



SASTA NEWS

Newsletter of the SA Sugar Technologists' Association

April 2002

SASTA Secretariat contact details:
sasta@sugar.org.za
Tel: +27 (0)31 539 3205
Website: www.sasta.co.za

SASTA Congress 2002

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This year the Congress will be held from the 30 July to the 2 August 2002. The Opening and the Annual General Meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn, Durban Elangeni, and the agricultural and factory sessions will be held at Kwa-Shukela at Mount Edgecombe.

The opening address will be presented by Karen Michael, the Executive Director of Epicentre, an organisation that is concerned with AIDS crisis management in Kwa-Zulu Natal. Karen completed her Honours degree in Philosophy and a Masters degree in Development Studies at the University of Natal, and will be talking on the current status of HIV/Aids in Kwa-Zulu Natal.

Ms Michael was contracted to design the institutional framework for the national AIDS Commission for the Government of Mozambique, and has a particular interest in investigating and managing the impact of HIV/AIDS on the economy in Southern Africa. She has served as senior consultant in a number of projects including the PoDE Small and Medium Enterprise project in Mozambique and the South African Red Cross community-based Health Care HIV/AIDS programme in Kwa-Zulu Natal.

Karen has written a number of reports and journal articles and regularly presents her findings at conferences. Her presentation at Congress is likely to raise a number of important issues about HIV/Aids and the possible consequences for the sugar industry.

WORKSHOP NEWS

Proceedings of workshops held in 2001 will be made available on the CD that will be prepared of the SASTA 2002 Proceedings.

Following the November 2001 workshop on the Integration of Appropriate Technology to Provide Practical Solutions to Burn/Harvest to Crush Delays and Crop Estimating in the South African Sugar Industry, CANEGROWERS is contracting the services of Andrew Crickmay (of Crickmay and Associates) to implement a logistics benchmarking programme at six SA mills during the 2002/2003 season. Andrew presented a paper arising from his experience in the timber industry, and made suggestions regarding the value of a similar logistics improvement programme in the SA Sugar Industry.

A workshop on Climate Change is proposed for the second half of the year. Watch the website for details.

Noticeboard

- ◆ Proceedings for Congress 2002 will be made available on CD.
- ◆ SASTA membership for 2002 is due. Queries to be directed to Carolyn Baker (carolyn_baker@sugar.org.za).
- ◆ Members whose personal particulars have changed are requested to provide updated details (with an email address) to the Secretariat.



CONGRESS 2002

UPDATE

Registration

Registration forms will be sent out shortly. Alternatively you can download the form directly from the website.

Please note that Sue Bumpsteed Conferences has, once again been appointed as the professional organiser, and will be co-ordinating registration. All queries and correspondence regarding registration and payment of registration fees should be directed to Kerry or Taryn at:

Tel: 031- 303 2480 or Fax: 031-312 9441

Email: kerry@sbconferences.co.za

Scientific programme

All queries regarding the submission of papers and the scientific programme are co-ordinated by the SASTA Secretariat:

Tel: 031- 539 3205

Email: sasta@sugar.org.za

To date, 73 abstracts have been received by the SASTA Secretariat. Of these, 45 emanate from the agricultural sector, and 28 from the factory sector. Should full papers be received for all submissions, the programme promises to be very stimulating.

This year, co-ordination of the agricultural papers will be done by Dr Tony Wood, and the factory papers by Dr Arnold Brokensha.

Please address specific queries associated with the papers to the appropriate co-ordinator:

Dr Tony Wood: (woodra@3i.co.za)

Dr Arnold Brokensha: (arnoldbro@freemail.absa.co.za)

Following the review process, the editorial panel will inform all authors whether or not their papers have been accepted for inclusion in the Proceedings.

Congress Awards

Awards to be made at SASTA 2002 include:

Kynoch Prize: Prize awarded for the best paper in the Agricultural section.

Cecil Renaud Awards: Awards made to authors of the best papers in both sections who are not employed by either a scientific or technological institute. Those who work in either the factory or field are eligible for this award, and they are encouraged to record their valuable observations and present them in a paper at Congress.

Talbot-Crosbie Award: Prize awarded for the best paper in the Factory section. This award was established in 1935.

