Member Networks Annual Report Form 2016

To enable us to better support our networks and their activities all member networks (Local Sections, Interest Groups and Analytical Division Regions) are asked to complete this form and return it to networks@rsc.org. The information is shared with the members of your networks, staff and governance Boards and Committees (inc. Division Councils).

Or by post to: Networks Team, Royal Society of Chemistry, Thomas Graham House, Science Park, Milton Road, Cambridge, CB4 0WF.

This report form will be uploaded to the appropriate web page (signature deleted) unless requested otherwise.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GROUP NAME</th>
<th>South Africa North local section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Submitted by</td>
<td>Ian Bratt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signed (may be signed electronically)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>23rd February 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please list below the dates of your planned AGM and Committee Meetings (where applicable).

**Annual General Meeting (if being held)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Monday 13th February 2017 @ 18h00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Venue</td>
<td>GH836 Gate House Building – Wits University East Campus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Proposed Committee Meetings Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 3rd April 2017</td>
<td>All meetings held at GH836 Gate House Building – Wits University East Campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 5th June 2017</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 7th August 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 2nd October 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 27th November 2017</td>
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</tbody>
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**Financial Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2016**

Deadline for receipt of Financial Accounts by RSC Finance Team: **14th February 2017**
Deadline for receipt of Annual Report by Networks Team: **24th February 2017**
Submitted by Section Treasurer, Suzanne Finney on 14th February 2017
EVENTS

Please attach any meeting reports, newsletters or other reports which are relevant.

Please report below on activities undertaken in the past year. If you have more detailed information about any particularly successful events, or advice to share please use a separate sheet. For more events continue as necessary.

EVENT KEY:
- Education Event
- Public Lecture
- Retired Members Event
- Scientific Conference - 1 day
- Scientific Conference - multi day
- Social Event
- Training/workshop
- Award Lecture

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KZN annual lunch</td>
<td>Joint function with SACI KZN for members, partners and guests. Held on 2nd December at the University of KZN, Westville campus. 41 people in total attended including 11 RSC members.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gauteng annual lunch</td>
<td>Joint function with SACI Gauteng for members, partners and guests. Held on 28th August at the Wanderers Club in Johannesburg. 55 people attended including 14 RSC members and guests. The guest speaker was Niel Malan who spoke on “Gigaton problems and Africa”.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speak to a Scientist lecture at Sci Bono</td>
<td>RSC member and former local section committee member, Professor Dave Billing presented a lecture on “Energy and materials” as part of the Speak to a Scientist series. Held on 28th July.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry in a suitcase</td>
<td>Presentations made on a regular basis at Sci Bono Science Centre but also focusing on National Science week in August.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
AWARDS AND BURSARIES

Please list any awards or bursaries presented by your committee in 2016 and indicate any which will be open for nomination/application in 2017.

Eskom Young Scientists Expo; National Final Special Chemistry awards Held on 5th October 2016.

Local section members act as judges for the special awards which we have been giving for the past +/- 10 years
Will be undertaking this project in 2017

SACI Young Chemists symposium (Central) MSc and PhD students give presentations on their work
Local section members form part of the judging panel; Held on 1st December 2016.
Will be undertaking this project in 2017

SACI Young Chemists symposium (North) Hons and MSc students give presentations on their work
Local section members form part of the judging panel; Held on 23rd November 2016.
Will be undertaking this project in 2017

SACI Young Chemists symposium (KZN) MSc and PhD students give presentations on their work
Local section members form part of the judging panel; Held on 19th July 2016.
Will be undertaking this project in 2017

Seabe High School Project presentations Learners present their science projects
Member(s) of the local committee attend and judge the projects; Held on 8th April 2017.
Will be undertaking this project in 2017

Poster prizes at local (section area) conferences. In 2016 we supported CHROMSAAMS (11-14th Sep in Vanderbijlpark).
Local section members may form part of the judging panel depending on availability
Will be undertaking this project in 2017

Other information/comments:

- Ian Bratt attended the second Science Forum SA which was held at the CSIR International Conference Centre in Pretoria on 8th and 9th December 2017. We considered hosting an RSC exhibition stand at the event in order to promote the activities of the local section and the RSC. This didn’t materialise but is worth considering in future.

- The section once again ordered branded RSC goods (pens, flash sticks, coffee mugs) which were used as promotional gifts at the events above.

- Ian Bratt attended the Gauteng semi-final of the FameLab at Sci Bono in March 2016. The section is looking at how to encourage more chemists to participate in future events.

- Ian Bratt attended the opening of a Teacher Development workshop which was held at the University of Johannesburg Soweto campus. The event was sponsored by the South African Institute of Physics (SAIP), the Institute of Physics (IOP) [UK] and the British High Commission. It is also supported by the Gauteng Department of Education. This event involved around 180 secondary school teachers who were going to be instructed in science teaching methodology (including physics, chemistry, maths and life sciences) over three days. This is the workshop about which we had discussions with David Wolfe from IOP at the behest of the RSC UK last year. Subsequent to that meeting, we managed to find out who, from UJ, was presenting the chemistry part of the workshop which was Dr Manki Maiola. They never came back to us in October last year. Ian met him on 29th March and again reiterated that the RSC would like to become more involved in the workshop and that he must just let us know how the RSC (the local section and RSC UK) can best assist. David Wolfe was once again in attendance and Ian also met John Wade-Smith, Regional Head: Science and Innovation at the British High Commission in Pretoria. We have still had no approach as to how we can assist with future events.

