



74th PSSA AGM

It is that time of the year again – PSSA Annual General Meeting (AGM) time! The 74th PSSA AGM was held on 20 August 2019 at the Lynnwood Conference Centre. So what is an AGM actually about? According to the Oxford dictionary an annual general meeting is “A yearly meeting of the members or shareholders of a club, company, or other organization, especially for holding elections and reporting on the year’s events.” And yes, that is exactly what happened at the PSSA AGM – elections and reporting on the year that has passed. But it is also much more than that! It is a time to meet up with friends and colleagues, debate motions, mourn the loss of our fellow members, celebrate life achievements of colleagues with awards and see how much has been achieved since the last AGM.

Elections

At the AGM, a new PSSA Executive Committee for the 2019/2020 year was elected. Congratulations to all members that were elected! The Exco has representatives from all 4 sectors and all 13 branches, so if you want to find out more or to get more involved, contact your Exco representative.

Presidential Committee

President	Stéphan Möller
Deputy President	Joggie Hattingh
Honorary Treasurer	Lynette Terblanche
Immediate Past President	Sarel Malan

Vice-Presidents

APSSA	Gareth Kilian
SAACP	Tshif Rabali
SAAHIP	Refiloe Mogale
SAAPI	Godfrey Keele

Branch representatives

Border and Eastern Districts	Sim Pambuka
Cape Midlands	Cheryl Stanton
Cape Western Province	Ronel Boshoff, Aadila Patel, Gawie Malan
Free State	Martlie Mocke-Richter
KwaZulu-Natal Coastal	Patrick O’Donoghue, Gregory Poole
KwaZulu-Natal Inland	Juané van der Merwe
Limpopo	Mohale Seepe
Mpumalanga	Gideon Vosloo

Northern Cape
North West
Pretoria
Southern Gauteng

Vaal Triangle

Shawn Zeelie
Nico Scheepers
Morné Adamson, Joe Ravele
Stephanie de Rapper, Sybil Seoka,
Thanushya Pillaye
Willem Durand

Awards

This year, 3 awards recognised members of the PSSA at the AGM.

William Paterson award

Any award bestowed by the PSSA is an honour, but the William Paterson award does not get bestowed often. The purpose of the William Paterson award is to demonstrate recognition to those rare and outstanding members of the PSSA who have shown outstanding focus on the attainment of objectives for the PSSA, and through exceptional and consistent involvement in the Society’s activities, involvement in associated professional, business and educational or other relevant health care organisations have contributed significantly to the Society’s and the profession’s development to the benefit of all members of the profession and that of the consumers of health care.

In recognition of his achievements and in celebration of his involvement in the profession, the William Paterson award was bestowed on David George Boyce in September 2018 (pull out your SAPJ of Jan/Feb 2019 to read more about it).

Fellowship

Fellowship of the Society is to recognise those members who have consistently served to promote the profession and have significantly furthered the aims/objectives of the PSSA during his/her membership in exceptional ways at branch, sector and/or national level over a significant number of years.

This year, Fellowship of the PSSA was conferred on Ronel Boshoff and Ria Pretorius.



Stéphan Möller presenting Ronel with her certificate



Stéphan Möller presenting Ivan with his certificate

25 years of service

Reaching this number of years in service is a milestone not many of us manage to achieve. It shows a commitment and loyalty that is sometimes rare to find. The Executive Director of the PSSA, Ivan Kotzé, reached this milestone in March this year.

At the AGM, Ivan was recognised for his service. Stéphan Möller quoted from the March 1994 SAPJ, Ivan's words as incoming Executive Director: *"Among the challenges Mr Kotzé sees for himself and the profession is for the profession to present a united front. I would like to see us all working together as one profession, and for the Society to work towards the benefit of all sectors, making the pharmacist an indispensable part of the health team" he says.*

Stéphan pointed out that Ivan has lived up to these words over the past 25 years and that he sets an example to all pharmacists. A certificate and a gift were handed over as a token of thanks. Ivan thanked the Executive Committee members and Councillors he has served over the years for their support and he especially thanked all the office staff, as without them and their support and hard work, he would not have been successful in his endeavours.

