



CONTACT AFRICA

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Editor: Larry Feinberg

Contributions by Gareth Nisbet, Larry Feinberg and Bridgette Gasa.

Construction Growth vs. Skills Growth

The construction industry is a reliable barometer of the state of a country's economy – and construction in South Africa is getting it right – so, on the face of it, there should be plenty to smile about for those in the industry.

Let's take a cross-sectional look at the positive signs that are there for us all to read. As a

first, it can't be coincidental that first on the most recent list of SA's Top 100 companies is a construction company.

Even if we accept that Gauteng is the high-occupation leader among the provinces, with a [conservatively] estimated 14 million people living within an eighty-kilometre radius of Johannesburg Civic Centre, this would not, in itself, explain the high levels of construction activity which are evident throughout the province, more especially in densely populated residential and commercial centres.

Quite simply, all sorts of building is going on. In Soweto, we see the exciting evidence of real economic growth mirrored by the development of major shopping centres, the so-called 'agents of growth', in themselves irrefutable proof of swelling socio-economic prosperity. In the case of Soweto, four such centres have been built in as many years.

When we consider that such construction, or reconstruction, is undertaken by leading developers closely attuned to market trends in property and retail, we have to accept that each new centre or upgrade is, in effect, an informed expression of faith in our developing economy.

However, while the prevalent mood is more inclined to boom than doom, we need to look into the mounting concern over the skills shortage in the industry, not only to moderate the present optimism but also to attempt to arrive at a reasoned appraisal of what is being done within the industry to offset the real skills shortages that it faces.

At the annual Congress of Master Builders South Africa, held in Port Elizabeth in September and opened by former Minister of Public Works, Thoko Didiza, the lack of skilled labour in the SA construction industry was a common concern expressed by the speakers who addressed the opening session.

Didiza cautioned that South Africa was in dire need of "high calibre skills" of the sort required for new projects and the maintenance of both

new infrastructural assets currently being constructed and the general rehabilitation of existing public assets.

Didiza also told delegates at the congress that there was "an urgent need to employ more women on building sites.

"We have to find ways of transforming the construction sector [in]to a gender sensitive industry. Women could surely be effectively employed not only in offices but also in supervisory capacities on site – in the role male foremen are currently playing," she urged.

Didiza also said that the youth of South Africa should be "encouraged to enter the building industry. This should be done," she suggested, "by promoting the 'huge future' that a progressive career in the industry could provide."

The chief executive of the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA), Samuel Isaacs, told delegates that, "The shortage of skills in the construction sector extends further than just building sites.

"We are not only short of artisans and engineers but also of other vital skills, such as town planning," Isaacs said. He went on to suggest that South Africa should embark on an escalating campaign to promote careers in the building industry in a more innovative fashion, such as is being done in Europe."



GREEN BUILDING REPORT

The CETA's new chief executive, Petrus Mawuku, is committed to putting the organisation on the skills development map. According to Mawuku, first on his agenda – in terms of “key strategies that have been put in place to review, establish and roll out projects and programmes that will lead to a better qualified and better skilled construction industry labour force” – and in line with the recent situational review process, is the Joint Implementation Plan that CETA has entered into with SAQA to assess and develop new qualifications for the industry.

“Our main strategy,” says Mawuku, “is to ensure that the construction industry receives the skills training it requires. To this end, Construction Centres of Excellence will be established across all provinces over the next few months which,” he stresses, “is in keeping with CETA's aim to address skills and labour shortages in the construction sector.

“In the long term,” Mawuku explains, “the centres will maintain an institutional reputation for innovation, be responsive to education and training delivery, translate industry skills needs into a productive, qualified and skilled workforce and provide coaching and mentoring to assist in building construction related systems.”

To achieve these goals, CETA plans to engage with private companies, as well as government departments and various educational institutions, over and above cooperative initiatives that are already in place. Through its bursary scheme, for instance, CETA has already helped over 1 000 students to enrol at universities across South Africa to pursue courses in the construction sector, including engineering. Significantly, Civil engineering graduates had increased to 1 199 in 2006, compared with only 507 in 2003, says Landelahni Recruitment Group CEO Sandra Burmeister.

New Aveng CEO, Roger Jardine, believes that the construction industry suffers from a skills barrier because “too few South Africans aspire to study science and engineering”. He goes on to say that “Empowerment relies heavily on attracting black people into these sectors from an early age, and we need to ensure there is greater throughput in the system.”

