



CATALYSIS SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA

**MINUTES OF THE CATSA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT KWA MARITANE BUSH LODGE, PILANESBERG
ON 20 NOVEMBER 2017 AT 15:50**

REGISTER OF ATTENDANCE

R Weber	UCT	L de Jager	Poretech	D Coertzen	NWU
S Roberts	UCT	A Adeleke	UNISA	A Falch	NWU
N Fischer	UCT	F Prinslo	Sasol	T Nyathi	UCT
S Mapolie	US	L Swartzberg	NWU	S Siangwata	UCT
M Werle vd Merwe	UCT	L Marais	NWU	C Williams	UCT
D de Oliveira	UCT	T Makhado	NWU	H Chauke	UL
W Marquart	UCT	H Kishinkwa	NWU	L Radebe	UJ
R Brosius	UCT	B Mogwase	NWU	B Makhubela	UJ
N Coville	WITS	K Bhengu	NWU	S Sanni	VUT
P Makgwane	CSIR	R Kriek	NWU	M Xaba	UJ
R Stegmann	UCT	N Singh	UKZN	W Monama	UWC
D Brown	UCT	K Naicker	UKZN	L Ndzuzo	UWC
D Brady	WITS	L Deeplal	UKZN	K Rumbold	WITS
S Dubazama	UNISA	J Moma	WITS	I Abdullah	UCT
Z Dube	UZULU	C van Sittert	NWU	M Haumann	FAU
J Cloete	UCT	Z Tetana	WITS	Xinying Liu	UNISA
E Trenor	UCT	L Leckie	US	A Matsheku	UJ
S Adam	UCT	M Winkler	TUGraz	A Thompson	Clariant
T Thornton	Microm	S Tomescu	WITS	F du Toit	Clariant
J Coetzee	Clariant	W Moloto	VUT	N Mgedle	VUT
W du Plessis	Clariant	K Meerholz	NWU	C Noakes	Poretech
M Mokhonoana	UL	V Nagel	NWU	M Wolf	UCT
M Scurrrell	UNISA	M Prakash	WITS	T Kabi	UNISA
N Sosibo	Sasol	B Xaba	UKZN	C Tucker	UCT
P Mohlala	Sasol	Q Gazu	UKZN	A Kunene	UCT
A Swarts	NWU	M Shoji	UKZN	M Landman	UP
H Vosloo	NWU	O Mupomoki	UKZN	P Cilliers	UCT
J du Toit	NWU	C Mbuya	UNISA	S Ojwach	UKZN
A Makamu	VUT	H Friedrich	UKZN	M Onani	UWC
S Kganyago	VUT	B Mogudi	UJ	P Kooyman	UCT
O Mmelesi	VUT	E van Steen	UCT	P Mente	WITS
E Liganiso	WITS	S Mubenesha	UNISA	M Mukenga	UNISA
J Gorimbo	UNISA	T Nkomzwayo	UNISA	N Shiba	UNISA
C Okoye-Chine	UNISA	S Raseale	UCT	M Fadlalla	UCT
G Babu	UCT	M Khasu	UCT	I Amer	UNISA
V Vermaak	NWU	A Christianah	UJ	M Pretorius	Poretech
K Lammertsma	UJ	D Wilbers	US	E Storm	US
A Ehlers	UA	S O'Kennedy	US	JV Fletcher	UCT
L Maponya	UJ	L Jewell	UNISA	K Otun	UNISA
R Mazwi	UNISA	M Mbatha	UNISA	S Gwebu	UJ
L Sikeyi	UJ	E Antunes	UWC	M Maseloane	Sasol
T Phadi	Sasol	N Luchters	UCT	C Jackson	UCT
N Dyasi	UCT	N Mpofu	UCT	N Govender	Sasol
D Moodley	Sasol				



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1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

After confirming that a quorum (50% plus 1 of the 218 registered delegates or 110 people) had been obtained, the chairperson welcomed all present and noted the importance of the attendance register being circulated.

Apologies from Gary Patrick (Mintek), Jack C.Q. Fletcher (UCT), Michael Claeys (UCT), Sandeeran Govender (UCT) and Reinout Meijboom (UJ) were noted.

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Agenda was confirmed.

3. MATTERS ARISING

No matters arising.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 2016 AGM

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved with no corrections as a true reflection of the meeting. [Proposed: S. Roberts; Seconded: C. van Sittert]

5. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- Nico Fischer presented the Chairperson's Report.
- In Memoriam: A moment of silence was observed for previous members of the Society that had passed away over the last year.
- A summary of the activities of the CATSA Committee was presented.
- Registration of CATSA as Non-Profit Organisation and Tax entity:
 - Successful registration as tax exempt entity (PBO) with the Tax Exemption Unit of the South African Revenue Service has been concluded, as well as appropriate registration with SARS for VAT. Society is fully VAT compliant, but awaiting assessment of some previous tax periods before which SARS Tax Compliancy Certificate can be obtained.
 - Stephen Roberts was thanked for his efforts in this regard.
- Membership:
 - Database of membership in line with NPO/SARS requirements has been implemented, and membership certificates for all members in good standing distributed. In future, the AGM minutes will be distributed with membership certificates.



