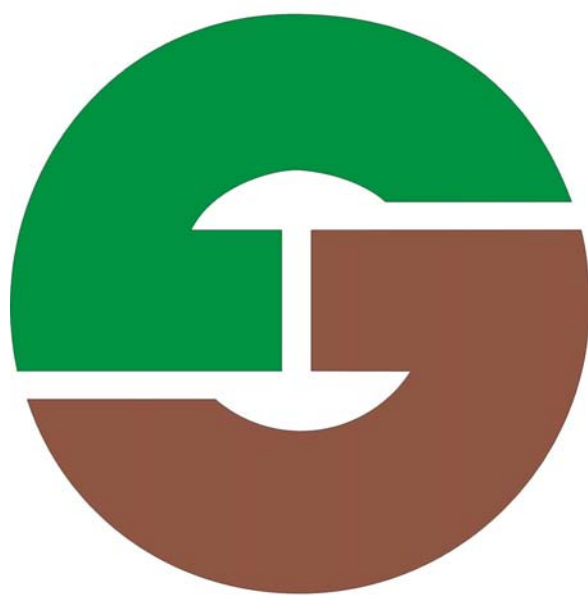


*SOIL SCIENCE
SOCIETY OF SOUTH
AFRICA*



NEWSLETTER
No. 92

November 2011

SSSSA COUNCIL/GVSA RAAD: 2011-13

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The SSSSA does not necessarily agree with opinions expressed in this newsletter.

Die GVSA onderskryf nie noodwendig die menings van bydraes tot sy nuusbrief nie.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT/ BOODSKAP VAN DIE PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues,

The Combined Congress is almost upon us and is scheduled from 16-19 January 2012 in Potchefstroom. We are expecting a good congress with over 50 abstracts of papers and posters having been entered. There are also a number of guest speakers. Prof Herman van Schalkwyk, Principal of NWU-PUK will present the opening address and Dr Pieter Haumann has been invited to deliver an invitation lecture on behalf of the Soil Science Society of South Africa. We also expect special lectures to be delivered by Prof Johan Bouma of Wageningen Agricultural University, The Netherlands, as well as Dr Erika Macheli of the African Soil Atlas project.

May I encourage you to register and attend the Congress, or to attend selected days of the Congress. We can expect a valuable social and scientific learning opportunity.

South African Journal of Plant and Soil: The need to review the method of publication of articles submitted by our members to the South African Journal of Plant and Soil has become necessary. Currently manuscripts are submitted, reviewed, edited and prepared for publication via a manual process. It is apparent that we must modify this process in line with modern journal publishing requirements. Members of our Council have considered submissions from seven potential publishers. Important in each case was the method of publication, price and the urgent need to raise the scientific profile of the journal. The Taylor and Francis Publishing House was selected on the basis of their ability to meet our requirements and optimize the projected costs of the journal to members. The terms of the contract are still to be approved by the four participating professional societies. Included now in these terms under discussion are options for online only, as well as print and online versions of the journal. I am pleased to inform you that 55% and 45% respectively of members responding to our request, selected one of the above options. Your Council is also aware of the importance of the process of submitting and preparing manuscripts for publication and this aspect will also receive attention. Our membership fees have in the past included the cost of a printed copy of the journal. With the new method of publication we can expect an increase in the membership fees to cover these costs. However, in the modern society we expect that this method of publication will deliver value to our members.

We trust that the status of articles published in the journal and its implications to authors, companies and research institutions can now be promoted to improve options for funding of research and allied operational costs. I appeal to members to give your support to the journal through your submission of soil

science information. I am encouraged by the number of abstracts submitted to the Congress and do trust that you will use this opportunity to present these articles for publication in the South African Journal of Plant and Soil.

May I wish members a Blessed Christmas period with family and friends. Long ago the Prophet announced of Emmanuel with us; may this be your experience. May the Lord bless you and your family during this time and in the future.

David Turner

(012 310-2597; dturner@arc.agric.za)

EDITORIAL/REDAKSIONEEL

I was privileged to be again part of the SSSSA adjudicating team at the Eskom Expo (see elsewhere in Newsletter), and in the programme there was an interesting story about one of the past winners. Siyabulela Xuza won a gold medal at the Expo in 2005, and eventually won two awards at the Intel Science & Engineering Fair in the USA.

