



# SAESI Conference, Expo and Training Challenges 2017 official opening

The Southern African Emergency Services (SAESI) Conference, Expo and Training Challenges 2017 took place from 29 October 2017 to 3 November 2017 at NASREC, Johannesburg. The conference was aptly themed 'Climate change and the emergency services'.

Melvin Ramlall, City of eThekweni Fire and Rescue, was inaugurated as the 31st president of SAESI and Arlene Wehr, City of Cape Town Fire and Rescue, as vice president during the official

opening on 1 November 2017. Ramlall will be heading up SAESI for the next two years. Wehr made history as the first female vice-president since the institute's inception.

Jugathesan (Juggie) Padayachee preceded over the traditional necrology with Hennie Croucamp ringing the bell in honour of those members that have passed on. Chaplain Rodney Berry read the Fire Fighter's Prayer followed by a moving performance of 'The Last Post' by Emile Conrad on the saxophone.

Dr Moses Khangale was programme director and Clinton Manuel welcomed delegates after which outgoing SAESI president Dino Padayachee, delivered his report. Padayachee also introduced the incoming president, Melvin Ramlall, followed by the ceremonial handing over of the presidential chain with the assistance of past presidents Marthinus (Tinus) Pretorius and Moshema Mosia. The incoming presidency took Oath of Office presided over by Judge Sakkie Bosman, followed by the formal address by Melvin Ramlall.



SAESI president Ramlall reiterated the conference theme of climate change and the impact on emergency services and said that the conference links to the Global Agenda of The Paris Agreement on Climate Change and South Africa's National Agenda of Sustainable Development and the Local Government Sustainable Development Goals to 'make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable'. "This conference also links to the SAESI objectives; to facilitate training and development of its members, the community and other relevant structures in the field of emergency services by sharing and publishing relevant research and training materials and facilitating forums for discussion and dissemination of emergency services techniques, methodologies and information," he added.

President Ramlall introduced the incoming vice-president, Arlene Wehr, who holds an Associate Diploma and is the chairperson of the Cape Peninsula Branch, has 21 years' active experience in the emergency services industry with a passion for vehicle



extrication and rescue and has successfully led teams in international competitions environment."

Local Government Sector Education and Training Authority's (LGSETA's) Pumla Mkele shared the development status of Fire Fighter qualifications and said that the LGSETA and SAESI was approved as Assessment Quality Partner by the Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO). Mkele also detailed the Recognition

of Prior Learning (RPL) project and the development of the RPL toolkit.

Alan Pellowe of 112 Solutions in the UK delivered the keynote address. Pellowe focused on the effects of climate change on the fire profession globally, highlighting the importance of an integrated approach and the role of the emergency services, training, volunteers, the public and advanced early warning systems in mitigation and response.

**Student Awards Certificates / 2016 Academic Year**

KV Phoko Chubb Floating Trophy Highest Percentage over 70 - FST300
KM Nmaguvhuni Chubb Floating Trophy Highest Percentage over 70 - FST300
KV Phoko Sasol Floating Trophy Highest Percentage over 70 - FES300
MW Modimola Hi-Lay Sales Floating Trophy Highest Percentage over 70 - FIT300
C Bart Flip van Staden Floating Trophy Highest Percentage over 70 - MNG100
KS Ngema Bob Hardy Floating Trophy Highest Percentage over 70 - FST400
A Ahmed Bob Hardy Floating Trophy Highest Percentage over 70 - FST400
RE Netshipise Confeco Floating Trophy Highest Percentage over 70 - FES400
PI Masola Sysman Floating Trophy Highest Percentage over 70 - FIT400
NJ Mulefu Amkus Floating Trophy Highest Percentage over 70 -MNG200
LP Masindi MSA Shield Highest Percentage over 70 - FST500
MN Mathebula MSA Shield Highest Percentage over 70 - FST500
P Kgatla MSA Shield Highest Percentage over 70 - FST500
MN Mathebula "The Alliance" Shield Highest Percentage over 70 - FES500
TS Ngwenya "The Alliance" Shield Highest Percentage over 70 - FES500
OM Pule Eskom Floating Trophy Highest Percentage over 70 - FIT500
SG Khunoane Dries Lombard Floating Trophy Highest Percentage over 70 - MNG500
TS Ngwenya Dries Lombard Floating Trophy Highest Percentage over 70 - MNG500
KV Phoko Angus Floating Trophy Highest Overall Percentage - All 4 (300)
LP Masindi Shorten Floating Trophy Highest Overall Percentage - All 4 (400)
TS Ngwenya Sir HM Smith Floating Trophy Highest Overall Percentage - All 4 (500)
TS Ngwenya LS de Villiers Floating Trophy Highest Overall Percentage 75% Distinction - All TS Ngwenya M050173 SAESI Student of the Year 2016 Top Achiever on 500 level
Johannesburg Emergency Management Services Hannes de Beer Floating Trophy Most Awards Received





▶ Dr Mmaphaka Tau, deputy director-general (Head), NDMC, highlighted interface between climate change and disaster risks in South Africa and the global fire risk context. He discussed the measures and strategies that fire services must implement in the context of climate change and said that communities must also take ownership for reducing the risks posed by fires.

Dr Tau added that fire services need to improve their discipline, commitment and fitness levels. He furthermore said that the NDMC will ensure the development of applicable legislative and regulatory frameworks to support the delivery of fire services within the context of the Back to Basics Programme.

The following awards and certificates were awarded:  
**Fellow Awards Certificate**  
 VM Smith

MED Galvin  
 D Snyman

**30 Years Continued Membership**

D Padayachee  
 DS Khunou  
 MP Malange  
 NH Mutshauba  
 CM Reynard  
 E Jacobs  
 WJ Welkom  
 AG Munyai  
 LJ Mashiloane  
 MW Sekhantsa  
 ML Tshivhase  
 SL Mokoena  
 CE Carls  
 NK Birjalal  
 A Visser  
 CF Aucamp  
 AR Hartley  
 CP Daniels  
 J Laubscher  
 MP Mosia  
 NP Moloji  
 PA Herbert

CT Bibby  
 JW Sekano  
 A Hartshorne  
 EM Jansen  
 JFH Burger  
 RJF Klaassen  
 LP Cloete

**40 Years Continued Membership**

SF Abrahamse  
 JCW Roets  
 FJ Bekker  
 MED Galvin  
 JL Ingram  
 VM Smith

**President's vote of appreciation**

CP van der Merwe (Posthumously)

Fire and Rescue International congratulates Melvin Ramlall and Arlene Wehr on their achievement and is certain of the leadership, diligence, attentiveness and success that the incoming presidency will provide SAESI and its members as well as the industry as a whole. 