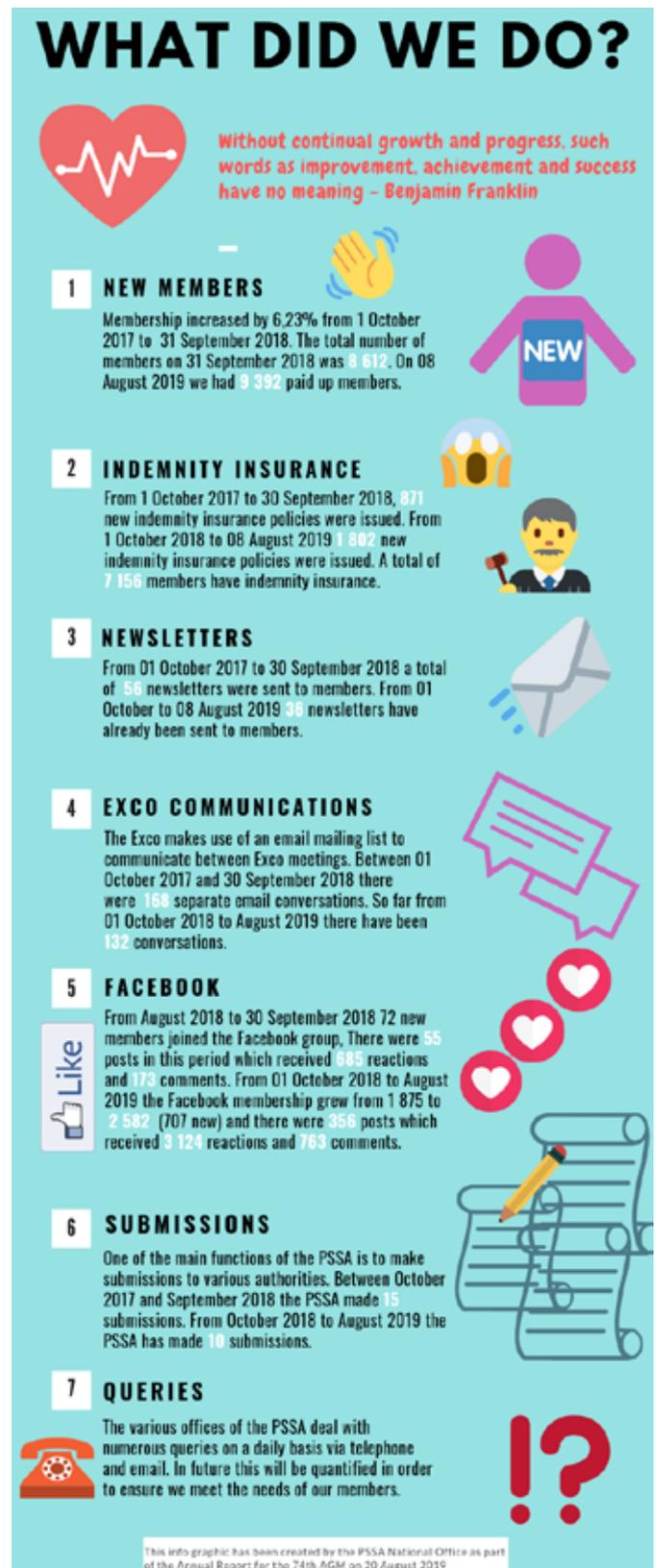
Annual Report

Each year at the AGM the President tables the Annual Report. This report contains details of some of the activities that were carried out by the National Office, the Exco, the sectors and the branches from the previous AGM. Important legislative issues that were addressed during the past year included the dispensing fee and interactions with the Pricing Committee, Continuing Professional Development (CPD) regulations, publication of SAPC fees for comment and rules relating to Good Pharmacy Practice (GPP). Practice related issues that PSSA addressed included cases where pharmacy students could not secure internship and where interns could not commence with community service immediately following their internship.

National Health Insurance (NHI) remains a focus for the PSSA and its commitment towards the NHI Pharmacy Stakeholders Consultative Forum remains important. The same can be said for the Presidential Health Summit and Compact to which PSSA has contributed substantially. Ongoing areas in which the PSSA is involved include human resources in the profession, HIV and TB; cannabis; codeine; fraud, waste and abuse in health care; and the realisation of the Presidential Stimulus packages in provinces.

