

## New ENERGYS unleashed in local government!

IT HAS BEEN RECOGNISED that service delivery in local government has been very slow, and one of the many constraints identified in *Numbers and Needs* has been the shortage of technical personnel. Furthermore, young graduates have been unable to secure employment owing to lack of experience. Having framed a capacitation model using retired SAICE members (who responded to appeals in the magazine in 2005) teamed with students, the SAICE Section 21 company, SAICE Professional Development and Projects, has negotiated with a number of funders – notably the national

Department of Provincial and Local Government, Gauteng and North West Provinces and the LGSETA – to set funds aside for infrastructure personnel to assist with service delivery and to supervise and train young students and graduates. The seniors (usually retired engineers) will assist municipalities in identifying projects and unblocking bottlenecks and will drive the development process. The seniors will be paired with graduates and students to carry out the production function under their supervision, and in this way the young people will gain experience and become an asset to local government.

After many months of negotiations agreement was given to SAICE, working in collaboration with SABTACO, to commence most of the initiatives. Since then Allyson and dedicated staff have been working feverishly to carry out needs analyses in 31

municipalities to match our seniors with the needs and to place graduates and students to address a range of problems. The ENERGYS programme was launched officially at the DPLG Conference at Emperor's Palace on 27 March 2006. Twenty six of the 39 seniors employed so far were in attendance. Three of the seniors are 70 and over, but are so full of energy that the acronym for the initiative is most apt! The full name, Engineers Now to Ensure Roll-out by Growing Young Skills, illustrates the commitment to train young people. To date some 70 students and 15 graduates have been recruited and the number is growing.

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Date	Event and CPD validation number	Presenters	Contact details	Where
2–3 May	Structural Steel Design Code Conversion from SABS 0162 to SANS 10162 SAICEstr06/00009/08		SAISC spencer@saisc.co.za	Gauteng
4–5 May	Handling Projects in a Consulting Engineer's Practice SAICEproj06/00003/08	Wolf Weidemann	Colin Driver T 043-743-9528 colin@hsc.co.za	East London
7–9 May	3rd South African Construction Health and Safety Conference	Prof J J Smallwood	john.smallwood@nmmu.ac.za T 041-504-2790	Cape Town
8, 9, 11, 15, 16, 18 May	SCT 35 Analysis and Design of Concrete Structures SAICEcon06/00002/08	Cement and Concrete Institute	Zoe zoe@cnci.org.za	Gauteng
8–18 May	SCT 35 Concrete Structures Analysis and Design SAICEcon06/00002/08	Various specialists from Cement & Concrete Institute	Rennisha rennisha@cnci.org.za	Midrand
11–12 May 5–6 June	Business Finances for Built Environment Professionals SAICEfin06/00004/08	Wolf Weidemann	Sharon Muger T 011-805-5947 cpd.sharon@saice.org.za	Cape Town Gauteng
15–16 May 1–2 June	Handling Projects in a Consulting Engineer's Practice SAICEproj06/00003/08	Wolf Weidemann	Sharon Muger T 011-805-5947 cpd.sharon@saice.org.za	Cape Town Gauteng
16–17 May	Road Traffic Signals Manual	J Falkner	Angie Wallace sarfuse1@acenet.co.za	Gauteng
16–19 May	SCT 31 Concrete Technology for Engineers SAICEcon06/00006/08	Cement and Concrete Institute	Zoe zoe@cnci.org.za	Durban
25–26 May 29–30 May	Highway Capacity Manual (HCM) Course	Prof Ken Courage (previously from University of Florida)	Sharon Muger cpd.sharon@saice.org.za and SAICE Transportation Division	Cape Town Gauteng – SAICE House
29 May – 2 June	SCT 30 Concrete Technology Course SAICEcon06/00007/08	Cement and Concrete Institute	Zoe zoe@cnci.org.za	Gauteng
14–15 June	Technical Report Writing Course SAICEbus06/00014/08	Trygve Wang	Sharon Muger cpd.sharon@saice.org.za	Durban
18–21 June	CIOB Africa – Built Environment Conference	Prof J J Smallwood	john.smallwood@nmmu.co.za	Gauteng
20–22 June	Roads and the Environment	S Ballot	Angie Wallace sarfuse1@acenet.co.za	Gauteng
26–30 June	Finite Elements SAICEstr06/00018/08	Roland Prukl	Dawn Hermanus dhermanus@saice.org.za	Cape Town
28 June	SCT 22 Concrete Road Design and Construction SAICEcon06/00013/08		Zoe zoe@cnci.org.za	Gauteng
21–25 May 2007	CIB World Congress: Construction for Development	Deadline for Abstracts: 30 June 2006 http://www.cib2007.com	Carla de Jager T 011-805-5947 cdejager@saice.org.za	Cape Town