The second barrier to entry is one of opportunity. “Once people are qualified, we need the private sector to give them the opportunity to gain relevant work experience,” says Jardine. The third and last hurdle is the business



barrier. “Once employed by an organisation, an individual must be able to rise through the ranks of that organisation,” explains Jardine.

If the purposeful activities of the CETA are to be interpreted as any sort of indication of directional remediation, then they also ought to be seen in the light of continuity planning and projected sustainability, certainly as far as the manpower factor is concerned.

To continue to make the construction industry a workable force within the economy, thus sustaining the relative local boom and underwriting the economy constructively, there are conspicuous deadlines to be met timeously, most notably the completion of the high-profile, world-class soccer stadia for the 2010 World Cup.

All in all, it appears that our government is striving to put the required pieces together, to put new training initiatives in place that will allow us to reach for a sustainable balance between emerging talent and practical expertise.

Gareth Nisbet

Green Building

Spearheading green building awareness and conformity in South Africa.

On the green building scene, the two names on everyone's tongues are Nicola Douglas and Bruce Kerswill, the CEO and executive chairman respectively of the Green Building Council of South Africa (GBCSA), which is based in Cape Town but will reach into the furthest corners of the country, as required. We had the opportunity to meet and chat with

the two of them before a recent presentation in Johannesburg.

They are a formidable duo, representing a combination of passion and professionalism as they spearhead green building awareness and conformity in South Africa.

Both agree that, while progress in South Africa necessarily presupposes a careful appraisal of the status quo, the key is to build on progress elsewhere, particularly in Australia, whose Green Star rating system has been adapted for South Africa.

“The system identifies measures that can be taken to produce a green building in the areas of management, indoor environmental quality, energy, transport, water, materials, land use and ecology, emissions and innovation. It sets targets to be achieved for the different measures, awards points for the achievement of targets, totals the points to give a score and then awards a rating on the basis of the score,” says Nicola.

The Council's aims also include providing educational courses, and developing a resource centre with case studies and information on green building. It recently held its inaugural conference and exhibition (at the beginning of November) with leading international figures in green building as speakers. The convention was followed by full-day ‘Green Star Accredited Professional’ courses.

Ben Kodisang, president of the South African Property Owners Association (SAPOA) and managing director of Old Mutual Investment Group Property Investments, a founding member and sponsor of the council, says: “It will be in the industry's long-term interest to ensure we shape the rating system through inputs across the sector. That includes architects, engineers, consultants, building contractors, as well as property owners, developers, managers, large corporate tenants, product manufacturers and distributors, and relevant government departments.”

A green building, by definition, is one which is energy efficient, resource efficient and environmentally responsible, i.e. incorporates design, construction and operational practices that significantly reduce or eliminate its negative impact on the environment and its occupants. Building green is an opportunity to use resources efficiently and address climate change, while creating healthier and more productive environments in which people live, work and play.

GREEN BUILDING REPORT

On a practical level, this encompasses the use of design, materials and technology to reduce energy and resource consumption and create improved human and natural environments. Specific green building measures include careful building design to reduce heat loads, maximise natural light and promote the circulation of fresh air; the use of energy-efficient air-conditioning and lighting; the use of environmentally friendly, non-toxic materials; the reduction of waste, and the use of recycled materials; water-efficient plumbing fittings and water harvesting; the use of renewable energy sources; and sensitivity with regard to the impact of the development on the environment.

“The building industry seems to have been largely overlooked by the Kyoto protocol,” says Bruce Kerswill, chairman of the GBCSA. “However, 40% of the world’s energy is consumed by buildings, either through direct consumption or through the use of products which consume energy to produce and transport. The implementation of ‘green’ buildings can effectively reduce consumption by 30 to 70%. This is particularly important in South Africa, where the bulk of electricity comes from coal, and therefore produces energy with the side effect of very high carbon CO2 emissions.

The GBCSA has been formed to address these issues directly. An independent, non-profit organisation launched in 2007, the Council aims to promote and facilitate green building practices through market based solutions. The council is also an “emerging member” of the World Green Building Council’s international network and focuses currently on commercial buildings, with a broad membership base of property owners and developers, architects, engineers, product suppliers and governmental institutes.

The GBCSA initiative addresses what are becoming the major issues of our time—excess energy consumption and the related CO2 emissions from burning carbon fuels, pollution of air, water and land, the depletion of natural resources, and the disposal of waste.

The GBCSA also addresses many of the pressing issues facing local authorities today, such as electricity shortages, water shortages, the lack of solid waste disposal sites, transportation issues and many others.

So, what’s a green building?

