



TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----------|
| MEMBERSHIP | 2 |
| • Chair's Corner | 2 |
| • Joining SAHISA | 2 |
| CONDOLENCES | 3 |
| • Lecia Fleming | 3 |
| • Dorothy (Dodo) Pitt | 3 |
| • Mrs Sandy Faye | 3 |
| PUBLICATIONS | 3 |
| • Thinking Heads | 3 |
| PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT | 3 |
| • David Wylde Award | 3 |
| EVENTS | 4 |
| • Dr Michael Thompson and Dr Rob Evans Conference | 4 |
| PARTNERSHIPS | 5 |
| • Principals' Network | 5 |
| • New Leaders Foundation | 6 |
| GENERAL | 6 |
| • "Get It Right" | 6 |

MEMBERSHIP

- **Chair's Corner**

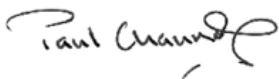
As we head into February and the holidays drift into the stuff of memories, I do hope all SAHISA members have started the year on a good note.

The energy levels are still high, presumably, and there's money in the budget, hopefully, so now's the time to plan your and your staff's professional development for the year. Three items should be at the top of the list for growth opportunities: the Thompson/Evans workshop in the bush; the LDP; and, of course, our annual conference taking place in Johannesburg and the Vaal.

On the subject of growth, both professional and personal, I have found one of the most enjoyable features of being Chair to be visiting colleagues in a wide variety of schools. Last August, Mary Williams and I visited several schools in Mthatha, Matatiele and Kokstad; we felt humbled yet enriched by the excellent work that is being done in our fellow ISASA schools, often in very demanding circumstances.

Later this month I shall be spending a few days visiting 7 schools in the Limpopo area. I expect this to be a similarly uplifting experience. I have also received invitations from heads to visit other schools closer to home and some further away, and I shall make every effort to honour each one. Thank you to all concerned.

Here's wishing you all a fulfilling and enjoyable February.



Paul Channon

Contact: Paul Channon. Email: chair@sahisa.org

- **Joining SAHISA**

As the Head of an ISASA school you are invited to join the Southern African heads of Independent Schools Association (SAHISA).

We encourage all heads – those new to the position and those more experienced – to consider making application to SAHISA. There are no cost implications and the benefits are great!

Should you be interested in so doing, the SAHISA Application Form and Code of Ethical Practice are available on the SAHISA website under the *Downloads -> Membership* section.

Once we have received the completed form, your application will be referred at our next Council meeting on **Tuesday 9 February 2010**, after which you will receive correspondence from the SAHISA Chairman, Mr P Channon.

Please note that it is no longer necessary to obtain two sponsors to accompany the SAHISA application.

Should you have any queries in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact Jenny Mundell.

Contact: Jenny Mundell. Tel: 011 648 1331, Email: jennym@isasa.org

CONDOLENCES

- **Lecia Fleming**

It is with great sadness that we have to inform you that Lecia Fleming died on 31 January after a brave fight with cancer.

Lecia started Fleming Pre-Primary School from her home in Craighall Park 24 years ago and went on to expand the school into the wonderfully nurturing and stimulating environment that it is today. She will be missed by many but particularly by the parents and staff at Fleming.

- **Dorothy (Dodo) Pitt**

It is also with great sadness that we inform you of the death of Mrs Dorothy (Dodo) Pitt early in December 2009.

Dodo Pitt was the Headmistress at St Mary's from 1973 to 1988. St Mary's will host a memorial service for her on Friday, 12 March at 15h00 in the School Chapel.

- **Mrs Sandy Faye**

We extend deepest condolences to Mr Stephen Faye. We were greatly saddened to hear of the passing of your wife, Sandy, and extend our sympathy to Stephen and his family at this difficult time.

PUBLICATIONS

- **Thinking Heads**

The SAHISA Council has decided that a section entitled *Thinking Heads* will be added to the table of contents for the SAHISA Bulletin. This will take the place of the separate *Thinking Heads* publication.

In the event that heads have a piece to share, they are encouraged to submit the article to Mary Williams (vice chair of SAHISA and editor of *Thinking Heads*).

Please email articles directly to Mary Williams at mwilliams@roedeanschool.co.za

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **David Wylde Award**

In 2008 the SAHISA Executive Committee agreed to set up a David Wylde Award. It was agreed that this Award would be made available to heads of low-fee schools to enable a Visitorship to another country for research into a specific educational topic.

The SAHISA Council has agreed to making use of some of the SAHISA Conference surplus to finance this Award and an amount of R25,000 has been allocated for the 2010 David Wylde Award.

Applications are therefore invited for this Award. The Application Form needs to be filled in and returned to Jenny Mundell as soon as possible. The SAHISA Executive will view all applications at its February meeting and make a recommendation to SAHISA Council for approval.

Contact: Jenny Mundell. Tel: 011 648 1331, Email: jennym@isasa.org

EVENTS

• **Dr Michael Thompson and Dr Rob Evans Conference**

SAHISA and ISASA are pleased to bring together two of the leading consultants in the United States independent school world, Dr Michael Thompson and Dr Rob Evans.

Time is drawing near and Heads are urged to make use of this wonderful opportunity to experience the wisdom of internationally acclaimed guest speakers.

