

**Microscopy Society of Southern Africa
Mikroskopievereniging van Suidelike Afrika**

SECOND CIRCULAR AND CALL FOR PAPERS



**44th Annual Conference
5 – 7 December 2005**

**UNIVERSITY OF KWA-ZULU NATAL
Pietermaritzburg Campus**

**DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF ABSTRACTS BY EDITORS –
28 JULY 2005**

This Circular has the latest Conference news and all the information necessary for those who wish to submit abstracts for papers or posters at MSA 2005. A revised set of instructions to authors produced in the exact format of an abstract is included. You will note that the system is now geared entirely towards electronic submissions. Please note that colour plates submitted in abstracts will be printed black-and-white in the Proceedings.

Professor Trevor Sewell at UCT has volunteered his services as Editor-in-Chief of the Conference Proceedings. Abstracts should NOT be sent to Professor Sewell but only to the editors in the discipline covered in the abstract. A list of these editors is included in this circular. Please encourage colleagues, and especially students, to submit papers for MSA 2005.

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SECOND CIRCULAR

Venue

The Conference will be held on the Golf Road campus of the Pietermaritzburg Centre of the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

Reply Form

Interested persons are urged to complete and return the Reply Form sent with the First Circular as soon as possible. Students are further requested to complete the student reply form also sent with the First Circular. Copies of both of these forms may be found on the Conference website.

Accommodation

Comfortable and convenient accommodation has been arranged at UKZN's Dennison residence, details in the next circular. For alternative accommodation see our website.

Registration Fees

All delegates are required to register before 25 October 2005. Registration after this time will be subject to a late registration fee.

	Before 25/10	After 25/10
MSSA members	R750	R900
Non MSSA members	R870	R1000
Students	R475	R650
Daily rate	R250	R250

Registration will include;

- A copy of the Conference Proceedings*
- A conference bag*
- All evening functions*
- Morning and afternoon tea & coffee
- *All lunches*

* - not included in the daily rate

The following fees are payable by those accompanying delegates to the evening functions;

- Anaspec Indian Evening - R80
- ALS Spit Braai & Barn Dance - R80
- Conference Banquet - R150

Payments can be made by;

- 1) Cheques (in South African Rands) which should be crossed and be payable to 'University of KwaZulu-Natal'.

- 2) Direct transfer to account number 50871932932 branch number 223626, FNB, Durban quoting reference Q270-33020. It is essential that this reference number is quoted and the deposit slip is faxed to (033) 260 5776.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

Invited Speakers

The 2005 Boris Balinsky Lecture will be delivered by Dr Barry Fabian of the School of Molecular and Cell Biology at the University of the Witwatersrand. Dr Debbie Stokes of the Physics Department, Cavendish Laboratories, University of Cambridge will deliver the John Matthews Memorial Lecture.

Delegates are reminded that they may submit papers for the special Boris Balinsky Session at this conference. Professor Balinsky was a founder member of MSSA, this year is the centenary of his birth. Papers covering subjects such as Developmental Biology, Cell development and Embryology may be submitted for this session.

Oral Sessions

Most of the programme will be arranged in 5 parallel sessions: Physical Sciences, Microbiological Sciences, Medical and Zoological Sciences, Botanical Sciences and the Technical Forum. Plenary sessions will feature the presentations of the guest speakers. Each paper will be allocated 20 minutes (15 minutes presentation plus 5 minutes discussion). All of the lecture theatres will be equipped with overhead projectors and data projectors. Should any presenters have unusual requirements they should contact the Conference Convener at least one month before the conference otherwise a successful presentation cannot be guaranteed. Data projector presentations should be loaded to CD in PowerPoint only.

Poster Sessions

Poster sessions will, as usual, form an important part of the conference. Posters will be displayed in prominent locations and

remain in place for the duration of the conference. Formally chaired poster sessions at which authors will present their work will be scheduled into the programme. These sessions will be of 10 minutes duration (5 mins talk and 5 mins discussion). Posters should not be larger than 1.2 metres high by 1.2 metres wide.

Technical Forum

Technical Forum sessions will run parallel to the regular scientific sessions. Their duration will be the same - 20 minutes, made up of a 15 minutes talk and 5 minutes of discussion. A separate document enclosed with this newsletter provides comprehensive further information.

Post Conference Workshops

Three post conference workshops will be conducted on Thursday 8 and Friday, 9 December.

1) ESEM and low vacuum SEM workshop to be conducted by Dr Debbie Stokes of the University of Cambridge, 2 days, limited to 8 people, cost R90.

2) Image Analysis workshop by Soft Imaging Systems, 1 day, limited to 12 people, cost R50.

Arrangements for at least one other workshop are being finalised at the time of writing.

Social Programme

A varied and exciting programme of social events has been planned for the conference. Be sure not to miss the first event - the Anaspec-sponsored Indian evening, we offer a different evening of traditional entertainment and foods in the Indian style. On the following evening ALS are to sponsor a spit braai and Barndance - once again a traditional evening with a South African flavour with entertainment by a top notch Blue Grass band.

The Tuesday night will be a free night for delegates with the option of joining the arranged student evening if you are strong enough.

We have really great boma-style venue and outstanding cuisine for the Conference Banquet and prize-giving on the final night.

Cover Micrograph Competition

Every year the Society runs a competition amongst delegates for micrograph which will feature on the cover of the Conference Proceedings. Entries need not be part of a submitted paper or poster and will be judged on both scientific and artistic merit. Entries should be reach the Conference Convener before 24 September to be eligible.

Micrograph Competition

A digital camera is once again being offered as the prize for a micrograph competition to be staged during the conference. Bring to the conference your most attractive micrographs, entires will be judged on artistic merit only but the source image should be produced by a microscope.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Submission of abstracts to editors
- 28 July 2005

Cover micrograph competition
- 24 Sept 2005

Final registration date and payment
- 25 Oct 2005

Conference Website:
<http://www.ukzn.ac.za/mssa2005>

Student grants

A number of grants are available for students to attend the conference. Candidates for these awards should apply, in writing to the Conference Convener using the form provided in the first circular - or available on the website. Application should only be made after the candidate is aware that their abstract has been accepted.

Trade Presentations and Exhibition

An important and popular aspect of the Conference will once again be the exhibition of equipment and materials presented by our partners in the trade. A venue at the heart of the conference venue has been set aside for this purpose and trade bookings are already rolling in. Delegates can look forward to seeing some of the very latest equipment on display. The popularity of our Technical Forum sessions also provides our trade friends the opportunity to present technical papers on the latest innovations produced by their companies. As usual the conference allows delegates and the trade to mingle freely and renew contact over the three days.

TRANSPORT

Pietermaritzburg is about 5 hours drive from Gauteng on a well-surfaced (but heavily tolled!) highway. A number of bus services have regular services between Gauteng and KZN. There are daily flights directly to Pietermaritzburg from Gauteng. There are, of course, daily flights from all main centres to Durban, 80 km distant. In the third and final circular we will produce a schedule showing which flights to and from Durban will be met with by our arranged transport. All flights into Pietermaritzburg will be met.

PRIZES

A comprehensive list of prizes, generously sponsored by our trade partners, appeared in the first circular.

Conference Website:

<http://www.ukzn.ac.za/mssa2005>

MSSA 2005 Proceedings – Editors

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