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- Conference Bidding Protocol:
 - Conference bidding protocol has been updated and implemented to promote inclusivity and fairness, whilst maintaining the appropriate professional level.
- Internet Banking:
 - The Committee has concluded the non-trivial issue of obtaining internet banking for the Society.
- Central Supplier Database:
 - The Society has been unable to register on the CSD due to issue of outstanding Tax Compliancy Certificate. This limits/complicates CATSA's ability to receive monies from SOE's and related government organisations.
- European Federation of Catalysis Societies:
 - South Africa's representatives, Holger Friedrich and Nico Fischer were unable to attend the biennial EFCATS Council Meeting held on 27 August 2017. Michael Claeys represented the Society in their stead.
 - Prof Bert Weckhuysen was elected as president of EFCATS, and Prof Angeliki Lemonidou as vice president.
 - EFCATS is in the process of applying for the status of an AISBL (association internationale sans but lucrative), the equivalent of a NPO. CATSA has assisted in providing requested documentation.
 - New decision to hold EFCATS Schools annually. The forthcoming event will take place in Liblice Catsle, Czech Republic from 25 to 29 June 2018.
 - The forthcoming EuropaCat Conference, chaired by Walter Leitner, will take place in Aachen, Germany from 18 to 23 August 2019.
- Eminent Visitor 2016:
 - Congratulations and thanks was again expressed to Prof Peter Wasserscheid as CATSA Eminent Visitor 2016.
 - As Prof Wasserscheid could not accommodate the tour of SA universities and institutions directly before/after the CATSA conference – hence he returned to SA in early December 2016 at his own expense to undertake the tour.
- Travel Awards:
 - The values of the student international travel awards have been re-evaluated by the CATSA Committee during 2016. Oral presentation grants were increased from R 12,500 to R 15,000, and poster presentation grants from R 7,500 to R 8,500. The protocol has been updated accordingly.
 - One oral and one poster award for attendance of NAM25, one oral and two poster awards for attendance of EuropaCat2017, and one oral award for the attendance of the International Society of Electrochemistry Conference, were granted.



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- Furthermore, CATSA supported ten students to attend the Faraday Discussions conference held Cape Town from 24 to 26 January 2017. This was the first time the Faraday Discussions has been held on the African continent. Some members of CATSA were intimately involved in the organisation of the event. Moritz Wolf, the 2016 winner of the CATSA best student oral, won best poster at the Faraday Discussions.
- A total of 17 students were awarded local travel grants in 2017, amounting to R 30 000.
- Upcoming Events:
 - Syngas Convention 3, the third instalment of the c*change organised international conference of fuels and chemicals, will take place from 25 to 28 March 2018. The Convention will be preceded by Autumn School, where the international Plenary Speakers from the Convention will undertake a lecture/workshop specifically for SA University postgraduate students. Again, many members of CATSA are intimately involved in its organisation.
- Prof Krijn de Jong was welcomed as Eminent Visitor of the 2017 Conference. Prof de Jong has already undertaken most of his South African tour prior to the CATSA conference, although the Cape Town leg will take place hereafter. The 2017 CATSA Organising Committee were congratulated on an excellent conference. Further thanks were extended to the generous sponsors of the Society.
- The Chairperson's Report was proposed by J.V. Fletcher, seconded by S. Mapolie, and unanimously accepted by the members.
- Appreciation and thanks was expressed to CATSA's outgoing chairperson, Dr Nico Fischer. Significant strides have been made by CATSA under Nico's leadership.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

- Jack V Fletcher presented the Treasurer's Report.
- A summary of the respective legal/financial registrations and status was presented.
 - CATSA is now fully VAT compliant.
 - CATSA is awaiting feedback from SARS for our filed 'exempt' tax returns for the period 2007 to 2014. Although it is believed that we have been exempted historically, SARS has not officially communicated this to the Society. As such, a potential tax liability for tax, interest and penalties for this financial period has been accounted for in our Audited Financial Statements 2016/2017 submitted to the Department of Social Development as required for NPO's.
- The Financial Statements reported at the AGM have been prepared according to previous years, although CATSA's official Financial Statements include all CATSA bank accounts, particularly the income and expenditure from conferences.
- Financial Statement: March 2016 – Feb 2017
 - Budgeted to make a net increase of R 20,900 – in the final outcome a Society net gain of R 80,242 was reported for the financial period 2016/17. CATSA 2015 profit of R 127,866 was



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achieved, much in line with the targeted R 137,500. Selwyn Mapolie, and his 2015 organising team, were applauded for an excellent conference.

