd
(from July 2004)

G A Cormack
Kloof G M Co Ltd

R McGregor

Modikwa Platinum

Elected Members (until 31 August 2005)

A M Delaney
Bafokeng Rasimone Mine

K McMillan
Anglo Operations Ltd - SACE

District Representatives

Central District

D D J Clemente
Harmony G M Co Ltd – Randfontein Operations

Eastern District

E A Dhlamini
Anglo Operations Ltd – Kleinkopje Colliery

Northern District

N Viljoen (Ms)
Samancor Ltd – Eastern Chrome Mine

Rustenburg District

J E Wepener
Impala Platinum Ltd

Southern District

J J Watt
Harmony G M Co Ltd

Co-opted

G Donoghue
Anglogold Ashanti Ltd

M M Valenta
Hatch Africa

Secretary

M Mason

Offices

Chamber of Mines of South Africa

REPORT OF COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2004

Presented to members of the Association on the occasion of the Twenty-first Annual General Meeting held at the Rustenburg Platinum Mines Sports Club, on Friday, 29 October 2004.

FINANCE

Financial Statements

The financial statement appended to this report shows that revenue for the year amounted to **R 285 187**, 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 memorabilia, plus the surplus arising from the seminars and social events held during the year under review.

Expenditure amounted to **R 253 987**. Accumulated funds at the beginning of the financial year amounted to **R 315 066** and, with the transfer of the current year's net surplus, an amount of **R 346 266** 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 420** for Ordinary Members, **R 395** for Associate and Affiliate Members, **R 60** for Student Members and **R 55** for Retired Members.

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 has become an extremely slow and onerous process. The Association relies on this income for its monthly operating costs and members are requested to assist in this process by ensuring their subscription has been paid, and also by informing the Secretariat of any change of address.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Association as at 31 August 2004 was **535** (487) members, made up of **122** (117) Ordinary Members, **83** (75) Associate Members, **299** (264) Affiliate Members, **4** (4) Student Members, **17** (18) Retired Members and **10** (9) Honorary Life Members. This represents a net increase of **48** members.

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

CONSTITUTION AND RULES : COUNCIL SERVICE

It has become noticeable in recent times that many difficulties are being experienced in obtaining the services of senior members to serve on Council. This could be attributed to many factors such as time constraints, etc. In order to overcome these difficulties, it was proposed that the section of the Constitution relating to Council service be amended so as to allow those senior members with previous mine metallurgical management experience, but who were now based in head offices of mining metallurgical companies, to be elected to serve on Council in any capacity.

This amendment, with the proviso that the balance will always be in favour of mine-based personnel, was adopted unanimously at a Special General meeting of Ordinary members on 27 August 2004.

SAFETY

In keeping with the pro-active 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 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 the area of Health and Safety in the Mining Industry and take up any issues of concern with individual Mining Groups.

Safety Competition for Plants

It is now 10 years since the inception of this annual competition in 1994. Over the years it has grown in popularity, with this year's competition attracting a record number of entries.

The Safety Sub-Committee of Council has evaluated the entries, the measurement period being July 2003 to June 2004, and the awards will be made at the Twenty-first Annual General Meeting.

The 2003 Safety Awards were awarded to:

Category 1 - + 150 tpm

Anglogold – Vaal River South Uranium Plant

Runners-up

Anglogold - ERGO CIL Plant
 Anglogold – Vaal River South No 9 Gold Plant
 Bafokeng Rasimone Platinum Mine – Process Plant
 De Beers Namaqualand Mines – Tweepad Plant
 Eastern Platinum - Concentrator
 Elandsrand - Gold Plant
 Greenside Colliery - 4 Seam Plant
 Impala Platinum – Merensky Concentrator Plant
 Impala Platinum – MF2 Concentrator
 Kleinkopje Colliery - Plant
 Kloof Gold Mine – No. 1 Plant
 Landau Colliery – Navigation Plant
 Modikwa Platinum Mine - Concentrator
 Namakwa Sands - Primary Concentrator