“A green building is one which is energy and resource efficient and environmentally responsible in terms of design, materials and practices,” says Nicola. “At this point in time, the construction of a green building does cost slightly more, but we expect costs to reduce in line with normal building costs as legislation is brought about and the concept kicks in.” And kick in it will, believes Douglas. “Case studies in other countries have shown that, by and large, tenants prefer green buildings, which generally have more natural light, more fresh air, and less ‘sick building’ syndrome,” she says.

Rating system ‘the first step’

The GBCSA initially identified that a system for rating buildings was the first step in encouraging this form of building. “After carefully looking at various systems including the US and UK systems, the Australian Green Star rating system struck us as the best system for South Africa,” says Kerswill. “It’s a second generation system that combines the best of the other systems, and we found it a very clear, easy to use system.”

The system uses various rating levels over nine different categories to assess a building, which may then be rated from one to six stars in terms of compliance. Points are awarded for architectural design that makes the most of natural light and air ventilation, as well as materials such as recycled timber. Good management of the systems and ongoing environmental and waste management also provide additional points.

Energy is the largest category and counts for 25% of the rating. Points are measured in terms of gas emissions. The Green Star system has been customised for South Africa’s environment.

Green Star SA

Based on the Australian Green Building Council tool, The Green Building Council of South Africa Green Star SA can now provide the property industry with an objective measurement for green buildings and to recognise and reward environmental leadership in the building industry.

Green Star covers a number of categories that assess the environmental impact that is a direct consequence of a project’s site selection, design, construction and maintenance. Categories included in the Green Star rating tools are: Management - Indoor environment quality – Energy – Transport – Water – Materials - Land use & ecology – Emissions - & Innovation.



The categories are divided into credits, each of which addresses an initiative that improves or has the potential to improve environmental performance. Points are awarded in each credit for actions that demonstrate that the project has met the overall objectives of Green Star SA. Once all claimed credits in each category are assessed, a percentage score is calculated and environmental weighting factors are then applied.

Environmental weighting factors will vary across regions to reflect diverse environmental concerns across South Africa.

To encourage the development and spread of innovative technologies, designs and processes that could improve buildings’ environmental performance, an “Innovation” category is included in each Green Star rating tool.

Although Green Star certification requires a formal process, any project will be able to download and use the Green Star SA tools freely as guides to track and improve their environmental performance.

Laying the foundations

The green building movement is sweeping the globe. From the US to the UK and Australia to Brazil, future-orientated professionals are embracing the shift to a new, more efficient way of building. Green building isn’t just a passing global fad: it represents the future of humanity. The exciting news is that South Africa is on the cusp of joining this intelligent movement.

The message is clear: Green building isn’t just a “passing global fad”, one we can indulge and then ignore. It is a conscientious and informed movement to utilise modifications to the very buildings we live and work in to bring about fundamental change in the earth’s atmosphere and – in so doing – to give us a fighting chance to save the earth.

Gareth Nisbet

MEET THE CIOB COUNCIL

BRIDGETTE GASA



President

Professional Qualifications:

GASA holds a Bachelor of Building Arts in Architecture (University of Port Elizabeth), a cum-laude Postgraduate Diploma in Project Management from the Training for Management College (Newport University), a Certificate in Project Management in the Public Sector (University of Stellenbosch), a Masters Degree in Project Management (University of Natal), a Construction Management Programme qualification (University of Stellenbosch) and a Global Executive Development Programme certificate through the Gordon's Institute of Business Science (GIBS). She is currently reading towards her PhD in Construction Management through the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University.

Bridgette is affiliated with many well-known professional associations, which include the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB Africa Region) as its President-designate, the Project Management Institute of South Africa (PMSA) and holds board memberships with both the South African Rail Commuters Corporation and CIOB. Previously she held board membership with the Project Management Chamber of the Services SETA and sat on advisory committees of Road Infrastructure Research with the then Transportek Division of the CSIR and the Building Science Department of Tshwane University of Technology.

Leadership Involvement:

Bridgette is affiliated with many well-known professional associations, which include the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB Africa Region) as its President-designate, the Project Management Institute of South Africa (PMSA) and holds board memberships with both the South African Rail Commuters Corporation and CIOB. Previously she held board membership with the Project Management Chamber of the Services SETA and sat on advisory committees of Road Infrastructure Research with the then Transportek Division of the CSIR and the Building Science Department of Tshwane University of Technology.

