



Newsflash 2012.52

DATE: 13 December 2012

MESSAGE FROM THE SAIA PRESIDENT

2012 has been an eventful year in a number of spheres which warrants that we all take a well-deserved break, to be with our families and friends, but most importantly to take time to re-charge our batteries, in preparation for yet another long haul in 2013.

I am mindful of the fact that 2012 has in some instances robbed us of brilliant minds of our profession, who have passed on, both nationally and internationally. My appeal to all of us is that we must not despair, but remember those colleagues who are no longer with us, by taking their batons and forging ahead with the good race they were running before their departure.

To those members of SAIA who have received accolades for the architecture they produced in this past year, may they continue to do and promote excellent architecture that enhances our built environment. To those colleagues who strive to bring about cutting edge relevant ways of thinking, but whose good work has not yet been understood and formally recognised by the profession and the public in general, may they continue to engage us, so as to ensure that we eventually get on board.

I am looking forward to your positive engagements when we start the roll out of the proposed constitutional reforms, which I believe will enable us to work closely as a collective, and afford us opportunities of utilising our varied skills and resources efficiently.

May I remind all of you colleagues, that we are left with about twenty months before the whole world descends upon us, to celebrate architectural discourse, on our soil in 2014 when we will be hosting the Twenty Fifth UIA Congress jointly with the Eleventh AUA Congress. Once again I wish to invite all of you to participate and support these events, so as to ensure a lasting legacy for our country and the African continent as a whole.

On behalf of the SAIA Board may I wish every one of us, to embrace the coming year with a creative and positive spirit:-

- let us continue to build on the strong relationships we have started building with government and the private sector clients,
- let us strive to work jointly and collectively for one common cause, that of improving the lives of our people, by committing to giving them humane living and built environments.

To all our regional and national institute office personnel, including those who may be going on retirement, or leaving us to pursue other engagements, kindly note that all your tireless efforts of getting our institutes administration going, have not gone unnoticed. Kindly accept our best wishes for success wherever you will be. Lastly, may I wish all of our colleagues and friends a lovely end of the year break, a fun filled and prosperous 2013.

Sincerely

Sindile Ngonyama Pr Arch MIArch

SAIA President



MESSAGE FROM THE SAIA EXECUTIVE OFFICER

With the holiday season upon us, it is inevitable to look back over the year that was.

The biennial report which was presented at the convention in September during AZA.2012 and which is available on the website, documents the extent of SAIA's involvement within broader society and SAIA's initiatives on behalf of the membership over the past two years. In my opinion much was achieved, but so much more could have been done . . .

And, therefore, there are those amongst us who consider 2012 as an *annus horribilis*; not least as a result of the inevitable operational and governance limitations under which the organisation had to perform due to its less than rosy financial position in the context of a challenging economic environment. SAIA would appreciate all outstanding subscriptions to be paid over as soon as possible. The Institute can only be as strong as you, our members, make it.

Although severe austerity measures were introduced earlier this year, every effort was made to keep a healthy balance between normal operations and the work on the new proposed constitutional dispensation for SAIA and the Regions. Much of the planning on this has been done, and with the approval of the Board, the members will be consulted on the constitutional changes early in the new year. It is anticipated that this process will be concluded by a postal vote in time for the start of the new financial year on 01 July 2013.

This will bring to an end the current federal dispensation which started on 01 July 1996. I have served under this structure in all its evolving forms as SAIA Executive Officer since July 1997. I have seen SAIA's membership grow, not only in numbers but in strength with the introduction of corporate membership for practices; our budget grew ten-fold; our committee structure was broadened from one – Practice – to the seven portfolios we currently manage; our staff complement grew from three to ten and SHiFT has been under contract to cater for two of the portfolios. All this has meant our capacity to attend to member concerns has improved.

It is now time for change and, as I will be retiring officially at the end of December – but remaining in my post in a caretaker capacity until a new CEO is appointed – I look back over the past fifteen years with nostalgia, with some pride and with a great deal of gratitude. Thank you to everyone who has made this journey so fulfilling. And if I may make one last plea . . . have just one wish; it is that you all together, through your work, continue to contribute to a humane built environment of which we can all be proud.

Have a safe and joyful festive season. May 2013 be an *annus mirabilis*, a year of miracles, for us all!

Su Linning Pr Arch MIArch

Executive Officer



Please note that we are in the process of upgrading our website and member platform, so some of the member profiles via www.saia.org.za will not be available immediately.

The SAIA secretariat will be closed from 12:00 on Friday 14 December until Wednesday 09 January 2013.

Our best wishes for a peaceful, safe festive season.

SAIA is committed to keeping our members informed and up to date on the latest in the architectural profession. If you have any content or information to submit...

CONTACT US - [CLICK HERE](#)

South African Institute of Architects

Bouhof (Ground Floor) 31 Robin Hood Road,

Robindale, Randburg

admin@saia.org.za

+27 11 782 1315

www.saia.org.za

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