Namakwa Sands - Mineral Separation Plant
 RPM Amandelbult - UG2 Plant
 RPM - Frank Concentrator
 RPM - Waterval Merensky Concentrator
 RPM – Waterval UG2 Concentrator
 South Witbank Coal Mine – Washing Plant

Category 2 - - 150 tpm

RPM – Amandelbult – UG2 Open Cast

Runners-up

Avgold – Target Division
 Avgold – Consort Gold Plant
 AngloGold – Mponeng Plant
 Bank Colliery – 2 Seam Plant
 Bank Colliery – 5 Seam Plant
 De Beers Namaqualand Mines – AK3 Plant
 De Beers Namaqualand Mines – Koingnaas Plant
 De Beers Namaqualand Mines – Recovery Plant
 De Beers – The Oaks Mine Treatment Plant
 Greenside Colliery – Nooitgedacht Plant
 Harmony Gold Mine – Virginia Plant
 Impala Platinum – Slag Concentrator Plant
 Kloof Mine – No. 2 Gold Plant
 Namakwa Sands – Secondary Concentration Plant
 PDWAJV – South Deep Mill
 RPM – Klipfontein Concentrator

Category 3 – Assay Laboratories

Impala Platinum Mineral Processes Laboratory

Runners-up

AngloGold – ERGO Chemical Laboratory
 AngloGold – Vaal River Metallurgy Laboratory
 AngloGold – West Wits Metallurgy Chemical Laboratory
 Anglo Coal Central Laboratory
 Anglo Platinum – Union Section Assay Laboratory
 Harmony Gold Mine Assay Laboratory
 Northam Platinum Laboratory

Rand Refinery – Analytical and Assay Laboratory

Category 4 – Acid Plants and Smelters

Anglogold – Vaal River North Metallurgy - East Acid Plant

Runners-up

Anglogold – ERGO Acid Plant

Rand Refinery – Smelter

Category 5 – Refineries

Impala Platinum – PMR and BMR

Runners-up

Lonmin Platinum – Base Metal Refinery

Northam Platinum – Base Metal Refinery

Rand Refinery

PUBLICATIONS

Due to the shortage of quality papers, it has unfortunately not been possible to publish an Association Circular during the year under review.

Council has long expressed concern at the lack of suitable papers available for these publications which, as well as being 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 given at Association meetings into suitable format for publication.

However, Council would like to place on record its appreciation to the Chamber of Mines for the annual publication subsidy.

AWARDS FOR BEST PAPERS PRESENTED

The Editorial Sub-Committee of Council evaluated papers published in Circulars 2/2002 and 1/2003 and agreed that the following authors were deserving of awards, which were presented at the 2003 AGM:

Certificates of Merit

The Total Manager – a Guide to a Successful Management System	C A Roode
Commissioning and Optimization of the Inline Leach Reactor	J A Botha
Sampling of Tailings Deposits	D R Lings

THE ASSOCIATION AS A FORUM

In pursuit of its declared objective to represent and promote the interests of the metallurgical profession 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 Twentieth Annual General Meeting was held at No. 1 Toronto Place, Welkom, on 31 October 2003 and was attended by 94 members and guests.

Three interesting and topical presentations were delivered, with the guest speaker at the luncheon being Mr R Baxter, Chief Economist of the Chamber of Mines, 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 Modikwa Platinum Mine on 28 May 2004 and attracted some 52 members and guests. Three very diverse presentations were delivered at this meeting.

District Meetings

One of Council's recent strategic initiatives was to investigate the formation of a Northern District, to cater for those members situated in the many new operations being established in that region. This initiative has been successfully implemented, with Ms N Viljoen being appointed as the Northern District Representative.

District meetings were held throughout the year which, for the most part, attracted good attendance, with lively and fruitful discussions taking place.

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

In November 2003 and June 2004, your Association participated in meetings with the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the 11 Mines Professional Associations, where the opportunity was once again taken to hold fruitful and informative discussions on matters of mutual interest and concern.

These meetings also encompass discussions with senior officials of the Chamber of Mines. These meetings, which afford Council an opportunity to receive feedback on Chamber activities, particularly regarding new legislation being promulgated, continue to strengthen the bonds between the Professional Associations and the Chamber of Mines.