Current Occupation:

GASA is widely traveled and through both previous and her current work, she has covered Africa, South East Asia, the Far and Middle East and Europe extensively. Her current portfolio at the Coega Development Corporation (other than developing 11500 hectares of IDZ land) is centered on socio-economic development through construction contracts using relevant procurement methodologies and as a result advancing the participation of SMME's within various levels of built environment skills.

Societal Responsibilities:

GASA also spearheaded a number of social responsibility initiatives most of which involved training of Project Managers from various professions including: Information Technology, Construction and Services.

During the period of 2003 – 2005 and as the Vice-President for Technical and Education of the PMSA, she arranged and delivered technical seminars to the registered members whose desire it was to enhance their on-the-job knowledge and skills in Project Management. Pro bono, Bridgette also taught modules on Construction Procurement and Project Management to the University of Pretoria – (Vista Campus) built environment students between the years of 2002 – 2005. She has recently been appointed as a mentor to the 2008 fellows of the Allan Gray Orbis Foundation, Eastern Cape.

Awards Received:

GASA is the first-ever recipient of the Department of Science & Technology's Best Achiever Award for Woman Scientist in Industry, 2008.

DOUG WARES

Senior Vice President



Qualified with BSC Building Management degree at UCT after completing a Construction Supervision Diploma at Cape Technikon. Worked for a construction company Roy Beamish for nine years after two years of extensive travel. Then ran a small domestic construction company before joining Neil Muller Construction in 1988. Have been with them since then and has been a project director involved with numerous projects in Western Cape and Durban. Involved with design and construct at NMC and a partnering initiative called the NMC Alliance involving co-contractors, consultants and NMC teams.

Is married with 3 daughters, loves travelling, cycling and water sports. Has been involved with Rotary for 5 years and was president of the Table Bay Rotary Club last year.

Is passionate about South Africa and sees a positive future for us all and looks forward to serving CIOB Africa to build a better future.

SIVA REDDY



Past President

Siva has extensive experience in the Built Environment field.

His qualifications include a Master of Science degree in Urban & Regional Planning from Natal University, a Bachelor of Commerce degree (Economics) as well as qualifications in Quantity Surveying and Construction Management. He has also studied international Construction Management at the University of Lund, Planning at the University of Kansas and Housing at the University of Costa Rica.

Siva is an Associate Director and head of the Department of Quantity Surveying and Construction Management at the Durban University of Technology. Prior to this he has worked for Murray and Roberts and Thomas construction as senior Quantity Surveyor. He is a development cost consultant for the City of Durban and consults widely for a number of large firms including Eskom in his spare time. He was principal partner in a Quantity Surveying and Property Valuation practice.

Siva is a Fellow of the CIOB, a registered Quantity Surveyor, and a member of the Association of South African Quantity Surveyors

He has been Regional President (May 2006-Oct 2008) of the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB-Africa) and the chairperson of the South African Institute of Building (KZN region) for two years. He served as chairman of several Certification Council (SERTEC) panels for Construction Education, as a member of the Standards generating body for Quantity Surveying and is currently an assessor of professional competence for the SA Council for Quantity Surveyors. Siva is married to Thilaga and they have a son.



MEET THE CIOB COUNCIL

IAN CHARTERIS



Vice President/ Treasurer

Trained as a QS in Scotland before emigrating to SA in 1968. Held executive positions in the Building Division of the LTA Group

throughout Southern Africa until the merger with Grinaker. Joined Concor as M.D. of their building Company for a short-time in a turnaround situation before becoming MD of a Mauritius based Construction Company. "Retired" in 2004 but has stayed close to the industry working as a consultant to various companies, both large and small.

As a past President of the KZN MBA he stays involved with the association as a trustee of the industry Pension and Provident Funds. Now living in Hillcrest where he has become an armchair supporter of the Sharks and Dolphins.

Married with a son and a daughter (too young to be a grandfather), Ian looks forward to passing on the benefits of his experience to the next generation via his involvement in the CIOB.

PROF. JACOBUS JOHANNES PETRUS (BASIE) VERSTER



Vice President / Education

Prof Basie Verster was born in Vrede in the Free State, South Africa, in 1948. He matriculated at Grey College in Bloemfontein in 1965, studied at the University of the Free State (UFS), where he received the B.Sc. (Q.S.), M.Sc. (Q.S.) and Ph.D. degrees.

During his university years he played rugby for the Shimlas, the Free State, and South Africa under 24 teams and was awarded the UFS Sportsman of the year in 1972.

Basie is a registered Quantity Surveyor and Construction Project Manager, a Fellow of the CIOB, and a member of the RICS and the ASAQS.

