

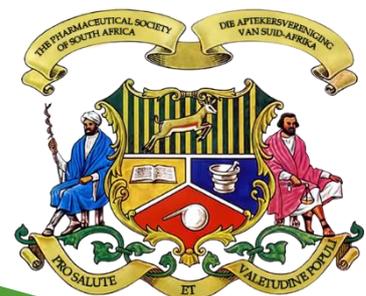
Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa Annual Report



Fig. 82: Delegates to the First AGM of the PSSA in Johannesburg, 18-21 March 1946.
Front Row (l to r): H F C Walter (Executive Member), B A Jacobson (Vice-President), A Abelson (Vice President), D Friedman (Vice President), F J Todd (President), J Christie, MP, F J Garrard (Executive Member), Miss C G Hofs, S. Sapire (Executive Member), W Paterson (Executive Member).
Middle Row (l to r): Mrs G MacDougall (Asst. Secretary), G B Christie, E Lumsden, W Rothenburg, F Mansfield, R Pannall, W Gasson, F Westbrook, L R Tibbitt, N R Tuck, I Barkhuysen, C L Hill, G McIntyre, S Cohen (Executive Member), G Bakker, MPC, J McLees, A Zaidel.
Back Row (l to r): A Kramer (Secretary), W Last, W E Hodson, M M Katovsky, D K Mager, N A Stephenson, L Boner (Hon. Treasurer), E E Seymour (Executive Member), E V Howell, R Mellon (Executive Member), L F Wood (Executive Member), L Nuttall, W Nimmo, L Jacobs, P Daniel.
Inset (l to r): N I Cohen, J De Beer, G V Hartley, J Hope, M Rifkin, F T S Jennings, L W Cooper.
(By courtesy of the PSSA, Johannesburg)

**80th Annual General
Meeting
09 August 2025**

Indaba Hotel and Conference Centre, Fourways, Gauteng



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The Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa.

(TRANSVAAL BRANCH)

308 Africa House,

Rissik Street,

Johannesburg.

March, 1946.

The conception that the strength of our profession does not lie in isolation but in union has been generally accepted by chemists and druggists throughout Southern Africa. We realise we can only find a solution to our difficulties through a greater understanding and wider application of the principles that have guided us throughout the past.

Discussion between "Het Pharmaceutische Genootschap van de Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek" and the Cape and Natal Societies on pharmaceutical matters was first mooted in 1899, and thoughts and aspirations envisaging a closer union of all four provinces have been put forward at various periods since. Now "The Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa" is a fact, and the Transvaal Branch is proud to be the host at the inaugural meeting to take place in Johannesburg from March 18th to 21st.

To the men in the past who foresaw this possibility and to those whose tenacity of purpose, initiative and industry have brought this to fruition, we owe a debt which is difficult to assess at such close proximity, but which will surely be acknowledged at its intrinsic value at some future date. To this greater organisation we willingly commit ourselves in the belief that time will fully justify and endorse our decision.

Delegates are coming from all Provinces to our City, not as competing teams" but as members of the greater whole, imbued with the desire that the greatest good shall emerge from their deliberations for all members scattered throughout the Union. The Transvaal Branch extends to all these a very hearty welcome and wishes them good luck and God speed in the great work that is before them.

CONSTANCE G. HOFES,

(Chairman).

Welcome letter to delegates attending the first AGM from Ms Constance G. Hofes the Chairman of the then Transvaal Branch who hosted the AGM.

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Foreword

It is a pleasure and privilege to share this foreword with you as we gather for our 80th Annual General Meeting. As we reflect on the collective journey since our last AGM, I am particularly energised by the momentum we have built across our branches, the strengthening of stakeholder relationships, and the remarkable growth in membership. These gains not only indicate greater trust in our vision and mission, which reminds us of what makes the Society special.

Internally, our office operations have become more streamlined and responsive, supporting the strategic planning efforts that position us well for the future. This year also marked a moment of transition, as we bid farewell to Dr Eksteen, whose departure was met with gratitude, and welcomed Mr Ngobeni. We hope he will be a great fit for the PSSA culture and contribute to advancing our important initiatives. The success of hosting the FIP Congress in South Africa was a real highlight, putting our organisation on the global stage and reflecting the calibre of work happening across our profession.

We also recognise ongoing challenges: member engagement remains uneven in some areas, and we know that improving the member benefits we provide is essential to earning your time and trust. However, I believe we are on the right track, and with your input and renewed commitment, we will continue to improve how we serve. Additionally, keeping our young pharmacists engaged and participative is essential for ensuring the Society and the profession remain forward-thinking and responsive to the evolving needs of healthcare.

However, one challenge demands our immediate and unwavering attention: the ongoing lack of employment opportunities for young pharmacists. This issue has a significant impact on the future of our profession and cannot be overlooked — it is both urgent and systemic. We are committed to advocating for change and working with relevant stakeholders to develop practical solutions that create employment opportunities.

This AGM report captures a dynamic season of transition and possibility. It reflects the power of collaboration and the leadership of those who have carried our mission forward at the branch and sectoral levels. I, therefore, invite you to engage with this report, to celebrate our milestones, and to help shape the opportunities before us.

My gratitude goes to the National Executive Committee, Branch and Sector Committees, our dedicated staff, our growing member base, and our stakeholders. Your continued belief in our work and shared vision makes all this possible. As we look ahead, I remain confident that, together, we will continue to elevate our profession, amplify our impact, and grow stronger as a united, member-driven Society.

Thank you for being part of this journey.

Refiloe Mogale
Executive Director



Message from the President

80th Annual General Meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa

As we approach the 80th Annual General Meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa (PSSA) and the current term draws to a close, I find myself reflecting on the journey we've taken together—what we've accomplished and what we continue to build.

Many of the projects we set out to complete have been successfully delivered, while others are progressing steadily. A key milestone has been the adoption of the Society's Strategic Plan by the National Executive Committee (NEC), which now serves as a guiding framework for our daily operations and long-term direction.

Our engagement with stakeholders has gained significant momentum, and it has been a time of continuous action as we strive to deliver on the promises made to our members.

The increased visibility of the PSSA has ignited a spirit of activism among pharmacists across the country. This renewed energy is evident in the growing number of colleagues who are joining the Society—proof that our collective efforts are resonating. It is deeply fulfilling to see the vision we set in motion becoming a reality, step by step, day by day.

The achievements of the past term are clearly reflected in the steady growth of our Society's membership—a development we are already witnessing. I often say that with increased membership, our collective voice becomes stronger and more influential among all stakeholders.

What's particularly inspiring is the diversity within our growing membership, especially the rising number of young pharmacists who are choosing to join the Society. This not only reaffirms our relevance today but also gives us great confidence in the future of the Society.

Their engagement assures us that the Society will continue to thrive for the next 80 years and beyond. It is also encouraging to know that with such promising participation, succession planning across national structures, branches, sectors, and the Young Pharmacists' Group will be both achievable and sustainable.

All these accomplishments have been made possible through the unwavering support I received from the Presidential Committee, National Executive Committee members, sector representatives, branch chairpersons, the Young Pharmacists' Group, the South African Pharmacy Student Federation (SAPSF), and every member of the PSSA. I extend my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you.

A special note of appreciation goes to the Executive Director of the Society, Refiloe Mogale; our COO, Michelle Bernard; and team members Anri Hornsveld, Famola Ngobeni and Nitsa Manolis. Your support throughout this journey has been truly exceptional.

To the entire national office team—thank you sincerely. Your passion, commitment, and energy keep the heart of the Society beating strong. You are the true pillars of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa.

I would also like to extend my best wishes to the incoming Presidential Committee and the National Executive Committee of the PSSA. May your term be both fruitful and fulfilling, and may you lead with passion, purpose, and unity.

Finally, I wish to express my deepest gratitude to my wife and children for their unwavering support and for allowing me the time and space to serve as a volunteer within the Society. I will always hold this opportunity in deep humility and appreciation—it has truly been an honour.

Tshifhiwa Rabali
President



Annual Report of the President

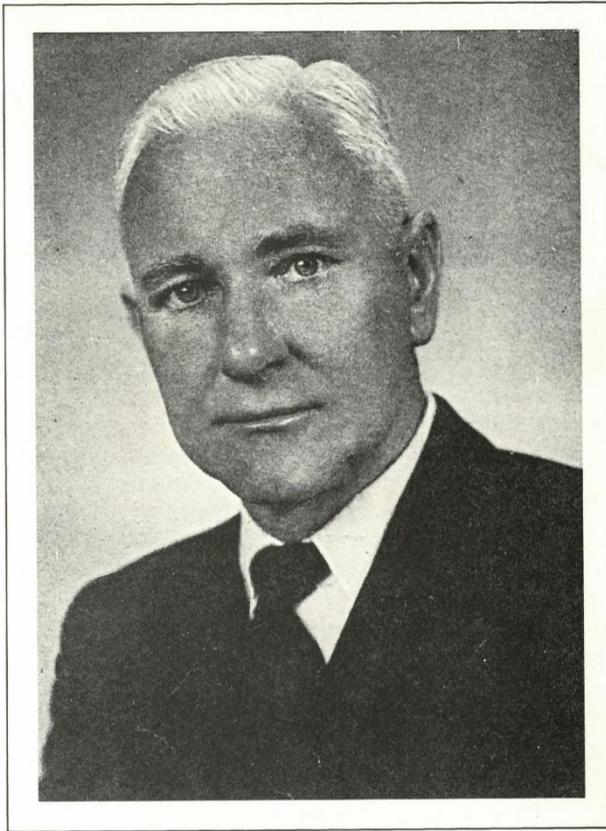


Fig. 80: F J Todd — first president of the PSSA, 1946. (*South African Pharmaceutical Journal*, April 1946, p. 45)

The 80th Annual General Meeting is a big achievement for the Society proving the important role that the Society plays in supporting and promoting the profession of pharmacy in South Africa.

In “*A history of organised pharmacy in South Africa*”, by Mike Ryan, it states that one of the arguments for the formation of the PSSA as one united association, was that “united body would be in a better position to work for the advancement or protection of its interests and by working together so closely, there would be better understanding among varying sectional interests within pharmacy itself.” Words that still ring true eighty years later.

In the SAPJ of March 1946, a John Christie commented that the PSSA “became a powerful instrument for the advancement of pharmacy of South Africa”. Let us continue the hard work started in 1946 and continue to ensure the advancement of pharmacy in South Africa.

National Office Activities

This report highlights some of the PSSA activities that happened between June 2024 and June 2025 but is not an exhaustive list.

Strategic plan 2025 – 2030

The PSSA embarked on a journey to develop a new strategic plan. It did not start with documents or templates; it started by observing and listening. We listened to the concerns whispered in webinars, voiced in branch meetings, and one-on-one conversations. We asked ourselves: What do our members need to thrive? What does the pharmacy profession need to evolve and lead in a changing health system? The process that led to this strategy was inclusive and introspective. It was driven by a realisation that, to be the undisputed guardian and leader of the profession, the PSSA would need to stay relevant, connected, and responsive in a changing professional and national landscape.

The strategic planning process began with a comprehensive consultation, most notably through a member survey that posed challenging yet necessary questions: What are the most critical issues in pharmacy? Where is the PSSA falling short? What should the next few years look like? We viewed the survey responses as a call to action as they revealed an organisation struggling with low visibility, internal fragmentation, regulatory pressure, and a sense of disconnection among members, including pharmacists outside the PSSA’s formal membership. These issues became the foundation of a new strategic direction, which forced us to confront outdated

assumptions and imagine new ways of working, thereby becoming more relevant, responsive, member-centred, and accountable.

What emerged was a strategy structured around four objectives: increasing member engagement, enhancing visibility, optimising resources, and strengthening professional advocacy. The strategy is supported by a mission that supports and promotes the profession in advancing patient care and ensuring access to medicine for all by upholding professional standards of pharmaceutical practice in all settings. It is guided by our values, which underscore our commitment to uphold professional integrity and accountability in all our actions, ensuring transparency and responsibility in everything we do. Through collaboration, we strive for excellence while advocating for the needs of those we serve, always working together to create a positive, lasting impact.

The first strategic objective aims to transform passive membership into active engagement by encouraging networking, leadership development, and inclusive communication. It embraces the diversity of the pharmacy profession across demographics and practice areas by knowingly including pharmacy support personnel and underrepresented sectors.

The second strategic objective prioritises visibility as a tool for influence, positioning the PSSA and pharmacy to shape public perception and to highlight the intrinsic contribution of the pharmacy profession in delivering effective healthcare in South Africa. Through various media, digital platforms, and strategic campaigns that elevate pharmacists' contributions to healthcare, this objective aims to strengthen advocacy, build public trust, and attract future pharmacy professionals.

The third strategic objective redefines resource optimisation by seeking to harness the underutilised potential of members, strengthen financial governance across branches, and engage external partnerships for sustainability. In doing so, we are transforming resource challenges into opportunities for collaboration and innovation.

The fourth strategic objective repositions the PSSA as a proactive, credible voice in health policy through evidence-based advocacy and sustained relationships with policymakers. It emphasises that meaningful representation must be earned through consistent relevance, trust, and strategic engagement.

The strategic plan also emphasises stakeholder mapping as a crucial step and a strategy for alignment. Each stakeholder's interests were considered, and actions were proposed that aligned professional goals with national health outcomes. The mapping served as a reminder to the Society that effective advocacy and sustainable reform require more than mere internal alignment, but also a coordinated action with and through diverse stakeholders.

The PSSA 2025–2030 Strategic Plan is more than a forward–looking document; it is an indication that we are paying attention, that we are willing to adapt, and that we are committed to walking this road together. This new plan reflects our commitment to inclusivity, innovation, and professional excellence. More importantly, it reflects the voices of our members that shaped it and the needs of our members that inspired it.

Its success will depend on our willingness to continue listening, learning, and building a profession that serves patients, advances science, and uplifts every pharmacist. We hope it will be viewed as a renewed social contract between the Society and its members, as well as between the profession and the public it serves. Therefore, we invite our members not only to be recipients of this strategy but also to be co–designers of a future where pharmacy stands tall, respected, and indispensable in every corner of our healthcare system.

Legislative matters

1. NHI Bill - Bill 11 of 2019

While the Bill was signed into law on 15 May 2024 and ascended on 16 May 2024 in a Government Gazette, the Bill has still not been proclaimed. As expected, the Bill is being challenged in the courts even though it is not yet proclaimed and there are five current court cases pending differing in what aspect they are challenging.

Even though the Bill is not yet proclaimed the Minister of Health published the proposed Governance Regulations of the Fund for public comment in March 2025. The PSSA did submit comments on these proposed regulations.

2. Medicines and Related Substances Act – Act 101 of 1965

2.1. Dispensing Fee

The final dispensing fee for 2024 was published on 04 October 2024. There was a slight increase between the draft fee and the final fee. The draft dispensing fee for 2025 was published on 21 February 2025. The draft fee analysis by Mediscor and MediKredit showed that, once again, the Pricing Committee (PC) had adjusted the rand component of the fee formula with a Consumer Price Index (CPI) percentage. However, adjusting only the rand component means that the increase in the actual dispensing fee is below 2%. The CPI of February 2025 was 3.2%. The Pharmacy Stakeholders Forum (PSF) submission highlighted these actual increases and noted that the fee increase is not close to CPI as required in legislation. The PSF also asked that the fee be finalised speedily. The final dispensing fee was not yet published when writing this report.

2.2. Single exit price

The PSSA does not submit comments on the annual increase in the Single Exit Price (SEP) but does compare the increase to the increase in the dispensing fee and the potential impact the increase could have on the dispensing fee. It was interesting to note that the SEP increase is linked to CPI each year. The SEP increase for 2024 was 6.79%. and the SEP increase for 2025 was 5.25% respectively which is much higher than the dispensing fee increase.

2.3. Licensing

On 23 February 2024 the Minister of Health published a notice exempting the manufacturers, wholesalers and distributors of Class A medical devices and *in vitro* diagnostics from section 22C Licensing of the Medicines Act for a period of three years. However, this notice was repealed on 12 February 2025 by the Minister.

2.4. Changes in medicines schedules

On 06 September 2024, the Minister of Health, on the recommendation of the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA), published amendments to tetrahydrocannabinol scheduling. This only affects raw cannabis plant materials and the manufacturing of cannabis-containing products and not the sale of finished products in the pharmacy.

2.5. Section 22(15)A permits

PIMART

The PIMART permit application process remains on hold due to the legal action instituted by some medical professional associations against the SAPC on this matter. The matter was heard in the Supreme Court of Appeal on 22 November 2024, but a judgement has not yet been handed down.

2.6. Compounded GLP-1 or GLP-1 agonists

In March 2025 SAHPRA published communication to stakeholders stating that SAHPRA intends to declare medicines compounded in terms of Section 14(4) of the Medicines Act (Act 101 of 1965) containing Glucagon Like Peptide-1 (GLP-1) active components or a combination of Glucagon-Like Peptide-1 (GLP-1) and Gastric Inhibitory Polypeptide (GIP) agonist active components undesirable in terms of Section 23 of the Medicines Act. The PSSA submitted comments in support of this initiative. The PSSA shares SAHPRA's concerns that current 'compounding' practices in terms of these products are in breach of the Medicines Act and may have potentially harmful consequences for the South African public. As the manufacturing, packing and testing of compounded injectable GLP-1 or GLP-/GIP products are not subject to evaluation, approval and control under the Medicines Act, there are important quality and safety concerns. Furthermore, these compounded products are not regulated and controlled in terms of the need for pharmacovigilance and post-marketing surveillance. The PSSA does not believe that these compounded products containing (or claiming to contain) GLP-1 or GLP1/GIP active ingredients are in the public's interest and that they threaten the health of the public in South Africa. The final outcome has not yet been published but internationally there has been a move to declare these products undesirable.

2.7. Phenylephrine oral preparations

SAHPRA has sent out communication to Holders of Registration Certificates (HCR) in July 2024 with phenylephrine containing products. The communication requested information on the ongoing benefit/risk of their product with supporting data. This was in line with communication from the United States Food and Drug Administration (US-FDA) regarding the efficacy of orally administered phenylephrine as a nasal decongestant. This communication emanated from their Nonprescription Drug Advisory Committee (NDAC),

convened on 11 and 12 September 2023, which concluded that the current scientific data was inadequate and did not support the efficacy of orally administered Phenylephrine, at recommended dosages as a nasal decongestant. The US FDA and the NDAC did not raise any safety concerns associated with use of orally administered phenylephrine at the recommended dose.

This process is still ongoing and a final outcome has not yet been published.

3. Pharmacy Act – Act 53 of 1974

Regulations

1. Regulations relating to Pharmacy Education and training – Amendment, was published on 07 June 2024 for implementation. This was part of the amendments to the different sets of regulations to allow for the registration of pharmacy technicians.
2. Proposed Regulations Relating to the Registration of Specialist Pharmacists, was published on 25 October 2024 for comment. These regulations made provision for Pharmacokineticist; Radiopharmacist; Clinical pharmacist; Public Health pharmacist; industrial pharmacist or any other sub–category of specialist pharmacist as may be determined and published by Council from time to time to be registered. PSSA National submitted comments in conjunction with SAAHIP and SAAPPI as sectors of the PSSA as well as other stakeholders for the different specialities.

Board Notices

The SAPC published a number of Board Notices for comments between August 2023 and May 2024.

1. BN 644 of 2024: Proposed fee percentage increase for 2025 – PSSA National submitted comments on the BN. It was noted that the proposal was to increase the fees with the CPI of October 2024. This was in–line with the Regulations Relating to Fees payable that allows for a maximum of a CPI increase.
2. BN 644 of 2024: Guidance document for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) – the BN proposed to reduce the grace period for CPD compliance from 30 April of the subsequent year to the last day of February of the subsequent year. The PSSA supported this proposal as it would speed up the process of SAPC issuing letter of compliance with CPD to pharmacists.
3. BN 652 of 2024: GPP Rule 1.2.11.5 Minimum Standards for pharmacy premises, facilities and equipment: Reference Sources – PSSA National submitted comments supporting the change whereby different categories of pharmacies will be required different reference sources while certain core reference sources would be required for all categories of pharmacies.
4. BN 653 of 2024: Proposed the criteria to accredit a course to be completed by foreign qualified persons – PSSA National submitted comments that the principle was supported but some issues were raised.
5. BN 806 of 2025: Proposed Criteria to accredit a course to be completed by foreign–qualified Pharmacy Technicians – the comment period has not yet closed, and the PSSA will submit comment on the BN.

6. BN 807 of 2025: Bachelor of Pharmacy – Integrated Curriculum Outline – the comment period has not yet closed. The PSSA will ask the Academic Institutions and APSSA to submit comments as they are the experts in this field.

The following Board Notices were published for implementation:

1. BN 697 of 2024: Fees payable to Council for 2025 – published on 5 December 2024.
2. BN 706 of 2024: Guidance document for Continuing Professional Development – published 13 December 2024.
3. BN 751 of 2025: Correction to GPP rule 4.2.3.3.1 Community Pharmacy – published 14 March 2025.
4. BN 752 of 2025: Competency standards for a specialist pharmacist who provides clinical pharmacy services in South Africa – published 14 March 2025.
5. BN 753 of 2025: Competency standards for a specialist pharmacist who provides radiopharmaceutical services in South Africa – published 14 March 2025.
6. BN 753 of 2025: Services for which a pharmacist may levy a fee (2025) – published 14 March 2025.
7. BN 756 of 2025: Competency standards for a specialist pharmacist who provides public health pharmacy and management services in South Africa – published 14 March 2025.
8. BN 782 of 2025: Competency standards for a specialist pharmacist who provides industrial pharmaceutical in South Africa – published 9 May 2025.
9. BN 787 of 2025: Additional fees payable to Council – published on 21 May 2025.
10. BN 794 of 2025: GPP Rule 1.2.11.5 Minimum Standards for pharmacy premises, facilities and equipment: Reference Sources – published 13 June 2025

Responsible Pharmacists

At the end of 2023 and early 2024, the SAPC published two sets of BNs relating to Responsible Pharmacists (RP) for comment that elicited quite a bit of controversy. The first was BN514 of 2023: Criteria to accredit a generic short course for a pharmacist who wishes to apply for registration as a responsible pharmacist on 24 November 2023. The second was BN543 of 2024: Criteria for the registration of a Responsible Pharmacist on 2 February 2024. Neither of these has been published for implementation nor has updated proposals been published.

4. Nursing Act – Act 33 of 2005

On 02 June 2023, the Minister of Health published a draft amendment to the general regulations relating (to) the conditions under which a registered person may practice as a private practitioner. These regulations have not yet been published for comment again or for implementation.

5. Medical Schemes Act – Act 131 of 1998

Low-cost benefit options

On 23 December 2016, the Minister of Finance, with the concurrence of the Minister of Health, published the Demarcation Regulations. The Demarcation Regulations provide that certain insurance policies have elements of the business of a medical scheme and are classified as “health policies” and/or “accident and health policies”, whilst excluding primary healthcare products and hospital indemnity products. The Demarcation Regulations became effective on

1 April 2017 and as a result, any provider of primary healthcare products and hospital indemnity products is deemed to be conducting the business of a medical scheme, as defined in terms of section 1 of the Medical Schemes Act (131 of 1998) (MSA). Medical schemes were supposed to develop Low-Cost Benefit Options (LCBO) to replace the policies under the Financial Services Providers (FSP) but due to various challenges this has not yet happened and exemptions are in place to allow the continuation of the policies under FSPs.

The Council for Medical Schemes (CMS) drafted a report aiming to clarify the LCBO guidelines, which was completed in October 2023. On 27 February 2025 the Minister of Health published a call for comments on the report in a Government Gazette, interestingly enough the Gazette contained the Minister's assessment on the report, and it basically rejected the LCBOs. Nothing further has been published yet from these comments.

The Board of Healthcare Funders (BHF) initiated a court case in the High Court trying to compel the CMS to allow the rollout of LCBOs. However, in April 2025 the High Court ruled against BHF; BHF has indicated they will appeal the judgement.

1. Stakeholders' engagements

National Department of Health

The PSSA continues to foster a good working relationship with the NDoH especially in relation to human resources and the unemployment of pharmacists. This is discussed below under separate headings.

Pharmaceutical Employment Indaba 2025

The Pharmaceutical Employment Indaba, held in March 2025, served as a critical platform to address the growing crisis of unemployment within the pharmacy profession in South Africa. Bringing together stakeholders from across the public and private sectors, academia, regulatory bodies, and professional associations, the Indaba highlighted systemic misalignments between pharmacy education, workforce planning, and employment absorption. This inefficiency has contributed to rising frustration among young pharmacists, many of whom complete their academic studies, internships, and community service without securing permanent positions.

There was a strong call for regulatory reform, including updating pharmacy practice frameworks and clarifying scopes of practice to support innovation, specialisation, and consultant pharmacist roles. Simultaneously, universities were encouraged to align curricula with the changing demands of the profession, particularly in response to digital transformation, clinical governance, and interprofessional collaboration.

