



# NEWSLETTER

Promoting the study and advancement of Earth Sciences since 1895



Happy  
2025

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- CPD Workshop
- President's Column
- Membership Fees now due
- 2025 Prelim Events - Register
- Namaqualand Diamond Conference
- Geocongress 2025
- 35IGC - Call for Grant Applications
- 2025 Event Sponsorship
- SAMCODES Snippets
- SAMREC - Call for Competent Persons
- SAS-SEG Lecture
- Webinar International Employment Truths
- UNESCO - China Fellowship Prog
- Student Awards - Call for Nominations
- Relaunch of UKZN branch & AGM photos
- Geobulletin - December Issue
- GSA Awards & Grants 2025
- GMG-SAIMM Forum
- Drilling Skills for Geologists
- GSSA Annual Sponsors
- NSTF - Undergraduate Bursaries



**ONLINE  
CPD  
WORKSHOP**

**4 MARCH 2025**

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# STEVE MCCOURT

GSSA PRESIDENT

Let me start this newsletter with the hope that 2025 will be a peaceful and prosperous year for all GSSA Members, Fellows and their families.

2025 is the 130th Anniversary of the Society and this achievement has been identified as a theme of Geocongress 2025 to be held in Bloemfontein in June. The LOC for Geocongress has proposed a total of 22 sessions with abstract submission for papers linked to these sessions closing on March 31st. Further details on individual sessions together with an opportunity to register for the meeting are available online at <https://geocongress2025.org.za>

Society activities for 2025 begin with the relaunch of the KZN Branch on January 30th with an AGM at STEC on the Westville Campus of UKZN. In addition to the business meeting, there will be a talk by Kevin le Bron entitled Rock Engineering Applications in the Mining Industry.

On Saturday February 1st the Fellows Committee host a lunch for GSSA Fellows resident in the Western Cape. The event, which has been championed by Louise Coney the current Chair of the Fellows Committee, will take the form of a lunch at Beyerskloof Wine Estate, near Stellenbosch. Feedback plus photos will be published in the February newsletter.

The main event of Quarter 1 the Namaqualand Diamond Centenary conference and fieldtrip between March 11-20. The conference will be held at Letatsi Lodge in Vanrhynsdorp, and late registration closes on February 28th. Full details are available under the events tab on the GSSA website. Join the Geological Society of South Africa (GSSA) and the Northern Cape Branch (NCB) in celebrating 100 years since the initial discovery of diamonds in Namaqualand by Jack Carstens on the Port Nolloth Reserve (1925), followed by the rich deposits at Alexander Bay by Hans Merensky in 1926. The event is being championed by Tania Marshall.

The Fellows Committee has called for submissions for the 2025 GSSA Awards and I take this opportunity to remind the Heads of Academic Departments/Schools to identify submissions for the various student awards.

## SAJG Alert



The December issue of the SAJG is ready to go to print. The issue (127-4) covers 97 pages and carries 5 papers. The online version of the December issue has been delayed due our Technical Editor Mike Knoper being down in Antarctica for the summer field season. The Society apologies for this delay.



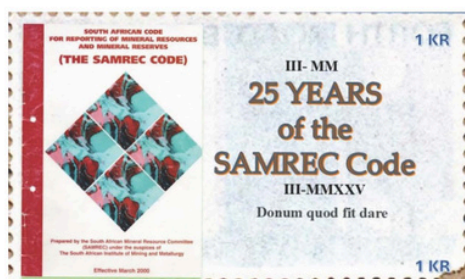
## SAMCODES SNIPPETS

### Inclusive vs Exclusive Reporting

The debate regarding whether Mineral Resources should be reported inclusive or exclusive of Mineral Reserves has been ongoing for years, and circa 2012 it was classified as a 'parked issue' by the SAMREC Working Group as no consensus was reached. (Rupprecht, 2020).