He has also been in private practice since 1975 and in academia since 1979, and was awarded a professorship in 1986. Basie is currently head of the Department of Quantity Surveying and Construction Management at the University of the Free State.

Basie has presented papers at important international congresses in Canada, Slovenia, Austria, Australia, Ghana and South Africa. He is Editor of the "Acta Structilia", an accredited scientific journal.

He was awarded a Centenary Medal by the UFS as one of the builders of the UFS, 1904 – 2004, and in 2006 he received the Distinguished International Fellow award from the International Cost Engineering Council (ICEC). He also received an honorary award from the Faculty of Natural Science and Technique of the South African Academy of Science and Art in 2007.

Basie is also active in the professional community and was President of the Association of South African Quantity Surveyors (ASAQS) in 1997, Chairman of the Alliance of Development Professions (S.A.) in 1998, and Chairman of the International Cost Engineering Council, 2004 – 2006. Currently he is the Chairman of the Education Standards and Research (ESR) Committee of the South African Council for the Quantity Surveying Profession (SACQSP). He was recently (2008) appointed on the Regional Council for CIOB Africa, as Vice-President Education.

Basie is married to Hilda. They have four sons, a grandson and a granddaughter.

PROF. ALFRED A. TALUKHABA

Coopted Council Member

Prof. Alfred A. Talukhaba studied in Kenya, at the University of Nairobi. He also undertook study visits to the University of Bochum, Germany in 1993 and the University of New South Wales, Australia in 1996. Prior joining the University of Nairobi in 1991 as a lecturer, he worked as a professional quantity surveyor on a number of diverse projects such as housing, hospitals and office blocks for public and private institutions.

He joined the University of Cape Town in 2001 as a senior lecturer and moved to the University of the Witwatersrand in 2003 where he is currently based. He was admitted as corporate member of CIOB in 2003 and was the chairperson of CIOB Africa Gauteng Branch between 2004 to 2006. His interests lie in consulting in project management, quantity surveying and research. He developed a policy on Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

for the Council of Built Environment (CBE) in 2007 which is being used in the construction industry. Currently he is researching on energy efficiency in buildings. His hobbies include tennis and gardening.

BOB HINDLE



Coopted Council Member

Bob Hindle has been a member of CIOB since his student days in the UK and has played a significant role in both the Western

Cape and at National level, as a committee member and Council member, intermittently, over several years.

He commenced his career in the UK construction industry, moving to South Africa in the 1970's, where he held many positions in large construction companies, from Technician to planning engineer and from contract manager to managing director. He was involved in many notable projects, including three universities: University of Manchester (UK); University of Port Elizabeth; University of Transkei.

In 1988 he became a full-time academic at the University of Cape Town where he was responsible for the Construction Management Programme for a number of years and was responsible for the creation and delivery of the very successful taught M.Sc. in Project Management. He took early retirement from UCT in 2001 and has continued as a part-time academic associated with a number of programmes, including; Regional Director for the Construction Management by Distance Learning for the University of Bath; Co-Director of the famous Construction Management Programme (CMP) at Stellenbosch University, South Africa; Designer and presenter at the NMC Business School, Cape Town.

Bob Has been involved in construction development initiatives driven by the Government of South Africa and other bodies, for many years. He has worked with international research teams and presented many papers at international conferences. (more than 60 publications to his name)

Bob is active in several roles; as construction consultant, director of companies and part-time academic.

President's Message

The past two months have fundamentally impacted the global financial and political landscapes.

There was first the sharp economic downturn experienced in October which led to governments of the UK and US devising recovery plans for the banks and moving to secure the interests and investments of their citizens. Then there were the US elections which took place on the 4th of November ushering a new leadership in the form of Barack Obama. The mantle of bringing about change has been clearly rested on this individual, from Africa to the other corners of the world in which we live.

These two events have had an impact the world over, in some instances more felt than in others. Here in South Africa the CIOB had a mantle of bringing about change which it rested on the newly appointed council as they were confirmed into leadership on the 16th of October at the AGM. The CIOB Africa Region had not had an established council over the past two years. Herein I would like to acknowledge the hard work done by the Interim Council over the past two years. This bunch of dedicated practitioners used the two-year process of reflection to keep the institute functioning but also they put together a strategy for Africa on the way forward.

Over the upcoming publications of this newsletter we will be sharing with the membership on the key areas we need to focus on in the changing environment within which we live. This strategy is relevant for today's constructor and how we as a collective will make efforts of promoting our profession forward in this Region and most definitely beyond. We would over the next year continue to look at ways in which to improve on that strategy.

