Message from the President

Dear AeSSA members

Welcome to the spring edition of our newsletter.

With our Annual Conference a month away, I encourage you to submit your papers for this event and register to attend this three-day event via the web www.aessa.org.za/conference/ We have an impressive (and growing) list of keynote speakers – not to be missed! Find out more in the first article of this newsletter.

As always, we publish for your interest articles on the activities of our members and corporate partners. We draw your attention to an opinion piece authored by AeSSA members, an upcoming lecture at the University of Johannesburg, and news from the Royal Aeronautical Society.

As always, we welcome input to and comments on our newsletter and website; send your message to info@aessa.org.za or use d6+ to contact us.

With kind regards

Marié Botha
President: AeSSA
AeSSA Annual Conference 2019: September update

We are pleased to confirm that excellent submissions were received right up to the deadline and are being reviewed by the Technical Committee.

A cordial reminder to our participants who have submitted abstracts, and those who will be attending the conference, to register. Our networking programme is open to all and includes the conference dinner, the Women in Aerospace Breakfast, the Cocktail event (hosted by the Young Professionals), and our conference tour.

**Keynote speakers & panel discussion**

To date, the following has been confirmed:

*Keynote speakers:*

**Billie Flynn**, Lockheed Martin - F-35 Lightning II Test Pilot  
**Ricardo Traven**, Boeing Charleston - 787 Dreamliner Program  
**Major Nandi Zama**, SANDF

*Panel discussion:*

**Automation – Unintended Consequences on Pilot Handling Skills and Aviation Safety.** Facilitator: Maj. Gen. **Des Barker** SAAF Rtd. Panel members: **Billie Flynn**, Lockheed Martin; Captain Scully Levine, Mango; Captain Martin Louw, Comair; Captain **Stefan Poprawa**, SAA; **Ricardo Traven**, Boeing Charleston; Captain Glen Warden, Comair.

Please consult the programme outline regularly at [https://www.aessa.org.za/conference/programme/](https://www.aessa.org.za/conference/programme/)

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**UJ’s Maneschijn commences aeronautics research**

Dr Anton Maneschijn, senior lecturer in mechanical engineering design at the University of Johannesburg (UJ), has received funding from UJ for an aeronautics research project. This is the first funding received for the project and will cover essential material and equipment for the initial phase of the project.
The objective of the research is to establish an aerospace capability in the Department of Mechanical Engineering Science at UJ, with specific focus on developing typical mechanical engineering aspects of aeronautics, such as structures, mechatronic systems for drones, and control systems. This project is also a tribute to the invaluable contributions that Prof Japie van Wyk made to the department during his tenure at UJ.

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**Wits student scoops prize in oral competition at ISSW 32**

Graduate student and AeSSA member Sean Morrow ("Bloodhound Education Ambassador") attended the 32nd International Symposium on Shock Waves (ISSW 32) conference at the National University of Singapore in July 2019, where he won the prize for best paper in the student competition.

Congratulations, Sean!

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Read more
AeSSA appoints Col. George Muller to Council as FTSSA representative

The Aeronautical Society of South Africa has appointed Col. George Muller, SAAF Rtd, to its Council as representative of the Flight Test Society of South Africa.

Col. Muller had a distinguished career in the SAAF, during which time he served as the Senior Staff Officer (SSOTF) Test Flying in the Directorate System Integrity at the SAAF Air Command for nine years while still an active fixed wing test pilot.

Pretoria Boys High Aeronautical Society Visit to Wonderboom Airport

By John Illsley

There is plenty of activity and innovation going on at Wonderboom that was woven into an afternoon excursion. Our visit started at the SAPS Air Wing hangar where the host was a Comair Captain who also flies part time for this unit.

We next walked the short distance to a geophysical survey company, Xcalibur, to be met by a good friend of the Society, David Toma. David is a Council member of the Aeronautical Society of South Africa.

*AeSSA has permission to publish photos of learners but no names.

Read the full article
South Africa’s aviation industry in 10 years’ time: what can we expect? Opinion piece by the AeSSA

A sobering assessment of the South African aviation industry at present concludes that the South African aviation industry is declining at a time when other nations are building capacity and moving ahead into new technologies, like electric and hybrid aircraft. Factors implicated in this decline are myriad and are discussed below, as well as some solutions.

Read more

Upcoming lecture: Discover a world where everyone can fly

October 2019 – University of Johannesburg

Discover a world where everyone can fly, presented by Dr Angelique Janse van Rensburg – Lilium GMBH

Video

Book your seat to attend free.
Team AeSSA supports Spirit of Flight at Swartkop AFB

Once a year, the Pretoria Military Marathon Club (PMMC) hosts the 'Spirit of Flight' road running race on the runway of Swartkop AFB.

On 31 August 2019 several AeSSA members and volunteers rose before dawn to set up the final water table at this 10km race which started at 6:30.
Fortified by a picnic breakfast supplied by President Marié Botha, and under the able direction of Vice-President Danie Loots and a PMMC club member, Team AeSSA started dispensing coca cola and cream soda from 7:00 when the first runner clocked in at 6:58.

Well done, Team AeSSA!

RAeS News

- RAeS podcasts: The Royal Aeronautical Society (RAeS) has started recording talks and you can listen to them as podcasts. Access these podcasts and let us know what you think of them. Two recommendations by AeSSA member Stefan Rassmann:
  - Classic Lecture Series: The Miles M.52 project by Mike Hirst
  - Classic Lecture Series: From antiquity to the era of the Wrights by J. A. D. Ackroyd

- This month sees the 50th anniversary of the first issue of AEROSPACE. BILL READ FRAeS looks back at the first issue to see the hot topics of news in September 1969.