

Annual Chapter Report 2018

<i>Chapter:</i>	South Africa
<i>Year:</i>	2018
<i>Officers</i>	
President:	Dr Nalini Sooknanan Pillay
Chapter-society liaison:	Mapule Ntsoane & Dr Benjamin Batinge
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<i>Website:</i>	www.systemdynamics.org.za
<i>Last update:</i>	

1. The past year

1.1 Chapter development

1.1.1 Activities

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Estimated number of Attendees</i>
6 th Annual System Dynamics Conference Jointly hosted by SASD Chapter. Host institution: University of the Witwatersrand	22-23 Nov 2018	Attended by 30 participants; 13 oral presentations and 6 poster presentations. Additionally, a welcome address and keynote on <i>Thinking, the “Mother” of all Systems</i> by Professor Beatrys Lacquet (University of Witwatersrand)
Workshop on “ <i>Games, Hacking and the 21st Century Skill of System Dyanmics</i> ”,	23 Nov 2018	Attended by 16 participants, facilitated by Prof Josephine Musango (University of Stellenbosch)
SASD Chapter Social Event	23 Nov 2018	Attended by 20 participants. Award winners for the following categories were presented with trophies: Best presentation at the Conference; Best Contribution to Chapter; Best Student presentation.
Book Launch	23 Nov 2018	The book “ <i>System dynamics models for Africa's developmental planning</i> ” was launched during the social event on the 23rd November 2018, published by Human Sciences Research Council, and the Africa Institute of South

		Africa
Annual General Meeting	23 Nov 2018	21 participants SASD Chapter Policy Council Election and assigning responsibilities to Newly Elected Policy Council
Policy Council Meeting	05 Sep 2018	8 participants
Chapter Roundtable at Reykjavík, Iceland	06 Aug 2018	9 participants
System Dynamics Courses:		
a) Stellenbosch University	28 May – 08 Jun 2018	15 participants
b) Eskom Academy of Learning – Introduction to Applied System Dynamics (2 day course ID: D50319613)	23 – 24 Apr 2018	12 participants
	03 – 04 Jul 2018	16 participants
	29- 30 Aug 2018	7 participants
c) Eskom Academy of Learning – Applied System Dynamics (5 day course ID: D50622688)	08 -12 Oct 2018	8 participants
d) Wits University – School of Electrical and Information Engineering	Per Course and Syllabuses guide each year	Approximately 250 students in each module ~750 students per year
a. Health and System Dynamics module in each of three separate undergrad courses, “Medical Thought and Practice” for BHSc, MBBCh and BPharm.		
Policy Council Meeting	1 Mar 2018	8 participants

1.1.2 Products

Please indicate the number of DS related publications in form of books, chapters, articles and conference proceedings made on behalf of the Chapter (you do not need to include products of individual members).

Type	Number of products	Type	Number of products
Article	1	Video	

Book	1	Software	
Chapter		Simulators	
Proceedings	1	Models	
Websites	1		

1.1.3 Relationships with other societies or institutions

Please indicate other institutions and professional or scientific societies your Chapter maintains a relationship with. Add rows as needed.

The South Africa Chapter of the International Council of Systems Engineers (INCOSE) and the SASD Chapter have a close relationship by virtue of some SASD Policy Council members being members of the INCOSE SA Chapter.
A number of SASD Chapter members are also involved in the South African Engineering Management Chapter of the IEEE.
One of the SASD member, Prof Josephine Musango and SASD member Prof Alan Brent, are involved with the International Sustainable Development Research Society (ISDRS).
The President, Dr Nalini Sooknanan Pillay, is involved with the South African Association for Energy Economics.

1.1.5 Finances: cash reserves

If your chapter raises a membership fee, please indicate your current financial situation here.

Cash reserves = R22 400 (as at 22 Nov 2018)
The cash reserves of the Chapter have improved due to the following:
- Introduced registration fees for the Chapter Annual Conference to support conference activities
- Received support for the conference from sponsors namely: Stellenbosch University – Industrial Engineering Department; School of Public Leadership; Urban Modelling and Metabolism Assessment; ESKOM; Transnet Centre for Systems Engineering at University the Witswatersrand.

1.1.6 Membership

How has membership developed over the past year? Please explain important changes in number or composition, with special emphasis on “local” members.

As at 22 November 2018, there were 14 paid members working in various institutions in South Africa.
On 22 November 2018, additional 24 conference participants were given free membership. The financial year of the Chapter is from March to end February. The Chapter will determine the paid membership for 2019 from March 2019.

1.2 Level of development of system dynamics in the Chapter's area

<i>Variable</i>	<i>N.</i>
Number of <i>universities</i> where at least one faculty member belongs to the system dynamics community: represents the coverage inside the local university system	3
Number of <i>faculty members</i> who belong to the SD field: indicates if there is quantitative growth of SD in the universities.	9
Number of <i>institutions where SD is taught</i> as part of other courses or in its own right: university training is a main driver of diffusion of SD, and it can be used as a proxy for the number of young adults who are exposed to SD.	5
Number of <i>faculty members</i> who belong to the SD community and <i>who have studied under a local faculty member</i> : expresses the solidification of the community.	3
Number of <i>school-level initiatives</i>	1
Number of application fields	Various

1.3 Your assessment of the closing year

Please elaborate concerning any particular development that may be relevant for the Society.

The Chapter contributed towards a book titled 'System Dynamics Models for Africa's Developmental Planning', which was successfully launched on the 23rd Nov 2018.

One new member joined the Policy Council 2019 for the first time, and was elected as the Student Representative.

The chapter also complies with the South Africa Revenue Authority Services (SARS) Tax Returns requirements. As a Public Benefit Organisation, the Chapter is exempted from Tax, but has to submit its financial statements to SARS at the end of each financial year.

2 The coming year

2.1 Challenges

What are the opportunities the Chapter plans to take, or challenges you plan to approach during the coming year?

- Continue with the conference fee to fund conference activities
- Expand student membership in various institutions.
- Increase the number of planned activities for the Chapter
- Invite African delegates to participate in the conference and to affiliate with the Chapter.
- Significant participation on social platforms to promote the Chapter

2.2 Planned activities

Which activities (like workshops, courses or seminars) does the Chapter plan to perform during the coming year?

- The Chapter will host a workshop for its members, on water nexus game which include a climate change.

- 7th Annual System Dynamics Conference, jointly hosted by SASD and Stellenbosch University will take place on 14-15 November 2019.
- Policy Council meeting(s) and an Annual General Meeting planned to take place on 1 March 2019; 6 September 2019; and 24 November 2019. All these are expected to be face-to-face meetings. The venue for the two meetings will be in Johannesburg, South Africa; Eskom meetings respectively. The third meeting will be held at Stellenbosch University, who will also sponsor the venue logistics.
- Annual training in System Dynamics at various institutions that are already offering courses. Stellenbosch University – 27 May -07 Jun 2019.
- SASD Chapter Roundtable in SDS Conference in United States in July 2019.
- Eskom 2-Day Training on 25 – 26 April 2019; 06 - 07 Jun 2019; 22 -23 August 2019.
- Eskom 5-Day Training on 07 – 11 October 2019.

2.3 Support required

What would you ask the Society to do to help the Chapter?

- Financial support to guest invite international speakers during our November annual conference. The Chapter plans to engage with the various individuals in advance as well as with SDS.
- There is a need for a conference management platform to efficiently host the Annual South African System Dynamics Conference, funding would be required to support such platform.
- Continuous publication of the Chapter News on the Society Newsletter and other platforms.
- Continuous support for the Chapter Roundtable session during the Society Annual Conference.