Technological innovations are starting to transform service delivery; however, more investment in training and support is necessary. Likewise, entrepreneurship has become a promising pathway, with new ownership models allowing pharmacists to serve communities while maintaining business viability. Independent practice, especially in underserved areas, is seen as a key strategy for increasing access to care and professional autonomy. Calls were made to recognise internship and community service as valid work experience, and the need for a stronger link between graduation and employment, along with structured support for

rural placements and career planning, was emphasised as crucial to improving retention and professional development.

The Indaba concluded with a collective commitment to ongoing engagement and reform. There was consensus that resolving the workforce crisis requires more than policy discussions, it requires coordinated, evidence-based action across all levels of the pharmacy ecosystem. Continued investment in training, mentorship, and regulatory alignment will be essential to ensuring that young pharmacists are not only trained but empowered, employed, and supported as key contributors to South Africa's healthcare future.

Human Resources for Health (HRH) Project

The PSSA has initiated a structured Human Resources for Health (HRH) project aimed at strengthening pharmacy workforce planning and integration within the broader health system. The initiative is designed to generate insights, inform evidence-based policy reforms, and enhance the profession's voice in national HRH policy discussions.

The project is structured around six key areas. These include workforce planning, which involves aligning pharmacist supply with health system needs, rethinking the community service model, and its impact and limitations. It also involves recognising specialist roles and expanding collaborative practice in primary healthcare and disease management. Additional priorities include strengthening the role of mid-level personnel and enhancing the pharmacy's advocacy and interprofessional engagement in national health workforce planning.

To support implementation, a dedicated task team has been established, comprising representatives from academia, the public sector, and the private sector. We aim to conclude formal stakeholder consultations and conduct situational analyses via surveys and interviews before the end of the year.

This project represents a significant step forward in positioning the pharmacy profession as a proactive contributor to health system reform, with a focus on collaboration, professional development, and enhanced service delivery.

SANAC Civil Society Forum

The PSSA has been a stakeholder of the Health Professionals Sector of the Civil Society Forum (CSF) of the South African National AIDS Council (SANAC) for a number of years. A Hornsveld from PSSA National Office staff is serving as Sector Chair for the 2024–2029 term. The sector wasn't very active up until now, but there is some good progress being made in this term and more colleagues have joined the sector and there is representivity in most provinces at the Provincial Aids Councils as well. JJ Hattingh and MJ Kariem are representatives on the councils in the Western Cape Province.

South African Pharmacy Council

The PSSA continues to have a good relationship with the South African Pharmacy Council (SAPC). The PSSA is part of the SAPC Stakeholders forum which includes the HOPS of the Provinces as well as corporate community pharmacy groups and private hospital groups.

The PSSA often interacts with the SAPC on issues experienced by members.

2. Pharmacy Museum

Museum activities between February 2025 and May 2025 include the following:

- A quotation for signage for the entrance to the museum has been requested and is awaited.
- The draft MOI has been received from Aspen following legal review. A meeting has been requested with Aspen to discuss certain aspects of the MOI.
- Following the relocation of the PSSA SG office, the need to install additional shelving for the overflow of books was evaluated. Several external parties were approached regarding the possibility of accepting volumes of books relating to the Debates of Parliament,
- House of Assembly Debates: 1985 – 1988 – various volumes
- House of Assembly Questions and Answers: (1983 – 1987) various volumes
- House of Representatives Debates: (1985 – 1988) various volumes
- House of Representatives Questions and Answers: (1983 – 1987) various volumes
- House of Representatives Indexes: (1985 – 1988) various volumes
- The Union Statutes: (1910 – 1947) Vol 1 – 12
- A favourable response was received from the Heritage Foundation, which agreed to accept a donation of all the books except the Debates of Parliament, which they have. The Debates of Parliament will be added to the inventory and retained in the library.
- A number of historical photographs and artwork have been sorted, and due to space constraints, these items will be offered to various bodies where they are believed to be better suited, such as the National Office, SAPC, SAACP Wits, etc. All donations will be listed and recorded.
- PAC Cuthbert has been approached to assist with the identification and descriptions of various old manufacturing equipment. This project will be completed by the end of June 2025.
- An article has been drafted and submitted for publication in a special issue on the history of Pharmacy museums/collections for the Museum History Journal following a request received from a retired historian of science and member of the Pharmacy Museum of the University of Basel (Switzerland). Acceptance is awaited.
- Descriptors for a number of exhibits are in progress.
- The inaugural meeting of the Board of the Museum is to be arranged.

3. Community service

Following the disastrous experiences of the 2024 annual cycle, the PSSA was determined to participate in a process, together with the ICSP and other Associations, to improve the system experience for applicants and administrators.

For the 2025 annual cycle, applicants were invited to register on the ICSP portal if they intend to apply for the upcoming cycle. The ICSP verified these registrations against the data provided by Universities and the SAPC.

The application process allowed applicants to select either a 3-1-1 or a 2-2-1 option. The 3-1-1 option allowed for three facilities from province 1, one facility from province 2, and one facility from province 3. The 2-1-1 option allowed for two facilities from province 1, two facilities from province 2 and one facility from province 3.

PSSA and YPG, together with the ICSP hosted a webinar for all intern members regarding the application process and important information to keep in mind. The criteria for special considerations were also discussed and explained.

An important criterion for allocation to a community service post, is passing the August pre-registration examination from SAPC. ICSP held all allocations of pharmacist back, until SAPC released the results of the examination. These results were released around mid-October and applicants had 3 working days to either accept or reject and appeal their allocations. Only applicants placed outside of their five choices were allowed to Swop.

During the first round only 530 applicants of the 728 eligible pharmacist applicants were placed. Of these, 503 applicants were placed at one of their five choices, and a further 22 were placed in the provinces they applied but to other facilities. Seventy-four special considerations were submitted and all except one, were approved. A total of 509 applicants accepted their posts and eight applicants rejected their posts as these were not any of their five choices. Fourteen of these applicants applied for swops of which 12 were successful. The two that were not successful was due to no posts available at the facilities that they wanted to swop to.

The October pre-registration examination results were only released towards the end of November, and the remainder of eligible candidates were only then allocated to posts.

From 1 April 2025, a policy review process commenced to reshape the position and role of pharmaceutical community service.

The PSSA and other Associations praised the ICSP for the vast improvement experiences during the 2025 annual cycle and all are committed to continue improving the system.

Pharmaceutical Internship and Community Service Placement 2026 Annual Cycle

The Internship and Community Service Placement (ICSP) system for the 2026 annual cycle is expected to open for registration and applications at the end of July or beginning of August 2025.

All relevant stakeholders will receive formal communication issued by the National Department of Health in due course outlining the exact dates and application process.

4. Codeine Care Initiative

The Codeine Care Initiative, which has now been adopted by SAHPRA as the main driver, delivered three webinars as part of a series during July and August 2024. The first webinar focussed on the holistic management for pain, cough and colds. The second webinar SAASSSSPI legislation regarding codeine-containing products. Lastly, patient safety and codeine's place in pharmaceutical care was addressed.

The broader steering committee had a meeting on 19 September 2024, but nothing new has been communicated or published since then.

5. Pharmacy Month

The theme for Pharmacy Month 2024 was "*Let's Talk About Vaccines*". The Pharmacy Month 2024 theme was based on the conviction that improving vaccination coverage and promoting a life-course approach to vaccination are global imperatives to which pharmacists can greatly contribute, and it is aligned with the FIP 2024 Congress theme of "*Innovating for the Future of Health Care*", which took place in Cape Town at the beginning of September 2024.

The strategic focus of the campaign's theme was to educate the public on life course vaccination and not just early childhood vaccination.

Since there was no printing and the campaign was electronic, the layout of the pamphlet was an infographic layout as this is much more electronic media friendly. The poster and the pamphlet were translated into 13 languages: !Kun, Afrikaans, English, IsiNdebele, IsiXhosa, IsiZulu, Kwedam, Sepedi, Sesotho, Setswana, Siswati, Tshivenda and Xitsonga.

Following on the success of the webinar hosted during the 2023 campaign, a webinar was hosted on 20 August 2024 to educate pharmacists and pharmacist's assistants on life course vaccination and the importance of the pharmacist in vaccinations, to enable them to implement Pharmacy Month in their pharmacies, facilities and communities. The webinar had two speakers: Mokoadi Mogano, Senior Manager Professional Affairs at SAPC discussed immunisation services provided by pharmacist with a focus on the injection and vaccination permit, and Prof Hannelie Meyer who discussed Pharmacists as powerful change agents: Leave no-one behind through life course vaccination. The webinar was well attended, the webinar video on the SAPC YouTube channel had more than 1 100 views. The feedback received from attendees was very positive.

Since the FIP Congress was taking place during Pharmacy Month, the Executive Director of PSSA Refiloe Mogale, the President of FIP, Paul Sinclair and Dr Sham Moodley appeared on the Espresso show on the Monday morning 02 September 2024. This was in addition to the six slots that the Pharmacy Month working group had in the Espresso show.

6. Small branches projects

During the 2024/2025 financial year the PSSA continued with the small branches of the PSSA (less than 500 members) project funding.

The Cape Midlands Branch repeated their symposium for pharmacist's assistants which was again a great success.

The Border and Eastern Districts Branch was finally able to host their long-awaited Research Day event, originally planned for the previous year. The event exceeded expectations and has opened the door to potential follow-up projects.

This funding enabled the Border and Eastern Districts Branch to host two well-attended CPD evenings for their members.

These projects prove that this is a valuable initiative that yielded excellent outcomes and the PSSA is continuing funding projects.

Member services offered by PSSA and its partners

1. PPS Insurance Product

PSSA, together with PPS, continues to provide a quality professional indemnity insurance product at affordable prices. The product is designed to provide greater value to Society members who choose to use it. Members are urged to carefully consider the reputation and stability of their insurance provider, as this will be crucial in the event of a claim. From 01 July 2021, the PSSA Professional Indemnity product has been directly underwritten by PPS Health Professions Indemnity, a division of PPS Short-Term Insurance Company Limited.

The strategic objective of PPS Health Professions Indemnity is to provide comprehensive quality indemnity protection, delivered through excellent service, at a fair premium to ensure long-term sustainability.

With this objective in mind, the following significant distinctions of the Professional Indemnity product are highlighted:

- Every insured professional benefit from their own personal indemnity limits, providing greater security.
- Increased insured cover limits are standardised across the different risk categories to provide maximum comfort that you are far removed from possible cover exhaustion.
- Contract certainty is provided for late reported claims following termination of active cover through the contractual Reporting Endorsement benefit.
- Zero excess in claims submitted.
- Cover enhancements have a minimum impact on annual premiums, and for most, the annual insurance cost will be lower.
- Direct access to a skilled and experienced servicing team that understands the impact of reported incidents on insured professionals' financial and emotional well-being.

The claims received in the past year were dealt with speedily and efficiently. We are experiencing a higher number of complaints, but these usually do not result in a claim. We urge our members to report any incident timeously to ensure the best service from both PSSA and PPS.

2. Webinars

Since the AGM in June 2024, 16 webinars were hosted. Haleon sponsored the cost of the annual subscription for a dedicated Microsoft Teams account for hosting webinars. Haleon was acknowledged at the beginning of every webinar hosted during the one-year term of the sponsorship. The PSSA National Office appreciates Haleon's support of the PSSA in ensuring we continue to offer webinars to our members.

Summary of webinars:

Date	Webinar title	Speaker(s)	Organiser
27 Jun 2024	Exploring the difference between private and public hospitals and how to adequately prepare yourself for practice in either	Mr Brent Sin Hidge (SAAHIP CWP branch chair), Yasmina Johnson (Medicine Management, Western Cape Department of Health), Paul Voight (Mediclinic)	YPG
2 Jul 2024	Pharmaceutical Community Service 2025 Annual Cycle Information Session	Sharon Phiri (YPG Community Service liaison), Gerhard Vermaak (National Department of Health)	PSSA
30 Jul 2024	National Health Insurance Debate	Mr Andy Gray (University of KwaZulu-Natal), Dr Sham Moodley, Mr Brent Sin Hidge (SAAHIP CWP)	SAAHIP
31 Jul 2024	Mentorship and Beyond 3: How to prepare for and conduct yourself during interviews – tips from the hiring perspective	Sharon Phiri (YPG Community Service liaison), Abena Agyepong	YPG
21 Aug 2024	Enhancing Patient Comfort: Strategies for Addressing Tooth Sensitivity in Pharmacy Practice	Dr EB Patel (Dentist, Clinical Manager: Wits Oral Health Centre, Associated Dentist: Thinc Clinic Rosebank)	PSSA
3 Oct 2024	Mentorship and Beyond 4: How to run effective meetings	Kevin Baloyi (YPG Project Coordinator), Ema Paulino (International Pharmaceutical Federation)	YPG
30 Oct 2024	Quality in Healthcare (Part 1): Quality, Healthcare Standards & Accreditation	Sameshin Reddy, Thandeka Njapha (SAAHIP KZN Coastal branch, PSSA)	SAAHIP KZN Coastal branch
31 Oct 2024	Some women are more equal than others: Menstrual variance in modern society	Prof De Wet Wolmarans (Professor, Department of Pharmacology, NWU)	PSSA
12 Nov 2024	Effective plaque control for optimised gingival health	Dr EB Patel (Dentist, Clinical Manager: Wits Oral Health Centre, Associated Dentist: Thinc Clinic Rosebank)	PSSA
19 Nov 2024	Veterinary Pharmacy 101: Why does the dog have a prescription?	Dr Gabby Howse (Mount Croix Animal Clinic), Dr Tarryn Fick (Newton Park Animal Hospital), Prof Ilse Truter (Nelson Mandela University)	Cape Midlands Branch
24 Apr 2025	NHI draft Governance Regulations	Dr Andy Gray, Prof Renier Coetzee, Mr Sylvester Mogale, Mr Johannes Ravele, and Mr Bada Pharasi	PSSA
06 May 2025	Beyond the white coat: Mind Matters – Prioritising mental health in pharmacy	Dr Rajesh Vagiri	YPG
20 May 2025	YPG Webinar: Career Crossroads – Exploring Non-Traditional Pharmacy Paths	Mr Byron Chukwu	YPG
27 May 2025	Beyond the White Coat – Money Moves – Financial Planning for Early Career Pharmacists	PPS Team Mr Keenan Fredericks, Ms Lesego Molefe, and Ms Kgomotso Letlape	YPG
12 June 2025	Connect & Elevate – The Power of Belonging	Ms Refiloe Mogale, and Mr Tshifhiwa Rabali	YPG
19 June 2025	Connect & Elevate – Your Pharmacy Tribe	Mr Sibusiso Mahlangu, and Ms Zandile Ndebele	YPG

The National Office appreciates all the collaborators who proposed and participated in webinar events.

3. Surveys

Four surveys were conducted among PSSA members during the past year.

Graduate survey

A survey was conducted during January 2025 among PSSA student members who completed their studies during 2024 (or earlier). The aim of this survey was to determine how many graduates were without internship.

Forty members responded to the survey of which the majority graduated from Rhodes university and lived in the Eastern Cape province.

Most applications for internship were submitted in Gauteng, Limpopo and Eastern Cape provinces as it was either the province they studied or lived in. Applicants submitted on average between 4 and 5 applications for internship.

Most applications were for internship posts in public and private hospitals, followed by corporate community pharmacy. Almost all applicants indicated that they don't mind working in rural areas.

Shortly after the survey was conducted, Netcare Private Hospital Group informed the PSSA that they have a few vacancies. The Limpopo Provincial Department of Health also advertised 44 internship posts early February 2025.

This information was circulated to the respondents and since PSSA hasn't received any further feedback, we assume all were helped with an internship post.

Strategic Planning Survey

As part of the ongoing strategic planning efforts, a survey was conducted to gather insights from members of the Young Pharmacists' Group (YPG) on critical issues facing the pharmacy profession in South Africa. A total of nine responses were received, with most participants (88.89%) identifying as members of the YPG Sub-committee and 11.11% from the YPG Steering Committee. This demographic representation provided valuable perspectives from active young professionals engaged in leadership and advocacy within the sector.

Participants were asked to rank fourteen identified challenges affecting the pharmacy profession. Among the most critical issues highlighted were workforce availability, people-centred care and patient safety, regulatory and policy compliance, and scope of practice and services. Other significant concerns included limited career development opportunities, visibility of the profession, and stakeholder engagement. Respondents also had the opportunity to share additional concerns in an open-ended format, with several highlighting the need for better public-private collaboration and improved working conditions. These findings will contribute meaningfully to the development of targeted strategies aimed at strengthening the pharmacy profession in South Africa.

Unemployed pharmacists survey

Following media attention by a group of unemployed pharmacists, the Young Pharmacists' Group (YPG) conducted a survey among members to determine the situation under members.

Although a total of 216 participants completed the survey, only 185 were PSSA members and were included in the report.

These unemployed pharmacists were from all nine Pharmacy Schools, with frequencies not too far apart from one another. They completed their internship mostly in KwaZulu–Natal and Limpopo provinces, and in the public hospital sector. These pharmacists completed their pharmaceutical community service mostly in KwaZulu–Natal and Gauteng, also in the public hospital sector. All but one participant who didn't answer the question, were South African citizens.

These unemployed pharmacists applied for work in all nine provinces, but predominantly in Gauteng, Western Cape, Limpopo, KwaZulu–Natal and Mpumalanga. The reason for their choices were based on the province they lived in and where more work opportunities are. They have applied mostly for posts in the public and private hospital sectors, industry and corporate community pharmacies, with more than half of the participants reporting that they have applied for more than ten posts since completing community service.

The vast majority of participants were willing to work in rural areas. Most of the participants did not apply for a post at the pharmacy where they conducted their internship, since there were no posts or vacancies available at those pharmacies.

General considerations by participants for reasons they were not successful to date includes not having sufficient experience as a pharmacist, or in a specific sector of pharmacy; not being a bursary holder; applicant criteria based on race or language; the large number of unemployed pharmacists who all apply for the same post; frozen vacancies due to budget constraints; or employers preferences for specific candidates over others based on connections or existing relationships.

Pharmacy Support Personnel Needs and Priorities

The Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa (PSSA) conducted a survey among pharmacy support personnel to better understand their roles, professional environments, and developmental needs. A total of 23 responses were received. The majority of respondents (56.52%) identified as Assistant Post–Basic, followed by Pharmacy Technicians (30.43%). Most participants are employed in the community pharmacy sector (65.22%), with Gauteng (34.78%) being the most represented province. Notably, 78.26% of respondents confirmed current membership with the PSSA, while non–members cited high membership fees and lack of awareness about benefits as primary reasons for not joining.

The survey revealed a strong interest in CPD opportunities, with 90.91% rating them as "very important." Topics of most interest included chronic disease management (69.57%), dispensing accuracy and ethics (56.52%), and career growth and leadership (56.52%). Respondents preferred online CPD formats, including webinars and self-paced modules. Key challenges highlighted were low salaries (61.9%), lack of recognition (52.38%), and limited career progression (52.38%). In terms of desired support from PSSA, study bursaries (59.09%), discounted CPD (54.55%), and mentorship (50%) ranked highest. These insights will guide future initiatives and advocacy efforts aimed at empowering pharmacy support personnel.

4. Foundation for Professional Education (FPE)

Undergraduate Allocations – 2025

In 2025, a total of R137 750 was available for allocation from 6 sponsors; 7 undergraduate students received bursaries.

A total of 68 applications were received, of which 46 were female and 22 males; 4 NMU, 13 NWU, 25 Rhodes, 1 SMU, 1 TUT, 2 UKZN, 1 UL, 3 UWC and 11 Wits – 36 2nd year, 44 3rd year and 28 4th year.

Sponsors	Name	University / Study year
Cape Midlands/PSSA	Ms Annelisa Mehlo	Rhodes / 4
CWP	Ms Chelsea Damon	UWC / 2
KZN Inland	Ms Anele Dlamini	Rhodes / 3
SAACP	Ms Nomhle Malgas	Wits / 3
Southern Gauteng	Ms Nonhlanhla Mhlanga	Wits / 4
Southern Gauteng	Ms Anele Sosibo	Wits / 2
PSSA	Ms Robyn Conibear	NWU / 3
PSSA	Mr Franco Marais	NWU / 4

DEMOGRAPHICS OF BURSARY ALLOCATIONS

Race and gender distributions

	Female		Male		Total	%
	Total	%	Total	%		
Race						
African	5	71.42	0	100	5	
Asian	-		-	-	-	
Coloured	1	14.29	-	-	1	
White	1	14.29	1	50	2	
Total	7	87.5	1	12.5	8	100

Year of study

Year of study	Total	%
2	2	25
3	3	37.5
4	3	37.5
Total	8	100

The Universities of study

University	Total	%
Medunsa / TUT	-	-
NMU	-	-
NWU	2	25
Rhodes University	2	25
SMU	-	-
University of KZN	-	-
University of Western Cape	1	12.5
Witwatersrand	3	37.5
Total	8	100

Postgraduate bursaries 2024

Only 1 bursary was allocated.

Sponsors	Name	University	Qualification
CWP bursary	Lutendo Maguba	UWC	Masters

The FPE would like to thank all of the sponsors for their continued commitment and support for their generous sponsorship.

The PSSA facilitated a sponsorship with Mediscor for four students, whereby Mediscor paid their outstanding tuition balances to the amount of R85 000.

International Associations

International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP)

PSSA remains a committed and proud member organisation of FIP with many members of PSSA representing South Africa through different contributions. Ms Refiloe Mogale represented PSSA for the first time on the level of FIP Council.

FIP Congress

The highlight of 2024 was hosting the 82nd FIP World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences in Cape Town, South Africa. The event welcomed 3 365 delegates from 97 countries, marking it as the second largest Congress in the history of FIP. Of these delegates, 1 845 were South African. A record number of pharmacy students and young pharmacists were able to attend the Congress compared to previous years.

The Congress theme was Innovating for the future of healthcare. The potential for innovation in health care is vast and holds the promise of revolutionising the way we prevent, diagnose and treat diseases. With advancements in technology, data analytics and interdisciplinary collaborations, the healthcare industry is poised to undergo significant transformation in the coming years.

The Congress stretched over 5 days (one pre-day and four Congress days) and hosted 106 academic session, 33 smaller business meetings, 68 exhibitors and 701 poster presenters.

Dr Sandile Buthelezi, Director-General of Health addressed the congress participants during the opening ceremony. The Minister of Health, Dr Aaron Motsoaledi, delivered the plenary presentation during the first academic session of the Congress. Ms Steve Letsike, Deputy Minister in the Presidency for Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities, gave a key-note speech during the closing session.

The PSSA Executive Director, Ms Refiloe Mogale, together with the FIP President, Mr Paul Sinclair and PSSA NEC member, Dr Sham Moodley represented the Congress during the Espresso Morning Show on Monday 2 September.

Being hosted for the first time in sub-Saharan Africa, the Congress attracted many participants who travelled to Africa for the first time. This ensured a tremendous economic benefit to the country, Western Cape province and City of Cape Town. Rough calculations include:

- Minimum total number of bed nights booked were estimated at almost R17 500.
- A daily spend of R1500 per delegate per day on food, tours and gifts could easily calculate to R25 million generated during the Congress.
- A local charity for women from Mannenberg manufactured 3000 congress bags. They were also offered a space in the foyer of the CTICC to sell locally produced items.
- The congress entertainment included local talents from Khayelitsha and Cape Town.

For the first time at an FIP Congress, a Young Scientist competition was hosted. This was achieved through the collaboration of APSSA with FIP. Secondly, the Cape Western Province Branch offered four Professional Tours to the four main pharmacy sectors in South Africa. These tours enabled 155 international colleagues to visit different settings related to academia, community, hospital or manufacturing pharmacy.

During the Congress, Dr Stavros Nicolaou was awarded the Industrial Pharmacy Section Medal for 2024 for his continuous and high-level contributions to pharmacy. During the opening ceremony, Dr Sham Moodley was awarded FIP Fellowship.

PSSA and FIP collaborated on three legacy projects. Congress delegates were invited to support the CTICC Cares campaign by bringing pre-loved items to the Congress venue and donate them in the dedicated containers. The second legacy project will focus on implementing the Basel Statements in Africa. The third legacy project is Medicines to Africa which will focus on a network to supply medicines to conflict and disaster areas during time of crisis.

All feedback received about the Congress were positive and three things highlighted by congress participants were: Good food, good wine, friendly people. Additionally, the Congress generated a significant financial surplus. Its outcomes exceeded FIP's expectations as an excellent programme was delivered for the attendees. The FIP Bureau was particularly pleased with the excellent collaboration and support from the PSSA.