Seminars / Workshops

An extremely successful seminar on "Processing of Low Grade Ores" was held on 30 April 2004, at Randfontein Estates Sports Club, and attracted an excellent attendance of 100 delegates.

A second successful seminar entitled “The Application of New Technology in Metallurgy” was held on 27 August 2004, also at Randfontein Estates Sports Club. This seminar once again attracted a record attendance of 118 delegates.

Council wishes to place on record its appreciation to all involved in the organisation of these interesting and informative seminars, which have long been a highlight of the Association’s calendar.

Presidential / Technical Visit: 2004

An extremely successful visit to the Limpopo Province was held from 2 to 5 September 2004. Members participated in interesting and informative visits to Highveld Steel, Marula and Modikwa Platinum Mines. The visit concluded with a very enjoyable two night stay in Ngubane and Shidzidzi Game Lodge.

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 eighth annual golf day was held on Sunday, 18 April 2004, at Randfontein Golf and Country Club, with the 64 players having enjoyed an extremely successful day. The floating trophy was this year won by Mr B Beylefeld.

Race Day

The fifth annual race day was held at Turffontein Race Course on Saturday, 19 June 2004. This year, the function attracted a record attendance of 75 members and guests.

Association Dinner

The fourth annual dinner was held in the Oppenheimer Room, Gold Reef City on 20 September. A convivial evening was enjoyed by the 280 guests, with entertainment having been provided by De King and I.

Preparations are underway for the 2004 dinner dance and, this year, The Blarney Bros have been engaged to entertain guests. 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 them 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 this issue and, through representation on various committees, is keeping abreast of such areas as licence to practise, voluntary vs compulsory registration, engineering areas of work, etc. Several concerns have been raised regarding these issues and all developments are being closely monitored.

ECSA

The Association maintains its ties with ECSA and its recognition by that body as an affiliate 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.

An invitation has also been extended for the Association to take part in the ECSA Presidents' Forum, established to discuss mutual issues of concern.

SAIMM

The good working relationship established some time ago with this Institute is ongoing, with the Association being represented on the Council and Technical Committees.

A reciprocal agreement is also in place, whereby the two bodies keep each other's members informed of forthcoming conferences, seminars, etc.

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

Bursaries, for full tuition fees, were awarded to Ms S M Mocheko and Mr A N Nkosiyan, who are currently studying at the Technikon Witwatersrand.

Travel Grant / Technical Visit

The 2004 travel grants, to participate in the Presidential Visit, were awarded to Ms A Storey and Mr S Barry of Anglo Coal and AngloGold Ashanti respectively. They will deliver a presentation on the visit at the AGM in October.

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 the Universities of Natal and Stellenbosh, as well as the Technikon Witwatersrand.

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 L E Tukakgomo of the Pretoria Technikon.

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.

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 cost savings in many areas.

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 R Flatman	Acting President
N G C Blackham	Acting Vice-President
VACANT	Imm-Past President
D D J Clemente	Central District
E A Dhlamini	Eastern District
N Viljoen	Northern District
J E Wepener	Rustenburg District
J J Watt	Southern District

Editorial

G Donoghue (**Chairman**)

R McGregor (**Vice-Chairman**)

D D J Clemente

G Cormack

M M Valenta

J J Watt

J E Wepener

Membership

K McMillan (**Chairman**)

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

E A Dhlamini

Safety

S R Flatman (**Chairman**)

D D J Clemente (**Vice-Chairman**)

A M Delaney

K McMillan

Seminar/Workshop

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

G Cormack

A M Delaney

K McMillan

M M Valenta

J E Wepener

Strategic Planning/Budget

S R Flatman (**Chairman**)

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

G Donoghue

J J Watt

Security

G Donoghue (**Chairman**)

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

J J Watt

Presidents and Vice-Presidents

S R Flatman
N G C Blackham

MPAS Budgetary

S R Flatman
N G C Blackham (Alternate)

SAIMM

N G C Blackham
D D J Clemente
M M Valenta

MQA-ECSA

G Donoghue
M M Valenta

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 R FLATMAN

ACTING PRESIDENT