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*Clause 42 of the SAMREC Code notes that "In situations in which both Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves are reported, the Public Report must include a statement that clearly indicates whether the Mineral Resources are inclusive of, or additional to, those Mineral Resources that have been modified to produce Mineral Reserves."*



## Calling all Competent Persons, Consultants & Consulting Companies

**i** [Request for assistance/information](#)

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# SPONSORS

## NAMAQUALAND DIAMOND CENTENARY CONFERENCE

11 – 20 March 2025 | Vanrhynsdorp – South Africa



NDC Website



[https://www.gssa.org.za/?page\\_id=7337](https://www.gssa.org.za/?page_id=7337)



# 24 - 27 JUNE 2025 GEOCONGRESS

Join us at the 2025 Geocongress, South Africa's premier national meeting for geoscientists and geologists, where innovation meets collaboration. Set against the backdrop of South Africa's stunning geological wonders, this event brings together industry leaders, researchers, and students to tackle the challenges of a changing world through shared knowledge and groundbreaking discoveries.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Glen Nwaila



Geoffrey Howarth



Sifiso Siwela



Hayley Cawthra



John Carranza



Susan Webb

*This is more than a conference—it's a call to action. By fostering collaboration across disciplines and industries, we can unlock the potential to reshape the future of geoscience and address the pressing issues facing our planet.*

### What to Expect

#### Body

- **Engaging Sessions:** Explore key topics covering a variety of fields in southern African geoscience. A full list of sessions is available on our website.
- **Inspiring Keynotes:** Hear from world-renowned experts, including Prof Glen Nwaila, Prof John Carranza, Mr Sifiso Siwela, Dr Geoffrey Howarth, Prof Susan Webb and Dr Hayley Cawthra
- **Field Excursions:** Witness South Africa's unique and world-famous geology with guided excursions to iconic sites.

📍 **Location:** University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa

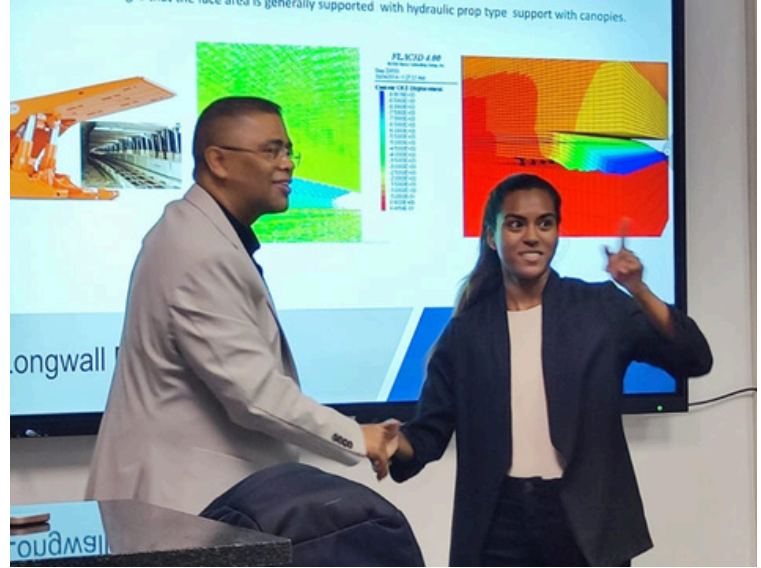
➤ **Register Now!** - Visit <https://geocongress2025.org.za/> to secure your spot. Early bird discounts available until 28 February 2025, and there are special rates student rates!

🏢 **Prospective Sponsors:** Secure your spot to contribute to this fantastic biennial event. Sponsorship details are available at <https://geocongress2025.org.za/>

**Together, we embrace change and shape the future of geology!**

# RELAUNCH OF THE UKZN BRANCH & AGM

## 30 JANUARY 2025





We welcome geoscientists to a webinar on

# INTERNATIONAL EMPLOYMENT TRUTHS

Ever wonder about international work opportunities? Join international recruitment specialists and experienced well-traveled geoscientists to hear all about the WHAT, WHY and HOW.

 **12 MARCH 2025**    **ONLINE ZOOM**    **11:00 – 12:30 EST/  
18:00 – 19:30 SAST**

 **REGISTER NOW**

*The webinar will be recorded and posted for later viewing*

Hosted by GSSA, American Institute of Professional Geologists, the West African Institute Of Mining, Metallurgy & Petroleum



We are thrilled to be holding an international webinar with the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG) on Geosciences - International Employment Truths.