Representation in FIP structures

Several colleagues also serve on various FIP structures. Sham Moodley serves a four-year term on the FIP Community Pharmacy Section (CPS) Executive Committee (Exco). Seshnee Moodley (SAAHIP Vice-President) is serving on the Communications and Digital Committee of the FIP HPS. Tammy Gopal is the treasurer of the FIP Industrial Pharmacy Section (IPS), while Avanthi Govender Bester and Yahya Choonara serve as Exco Associates. Yahya further serves as a committee member representing the African Region on the FIP Academic Institutional Members (AIM). Mariet Eksteen was the Global Lead for FIP Development Goal 7: Advancing Integrated Services in the FIP Hub but stepped down from this position in March 2025 following her appointment as FIP Staff. Andy Gray is one of the Directors of the FIP Foundation for Education and Research.

Three young pharmacists are involved in the FIP Early Career Pharmaceutical Group (ECPG). Luyanda Khumalo is the Mentorship Coordinator, Nomaphelo Krakri is part of the publications team, and Ntombizodwa Luwaca (PSSA YPG Chair) is one of the graphic designers.

Participation in FIP Digital events

South African pharmacists and PSSA members continued to represent the country during FIP Digital Events.

- Ms Jackie Maimin (ICPA CEO) participated in a Digital Event hosted by FIP and the African Pharmaceutical Forum (APF) addressing the burden of tobacco use in the region and the role pharmacists play in tobacco cessation on 3 July 2024.
- Dr Sham Moodley (PSSA NEC) participated in the FIP Digital Event titled Pharmacists' role in advancing self-care and universal health coverage on 9 July 2024.
- Sam Okeyo (Doctors without borders) participated in a FIP Digital Event titled World Humanitarian Day: Pharmacists on the Frontline on 19 August 2024.
- Ms Jackie Maimin (ICPA CEO) recorded a CPD Bites related to Paediatric pain and fever.
- Dr Mariet Eksteen (PSSA National Office) delivered a case study from Soth Africa during the two-day Pharmacy Technician Symposium on 15 October 2024.
- Dr Stavros Nicolaou (Aspen Pharmicare Holdings) participated in an event titled COVID lessons learned: Sustainable regional manufacture to achieve health equity and security on 4 December 2024.
- Dr Nsovo Mayimele (Tshwane University of Technology) presented during an event titled Advancing pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences education: Fostering research and postgraduate education, on Friday 24 January 2025.
- Ms Rendani Tshilambwana presented on Friday 31 January 2025 on Abstract preparation and submission, in preparation for the 2025 FIP World Congress.
- Dr Sham Moodley (PSSA NEC) presented during an event titled Breaking barriers: Ensuring equitable access to Mpox vaccines on Wednesday 19 February 2025.
- Prof Hannelie Meyer (Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University) moderated an event titled Empowering pharmacists to prevent HPV-related diseases and cancers and educate patients on Tuesday 4 March 2025.

Participation in FIP reports, surveys and publications

PSSA and South Africa were well represented in several FIP publications:

- PSSA contributed a case study to the FIP publication titled Pharmacist-led common ailments schemes: A global intelligence report.
- PSSA participated in a survey and contributed a case study to the publication titled Pharmacy-led point-of-care testing: A global intelligence report.
- Dr Mariet Eksteen contributed to the FIP publications titled International perspective on integrating pharmacists into collaborative practice through a FIP Insight Board.
- Dr Andy Gray and Dr Sham Moodley submitted a case study from South Africa on the role of pharmacists in improving access to safe and quality essential medicines and medical devices.
- Nicola Brink (Self-care association) represented South Africa during an insight board on Global pharmacy trends and implications for self-care. This insight board was conducted during the FIP World Congress in Cape Town.
- The management of symptomatic reflux in pharmacy in South Africa: A report from a FIP insight board held at the FIP Congress in Cape Town, featured several South African pharmacists: Ms Douwleen Conradie (SAPSF), Dr Elmien Bronkhorst (SASOCP), Ms Esther Shuping (YPG), Gravesham Jagarnath (SAACP), Paché Oranje (YPG), Mehboob Cassiem (ICPA), Kobus le Roux (SAACP) and Stacey Kundiona (SAPSF).
- Ms Refiloe Mogale contributed to a FIP campaign consisting of a series of video testimonials on pharmacy-based vaccination in various countries. The series was officially launched in October 2024.
- Prof Yahya Choonara (Wits) participated in the working group that compiled a guidance document on the FIP Nanjing Statements: Shaping pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences education to 2030.
- PSSA participated in FIP's global initiative, a global survey and contributed to a case study to the publication titled: Advancing health inclusivity and equity through health literacy supported by pharmacists and pharmacy.
- Ms Refiloe Mogale contributed to FIP global situation report on Pharmacy 2025 workforce, practice and policy.
- Mr Johannes Ravele (SAACP) participated in semi-structured interview to gather detailed perspectives on the current and future roles of community pharmacists on the FIP Community Pharmacy Section's key research project titled "Modernising Patient Pathways – Vision 2030."
- Mr Famola Ngobeni participated in a series of strategic interviews as part of FIP's global initiative: *Advancing Health Inclusivity and Equity Through Health Literacy*.
- Dr Sham Moodley contributed to the FIP Insight Board session titled *"From policy to practice: Global lessons in advancing pharmacist-led vaccination."* The report will be published in August 2025.

FIP Policy Statements

Every year at the FIP Council meeting, the Council agrees to a list of FIP policy statements that will be prepared for adoption at the upcoming meeting. These policy statements can either be revisions of older existing policies or the development of new policies.

The policy statements reflect the FIP's stance on various professional, ethical, social, and other issues important for human health and relevant to pharmacists worldwide. Member organisations may then use a statement for advocacy purposes or to advance the profession, backed up with the recommendations agreed by 158 pharmacists' organisations at a global level.

A FIP policy statement is usually 3–6 pages long and provides recommendations to different stakeholders. In your role as a member of the policy committee, you will be invited to provide input based on your expertise, your experience in a given practice setting, and your knowledge of the needs and priorities related to this topic in your country and region.

FIP Member Organisations, as well as members from the FIP Bureau, Board of Pharmacy Practice (BPP), Board of Pharmaceutical Sciences (BPS), FIP Educational Initiative (FIP*Ed*) and Regional Pharmaceutical Forums, are invited to submit nominations of experts in the respective fields to serve on these global policy statement committees. Such nominees should be fluent in English (as all the work will be conducted in English), knowledgeable in the field and available.

PSSA, a proud member organisation of FIP, adheres to this call for nominations annually by proposing colleagues with experience and insight into the respective fields. The consultation is done via teleconferences (usually 1–2 times per month for a maximum of 2 hours) and email correspondence between February and July, and a final draft should be ready for review by the FIP Bureau prior to approval by the FIP Council.

At the FIP Council meeting in Cape Town, it was decided to develop, revise or replace policy statements in 2025 on the following subjects (exact titles to be determined). Following the nomination process, the following South African colleagues will serve on those committees:

- Artificial Intelligence (new) – Paul Voigt (Immediate Past Chairman of South African Association for Hospital and Institutional Pharmacists (SAAHIP) Western Cape branch)
- Pharmacy: Gateway to Care (2017) – Mariet Eksteen (appointed as co-chair of the committee; PSSA Professional Development and Support) and Sham Moodley (PSSA National Executive Committee member, nominated through FIP Community Pharmacy Section). Mariet had to step down from this position in March 2025 following her appointment as FIP Staff, but Sham continues to represent PSSA in this committee.
- Pharmaceutical Care (1998) – Johan Moolman (Chair of the South African Association for Community Pharmacists (SAACP) Primary Care Drug Therapy (PCDT) Interest Group)
- The role of pharmacists in non-communicable diseases (2019) – Anri Hornsveld (PSSA Professional Liaison)

In addition to these policy committees, Nhlanhla Mafarafara (President of the South African Association of Hospital and Institutional Pharmacists—SAAHIP) was appointed to serve on the FIP Hospital Pharmacy Section (HPS) Global Advisory Group. This initiative aims to develop

minimum standards for optimal medicine use in hospital pharmacies and strives to be co-endorsed by both the FIP and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Commonwealth Pharmacists Association (CPA)

The PSSA remains actively engaged with the CPA across various initiatives, offering opportunities for professional development, knowledge sharing, and global advocacy.

Throughout the year, the CPA requested the involvement of South African pharmacists with expertise in key therapeutic areas to contribute to their Continuing Professional Development (CPD) initiatives. Specifically, expert input was sought for the CPA's 2025 CPD platform in Cardiovascular Disease (CVD), including conditions such as ischaemic heart disease, heart failure, hypertension, sickle cell disease, and avoidable blindness. The CPA is looking for contributors to assist with content development, course review, and participation as webinar panellists.

Additionally, the CPA introduced a new Supply Chain and Substandard and Falsified Medical Products (SFMs) course, accessible to all current members of the PSSA. This course is designed to equip pharmacists and healthcare professionals with the necessary knowledge and tools to detect, prevent, and respond to the global threat of SFMs.

The PSSA also contributed to the WHO National Health Workforce Accounts (NHWA) initiative through a workforce survey conducted in October 2024. This global collaboration among the WHO, CPA, and the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) aims to enhance the collection and utilisation of pharmacy workforce data. The survey covered topics including registration, workforce demographics, education and training, and regulatory policies. The insights gathered will inform global strategies aimed at strengthening the pharmacy profession and enhancing public health outcomes.

Prof Michelle Viljoen from the University of the Western Cape participated as a speaker in a CPA World AIDS Day webinar focused on the role of pharmacists in HIV prevention, treatment, and management.

Further, the PSSA participated in several CPA-led initiatives:

- In-country CPD accreditation survey (24 January 2025) to inform improvements to CPA's CPD offerings and ensure alignment with national standards.
- Training and development survey (5 March 2025), which explored barriers to advancing pharmacists' clinical skills and priorities for workforce development.
- A CPA Trustee nomination process, during which Professor Rod Walker was nominated for a board position. Although he was not selected, this reflects the Society's ongoing commitment to global pharmacy leadership.

Finally, the PSSA contributed to international advocacy efforts by submitting examples that showed the impact of the suspension of USAID funding. This included sharing an article which highlighted the effects on pharmacists, patients, and communities in South Africa.

Other international participation

Ms Refiloe Mogale represented PSSA during the Prince Mahidol Award Conference on 29 January 2025 in a meeting titled Strengthening Primary Healthcare through Pharmacies: Global experiences and innovations for UHC.

Ms Refiloe Mogale represented the PSSA as the keynote speaker at the annual conference of the Pharmaceutical Society of Namibia under the theme: *Sustainable Pharma: Balancing Health, Environment, and Society*.

Communication with members and publications

1. PSSA Newsletters

Electronic newsletters continue to be our primary means of communication with members. It is an easy and convenient platform to inform members of important information and events. Between July 2024 and July 2025, there have been 38 PSSA Newsletters. The PSSA also shares information not necessarily developed by the PSSA but is of interest to members, e.g., a webinar on an important topic not organised by the PSSA in a newsletter called PSSA News and 27 newsletters have been sent as PSSA News. A number of sectors and some branches use the newsletter platform for communication with members. The newsletter platform ensures that members can unsubscribe from receiving newsletters in compliance with the POPI Act.

2. Journals

Medpharm Publications publish the SA Pharmaceutical Journal (SAPJ) and the South African Pharmacist's Assistant journal (SAPA) on behalf of the PSSA. The SAPJ is published six times a year, and SAPA is published four times a year. The matter of scientific accreditation of the SAPJ with the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET). An editorial policy has been developed to govern the peer review process for research articles, and editors for the various categories have been approached. The SAPJ has been assigned a Scopus Source ID as well as a Scimago Journal Ranking (SJR) of 0.128. sapc. The PSSA and practice related content will remain accessible to members and will not be affected by the accreditation. The authors of peer reviewed articles will be charged a publication fee in order to publish in the SAPJ – this is in order to keep it as an open access journal. However, the publication fee will not be charged for manuscripts authored by a PSSA member. This will remain a member benefit. The PSSA content will not charge a fee and will remain members-only access. There is a plan to advertise the peer-reviewed articles and the SAPJ on social media platforms once they are accredited.

The electronic version of the SAPJ is available on the members-only platform as a pageable journal on the PSSA website.

3. PSSA website

The PSSA website hosts the online bookstore, and the bookstore is functioning well. The online application form has been made more user friendly, and the office no longer sends out membership application forms. The PI application form has recently also been made available

online. The members login site is very useful as all the recording of webinars are kept here as well as the online version of the SAPJ.

Young Pharmacists' Group of the PSSA

INTRODUCTION

The annual report outlines all activities of the YPG from its election into office on 4 June 2024 to 16 June 2025. It has been a great pleasure to serve young pharmacists nationwide and to volunteer with a rapidly progressing Society. This Steering Committee hopes that future committees will continue the exceptional work that was already underway at the time of its election.

COMMUNICATION

1. Newsletters

The PSSA YPG utilizes various platforms to communicate with its members, with all official communication delivered primarily through newsletters. A total of thirteen newsletters were created and published during the term.

2. South African Pharmaceutical Journal (SAPJ)

The articles submitted to the SAPJ are a permanent record of the PSSA YPG's activities. These are submitted periodically according to pre-formed deadlines by the PSSA national office. A total of six submissions were made during the term.

3. Social Media

The PSSA YPG manages three social media platforms, all of which have shown remarkable growth over the past year.

Current following:

Facebook – 1316 followers, an additional 70 followers from the previous year

Instagram – 1222 followers, an additional 152 followers from the previous year

LinkedIn – 721 followers, an additional 484 followers from the previous year

The PSSA YPG covered the following health and national days:

Heritage Day

World Pharmacist's Day

World AIDs Day

Hand, foot, and mouth disease

Freedom Day

National Burns Awareness Week

International Nurses' Day

World Hypertension Day

Africa Day

4. Email (ypg@pssa.org.za)

The PSSA YPG received numerous queries and engaged with various stakeholders via email. To ensure continuity between Steering Committees, the main YPG email address is managed by the PSSA National Office. In addition, Steering Committee and subcommittee members used their personal email addresses to correspond with PSSA stakeholders, while ensuring the main YPG email address was copied in all communications.

MEETINGS

1. Steering Committee

Chair – Ntombizodwa Luwaca

Project Coordinator – Kevin Baloyi

Public Relations Officer – Alexander West (*resigned on Monday 24 March*), position was not filled.

The Steering Committee held seven virtual meetings via Google Meet throughout the term, with email and WhatsApp used as ad hoc communication channels to finalise projects. Meetings were scheduled and chaired by the Chair, and the agendas and minutes are readily accessible in the PSSA YPG's shared OneDrive folder.

Dates of meetings:

3 July 2024

13 August 2024

18 September 2024

09 October 2024

27 November 2024

04 December 2024

19 March 2025

During the 7th Business meeting, a motion was proposed:

Motion 2: Introduce a Liaisons Officer and a Secretary position in the PSSA YPG Steering Committee to support the Chair.

Rationale: To increase the pool of candidates who are eligible for the chair position and provide more support to the Steering Committee as it grows.

Proposer: Byron Chukwu

Seconder: Luyanda Khumalo 17 voting members.

Support: 14 hands (=2/3 majority vote)

Against: 1 hand.

Abstain: Zero hands.

The motion was passed and Miss Luwaca mentioned that the SC would communicate the outcome of presenting the motion to the NEC.

After the August NEC meeting, the YPG advertised for the addition of two new SC members, namely; a Liaisons Officer and a Secretary. The elections took place via newsletter communication and the following members were appointed by a voting procedure:

Zandile Ndebele – Liaisons Officer (Previously held the Professional Innovation Project Coordinator position in the subcommittee).

Anele Khwela – Secretary (Previously held the KZN–Coastal Provincial Liaison position in the subcommittee).

2. Subcommittee

The Steering Committee appointed the second subcommittee during their tenure.

Aim:

To increase active participation and interest in YPG.

To increase knowledge of the day-to-day working of the Steering Committee to allow smoother handover between Steering Committees.

To increase the reach of the YPG nationwide.

Subcommittee members provided much needed assistance to the Steering Committee by connecting and expanding the reach of the YPG with the PSSA's provincial branches and sectors. The subcommittee members were provided with opportunities to organise different webinars, social media posts, newsletters and SAPJ articles respectively. Most subcommittee members attended branch and sector meetings, AGMs, and events.

Position	Subcommittee Member Name
Liaisons Subcommittee	
Border and Eastern Districts	Charl de Waal
Cape Midlands	<i>Alexander West (resigned)</i> Naeema Moosa
Cape Western Province	Lisa Menyane Courtney Assumption
Free State	Annari Smith
KZN–Inland	Siyamthanda Ndlovu Akira Haryparsat
KZN–Coastal	Kiasha Maharaj
Limpopo	Khanyisile Muyambu
Mpumalanga	Sharon Phiri
Pretoria	Katlego Mohale
North West	Solofelang Matshidiso
Southern Gauteng	Esther Shuping
Northern Cape	Tasha Marthinus
SAAHIP	Brenda Knipe
SAACP	Makoma Ramalepe
APSSA	Josephina Senyatsi
SAAPI	<i>Siposihle Clay (resigned)</i>
Project Subcommittee	
Pharmacy Students	Yamkela Mbadamana Lunathi Maqunge
Pharmacist Interns	Jesica Mohai Mahmood Seedat
Community Service Pharmacists	Mphiko Mapatha Sbonga Muthwa
Post–Community Service Pharmacists	Siphesihle Mbele <i>Siya Sibisi (resigned)</i>
Mentorship Programme Coordinator	<i>Luyanda Madonsela (resigned)</i> Telicia Jobraj
Professional Innovation Project Coordinator	Aisha Adam Ahmed Setar

Public Relations Subcommittee	
Facebook Manager	Wanda Panya
LinkedIn Manager	Matladi Morapedi
Instagram Manager	Lehlogonolo Kgasago
Graphic Designer	<i>Vacant</i>
SAPJ Coordinator	Siphokazi Dlodla <i>Ruben van de Venter (resigned)</i>
Newsletter Coordinator	Nusrah Davids

PROJECTS

1. Interim Mentorship Programme 2024

The 2025 Mentorship Programme was structured to run over a 13-week period, commencing on Tuesday, 10 June, and concluding on 11 September 2025. Weekly group discussions were scheduled as outlined below, featuring a diverse group of highly experienced mentors and all participating mentees. Mentors made themselves available to mentees via online platforms of their choosing for additional questions and discussions. Weeks 3 to 5 and 8 to 10 included two-hour individual coaching sessions facilitated by the Mentorship Coach. Weeks 7 and 11 featured intimate check-in sessions with the programme coordinators.

Mentees

A call for mentees was published in PSSA YPG Newsletter #04 on 24 May 2025. A total of four applications were received by the deadline of Tuesday, 3 June 2025.

Dare2Be Coach: Mr Steven Levy (Dare2Be) – StrengthsFinder Assessments, Group coaching sessions

Mentorship Coach: Mr Nhlanhla Mafarafara (Faraz Creationz) – Individual Coaching Sessions and Goal-setting group session.

Mentors

Ms Kaajal Chetty

Mr Jiten Singh

Professor T. Govender

Ms Simone Eksteen

Dr J. Brooker

Mr Anton Heyman

Ms Emmanuella Nzeribe

Mentorship Programme Outline

Week 1: Mentorship Programme Launch, Gallups StrengthFinder

Week 2: Cliftons StrengthsFinder group discussion

Week 3: Goal setting group session – (*Mentee 1 & 2 individual sessions*)

Week 4: Leadership, Mentorship vs Management group session (*Mentee 3 & 4 individual sessions*)

Week 5: Financial Management group session (*Mentee 5 & 6 individual sessions*)

Week 6: Entrepreneurship in pharmacy, what is the big idea?

Week 7: Professional diversity and check-in

Week 8: Life vs work balance group session (*Mentee 1 & 2 individual sessions*)

Week 9: Professional associations and networking group session (*Mentee 3 & 4 individual sessions*)

Week 10: Curriculum vitae upgrade group session + CV submissions for re-working (*Mentee 5 & 6 Individual sessions*)

Week 11: Mentee and coach group discussion

Week 12: *FREE and/or ending survey*

Week 13: Farewell event

Coordinators

Telicia Jobraj (Mentorship Programme Coordinator)

Kevin Baloyi (Project Coordinator)

Ntombizodwa Luwaca, Zandile Ndebele, Anele Khwela – Steering Committee support.

The programme was successfully launched on Tuesday, 10 June 2025, and will be elaborated upon in future reports.

2. Professional Innovation Project

The 2025 Professional Innovation Project call was released on Thursday 8 May 2025.

The deadline for submission of applications is Monday 30 June 2025, and the winner will be announced during the annual PSSA Conference.

The project coordinators introduced several exciting features to enhance the appeal of the initiative and encourage more young pharmacists to apply:

Applicants will be given the opportunity to present their proposals to the judges through a virtual interview before the final selection of winners.

Three projects will be ranked in first, second, and third place.

The winning project will receive R15 000 to support its implementation.

The first and second runner-up projects will be given the opportunity to showcase their initiatives on the PSSA YPG's social media platforms.

Other projects

1. Sector Webinars

On 27 June 2024, the PSSA YPG collaborated with the South African Association of Hospital and Institutional Pharmacists (SAAHIP) to host a webinar titled *"Exploring the Differences Between Private and Public Hospitals and How to Adequately Prepare Yourself for Practice in Either."* The session provided young pharmacists with valuable insights into the role and functions of SAAHIP, highlighted the differing priorities and responsibilities of pharmacists in the private and public sectors, and equipped attendees with practical skills to navigate the recruitment process in both settings.

We would like to thank Mr Brent Sin Hidge, Mr Paul Voigt, Ms Yasmina Johnson and Ms Brenda Knipe for their contribution to this successful webinar.

2. Mentorship and beyond webinars

The third instalment of the mentorship and beyond webinars took place on 31 July 2024. The session was titled *"How to prepare for and conduct yourself during interviews – tips from the hiring perspective."* Ms Abena Agyepong, Responsible Pharmacist for a warehouse, distribution, and supply chain company provided invaluable information for young

pharmacists from an interviewer’s perspective. We would like to thank her for her contribution to the success of the webinar.

The fourth webinar was held on 3 October 2024 and was led by FIP member Ema Paulino, who guided young pharmacists through the topic *“How to Run Effective Meetings.”* We extend our sincere gratitude to Mr Kevin Baloyi and Ms Paulino for their time and expert contributions, which greatly contributed to the success of the session.

3. World Pharmacists Day

To celebrate Pharmacy Month and World Pharmacists Day 2024, the PSSA YPG launched a public health awareness campaign, giving young pharmacists a chance to win one of two R250 Takealot vouchers. Participants were invited to create an FIP #WPD avatar, share it on the three social media platforms of the YPG, and post a fact about vaccines highlighting pharmacists’ role in global health. The competition ran from 25 to 30 September 2024, with winners announced on 1 October 2024. Ms Kutullo Letuku and Mr Matladi Morapedi were the winners of this competition.

4. SAPHEX Symposium – Pharmaceutical Employment Indaba

Miss Ntombizodwa Luwaca was invited to participate in the PSSA Pharmaceutical Employment Indaba during the SAPHEX symposium in early March 2025. The aim of this event was to address critical pharmaceutical human resources issues through advocacy, collaboration, and contributing to policy development, ensuring that the profession can meet current and future health system needs. In preparation for the Indaba, the PSSA YPG conducted a nationwide survey on the unemployment status of young pharmacists.

Access the recording of the Pharmaceutical Employment Indaba here: <https://youtu.be/NCSebj2y0t8>

The Unemployment Survey Report was tabled at the PSSA NEC meeting.

The PSSA YPG also ran an exciting competition during the symposium, offering 8-branded mugs to the winners.

5. Webinar series: Beyond the white coat

Mr Kevin Baloyi, together with subcommittee members Sbonga Muthwa and Mphiko Mapatha, organised a three-part webinar series titled *Beyond the White Coat*.

The first session, *Mind Matters: Prioritising Mental Health in Pharmacy*, was held on Tuesday, 6 May 2025, and facilitated by Dr R. Vagiri. The session was well attended, drawing over 70 pharmacists and generating high levels of engagement.

The second session, *Career Crossroads: Exploring Non-Traditional Pharmacy Paths* was held on Tuesday, 20 May and facilitated by Mr Byron Chukwu.

The third session, *Money Moves: Financial Planning for Early-Career Pharmacists*, was led by Mr Keenan Fredericks alongside two of his colleagues.

The PSSA YPG extends its sincere gratitude to Dr R. Vagiri, Mr Byron Chukwu, Mr Keenan Fredericks, and his team for their valuable contributions to the success of the *Beyond the White Coat* webinar series.

6. Webinar series: Connect and Elevate

Following the *Beyond the White Coat* webinar series, the same team organized a Youth Month initiative titled *Connect and Elevate*.

The first session took place on Thursday, 12 June, and featured Executive Director Refiloe Mogale and PSSA President Tshifhiwa Rabali. During this session, young pharmacists were introduced to the PSSA—its mission, organizational structure, and national reach. The speakers also highlighted the Society’s role in advocacy and professional development within the pharmacy profession.

Upcoming session of this webinar series will be highlighted in the next PSSA YPG Annual report.