I still believe that even with the global and domestic changes that are mentioned above it is still an opportune time to be engaged in the construction sector. The season is still right and all that is required is innovation as much as steadfast leadership. I believe what makes it even more opportune is the consistent growth ever before us in an economy that continues to grow in leaps and bounds. Not only are statistics there which demonstrate this sectoral growth and its contribution to the GDP of SA, but it is also a sector that has the greatest direct influence on the social and economic health of our nation. It represents more than a responsibility to serve the society within which we live. I think all members of the CIOB would agree with me when I say that it is a humbling position to be in for us as constructors to have the trust of the nation that we are able to provide to society economic infrastructure which responds to the basic need for clean water and air, decent sanitation, roads free of potholes, lights at the flick of a switch.

CIOB Africa prides itself of its members and the qualitative work that each individual contributes to this growing and buoyant sector. At last count this region serviced around 950 members from students to construction professionals who play an active role in promoting professionalism and innovative thinking in the construction industry. Our membership footprint will be improved in South Africa and the African continent in countries such as Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Nigeria, Botswana, Namibia, Ghana, over the next two years.

It is important that CIOB SA galvanizes its conversations at both the political and strategic level through participation in forums and also with industry. This it will do solely for the purposes of getting together with like-minded organizations and associations but also as an

opportunity to exchange views and highlight key trends and issues. Our voice is already being heard in the global construction-industry stage.

The CIOB SA will remain committed to meeting its responsibilities first to its members and secondly to the industry. The day in which this ceases to happen, we would have lost our place and relevance in this society that we are at the moment extremely humbled to serve. In accepting this new responsibility the Council promises to move resolutely towards the implementation of comprehensive responses that are both effective and responsible. We have heard what is preferred by our members and we commit to serve to the best of our abilities.

The built environment we all imagine – is one that provides for where we live and work, for our comfort and security, that is responsible in its use of resources, one that is innovative. That is the built environment that we need to create, if what we see around us is not the ideal picture. That is the built environment we need for the future, and one I'm confident that as a collective we will make happen. Lets go out and create for ourselves the reality we would be able to pass on as a legacy.

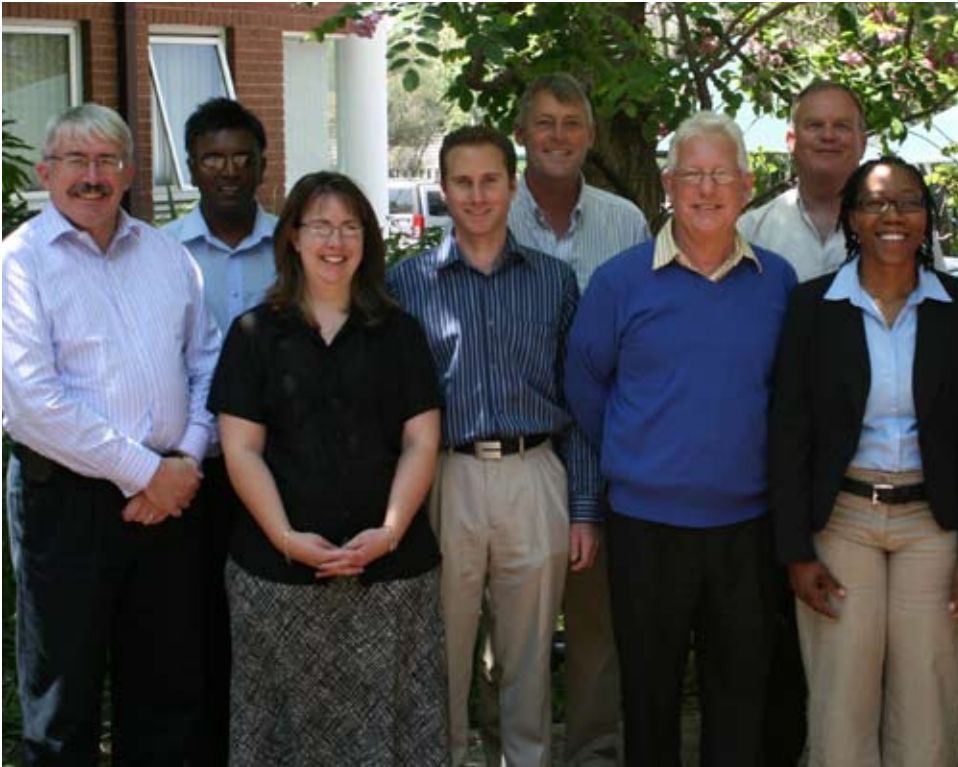
*Bridgette Gasa
CIOB Africa*

Regional Managers Report on CIOB AGM

CIOB Africa Holds 6th Annual General Meeting.