The comprehensive report is available online on the PSSA website for anyone interested in reading it – <https://www.mm3admin.co.za/documents/docmanager/3C53E82B-24F2-49E1-B997-5A35803BE10A/00143478.pdf>

A short summary of what the National Office has done in the past 14 months since the previous AGM is reflected in the infographic.



SAVE THE DATE

2022 FIP World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

25 - 29 September 2022
Cape Town, South Africa



SAVE THE DATE



Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa 75th AGM and Conference

06 - 08 August 2020
Port Elizabeth



**PHARMACEUTICAL
SOCIETY OF SA**

75th AGM & CONFERENCE 2020

PHARMACY FOR THE FUTURE
A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITIES

The PSSA/Alpha Pharm distance learning programme 2019

The PSSA/Alpha Pharm distance learning programme continues to offer pharmacists useful, practical, up-to-date information that enables them to provide optimal pharmaceutical care to their patients.

Module 4/2019 – Asthma: the 2019 update

Asthma is a common chronic disease that affects people of all ages in all parts of the world. It is a cause of substantial burden of disease, including both premature death and reduced quality of life. Asthma affects an estimated 339 million individuals worldwide.

Despite the widespread availability of asthma treatment guidelines, surveys indicate that the majority of patients in both developed and developing countries do not receive optimal care and therefore their asthma is not well controlled.

South African and global guidelines for asthma aim to promote a better standard of treatment based on advances in the understanding of the pathophysiology and pharmacotherapy of asthma. The Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) compiles an annual update of the Global Strategy for Asthma Management and Prevention. This report provides a comprehensive and integrated approach to asthma management that can be adapted for local conditions and individual patients. The 2019 GINA report includes important new recommendations for the treatment of mild asthma and severe asthma.

This module provides an update on asthma for the pharmacist and incorporates the latest recommendations from the 2019 GINA report.

For more information about this programme contact Gill or Glynis at Insight Medicine Information on 011 706 6939 or email cpdalpharm@insightmed.co.za.

The PSSA/Alpha Pharm clinical education programme 2019 for pharmacy staff

The PSSA/Alpha Pharm pharmacy staff clinical education programme continues to offer front-shop assistants or pharmacist's assistants up-to-date information that enables them to provide optimal pharmaceutical care to their patients. All pharmacy staff need to be familiar with the use of unscheduled medicines and should be reminded of when it is necessary to refer the patient to the pharmacist.

Module 4/2019 – Understanding asthma

Asthma is a common lung disease that affects millions of adults and children worldwide. It causes narrowing of the airways (breathing tubes) in the lungs that can make it hard to breathe.

This module will enable members of staff to understand asthma and its management. For example: what the symptoms of asthma are, what the common triggers are and what practical steps can be taken to avoid or manage these triggers, and the latest approach to treating asthma. It will help staff members to encourage the correct use of asthma medication and why keeping an asthma diary can be helpful.

Asthma can usually be treated successfully. This requires patients and care-givers to be well-informed about the disease and its

correct treatment. A concern about asthma care is the high use of 'rescue' inhalers to treat symptoms of asthma. It is not uncommon for some patients to purchase a 'rescue' inhaler every month from the pharmacy. This has been a concern for many years but is now even more under the spotlight since the publication of the latest global asthma guidelines in 2019. The reason for this is because although 'rescue' inhalers help to 'open' narrowed airways (breathing tubes), they do not treat the inflammation in the airways which is the cause of the problem. Other medicines are needed to treat the inflammation. Patients who are frequently purchasing 'rescue' inhalers to relieve their asthma symptoms should be referred to their doctor so that their asthma can be assessed and better controlled.

This module discusses asthma and its treatment so that the pharmacy staff can be informed members of the healthcare team and play a valuable role in improving care for patients with asthma.

If you would like to participate in the 2019 PSSA/Alpha Pharm pharmacy staff clinical education programme please contact Gill or Glynis for further information at 011 706 6939 or email cpdalpharm@insightmed.co.za.