7. PSSA YPG at the Western Cape Department of Health pharmacist intern and community service pharmacist orientations.

Courtney Assumption, Lisa Menyane and former YPG chair Nicole Keuler delivered presentations at the Western Cape DoH orientation sessions. They introduced the cohorts to the PSSA, its sectors and the PSSA YPG.

8. FIP Congress

The FIP Congress Report will be discussed in sections

a. Sponsorships

The PSSA YPG, through the efforts of Dr Mariet Eksteen, received a generous donation of R64 907.00 (including vat) from Pfizer Laboratories (Pty) Ltd. The sponsorship was utilized to cover the accommodation, and a travel stipend for 24–young pharmacists that were not sponsored by PSSA branches or sectors.

Additionally, the YPG used its funds from the 2023–24 budget to sponsor the young pharmacist social event admission.

b. PSSA YPG representation at academic sessions

Miss Esther Shuping and Pache Oranje participated in an insight board focus group addressing the management of symptomatic reflux in South Africa, this report has been published by the FIP on its website.

Miss Brenda Knipe chaired a session on Artificial Intelligence as a tool to combat tuberculosis.

Miss Ntombizodwa Luwaca co-chaired a session with a Danish colleague that discussed Digital technologies that are utilized to address non-communicable diseases.

Mr Brent Sin Hidge was invited as a presenter and panellist during the session described above.

c. PSSA YPG–led social events

Mr Byron Chukwu was appointed as the FIP–ECPG Congress Liaison and with support from the PSSA National Office, the FIP Congress committee and the FIP–ECPG SC, he successfully planned and hosted 6 pharmacist social events and 2 pre–congress activities for young pharmacists during the 82nd FIP World Congress. The social events took place each evening from Saturday to Thursday morning. He brilliantly showcased the results of excellent planning and received many accolades of impeccable inclusivity and excellent hosting skills from international colleagues.

Post–congress the PSSA YPG sent a letter of thanks to Pfizer and the PSSA National Office for their support and compiled a heritage day video showcasing traditional outfits and activities that took place during Congress.

The PSSA YPG hopes to become active participants of future congresses.

9. PSSA YPG 10–Year History Booklet

Last year, the PSSA YPG proudly celebrated its 10–year anniversary—a decade marked by growth, adaptation, and a shared commitment to advancing the goals of the PSSA. Throughout this journey, the YPG has remained dedicated to encouraging young PSSA members to actively engage in the Society’s projects and initiatives. The book was brought to completion through the efforts of various subcommittee members, led by Dr Mariet Eksteen, formatted by Anri Hornsveld and edited by Nitsa Manolis.

This milestone was commemorated with the launch of the PSSA YPG 10–Year History booklet at two significant events: the historic 82nd International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) World Congress held in Cape Town, South Africa, and a formal launch at the PSSA National Office in Lynnwood, Pretoria, on 11 November 2024.

If you haven’t yet explored this special reflection on the YPG’s achievements and activities, you can scan the QR code below or click here

(<https://online.fliphtml5.com/ermnj/jkxw/#p=52>) to access the 48–page digital booklet.

10. SAAHIP Limpopo: I care for Eye Care Conference and AGM

The conference was well attended by numerous young pharmacists and pharmacy students. It emphasised the importance of eye health, highlighting the critical role of the visual system and the severe impact neglecting it can have on one’s quality of life. Mr Kevin Baloyi was in attendance, and Miss Ntombizodwa Luwaca delivered an insightful presentation on Diabetic Retinopathy.

11. SAAHIP Mpumalanga Conference and AGM

Mr Kevin Baloyi attended this intriguing and thought–provoking conference and delivered a presentation titled “The digital revolution in Pharmacy.”

12. SAPSF Conference and Gala Dinner

Miss Ntombizodwa Luwaca attended the SAPSF Conference Gala Dinner held in Gqeberha on Saturday, 1 February 2025. The evening celebrated the remarkable achievements of pharmacy students in 2024 and marked a significant moment with the launch of the second edition of the SAPSF publication. The PSSA YPG was honoured to be part of this celebration,

joining in a night of reflection and recognition alongside the future of the profession and those who have guided and mentored them. Notable attendees included Ms Alice Lategan from PSSA Cape Midlands, lecturers from Nelson Mandela University, and PSSA Executive Director Ms Refiloe Mogale.

13. CIPC IP Youth Awards

Mr Kevin Baloyi attended this evening function that celebrated the achievements of youth of South Africa.

14. SAAHIP National Conference and AGM

Mr Anele Khwela, Mr Kevin Baloyi, and Miss Ntombizodwa Luwaca attended the conference and Annual General Meeting held at the Champagne Sports Resort in the Drakensberg, KwaZulu-Natal. Subcommittee members Ms Aisha Adam, Mr Matladi Stanley Morapedi, and Ms Sharon Phiri were also present.

The conference served as an excellent platform for young pharmacists to network, expand their knowledge, and enjoy a vibrant and engaging environment. Themed around Pharmacy 5.0, the programme focused on the integration of digital technologies to advance pharmaceutical practice. Miss Ntombizodwa Luwaca delivered a presentation on the current structure of the PSSA YPG and shared the results of the Unemployment Survey, echoing her contribution to the recent Pharmaceutical Employment Indaba.

Recommendations for future Steering Committees

1. Provide clear guidance and communication to the subcommittee members.
2. Advertise webinars and events well in advance.
3. Ensure strong and constant representation at the NEC and follow up with matters outlined below:

a. Permanent inclusion of one PSSA YPG SC member on the NEC

Continuing from the previous challenge, the PSSA YPG has expressed anxiety towards the procedure of the annual inclusion of one of its members on the NEC. Previously the YPG chair would be nominated by colleagues in the NEC or PSSA National Officer to occupy one of the three additional positions on the NEC. Whilst the PSSA YPG realizes that it is not owed a position on the NEC annually, the activities and favour that the PSSA YPG has gained from young pharmacists nationwide has demonstrated the importance of the space that it holds within the PSSA and asks that the NEC considers adding a permanent seat on the NEC for one of the SC members on an annual basis, to ensure that YPG matters are discussed and information is shared to young pharmacists adequately.

Ntombizodwa Luwaca (Chair)

Yours in Pharmacy

Sector Reports

Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences

This report provides an account to the Society of the activities and developments of the Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences since the previous Annual General Meeting. The reporting period extends from 10 June 2024 to the present.

ELECTIONS 2024

Following the 2024 election cycle, the Academy continues to maintain strong representation from all national Schools of Pharmacy.

At the meeting convened on 3 September 2024, the following office bearers were duly elected:

Lorraine Thom – Chairperson

Prof. Sandile Khamanga (Rhodes) – Vice-chairperson

Prof. Varsha Bangalee (UKZN) – Honorary treasurer

Prof. Ilze Vermaak (TUT)

Dr. Teri-Lynne Fogarty (NMU)

Prof. Lesetja Legoabe (NWU)

Dr. Madan Poka (SMU)

Prof. Michelle Viljoen (UWC)

Dr. Rajesh Vagiri (UL)

Prof. Yahya Choonara (Wits)

Dr. Deanne Johnston (UKZN Co-opted member)

Ms. Nitsa Manolis (*Ex officio*)

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

In alignment with the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) Congress held in Cape Town in 2024, the Academy opted not to organise a separate annual conference, but instead extended our full support to both the PSSA and FIP.

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the APSSA was convened during the FIP Congress at the Cape Town International Convention Centre on Tuesday, 3 September 2024.

The upcoming APSSA Annual Conference is scheduled to take place from 30 August to 2 September 2025 at Lagoon Beach Hotel, with the University of the Western Cape serving as the host institution.

YOUNG SCIENTIST AWARD

APSSA has a proud tradition of recognising emerging talent through its annual Young Scientist (YS) Competition, held as a key feature of the APSSA Conference. This platform has consistently enabled early-career pharmaceutical scientists to showcase their research and innovation.

In 2024, as an official supporting association of the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) (<https://capetown2024.fip.org/supporting-associations/>), APSSA extended its academic

expertise to assist in the structuring and implementation of an international Young Scientist Competition, introduced for the first time during the FIP Congress in Cape Town. The inaugural award, presented in collaboration with APSSA, was conferred on Miss Candidah Nephawe. This successful initiative, was well received by the global FIP community and has now been adopted as part of FIP's ongoing international programme <https://copenhagen2025.fip.org/programme/young-scientist-award/>.

This accomplishment underscores APSSA's leadership in promoting pharmaceutical research and education both nationally and internationally.

EMPOWERING ACADEMIC GROWTH

APSSA places strong emphasis on nurturing academic talent and encouraging continued learning within the pharmacy profession. In support of this vision, the Academy acknowledges outstanding undergraduate students across all B.Pharm levels each year, celebrating their dedication and high performance.

To further promote academic progression, APSSA also provides financial support for postgraduate studies. In 2024, a Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education (FPE) bursary was awarded to Ms. Lutendo Maguba, contributing to her ongoing scholarly journey.

PHARMACY EDUCATION & KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

In support of its mandate to advance pharmaceutical education, research, and professional development across South Africa, the Academy continues to utilise various platforms for academic engagement and knowledge dissemination.

1. SAPHEX Symposium Session

1.1 Is technology currently running the show in Pharmacy education?

Highlighting the significant transformation in pharmacy education, Dr. Teri-Lynne Fogarty's presentation traced the shift from traditional, memorisation-based teaching (Education 1.0) to modern, human-centred models supported by ethical AI and lifelong learning (Education 5.0). The growing integration of tools such as learning management systems, virtual simulations, AI platforms, and digital resources, tools increasingly aligned with real-world pharmacy practice, was outlined. Persistent challenges were noted, including limited infrastructure, funding, and digital skills, particularly in South Africa, as well as the absence of clear AI policies in many universities. While technology enhances learning and professional readiness, concerns about over-reliance and maintaining a human-centred approach in Pharmacy remain. The ultimate goal is to balance innovation with academic integrity and social responsibility.

2. Webinars

2.1 NHI Draft Governance Regulations Webinar

This webinar was arranged by the PSSA to review and discuss the recently published draft National Health Insurance (NHI) Fund Governance Regulations released by the Minister of Health. It brought together representatives from various sectors to engage in a multi-sectoral

dialogue about the proposed regulations. Prof. Renier Coetzee represented the Academy sharing perspectives from an academic background.

2.2 Conscientious Objection in Healthcare

In May, the Academy hosted a well-attended webinar on Conscientious Objection in Healthcare, with a focus on its practical application in both clinical and public health settings. The session featured expert presentations by Dr. Andy Grey and Dr. Neil Moran, who brought significant clinical and ethical insight to the discussion. Key ethical frameworks were examined, including the principles of biomedical ethics as outlined by Beauchamp and Childress, along with the complex issues of dual loyalty and the management of conscientious objection, particularly in the context of termination of pregnancy. The event provided a valuable forum for critical engagement among healthcare professionals, academics, and students, emphasizing the delicate balance between individual conscience and professional responsibility. A recording of the session is available upon request.

2.3 APSSA Spotlight for Early-Career Pharmacists

In our next upcoming webinar, APSSA is partnering with the Young Pharmacist Group (YPG) to deliver a forthcoming webinar aimed at highlighting the Academy's mission and the opportunities available to young pharmacists. The session will explore key areas including pathways into academia, research engagement, conference participation, and mentorship opportunities. The webinar is aimed at promoting long-term engagement and professional development. Further details will be shared during the second semester.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS

In accordance with the Academy's Constitution, three individuals were awarded Honorary Membership during the 2024 Annual General Meeting. This honour, reserved for those who have provided exceptional service to the Academy or the broader pharmaceutical sciences field, was granted following nomination by the Executive Committee and approval by majority vote at the AGM.

The individuals elected as Honorary Members were Prof. Rod Walker, Prof. Gill Enslin, and Mr. David Bayever.

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

As a not-for-profit organisation, APSSA continues to maintain financial stability with minimal liabilities. In the 2023/2024 financial year, the Academy recorded a notable turnaround, reporting a surplus after a deficit the previous year. This positive shift was mainly due to increased income and investment returns, alongside continued control of operating expenses, which collectively strengthened the Academy's financial position.

CONCLUSION

The past year has seen steady progress and meaningful engagement across the Academy's key focus areas. Through ongoing collaboration, academic initiatives, and professional development efforts, APSSA remains dedicated to advancing pharmaceutical sciences and supporting its members. Looking ahead, the Academy will build on this momentum to further enhance its contribution both nationally and internationally.

Lorraine Thom

Chairperson

South African Association of Community Pharmacists

1. Introduction

It is an honour and a privilege to table this report. This report will highlight some of the activities of the President of the SAACP since the previous Annual General meeting which was held on the 31st of August 2024 in Cape Town.

2. The management structure of SAACP

2.1. Office Bearers

The Office Bearers of the SAACP for the period:

President – Mr Johannes T. Ravele

Vice-President – Mr Jameel Kariem

Honorary Treasurer – Mr Frans Landman

Honorary Secretary – Mr Taki Kyriacos

Immediate Past President – Mr Tshifhiwa Rabali

The Office Bearers are supported in their work by the SAACP Secretariat:

Ms Sonja Fourie

Ms Adri Botha

2.2. The SAACP NEC for the period August 2024 to August 2025

- Western Cape Branch: Mr Kobus le Roux, Mr Jameel Kariem, Mr Keith Johnson, Mr Johan Raats, Ms Reneilwe Makandiona
- Cape Midlands Branch: CL Stanton
- Southern Gauteng Branch: Mr Frans Landman, Ms Patricia Tharage, Mr Gary Köhn, Ms Winny Ndlovu, Mr Tshifhiwa Rabali. Ms Pumza Hlekane
- Pretoria Branch: Mr Johannes Ravele, Mr Matlapeng Shabalala, Mr Reuben Mthombeni
- Kwa-Zulu Natal Coastal Branch: Mr Gravesham Jagarnath, Ms Dipti Desai, Mr Mahendra Naidoo, Mr Shanil Singh
- Limpopo Branch: Mr Lesiba McDonald Senyatsi
- Border & Eastern Districts Branch: PG Kyriacos
- Free State Branch: Mr B Eager (later replaced by Ms Elze Rossouw)
- North West: Ms Helanie Lemmer
- PCDT Special Interest Group: Mr Johan Moolman
- YPG Representative: Ms Makoma Ramalepe

2.3. Appointment of Four Councillors to represent the SAACP on the General Council of the PSSA In 2025

Mr Keith Johnson

Ms Reneilwe Makandiona

Mr Gravesham Jagarnath

Mr Frans Landman

2.4. Appointment of Trustee(s) on the Community Pharmacy Legal Trust (CPLT)

Mr Kobus le Roux

3. Sub-Committees

3.1. Constitution Subcommittee

The committee met on numerous occasions during the year under review, in pursuance of bringing to completion the proposed changes and updates, thus ensuring a constitution that is live, relevant, responsive and addresses the current and future needs of the Association. The sub-committee will provide the NEC and all SAACP Branches with a copy of the proposed changes for review and comment as soon as we are content that we have done a good job.

3.2. Honours subcommittee

The committee met in December to discuss honouring one of its longstanding member, Mr Clive Stanton, who has proven to be an advocate of the profession, with a Julius Israelsohn award. The award will be presented at the upcoming PSSA AGM scheduled for the 07-9th August 2025.

3.3. Pharmacy United subcommittee

This committee was formed in collaboration with ICPA, to focus on Pharmacy ownership. The intention is to look at layperson ownership of the pharmacy, its genesis, its impact, and extent to which its needs have been met, and the damage thereof.

We had our first meeting on 27/02/2025. The committee members are Johannes Ravele, Jameel Kariem and Gravesham Jagarnath. The National Office Secretariat serves as a scribe of the committee.

4. Projects

During 2024/2025 term, the Association participated in the following projects. Some projects are running on a continuous basis. More projects will be added to the list as the opportunities arise.

TPS 2025 Symposium, 5-6 March 2025 in collaboration with ICPA; The SAACP TPS sub-committee met on a few occasions to finalise details of the symposium, planning around the program, speakers, session chairs and finer details related to marketing and staffing the stand.

The symposium was under the theme: “THINK HEALTH, THINK PHARMACY: EMPOWERING COMMUNITY CARE.” We explored pharmacy-led innovations. We engaged with thought leaders and contributed to shaping the future of healthcare in South Africa. It went very well without hiccups and the presentations were well received. We certainly left a mark in the history of the TPS symposium and are hoping that we do better in the 2026 season.

The SAACP as a sector of the PSSA contributed at the PSSA stand during **SAPHEX 2025**, with the focus on the PCDT SiG. Three PCDT specific presentations were made, and we appreciate the cooperation from the sub-committee. Thanks to Mr Johan Moolman, Mr Keith Johnson and Ms Simone’ Eksteen for their sterling contributions.

Medicines to Africa; The SAACP reaffirmed its support to MTA with the President, Mr Johannes Ravele as its representative. MTA is an important initiative that prepares the groundwork for the direct involvement of pharmacists in humanitarian aid in the event of natural or manmade disasters. The project is an international collaboration involving FIP, pharmacists without borders and many pharmacy associations across at least nice African countries. The SAACP together with the PSSA, ICPA and other partners form the key components of the South African partnership.

SAACP Branch Conference, 2025; The intention of this initiative was to visit inactive branches with the intent of addressing regional obstacles and reignite membership and active participation. Subsequently the PSSA came on board and participated in the event. It took place on the 31st of May 2025. The overall theme of the symposium was: Re-group, Re-strategise and Execute. The first session focused on Re-grouping, with topics such as Illicit Medications addressed by Mr Matlapeng Tshabalala, NHI & Chronic Medicine, addressed by Mr Andre’ Jacobs. The second session focused on Re-strategise, covering topics such as Business Masterclass, addressed by Ms Christine Venter and Ms Ziyanda Mfuku, PCDT addressed by Mr Johan Moolman. The last session was focused on Executing, covering topics such as Pharmacist driven Patient Care and Disease Management, by Ms Preshnee Naidoo and Diabetes Management by Ms Jeannie Berg. Many thanks to the SAACP Free State branch for their support and contributions. Special mention must go out to Ms Elze Rossouw, Dr Martlie Mocke-Richter, Mr Kgahlisho Tladi and Ms Palesa Santho. Well done, well executed.

FIP 2025; the SAACP NEC had approved a budget allocation in support of affording some NEC members the opportunity to attend FIP 2025. The President and the Vice-President will attend.

Rural Health Conference, August 2025; in view of the successful engagement during the **2024 conference**, the SAACP will submit abstracts to present during the Rural Health Conference 2025 that is planned for Pietermaritzburg from the 16th to the 18th of September 2025.

Disposal of Expired Medication, September 2025; a workable proposal is pending for the launch of a pilot program, in a small regional area, during which time the public and other healthcare providers could safely dispose of expired medicines by dropping them off at dedicated locations. Further discussions and meeting with potential collaborators are pending.

The PCDT Special Interest Group – under the auspices and support of the SAACP this group has achieved great strides towards promoting and supporting PCDT pharmacists' interests, specifically, recognition by the legislators and the stakeholders within the Healthcare team. Various sub-committees have been established, each with their own goals and objectives with projects derived from it. More details can be provided on request. The meetings are ongoing as we strive to perfect its operations.

The steering committee members are:

Mr Johan Moolman (Chairperson)

Mr Johannes Ravele

Mr Jameel Kariem

Ms Pauline Randles

The National Office serve as Administrator to the PCDT SiG

Community Pharmacists employed by Corporate, Special Interest Group; the Special Interest Group (SiG) under the auspices of the SAACP, is seeking to address those special needs of SAACP members who are in corporate employment. This steering committee was formed in May 2024, had a few obstacles, with Dr KK Naidoo stepping down due to branch commitments. Mrs Clarissa Naidoo from the KZN branch has been co-opted to the steering committee as she is working for the corporates and is seen as instrumental in assisting in establishing this SiG. We intend to intensify our efforts and ensure that every community pharmacist is well represented in the sector.

The steering committee members are:

Mr Johannes Ravele

Mr Taki Kyriacos

Ms Pumza Hlekane

Ms Clarissa Naidoo

The National Office serves as a scribe of the committee.

Young Pharmacists Group – a sponsorship/donation in 2025 towards this program was approved in the 2025 budget provisions. The National Office and the PRESCO will consult with the YPG representative to our sector, to see how we can work in partnership on projects beneficial to young community pharmacists in particular. I must emphasise that we need to get them more involved in the sector's activities as the momentum has slowed down. We did not really leverage on their skills and abilities as they were not fully participating.

Stakeholders Forum meeting: we had two virtual meetings in the year under review; 22 November 2024 and 22 April 2025. The minutes thereof were distributed during the course of the year and can be accessed from the National office. If it were according to me, I would recommend that everyone should attend these meetings as they are informative. It would be prudent upon the members of the sector to acquaint themselves with the latest legislative changes and developments.

PSSA Webinar: we participated in the PSSA webinar on the 24th of April on the Board notice: NHI draft governance regulations. It was a success as we strive to shape the future of healthcare in our country.

Pharmacy month: we held several meetings from the beginning of 2025 in preparation of the pharmacy month. The theme was approved by the Director-General of Health: THINK HEALTH, THINK PHARMACY: ONE PROFESSION, MANY ROLES. We are looking forward to the activities that will be taking place prior to and throughout the month of September. Marketing and promotional materials are being developed and will be available to all sector members.

IQVIA; had a meeting with IQVIA on the 17th of February to determine if we can collaborate on future projects.

5. International & local conferences / meetings / liaison, and branch visits

5.1. FIP 2025

We intend sending two representatives from the sector to FIP 2025.

5.2. SAACP Branch Visits

We visited the KZN Coastal branch on the 5th of April, at their invitation, for their annual awards banquet. Congratulations to Mrs Sowbakiam Mudley-Padayachie on being recognized by the branch as the community pharmacist of the year. Well deserved.

We visited the Mpumalanga branch at their PSSA AGM on 02 to 03 May. It was preceded by the CPD presentations before the AGM on Saturday afternoon. The mission of being seen and supporting branches was realized in this event and was well received. We congratulate the new branch committee and look forward to their contribution in the future projects of the sector.

As mentioned above, we visited the Free State branch and hosted a symposium with an intention of reviving the sector. As a pilot project, we did extremely well with our offerings.

5.3. Sector Visits and Collaborations

We were expected to attend the SAAHIP conference scheduled for 10–12 April 2025, but due to community pharmacy commitments, I could not fulfil that promise and my Deputy could neither step in due to commitments beyond control. However, a congratulatory mail was sent to the new President and her team and that we look forward to work together for the betterment of our profession.

I attended the SAAPI conference that was hosted from the 04th to the 06th of June 2025 at the CSIR in Pretoria. The SAAPI sector recognised our efforts and appreciated the support and the collaboration. It was a worthy experience as it touched on issues that affect the profession generally.

6. Closing remarks

It was an honour for me to serve the sector in the best possible way. Many thanks to the PRESCO for their support, the NEC for their guidance and all the sub-committees that made my job easy and worthwhile. We have done an excellent job in building a foundation for future NEC to function with purpose and determination.

I make a plea to the Young Pharmacists to get involved in the running of the sector. Let us avoid a leadership void and invite more young pharmacists into the structures, from branch level through to the national body.

My job would not have been easy if the National Office Secretariat were not involved. Many thanks to Ms Adri Botha and Ms Sonja Fourie for their diligence, determination, expertise, professionalism, and dedication to the sector. They made my life easy.

Lastly, but not least, thanks for the support from my family. The time that I took from domestic responsibilities and obligations is much appreciated. It has indeed been a long journey, filled with both great and anxious moments. I will forever cherish the time that I spent as the President of the association, and the trust that the profession had in me.

Yours sincerely,

Johannes T Ravele

President

South African Association of Hospital and Institutional Pharmacists

Introduction

I am pleased to present the Sectoral report to our members for the 2024/2025 term of office. For the pharmacy profession, this period was one that we will remember for many years. It has presented so many opportunities, moments to snapshot and archive, and engagements that will somewhat buy the future. The year 2024 began with an outcry from hundreds of young pharmacists facing unemployment and closed the same way to usher in 2025. The unemployment of pharmacists is a real challenge and requires long-term thinking, collaboration to find fitting solutions, and a realistic mindset. South Africa's economy, on the one hand, is

struggling to grow to the level that is sufficient for all citizens' needs, and on the other, public health challenges are looming, requiring more pharmacists on the ground to meet the high patient volumes. The good thing is solutions are being sought through robust engagements led by the PSSA. We also attended the Pharmacy Employment Indaba on 6 March 2025 at the Sandton Convention Centre which, among others discussed the actual challenge, potential solutions and stakeholders collaboration. This solution is being led by the PSSA with the HR team, and we look forward to final outcomes of this work.

Taking from some of the discussions during the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) World Congress that took place on 1–4 September 2024 in Cape Town, the new roles that pharmacists can play means the country needs more pharmacists to meet the demand. Currently we operate below 2.9 pharmacists per 10 000 population. A ratio that is far below the World Health Organization's recommendation.

