



SUCCEEDING THROUGH QUALITY
CAMPUS HEALTH CARE

Chairperson's report

Introduction

The national executive was nominated as it was for their second term, with all members available to serve. I am grateful to announce that this year was a more active year for all nominated members.

REGIONS:

In the last AGM, it was resolved that the regions should be the main drivers for SAACHS activities. As a result, new committees were established and some continued to function at a more optimal level.

I will give a brief about the regions and would like to share my utmost appreciation to all the regions that worked together to ensure the work of our association is taken forward.

In no particular order:

- The KZN region has recommitted themselves and provided minutes of their meetings. They are a model of how we, as regions, should conduct the connections among us. Over the years, they have shown resilience despite the challenges within individual universities. They have provided the NEC with minutes of their meetings and have forwarded comments to the agenda. This is a good indicator of participative management.
- The Free State region held various meetings and had a new regional committee that was unanimously nominated. Congratulations to the new committee and we look forward to future interactions with them, some of which will be announced later in this conference. With the movement of staff at the Sol Plaatjie University, the new colleagues have managed to join us at this conference, we appreciate the hard work.

- The Gauteng region held a few meetings, with the commemoration of the Nurses Day being their highlight. All regions were invited to join, and we note this to have been a success. We urge other regions to look at this as an opportunity to leverage on. We are aware that this extends beyond nurses as we have various professionals in our campus health and wellness centers. This brings light to the financial implications that come with such activities. These requests will always be discussed by the NEC and curbed at R5000.00 per region per annum.
- The Eastern Cape region also had a few meetings with an outcome of a new committee. The challenges of budgets and physical meetings remain due to the vastness of the province. The achievement of an actual re-organization is immense as the region rebuilds itself.
- The Limpopo region has probably had more meetings as a result of their responsibility, and this is evidenced by all of us gathering here. A congratulatory message is in order as the conference is finally taking place. As for the challenges of being landlocked and vast distances, we are grateful for the online and telephony technologies that have made this conference a success.
- The Western Cape region has not succeeded as they would have liked. It is appreciated though that we have attendance from UCT, SU, and CPUT in this conference. It is envisaged that this would be a great platform to encourage the reawakening of this region and full participation in the future.

REFLECTIONS

2023 conference

- This was the first of its kind where the NEC took leadership in organizing an annual conference. The main driver is the post-COVID era and the noncommittal stance of the WC region to host a conference.

2024 conference

- This was organized by the Limpopo region which comprises UL, Univen, and UMP with support from the NEC. As agreed in the last AGM, we continued to use the same organizers. They were of great help with the challenges of hosting the conference in Mpumalanga. The advantage was that all universities were very committed and were making sure that this was going to be a success.
- As has been stated previously, the continuation of this format greatly rests on the financial sustainability of the association.
- The feedback from the last conference was mostly positive with challenges being resolved throughout the year and some evident in the menu at the current conference.

NPO

- As you are aware, the challenge of us being registered has come a long. We have finally succeeded in registering. Appreciation to Davy Ivins and his team as they supported this process. The implications are that the constitution had to be amended. This happened with your support in the NEC leading this project. The annual reports will be accompanied by audited statements as required by the Department of Social Development.
- We envisage this to assist us in receiving funding that will help the activities of SAACHS and grow the association further.

Financial sustainability

- The contribution from ALL universities is crucial for the running of the association. I, therefore, urge you to ensure that the annual fees are duly and fully paid.
- NEC meetings have moved online to ensure that we meet the financial commitments and cut costs.
- The R1500.00 annual subscription means that we collect R37500.00 per annum. This is very little to ensure that all activities are carried out. We greatly rely on your conference fees and sponsorships. We thought about many ways to ensure adequate funds, hence the option of increasing annual fees to R2000.00 per institution.
- To minimize risks associated with the handling of finances, a co-signatory is in place to ensure that two people approve the payments of services.
- Re-aligning the conference schedule to accommodate more funding and access to more markets. Less funding from exhibitors has proved to be very challenging.
- Change the financial year to accommodate current reporting times.

Strategic matters for consideration

- Review the time allocation of the annual conference (*impact on sponsors and exhibitors*).
- Sourcing local conference speakers and contributors by the LOC as far as possible.
- The annual conference should carry the CPD points as a measure to encourage attendance by more professionals and further improve the standard of presentations.
- Review the AGM time aligned with the conference.
- Prospects of income to ensure the sustainability of the Association.
- Formalizing reports from the regions as part of the AGM.

2025 conference

- This will be hosted by the Free State region. The initial meeting of the region and the NEC has taken place, and I would like to announce that the FS colleagues

have accepted the challenge to host the next annual conference. Other announcements will be made in due course.

Compiled by: Molimi (Miemie) Geya

SAACHS Chairperson

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