He is currently studying energy engineering at Harvard, is a member of the “African Union Affiliated Africa 2.0” energy advisory panel and has even had a minor planet named after him!!

Who knows if one of the award winners at this year’s Expo (maybe even one of the SSSSA award winners) will go on to achieve such great things in the future. Certainly, Siya’s story goes to show that anything is possible and that the SSSSA sponsorship of two awards annually is an initiative to be welcomed.

On a different note, it is encouraging to see the continuing high demand for soil investigations, mainly as part of EIA investigations. While this is obviously governed by legislation, and mostly involves mining, urban or power generation, the burgeoning area of demand is for “alternative” power projects, such as solar and wind power.

While most of the proposed solar projects are located in the sunny (obviously!) mostly very dry areas of South Africa, such as the Northern Cape, the wind power projects are often located in areas where arable agriculture does take place, so there can be a conflict between loss of soil potential (albeit over a comparatively very small area) and potential “clean” power generation. Whether all of these planned power projects will eventually come to fruition or not, at least soil scientists will have played their part in the environmental investigation process.

Finally, if you have received this newsletter it means that the e-mail address on the SSSSA database is correct, but many members change their address

and forget to notify the Society. Please make sure that you keep it up to date, so that all important correspondence can be delivered.

Regards,

Garry Paterson

(012 310-2601; 083 556 2458; garry@arc.agric.za)

COUNCIL MATTERS/RAADSAANGELENTHED

New Members: we welcome the following new SSSSA members:

Mr J. Cornelius, Ms R.M. Mampana, Mr R. Mampholo

We currently have a membership of 322.

Membership fees

Unfortunately, due to ever-increasing costs, membership fees have had to be increased and for 2012, Council determined an increased fee. However, due to the possibility of differential charges to be levied by Taylor & Francis (the future publishers of the SA Journal of Plant & Soil – see President’s Message), the exact fee structure must still be discussed and ratified by Council.

SSSSA on Facebook

The Soil Science Society of South Africa recently joined the social networking service Facebook by launching a SSSSA profile. The Facebook network allows people who join the profile to follow updates and events. This is seen as an excellent opportunity to effectively convey information to individuals about the society and related events. It is also fulfils part of our objectives at the SSSSA which is to create opportunities for the free exchange of ideas between soil scientists in South Africa and to promote the work and interests of members of the profession.



Members of the SSSSA are urged to join the page and also to actively partake on the page. You are invited to share information regarding soil science-related events and other interesting soil information. If you have a company that is involved in soil science-related work you are also invited to post updates on work your company does and events taking place.

Students who are busy with their postgraduate studies are also invited to share the title of their studies as well as any questions or interesting findings that they might have regarding their studies or soil science in general.

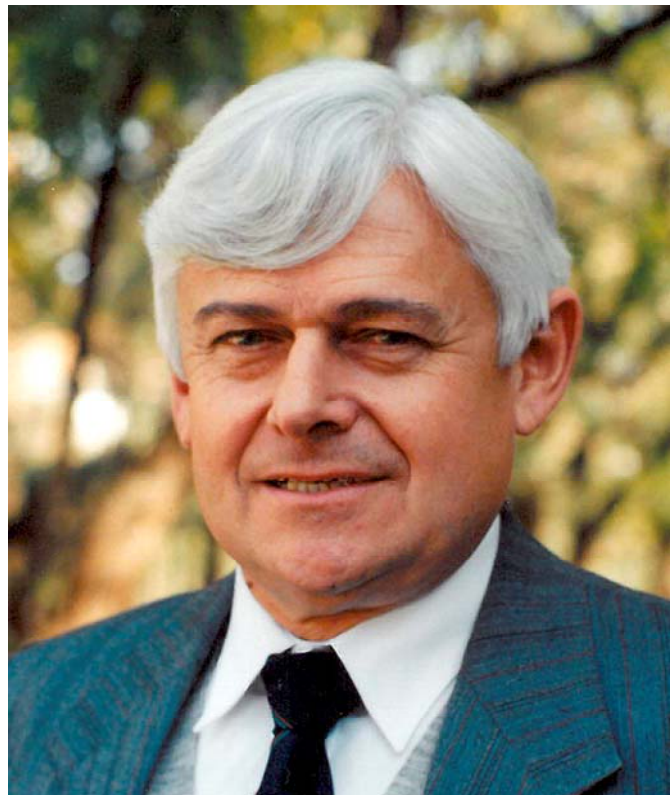
Members can find the SSSSA on Facebook at the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Soil-Science-Society-of-South-Africa/169158869802363>

This project can only be a success if everyone participates so that the profile can become an active platform for information exchange between members of the profession.

