

51st Annual Congress

Grassland Society of Southern Africa

incorporating

the 7th Research Skills Workshop

and an

Invasive Species Workshop



3rd July until 8th July 2016

Wilderness Hotel Resort and Spa
Wilderness, Western Cape, South Africa

The Annual Congress will be hosted by the Western Cape Province at the Wilderness Hotel Resort and Spa, Wilderness, situated 10 km from George and 23 km from George Airport (airport shuttle will be available). The accommodation, conferencing and other facilities at Wilderness Hotel are in close proximity to one another, encouraging networking, productive meetings and a varied social programme!

All those interested in presenting platform and poster presentations as well as research proposal posters are invited to submit abstracts for consideration BY 25 MARCH 2016 online at <http://gssa.co.za/index.php/gssa/2016/schedConf/cfp>.

ACCOMMODATION TO BE BOOKED DIRECTLY BY DELEGATES - Special accommodation rates have been organised at the Wilderness Hotel Resort and Spa; please contact Annelize Fourie (reservations@thewildernesshotel.co.za) to book. There are a variety of rooms and sharing options.

Please see the preliminary programmes for the highly acclaimed Research Skills Workshop to be held from 3 to 4 July 2016 as well as an Invasive Species Workshop on Friday 8 July 2016 in this announcement.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Workshop and special session proposals	15 JAN'16	Abstracts (research proposal posters)	6 MAY'16
Early bird payments	4 MAR'16	C51 & RSW2016 registration closes	19 JUN'16
Abstracts (platforms and standard posters)	25 MAR'16	C51 & RSW2016 payments due	26 JUN'16
Student sponsorship applications	25 MAR'16	Late payments	1 AUG'16

2ND ANNOUNCEMENT, CALL FOR ABSTRACTS
& PRELIMINARY SATELLITE FUNCTION PROGRAMMES

Research Skills Workshop

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

3rd July until 4th July 2016, Wilderness Hotel Resort and Spa, Wilderness, Western Cape, South Africa

SESSION ONE: PLANNING THE JOURNEY

- Introduction to the Philosophy of Science
- The Research Question
- Experimental Design
- Project and Funding Proposals
- Where We End Up – Choosing a Career Path

SESSION TWO: TRAVELLING TOGETHER

- Networking, Management and Collaboration
- Supervising and Mentoring Students

SESSION THREE: GETTING THERE

- Data Management – Making it Easier for You
- Community-Based Research and Participatory Rural Appraisals
- Photography in the Field
- Smartphones, Tablets and Android Apps for Fieldwork

SESSION FOUR: GETTING IT OUT THERE

- Ten Tips for Designing the Perfect Poster
- Presenting Platforms Effectively
- Popular Articles – Translating Science for the Public
- Overcoming the Academic Publishing Obstacle
- Reviewing and Revising Academic Manuscripts

ELECTRONIC MANUAL

- The Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes
- Basic Introduction to R (statistics programme)
- Managing Photographs for Optimum Use
- Useful Tools for Plant Identification: Vouchers, Online Resources, Field Herbaria and Digitisation
- Plagiarism
- How SAEON and Researchers can Work Together
- Additional Resources Related to Session Topics

Invasive Species Workshop

Management of Alien & Indigenous Plants

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

8th July 2016, Wilderness Hotel Resort and Spa, Wilderness, Western Cape, South Africa

SESSION ONE: WELCOME & OVERVIEW

08h30-08h40: Welcome

08h40-09h40: Introduction & Ecological Considerations

09h40-10h10: Overview of Invasive Plants in South Africa

10h10-10h30: Tea Break

SESSION TWO: VELD MANAGEMENT WITH REGARD TO INVASIVE PLANTS IN RANGELANDS

10h30-11h00: Invasive Plant Management in the Savanna Biome

11h00-11h30: Invasive Plant Management in the Grassland Biome

11h30-12h00: Invasive Plant Management in the Karoo Biome

12h00-12h20: Panel Discussion

12h20-13h20: Lunch

SESSION THREE: CONTROL STRATEGIES

13h20-13h50: Strategies for Invasive Plant Control

13h50-14h20: Physical (Mechanical) Control

14h20-14h50: Chemical Control

14h50-15h20: Biological Control

15h20-15h40: Panel Discussion

15h40-16h00: Conclusion & Closing

SUN 3 JULY	MON 4 JULY	TUE 5 JULY	WED 6 JULY	THU 7 JULY	FRI 8 JULY
RESEARCH SKILLS WORKSHOP 10H00-18H00	RESEARCH SKILLS WORKSHOP 08H00-17H00 COUNCIL MEETING 08H00-13H00 CONGRESS OPENING 18H00	CONGRESS 08H00-15H30 GSSA AGM 16H00-18H00	MID-CONGRESS TOURS 08H00-18H00	CONGRESS 08H00-17H00 GALA DINNER 19H00 CONGRESS CLOSING	INVASIVE PLANTS WORKSHOP 08H00-17H00

REGISTRATION COSTS (including VAT)	FULL-TIME STUDENTS BEFORE 2016/06/26	BEFORE 2016/03/04	AFTER 2016/03/04 UNTIL 2016/06/26
Research Skills Workshop Delegate (Sunday welcome tea, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner, Monday lunch and two teas, plus workshop materials, NO accommodation)	R 1 850.00	R 2 640.00	R 2 850.00
Congress 50 Registration: Members (NO accommodation, includes congress attendance, all teas, lunches and dinners from Monday night until Thursday night, mid-Congress tour and primary membership of the Society for 2017; members with ANY outstanding fees will be required to register at the non-member rate)	R 4 000.00	R 4 850.00	R 5 250.00
Congress 50 Registration: Non-Members (NO accommodation, includes congress attendance, all teas, lunches and dinners from Monday night until Thursday night, mid-Congress tour and primary membership of the Society for 2017, if desired)	R 4 000.00	R 5 450.00	R 5 850.00
Day Delegate (includes teas, lunch and supper on day of attendance; daily rate for one or two days)	R1 100.00	R 1 500.00	R 1 600.00
Invasive Species Workshop (includes teas and lunch, plus workshop materials)	R 500.00	R 750.00	R 820.00
Opening Function (Monday night for day delegates attending one or two days)	R 200.00	R 250.00	R 350.00
Gala Dinner (Thursday night for accompanying persons not using options below)	R 350.00	R 350.00	R 375.00
Accompanying Persons (NO accommodation, includes all meals as for delegates)	N/A	R 1 600.00	R 1 760.00
Accompanying Persons (NO accommodation, includes ONLY evening meals)	N/A	R 1 000.00	R 1 100.00

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER, CONTACT:
INFO@GRASSLAND.ORG.ZA, 083 256 7202 OR 049 842 4335