Jon Taylor, Lindsey Shultz and Palesa Maloka will explore the recruitment process, job market trends and a whole lot more. Experienced geoscientists Chris Ainsworth, Danièle Spethmann, Ian Gendall and Sara Turnbull will provide insights on what it's like to work internationally.

Register to join us for thought-provoking talks on working internationally as a geoscientist.



## SAS-SEG

The South African  
Student chapter  
of the  
Society of Economic  
Geologists

RSVP

## SAS-SEG LECTURE 4 FEBRUARY 2025

We are thrilled to announce the start of our exciting events for 2025. The South African Student Chapter of the Society of Economic Geologists SAS-SEG in collaboration with the Wits School of Geosciences will be hosting a guest lecture on the 4th February 2025 (from 13h00 -14h00) at G101 lecture hall. This esteemed guest, Dr Steve Garwin, has been active with the Centre for Exploration Targeting and the University of Western Australia Student Chapter (UWA-SEG) for many years. He has extensive experience in the exploration and mining of porphyry ore deposit. He looks forward to sharing his insights with us and we hope to see you there.



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## 2025 EVENT SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We invite you to partner with us in growing and providing the industry with the tools for a sustainable future. Whether your goal is to increase brand recognition or spend quality time with the market, you will find what you need to meet your goals. Increase your visibility and gain access to your target markets. We welcome all our partners and thank you in advance for your continued support.

**Contact - Loni Gallant -** [lonigallant@icloud.com](mailto:lonigallant@icloud.com)



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## 35IGC LEGACY FUND - CALL FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS

The generous support received from sponsors, donors and over 4,000 registered delegates resulted in a financial surplus after the 35th International Geological Congress that was held in Cape Town during 2016. These funds have been invested and are administered by the Board of 35IGC Legacy Fund to ensure that the legacy of this successful event will benefit the South African geoscience community long into the future.





## NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FORUM (NSTF) AVAILABLE BURSARIES

The NSTF has published a list of organizations that provide undergraduate bursaries. Several of these provide support in earth science and related fields, and should be contacted directly.

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## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: UNESCO-CHINA FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

Applications are now open for the 2025/2026 UNESCO/People's Republic of China (The Great Wall) Co-Sponsored Fellowships Programme.

UNESCO and the People's Republic of China will co-sponsor fellowships at Chinese universities for undergraduate and postgraduate studies in various fields during the 2025-2026 academic year, which starts in late August/early September 2025.

READ MORE



## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS GSSA STUDENT AWARDS

The GSSA is calling for nominations for the GSSA Student Awards for the 2024 academic year. The Fellows Committee of the Geological Society will be responsible for adjudicating the submissions for the GSSA awards, with awards scheduled to be announced at the mid-year AGM. In order for the adjudication process to be completed on time, we need to have digital copies of the nominated theses and short motivations submitted by 1 April 2025. Details of the criteria are listed on the GSSA website.

<https://www.gssa.org.za/wp-content/uploads/GSSA-By-Laws.pdf>

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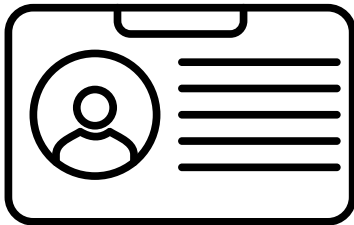


## GSSA 2025 PRELIMINARY EVENTS CALENDAR



Date	Event	Location
On Demand	Drilling Methods & Techniques Drilling skills certificate programme	Online
4 March	CPD Workshop	Online - Free
11 - 20 March	Namaqualand Diamond Centenary (NDC) conference & Field trip	Vanrhynsdorp & Port Nolloth
12 March	International Employment Truths	Online - Free
27 March	Advanced Excel	Online
5 & 6 April	Structural Geology Course & Field trip	Southbroom - UKZN
11 April	3D Geological Modelling (TECT)	Online

[READ MORE](#)



## GSSA MEMBERSHIP FEES

2025 Membership fees are now due

The Membership Fees for 2025 have been increased by an average of 4.8 per cent. An early bird discount at the 2024 rates is offered for your 2025 fees if paid by latest 31 January 2025. For those who wish to take advantage of this offer, simply pay your 2024 rate as shown on the fees schedule.