We are all proud that the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa successfully hosted what was reported as the second-biggest International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) congress in numbers. Many pharmacists and, especially, members of the associations took part in different activities during the FIP. And now, as we present this report, we are preparing for SAAHIP's annual conference in April. A meeting that many hospital pharmacists always look forward to attending. This year's theme, "Future Ready 5.0," is conceptualized to bring hospital pharmacists around the table to discuss what they did and will do to make the future of pharmacy desirable and achievable. It is a conference that we believe will document, among many things, some of the emerging opportunities as well as strategies to leverage them.

As you read through the report, I will update the new branch executive committee members, membership growth, branch activities, international collaborations, FIP highlights, and some other exciting opportunities for the future. We are also excited to receive the new National Executive committee of the sector with a very inspiring new vision.

National Executive Committee

During the recent SAAHIP conference, the National Executive Committee had changes with the election of new presidential committee (see table 1). I would like to congratulate Dr Seshnee Moodley and Mr Vusi Dlamini were elected President and Vice-President respectively. And Ms Caroline De Beer and Ms Nomfundo Zwane were re-elected as National Secretary and Honorary treasurer respectively. Appreciation goes to Mr Shawn Zeelie, the past president who served and supported the leadership.

We thank the co-opted members, Joggie Hattingh, Thanushya Pillaye, Lorraine Osman, and Lourens van der Merwe, who gave us valuable support, not only in this term but also in the two years running. The committee received administrative support from the PSSA's office through Anri Hornsveld, especially at the secretarial desk. From April 2025, the NEC welcomed the support from Mr Famola Ngobeni.

Table 1: National Executive Committee

President	Dr Seshnee Moodley	Coopted Members	Thanushya Pillay
Vice President	Vusi Dlamini		Joggie Hattingh
National Secretary	Caroline De Beer		Prof. Natalie Schellack
Honorary Treasurer	Nomfundo Zwane		
Past President	Nhlanhla G. Mafarafara	Office Support	Famola Ngobeni (was Anri Hornsveld)
Branch Chairpersons			
Eastern Cape	Robyn Wates	Northern Cape/ Free State	Geziena Swanepoel
KZN- Coastal	Samke Matibela	Northern Gauteng	Kesentseng Mahlaba
KZN Inland	Vusi Dlamini	Northwest	Ignatius Muller
Limpopo	Salome Makofane	Southern Gauteng	Rashmi Gosai
Mpumalanga	Handsome Mashego	Western Cape	Brent Sin Hidge

Membership

SAAHIP membership has consistently grown from 2021 to date. Western Cape, KZN-Coastal, and, Southern Gauteng remain our top three biggest branches with membership exceeding 500. KZN-Inland, Limpopo, and Mpumalanga reported the highest growth over the five reporting periods. KZN-Inland and Limpopo increased their membership by 57.3% and 56%, respectively, since 2021. Limpopo and Northern Gauteng achieved double-digit growth between March 2024 and January 2025.¹ Table 2 shows the membership changes from March 2021 to date in both numbers and graphical form. Notably, four branches recorded an exodus of members, with Eastern Cape Recording the highest membership reduction over the same year. While there is a slight decline in the membership number, the overall change is positive. The work done by the branches to engage members and host CPDs, membership drives, and participation in conferences has contributed to an overall growth in membership. The membership continues to grow with 94 new members since the April 2025 conference.

Figure 1: SAAHIP Membership changes from March 2021 to January 2025, showing status reported during the AGMs



¹The total membership is reported of June 2025 as per PSSA's register

Table 2: SAAHIP membership report

<i>BRANCH</i>	AGM 2021	AGM 2022	AGM 2023	AGM 2024	AGM 2025	JUNE 2025	Growth (April to June '25)	%Growth (AGM 2024 to 2025)	%Growth (AGM 2021 to 2025)
<i>Northern Gauteng</i>	260	260	254	282	332	343	11	15%	28,3%
<i>Southern Gauteng</i>	373	373	440	458	510	521	11	10%	23,5%
<i>Mpumalanga</i>	124	124	149	160	179	186	7	10,6%	43,0%
<i>North West</i>	136	136	158	178	179	186	7	0,6%	36,3%
<i>Free State/Northern Cape</i>	136	136	149	169	194	194	0	12,9%	31,4%
<i>Eastern Cape</i>	293	293	324	415	398	405	7	-4,3%	31,4%
<i>Western Cape</i>	517	517	577	585	628	631	3	6,9%	24,7%
<i>KZN Coastal</i>	421	421	422	529	534	547	13	0,9%	33,7%
<i>KZN Inland</i>	236	236	336	323	330	347	17	2,1%	57,3%
<i>Limpopo</i>	171	171	183	266	341	359	18	22%	56,0%
<i>Non-resident</i>	3	3	3	3	2	2	0	-33,3%	-33,30%
<i>Total</i>	2667	2667	3141	3368	3627	3721	94	7,1%	34,71%

Branch Activities

Continuous Professional Development

Our branches have been taking the lead in representing the Ideals of SAAHIP almost across the board. However, there have been functionality challenges in Northern Cape/ Free State. Northwest and Limpopo also needed intervention in working through their focus areas. The vice president, Dr Seshnee Moodley was tasked with the responsibility of supporting these branches that were struggling to maintain visibility and build capacity. Notably, there is some good action in the Northern Cape/ Free State branch, and plans are in place under the new chairperson to help the branch reach full functionality.

All the branches have had several CPDs, recruitment drives, and professional engagement with other stakeholders as well as consistent social media presence. I want to draw your attention to some of the activities that happened within the reporting period.

- Collaboration with YPG during the sector CPD for Young Pharmacists as part of their ongoing mentorship program. SAAHIP was represented by the Western Cape branch Chairperson, Mr. Brent Sin Hidge. He presented about SAAHIP and hospital pharmacy together with the branch's former chairperson, Mr. Paul Voigt. SAAHIP continues to support YPG activities. This year, the sector will also contribute financially with R5500 fund to support the mentorship and innovation programs.
- Branch Visibility campaigns have been going very well. Each month the Membership, Marketing, and Branding Focus Area (FA) team took notice of the health calendar events and spotlighted key messages that were shared through social media. The branch also ran campaigns and marketing / promotional material on social media throughout all the branches. Their work ensures that there is consistent messaging, branch visibility, targeted engagement, marketing of CPD events, AGMs, and branch conferences, and scrutinized social

media posts. Branches are urged to utilize the team to ensure that their messaging is always consistent with SAAHIP ideals in line with the social media guideline.

- Our social media pages on Facebook and Instagram continues to grow with views reaching 16600 with 2248 engagements between April and June 2025
- Other CPDs hosted on virtual platforms and attended by pharmacists from all provinces are listed in Table 3 below. The CPDs featured in this report are not exhaustive of what transpired in the branches. However, the topics included are those that were shared nationally.

Table 3: CPD topics hosted and presented by SAAHIP branches in 2024/25

Topic	Branch
Virtual CPD Sessions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winning the fight against malaria • Quality in healthcare, (part 1): quality, health standards and accreditation (Webinar) • Quality improvement: enhancing patient care experience in pharmacy services • Recent changes in Childhood TB treatment options in South Africa 	KZN Coastal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current Malaria Treatment Protocols • Pharmacovigilance • Rifampicin Resistant TB regimens • CSP preparatory workshop • Pharmacist Intern CPD Series (7 virtual sessions) • Career Positioning webinar (CV, Job Interviews skills and LinkedIn profile optimization) 	Mpumalanga
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specializing in Pharmacy in South Africa: Exploring the pros, cons and career impact • Effective use of LAM • 3HP TB Preventative treatment: safety, tolerance and durability • Rifampicin based TB Preventative treatment in PLHIV on ART (clinical studies) 	Limpopo
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pharmaceutical supply chain in the public sector • Pharmaceutical Supply Chain in the private sector 	KZN Inland
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership and governance in Hospital Pharmacy 	Northern Cape/ Free State
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHI Debate 	Western Cape
Physical Sessions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Let’s talk about vaccines 	Northwest
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Let’s talk about vaccines. • Parenteral Nutrition–The basics and beyond • I care for Eye care. • Yes? We can end TB: Commit, invest, deliver. 	Limpopo
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antimicrobial Stewardship and Implementation of Basel Statements 	Mpumalanga
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pharmacist specialist and training: updates on the latest pharmacy regulations 	Eastern Cape
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Food for thought”–Diet and medicines, exploring dietary modifications in response to pharmacological treatment • The mysterious world of the paediatric skin: Let’s go back to basics 	Eastern Cape

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced wound care (with PSSA Cape Midlands) 	Eastern Cape
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply chain management master class Antimicrobial Awareness symposium Antimicrobial Awareness symposium Mental health and wellbeing: Mini symposium 	KZN Coastal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting Neurodivergent clients through awareness, self-regulation and advocacy Promoting mental health awareness and destigmatizing mental health New Occupational Certificate for Pharmacist Assistants Pharmacy Symposium topics (held at the PSSA SG September pharmacy symposium) Updates on interventions in public hospitals Clinical pharmacy and pharmacogenomics A day in the life a compounding pharmacist Plenary discussion–The future of institutional pharmacy 	Southern Gauteng
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Untangling the Mind: Bridging generalised anxiety disorders and insomnia 	Northern Gauteng

CPD collaborations	
Topic	Collaboration/ hosting partner
Exploring the difference between public and private sector hospitals and how to adequately prepare yourself for practice in either	YPG
The future pharmacist: navigating leadership development	SAPSF
Limpopo 3 rd annual wound care conference	Limpopo / Department of Health
Preparing for Internship	Limpopo/ UL / Department of Health
Pharmacist Interns Orientation and Induction workshop–two–part series (webinar)	KZN Coastal, KZN Inland & KZN DOH
Collaboration in Pharmaceutical Services and PSSA Sectors	Mpumalanga/ DOH

These CPD sessions have played a critical role in increasing visibility and engagement platforms for members. They also solidify the role of pharmacists in public health improvement and continuous improvement in the quality of patient care.

Other Public Health campaigns

SAAHIP Northern Gauteng participated in several vaccination and health screening in 2024. The campaigns offered TB Screening, family planning, cervical cancer screening, and hypertension and diabetes screening (See table 4 and 5 for summary)

Table 4: SAAHIP Northern Gauteng Public Health Campaign stats

		Numbers
Cervical cancer screening	20 years and older HIV positive women	9
	30–50 years HIV negative women	1
Family planning	Medroxyprogesterone injection	25
	Nur-Isterate injection	11
	Oral contraceptive pill	6
TB Screening	Under 5 years	80
	5 years and older	93
Hypertension and diabetes screening	18–44 years	44
	45 years and older	42
Other services	Male urethritis syndrome	1
	HIV screening	271
	HIV tested positive and initiated on ART	4

Table 5: Northern Gauteng Vaccination campaign during Pharmacy Month in 2024

Services Received	Number of children
Deworming	101
Vitamin A	81
Influenza	400
Measles (1st dose)	8
Measles (2nd dose)	10
Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (2nd dose)	1
Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (3rd dose)	2
Rotavirus (1st dose)	1
Tetanus, reduced–strength diphtheria and acellular pertussis (3rd dose)	3
Tetanus, reduced–strength diphtheria and acellular pertussis (3rd dose)	12
Tetanus and diphtheria (1st dose) (6 years)	36
Tetanus and diphtheria (2nd dose) (12 years)	30

Focus Areas

A lot is being done in the branches. And more still to be done to achieve our priorities. Eastern Cape, Southern Gauteng, KZN Coastal, and KZN Inland have, however, worked hard this year. The Eastern Cape is responsible for Membership, Media, and Branding and has kept all branches busy with social media engagement. We believe that this, combined with branch CPDs, helped increase the membership. The KZN branches have lifted the banner of SAAHIP. The CPDs by both branches are in alignment with their focus areas, for example, KZN Coastal hosted a CPD on quality in healthcare, in line with their focus area: Ensuring quality of healthcare and KZN Inland, which is responsible for “ensuring access to medicines,” hosted a CPD on the Supply Chain. One of the highlights that the NEC celebrates is the formalized implementation of the Focus Area on Improved Quality and Safety of Healthcare services with a project titled “improve patient clinical care experience of pharmaceutical care at public healthcare facilities”. The project is

currently engaging with provinces to seek gate keepers permission and to collect data across South Africa

The Mpumalanga branch has developed a draft guiding document for Primary Healthcare Pharmacists in the public sector. The document describes the role and duties of pharmacists in PHC. Once the document is finalised, it will be circulated for further comment.

These FA have been reprioritised to be in line with the project of developing hospital pharmacy statements in South Africa.

FIP 2024

One of the highlights of 2024 was attending and participating in the FIP 2024 World Congress. The theme was Innovating for the Future of Healthcare. SAAHIP was well-represented in different sessions. For this report, the NEC wants to acknowledge the individual members of SAAHIP who in their capacity as pharmacists shared their work during Congress. Their work solidifies the contribution of practicing pharmacists to evidence-based pharmacy practice fitting international standards.

We want to acknowledge the pharmacists and members of the association who presented during the FIP congress such as podium presentations from Kristien Schutte, former SAAHIP National Secretary (who was also nominated for best oral presenter) for her presentation 'Improvement in Pharmacist initiated antimicrobial stewardship interventions following the implementation of a customized digital solution.', Dr Mcengeli Sibanda - 'An integrated immunization program for the elderly in South Africa: expert and stakeholders views.' Brent Sin Hidge- 'Pharmacy in South Africa, opening session.' Prof Renier Coetzee- 'Pharmacy in South Africa, opening session.' And 'Antimicrobial Resistance: Pharmaceuticals and the Environment'. On the 3rd of September, I presented as the SAAHIP president on the "use of the Basel Statements in South Africa" during the Basel Statements in Africa Session and shared the session with FIP-HPS Vice President for Africa, Mujahid Valji.

Other pharmacists who were the finalists for the Hospital Pharmacy Section Best Poster Presentation Award 2024 are:

- Mrs. Maletjie Griesel, poster title: A South African model for reducing Specialized high-cost medication rejections: Clinical Pharmacist led interventions.
- Mr. Mpho Mogale Sylvester, poster title: Demand planning and forecasting to improve medicine availability in Limpopo Province, South Africa - operational research.
- Mrs. Martine Vorster, poster title: Integrating self-reported adherence with clinical data in patients receiving antiretroviral therapy in a public sector hospital in North West Province, South Africa.

From SAAHIP Members who participated in the FIP presentations, which included 22 poster presentations and 6 oral presentations in the hospital section as well as other presentations in plenary or sessions.

On the 1st of September, many of our members participated in the Basel Statements updates to develop an application and educational framework for the procurement statements. The workshop was attended by over 230 pharmacists from all over the world, many of whom were practicing in South Africa. The outcomes of the workshop will be released by FIP in due course.

Pharmacy Month 2024

September is Pharmacy Month in South Africa. This year's theme was Let's Talk About Vaccines. Pharmacists from all over the country partnered and collaborated with different stakeholders to promote the importance of vaccines and vaccination. They also engaged in other charitable activities and health promotion activities as well as CPDs. SAAHIP Northern Gauteng with the PSSA went on a vaccination campaign that promoted not only vaccines and vaccination but showed the diverse skills and expanded role pharmacists' play in administering vaccines. The branch in partnership with Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University, SMU Association of Pharmacy Students, and TUT Association of Pharmacy Students, visited various communities to vaccinate children and offer other primary healthcare services. The campaign was a resounding success. A total of 800 community members received different services, such as health screening, family planning, cancer screening, and HIV testing. They administered 400 influenza vaccines. And 160 children received missed scheduled vaccines, deworming agents, and vitamin A supplements. Western Cape branch chairperson Brent Sin Hidge represented SAAHIP at SABC 3's Morning Espresso show, where he talked about pharmacists' key role in healthcare, especially vaccination. He used the Rubik's cube to explain herd immunity in an effortless, practical way. He has since appeared seven times in the show, addressing several public health topics.



Figure 2: SAAHIP Cape Western Province, Mr Brent Sin Hidge during the Morning Espresso Show on SABC 3

Conference 2025

Among the many exciting things happening at SAAHIP, was the Annual Conference. Which took place during the 68th Annual General Meeting (AGM) from 10–12 April 2025. The theme was **FUTURE READY 5.0: Empowering Hospital pharmacists for tomorrow's healthcare revolution.** This conference aimed at looking into what the future of South African Hospital Pharmacy practice looks like.

- Precision medicine and personalised therapies
- Digital health solutions
- Data analytics and predictive modelling
- Telepharmacy and remote patient monitoring

- Pharmacy automation and robotics
- Advanced drug delivery systems
- Ethical and regulatory considerations
- National Health Insurance readiness
- Patient-centred care

What we can guarantee is that it's going to be spectacular, mind-stretching, and unforgettable. The conference report is published on SAPJ with further details. At the end of the conference, we resolved to develop Hospital and Institutional Statements that will be used to influence practice, education and policy in South Africa. The statements will cover the following themes:

- Clinical pharmacy practice
- Public health, leadership and governance
- Medicines usage and supply chain management
- Innovations, technology and artificial intelligence in pharmacy
- Human resources

Preliminary statements were drafted and presented at the conference. Over the next 6–8 months, the statements will be further developed and then given to other pharmacists for contribution. Ultimately, they will be published to the profession and used as an engagement tool with all stakeholders to promote the full utilisation of pharmacists and improvement in the quality of patient care

Other conference highlights include the session presentations on The Marketing Code and how we should engage with it as pharmacists.

Social Responsibility

As of June 2024, branches have donated R44000.00 towards Operation Smile. This money was handed over to Operation Smile. The donation covers 8 smiles. The voluntary contribution and effort that SAAHIP makes toward the Operation Smile initiative continues. Two of our Southern Gauteng (SG) Exco members attended on behalf of the NEC. The report back that was shared was that this was an incredibly humbling and once in a lifetime experience. Both Rashmi Gosai (SG Chairperson) and Thanushya Pillaye (SG Exco member) were taken on the patient journey from screening till the cleft lip operation. They also reminded us of this incredible and vital longstanding relationship we share with Operation Smile and the life-changing surgeries we can contribute towards.

Conclusion

In an effort to strengthen our relationships with employees, we had an engagement with the National Department of Health on the 15th February 2025, where among other things we discussed:

- Strategies to leverage on the proposed specialization for pharmacists in policies, MDT, training and education, research and practice
- Challenges in pharmaceutical HR and noted existing quality disharmony, inter- and intra-provincial inequalities and the impact of remunerative works outside public service on quality of care

- Impact of the United States President's executive order on the South African Medicine Supply Chain.

Together, we can make SAAHIP stand out. More so to make hospital pharmacists shine. There is still more work to be done in getting hospital pharmacists to both do and be recognized for the work and value they add to healthcare. It is for this reason that we have taken it upon ourselves to drive the Basel Statement in South Africa as a tool that hospital pharmacists can use to engage with administrators to build a conducive environment for pharmacists.

We had four pillars that drove this work, namely:

- Shared vision: To realize a better future, all pharmacists must see the profession as one and put resources, efforts, and commitment toward a common goal.
- Collaboration and partnership: We believe that a three-strand rope is not easily broken.
- Commitment: Now more than ever, we need to jointly commit to excellence, continuous learning, renewal, innovation, and documenting and publishing the work that ordinary pharmacists do in their hospitals.
- Embracing innovation: The sector, like any other, is faced with the positive challenge of searching, developing, accepting, and adapting to innovative ways of delivering pharmacy with speed, precision, and quality. We are to embrace automation and robotics, artificial intelligence, and machine learning and develop technologies for flawless data analytics and clinical decision support systems.

I want to thank the National Executive Committee under the leadership of Dr Seshnee Moodley for the continued support and confidence. The profession trusted me to lead the sector in the last two and half years, and for that, I will forever be indebted to serving our pharmacists, both locally and across the world. That leadership now rests with Dr Seshnee who already casted a powerful stirring vision rooted on the Seven Star pharmacists that covers these elements: leader, teacher, lifelong learner, caregiver, decision maker, communicator and manager. These have evolved to 10 Star pharmacist which adds Entrepreneur, Researcher and Team Player. The last two is critical for our first pillar on Collaboration and for the statements we are developing.

It is important to always remind ourselves what the responsibilities/roles of 10-star pharmacist. Thus, the vision was derived from a combination of the above: To deliver effective patient centric care and medicine related information, whilst being a valued member of the multi-disciplinary team by ensuring our role as medicine expert is front and foremost!

As SAAHIP we need to support our hospital pharmacists to deliver the best patient centric care by equipping them to become effective members of MDTs by providing quality projects/webinars/events that facilitate knowledge sharing. We need to be considerate of the current practice environment; changing or evolving pharmacy landscape and the needs of the hospital pharmacist must be noted.

To implement the above vision, we need to start with a more focused collaboration, looking at quality output instead of quantity. It is important to note that as the landscapes of pharmacy

and practice evolve and change, pharmacists are required to keep reviewing, re-assessing and ensuring that new themes are included in current and future plans.

Nhlanhla G Mafarafara

Immediate Past President

South African Association of Pharmacists in Industry

I hereby submit this annual sector report on behalf of the South African Association of Pharmacists in Industry (SAAPI) to the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa (PSSA) for the period 14 May 2024 to 23 July 2025.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As the 2024/2025 season draws to an end, and we embark on 2025/2026 season, I am pleased to report that SAAPI has continued its support of our members.

This past year has been marked by both significant milestones and complex challenges in the pharmaceutical industry, all of which we have navigated together with purpose, resilience, integrity, and a shared vision for the future of the pharmaceutical excellence in South Africa. One of the most memorable highlights was the tremendous honor of our participation at the FIP World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, held in Cape Town in September 2024. Welcoming global colleagues to our country and participating in discussions that shape the future of our profession was not only a privilege but also a powerful reminder of South Africa's contributions to the international pharmaceutical community.

The insights gained and networks established during the event will continue to bear fruit for years to come.

A significant contributor to our progress has been our strong collaboration with key professional partners, including the South African Health Product Regulatory Agency (SAHPRA), the South African Pharmacy Council (SAPC) and the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa (PSSA). Our joint efforts have fostered development, ethical practice, and the advancement of pharmacy as a critical pillar of healthcare in South Africa.

The local regulatory landscape presented some persistent and emerging challenges and remains a focal point. Our ongoing engagement with SAHPRA required perseverance, advocacy, and constructive collaboration. While regulatory hurdles remain, I am proud of how SAAPI represented the interest of our members, advocating for improved regulatory timelines and greater transparency. These efforts are ongoing, and we remain committed to strengthening our valued collaboration with SAHPRA.

Below some more details on SAAPI's activities.

GOVERNANCE AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. AGM

SAAPI's 29th Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on the 25th of June 2025 where the SAAPI's new Executive Committee was announced.

The first Executive Committee meeting of the new committee took place immediately after the AGM with the sole purpose to elect the office bearers for the 2025/2026 term.

Ingrid Duvenhage will continue in her role as the SAAPI President, serving her second consecutive term as SAAPI's president in 2024/2025 and 2025/2026.

2. Executive Committee 2025/2026

SAAPI's current Executive Committee is presented in the table below.

Ingrid Duvenhage (President)

Thavashini Pather (Vice President)

Yuthika Prahladh (Treasurer)

Leanne Blumenthal

Byron Chukwu

Minoka Maharaj

James Meakings

Marlene Moonsamy

Kumeshnie Padayachee

Gina Partridge

Hilton Stevens

Lynette Terblanche

Ms. Tammy Gopal resigned her position on the EXCO 2024/2025.

3. SAAPI Executive Assistant

SAAPI recruited a new Executive Assistant following the retirement of Ms Alison Blackhurst. Ms Hannelie Cordier was duly appointed and commenced her duties in October 2024.

4. SAAPI Executive Committee Meetings

SAAPI's regular Executive Committee meetings have continued to take place as scheduled, via the Microsoft Teams platform with a couple of meetings held in person.

The next scheduled Executive Committee meeting is on the 23rd of July 2025.

SUBCOMMITTEE ACTIVITY

SAAPI have consolidated some of the working sub-committees and the following subcommittees are currently in place: CPD & Symposium; Communication & Digital; Conference; Marketing; Legislation & Technical; Constitutional review; Operations & Governance. All subcommittee chairs are requested to establish 2 to 3 objectives for the 2025/2026 period that can be carried forward into the 2026/2027 period.

1. CPD & Symposium Subcommittee

The CPD & Symposium Subcommittee delivered robust and insightful workshops throughout the year for our members to participate in. A broad range of topics were covered, and our Executive Director has introduced exciting new topics.

2. Communication & Digital Subcommittee

The Communication & Digital Subcommittee expanded SAAPI's digital footprint on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn to ensure that SAAPI reaches all our members with impactful and up to date information. SAAPI continues to deliver up to date information on all legislative changes pertaining to industry.

3. Conference 2025

SAAPI hosted successful conference on 4 – 6 June at the CSIR in Pretoria: Health Innovation – Stepping Boldly into the Future with local and international speakers. SAAPI focused on empowering pharmacists and allied health professionals to explore and embrace new technologies utilising Artificial Intelligence for the future in healthcare within a rapidly changing environment, ensuring continued access to safe, effective, and quality health products to all patients. We had the opportunity to hear from the PSSA President, SAHPRA CEO, CRO & COO, and the SAPC Registrar.

