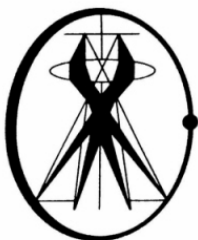


**MICROSCOPY SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA (MSSA)  
MIKROSKOPIEVERENIGING VAN SUIDELIKE AFRIKA (MSSA)**



**47<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
8 – 11 December 2009**

**University of KwaZulu-Natal  
Westville Campus**



## **FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Conference Secretariat  
Professional Conferencing Services  
Room 119  
Innovation Centre  
University of KwaZulu-Natal  
Howard College  
Durban 4001**

**Tel: +27 (31) 260 1584/1607  
Fax: +27 (31) 260 1606**

**Email: [mssa09@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:mssa09@ukzn.ac.za)  
Website: <http://mssa2009.ukzn.ac.za/HomePage18950.aspx>**

**Conference Convenor: Dr. James Wesley-Smith  
Secretary: Priscilla Maartens  
Electron Microscope Unit  
E1 04-50  
University of KwaZulu-Natal  
Westville Campus  
Durban 4000**

On behalf of the Microscopy Society of Southern Africa and the conference organisers, we have the pleasure of inviting you to attend the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of MSSA which is being hosted by the University of KwaZulu-Natal. We sincerely hope that you will be able to attend.

### **Dates**

MSSA Pre-Conference Workshops	<b>6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>December 2009</b>
MSSA Technical Forum	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>December 2009</b>
MSSA 2009 Conference	<b>9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>December 2009</b>

### **Conference Venue**

The conference will be held in the T-Block Lecture Theatre Complex on the Westville Campus of the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

### **Accommodation and Meals**

Accommodation has been reserved for conference delegates at the new student residence on the University of KwaZulu-Natal Westville Campus. The residence is within walking distance of the conference venue.

Accommodation rate for a single room is R220 per person per night including bed, breakfast and linen but excluding towels (delegates are requested to provide their own). For those not wishing to take advantage of the University accommodation, Durban hosts a variety of bed and breakfast/Guest Houses and Hotels in close proximity to the University Westville Campus. A list of Guest Houses and Hotels is posted on the website, and those delegates wishing to make a booking with any of these Guest Houses or Hotels are requested to deal directly with the Guest House or Hotel.

### **Registration**

All delegates are required to register by submitting a completed Registration Form accompanied by proof of payment before 30<sup>th</sup> October 2009 to qualify for the 'Early Bird Registration' fee. All registrations received after the 30<sup>th</sup> October 2009 will be accepted subject to paying the late registration fee.

<b>Category Registration</b>	<b>Early Bird Registration</b>	<b>Late Registration</b>
MSSA Technical Forum	R300.00*	R300.00*
MSSA Conference Members (incl. Technical Forum)	R1200.00	R1450.00
MSSA Conference Non-Member (incl. Tech. Forum)	R1400.00	R1650.00
Students and Trade Representatives	R800.00*	R1000.00*
Daily Rate	R400.00**	R500.00**

#### **MSSA Conference Registration Includes:**

- Conference Proceedings
- Conference Bag
- Ice Breaker, Braai Evening and Conference Banquet
- Morning and afternoon tea and coffee
- Lunches

\* Does not include a hard copy of the Conference Proceedings

\*\* Does not include a hard copy of the Conference Proceedings or evening function

Kindly indicate in the Registration Form should you require a Letter of Invitation to attend MSSA 09.

### **Workshops**

Workshops are planned to run during the 6 – 7<sup>th</sup> December. To date, interest has been expressed in organising the following workshops:

*Light Microscopy*, presented by Phil Robinson (RMS, UK), microscopes sponsored by Carl Zeiss SA.

*Advanced SEM Course*, presented by Steve Chapman (Protrain, UK)  
Further details will be given at a later stage. Those of you interested in organising a workshop please contact us at [mssa2009@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:mssa2009@ukzn.ac.za) as soon as possible to make the necessary arrangements.

### **MSSA Technical Forum**

The Technical Forum (TF) has deservedly been allocated a full day as a stand-alone session, taking place on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2009. This will allow interested delegates to participate in the Technical Forum without clashes with parallel sessions. The TF format this year has been proposed to be a combination of the conventional TF format and the themed session format used at micro-MSSA in 2007.

#### *Themed Sessions*

Three themed sessions are planned to run before lunch. Each of these will consist of a keynote address given by a selected speaker. (Please note that these are ‘applications sessions’ and not a ‘sales pitch’.) At the end of each session, the Chair will open the floor to a panel discussion.

The themes for each session will be selected from the following topics proposed:

1. Applications for FIB SEM / ion slicing/ ion sectioning
2. Geological applications of EBSD
3. Buildings and facilities for new high resolution microscopy applications
4. Live imaging, key biological/medical topics, or similar

#### *Conventional TF sessions*

Two conventional TF format sessions will be held after lunch. Delegates are invited to present 20 min talks on commercial sales promotions (e.g. new equipment) or technical presentations. Delegates interested in presenting talks are requested to submit abstracts by the 16<sup>th</sup> October to **the Conference Secretariat** at [mssa09@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:mssa09@ukzn.ac.za). Instructions to Authors for the Technical Forum abstracts can be found in the Conference website (<http://mssa09.ukzn.ac.za>)

### **Scientific Programme**

The conference programme will include invited speakers delivering the **John Matthews Memorial** and **Boris Balinsky** Lectures, as well as oral and poster presentations delivered along two parallel sessions, viz. Materials Sciences and Life Sciences. Wherever possible, presenters will be identified to deliver Keynote Address presentations at the beginning of particular themes in each discipline. Oral presentations will be allocated 15 minutes plus 5 minutes for discussion. Poster sessions form an integral part of the conference. Accordingly, posters will be displayed in prominent locations throughout the duration of the meeting, and presented in formally-chaired sessions. The presenters are requested to be at their posters during the allotted time period for a 10 min presentation. Posters should be of a standard size of 1.2m high by 1 m wide.