The 6th Annual General Meeting of CIOB Africa was held at the Sandton Sun Hotel on the 16th of October 2008. The meeting was very well attended, and the required quorum of 30 fully chartered members was easily reached. The evening was notable, by the presence of so many prominent leaders in the construction industry, and proved to be a superb networking opportunity for all those present.





Left to right: Chris Blythe (C.E.O and Institute Secretary); Siva Reddy (Past President); Naomi Cherti (Administrator); Larry Feinberg (Regional Manager CIOB Africa); Paul Crowson (Western Cape Committee); Bob Hindle (Coopted Council Member); Doug Wares (Senior Vice President); Bridgette Gasa (President of CIOB).

Chris Blythe, Chief Executive and Institute Secretary of CIOB, flew in from London to attend the prestigious event. Blythe gave a brief address and also officially handed over the presidential medallion to Bridgette Gasa - CIOB Africa's new Regional President. The evening's proceedings were chaired by our now Past President Siva Reddy.

Financial statements were handed out to all members in attendance, and a summary of the Institutes financials was given by Samantha Dansie an official representative of BDO Spencer Steward the auditing firm for CIOB Africa.

During the official proceedings of the meeting, the new Regional Council was appointed, and approved.

Gasa's presidential address centered on the bright future ahead for CIOB Africa, and she expressed her sincere optimism for the Institute to all members present. The Regional President also confirmed that the Africa Council has formulated a viable strategy for taking CIOB Africa forward. During her speech, Gasa commended the hard work done by the Interim Regional Council in the formation and adoption of this solid strategy.

The new Regional President also outlined how the strategy would include all members

on the African continent, whilst still focusing on CIOB members within the borders of South Africa. Gasa also praised the work done by the Regional Manager Larry Feinberg with the assistance of his administrative staff.

Blyth was next asked to step up to the podium and address the members. He spoke of how proud he was to be present at the AGM, and his excitement to be part of the implementation of CIOB Africa's strategy. He also spoke of the Institutes continual ability to remain relevant in the industry, and described how CIOB is able to offer its members various ways to upgrade their degrees by further study, and thus achieve full chartered status with the Institute. He also described how the future of the Institute depends in many ways on our next generation of industry leaders, and the need to attract more student members and maintain their continual support.

A very well received key note address was delivered by NMC Managing Director, Shaun Webber. The topic of his address was "The perception of the construction industries identity and reputation by the general public".

Proceedings were officially closed by Gasa, CIOB Africa's new President. Cocktails were then served, and members had the opportunity to meet the new Regional Council members.

CIOB Accredits 5 Universities in South Africa

CIOB Africa would like to congratulate each one of the 5 universities on the successful completion of their 4 year accreditation – all universities visited were granted full CIOB accreditation for 4 years.

We would also like to complement them on the professional manner in which they undertook the entire process and thank them for being such gracious hosts to the panel. Our Institute undertook the successful accreditation of WITS University, Pretoria University, The Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, The University of The Free State and Cape Town University. The accreditations were conducted over a period of 2 weeks, with 2 days being devoted at each tertiary institute.

Teaching Institutions at both a national and international level seek CIOB accreditation to gain recognition of centre delivery and add value to an award. The achievement of CIOB Accredited Centre Status demonstrates completion of a rigorous and intensive process of assessment to ensure both the centre ethos and course structure aligns with CIOB requirements. For students embarking on a CIOB accredited course, they can be assured that the Teaching Institution is delivering to standards required from industry and will advance them towards their professional career.

All CIOB membership grades are linked to relevant industry qualifications. The accreditation process for Teaching Institutions is conducted and monitored through a CIOB Accreditation Panel which comprises appointed representatives operating within industry and academia.

There were four panel members representing the CIOB accreditation team. They were Bob Falconer, Peter Ramsay-Dawber, Professor P.D. Rwelamila and Professor Peter Utting.