4. Legislation & Technical Subcommittee

The Legislation and Technical Subcommittee remains very active and provides comments to the published draft guidelines and legislation coming from various statutory bodies such as the South African Pharmacy Council (SAPC), the South African Health Product Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) and National Department of Health (NDOH). SAAPI commentary shapes the local regulatory, quality and professional landscape in South Africa and amplify the voice of industry.

5. Operations & Governance Subcommittee

SAAPI's Finance & Governance Subcommittee continues to support the office, monitoring the monthly finances of association versus the budget that was established for the current financial year.

A project has been initiated to review and update our existing policies and procedures and to introduce new procedures.

PARTICIPATION AT PSSA

- Four SAAPI Councillors will participate in the 80th Annual General Meeting of the General Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa.
- SAAPI continues to engage actively with the PSSA Southern Gauteng, the Pretoria Branch and YPG.
- **SAPHEX:** Several SAAPI members participated and assisted the PSSA at the SAHPEX Conference.
- **FIP 2025:** SAAPI will sponsor Ingrid Duvenhage to attend the 2025 FIP Conference in Copenhagen.

- **Recognition:** SAAPI would like to recognise the continuous support we have and continue to receive from the PSSA Southern Gauteng Branch and the PSSA National Office.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I want to thank the SAAPI Exco of 2024/2025 for their exceptional leadership and ensured a strong foundation for the newly elected 2025/2026 Executive Team.

In conclusion none of the progress we have made this year would have been possible without extraordinary dedication from the executive committee and the working group members. Each member of our team has contributed with passion and professionalism, whether in policy discussions, member engagement, event planning or training initiatives. Your commitment to SAAPI's mission has been both humbling and inspiring.

I want to thank the SAAPI Exco of 2024/2025 for their exceptional leadership and ensured a strong foundation for the newly elected 2025/2026 Executive Team and wish them all the best.

A special note of thanks must go to the SAAPI Secretariat, under the leadership of Executive Director, Yolanda Peens, and supported by the newly appointed Hannelie Cordier, who succeeded Alison Blackhurst. Your professionalism, efficiency, and deep commitment to SAAPI's vision have played an instrumental role in keeping our operations running smoothly and effectively.

Lastly, we thank all our members for your continued support and active participation.

As we look forward, our focus remains clear: to advance the role of pharmacists in industry, foster innovation and uphold the highest standards of pharmaceutical care and governance to the patients that we serve.

I am deeply honoured to have served as President and remain confident that SAAPI will continue to grow in impact and influence over the years.

Ingrid Duvenhage

President

Branch Reports

Border and Eastern Districts

BRANCH AGM

After the AGM on 28 May 2025, the BED Branch elected a new executive committee.

Chairperson – Qaqamba Mtshabe

Vice Chair – Ntombizodwa Luwaca

Treasurer – Khanya Dekeda

Secretary – Unami Sibanda

SAAHIP Rep – Bashira Adam

SAACP Rep – Charl Johan de Waal

SAAPI Rep – No candidate
 Academy Rep – Gregory Purcell
 YPG Rep – Grace Kachoko
 Ex Officio – Taki Kyriacos

All candidates were dully vetted on PSSA and SAPC registers as paid-up ordinary members of BED.

MEETINGS

Our meetings are held virtually as the members are spread far and wide within the branch, ranging from Makanda to Mthatha.

The branch held several successful meetings over the year.

- Exco meeting 23 June 2024
- Exco meeting 02 July 2024
- Exco meeting 11 September 2024
- Exco meeting 05 November 2024
- Exco meeting 11 February 2025
- Exco meeting 01 April 2025
- Annual General Meeting 28 May 2025
- Exco meeting 19 June 2025

CPDS, EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

The branch is very fortunate to have been a beneficiary of the PSSA Small Branches Project Fund which has enabled us to host our CPDs.

Members were encouraged to participate in the webinars as circulated via the PSSA head office hosted by different sectors and branches.

The branch held the following CPDs, attendance was hybrid, physical at East London Golf Club and at Zoom:

- Vaccine Hesitancy: Post Pandemic Evidence presented by Prof Ilse Truter on the 28th of August 2024.
- The Mysterious World of the Paediatric Skin: Lets go back to basics presented by Dr Jason Thoresen and generously sponsored by Glenmark.
- And finally, a CPD on Lactation: What all pharmacists should know! presented by Isabel Schutte-Goldacre, a registered Dietician and Lactation Consultant. The event was held on the 28th of May 2025.

The branch has held our very first **Annual Research Day!** A virtual event on the 7th of December 2024. It took a lot of collaboration between the branch, championed by Kristi Beckermann, advice and guidance from PSSA head office, Dr Mariet Eksteen, our Academy rep Monique Purcell.

Dr Eksteen delivered a presentation from PSSA, followed by a presentation on Drug Utilization Reviews by Prof Ilse Truter.

Five presentations were delivered by the participants, being adjudicated by a panel of experts in the pharmaceutical diaspora.

The topics were mainly from their master's research, very interesting and different from each other; I will include them for a complete picture herein below:

- “Facilitators and barriers to medication access using CCMDD programme in KSD health facilities” presented by Sisanda Mlondleni a regional pharmacist working in the NGO sector.
- “Ceftriaxone medicine use evaluation: a retrospective cross sectional case study in Butterworth hospital” presented by Gift Lungu, a pharmacist in retail/corporate sector.
- “Attitudes and practices of female students in the management of primary dysmenorrhea” presented by Hlengiwe Moyo, a Rhodes University Masters student.
- “In-vitro investigation of the potential of *bidens pilosa* extracts for anti-alzheimer activity” presented by Leseli Chipomho, a Rhodes University Masters student.
- “Formulation development, optimization and in-vitro characterization of metronidazole cubosomal gel” presented by Handsome Ndlovu, a Rhodes University Masters student.

Adjudicators were Prof Sandile Khamanga from Rhodes University, Dr Mariet Eksteen from PSSA head office and Prof Ilse Truter from Nelson Mandela University.

With generous sponsorship of the PSSA Small Branches Project Funds trophies were procured for winners and Standard Bank sponsored with hampers for the participants and a few of the attendees got some gifts.

MEMBERSHIP AND MARKETING

Emails are the main communication method to members as well as social media. The branch had created a WhatsApp group for communication with members. It is used to promote and market branch events and activities. Also invites from other sectors are shared with members. The number of members in WhatsApp has grown to 125.

The branch has an active Facebook page which was revived by Dr Seshnee Moodley and is being managed and updated by our YPG rep.

COMMUNICATION AND LIAISON

The branch is very fortunate in that it has several members forming part of the NEC in various capacities across the sectors. Officially it had elected Lwanda Mkhathshane as a branch representative who was later replaced by Qaqamba Mtshabe due to inability to attend meetings because of conflicting commitments.

SAACP

The representative elected was Lwanda Mkhathshana at branch level and represented by the National Honorary Secretary Taki Kyriacos.

Branch representative for SAACP, Lwanda Mkhathshane has promoted the involvement of independent pharmacies, promoting pharmacy on national radio, Radio 2000. He has brought for the discussion the lobbying for reduction of running costs for the independent pharmacies through discounted speed point rates, fees for equipment and reference books especially for compliance with SAPC requirements.

SAAHIP

There is a very strong collaboration with SAAHIP EC within the branch, the representative being Bashira Adams.

A proud moment for the branch was the election of Dr Seshnee Moodley as SAAHIP President in April 2025.

In May 2025 SAAHIP hosted a successful Pilates session to raise funds for Operation Smile.

In June they ran the Livingstone Hospital Care Project, a fundraising and hamper drive for disadvantaged patients. The hampers included fruit, tinned goods, and toothpaste. An initiative which was well received.

SAAHIP EC chose our region to host a CPD on Hemophilia “Changes in the Hemophilia Landscape” on the 3rd of July 2025 held at the East London Golf Club.

Finally, they have an upcoming Pharmacist Intern tutorial on the 8th of July in preparation for the upcoming intern exams.

SAAPI

The branch has not yet succeeded in securing a representative of SAAPI. The executive is still in the process of finding a suitable candidate.

ACADEMY OF PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

There has been a very fruitful collaboration between the branch and Rhodes University, championed by our representative Monique Purcell. We held our first annual research day with one of the adjudicators from the academic sector Rhodes and Nelson Mandela Universities.

The 2025 representative is Gregory Purcell. There’s a lot planned to include a CPD and assistance with participants for 2025 Research Day.

YPG

The branch representative was Siyabulela Samente who has been very instrumental in developing our branch Podcasts. He has recently relocated to the Western Cape. He has been replaced by Grace Kachoko as YPG representative and by Gregory Purcell as lead for Podcasts production.

The PSSA YPG Steering Committee had embarked on different productive projects which included 13 newsletters, 6 publications in SAPJ, expanded their social media reach, hosted several webinars which were mentorship-focused and career development series.

The YPG launched a 10-year anniversary booklet which celebrated their decade of YPG’s activities.

YPG has a Professional Innovation Project which will accept nominations for qualifying individuals up until the 14th of July 2025.

The BED branch fully supports the YPG Mentorship program which was recently launched for the intake of 2025 mentees.

The next upcoming activity for YPG is the annual business meeting to be held on 16th of July, which will focus on electing a new steering committee.

CONCLUSION

The branch is looking forward to more collaborations with all sectors, as well as to our second annual research day which we hope will be face-to-face. The proposal as presented to the NEC for broadening the research day will also have a big impact on progressing forward.

There are CPDs lined up for each term focusing on the sectors and individual groups within the branch.

Qaqamba Mtshabe

Branch chairperson

Cape Midlands Branch

BRANCH AGM

Our branch AGM was held on 15 October 2024. The following members were elected:

Chairman:	Ms Alice Lategan
Vice-chair:	Prof Ilse Truter
Treasurer:	Vacant
SAACP:	Mr Johan Swart
SAAPI:	Ms Marié de Beer
APSSA:	Dr. Teri-Lynne Fogarty Ms Nicole Worthington Ms Celeste Naudé
SAAHIP:	Mr Bhavrith Jaganath
YPG:	Mr Alex West
PEPSA:	Ms Gamuchirai Nyereygona
Past chair:	Cheryl Stanton

Ms. Moorcroft retired at the end of December 2024. On behalf of the entire pharmacy community in the Eastern Cape, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for her commitment and dedicated service to the Cape Midlands Branch. Her retirement marks the end of an era, and her invaluable contributions will be remembered with deep appreciation.

We also formally bid farewell to two longstanding committee members, Mr. Clive Stanton and Mr. Ron Hill, who served on the CMB committee for many years. Their dedication and experience have left a lasting impact on the branch.

We are pleased to announce that Ms. Rosalind Esselaar was appointed as the Cape Midlands Branch Manager and officially commenced her duties on 2 January 2025.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Since our branch AGM, committee meetings were held on the following dates:

- 2 July 2024
- 13 August 2024
- 3 December 2024
- 4 February 2025
- 4 March 2025

- 1 April 2025
- 6 May 2025
- 3 June 2025
- 1 July 2025

During the year, we welcomed new committee members: Ms Mandisa Ngcakani (Community Pharmacy), Ms Naeema Moosa (Industry) and Siphosezwe Mabila (PEPSA Chairman).

EDUCATION

Continued Professional Development:

- 16 July 2024 – “Food for thought”– Diet and Medicines.” presented by Ms. Doina Naudé from Nelson Mandela University. Dietary modifications in response to pharmacological treatment were explored. The presentation is available on YouTube.
- 19 November 2024 – “Veterinary Pharmacy 101”. Dr. Gabby Howse’s presentation focused on common scripts in Veterinary Medicine. The title of Dr. Tarryn Fick’s presentation was “Rabies: Myth, Monster or Manageable”. Prof. Ilse Truter explained why a SLP (Short Learning Programme) in Veterinary Pharmacy is necessary.
This event was livestreamed and is available on the PSSA website under practice webinars.
- 27 August 2024 – “Advanced wound care in the pharmacy” presented by Ms. Janet Barry from NMU and Ms. Amanda Shaw from 3M. The emphasis was on the various types of chronic wounds seen in community pharmacy.
- 25 February 2025 – “An approach to dementia” sponsored by Macleods Pharmaceuticals. The speaker was Dr. Marcel Britz, a Neurologist from Gqeberha.
- A product training session sponsored by Novo Nordisk, was held on the 8th of April. The presenter was Megan Govender. Topic: “A 103-year diabetes journey.”
- 13 May 2025 – “Pitfalls in asthma management” sponsored by Cipla. The speaker was Dr. Corli Lodder from George.

Pharmacist Assistant Symposium:

Our second Pharmacist Assistant Symposium was held on 28 September 2024 at Bishop’s Lodge in Gqeberha. The guest speaker, Dr. Teri-Lynne Fogarty from NMU, delivered an insightful presentation on “Being a Professional.” Other topics included:

- “Conflict resolution in the workplace” by Mr. Kempie van Rooyen, Clinical Psychologist (VR Clinical Psychology)
- “What does it mean to be healthy” by Ms. Renique van der Vyfer, Dietician (RV Dietetics)
- “How to become debt free” by Ms. Riana Ferreira (Collect-A-Debt)
- “HIV management over three decades” by Dr. Susan Preller (Livingstone Hospital)

The event was livestreamed and is available on YouTube.

FIP Congress:

CMB sponsored three committee members and two NMU students to attend the FIP Congress in Cape Town from 1–4 September 2024.

SAPSF Conference:

Ms. Lategan was invited to speak at the 69th SAPSF Conference in Gqeberha from 31 January – 3 February 2025. Our branch also contributed towards conference expenses.

COMMUNICATION, LIAISON AND MARKETING

The Branch Office maintains regular contact with our members via email. Our Branch Manager assists members with practice information, notification of fraudulent prescriptions and the advertising of locum and permanent positions. Events and interesting news are shared through our PSSA Cape Midlands Facebook and Instagram pages.

SECTORS**SAAHIP**

The 44th AGM of the branch was held virtually on the 2nd of December 2024. The following members were elected:

Chairperson:	Ms. Robyn Wates
Vice chair:	Ms. Sive Tutu
Secretary:	Mr. Bhavrith Jaganath
Treasurer:	Ms. Adaire Begley
Additional Members:	Ms. Simone Thomson, Dr. Bashira Adam, Mr. Phiwokuhle Maxambele
Co-opted:	Ms. Alice Lategan, Ms. Ntombizodwa Luwaca
Past chair:	Dr. Seshnee Moodley

Branch meetings were held virtually on:

- 10 July 2024
- Email meeting from 18–28 September 2024
- 4 February 2025
- 4 June 2025

The 68th AGM and 37th Annual SAAHIP Conference was held at Champagne Sports Resort in the Drakensberg from 10–12 April 2025. Fourteen councillors from our branch attended. Two of the councillors presented.

Dr. Seshnee Moodley, a previous chairperson of SAAHIP Eastern Cape, was elected as SAAHIP President.

Activities:

- Frere Hospital held an Intern Research Day on 22 November 2024.
- The annual Intern Quiz Night was held on the 18th of March 2025 via Instagram.
- To raise funds for Operation Smile, a “Cardio Carnival” was held on Saturday, 24 May 2025 with 35 participants.
- A CPD was held on the 8th of April in East London. It was sponsored by Baxter and the topic was “Nutrition in the critically ill patient”.
- The branch will be hosting a calculations workshop for interns on the 10th of July in preparation for their intern exam.

- In June, the branch committee joined forces with Donna van der Watt in Gqeberha to support her with the Livingstone Hospital Care Project. Many patients stay in hospital for long periods of time with no family or friends to visit. The aim is to restore compassion, care, dignity and hope in someone's life. Care packs have been handed out to these patients.
- A CPD titled "Changes in the Haemophilia Landscape" sponsored by Roche, was held on 3 July in East London.

We are aware of the challenges and frustrations of our members in the public sector. HR matters for e.g. inconsistency with regards to organograms, frozen posts and the recent stockouts of medicine, to name a few. PSSA has formed a Human Resources for Health task team which aims to address critical issues and develop strategic initiatives to enhance the pharmaceutical workforce. There is light in the tunnel.

ACADEMY

The annual NMU BPharm4 Research Symposium was held on the 28th of October 2024.

The annual Oath and Awards Ceremony was held on the 15th of April 2025. Our Branch Manager, Ms. Rosalind Esselaar, had the honour of addressing the graduates and presenting the prize to the top First Year student.

Dr. Teri-Lynne Fogarty has been appointed Acting HOD of the Pharmacy Department.

Dr. Teri-Lynne Fogarty delivered a presentation at SAPHEX 2025. The title of her presentation was "Technology running the show in pharmacy education".

FIP presentations: several of our university lecturers from NMU and Rhodes presented posters at the 82nd FIP World Congress. We are extremely proud of their achievements.

PEPSA – We have started with a new initiative this year.

PEPSA students joined our committee in one of the Gqeberha parkruns, donning bright orange T-shirts with the slogan, "Ask your pharmacist, we go the extra mile." This initiative aims to promote awareness of the pharmacy profession while encouraging a healthy lifestyle. We look forward to welcoming more pharmacists to join us on Saturday mornings.

SAAPI

Ms. Marie de Beer continues to update us on guidelines, workshops and webinars hosted by SAAPI. The SAAPI Conference was held in Pretoria from 4–6 June 2025.

SAACP

Mr. Johan Swart is our new representative at SAACP Exco meetings and keeps us updated with developments in this sector. He attended meetings on 9 February and 18 May 2025.

YPG

Ms. Naeema Moosa was asked to join our committee to represent the branch at PSSA YPG.

Activities of YPG that were mentioned in our meetings:

- R15 000 up for grabs for the best innovative idea. The winner will be announced on the 9th of August.
- PSSA YPG will be hosting its Annual Business Meeting on 16 July 2025. A new Steering Committee will be elected.

- A series of webinars were hosted: “Beyond the white coat”, “Connect and Elevate”

GENERAL

Fellow:

We would like to congratulate Prof. Susan Burton on her nomination as a Fellow of the PSSA.

PSSA National:

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the National Office for their invaluable guidance. We appreciate your hard work behind the scenes. Thank you for commenting on Board Notices on our behalf. The PSSA Strategic Plan 2025–2030 is commendable. The Human Resources for Health task team is a great initiative, and I am privileged to be part of it.

In conclusion: all sectors of pharmacy are well represented on our branch committee.

Henry Ford said: “Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.” – that is our goal.

Alice Lategan

Chairman

Cape Western Province

In this report we highlight some of the activities of the Branch.

Education & Research

The Branch contributed R10,000 each to both the Undergraduate and Postgraduate Bursaries for 2025.

Continued engagement with the University of the Western Cape (UWC) School of Pharmacy (SoP) included:

- CPPSA Student Loan Fund
- FIP membership sponsorship
- Academic prizes and awards

Award Recipients – 2024:

- *Best Overall 4th Year*: Lubanzi Khuzwayo (academic merit, leadership, and community service)
- *Pharmacology & Clinical Pharmacy*: Emma Barry
- *Pharmaceutics*: Sbongakonke Ntuli
- *Pharmaceutical Chemistry*: Lauren Theron
- *Pharmacy Practice*: Aviwe Pomdo

The recipients of these awards received both certificates of recognition and a monetary award.

A joint meeting between the Branch Director, Branch Chairman, National Director and SoP staff took place on 30 June 2025, discussing staffing norms, remuneration, current challenges, and areas needing PSSA support.

CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Members were encouraged to attend national webinars and local CPD events:

The following CPD's were held:

- **26 February 2025**

Topic: Psoriatic Disease and Management

In collaboration with: The South African Psoriasis Association

Presenter: Dr Willie Visser

Reach: 136 pharmacists from across the country

- **6 March 2025**

Event: SAPHEX Conference

Topic: Patient-Centered Care and Shared Decision Making – A Multidisciplinary Approach

Branch Contributors: Ms K. Chetty, Mr J. Kariem, Mr B. Sin Hidge, Mr PJ le Roux

- **18 March 2025**

Topic: It Takes Time to Fix Asthma

In collaboration with: AstraZeneca

Location: George (Garden Route District)

- **Presenter: Dr Corli Lodder**

Audience: Doctors and pharmacists

- **23 April 2025**

Event: SAAHIP CPD

Topic: Medication Use in Pregnancy and Breastfeeding

Format: Hybrid (in-person and virtual)

Presenter: Prof Eline Tommelein

Feedback: Well-attended and positively received

The office shared via the newsletter links to the first 3 sessions of the pre-recorded Labour Law Series by Mr Gerald Jacobs, which focused on the different types of leave and a pre-recorded webinar on Healthcare Workers' Mental Health.

COMMUNICATION AND LIAISON

Relaunched the *Tincture Press* in February 2024

Regular communication through email, newsletters, and PSSA website

Liaison roles:

- Director attends all National Executive (Exco) meetings
- Prof Nadine Butler chaired MedicAlert Board until Nov 2024
- New appointment: Ms Chetty to MedicAlert Board (Nov 2025)
- Civil Society Engagement: Mr J Kariem (Western Cape), Mr J Hattingh (Garden Route)

MEMBERSHIP AND MARKETING

CWP remains the largest Branch nationally (2012 members).

Membership is encouraged on occasions such as the SAAHIP/WCGHW orientation workshops for Interns and CSPs. Non-members seeking advice and services from the Director are also asked to join as members.

Ms N Keuler addressed the DoH Interns and CSP's during their respective orientation days. The benefits of PSSA membership and the purpose of YPG were explained.

MENTORSHIP & YPG

Strong support for the national YPG mentorship programme

Ms Chetty to present a workshop on *Management, Leadership & Mentorship*

YPG liaisons: Courtney Assumption and Lisa-Johnnie Menyane

Regular YPG content shared via social media and newsletters

Planned leadership engagement with liaisons

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE SUPPORT

Ongoing consultancy: Mr Gary Black supports professional queries

The Director, Ms Chetty, addressed numerous professional and legal queries (both members and non-members), including:

The queries handled by the Director; Ms Chetty includes:

- Opening of new corporate pharmacy in close proximity to existing community pharmacy
- Corporate bullying
- Abusive patients
- Postage of SAPJ to members
- Locum pharmacists' rights and responsibilities
- Cancelling of locum shifts with short notice
- Grace period to register a new RP
- Pharmacist salary scales in Community sector
- Pharmacist assistant dispensing error
- Keeping Schedule registers
- CPD submissions
- May a hotel keep an EpiPen®.
- SAPC Complaint
- Complaint against a non-pharmacy selling medication
- E-Prescribing
- SAPC complaint – dispensing of incorrect medication
- Import of foreign medication – SAHPRA Rules
- Assistance with change of designation with SAPC
- Membership and indemnity enquiries
- Handling of Hazardous chemical agents
- Request for sponsorship – oncology mixing course
- Pharmacist's Assistant course
- Indemnity insurance
- Schedule 6 script validity
- 6-month medication club – legality of processes
- Scope of practice of Pharmacist-Assistant under indirect supervision
- Law relating to emergency supply of medication
- Validity of watermark on prescriptions
- Use of a doctor's credential stamp to sign a prescription

- Section 21 – multiple patient application to SAHPRA
- Request for patient education
- Request for clinical information regarding TB management

A few cases (labour law matters) have been handed over to our labour lawyer, Gerald Jacobs.

GENERAL HIGHLIGHTS

CWP Branch to posthumously honour W (Bill) Bannatyne and H M (Gus) Ferguson by naming the boardroom and office suite.

The Froembling Lecture returns, to be delivered by Dr Nathan Finkelstein.

Prof Renier Coetzee was appointed to WHO's ECSPP working group via FIP nomination.

Historical Museum Project: Planning has commenced for this archival and educational initiative.

Mr Brent Sin Hidge received an award from the Nelson Mandela University as an outstanding Alumni for his work in advancing the pharmacy profession.

GOVERNANCE AND REPRESENTATION

NEC Project Representation:

- K Chetty, R Coetzee, J Kariem, and J Hattingh serve on the Human Resources for Health working group
- R Coetzee developed draft documents and a presentation for HRH Stakeholder engagement

CWP Branch AGM held jointly with SAACP WC on 11 February 2025 and the elected committee member for 2025/2026 are as follow:

PSSA CWP Committee

- Chair: Prof R Coetzee
- Vice-Chair: Ms R Boshoff
- Treasurer: Mr K Johnson
- Members: Prof N Butler, Ms C De Beer, Ms N Keuler, Ms N Harrison
- Immediate Past Chair: Mr J Kariem
- National Exec Members: Prof R Coetzee, Mr B Sin Hidge, Mr J Kariem
- Sector & Regional Reps:
 - ✓ Southern Cape/Karoo: Mr J Hattingh
 - ✓ Academy: Prof M Viljoen
 - ✓ SAAPI: Ms Aadila Patel
 - ✓ SAAHIP: Mr B Sin-Hidge

SAACP WC Committee

- Chair: Mr PJ le Roux
- Vice-Chair: Mr J Kariem
- Treasurer: Mr K Johnson
- NEC Members: Mr J Kariem, Mr PJ le Roux, Ms R Chiloane

SECTOR REPORTS

SAAHIP Western Cape

AGM: 5 Nov 2024, Chair: Mr Brent Sin Hidge, Vice–Chair: Mr Alex Wehmeyer (succeeded by Mr Wade Rosant in Apr 2025)

68th SAAHIP National AGM held on 10–12 April 2025

- Attended by 23 councillors from the Branch
- Academic presentations by Jodiane Benade, Hazel Bradley, Renier Coetzee, Nolene Fouché, Elize Human, Neo Lebesa, Lutendo Maguba, Duran Thomas
- Prof R Coetzee won the SAAHIP Best Academic Award for his presentation entitled “Integrating Planetary Health in Pharmacy: Addressing Antimicrobial Disposal Practices and Educational Gaps to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance”
- Ms K Chetty assisted Ms A Hornsveld office with the elections of office bearers.

