

# THE MICROSCOPY SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

## MINUTES OF THE FORTY THIRD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE MICROSCOPY SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA HELD ON DECEMBER 2, 2004, LECTURE THEATRE 5, GROENKLOOF CAMPUS, UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA

1. **WELCOME**  
The President of the Society welcomed all the members.
2. **APOLOGIES**  
Ms Chantelle Baker, Ms D Meyer, Dr E Stofberg-Coetzee, Dr F Botha, Prof P Berjak and Ms Belinda White.
3. **MINUTES**  
The Minutes were accepted, proposed by Prof E Grossman, seconded by Prof C Lang.
4. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA**  
Mr Bruton enquired whether executive committee members had been assigned portfolios as requested in item 15. Prof Witcomb said that it was not done apart from the student portfolio, which was filled by Ms Wilma du Plooy.
5. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**  
Prof Witcomb tabled his report for 2004. He gave a short resumé of the report and it was accepted. Prof Lang thanked Prof Witcomb.
6. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**  
None.
7. **FINANCIAL REPORT**
  - 7.1 **Treasurer's Report**  
The Treasurer, Prof John Soley tabled his report. He highlighted certain aspects of the report. The report was accepted and Prof Soley was thanked by Dr M Roberts.
  - 7.2 **Student Grants**  
Three students received R600 each as support to attend the Conference.
  - 7.3 **Membership Fees**  
Fees will stay at the current amounts for 2005.
  - 7.4 **MSSA Tax Status**  
Prof Soley reported that he was still waiting for a response from the Revenue Services regarding MSSA registration as a Public Benefit Organization (PBO).
8. **MSSA TRUST**  
Prof Witcomb reported that the Trust would be finalized once the Society has been registered as a PBO. Prof Witcomb and Prof Soley answered various questions by members i.c.o with the Trust. Prof Witcomb invited members to submit proposals to the secretary of the Trust on how to apply the funds generated by the Trust to the advantage of the Society members.
9. **MSSA OUTREACH PROGRAMME**
  - 9.1 **EXPO**  
The Meeting decided to continue the Society's support of the EXPO.
  - 9.2 **Microscopes to Schools**  
The President asked members to be on the lookout for worthy recipients of the microscopes that were donated to the Society by the University of Pretoria.
10. **MSSA PROCEEDINGS**  
Prof Witcomb informed the meeting that the incoming Executive Committee will be looking at a new process of submitting abstracts and lowering the cost of the Proceedings.

11. **EDITOR'S REPORT**

No written reports were received. Dr K Marcus verbally reported on certain aspects of the submission of abstracts. He suggested that members should try to limit the number of authors on abstracts. Prof Soley requested the editors of the Proceedings to strictly apply the editorial requirements. Mr Harmsen urged members to pay particular attention to the technical quality of the micrographs on posters.

12. **ISO/TC202**

Prof Lee gave a report at the Technical Forum.

13. **FORTY FOURTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE**

The Conference and AGM will be held at the Pietermaritzburg campus of the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal. Convenor: Mr Tony Bruton.

14. **MSSA NEWS**

Mr Bruton urged members to submit contributions to him for the Newsletter. The President thanked him for his endeavours in this regard.

15. **MSSA WEBPAGE**

Prof Witcomb thanked Mr Harmsen for his able handling of the webpage.

16. **MSSA LISTSERVER**

The President urged members to make use of this platform for discussions and questions.

17. **GENERAL**

Mr Luc Harmsen asked the meeting to consider holding the Conference at a time other than December. After a general discussion it was proposed that a committee investigating the scheduling of the Conference should be formed. The following members were elected: Prof J Coetzee, Messrs Luc Harmsen, Dieter Geppert and Prof Japie Engelbrecht.

The President thanked Prof Elly Grossman for her service and contribution to the Society over many years.

18. **ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 2005**

The following members were elected:

President:	Prof C Lang
Hon. Secretary:	Mr A N Hall
Hon. Treasurer:	Prof J Soley
Members:	Prof J A A Engelbrecht
	Prof J Neethling
	Dr M Nzula
	Dr A Douglas

19. The Meeting ended at 17:00.

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C I LANG  
PRESIDENT

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A.N. HALL  
HON SECRETARY