Message from the President

Dear AeSSA members

Welcome to the final newsletter of 2019.

The AeSSA 2019 Annual Conference did not disappoint. Our international keynote speakers, Billie Flynn of Lockheed Martin, and Ricardo Traven of Boeing, were amazing. They visited the AeSSA Cape Chapter, spent time at the Young Professionals Workshop held in conjunction with corporate partner Sakhikamva at Lanseria International Airport, and delivered excellent addresses during the conference programme. We were fortunate to have excellent local invited speakers, Major Nandi Zama of the SANDF and Captain Martin Louw of Comair. And last but not least: the quality of the technical presentations was extremely high. My congratulations to all the presenters.

Our members and corporate partners have been active as well. Read about the successful 2019 Aerospace Challenge and find out more about the upcoming lecture at the University of the Witwatersrand. The Royal Aeronautical Society’s article on electric-powered air taxis makes for intriguing reading.

I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to Mrs Biffy van Rooyen who has been responsible for the Society’s communication over the past four years. Biffy will leave AeSSA during December 2019. She has been responsible for the new website, excellent newsletters, many lectures and very successful conferences. Her contribution has been invaluable and she has been an integral part of the AeSSA team and a personal friend for many years. We wish Biffy well in her future endeavours and we wish to express the Society’s gratitude for her contribution to the success of AeSSA.

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: Highlights

After months of planning, the conference week arrived. The pre-events in Cape Town and Lanseria International Airport were followed by the formal programme at the CSIR International Convention Centre in Pretoria.

Highlights of the five-day programme can be found at www.aessa.org.za or by following the links below.

Cape Chapter pre-event to AeSSA 2019 Annual Conference 14 October 2019

YP Workshop at Lanseria: new venue, new ideas 15 October 2019

African Aerospace Conference delivers engaging programme 16-17 October 2019

Inspiring stories shared during the Women in Aerospace breakfast 17 October 2019

SUN student wins presentation prize at AeSSA 2019 Annual Conference

Presentations of interest: #1 Analysis of the Phoenix-1B Mk II Sounding Rocket Launch Failure

Conference tour to The Airplane Factory 18 October 2019

Photographs – five photo galleries covering 15-18 October 2019

The dates and venue for the AeSSA 2020 Annual Conference will be shared early in the new year.

Tuks wins AeSSA 2019 Aerospace Challenge

This year’s Intervarsity flying competition, the AeSSA 2019 Aerospace Challenge, was again hosted by JOMAC at its relatively new model flying field
on a day less windy than those of previous years but this year the competitors had to contend with temperatures in high 30s. Ten teams gathered to do battle, five from the University of the Witwatersrand (Wits) and five from the University of Pretoria (Tuks), with one team unable to make it to the competition on the day.

The winning university for 2019 was Tuks with 97 points with Wits close behind on 81 – well done to Tuks!

Read more

Upcoming lecture: 21st Century Aircraft Design at Sikorsky Aircraft

21st Century Aircraft Design at Sikorsky Aircraft

**PRESENTER:** Dr Andreas Bernhard, Director of Aircraft Design at Sikorsky Aircraft. Dr Bernhard is a South African who has risen to the top of his field of helicopter design.

**DATE:** Wednesday 27 November 2019, 18h00 for 18h30

**VENUE:** Senate Room, 2nd floor Solomon Mahlangu house (formerly Senate House) at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

**RSVP:** by 22 November 2019 to LBarnard@csir.co.za

More information

Denel Aeronautics host PBHS Aeronautical Society

AeSSA Council Members Johnnie van der Berg, David Toma and Danie Loots hosted John Illsley, Second Master of Pretoria Boys High School (PBHS), and 18 boys of the PBHS Aeronautical Society for a tour around the Denel Aerostructures maintenance facilities of Rooivalk, Oryx and Cheetah on
Wonders of Aviation prizegiving & Bokke support Day

Some 60 people attended the Wonders of Aviation (WoA) Family Day held at Brits Flying Club. WoA representative and AeSSA Council member Gift Kgadima says, “We had a great time, particularly because, as part of the event, we cheered the South African Springbok (Bokke) team participating on 2 November 2019 in the Rugby World Cup final in Yokohama, Japan. The Bokke’s fantastic win over England energised everyone attending the event!” Well done to all the prize-winners!

Read more

*WoA is an AeSSA Corporate Partner.

RAeS News

Creating a new world: Part 1

The introduction of electric-powered air taxis as an alternative form of urban air transport will require major changes in regulations, air traffic control and infrastructure. In Part 1 of a two-part overview, BILL READ FRAeS reports from Farnborough on the first Global Air Mobility Summit (GUAS 2019) which looked at the challenges facing developers of eVTOL flying vehicle.

Read more