The Branch continues support for Leliebloem Child & Youth Care Centre and raised R6300 for Operation Smile under the leadership of Ms Bhavna Harribhai

SAAPI Western Cape

Ms Aadila Patel represents SAAPI on the Branch Committee. National Director Ms Yolanda Peens committed to sharing SAAPI sector updates

SAACP Western Cape

Contributions were made by both Mr Le Roux and Mr Kariem on the Constitutional subcommittee of SAACP.

Mr Kariem contributed to PCDT Special Interest Group

Presentations at TPS/SAPHEX Symposium (March 2025) by Kariem, Le Roux, and Johnson

Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Rep: Prof M Viljoen

Upcoming: APSSA Conference – 31 August to 2 September 2025, Lagoon Beach Hotel, Milnerton

CONCLUSION

The CWP Branch remains a highly active and collaborative unit, with all sectors represented and contributing to the Society’s objectives. The office continues to be a responsive and professional support hub for members and the broader pharmacy community.

Renier Coetzee

Chairman

Free State

INTRODUCTION

The Free State Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa remains steadfast in its mission to support professional development, member engagement, and community health initiatives. This report outlines key activities, and achievements from August 2024 to July 2025.

CPD AND EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

The branch successfully hosted several Continuing Professional Development (CPD) events during the reporting period. All events were well attended and received positive feedback:

- 15 August 2024 – Bloemfontein (New York Restaurant)
Topic: Optimizing Patient Outcomes with Intravenous Iron Therapy
Outcome: Provided valuable insights into intravenous iron use in patient care.
- 20 November 2024 – Bloemfontein (New York Restaurant)
Topic: Obesity – The Disease of the 21st Century
Note: This CPD session also served as the year end function. It was well attended and served as an enjoyable conclusion to the year's activities.
- 20 February 2025 – Bethlehem
Topic: Hypertension Management: Latest Guidelines and Best Practices
Sponsor: Servier Laboratories
- 22 February 2025 – Bloemfontein (Monte Bello Estate)
Topic: Gastrointestinal Health
In collaboration with: SASOCP
- 11 March 2025 – Welkom
Topic: Hypertension
Participants: 30 attendees
Sponsor: Servier Laboratories
- 18 March 2025 – Bloemfontein (New York Restaurant)
Topic: Resistant Hypertension: Strategies for Better Outcomes
Participants: 150 pharmacist's and pharmacist's assistants. This session attracted a large audience and fostered robust discussions on improving hypertension care.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND AWARENESS INITIATIVES

To commemorate World Pharmacist Day and Pharmacy Month 2024, the branch implemented several impactful outreach efforts:

- Distributed 600 sponsored syringes filled with condensed milk, along with vaccination awareness materials, to maternity and outpatient wards across Mangaung.
- Partnered with Bloemnuus, a local newspaper, to raise public awareness about the importance of vaccinations.

GOVERNANCE AND STRUCTURAL DISCUSSIONS

A successful Annual General Meeting was held on 25 October 2024, during which elections were conducted for the new executive committee.

CONCLUSION

The Free State Branch continues to grow in relevance and impact through the delivery of high-quality CPD programs, meaningful community outreach, and responsible governance. Strong attendance and member engagement reflect the branch's ongoing value to the pharmacy profession.

We extend our sincere gratitude to all members and sponsors for their continued support, and to the branch committee for going the extra mile to ensure a successful and productive year.

Martlie Mocke–Richter
Chairperson

KZN Coastal

BRANCH MEETINGS

The Branch holds regular committee meetings at which robust debates on the issues facing the Branch and the profession take place. Since the last PSSA AGM, committee meetings were held on:

8 May 2024
 19 June 2024
 10 July 2024
 28 August 2024
 18 September 2024
 23 October 2024
 27 November 2024
 22 January 2025
 26 March 2025

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

In September 2024, the Branch has facilitated bursaries to needy pharmacy students UKZN students to the value of R250 000.

In March and April 2025 bursaries to needy pharmacy students at UKZN to the value of R450 000.00 were facilitated.

In addition, the Branch facilitated leadership awards to two UKZN students to the value of R100 000.

PSSA KZN CB sponsored R5 000.00 in total towards the FIP24 transport costs for two UKZN pharmacy students.

The Branch Director, the Chairperson, and members of the committee attended the FIP24 Conference that was held in Cape Town.

The Branch Director was invited to be the Chief Adjudicator of the Community–Based Research Projects at the 2024 UKZN Annual Pharmacy Research Day.

The Branch identified monthly themes from the DOH Health Calendar. Subject matter experts were identified to present podcasts and webinars, develop posters, and write articles according to the identified themes. The following were uploaded on our website:

- May 2024
 - ✓ Posters on Burns and Hand Hygiene
 - ✓ An article on Hand Hygiene and Antimicrobial Stewardship
- August 2024:
 - ✓ A poster and a PowerPoint on Breastfeeding
 - ✓ Articles on:

- The Science of African Traditional Medicine
- Research in African Traditional Medicine
- Collaboration with African Traditional Medicine
- September 2024:
 - ✓ Pharmacy Month posters and pamphlets in both English and IsiZulu
 - ✓ A podcast on Vaccines
 - ✓ A poster on Malaria
 - ✓ An article on How to Care for your Kidneys
 - ✓ An article and a poster on Rabies
- October 2024:
 - ✓ An article on Arthritic Conditions
 - ✓ A poster and an infographic on HPV

In March 2025, the Branch Director and ten committee members attended SAPHEX 25. Five of the committee members presented perspectives on collaborations in the different sectors. The Branch Director was the session chair for these presentations.

COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS

The branch communicates with its members via its webpage (kznpsa.co.za), email, and WhatsApp announcements.

YOUNG PHARMACISTS

One of our 2024/25 committee members, Clarissa Naidoo (SAACP) also belong to the YPG group. It is expected that the interaction and engagement with young pharmacists will result in projects and activities that will grow the profession.

MEMBER SUPPORT AND RECOGNITION

In February 2025, the branch hosted a walk at Giba Gorge. Each member was asked to bring a non-member to aid member recruitment. An enthusiastic group set out to explore the wonders of nature, to network, forge bonds of friendship, and experience professional camaraderie. Approximately 50% of the pharmacists who attended were non-members, providing an opportunity to encourage membership.

In April 2025, at a well-attended banquet, the Branch presented awards to Distinguished Pharmacists in the different sectors, giving each recipient a cash award of R20 000.00, a trophy, and a certificate. At the same banquet, student leadership was recognized, by presenting each of the selected two student leaders a cash prize of R50 000.00, a trophy, and a certificate.

- 2025 KwaZulu-Natal Young Pharmacy Leader (2024 Fourth year): Mr Mzamo Gumede
- 2025 KwaZulu-Natal Young Pharmacy Leader (2024 Third year): Ms Jadene Naidoo
- 2025 Distinguished Pharmacist Academia: Professor Cassim Mahomed Dangor
- 2025 Distinguished Pharmacist Hospital: Dr Andrew Lofts Gray

- 2025 Distinguished Pharmacist Community: Mrs Sowbakiam Mudly–Padayachie
- 2025 Distinguished Pharmacist Industry: Mr Samson Rivombo

APSSA

Inaugural lecture presented by Professor Tricia Naicker on 28 June 2024.

Final-year research day held on 15 October 2024. Presentations included both laboratory-based and community-based research studies.

The KZN branch of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa (PSSA) has completed payment of the 2024 annual bursaries.

Final-year pharmacy students participated in the Ramakrishna Community Outreach Clinic in Tongaat on 31st June 2025, following the recent disaster. Over 100 patients were seen on the day, showcasing the students' commitment to community service.

Pharmacy students also contributed to earlier Ramakrishna Outreach events on:

- 23 February 2025 in Etete (Stanger)
- 13 April 2025 in Pietermaritzburg

On Saturday, 12 April 2025, the Discipline of Pharmaceutical Sciences hosted a pilot workshop titled “Level Up” Work Readiness Program. Led by Prof Varsha Bangalee and facilitated by Ms Naledi Mpeke and Mrs Salamina Mpeke, this initiative was designed to empower first-year pharmacy students as they begin their professional journey.

The Gala Dinner (Pharmacy Ball) was held on Friday, 22nd November 2024 at the Westville Country Club, celebrating student achievements and fostering camaraderie within the discipline. The University's Executive Management Committee has approved the superannuated appointment of Dr Andy Gray for a further two-year period beyond his retirement in October 2024.

Professor Sabiha Essack, SARChI Chair in Antibiotic Resistance and One Health and Professor in Pharmaceutical Sciences at UKZN, was awarded the Christiana Figueres Policy to Practice Award by Applied Microbiology International. This prestigious honour recognises her impact in bridging the gap between science and policy in antimicrobial resistance.

Dr Deanne Johnston was acknowledged for her significant contribution to the South African Pharmacy Council (SAPC) at the Examiners and Moderators Lekgotla on 14 November 2024.

Prof Varsha Bangalee was awarded the Vice Chancellor's Teaching Excellence Certificate Award (TECA) 2024, in the category of Innovation in Teaching. This accolade celebrates her dedication to creative and high-quality teaching practices at UKZN.

The Discipline is actively engaging with the university-wide restructuring process, which includes revisions to the Bachelor of Pharmacy curriculum.

The Pharmacy degree has been successfully aligned with the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) framework, ensuring international comparability and enabling:

- Evaluation of UKZN graduates against global benchmarks.
- A clearer pathway for internationally qualified pharmacists to practice in South Africa.

A Multiple-Choice Question (MCQ) Assessment Workshop was hosted by the Pharmacy Discipline, with contributions from Prof Frasia Oosthuizen, Dr Deanne Johnston, and Dr Teri-Lynne Forgarty (Nelson Mandela University).

New staff appointment: Mrs Nonhle Zwane joined the Pharmacy Practice division in May 2025, strengthening the team with her clinical and academic experience.

The Discipline of Pharmaceutical Sciences will host the 58th Annual Conference of the South African Society for Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (SASBCP) from 14–16 September 2025.

The Independent Community Pharmacy Association (ICPA) has sponsored the registration of 10 pharmacy students to attend their annual conference, scheduled for 8–9 November 2025 at the Elangeni and Maharani Conference Centre in Durban.

MSD (Pty) Ltd will be donating Merck Manuals to UKZN pharmacy students during 2025, supporting student learning and access to quality reference materials.

SAACP

Committee Meetings

The Branch holds regular committee meetings at which indepth discussions on the issues facing the Branch and the profession. Some of the topics discussed in the past year include PCDT, corporate pharmacists, PPP, strategic objectives and problems facing the sector (new occupational assistant certificate, cost of SAPC Fees and certificates that are reissued).

Since the last AGM, committee meetings were held on:

- 10/07/24
- 22/08/24
- 17/09/24
- 26/11/24
- 22/01/25
- 27/03/25

Education and Research

The CPD activities are in tandem with the PSSA KZN CB CPD posts onto the PSSA KZN CB website and social media platforms.

The branch hosted a well-attended webinar in August 24 on current trends in respiratory virus infections and treatment options. The presenter was Dr Alison Glass of Lancet Laboratories.

In October 24, six members of the committee attended FIP Conference in Cape Town, an event that was enlightening and inspiring to what spaces our profession is evolving into.

In March 25, six members of our committee attended SAPHEX 25 in Sandton, Johannesburg. Dipthi Desai, our Vice Chair, as part of a branch presentation presented on PCDT and GP

collaboration and Chair, Gravesham Jagarnath, hosted Session 5 of the TPS show which is a collaborative effort between SAACP & ICPA.

Proudly though, On 25 June 25 we hosted our own Online CPD Webinar to commemorate World Hypertension Day by Dr R Moodley, Specialist Physician and we had 120 participants attending.

Communication, liaison and marketing

The Branch communicates with its members via email, WhatsApp, and the webpage kznpsa.co.za

Emails/WhatsApp notifications have sent to members requesting them to update their sector allocations

We have requested assistance from PSSA National via the Branch Director at the last Directors' meeting with regard the problem of the database having members in incorrect sectors. The PSSA National office agreed to send out messages to the membership indicating their current sector and branch and requesting that members correct their information, if incorrect. We are awaiting feedback with regard this issue.

Young Pharmacists

Mrs Clarissa Naidoo is our current YPG Representative. A sector we need to work on more passionately so that we can get our youth on board and inspire them to become good community pharmacists

Membership Support

The branch identifies monthly themes and activities according to the NDOH Health calendar. We work close with our PSSA committee and members from our committee are part of the organising sub-committees for these initiatives.

In the 2 years that we have formed our new committee, we have progressed a long way with good collaboration across all sectors of our PSSA branch

In April 2025, we had the honour of presenting the Distinguished Community Pharmacist award to the much deserving Mrs Sowbakaram Mudly-Payadachee. An initiative we hope will grow from strength to strength.

Professional & Legal

The Branch studies Board Notices that have an impact on the profession and comments on these notices via the National body.

General

As a newly formed committee and with a better understanding of the functions and policies of our constitution, I am happy to be part of this dynamic committee team and looking forward to adding value to our sector and PSSA as a whole.

SAAHIP

Committee Meetings

The branch met on the 16th of January 2025 and the 07th of May 2025 to discuss the branch matters (please see the attached minutes)

Education and Research

The branch hosted the following events:

Hosted the Intern orientation and Induction in February (5th and 19th) 2025

- Improved Quality and Safety of Healthcare Services Webinar on the 27th of February 2025, where the Pharmacist from St Mary's presented on their Quality Improvement Project that won the best QIP at eThekweni District in 2024.
- Face-to-face CPD on the Medical Termination of Pregnancy CPD- Medabon Co on the 6th of March 2025 at Life Westville Hospital.
- Ran a World Kidney Day Quiz for Pharmacists on 13th of March 2025, the quiz was circulated with the article as part of CPD and a knowledge test for Pharmacists, and those who obtained 100% were rewarded with certificates
- TB Awareness- "Yes You and I can end TB" videos with messages on TB treatment and adherence were circulated via social media
- Webinar titled "An overview of Breast and Colon Cancer" on the 22nd of April 2025, which had 74 attendees
- Online webinar titled "Recent Changes in Childhood TB: Treatment options in SA" on the 25th of March 2025 by Dr Juli Switala
- The branch hosted the Haematology Masterclass on 17 May 2025 at the Musgrave Hostel in Durban where the Haematologist from Private and Public sector presented on the haematology conditions, Roche Pharmaceuticals sponsored the event
- The branch hosted the Asthma masterclass on the 31st of May 2025 at the Musgrave Hotel where the pulmonologist presented on the asthma treatment, this event was sponsored by Astra Zeneca.

Communication, liaison, and marketing

A WhatsApp group is being used for communication for the executive and general members of the committee.

There are Facebook and Instagram accounts that are managed by the Secretary of the KZNC branch

Young Pharmacists

There has been no report; however, the YPG representative in the branch supports the group on intern via intern's WhatsApp group.

General

The branch has decided to change the SAAHIP KZN Coastal logo to align with the one for National. The branch is also working on the focus area to improve the Quality and Safety of Healthcare Services.

Under social responsibility, members donate funding to support Operation Smile for surgeries for babies born with cleft palate.

There are plans for the committee to meet and do the orientation for the members on the constitution.

SAAPI

Education and Research –refer to SAAPI training schedule updated for May to December 2025

Communication, liaison and marketing

SAAPI has circulated the following communications to Industry membership for Jan to June 2025 to date:

Medicines and Related Substances Act: Extension: Exemption of Medical Devices and In-Vitro Diagnostics (IVDs)

Documents for comment:

GUIDELINES –Intention to Declare Medicines Compounded in terms of Section 14(4) Containing GLP-1 or GLP-1 /GIP Agonists Undesirable

Guideline amendment to address the interchangeability of biologicals with biosimilars for industry comment.

Workshops

- Business English writing
- Quality Management System (QMS) for Medical devices
- Pharmaceutical Quality System Elements: Deviations, Audit Observations & Quality Investigations using Root Cause Analysis Tools
- Good Warehousing Practice– Good Distribution Practice
- Pharmaceutical Quality System Elements :Quality Risk Management
- SAAPI WORKSHOP/SYMPOSIA/CONFERENCE Terms & Conditions
- Health Technology Assessment (HTA) & Health Economics and Outcomes Research (HEOR)
- Pharmaceutical Quality System Elements
- Medical Devices QMS Auditing Techniques
- Variations to Market Authorisations: SAHPRA & EU Guidelines & Requirements
- Health Products Risk Management
- Radiation Control Webinar on Dental Licencing & Compliance
- Pharmaceutical Quality System Elements: Batch Record Release & Annual Product Quality Review
- Good Warehousing Practice, Good Distribution Practice–Self Inspection and External Audits of Outsourced Activities
- Workshop on Tech Transfer and Compiling Protocols– Upcoming
- Validation of Medical devices– Upcoming

New communication shared with Industry

- Regulatory Information Management System – Application Withdrawal
- Update: Phenylephrine – Lack of Effectiveness of Oral Preparations as Nasal Decongestant

- Medicines and Related Substances Act: Extension: Exemption of Medical Devices and In-Vitro Diagnostics (IVDs)
- Clinical Trials Conduct – USA Government Funding Pause/stop
- SAHPRA Meeting – Introduction to the New S21 Portal
- Regulatory Information Management System – Cancellation of Health Product Registrations for non-eCTDs
- Ban on Hemp and Cannabis in Food
- SAHPRA Engagement Portal – Application IDs
- SAHPRA Engagement Portal – Launch Update
- Payment of Retention Fees for the Year Ending 31 December 2025
- Application to Register as an Industrial Radiographer
- Application for Change of Radiation Protection Officer(RPO) / Acting RPO
- Notice of Complaint: Radionuclides
- Communication Regarding the Sealing and Unsealing of Hazardous Substances
- ISO 13485 Certificate as a prerequisite for the approval of a Medical Device Establishment Licence
- Mpox Diagnostic Tests
- Mpox Diagnostic Test Kit Regulatory Requirements
- MPXV Molecular Technical Review Application
- Comm Issue No.PEM01–CEM01–2025 – Bioequivalence studies performed by Contract Research Organisation (Synapse Labs Pvt. Ltd)
- Bioequivalence studies performed by Contract Research Organisation (Synapse Labs Pvt. Ltd)
- Biological amendments guide update
- Launch of SAHPRA’s Engagement Portal
- SAPHRA webinar engagement portal variations and renewals
- SAHPRA Updates Regarding the Use of Yohimbine in Veterinary Medicine
- Regulatory Requirements for Veterinary Medical Devices (Including in-vitro Diagnostic Veterinary Medical Devices)
- Phenylephrine – Lack of Effectiveness of Oral Preparations as Nasal Decongestant
- Regulatory Information Management System – Technical Files – Website Upload

General

- 2025 annual SAAPI Conference: Health Innovation – Stepping Boldly into the Future from 4 to 6 June 2025, at the CSIR International Convention Centre, Pretoria, Gauteng.
- SAAPI Executive Committee Call for Nominations 2025/2026
- Voting of SAAPI executive committee
- SAAPI AGM 25 June 2025.

Mahendra Naidoo

Chairman

KZN Inland

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The branch held five committee meetings in 2025, including the Annual General Meeting on 22 February. Meetings were held on 23 January, 17 February, 22 May, and 7 July. Discussions focused on planning for the year ahead, CPD events, AGM logistics, bursary sponsorships, and collaboration with sectors including SAACP. The AGM featured a CPD session by Carla Botha on clinical pharmacy and was hosted at Mendola in Hilton.

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

The branch participated in the SAAHIP KZN Inland CPD session held in November 2024. On 22 February 2025, the branch hosted its own CPD event on Clinical Pharmacy, presented by Carla Botha, as part of the PSSA KZN Inland AGM. Further sessions are being planned in collaboration with pharmaceutical companies, with a particular focus on hybrid formats to enhance accessibility and increase member engagement.

BRANCH ACTIVITIES

- 6 June 2024: Ms. A Bassa presented at the PSZ/CPCPZ Indaba in Zimbabwe.
- 31 August–4 September 2024: Five committee members attended FIP in Cape Town
- 3 November 2024: Branch Trail Walk at Karkloof Country Club.
- 27 November 2025: Outreach – Umtholampilo Kubantu at Rockysdrif.
- 28 June 2025: Wellness Event (Padel and Pilates) for pharmacists.

COMMUNICATION, LIAISON, AND MARKETING

The branch maintains communication through PSSA National mailers and local WhatsApp groups. Despite a decline in physical attendance, efforts continue to encourage engagement through regular updates, CPD invites, and wellness-focused messaging. A proposal was supported to host a SAACP conference in KZN to rejuvenate the inactive sector.

YOUNG PHARMACISTS GROUP (YPG)

Akira Haryparsad was introduced as the new YPG liaison for KZN Inland in February 2025, succeeding Thashni Govender. YPG continues to play an integral role in supporting pharmacist wellness, encouraging leadership among young professionals, and driving CPD partnerships. Plans are underway to host mentorship sessions and engagements with intern pharmacists.

MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT

The branch remains committed to offering educational and networking opportunities to its members. However, a significant challenge persists as members are increasingly reluctant to engage in in-person events. Hybrid and virtual solutions are being considered to address this shift.

SECTORS AND SUB-COMMITTEES

SAAHIP

The KZN Inland Branch maintained strong engagement with the SAAHIP sector throughout the reporting period. Monthly branch committee meetings ensured consistent planning, alignment with national activities, and execution of sector-relevant initiatives. A significant milestone was reached at the 2025 SAAHIP National Conference, where the branch successfully filled 10 out of its 11 delegate seats—a testament to its strong commitment and active participation. Notably, the branch's Chairperson, Mr V.C. Dlamini, was elected as Vice President of SAAHIP, enhancing the region's influence at the national level and marking a proud moment for KZN Inland.

The branch's designated focus area—Improved Access to Essential Medicines—was actively advanced. A dedicated WhatsApp group served as a platform for ongoing engagement, where members shared relevant articles, research, and updates on medicine availability challenges and solutions. At the 2025 SAAHIP Conference, Mr Dlamini presented a well-received talk titled *"Medicine Availability in Times of Budget Constraints in KZN"*, spotlighting the practical realities and innovations in public sector pharmaceutical care under financial pressure.

Additionally, the branch collaborates with PSSA KZN Inland, ensuring alignment of efforts and representation across multiple portfolios. Three SAAHIP branch members—Ms. Azraa Bassa, Ms. Renesha Bhikraj, and Mr. Lucky Mhlongo—currently serve on the PSSA KZN Inland Branch Committee, further strengthening inter-sectoral communication and cohesion.

Social responsibility and professional development remained key pillars. The branch hosted a successful Pilates fundraiser for Operation Smile, raising R3,000, and ran a two-part Intern Workshop in February. Despite ongoing challenges with member engagement and funding, the branch continues to demonstrate leadership, innovation, and commitment to sector-driven goals.

SAACP

The branch welcomed the idea of a sectoral collaboration meeting with SAACP. Attempts to appoint a representative were unsuccessful at the AGM. The branch supports the idea of a dedicated KZN Inland SAACP sector conference.

SPONSORSHIPS AND BURSARIES

A bursary of R10,000 was awarded to a 4th-year pharmacy student as part of the branch's ongoing support of education. Members who attended FIP 2024 received accommodation sponsorships and reimbursements for registration. All sponsored members signed agreements aligned with National Office standards to ensure accountability.

CONCLUSION – LOOKING AHEAD

As we move into the second half of 2025, the KZN Inland branch remains committed to advancing the profession through inclusive programming, increased outreach, and sector collaboration. With plans for further CPDs, a potential SAACP conference, and continued engagement with members, we aim to create value and community for pharmacists in the region.