- Budgeted expenditure for both the local and international travel grants, although fully awarded, were not completely realised in the financial period. Most noteworthy, no Eminent Visitor 2016 expenses were realised during the financial year, but were unfortunately delayed to 2017/18. Interest on assets was substantially higher than originally budgeted because the anticipated loss of cash for payment of back-taxes, interest and penalties did not occur.
- R 360,000 CATSA 2015 Conference loan has been returned.
- R 450,000 CATSA 2017 Conference loan was released.
- Closing cumulative cash balance of R 1,384,313 in current and two investment accounts, with total current assets on the balance sheet equalling R 2,034,313.
- Interim Financial Statement: March 2017 – August 2017
 - CATSA 2016 accounts have been closed, and a profit of R 31,717 was achieved, below the targeted R 151,300. Reinout Meijboom, and their 2016 organising team, were applauded for an excellent conference. Eminent Visitor 2016, Local Student Travel 2016 and Student International Travel 2016 expenses have now been realised in the succeeding financial period. Furthermore, outstanding VAT for the period Nov 2014 to Dec 2016 has been paid to SARS – penalties and interest were waived. Noteworthy is the substantially higher legal/financial fees than previously budgeted.
 - A loss of ~R 164,000 is projected for the 2017/2018 financial year, due to low 2016 conference profit, higher legal/financial fees, VAT reconciliation relating (mostly) to the 2015 and 2016 Conference which were borne by the Society.
 - Furthermore, a potential (but as yet unanticipated) loss of ~R 475,182 for back-taxes, penalties and interest has been noted.
 - R 200,000 CATSA 2016 Conference loan has been returned.
 - R 150,000 CATSA 2018 Conference loan was released.
- The Financial Report was proposed by S. Roberts, seconded by E. van Steen, and unanimously accepted by the members.
- Appreciation and thanks was expressed to CATSA's previous treasurer, Stephen Roberts, for his leadership and implementation of the legal and fiduciary requirements of the Society.

7. MEDIA OFFICER'S REPORT

- Cornie van Sittert presented the Media Officer's Report.
- Newsletter has been published for 2017, and is available in print copy. An appeal for newsletter articles from the broad catalysis community was once again extended to the Members.
- Website has been upgraded to a new platform and this process included some minor changes to the webpages.
 - Members were encouraged to visit the website, and any errors communicated to the Media Officer.



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- A major change is the inclusion of a conference tab on the CATSA website with the view to minimising conference expenses in future.
- It is the desired to also include more historical information on the CATSA website. An appeal for, amongst others, photographs from previous year's conferences was made.

8. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES'S REPORT

- Chelsea Tucker presented the Student Representative's Report on behalf of the chair of the student committee, Sandeeran Govender, who was unable to attend CATSA.
- Student committee has driven the awarding of runner-up certificates for 2nd & 3rd best student orals and posters.
- A replacement chair of the student committee is being sought, and will be announced shortly to sit on the CATSA Committee as Student Representative.
- Student inter-institutional participation and networking was once again encouraged.

9. CONFERENCE 2016 REPORT

- Koop Lammertsma, presented the Conference 2016 Report on behalf of the Chair of Organising Committee of CATSA 2016, Reinout Meijboom, who was unable to attend CATSA.
- Approximately 220 delegates. Good student representation for oral presentations across a wide spread of universities.
- Excellent interactions with the 2016 Eminent Visitor, Prof Peter Wasserscheid – the delayed tour was very successful.
- Special thanks and appreciation was extended to the very generous sponsors.

10. CONFERENCE 2017 ORGANISER'S INTERIM REPORT

- Peter Mokhonoana, Chair of Organising Committee of CATSA 2017 presented an update on the 2017 Conference.
- Approximately 218 delegates are attending, with a higher percentage of students than regular delegates than typically attending.
- No major issues to report.
- Special thanks and appreciation to the very generous sponsors. Anticipating a high conference profit.



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11. CONFERENCE 2018 UPDATE

- Cornie van Sittert, Chair of Organising Committee of CATSA 2018 presented an overview of the plans for the next year's CATSA Conference.
- To be hosted jointly by North West University at Legends Golf & Safari Resort in Limpopo from 11 – 14 November 2018.
- Prof Gregory Jerkiewicz of Queens University, Canada has accepted the invitation as the CATSA Eminent Visitor for 2018.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- The CATSA Committee was thanked for their very hard work.
- A suggestion of more environmentally friendly considerations to paperwork presentation at the AGM was tabled.

14. ELECTION OF NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Nominated:

John Moma
Andrew Swarts
Stephen Roberts
Stephen Ojwach
Banothile Makhubela
Xinying Liu
Cobus Kriek
Gary Pattrick
Cornie van Sittert
Marilé Landman

- Elected:

John Moma
Andrew Swarts
Stephen Roberts
Banothile Makhubela
Cornie van Sittert
Marilé Landman

- Co-opted

Gary Pattrick
Gregory Govender
Francois du Toit
Jack V Fletcher
Huguette Kishinkwa

❖ MEETING CLOSED