CIOB Welcomes New Members

Surname	First name	Grade		Country
Adzivor	Mr Eric Kodzo	ICIOB		Ghana
Agumba	Mr Justus Ngala	MCIOB	Upgrade	South Africa
Aiyetan	Mr Ayodeji Olatunji	ICIOB		South Africa
Ajayi	Mr Oluwole Oluwaseun	ICIOB		South Africa
Alkali	Mr Nura Abba	ICIOB		Nigeria
Arbuthnot	Mr Antony John	ICIOB	Upgrade	South Africa
Ashkar	Mr David Joseph	ICIOB	Upgrade	South Africa
Babasola	Mr Samuel Adeoluwa	ICIOB		Nigeria
Boadi	Mr Benjamin Owusu	ICIOB		Ghana
Chait	Mr Garth	ICIOB		South Africa
Coffie	Mr George Harrison	ICIOB		Ghana
Dabup	Miss Na'Ankwat Lami	ICIOB		South Africa
Egen	Mr Etienne	ICIOB		South Africa
Fann	Mr Kenneth	ICIOB	Upgrade	South Africa
Fossa	Mr Michael Steven	ACIOB		Malawi
Gasa	Ms Zanele Bridgette	FCIOB	Upgrade	South Africa
Gonya	Mr Mzamo Nixon	ICIOB		South Africa
Han	Mr Sai	ICIOB		South Africa
Hanekom	Mr Jurgens Hendrik Nicolaas	ICIOB	Upgrade	South Africa
Harteveld	Mr Emiel Albertus Bernard	ICIOB	Upgrade	South Africa
Honu	Mr Moses Kwabla	ICIOB		South Africa
Ibrahim	Mr Muhammad Munauwar	ICIOB		Nigeria
Imonitie	Mr Michael Omoregie	ICIOB		Nigeria
Kurz	Mr Robert Friedrich	ICIOB	Upgrade	South Africa
Kwofie	Mr Isaac	ICIOB		South Africa
Lamprey	Mr Robert Nii Lante	ICIOB		Ghana
Lombard	Mr Pieter Andries	ICIOB	Upgrade	South Africa
Lugwisha	Mr George Michael	ICIOB		Botswana
Maraschin	Mr Armando Antonio	ICIOB	Upgrade	South Africa
Matlhodi	Mr Kago Aubrey	ACIOB		Botswana
Mokobane	Mr Mmaphuti Onismus	ICIOB		South Africa
Mokube	Mr Segun Martins Etiene	ICIOB		Nigeria
Monakedi	Mr Makgale Nape	ICIOB		South Africa
Musonda	Mr Innocent	MCIOB	Upgrade	South Africa
Norvor	Mr Edward Bessah	ICIOB		Sudan
Pashiou	Mr Kyriacos Andrea	ICIOB	Upgrade	South Africa
Paunde	Mr Joalinda Johanna	ICIOB		South Africa
Phakathi	Mr Mfanufikile Muziwenhlanhla	ICIOB		South Africa
Phiri	Mr James	MCIOB	Upgrade	South Africa
Quadri	Mr Abdul-Ganeey Olayinka	ICIOB		Nigeria
Scott	Mr George Alastair	MCIOB	Upgrade	South Africa
Seeburun	Mr Kaviraj	ICIOB		Mauritius
Simango	Mr Siapenga	ICIOB		South Africa
Somah	Ms Chandrasen	MCIOB	Upgrade	Mauritius
Tyu	Mr Eric Ntsikelelo	ICIOB		South Africa
Ude	Mr Nnanna Chukwu Anyim	ICIOB		Nigeria
van Zyl	Mr Carl Hendrik	ICIOB		South Africa
Vorster	Mr Mario Loy	ICIOB	Upgrade	South Africa
Wares	Mr Douglas James Kirkland	FCIOB	Upgrade	South Africa

WESTERN CAPE BRANCH GOLF DAY

The Western Cape branch recently hosted a golf day on Monday 3 November at Mowbray Golf Club.

There was a wonderful turnout with twenty "fourballs" from all sectors of the building industry participating on the day. The competition was a fourball alliance, and was won by the Cape Town branch of Moroff and Kuhne Consulting Engineers.

An amount of R13 300.00 was raised by the Western Cape committee on the day, and these funds will go towards assisting a final year Project Management student at either UCT or CPUT with next year's tuition fees.

The prizegiving function was preceded by a short address by Larry Feinberg, the Regional Manager for CIOB Africa. Larry gave a brief history of the CIOB and an update on the recent AGM and newly elected Council and spoke about plans for the CIOB for the future. The awards were handed out by Sean O'Riley who is the chairman of the WC branch committee.

All the members and guests who participated thoroughly enjoyed themselves on the day and the Western Cape Branch is already looking forward to organising another golf day as a fundraiser next year.