IN MEMORIUM

Dr Dries van der Merwe, former Director of the ARC-Institute for Soil, Climate and Water, as well as past President of the SSSSA, passed away on Sunday 6th November at his home in Pretoria after a struggle with cancer.

Andries Jacobus van der Merwe was born on 9th November 1939 and received his BSc (Agric) degree in 1962 at the University of Pretoria, followed by his MSc (Agric) degree in 1965 and DSc (Agric) degree in 1973, both from the University of the Orange Free State. He worked at the Glen Research Station from 1963-1972, then spent the rest of his career at SIRI (later ARC-ISCW), becoming Director in 1992 until his retirement in 2002. This latter period included the first formative decade whereby the ARC emerged as a business-oriented research organisation, and clear and focused leadership and management was required.



Dries worked in the fields of soil fertility, pollution and soil and water quality, being the author of over 30 refereed publications and almost as many conference and other papers. He was SSSSA President from 1992-94 and also received the Fertilizer Society of SA Silver medal for “sustained and outstanding contributions to agriculture”.

The sympathies of all SSSSA members go to his wife Nita, their two children and three grandchildren.

Scot Smith-Baillie, who was one of the Pedologists at the then Soil and Irrigation Research Institute (now ARC-ISCW) in the 1970s and 1980s has passed away, following a stroke earlier in the year. Scot was responsible for much of the land type mapping of KwaZulu-Natal, as well as a number of soil surveys, and after his resignation from SIRI he combined farming at Nottingham Road, KZN, with private soil survey work. He will always be remembered as the life and soul of many soil surveys and Pedology tours, especially as a key member of the Pedology “band”, and (among others), the song “Me and Bobby McGee” will always be associated with Scot.

Our sympathies go to his wife Susan, and their daughter.

APPOINTMENTS/AANSTELLINGS

Pardon Muchoanyerwa has left the University of Fort Hare and has now assumed duties as Associate Professor in Soil Science at UKZN in Pietermaritzburg.

SOIL SCIENTISTS OVERSEAS/GRONDKUNDIGES OORSEE

Dr Piet Nell, from ARC-ISCW, visited Kazakhstan, just north of the Caspian Sea in Central Asia, last month to take part in a salinity and sodicity survey of the soils in the vicinity of the city of Atyrau.

Herbert Hattingh, 'n oud-kollega van LNR-IGKW, is tans besig in Egipte met besproeiingsbetuur van vrugte. Sy vrou Makkie stuur 'n boodskap soos volg:

”Dit gaan goed met ons almal hier in Egipte. Ons is deur die revolusie en toe Ramadan. Nou wag ons vir die verkiesing wat einde November gaan plaasvind. Herbert vertrek die 11de na SA met 'n groep Egiptenare om na tafeldruiwe en mangos te gaan kyk. Dit is goed om te hoor dat dit met julle ook goed gaan. Herbert stuur groete. Julle moet maar kom kyk hoe dit hier in Egipte lyk. Vriendelike groete, Makkie en Herbert Hattingh”.

Prof Jude Odhiambo (University of Venda) attended the 10th African Crop Science Society (ACSS) Conference held in Maputo, Mozambique, from 10th to 13th October 2011. The biennial conference was attended by over 500 delegates representing over 30 nationalities. The conference emphasized the

role of research on providing for new and improved livelihood opportunities for farmers in Africa which impact on their income generation and food security. With the theme “*From soil to soul – crop production for improved African livelihoods and a better environment for future generations*” the conference highlighted Africa’s research contribution for agriculture innovation as well as the complex and challenging agricultural issues still troubling the continent. A poster paper presented by Prof Odhiambo won the best poster presentation award. The poster, presented under the session on *Agronomy: Grain legumes*, focused on effect of planting density on growth and nutrition of improved cowpea cultivars, with the ultimate aim of making appropriate recommendations to smallholder farmers, thus improving food security and income generation. The next conference will be held in Cameroon in 2013.

