



**ASSADPAM**

<http://assadpam.net/>

# newsletter



**CHAIRPERSONS NOTE**  
by Professor  
Liezel Lues (UFS)

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# CHAIRPERSONS NOTE

Incoming ASSADPAM chairperson:  
Professor Liezel Lues (UFS)



Appreciation, expectation, and privilege are the feelings that come to mind as I enter the new term in the capacity of chairperson of the Association of Southern African Schools and Departments of Public Administration and Management (ASSADPAM), alongside the Deputy-chairperson, Prof. Margeret Chitiga-Mabugu (UP). ASSADPAM is a professional network of 17 higher education schools and departments in the fields of Public Administration, Public Management, Public Governance and Development Management in Southern Africa. It was established in 2002 to promote the interests of the relevant disciplines and of the scholars active in, and passionate about these disciplines.

The mandate and responsibility of ASSADPAM have arguably never been as eminent and vital as in current times. Against this backdrop the purpose of the Association has been to establish and dynamically sustain a voluntary network Association of the academic and training institutions in the educative fields of public affairs, governance, public policy, public administration, public management and development management. This network association pursues the common interest, agreed upon goals and objectives of its membership in an enthusiastic and dynamic manner for the benefit of all members. The promotion of academic growth of the disciplines of Public Administration and Management remains the highest priority whereas the realization of its contributions in civil society is equally important. The Association holds, amongst others annual forums to stimulate continuous academic

discourse and dialogue, such as the annual ASSADPAM conference where students and academia share their research. The University of the Western Cape (UWC) will host the 2016 ASSADPAM conference later this year and we look forward to experience the hospitality of Prof. Chris Tapscott, alongside Prof. Rozenda Hendrickse (CPUT) who will be our hosts.

Another exciting forum that members should diarize, is the annual writing workshop facilitated by Prof. Christelle Auriacombe (UJ) for the emerging academe. As the Chief-editor of the professional academic journal, *Administratio Publica*, Prof. Auriacombe and her team contribute immensely to capacity building and skills in scientific writing and publishing in our discipline. *Administratio Publica* is a double blind, peer-reviewed journal accredited by the South African Department of Higher Education and Training, and it is published four times a year and with the aim of fostering academic research in public administration and management and related fields. Dr Vain Jarhaban (UJ, editor) and Prof. Harry Ballard (CPUT, deputy-editor) are doing an exemplary job in supervising the manuscripts and ensuring relevant, ethically sound, and excellent editions. Our sincere appreciation to all the remaining editors and editorial board members for their dedicated service to the Association.

Apart from publications and formal platforms, the establishment of platforms for collaboration and engagement remains a priority for the Association. Dr Luni Vermeulen (NWU), Prof. Edwin Ijeoma (UFH) and Dr Strini Pillay (DUT) have been especially committed to see the creation of new and strategic partnerships amongst various interest groups and stakeholders within broader society as a means of improving discourse, participation and service delivery. Prof. Thean Potgieter from the National School of Government will contribute notably to this initiative.

Facilitating, supporting and managing joint academic research, education and consultancy projects among member institutions, is done through the Association's website (<http://assadpam.lexfactorum.com>). Dr Danielle Nel (UJ) and Prof. Henry Wissink (UKZN) are focusing on the continuous reduction in the chasm between

research, training and practice through social media whereas Prof. Tryna van Niekerk (CUT) assists with the delivery of a quarterly newsletter for the benefit of our members.

Under the watchful eye of former treasurer, Prof. Sinval Kahn (UNISA), the finances for 2016 are secure and stable. The funds are, for example utilized to support all of the Association's activities including events, staffing and publications. Ideally the Association also endeavors to grow our financial extent to be able to support needy students. Prof. Johan Burger (Treasurer) and Prof. Frederick Uys (Second signatory), both from the US have accepted the nominations to manage the financial portfolio for the upcoming term.

Improving consistency and relevance of teaching and research methodologies in Public Administration and Management take precedence in the agenda of the Association. Responsiveness of current curricula to ensure graduate attributes such as leadership, motivation, innovation, resilience, diligence, conciliation, and goodwill remains a priority. The Association is eager to put more effort to facilitate the discussion of these critical issues and strategies in the months to come in addition to developing

the research agenda through the generation of applied, quality outputs that advances the horizons of our discipline. This project will be advanced under the expert supervision of Prof. David Everatt (WITS) and Dr Sindisile Maclean (NMMU).