[PAY ONLINE](#)

Finance queries – [accounts@gssa.org.za](mailto:accounts@gssa.org.za)

## GEOBULLETIN – DECEMBER 2024





## Distinguished Career Award

### Acknowledging Transformative Impact in Geosciences

This prestigious award celebrates a GSA member whose significant contributions have advanced international geological sciences through research and service.

**Nomination Deadline: 15 February**

Apply here:



## GSA Honorary Fellow Award

### Celebrating Excellence in Geoscience

The Honorary Fellow Award recognizes exceptional non-North American geoscientists whose distinguished scientific research has made a global impact.

- **Eligibility:** Open to non-North Americans residing and working outside North America.
- **No Membership Required:** Honorary Fellows are selected based on their extraordinary contributions to the geological sciences.

**Nomination Deadline: 15 February**

Apply here:



**Contact:** Ester Sztein: [esztein@geosociety.org](mailto:esztein@geosociety.org)  
Anishma Acharya: [aacharya@geosociety.org](mailto:aacharya@geosociety.org)

**Social Media:**



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**Take the next step in your geoscience journey – Apply or Nominate Today!**

Sign up for the GSA International Newsletter here:



# GSA International Awards & Grants 2025

## GSA International Travel Grants

### Connect Globally, Share Your Research

These grants support early career geoscientists and students residing outside North America to present their work at **GSA Connects 2025**.

- **Eligibility:** Must reside outside North America and are required to present their research at GSA Connects 2025.

**Application Deadline: 10 March**



Apply here:



## Christopher I. & Irene N. Chalokwu Travel Grant for Students in Africa

### Empowering the Next Generation of African Geoscientists

This grant supports students in Africa presenting their research at GSA Connects 2025.

- **Eligibility:** Successful applicants must reside in Africa and are required to present their research at GSA Connects 2025.

**Application Deadline: 10 March**

Apply here:



Apply here:



## GSA James B. Thompson, Jr. Distinguished International Lectureship

### Promoting Global Exchange of Geological Knowledge

This initiative fosters knowledge exchange by facilitating **two distinguished lecture tours** from top geologists.

- **Non-North American Lecturers:** Nominees residing outside North America deliver lectures at leading North American institutions.
- **North American Lecturers:** Nominees residing in North America present lectures at global institutions.

Now Accepting Nominations for 2025–2026.

**Nomination Deadline: 15 February**

Both nominations and self-nominations are welcome and encouraged!

**Contact:** Ester Sztejn: [esztein@geosociety.org](mailto:esztein@geosociety.org)  
Anishma Acharya: [aacharya@geosociety.org](mailto:aacharya@geosociety.org)

**Social Media:**



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**Take the next step in your geoscience journey – Apply or Nominate Today!**

Sign up for the GSA International Newsletter here:





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**GMG**

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OF MINING AND METALLURGY  
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130  
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ECSA Validated CPD Activity,  
Credits = 0.1 points per hour attended.

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innovation and sustainability

➤ **12-13 MARCH 2025**  
54 ON BATH, ROSEBANK,  
JOHANNESBURG  
SOUTH AFRICA



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## Drilling Skills for Geologists is proudly endorsed by the GSSA

**40 GSSA CPD points (Formal learning)**  
**5 SACNASP CPD points (Category 1)**



### **DRILLING SKILLS FOR GEOLOGISTS CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**

#### **About this certificate program**

The aim of this certificate is to improve the candidate's understanding of the fundamental processes that are involved in drilling boreholes and therefore to improve the candidate's effectiveness in identifying the source of problems and managing a drilling project.

The program also examines fundamental aspects of the use and application of drilling fluids and the principles of borehole surveying. A course on economic aspects focusses on the major cost drivers and the structure of drilling contracts.

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# The GSSA wishes to acknowledge our **2025 Sponsors**

## Annual Sponsors



## Event Sponsor