Their trip to South Africa, jointly arranged by SAHISA and ISASA, starts with the three-day conference in Bakubang, Pilanesberg. The programme has been designed for school heads who have had two or more years of experience of headship, and offers a not-to-be-missed opportunity for thoughtful, stimulating dialogue and engagement with colleagues on the key relationships with parents, boards, teachers and pupils that heads must manage, and the psychological challenges of headship.

This will not be a repetition of talks they have given before in South Africa. What makes this conference different is that it is run by two highly experienced psychologists who will create a 'safe' environment in which heads will be able to explore these issues in greater depth and honesty than would normally be possible in a typical group situation. The conference is modelled on one that is highly valued by heads in the United States.

Some places will also be made available for those heads who would like to bring their spouses or partners/guests. The conference focus will be on straight talk about school, leadership, and living. It will explore the real-life challenges of sustaining first-rate leadership and ways to balance working with living. It will look at what makes the job so challenging and so fulfilling. It will combine learning and laughter and allow time for reflection, relaxation, and recreation – a perfect way to refresh and renew one's skills and outlook.

Please confirm your booking for the three-day conference that will be held at Bakubang in the Pilanesberg. The Conference Registration Form and course details can be downloaded from the [SAHISA website](#).

Please note:

1. The final deadline is 10 February 2010 and we urge you to complete the form and return to Jenny Mundell as soon as possible. Please do not miss out on this wonderful opportunity.
2. SAHISA Regional Chairs and ISASA Regional Directors are organising the programme for the day conferences and information will be communicated to you. The day conferences are open to Heads, Bursars, staff and parents.

Please contact the Regional chairs below if you have any queries in this regard:

- Sue Redelingshuys, St Cyprian's Senior School: head@stcyprians.co.za

- Graeme Edwards, St Benedict's Preparatory: edwards@stbenedicts.co.za
 - Greg Brooks, St Mary's DSG Kloof (Primary): gbrooks@stmarys.kzn.school.za
3. Finally, for those out of town heads who are attending the Pilansburg Conference you are advised that transport from and to O R Tambo has been arranged.

The bus will leave OR Tambo at 13:00 on Friday 19 March from Domestic Arrivals and will leave Bakubang at 13:00 on Monday 22 March.

The journey should take no longer than 2 hours 30 minutes and those returning to OR Tambo should be there by 16:00 latest. Flights can be booked accordingly. It will be necessary to pay a small fee for the transport and this will be used to cover costs. This amount will be calculated once numbers are confirmed.

Contact: Jenny Mundell. Tel: 011 648 1331, Email: jennym@isasa.org

PARTNERSHIPS

• Principals' Network

The Faculty of Education and the Department of Education Management at the University of Johannesburg, in collaboration with the Harvard Graduate School of Education, proposes an innovative educational leadership initiative to raise professional standards for South African school principals, national and provincial education officials, and other education stakeholders.

The goal of the proposed partnership is to increase dramatically the capacity of South African school leaders to improve student achievement and opportunity.

Our first workshop for this year will be presented by Graeme Bloch, Education Specialist at the Development Bank of Southern Africa. Details for the workshop are:

- Date: 13 February 2010
- Time: 9:00 (to be confirmed)
- Venue: University of Johannesburg, Education Faculty, Auckland Park Campus.

Abstract for the Workshop:

'Our schools are in trouble. While there is a toxic mix of factors that combines to make it hard to improve education, we are not victims. In particular, clear, focused and principled leadership can make a real difference. We have to see how we all contribute to finding the solutions. At last, we are in an education space where it is possible to be optimistic as education becomes a national priority. What are some of the priorities to fix our schools?'

Contact: Lloyd Conley, Project Manager. Tel: 011 942 2301, Email: lloydconley@uj.ac.za

- **New Leaders Foundation**

Excellence in Education. Building School Leadership Capability and Capacity.

The intention of this initiative is to provide school managers (Principals, Deputies and HOD's) with a structured programme that supports and develops their leadership and management capabilities over an eighteen month period.

This programme is not an event, it is a long term (18 month) committed partnership between the coach/mentor and the school management team (SMT).

The intervention will include a combination of modalities namely coaching, mentoring, strategic facilitation and training. The emphasis of this programme will be to develop skilled and inspirational leaders who can deliver excellence in their schools. The high level objectives of the initiative are to:

- Create effective school management practices
- Support schools in delivering on their strategic improvement plans
- Improve the quality of instruction in the classroom.

The coaching and mentoring programme will be the core focus of the initiative. It will be separated into two parts:

- Part 1: Team Coaching / Mentoring for the School Management Team (SMT)
- Part 2: Individual Executive Coaching / Mentoring for the school Principal and Deputy Principal.

We are looking for current and retired Principals and Deputies who would be interested in participating in a workshop to develop mentoring and coaching skills and would then work with a Principal and the SMT in a disadvantaged school.

Contact: Lynne Rivett-Carnac at rivett@global.co.za or Giles Gillett at gilesgillett@wol.co.za

GENERAL

- **"Get It Right"**

We try to "get it right" and communicate information that you can trust.

If we have neglected to communicate any relevant details or if you would like to contribute to the SAHISA Weekly Bulletin, please contact Jenny Mundell.

Contact: Jenny Mundell. Tel: 011 648 1331, Email: jennym@isasa.org