



**SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL**  
for the  
**ARCHITECTURAL PROFESSION**

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**SACAP E- Newsletter: January 2017**  
**From the desk of the Registrar : Edition : 01/2017**

Dear Registered Person,

This year is well and truly underway and I'd like to say how excited I am about the dynamic energy I feel around me and the possibilities I see open to us in our mission to continue transforming, promoting and regulating the profession, through collaborative engagement in the pursuit of excellence.

Our 4<sup>th</sup> Term Council is in the third year of its four year term of office. It was sworn in on 14 April 2014 and will complete its term on 14 April 2018. Its Councillors are encouraged, seeing the manifestation of its vision for people-centred architecture for South Africa. It is all systems go for us as executive management and administrative staff as we scale up our efforts to deliver on our objectives. SACAP's far reaching mandate has needed an approach that is multi-pronged and holistic. Our strategic plan and objectives are after all aligned with the imperatives of the National Development Plan.

From time to time I observe that architectural professionals don't always value their services enough. Doing so in a competitive environment has its own challenges, never the less, never forget that it is you after all who passionately ignite the planning process of building environment projects. You are the apex of the value chain hierarchy which rolls them out for the benefit of our society.

In his recent #BizTrends2017 article, SACAP President Yashaen Luckan, speaks to the subject of sustainable architectural practice in the space of engagement. You may know that the President is a practicing architect himself as well as an academic, now seated at the School of Architecture, Planning and Housing for the University of Kwa Zulu Natal. In this article (<http://bit.ly/2jm85jj>) he maintains that an increase in the societal value of architecture may emanate from engaging with people and place (context); with other disciplines such as the allied built environment professions. He also points to the benefit of involving clients early in the design process so that from a business perspective, they become aware of the intellectual capital invested in the process of design. More broadly, he urges that all stakeholders in society be engaged in the design process in order to have real impact on spatial transformation and the generation of positive urban environments.

Last year there were three very important SACAP stakeholder platforms where you contributed invaluable insight and perspective and we thank you for that. The Think Tank on architectural education convened in light of the #feesmust fall campaign and widespread calls for decolonisation; as well as the Education Lekgotla and the Stakeholder Engagement and Public Participation Forum. All three platforms gave us the opportunity to really hear first-hand what matters to you and benefit from your creative counsel. We are also taking into account the voices of the leadership of the National Architectural Student Council, various academics, all of our Voluntary Associations, as well as the Council for the Built Environment (CBE).

This year, we will bring focus to engaging with the public at large, as our mandate includes protecting them. Our day to day operations are as always geared toward serving the profession and the public. Very recently we have stepped up our staff development programme and trust you will benefit from this in the practical ways that matter to you.

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Sincerely



Marella O'Reilly, **Registrar/CEO**