Azraa Bassa
Chairperson

Limpopo

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The committee has held meetings in August, September and October and November 2024. Meetings are divided into Branch Office Bearers and Branch Executive Committee meetings held monthly. The latest meetings held were in June 2025

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

The branch works in close proximity with the university of Limpopo Department of Pharmacy through stakeholder meetings. PSSA is recognized as a stakeholder by the University of Limpopo department of pharmacy. Inputs from the Academy sector about the article on Vaccination catch-up campaign were received

COMMUNICATION, LIAISON AND MARKETING

The branch has a Facebook page which is currently used as a tool to communicate activities of the branch. The branch liaises with SAAHIP, ICPA, Academy, the Limpopo Department of Health and the University of Limpopo on several matters and activities of the profession. The branch also supports ULAPs, which is a student organization under SAPSF, based in the university of Limpopo.

YOUNG PHARMACISTS GROUP (YPG)

Activity	Remarks
SAAHIP Intern Support Webinar	On the 28th of May 2025, SAAHIP Limpopo Branch hosted a webinar which aimed at assisting intern pharmacists with preparing for the upcoming pre- registration exam.
PSSA YPG Beyond the White Coat Series	<p>This series ran from the 6th of May to the 27th of May. It covered the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Mind Matters with Dr Rajesh Vagiri – it focused on how to maintain your mental health as a young professional in Pharmacy 2) Career Crossroads with Mr Byron Chukwu – This session introduced young pharmacists to various pharmacy roles outside of community and hospital settings, how to shift careers with purpose and leveraging clinical & academic background in other industries 3) Money Moves with Mr Keenan Fredericks – the purpose of this session was to assist young pharmacists on financial planning as early career professionals as well as to highlight the importance of having investment and retirement plans. <p>A number of young pharmacists from Limpopo, including myself, were in attendance and actively participated throughout the series.</p>
1 st Annual CommuniCare Conference	<p>On the 19th of June, I had the privilege of attending the 1st Annual CommuniCare Conference as one of the delegates representing the PSSA Limpopo Branch. The conference focused on three core themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Surgical, diagnostic and pharmacological perspective in hearing health 2) Speech and neurological development, oral traumas and ethics 3) Trauma treatment and psychological aspects of hearing.

Upcoming Events	September 2025: The YPG is currently developing a programme intended to be hosted during Pharmacy Month, specifically tailored for young pharmacists in Limpopo.
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MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT

The biggest and most of our membership is affiliated under SAAHIP so our membership support is done through the sector. However, the branch has established a relationship with Academy, ULAPs and the department of Health. Members are supported through direct engagements on matters affecting their daily practice. While the branch supports members through sector supports, it is still necessary for members to have a direct relationship with the branch committee if they are not satisfied with sector support.

BRANCH ACTIVITIES

Vaccination catch-up campaign

The branch has completed a successful vaccination campaign covering two large clinics in the Capricorn district of Limpopo province. The campaign was supported by office of the MEC, Capricorn district management and the local traditional leadership.

Other stakeholders such as Biovac, Cipla and Sanofi also participated in the campaign.

A report in the form of an article was submitted to SAPJ for consideration to be published in the next issue.

1st Limpopo Communicare conference

The branch also partnered with Mankweng Tertiary hospital in coordinating a conference on the 19th June 2025. The conference aimed to address all issues pertaining to communication disorders from diagnosis, management and psychosocial support. The conference was attended by MEC of Health in Limpopo

SECTORS

SAAHIP

No report was received

No meetings attended

ACADEMY

Activities:

Dr Vagiri has presented at a webinar organized by YPG on the 6 May 2025. He is also moderating a webinar hosted by SAAHIP on 15 May 2025.

On 4th of June 2025, he has conducted a workshop on CV writing and application process in the public sector. He will be hosting a CV workshop for final year students in collaboration with the Limpopo Department of Health, to address prospective interns about internship positions and the application process on the 21st July 2025. He has attended all our BEC Meetings

Meetings:

There was no meeting held as he is a lone member in the committee.

Membership support:

Dr Vagiri represents PSSA through Academy sector in the University of Limpopo.

ULAPS

ULAPs recently had an AGM to elect new committee members. The current chairperson is Mr Desmond Ngobeni. The branch will support his term of office and work closely with him to further advance the development of the sector. He has worked closely with the branch in the recent vaccination campaign conducted on the 28th and 29th May 2025. Through his leadership, the branch managed to get over 60 students who participated in the vaccination campaign.

GENERAL

The branch has drawn a meeting schedule for Branch Office bearers and the Branch Executive Committee which are monthly meetings. The branch will venture into supporting the community sector as this has been identified as a gap in PSSA. This will be done through CPDs, meetings and recruitment drives. The branch believes in collaborate efforts from all sectors however as a recently established branch, there are challenges in getting participation from all sectors.

The branch is busy working on getting two roll up banners to be used as marketing materials during branch activities

OUR PLANNED BRANCH ACTIVITIES

Annual General Meeting– August 2025

Internship pre-reg workshop– June/July 2025

Capricorn district Vaccination catch-up campaign (in collaboration with LDOH)–28th to 29th May 2025

Health and wellness symposium–August 2025

Support to SAAHIP AGM– November 2025

Report compiled by: KT Mabilo

Mpumalanga

Covering the period from 12 May 2025 to 07 July 2025

INTRODUCTION

I hereby submit this annual report on behalf of the PSSA Mpumalanga Branch for the period 12 May 2025 to 07 July 2025. This report highlights the key activities and developments within the branch during this period.

NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The new Executive Committee (EXCO) for the 2025 period was elected during the AGM on 03 May 2025 and is as follows:

Chairman: PJ Kleinsmidt

Deputy Chairman: Siyabonga Makwakwa

Treasurer: Iaan Botha

Secretary: Gina Partridge (SAAPI Representative)

Additional EXCO Members:

Gideon Vosloo – Immediate Past Chairman

Etli van der Merwe – Ehlanzeni District Representative

Siyabonga Mokoena – Nkangala District Representative

Jeannie Berg – Gert Sibande District Representative

Jeanet Steyn – Gert Sibande District Representative

Sharon Phiri – Mpumalanga YPG Representative

Handsome Mashego – Mpumalanga SAAHIP Chair and SAAHIP Representative

KEY ACTIVITIES**Meetings and Governance**

A key focus has been on governance matters and preparations for the first meeting of the 2025 EXCO. An initial meeting with the PSSA National Office was held on 22 May 2025, where discussions centered on strategic direction and enhancing branch communication.

The first meeting of the new PSSA Mpumalanga Branch EXCO took place virtually on 10 June 2025.

Financial Management

The branch's financial status includes a current account balance of R50,000 and a call account earning 7.05% interest. Financial transparency measures were discussed, including uploading monthly bank statements to a shared Teams folder. A review of current signatories on the Branch account will be conducted as there is concern over having non-EXCO members as signatories.

Constitution and Governance

The drafting of a branch constitution aligned with PSSA National Office constitution is underway, and governance documents such as the Executive Committee Member Agreement and Confidentiality Undertaking are being prepared for signature by the newly elected EXCO.

All incoming EXCO members have already signed and submitted a POPIA release form.

CPD and Member Engagement

The branch has been active in hosting CPD events, including a well-attended virtual Intern CPD session on 08 May 2025 and an in-person CPD event in Ermelo on 4 July 2025. Plans for future events and efforts to integrate Young Pharmacists Group (YPG) activities into broader branch strategies are ongoing.

Subcommittee Activities

Proposed Branch subcommittees include the CPD Subcommittee, Social Media and Marketing Subcommittee, AGM Planning Subcommittee, and Legacy Subcommittees for the Pharmacy Museum initiative and Ilsa Snyman Award. Each will play a vital role in the branch's strategic focus and event planning.

Cross-Regional Engagement

On 12 June 2025, the PSSA Mpumalanga Branch Chairman attended the Southern Gauteng Branch PSSA Executive Committee meeting as an observer to gain insights into the operations of a well-established and effective regional committee. This engagement is aimed at fostering cross-regional learning and collaboration.

The PSSA Mpumalanga Branch Chairman was invited to contribute an insight piece detailing the current operations, structure, and future plans of the PSSA Mpumalanga Branch Committee for inclusion in the Golden Mortar with the intention of offering cross-regional learning and engagement for the broader PSSA membership.

Acknowledgements

The incoming 2025 PSSA Mpumalanga Branch EXCO extend our thanks to the outgoing 2024 EXCO for their contributions to the branch and look forward to a productive year ahead under the new leadership.

PJ Kleinsmidt
Chairman

Northern Cape

No report was received.

North West

No report was received.

Pretoria

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The dates of the committee meetings conducted since last year's AGM:

13 August 2024	18 February 2025
25 September 2024	16 April 2025
15 October 2024	19 May 2025
30 November 2024 (AGM)	17 June 2025

Our Portfolios include:

Young Pharmacist Group	Social Management
Pharmacist Assistants	Pharmacy Month
Membership and Marketing	Social Responsibility
NEC Feedback	Awards
CPD	Constitution
Senate	Interns

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

CPD'S & Workshops for 2024/2025.

On 15 March, our SAAHIP sector hosted a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) event focused on insomnia and anxiety. The session brought together approximately 150 final-year pharmacy students from Tshwane University of Technology and Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University, with an additional 25 pharmacists and intern pharmacists joining online.

The event was proudly sponsored by Cipla and aligned with the current academic curriculum, as both student groups were engaging with this particularly challenging module at the time. The session offered a valuable platform for academic support, professional development, and inter-institutional engagement.

COMMUNICATION, LIAISON AND MARKETING

Communication with members was maintained through the bulk email (Mailchimp) and SMS's. All communicating with members is done via Mailchimp.

Our main communication to members planned for this year:

Board notices regarding our profession.

Notification of stolen/ fraudulent prescriptions

Social Responsibility donation collection with regards to pharmacy month

YPG Workshops and information

Branch Nominations for committee

Any communication from the national office that is flagged to be shared.

MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT

Members are mostly in contact with the branch for queries of book orders, indemnity insurance and Reference books and professional indemnity insurance legal questions Legal assistance on practice or ethical issues which are always dealt with by the branch manager with the support of the National office staff.

NATIONAL PROJECTS

The Pretoria branch has been supportive of National projects, but this year has not led any projects thus far.

SECTORS

Our Sectors include:

SAACP SAAHIP

Academy SAAPI

Interest Groups:

SASOCP

SAACP Sector Activities

Members of the branch SAACP committee have remained actively involved at national level, regularly attending meetings and contributing to discussions on key issues affecting the profession. Notably, Mr. Matlapeng Shabalala recently delivered a national talk titled "Combating

Illicit Medicines: Safeguarding South Africa's Pharmacies and Communities," highlighting the critical role pharmacists play in addressing the circulation of counterfeit medicines and protecting public health.

Looking ahead, the sector will be hosting its first CPD event in some time at the end of August. Members are encouraged to attend and support this important initiative, which aims to promote ongoing learning and professional engagement. Details will be communicated in due course.

SPECIAL EVENTS SCHEDULED/ CONDUCTED

Branch Elections 2024

Branch elections were opened at the end of September 2024. However, as the number of nominations received matched the number of vacant positions, no voting process was necessary.

Pharmacy Month 2024:

The Big Catch-Up – Childhood Vaccination Drive

On 14 September 2024, in Mamelodi at Your Kingdom Church, we held "The Big Catch-Up" vaccination drive with SAAHIP Northern Gauteng, TUTAPS, and SMUAPS. The event helped children catch up on missed vaccines and promoted community health. Qualified healthcare professionals provided vaccinations and information to parents and caregivers. This joint effort was well received and supported our Pharmacy Month theme, "Let's Talk About Vaccines."

GENERAL

DrugWise Book Update

The branch is continuing its efforts to update the DrugWise book, a valuable resource aimed at educating the public on the safe use of medicines. However, progress has been slow due to challenges in securing sponsorship. Despite these difficulties, the branch remains committed to the project and is actively exploring new avenues for support and collaboration to ensure its successful completion.

Murial Kopanye

Chairperson

Southern Gauteng

BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – FEBRUARY 2025

The Southern Gauteng Branch Annual General Meeting (AGM) was successfully held on 20 February 2025. The event was well-attended and opened with an engaging CPD presentation by Prof. Shingai Mutambirwa on "*Hormones, Obesity, and Sexual Health.*"

The Branch Committee for 2025 is as follows:

Chairman: Mr. Tshifhiwa Rabali

Vice-Chairman: Dr. Stephanie Leigh

Honorary Treasurer: Mrs. Maxine Turner

Elected Members: Ms. Rashmi Gosai, Mr. Frans Landman, Mr. November Nkambule, Ms. Thanushya Pillaye, and Mr. Hilton Stevens

Sector Representatives:

Academia: Prof. Yahya Choonara, Mrs. Zelna Booth

SAAPI: Ms. Yolanda Peens, Mrs. Thavashini Peter

SAAHIP: Mrs. Shaista Nabee, Ms. Tshilidzi Shabangu

SAACP: Ms. Winny Ndlovu, Ms. Patricia Tharage Honorary Life Member: Mr. Gary Kohn

Wits Student Representatives: Mr. Mmangaliso Zwane, Ms. Mapula Maringa

Young Pharmacists' Group (YPG) Representatives: Ms. Esther Shuping, Ms. M. Rakgase

BRANCH BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

The Business Committee, under the leadership of Chairman Mr. James Meakings, with Vice-Chairs Ms. Rashmi Gosai and Ms. Thanushya Pillaye, includes members Mrs. V. Beaumont, Mrs. L. Terblanche, Mr. T. Rabali, Mr. F. Landman, Dr. S. Seoka, and Mrs. M. Turner.

The consolidation of the Branch's business operations was successfully completed. Minority shareholders were compensated, and the process has streamlined operations, reduced administrative burden, and positioned the business for long-term sustainability. Our business assets are stable and continue to grow. These strategic efforts are expected to benefit future generations of pharmacy professionals. We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to Valerie Beaumont for her outstanding dedication and invaluable guidance throughout this process.

Financial reports for 2024 have been submitted to National Office for inclusion in the AGM proceedings.

CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD)

Led by Dr. Stephanie Leigh (Vice-Chairman of the PSSA SG Branch), our CPD initiatives have been exceptionally impactful this year.

Highlights:

The Annual Mini-Symposium, held on 28 September 2024 at the Wits Medical School, carried the theme *"Celebrating and Empowering Pharmacists through the Advancement of the Pharmacy Profession."*

Esteemed speakers included: Frans Landman, Bandela Mgoqi, Shoni Mulibana, Jaquie Fox, Mel Botes, Huzaifah Khan, and Phyllis Njiru. Attendance: 53 delegates in person, 42 online.

Special recognition to PSSA Executive Director Ms. Refiloe Mogale, who attended the event on her birthday.

CPD talks have been consistently hosted every month, including a record-breaking session with over 100+ attendees, demonstrating increasing engagement and interest from our members.

Preparations are already underway for the 2025 Annual Symposium, scheduled for September, and we look forward to hosting another successful event.

GOLDEN MORTAR PUBLICATION

Since the last AGM, we have successfully published two editions of *The Golden Mortar* in 2024 and an additional three editions in 2025 to date. The publication continues to serve as a vital communication platform for our members and remains a leading tool for social outreach within the Southern Gauteng Branch.

The Flipbook format, introduced in 2024, has grown increasingly popular, and we are committed to further enhancing the publication to keep pace with digital trends and improve the overall reader experience.

We are also pleased to announce the appointment of Yolanda Peens as the new Chairperson.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY INITIATIVE: TRINITY PHARMACY

The Southern Gauteng Branch continues its partnership with Trinity Pharmacy, an initiative providing vital medical and pharmaceutical services to homeless individuals in the Johannesburg CBD.

Despite growing challenges, the project remains committed to serving this vulnerable population. With operational costs exceeding R250,000 annually, particularly for medication, we appeal to all members, partners, and stakeholders to support this life-changing project through donations or sponsorships.

OFFICE RELOCATION TO PARKTOWN, JOHANNESBURG

The Branch Office has officially moved to its new and permanent location at 30 Wellington Road, Parktown, Johannesburg.

This space was strategically chosen due to its proximity to major hospitals, universities, and pharmaceutical companies. It offers:

Conference and meeting facilities for up to 30 people

Secure parking

Easy access from the M1 highway

National Library, which remains under the stewardship of the SG Branch We warmly welcome all members and stakeholders to visit our new premises.

NEW SUB-COMMITTEE: COLLABORATION COMMITTEE

In 2025, the Branch established the Collaboration Sub-Committee, a dedicated team responsible for fostering cohesion and integrity across sectors within the Branch.

One of its primary objectives is the development of a Branch Integrity Policy, grounded in our constitution, to ensure members act ethically and always in the best interests of the profession.

This committee is lead by Thanushya Pillaye with Yolanda Peens serving as vice-chairperson.

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND SUPPORT

We remain steadfast in our commitment to nurturing the future of pharmacy through robust student engagement and recognition initiatives.

This year, we proudly supported:

The Dennis Jabulani Award for *Outstanding Community Service*

The PSSA Award for *Outstanding Academic Achievement* – both to be presented at the prestigious Wits Faculty Awards Ceremony on 3 July 2025 at the Wits Great Hall

Contributions to the FPE Bursary Fund, enabling two deserving students to pursue their dream of becoming pharmacists

Sponsorship of the Wits Pharmacy Student Ball, reinforcing our investment in student wellbeing and professional development

OUR OUTGOING NEC REPRESENTATIVES

We extend our deepest thanks to James Meakings, Rashmi Gosai, and Thanushya Pillaye for their outstanding service as NEC representatives for the PSSA Southern Gauteng Branch. Your commitment, consistent presence at meetings, and thoughtful feedback have greatly enriched our committee and strengthened our voice at national level. We are truly grateful for the dedication and professionalism you brought to the role.

CONCLUSION: ADVANCING PHARMACY, TOGETHER

The PSSA Southern Gauteng Branch continues to thrive as a proactive, innovative, and collaborative body within the pharmaceutical profession. Our contributions to Continuing Education, business development, student empowerment, community outreach, and sector integrity position us as a leader and a trusted pillar of the PSSA.

We remain committed to uplifting the pharmacy profession, fostering unity across sectors, and investing in the future of healthcare in South Africa.

Together, we are building a legacy of excellence in pharmacy.

Tshifhiwa Rabali
Chairman

Awards

Fellowship of the Society

Any member of the Society who has significantly furthered the aims of Pharmacy in any sphere of the Profession may be invited to be elected a Fellow. The following members were nominated by the Fellows Committee to be recognised as a Fellow for his/her exceptional achievements in the profession of pharmacy.

Morné Adamson

The National Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Awards Committee, recognised the contribution that Morné Geoffrey Adamson has made to the Society and to the Profession and, at the meeting held in February 2025, agreed that Fellowship of the Society be bestowed upon him.

Sue Burton

The National Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Awards Committee, recognised the contribution that Susan (Sue) Francis Burton has made to the Society and to the Profession and, at the meeting held in February 2025, agreed that Fellowship of the Society be bestowed upon her.

Kaajal Chetty

The National Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Awards Committee, recognised the contribution that Kaajal Chetty has made to the Society and to the Profession and, at the meeting held in February 2025, agreed that Fellowship of the Society be bestowed upon her.

Carrie de Beer

The National Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Awards Committee, recognised the contribution that Caroline (Carrie) Wynne de Beer has made to the Society and to the Profession and, at the meeting held in February 2025, agreed that Fellowship of the Society be bestowed upon her.

Tammy Gopal

The National Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Awards Committee, recognised the contribution that Tammy Gopal has made to the Society and to the Profession and, at the meeting held in February 2025, agreed that Fellowship of the Society be bestowed upon her.

Jameel Kariem

The National Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Awards Committee, recognised the contribution that Mogammad Jameel Kariem has made to the Society and to the Profession and, at the meeting held in February 2025, agreed that Fellowship of the Society be bestowed upon him.

Hannelie Meyer

The National Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Awards Committee, recognised the contribution that Johanna (Hannelie) Catharina Meyer has made to the Society and to the Profession and, at the meeting held in February 2025, agreed that Fellowship of the Society be bestowed upon her.

Seshnee Moodley

The National Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Awards Committee, recognised the contribution that Seshnee Moodley has made to the Society and to the Profession and, at the meeting held in February 2025, agreed that Fellowship of the Society be bestowed upon her.

Honorary Life Membership

Any ordinary member who by long and active membership of the Society for at least 15 years has been substantially responsible for the promotion and attainment of any of the objects of the Society at national level AND/OR who has rendered distinguished services in or to the profession of Pharmacy, may be selected an Honorary Life Member.

Nadine Butler

Nadine Carol Butler was nominated by the Cape Western Province Branch to be recognised as an Honorary Life Member in recognition of her services and the attainment of the objects of the Society.

The National Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Awards Committee, recognised the contribution that Nadine Carol Butler has made to the Society and to the Profession and, at the meeting held in February 2025, agreed that Honorary Life Membership of the Society be conferred upon her. Her rights as an Honorary Life Member include all those hitherto enjoyed as an ordinary member.

Lorraine Osman

Lorraine Madge Osman was nominated by the Southern Gauteng Branch to be recognised as an Honorary Life Member in recognition of her services and the attainment of the objects of the Society.

The National Executive Committee, on the recommendation of the Awards Committee, recognised the contribution that Lorraine Madge Osman has made to the Society and to the Profession and, at the meeting held in February 2025, agreed that Honorary Life Membership of the Society be conferred upon her. Her rights as an Honorary Life Member include all those hitherto enjoyed as an ordinary member.

Obituaries 2024 – 2025

Notification received during the period 18/05/2024 – 18/07/2025

DP Arthur	Southern Gauteng
P Becker	Southern Gauteng
Y Chothia	KwaZulu-Natal Inland
M Coleman	Pretoria
MV Du Preez	Pretoria
BH Friedland	Cape Western Province
JJ Gerber	North West
NA Goodman	Cape Western Province
TW Higginson	KwaZulu-Natal Inland
S Israel	Southern Gauteng
V Jeawon	KwaZulu-Natal Coastal
HEF Jones	Vaal Triangle
Z Joninga	Border & Eastern Districts
SW Kock	Free State
CE Kriel	Pretoria
CA Lottering	Mpumalanga
T Lutge	Border & Eastern Districts
JL Morris	Cape Western Province
RV Oladipupo	Mpumalanga
MP Rousseau	Cape Western Province
RA Saib	KwaZulu-Natal Inland
AJ Scholtz	Southern Gauteng
D Sieff	Southern Gauteng
E Stickling	Cape Western Province
HD Vallabh	Southern Gauteng
MCB Van Oudtshoorn	Pretoria
IR Watson	Border & Eastern Districts

Acronyms and Abbreviations

AGM	Annual General Meeting
AMR	Antimicrobial resistance
AMS	Antimicrobial stewardship
APSSA	Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences of South Africa
BPharm	Bachelor of Pharmacy
BN	Board Notice
CCI	Codeine Care Initiative
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
COO	Chief Operating Officer
CMS	Council for Medical Schemes
CPA	Commonwealth Pharmacists Association
CPD	Continuing Professional Development
CPI	Consumer Price Index
CSP	Community Service Pharmacist
CWP	Cape Western Province
DDG	Deputy Director-General
DG	Director-General
DoH	Department of Health
EDS	Electronic delivery systems
Exco	Executive Committee
FIP	International Pharmaceutical Federation
FPE	Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education
GMP	Good Manufacturing Practice
GMCP	Good Medicine Compounding Practice
GPP	Good Pharmacy Practice
HR	Human Resources
HRH	Human Resources for Health

HOPS	Head of Pharmaceutical Services
HPCSA	Health Professions Council of South Africa
HW SETA	Health and Welfare Sector Education and Training Authority
ICPA	Independent Community Pharmacy Association
KZN	KwaZulu-Natal
Medicines Act	Medicines and Related Substances Act, 101 of 1965
NCD	Non-Communicable Disease
NCoP	National Council of Provinces
NDoH	National Department of Health
NEC	National Executive Committee
NHI	National Health Insurance
PC	Pricing Committee or Project Coordinator
PCDT	Primary Care Drug Therapy
PI	Professional Indemnity
PIMART	Pharmacists Initiated Management of Anti-Retroviral Therapy
POPI/POPIA	Protection of Personal Information Act
PPS	Professional Provident Society
PSF	Pharmacy Stakeholders Forum
PSSA	Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa
RP	Responsible Pharmacist
SAACP	South African Association of Community Pharmacists
SAAHIP	South African Association of Hospital and Institutional Pharmacists
SAAPI	South African Association of Pharmacists in Industry
SAHPRA	South African Health Products Regulatory Authority
SAMA	South African Medical Association
SANAC	South African National AIDS Council
SAPA	South African Pharmacist's Assistant Journal
SANDF	The South African National Defence Force

SAPC	South African Pharmacy Council
SAPJ	South African Pharmaceutical Journal
SAPSF	South African Pharmaceutical Students Federation
SASOCP	South African Society of Clinical Pharmacy
SC	Steering Committee
SEP	Single Exit Price
SPARC	Antimicrobial Stewardship Resource Capacity Building
STG EML	Standard Treatment Guideline and Essential Medicines List
SMU	Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
TB	Tuberculosis
UHC	Universal Health Coverage
UWC	University of the Western Cape
WHO	World Health Organization
YPG	Young Pharmacists' Group