Through the recruitment of new members, ASSADPAM is devoted to fostering the disciplines of Public Administration, Public Management, Public Governance and Development Management in Southern Africa. This means utilizing available resources to expand and improve academic learning and discourse on all levels, to provide avenues for members to share their findings, whether in person, print or online as well as to establish active and strategic contacts to facilitate scientific discourse, exchange and collaboration. The Association works tirelessly to keep members informed about policy matters that will affect them both as academia, life-long learners and as citizens. Ultimately, ASSADPAM endeavors to bring together all people that treasure the discipline to participate in its advancement and improvement. As a point of departure, thank you for your continued support, and please take the liberty to engage us, and let us know what you think will can do to make this already excellent association, even better. ●

## EXCO COMMITTEE MEMBERS - November 2015



**From left to right:** Dr Sindisile Maclean (NMMU), Prof Henry Wissink (UKZN), Prof Vain Jarbandhan (Editor AP) (UJ), Prof Johan Burger (US), Prof Harry Ballard (Outgoing Chairperson) (CPUT), Prof Liezel Lues (New Chairperson) (UFS), Dr Danielle Nel (UJ), Prof Tryna van Niekerk (CUT) and Prof Edwin Ijeoma (FH).

## EXCO COMMITTEE MEMBERS - 2016



**Front row, from left to right:** Dr D Nel (UJ), Prof M Chitiga-Mabugu (UP), Dr S Maclean (NMMU), Prof R Hendrickse (CPUT).  
**Middle row, from left to right:** Mr S Olivier (UZ) and Prof T van Niekerk (CUT). **Back row, from left to right:** Prof H Wissink (UKZN), Prof L Lues (UFS) (Chairperson), Prof J Burger (US), Prof P Fitzgerald (Wits), Prof T Potgieter (NSG), Prof V Jarbandhan (UJ) (Editor AP), Prof W Webb (UNISA) and Prof C Tapscott (UWC).



Official welcome:  
Dr Vain Jarbandhan, HoD PMG

# REPORT FROM THE & 2015 CONFERENCE GENERAL MEETING

The Association of Southern African Schools and Departments of Public Administration and Management (ASSADPAM) Research Workshop, Annual General Meeting and Conference: 18 – 20 November 2015

The Department of Public Management and Governance (UJ) successfully hosted the 2015 ASSADPAM Research Workshop, Annual General Meeting and Conference from the 18 – 20 November 2015 at the School of Tourism and Hospitality. The conference was premised on the theme: **Shaping African sustainability: A Pan-African perspective in pursuit of future-fit Public Leadership, Public Administration, Public Management and Public Governance.**

The research workshop was used as an opportunity to build capacity amongst novice researchers. The workshop was successfully facilitated by Prof Christelle Auriacombe who was assisted by Dr Danielle Nel. The research workshop provided an invaluable platform for novice researchers to work in close collaboration with established researchers to promote academic scholarship within the discipline. Eight novice researchers participated in the workshop and it is envisaged that their peer-reviewed publications will appear in the forthcoming issues of *Administratio*

*Publica*.

The research workshop for novice researchers was followed by the formal conference and ASSADPAM Annual General Meeting. Forty five peer-reviewed papers were presented at the conference from delegates both nationally and internationally. The conference review panel and senior academics in the discipline commended the quality of papers that were read at the conference.

The guest speaker at the opening session of the conference was Prof Fanie Cloete (Emeritus Professor, PMG and Extraordinary Professor, School of Leadership, Univ of Stellenbosch). Dr Vain Jarbandhan, HoD, PMG (UJ) welcomed all delegates. The guest speaker at the gala dinner was Mr Joseph Wambia whose work credentials include the World Bank, The IMF and the African Development Bank. A new chairperson was voted into office at the AGM. Prof Liezel Leus (UFS) replaced the outgoing chairperson, Prof HH Ballard (CPUT). Prof Johan Burger (US) replaced Prof Sinval Kahn (Unisa) as treasurer. ●



Opening Address: Prof Fanie Cloete, Emeritus Professor PMG



Guests enjoying the gala dinner



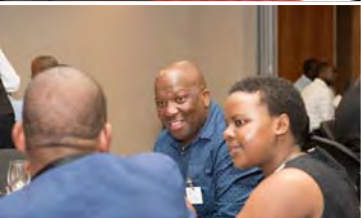
An animated presenter: Prof Henri Kroukamp, Executive Dean FoM, UFS



Guest speaker at the Gala Dinner:  
Mr Joseph Wambia



Guests enjoying a coffee break:  
Prof Christelle Auriacombe, UJ PMG; Prof Henry Wissink, Executive Dean: School of Management, IT and Governance at the University of KwaZulu-Natal; Prof Thokozani Mzimakwe, UKZN and Dr Sivnarain, UKZN.



# ASSADPAM CONFERENCE

