

2ND ANNOUNCEMENT

<http://www.botany2019.co.za>



**45TH ANNUAL
SAAB, AMA & SASSB
JOINT CONGRESS**

THEME ■ Biodiversity and conservation for a better tomorrow
8 – 11 January 2019 ■ University of Johannesburg
Johannesburg ■ South Africa






**JOINT CONGRESS OF THE 45th ANNUAL SAAB, AMA AND SASSB
Johannesburg 8 – 11 January 2019**

The Department of Botany and Plant Biotechnology at the University of Johannesburg invites you to the 45th Annual Congress of the South African Association of Botanists. This congress will be affiliating with the African Mycological Association and the Southern African Society for Systematic Biology. The congress will be held at the University of Johannesburg Kingsway campus in Auckland Park, Johannesburg. On campus accommodation will be available within walking distance of the congress venue and there are additional lodging available off campus.

The meeting will provide an exciting opportunity to present new research, interact with colleagues in respective fields and attend workshops linked to the congress. The congress theme is 'Conserving biodiversity to ensure our future'. There is still time to submit ideas/proposals for workshops, special sessions or symposia around this theme or in a related field.

An exciting evening programme is planned to allow attendees the opportunity to interact in a relaxed atmosphere. The evening programme includes a welcoming function that will allow delegates to mix and meet-up with acquaintances, vibrant poster sessions that will benefit students through interaction with other delegates and a gala dinner with entertainment at the Randpark Golf Club.

The following confirmed speakers will present at the congress/associated workshops:

Professor Emerita Elisabeth Wheeler (North Carolina State University, USA)
 Professor Emeritus Pieter Baas (Emeritus Professor, National Herbarium of the Netherlands)
 Professor Jeffrey Doyle (Cornell University, USA)
 Professor Luke Harmon (University of Idaho, USA)
 Dr Paul Hills (SAAB President, University of Stellenbosch)

The following sessions are considered:

Invasion Biology
Ecology
Plant Conservation
Savannah ecology
Ecophysiology, Physiology and Biotechnology
Plants interacting with other organisms
Systematics and taxonomy
Ethnobotany and medicinal plants
Plant anatomy, development and structure
Mycology

Associated Workshop:

Phylogenetics in R

6th - 7th January 2019

**University of the Witwatersrand
South Africa**

Deadline for workshop registration: October 2018

The University of the Witwatersrand will host the workshop under the auspices of the SASSB. Professor Luke Harmon from the University of Idaho will workshop. The aim of the workshop is the facilitation of analytical skills to benefit taxonomy and systematics research in South Africa.

For more detail, please contact Kelsey Glennon (Kelsey.Glennon@wits.ac.za).

Associated Symposium with dedicated sessions at the combined congress:

Wood anatomy: an African perspective

**University of Johannesburg
South Africa.**

This symposium will be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, at the annual Congress of the South African Association of Botanists (SAAB). The program will include different topics of wood and bark anatomy such as structural diversity, formation, functions, evolution and identification of these tissues with the focus on the exploration of African woody plants. The symposium will be associated with IAWA.

For more detail, please contact Alexei Oskolski (aoskolski@uj.ac.za).

Accommodation

The Congress Organisers will strive to make accommodation available at the University of Johannesburg located close to the Auckland Park campus. Additional Bed and Breakfast/Self-catering accommodation is available around the University of Johannesburg campus. Please see the congress website for additional information.

Visa support letters

Please plan your travel well in advance and allow plenty of time for visa application. The Congress Organisers will be able to provide a visa support letter on request from a delegate. Please note that the Congress Organisers cannot issue formal invitation letters or actual visas to attend the congress. Additionally, this support letter does not guarantee the granting of a visa.

Please send your request to saabconference@uj.ac.za and include the following information:

- Your name as it appears on your passport
- Date of birth
- Country of Issue of your passport
- Your current postal mailing address
- Your registration confirmation
- If you are the author of an accepted poster/oral presentation, provide the title.

Please note that a visa support letter will only be issued upon confirmation and after full payment for registration fees has been received. The letters will only be issued as a PDF via email and will take approximately one week to draft.

Local congress organisers

Dr Eduard Venter (Chairperson)

Prof Annah Moteetee (Co-chairperson)

Ms Mildred Muller (Secretary; Hospitality Officer)

Mr Thinus Fourie (Treasurer)

Ms Janice Williamson (Registration Officer)

Prof Michelle van der Bank (Fund raising Officer)

Prof Ben-Erik van Wyk (Scientific Programme Officer)

Prof Bettine van Vuuren (Scientific Programme Officer)

Prof Fanus Venter (Adjudication Officer)

Dr Kelsey Glennon (Scientific Programme Officer, Workshop Coordinator)

Dr Aleksei Oskolski (Symposium Coordinator)

Ms Estherna Pretorius (Publicity Officer)

Ms Rene Tong (Venues and Facilities Officer)

Important dates

Registration: 1 October to 15 November 2018

Abstract submission deadline: 1 October to 15 November 2018

Registration

Please visit the congress website at <https://botany2019.co.za> for additional information and online registration.

Congress contact information:

Ms Mildred Muller

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