AWARDS/TOEKENNINGS

Jan Meyer’s 70th Birthday Present!

At a function to celebrate his 70th birthday, Council Member Rian van Antwerpen presented his ex-SASEX colleague Jan Meyer with SSSSA Honorary membership. Rian reports that Jan was surprised and delighted, and the 50 friends and colleagues present joined in the celebration.



Jan Meyer (right) receiving his award from Rian van Antwerpen

Eskom Expo for Young Scientists

As usual, this was held in October but with the venue having changed from U.P. Sports Centre to Birchwood Conference Centre, Benoni. The SSSSA judges (Theo Dohse, Corrie Swanepoel, Liesl Wiese and Garry Paterson) had an enjoyable time visiting all the soils-related exhibits, and managed to come up with a unanimous choice to receive the Junior and Senior awards, and the R1000 prize that goes with each award.

The Junior award went to Dioné-Marie Cilliers, from Laerskool Pietersburg, for her project entitled “Soil erosion – cost-effective prevention on a small scale”, while the Senior award went to Molopo Lipali and Palesa Twala, from New Horizon College, Bethlehem, for their project “Greenage”.



Junior award winner Dioné-Marie Cilliers



Senior award winners Molopo Lipali and Palesa Twala

CONGRESSES/KONGRESSE

COMBINED CONGRESS

The next Combined Congress will be held at the Potchefstroom campus of North-West University from January 16th to 19th 2012. The Horticultural Society will be participating in the African Horticulture Conference at Skukuza, so it will be the other three Societies (SSSSA, SASCP and SAWSS) who will take part.

Go to the website (www.combinedcongress.org.za) or contact Astrid Hattingh (astrid.hattingh@yahoo.com) for more information.

AGM/Jaarvergadering

At the Congress, the Annual General Meeting of the Society will take place on **Wednesday 18th January at 10h30**.

By die Konges sal die Algemene Jaarvergadering van die GVSA op **Woensdag 18 Januarie teen 10h30** plaasvind.

The IUSS Working Group on Digital Soil Mapping invites you to its **Fifth Global Workshop** to be held at the University of Sydney, Australia, from 10-13 April 2012. Abstract submission is now open, follow this link: www.pedometrics.org/dsm_oz/abstract.html Deadline for Abstract submission is 30 November 2011. Your Abstract will be evaluated by the Scientific Committee, and you will be notified in due time (by the end of December 2011) regarding its acceptance. Accepted abstracts will be requested to develop into a full paper (maximum 6 pages) that must be submitted by 12 February 2012. The full paper will be refereed and will be published as a Conference Proceedings by CRC Press/Balkema. The papers will be indexed for citation purposes in major databases (e.g. ISI, EI, and others). Registered participants will receive the hardbound publication free. We are calling for exciting presentations that address the following topics: Digital Soil Assessments - From DSM to soil functions and risk assessments in climate change, food security and soil carbon sequestration; Global Soil Mapping - Global advancements in digital soil mapping and *GlobalSoilMap.net*; DSM Theory - Advances in spatiotemporal modelling, multi-scale spatial modelling, and more; Soil Observations - From legacy soil data to new technologies for gathering new soil data; Soil Covariates - Novel and creative covariates for DSM; Soil Sampling & Monitoring – Sampling in space and time and the 4th dimension of DSM; Soil Information Modelling, Production & Cyber Infrastructure – Delivering the products. The programme starts off with a field trip to the Hunter Valley on 10 April 2012, highlighting the application of DSM techniques for producing digital terroirs. The Workshop highlights the latest research and technologies in digital soil mapping and assessment and with some focus

on Global soil mapping methodologies. Social activities are being planned, including BBQ, Gala Dinner and a post-conference field trip. We also welcome proposals for pre-conference activities; these can be for 1 to 3 days and should be related to digital soil mapping.