- As part of the opening of the Teacher Development workshop Ian was given a conducted tour of the Soweto Science Centre. Based on the Soweto UJ campus, this centre aims to supplement science teaching for secondary schools in the area. Their facilities are very small. For example their chemistry laboratory can only accommodate around 12 learners. They also battle with funding. It
would be useful to look at ways for the RSC to assist the centre perhaps with the provision of educational material (from the RSC UK) and sponsorship of equipment and/or chemicals. The head of the centre, Professor Muronga has unfortunately relocated to NMMU but we are in contact with the acting head, Dr Sam Ramailia.

- The section said farewell to David Kramer, CEO of Sci Bono, who was a co-opted member of the committee for several years. He left Sci Bono to pursue other activities in the education sector. His place on the committee was filled by Tebogo Gule, Chief Operating Officer of Sci Bono.
- The section financial year was changed back to 1\(^{st}\) Jan to 31\(^{st}\) Dec (previously 1\(^{st}\) Oct to 30\(^{th}\) Sep) to fall in line with the RSC financial year.

Other activities:

- Support/sponsorship for the Sci Bono Emasondosondo Chemistry bus which visits schools in Soweto providing practical chemistry teaching to learners.
- Support/sponsorship for other programmes at Sci Bono including their Chemistry Laboratory, chemistry exhibits, school visits and educational material.
- Support/sponsorship for KZN Science Centre specifically for training of science teachers.
- Donation of RSC books to university Chemistry department libraries and resource centres – there are 20 universities in the section area and we assist three universities per year. This year we donated books to University of South Africa (Florida campus), Tshwane University of Technology (Arcadia campus) and the University of Kwa Zulu Natal (Pietermaritzburg campus).
- In addition to sponsoring the poster prizes at local conferences we also support student attendance at these conferences i.e. students are subsidised to attend the conference.

Further details of all these projects are available on request.
### PLANNED ACTIVITIES

Please report below on activities proposed. For more events continue as necessary.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exhibits for Sci Bono Science Centre</td>
<td>Educational event</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In conjunction with national science week in August 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sci Bono Chemistry in a suitcase</td>
<td>Educational event</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Demonstrations during national science week in August 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>KZN Crystal growing contest</td>
<td>Educational event</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Organised for schools in Kwa Zulu Natal in September 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual lunch/dinner (Gauteng)</td>
<td>Social event</td>
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<td></td>
<td>For members, partners and guests in Gauteng</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual lunch/dinner (KZN)</td>
<td>Social event</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For members, partners and guests in Kwa Zulu Natal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Young Chemists event (SACI Central)</td>
<td>Award presentation</td>
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<td>Prizes to be awarded to best presenters of MSc and PhD projects</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eskom Young Scientists' Expo</td>
<td>Award presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prizes to be awarded to best Chemistry projects presented by school students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Event Name</td>
<td>Comments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public lecture</td>
<td>Public lecture on some aspect of Chemistry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seabe High School science day</td>
<td>Educational</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Additional chemistry teaching and presentation of projects</td>
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<tr>
<td>CATSA Conference 19-22(^{nd}) November 2017</td>
<td>Award presentation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Presentation of prizes to best poster presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>KZN Science Centre Teacher training</td>
<td>Training/workshop</td>
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<td>Training of science teachers</td>
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<td>Training/workshop</td>
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**COMMITTEE**

*(this information will be used to update our membership database and your web page where appropriate)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Dates on committee (20xx – 20xx)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Ian Bratt</td>
<td>1985 to 2017 (excluding 1991) Chairman 2000-2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Andreas Lemmerer</td>
<td>2011 to 2017 Secretary 2012-2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Suzanne Finney</td>
<td>2004 to 2017 Treasurer 2013-2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinary Members</td>
<td>Mike Laws</td>
<td>1985 to 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gareth Tucker</td>
<td>2013 to 2017 and 1992 to 2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rob White</td>
<td>2008 to 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benevolent Fund</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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<tr>
<td>Representative (if relevant)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-opted members and their affiliation</td>
<td>Neil Coville (South African Chemical Institute)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tebogo Gule (Sci Bono Science Centre, Johannesburg)</td>
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**Diversity & Inclusion**

Our trustees are aiming to embed diversity and inclusion in all of our activities and networks. Our [online network handbook](#) contains more information to support our networks in achieving this.

Please comment on how your group is showing that it has embraced Diversity and Inclusion within its practices.

Committee meetings are held in a central location with good accessibility from most parts of Gauteng. Meetings are held in the early evening as this is seen as the most practical time.

The annual event for members in Gauteng, was once again held on a Sunday lunchtime event to accommodate members who do not like driving at night and/or do not want to be out late at night.

All events are planned to try to maximise attendance and not to exclude any group due to accessibility, cost or geographical reasons.