

MICROSCOPY SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA MIKROSKOPIE VERENIGING VAN SUIDELIKE AFRIKA



**48th Annual Conference
26-29th October 2010
University of Limpopo**

FIRST CIRCULAR



Conference Secretariat:

Scatterlings Conference & Events



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On behalf of the Microscopy Society of Southern Africa and the Conference Organisers, we have the pleasure of inviting you to attend the 48th Annual Conference of MSSA which is hosted by the University of Limpopo at Forever Resorts Warmbaths (Bela-Bela).

We sincerely hope that you will be able to attend.

DATES

MSSA Pre-Conference Workshops
(preliminary) 24-25 October 2010
MSSA Technical Forum 26 October 2010
MSSA 2009 Conference 27-29 October 2010

CONFERENCE VENUE

Forever Resorts Warmbaths (Bela-Bela) offers a wide range of Conference Facilities catering for delegates from 25 to 1000. All conference rooms are equipped with modern conference equipment. An array of facilities and activities are offered on the Resort.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation at Forever Resorts comprises 45 luxury hotel rooms, 124 self-catering chalets and Caribbean style log cabins. Shady camping sites, pools, river rides, wave pool, game drives and cable skiing are all available for enjoyment by children and adults alike. Please visit our website at www.mssa2010.co.za for all accommodation options at Forever Resorts as well as alternative accommodation at guesthouses available to our delegates. Please book early.

REGISTRATION

All delegates are required to register by submitting a completed Registration Form accompanied by proof of payment before **31 August 2010** to qualify for the 'Early Bird Registration' fee. All registrations received after 31 August 2010 will be accepted subject to paying the late fee. If you would like to become a member of MSSA kindly visit <http://www.microscopy.org.za/membership.htm> for information and an application form.

Category Registration	Early Bird Registration	Late Registration
MSSA Technical Forum*	R650.00*	R650.00*
MSSA Conference Members (Incl. Tech Forum)	R1950.00	R2250.00
MSSA Conference Non-members (Incl. Tech Forum)	R2250.00	R2500.00
Students and Trade Delegates*	R1300.00*	R1500.00*
Daily Rate **	R700.00**	R900.00**

MSSA Conference Registration includes:

1. Conference Proceedings
2. Conference Bag
3. Ice Breaker, Braai Evening and Gala Dinner
4. Morning and Afternoon Tea and Coffee
5. 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 whether you require a Letter of invitation to attend MSSA 2010.

WORKSHOPS

Workshops are being planned and further details will be given at a later stage - Those interested in organizing workshops should please contact the Conference Convener at mssa2010@ul.ac.za.

MSSA TECHNICAL FORUM

The Technical Forum (TF) has again been allocated a full day as a stand-alone session, taking place on Tuesday 26th October 2010. This will allow interested delegates to participate in the Technical Forum without clashes with the scientific parallel sessions. The TF format has been proposed to be a combination of the conventional TF format and the themed session format used at μ -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 theme topics for the 2010 sessions will be announced at a later stage.

• 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 **09 September 2010** to Prof Mike Lee directly at michael.lee@nmmu.ac.za

Instructions to Authors for the Technical Forum abstracts can be found at the Conference website
www.mssa2010.co.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 in two parallel sessions, viz. Materials Sciences and Life Sciences.

Wherever possible, presenters will be identified to deliver Keynote Address presentations at the beginning of sessions. Oral presentations will be allocated 15 minutes plus 5 minutes for discussion.

Poster sessions form an integral part of the conference, and will be displayed in prominent locations for the duration of the meeting, and presented in formal chaired sessions. Presenters are requested to be at their posters during the allotted time period for a 10 min presentation, and the posters should be of a standard size of 1.2m high by 1 m wide.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS

Deadline for abstract submission is **30 June 2010**. Please visit our website and follow the procedure for abstract submissions. Abstracts can be submitted for consideration either as oral or poster presentations. Please adhere closely to the Instructions to Authors for Conference Abstracts. Submit abstracts and programme questionnaire to mssa2010@ul.ac.za.

Instructions to Authors for the submission of abstracts can be found at the Conference website
www.mssa2010.co.za

Please ensure that e-mail addresses as submitted are correct as these addresses will be used in all correspondence and acceptance of abstract notifications.

The 2010 Proceedings Editors are:
(for information purposes only- please do not contact)

— 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 —

Dr James Wesley-Smith
Electron Microscope Unit
University of KwaZulu-Natal (Westville Campus)

**For further
information visit:**

www.mssa2010.co.za



STUDENT GRANTS

A limited number of Student Grants are available for students to attend the conference. Candidates should apply directly to Mr Alan Hall before **30 July 2010** (*Apply in advance pending outcome of abstract acceptance*).

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

MSSA PRIZES

Conference delegates stand a chance of being awarded various prizes in the categories listed below :
(Awarded at the Gala Dinner)

ALS/JEOL AWARD for the *Most Upcoming 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 of R1,000 for the paper or poster that uses *microscopy to address an industry-related problem*.

FEI PRIZE for each of the *best papers published in a recognised international Journal for Physical Sciences or Life Sciences* during the period July 2009 to June 2010. 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 **31 August 2010** to:

Mr Alan Hall,
Postal address as above
e-mail: 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.

CARL ZEISS prize for the *best low voltage* scanning electron micrograph.

COVER MICROGRAPH

You are invited to submit original and aesthetically-pleasing micrographs for the cover of the Conference Proceedings.

Kindly submit your entries by
20 August 2010 to mssa2010@ul.ac.za

TRADE PRESENTATIONS AND EXHIBITIONS

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

Please visit our website www.mssa2010.co.za
to view the Trade/ Exhibition/ Sponsorship Manual.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Submission of abstracts for the Proceedings
30 June 2010

Application for Student Grants
30 July 2010

Final Circular
02 August 2010

Cover micrograph competition
20 August 2010

Final registration date and payment
31 August 2010

FEI Prize reprint submissions
31 August 2010

Submission of abstracts to Technical Forum
09 September 2010

**We look forward to seeing you at
MSSA 2010!**