

**ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD
1 January 2007 to 31 December 2007**

Headings	Activities completed - January to December 2007		Activities planned - January to December 2008
1. Background & Composition of National Committee	Since 2006 the Council of South African Institute of Physics (SAIP) forms the core of the Committee. The Council includes a student member which makes the committee more representative of the physics community. South Africans serving in IUPAP structures are also members. The four IUPAP commission members mentioned in (2) below are also members.	SAIP Council Members: Prof. N. Chetty (President) Dr. S.H. Connell (President-Elect) Dr. J. Padayachee (Secretary) Prof. J.A.A. Engelbrecht (Treasurer) Mr. G. Bosman (student member) Dr. A.Z.A. Combrink Dr. I. Gledhill Prof. W.D. Heiss Dr. P. Martinez Prof. H. Moraal Dr. E.G. Rohwer	The newly appointed Executive Officer of the SAIP, Mr. Brian Masara, will become ex officio member of the committee from 1 January 2008.
2. Participation by South Africans in Union activities	Regular participation in Union-organised conferences over a wide spectrum of fields. Members of commissions as per item 3.2 below. An IUPAP young scientist award was won by a South African. Dr. S.E.S. Ferreira, in Commission C4.		Same as current.
3.1. Size of local community	The South African Institute of Physics has 547 members (including 273 ordinary and 205 student members). There are at least a further 500 physicists in South Africa who are not members of the SAIP but practice as physicists (academia and industry) and several of them participate in SAIP-organized activities.		A continued drive for membership, particularly directed towards students and the next generation.
3.2 South Africans serving on Unions or its subsidiary bodies	The following South Africans are members of the respective IUPAP Commissions: Prof. N. Chetty, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Commission 20; Prof. O.C. de Jager, North-West University, Commission 4; Prof. D. Grayson, Andromeda Science/University of Pretoria, Commission 14; Prof P.A. Whitelock, SAAO, secretary Commission 19.		These members will play their normal and scheduled part in meetings, mostly arranged during the respective periodic conferences of the commissions.
3.3 Attendance of International Congresses/Workshops • Number of conferences attended • Number of South African delegates	Not available. This is not reported in the discipline of Physics; physicists only report to their home institutions and funding organisations..		Normal participation.

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• Number of papers presented		

3.4 Capacity building with regard to membership of National Committee and involvement of young scientists in international meetings	The student member of the Council of the SAIP is a member of the National Committee and this contributes to the capacity development.	Dr. A.Z.A. Combrink, who completed his Ph.D. in 2007 is nominated to be the capacity building delegate to the IUPAP General Assembly in October 2008.
3.5 Organisation of Union-related Conferences in South Africa	None. It should be borne in mind that South Africa hosted the 2005 IUPAP General Assembly, and in this sense a “rest period” is normal.	Commission C14 and C20 are discussing the organisation of an international conference (level C – workshop) on computational physics in South Africa.
3.6 Contribution by members to documents and publications	The National Liaison Committee and the SAIP do not keep or receive records of the publications of members of the physics community.	Prof. D. Grayson is contributing author to an ICPE (C14) sponsored book on Physics Education research.
3.7 Report-back on recommendations made during the in depth review	There was no in-depth review of the international activities of Physics recently.	
4. Value to the community and benefit to South Africa	IUPAP assists in the worldwide development of physics, to foster international cooperation, and to help in the application of physics toward solving problems of concern to humanity. These are congruent with the goals of the SAIP and the local physics community.	
5. Public Society Interfaces and Outreach Programmes – self initiated or facilitated by ICSU	2007 was the second full year of operation of Women in Physics in South Africa (WiPiSA). It was also the first year of the International Polar Year and the International Heliophysical Year, which are overseen and managed by an active committee of the NRF.	Preparation for the International Year of Astronomy in 2009, in co-operation with astronomical institutes in South Africa.
6. Research Highlights/ New Initiatives in South Africa	Emanating from the project: Shaping the Future of Physics in South Africa, a National Institute for Theoretical Physics was established in 2006 with main campus in Stellenbosch and nodes in Durban and Johannesburg.	Mr. Brian Masara was appointed as Executive Officer for the SAIP on 1 January 2008. He will also participate in the international activities of the SA ICSU secretariat.
7. Science Education	A second FET Workshop for Physics Educators at tertiary level, to expose them to the challenges of the new curriculum, Pretoria, 8 – 9 February 2007. (This activity is entirely of a national nature.)	A third and final workshop planned for 2008.
8. Financial assistance received by South Africans direct from ICSU bodies during 2006	None.	None.