Soils in Space in Time - First Divisional 1 Conference of IUSS, to be held at Ulm/Danube, Germany. September 30th – October 4th 2013. Lecture Building of the University of Ulm. Contact: Karl Stahr (karl.stahr@uni-hohenheim.de) Chairman Division 1. Under the name of the Division there will be a first divisional conference of Division I including Soil Mineralogy, Com. 2.4. It is planned that all commissions Soil Morphology including Micro-morphology, Soil Genesis, Soil Cartography, Soil Classification, Pedometrics and Paleo-pedology will take part with Symposia and Cross-Commission Symposia. There will be also Working Groups, especially those on WRB and Universal Soil Classification as part in this event. There will be four days of lecturing and on the 3rd October there will be a special event in downtown Ulm because of the German National Holiday. Small excursions on carbon sequestration to the Danube Fens and a Paleo-pedological Excursion are planned before and after the conference. Everybody may propose themes for Symposia and for Workshops and Side events during the conference until February 2012. Then the 1st Circular will appear.

MISCELLANEOUS/ALGEMEEN

Hier is 'n baie interessante artikel vanaf een van ons jonger kollegas. Dankie aan Prof Giel Laker vir die voorstel om vir Mariné te vra vir so 'n bydrae.

My besoek aan Ghana *deur Mariné Pienaar*

Ek was in Augustus vir 'n week op besoek aan Ghana as deel van 'n span wat omgewings-impakstudies doen vir beoogde stedelike ontwikkeling in Afrika. Ons het twee areas besoek – Takoradi, 'n stad aan die westelike gedeelte van die Ghanese kuslyn asook Appollonia wat net buite die hoofstad Accra geleë is. Reënvalpatrone in Ghana is uiters kompleks en die Takoradi-area het twee reënseisoene per jaar. Die dominerende nat seisoen is vanaf Maart tot Julie en dan is daar weer 'n kort reënseisoen vanaf Oktober tot einde November. Die gemiddelde reënval vir hierdie area is 1625 mm per jaar en vir 'n Suid-Afrikaner is die ongelooflike hoë humiditeit van 'n tropiese Wes-Afrika somer nogal iets om aan gewoond te raak!

Grondklassifikasie het in 1946 in Ghana posgevat as deel van 'n kakao-navorsingsprojek in Statebond-lande en dit het gelei tot die Ghana Interim Grondklassifikasie-stelsel soos wat dit vandag nog bekend staan. Hierdie klassifikasie-stelsel fokus meer op faktore van grondvorming as diagnostiese horisonte, maar daar is wel nou publikasies waarin gepoog word om dit met die World Reference Base (WRB) te korreleer.

Wat terselfdertyd skokkend maar tog ook interessant was, was om te sien hoe maklik erodeerbaar hierdie tropiese gronde is. Die huis wat op die foto gesien kan word is tagtig jaar

gelede gebou en nou staan die fondasie 1.2 meter in die lug soos wat die grond rondom eenvoudig net weggespoel het!

Grondwerke tydens konstruksie-projekte is ook 'n totale nagmerrie uit 'n grondbewarings-oogpunt. Daar waar bousand benodig word, word net eenvoudig 'n gat gegrou en die grond weggeroep. 'n Goeie voorbeeld hiervan is die foto hieronder waar 'n 6 meter hoë heuwel weggeroep is tot direk langs die mielielandjie. Sodra hierdie mielies geoes word, is die kans baie goed dat hierdie heuwel stelselmatig net sal wegspoel. Sement word sommer op enige plek gemeng en bourommel gelos net daar waar dit geval het.



Vir almal van julle wat dalk daaraan dink om Ghana te besoek: maak gerus so! Die mense is baie vriendelik en behulpsaam en glo dit of nie, maar die Ghanese geld-eenheid (cedi) is vier keer sterker as die Suid-Afrikaanse rand! Daar is ook Suid-Afrikaanse rooiwijn en beesvleis op die meeste hotelle se spyskaarte...

SASSO/SAGO

Four gatherings of the South African Soil Surveyors Organisation have taken place this year (Harrismith/Golden Gate, St Lucia/Hluhluwe, Tzaneen and Bethal).

All interested parties are invited to attend future workshops. For more details, contact Dave Turner (012 310-2597; dturner@arc.agric.za).

Useful ideas from SASSO workshops

(from Dr Pieter le Roux, UFS)

We learn at every workshop. This has resulted in the idea of a Fieldbook and several improved interpretations.

Fieldbook

The structure of the Fieldbook firstly serves the procedure used to classify soils in the field and secondly the supporting analysis or measurements additionally needed to classify according to the rules. User-friendliness made a major jump to the Fieldbook. Criteria that were challenging to users can now be seen at a glance.