### **Abstract Submission**

Deadline for abstract submission is 31<sup>st</sup> July 2009. Abstracts can be submitted for consideration either as oral or poster presentations. Please adhere closely to the Instructions to Authors for

Conference Abstracts. Each abstract must be accompanied by a duly-completed Programme Questionnaire, **and submitted electronically to the Conference Secretariat at [mssa09@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:mssa09@ukzn.ac.za)**. Instructions to Authors for the submission of abstracts can be found in the Conference website (<http://mssa09.ukzn.ac.za>)

For your information (and *not* submission of abstracts) the MSSA 2009 Proceedings Editors are:

**Editor in Chief**

Prof Trevor Sewell  
Electron Microscope Unit  
University of Cape Town

**Editor - Physical Sciences/Materials**

Prof Rob Knutsen  
Centre for Materials Engineering  
University of Cape Town

**Editor - Life Sciences**

Professor Terry Aveling  
Department of Microbiology  
and Plant Pathology  
University of Pretoria

**Student Grants**

A limited number of Student Grants are available for students to attend the conference. Candidates should apply directly to Mr Alan Hall *as soon as they know that their abstracts have been accepted but before the end of September*.

Mr Alan Hall  
Laboratory for Microscopy and Microanalysis  
Natural Sciences Building II  
University of Pretoria, PRETORIA 0002  
Tel: (012) 420 2075 Fax: (012) 362 5150  
E-mail: [alan.hall@up.ac.za](mailto:alan.hall@up.ac.za)

**Prizes**

Conference delegates stand a chance of being awarded various prizes in the categories listed below at the Conference Banquet.

ALS/JEOL Award for the Most Promising Black Microscopist. The winner of this award (amounting to an estimated R25,000) will be sponsored to travel abroad and present a paper / poster at an international Conference.

ANASPEC PRIZE – ANAPSEC prize of R1,000 for the paper or poster that uses microscopy to address an industrial-related problem.

FEI PRIZE OF R1000 for each of the best papers published in a recognised international Journal for Physical Sciences or Life Sciences during the period July 2007 to June 2009. Candidates need not be members of the Society, but must be resident in Southern Africa. Three reprints and a letter of application, including permanent home address, should be sent before the end of September to:

Mr Alan Hall,  
Postal address provided above  
e-mail: [alan.hall@up.ac.za](mailto:alan.hall@up.ac.za)

FIONA GRAHAM PRIZE of R1,500 is awarded to students who submit a 'first-time-accepted-no changes-required' abstract for the conference.

MARY VEENSTRA PRIZE of R500 will be awarded for the best poster presentation on any form of microscopy presented at the conference.

SMM TECHNOLOGIES AWARD of R1,000 for the best paper or poster using confocal microscopy

SMM TECHNOLOGIES prize of R1,000 for the most innovative technique in microscopy, and/or on the novel use in SA of an established technique.

WIRSAM LIGHT MICROSCOPY PRIZE of an Olympus camera for the best light microscopy oral or poster presentation.

WIRSAM SCIENTIFIC will award a prize of R850 for the best paper presented by a student author.

WIRSAM TESCAN PRIZE for R1,000 for the most exceptional presentation at the conference.

### **Cover Micrograph**

You are invited to submit original and aesthetically-pleasing micrographs for the cover of the Conference Proceedings. Kindly submit your entries to [mssa09@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:mssa09@ukzn.ac.za).

### **Important Deadlines**

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| • Submission of abstracts for the proceedings | <b>31<sup>st</sup> July 2009</b>      |
| • Second Circular                             | <b>August 2009</b>                    |
| • Cover micrograph competition                | <b>26<sup>th</sup> September 2009</b> |
| • Submission of abstracts to Technical Forum  | <b>16<sup>th</sup> October 2009</b>   |
| • Final Circular                              | <b>October 2009</b>                   |
| • Final registration date and payment         | <b>30<sup>th</sup> October 2009</b>   |
| • Application for Student Grants              | <b>End of September</b>               |
| • FEI Prize reprint submissions               | <b>End of September</b>               |

### **Social Programme**

Ice Breaker	8 <sup>th</sup> December 2009
Braai Evening	9 <sup>th</sup> December 2009
Free Evening (Theatre Evening optional)	10 <sup>th</sup> December 2009
Conference Banquet & Prize-giving	11 <sup>th</sup> December 2009

### **Cost for Accompanying Persons**

Ice Breaker:	R200
Braai Evening:	R200
Conference Banquet	R400

### **Trade Presentations and Exhibitions**

Interested companies and/or parties to contact the Conference Secretariat for more information and to book exhibition space.

For any further information please do not hesitate to contact the Conference Secretariat on +27 (31) 260 1584 /1607.

Kind Regards  
Conference Secretariat  
Professional Conferencing Services  
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Innovation Centre  
University of KwaZulu-Natal  
Howard College  
Durban 4001

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Fax: +27 (31) 260 1606

Email: [mssa09@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:mssa09@ukzn.ac.za)  
Website: <http://mssa2009.ukzn.ac.za/HomePage18950.aspx>