Poster Award: An award made to the best poster presented at Congress.

Innovation Awards: Awards made in recognition of developments which have shown definite value in improving cost-effectiveness or sustainability or safety of factory and agricultural operations.

Jubilee Award: Awards made to a member from both the factory and field sections, for their contributions at SASTA Congresses in the years preceding each ISSCT meeting. These awards will not be made in 2002.

Young Technologist Award: An award made to a person up to the age of 30 who who makes an outstanding contribution to SASTA. This new award in the milling section will be called the Robin Renton Memorial Award.

Deadlines

AUTHORS are reminded of the following:

31 March 2002: Submission of **FULL** papers

27 April 2002: Submission of **SHORT COMMUNICATIONS** and **POSTER** summaries (1200 words)

This year the Congress Organising Committee is intending to release the CD of Proceedings one week before Congress. Consequently, the editorial committee will be adhering to the deadlines, and no extensions will be granted to Authors.

Full details regarding the format for submissions is available on the website or from the SASTA Secretariat.



ROBIN RENTON Memorial Award

PGBI Engineers and Constructors International has established the Robin Renton Memorial Award. This award is to be presented to the author of a SASTA technical paper written by a young engineer who shows leadership and management potential.

Robin Renton, who passed away on 21st October 2001, made a substantial contribution to the sugar industry in South Africa over a period of 35 years. He spent more than 30 years with Tongaat Hulett's Sugar, where he started as a talented engineer and later advanced to being General Manager of most of the Hulett mills at one time or another. He earned the reputation of being a man capable of turning non-performing operations around by applying his special technical- and people-management skills. His continued success inevitably led to his promotion to the group's Technical Management Department (TMD) where his influence could be applied more widely. In this position he played a key role in developing proprietary designs and processes, a number of which have been adopted as standard methods for sugar milling worldwide. His career at Tongaat Hulett's culminated in his appointment as Technical Director (TMD), a position from which he retired in 1992.

Robin's most significant legacy at Tongaat Hulett's is the Felixton II Mill for which he was the Project Director. The programme involved the planning, design, co-ordination, implementation and commissioning of the mill. It was acknowledged as the most modern mill in the world and included a number of the technologies developed at TMD. Robin also had long associations with the Sugar Milling Research Institute, SASTA and the International Society of Sugar Cane Technologists and published a number of papers.

Since his retirement, PGBI Engineers and Constructors employed Robin as Consulting Engineer-Sugar Technology. He advised and assisted PGBI project teams on a number of successful projects which included the expansion of the Komati mill, the upgrading of Malelane power station and Hippo Valley Estates, as well as the development of the *Renton Ploughs* and *Smartfeed* Bagasse Fuel Conveyance and Distribution System.

Robin has left many lasting memories, not only from his impact on the South African sugar industry, but also on the lives of the people who were his associates, friends and co-workers.

Through the annual Robin Renton Memorial Award, PGBI hopes to provide the recognition which Robin so rightly deserves for his life-long achievements in sugar and to promote the legacy of leadership through knowledge, integrity and loyalty that he espoused.

76th Annual General Meeting

The 76th AGM will be held on the Opening day of Congress (30 July) at the Holiday Inn-Durban Elangeni.

In accordance with the Constitution a call for nominations for Council will be made in May.

ISSCT Workshop

The seventh ISSCT Breeding and Germplasm Workshop will be hosted by SASEX from the 4-9 May 2003.

Plans are already well advanced and Karl Nuss, the Head of Plant Breeding, is the Workshop Organiser.

He can be contacted on: xpbrkn@sugar.org.za

Congress 2002 Second Announcement

30 July 2002

Venue: Holiday Inn, Durban Elangeni

- Registration
- Opening
- AGM
- Cocktail party

31 July – 2 August 2002

Venue: Kwa-Shukela, Mount Edgecombe

- Agricultural & Factory Sessions

The Congress Dinner will be held on 1 August 2002 at the Holiday Inn, Durban Elangeni



Sue Bumpsteed Conferences

is co-ordinating all matters regarding registration and the payment of Congress registration fees.

Enquiries: kerry@sbconferences.co.za

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Fax: +27(0)31-312 9441