The Fieldbook also includes short paragraphs on the current understanding of the nature, genesis and the impact of diagnostic horizons on natural and agricultural ecosystems. The writing is nearly finished and improvements should be finalised by March 2012. Six authors and advisors are working on it. The structure was tested thoroughly and after some changes it was improved further.

Depth criteria

The soil survey industry use adapted soil depth criteria as required by the client. In the western Free State, clay layers are important for water table forming. Observations here are made down to 3 500 mm, while for environmental studies, observations are made to refusal depth.

Mining rehabilitation in regions only suitable for grazing only requires a topsoil survey. For cricket pitch “bully” soils, identification of topsoils is satisfactory to identify vertic A horizons.

Soil depth is therefore interpreted slightly differently but always to the advantage of the client.

Classification of more horizons per profile

Deeper observations make “unspecified”, “unconsolidated” and “nothing” as a last horizon obsolete. The “unspecified” material includes a large variation of material and horizons that can have an impact on land use. Industry typically describes all horizons by naming an observation as a Hutton/rock, Hutton/saprolite, Hutton/stratified alluvium, Hutton/pedocutanic B, Hutton/prismacutanic B, etc.

At the last workshop, a profile was classified as Longlands/HP/sandstone (Vryheid formation). It added value to the term “Longlands”. It is important to note that the classification goes as deep as the observation. In this case the real entity differs from the concept “Longlands” as it might be seen as a “Wasbank” from another angle. The principle applied is that the *soil morphology* is classified – not the concept.

Hard plinthic B horizons

There were discussions on grey mottles and hard plinthic horizons. Grey mottles are not a diagnostic criterion for HP horizons but occur within them. Observations agree that grey mottles are frequent and prominent in HP under E horizons and less frequent under yellow-brown apedal B horizons and occur up to 400 mm into the HP under red apedal B horizons.

Root channel infillings exclusive to neocutanic B horizons?

Root channels filled with topsoil are an indication of bioactivity. It is therefore expected in B horizons with high biological activity. The criterion is questioned.

Images of Crop Nutrient Deficiencies

The International Plant Nutrition Institute (IPNI) has released an updated collection containing more than 400 images showing nutrient deficiency symptoms in plants. The photos were collected from research plots, farm fields, plantations, diagnostic labs, and other sources. Some came from an annual contest which IPNI conducts each year, where photos of documented deficiencies are submitted by crop advisers, researchers, extension workers, crop scouts, farmers, students, and others.

The images are organized in groups including primary nutrients, secondary nutrients, and micronutrients. The image galleries and search results can be narrowed by available crop-type. Text and diagrammatic descriptions of nutrient deficiency are also available as supporting information. The IPNI Crop Nutrient Deficiency Image Collection is available either on a CD for USD 30.00 (thirty dollars) or on a USB Flash Drive for USD 40.00 (forty dollars). Both prices include shipping for a single item. For further info, go to <http://ppi-store.stores.yahoo.net/crnudeimco.html>

WATER RESEARCH COMMISSION COMMEMORATES 40 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

On 31 August and 1 September 2011, the Water Research Commission held its *"40 Year Celebration Conference"* at the Emperor's Palace in Kempton Park. The theme of the conference, which was held to commemorate the establishment of the WRC in 1971, was *"40 Years of Excellence"*.

The conference was attended by more than 400 delegates. About 60 papers, covering a wide range of water-related research, were presented. Several members of the Soil Science Society of South Africa presented papers, mainly in the sessions dealing with water use efficiency. A few SSSSA members acted as chairpersons of sessions, while Prof Giel Laker presented a synthesis of the 15 papers on water use efficiency during the closing session of the conference.

Several of the papers which were presented at the conference are published in a special edition of Water SA. A significant proportion of these are from members of the SSSSA. Giel Laker and Meiring du Plessis, both former Presidents of the SSSSA, and George Green, a former council member of the Society, are the guest editors for the special edition of Water SA.

Right from the establishment of the WRC in 1971, there have been very close ties between the WRC and Soil Science in South Africa. Soil science research in South Africa benefitted greatly from generous research sponsorships by the WRC. Many SSSSA members obtained their M and/or D degrees on WRC sponsored research. Several of them advanced to senior posts in soil science and prominent positions in the South African soil science fraternity.

One would surely hope that the fruitful partnership between the WRC and South Africa's soil scientists will continue for many more years of excellence.

(contribution from Prof Giel Laker)

Nuus uit die Wes-Kaap

Grondkunde US het vanjaar betrokke geraak by 'n Europese Unie projek in die Raamwerk 7 program met Willem de Clercq en Andrei Rozanov as medewerkers. Hierdie projek, wat as EAY4FOOD bekend staan, is beide 'n water- en voedsel sekuriteit navorsingsprogram wat oor 4 jaar gaan loop. Die navorsing word in Suid-Afrika, Mosambiek, Zambië, Etiopië, Tunisië en Mali gedoen.

Die projek is eindelijk uniek omdat ons die Frans- en Engelstalige dele van Afrika in die projek verenig. Daar is verder ook groepe uit Frankryk, Holland en Engeland by die navorsing betrokke. Nebo Jovanovic is vanaf die WNNR se kant by die projek betrokke en gaan by die Portchefstroom kongres die projek bekendstel met 'n referaat.

HUMOUR

A Canadian Lumber Camp advertises for a Lumberjack. A skinny little guy shows up at the camp the next day carrying an axe. The head lumberjack takes one look at the puny little guy and tells him to get lost.

"Give me a chance to show you what I can do," says the skinny guy.

"Okay, see that giant redwood over there?" says the lumberjack. "Take your axe and cut it down."

The guy heads for the tree, and in five minutes he's knocking on the lumberjack's door.

"I cut the tree down," says the little guy.

The lumberjack can't believe his eyes and says, "Where did you learn to chop down trees like that?"

"In the Sahara Forest," says the puny man.

"You mean the Sahara Desert?" says the lumberjack.

"Sure.....!! That's what they call it now!"

Vanaf Prof Giel Laker:

Die kinders het mos hul SMS kodes - soos BFF, WTF, LOL ens. So hier is 'n paar kodes vir seniors:

- * **BDD** - By die Dokter
- * **BVSB** - By Vriend se Begrafnis
- * **BDR** - Bring die Rystoel
- * **KWS** - Kry Weer Sooibrand
- * **SG** - Skryf Groter
- * **MWG** - Maag Werk Goed
- * **IJGA** - Is Jou Gehoortoestel Aangeskakel?
- * **MGPBL** - Moet Gaan, Pasaangeër se Battery Laag
- * **MGPBW** - Moet Gaan, Purgasie Begin Werk
- * **WPEA** - Wat Praat Ek Alles?
- * **WWW** - Waar Was ek nou Weer?

SOIL SCIENCE SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA: MISSION

The SSSSA is a scientific society, which, in the interest of its members, promotes the advancement of soil science and soil technology as well as the responsible practising thereof by its members with the view to the long-term sustainable utilization of the environment in the interest of the community.

Aims

1. Promotion and protection of the professional status and prestige of soil science as a science and career.
2. Promotion and extension of the society.
3. Promotion of the standard of training of soil scientists and technologists.
4. Creation of opportunities for the free exchange of ideas on soil science and technology.
5. The obtaining and dissemination of knowledge, information and ideas having relevance to soil science by means of discussion and publication.
6. Promotion of contact between the society and other bodies with common or similar interests, both within South Africa and overseas.

GRONDKUNDEVERENIGING VAN SUID-AFRIKA: MISSIE

Die GVSA is 'n wetenskaplike vereniging wat in belang van sy lede verbind is tot die bevordering van grondkundige wetenskap en tegnologie, en die verantwoordelike beoefening daarvan deur sy lede met die oog op die lang termyn volhoubare benutting van die omgewing in belang van die gemeenskap.

Doelstellings

1. Bevordering en beskerming van die professionele status en aansien van grondkunde as 'n wetenskaplike beroep.
2. Bevordering en uitbouing van die vereniging.
3. Bevordering van die standaard van opleiding van grondkundige wetenskaplikes en -tegnoloë.
4. Skepping van geleenthede vir vrye gedagtewisseling oor grondkundige wetenskap en tegnologie.
5. Die verkryging en verspreiding van kennis, inligting en idees wat op grondkunde betrekking het by wyse van samesprekings en publikasies.
6. Bevordering van skakeling tussen die vereniging en ander liggame met gemeenskaplike of soortgelyke belange, beide in Suid-Afrika en in die buiteland.