

# YOUNG PROFESSIONALS FORUM



**KWAZULU NATAL**  
2017

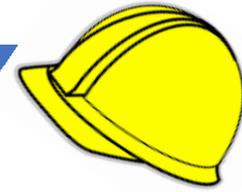


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## Message from the Chairman



Another memorable year is coming to a close while we all can so vividly remember arriving at work in January 2017. Having fulfilled my 2-year term as the Chairperson for KZN CESA-YPF, I would like to say that it was a privilege to be the chairperson for KZN CESA-YPF while very grateful to the past chairpersons and their teams. I am confident that 2018 will bring bigger and better opportunities for our industry and young professionals.

The year has been an eventful year with many activities in line with our objectives of CESA-YPF. We have seen CESA-YPF grow in KZN over the last 10 years and we hope with this kind of enthusiasm and interest, the future of our industry will improve and be great for the new young graduates entering our industry. This will allow us to attract and retain young engineers for the sustainability of the Engineering Fraternity. The engineering industry is an important part of the country that will provide the support to South Africa to ensure that we grow as a country to increase our global profile.

**CESA-YPF is in existence only because of involvement from you and your respective organizations therefore on this note I would like to say a huge *Thank You* for making CESA-**

**YPF and more specially the KZN Branch one of the best branches across the country.**

*My message to the young professionals: There is a world of opportunities out there so go out and make the most of it. We are moving into a new era of Disruptive Technology and Innovation....so come back in 2018, be Disruptive, be Innovative and Create Smart Solutions.*

I did not walk this journey alone, but have had the support of the KZN CESA-YPF Committee throughout. I am pleased to state that the KZN YPF Committee is now made up of 16 dedicated committee members from 13 CESA member firms and is diverse in terms of its member's years of experience, size of their respective firms, race, gender and areas of expertise. With the support of the KZN YPF committee and the KZN YPs I am certain that 2018 will be another amazing year for the KZN YPF with our new Chairperson, Nerave Moodley.



**On behalf of KZN CESA-YPF I would like to take this opportunity to wish all YPs a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year. I hope you spend this holiday with your dear friends and family members and remember to buckle-up and don't drink and drive. Enjoy the holiday season.**

**Yolan Pillay  
KZN CESA-YPF Chairperson**

## What is CESA YPF?

**Consulting Engineers of South Africa's Young Professionals Forum (CESA YPF)** consists of Young Professionals who are passionate about the engineering industry and are interested in ensuring the development, growth and promotion of the profession, thus ensuring the sustainability of engineering skills for the country.

**CESA YPF** membership is available to all qualified Young Professionals (YPs) in the engineering and Built Environment, younger than 35 years of age.

**CESA YPF is operated on a non-profit basis and relies on sponsorship support from CESA member firms as well as other companies that seek to grow YPs and understand the importance of developing Young Professionals for the industry.**

**CESA YPF** objectives include:

- Promotion and creating an awareness of Engineering and Built Environment careers, the Consulting Engineering Industry and CESA;
- Retention of young professionals within the consulting engineering industry;
- Building capacity and knowledge amongst members of the YPF;
- Sharing Information and networking;
- Providing a platform for engineers to support each other with registration, training, mentoring and CPD.



### **CESA YPF** Major Events

1. **CESA YPF Job Shadowing Initiative** – more than 800 school learners are provided with an engineering job shadowing opportunity annually.
2. **Youth In Construction Career Expo** – more than 5 000 learners are exposed to engineering career and role models.
3. **CESA YPF's regular regional meet-and-greet and general topical discussion events.**
4. **CESA Young Professionals Sustainability Imbizo** – launched in August 2013, this annual mini-conference is a springboard for future leaders by providing discussion platforms regarding their role and position in communities, engineering and built environment professions.

**CESA YPF** consists of an Executive Committee and a National Steering Committee chaired by a National Chairperson with branch committee chairpersons facilitating CESA YPF activities in 12 regions. CESA YPF is also represented on the CESA Council and Committees of Councils.

**To join this empowerment forum, go to <http://www.cesa.co.za/node/215>. For more information, please contact: [Yolan Pillay at yolan.pillay@rhdhv.com](mailto:yolan.pillay@rhdhv.com) or visit us on [www.cesa.co.za](http://www.cesa.co.za)**



# School Career Expo *By Esaivani Naicker*

In an effort to engage and interact with young minds, inspire and motivate children at schools into persevering the world of engineering, a bunch of CESA YP's took to the heart of the local area called Chatsworth and attended a Careers, Skills and Employment Expo held at the Nelson Mandela Chatsworth Youth Centre on 20 May. The event was organized by the Dreamcatchers (programme of the Chatsworth Youth Centre) in partnership with Siyanda Zwane Foundation and sponsored by TransMed Shipping.



The event hosted approximately 60 stalls with an array of exhibitors such as tertiary institutes such as studying at UKZN to facilities offering skills development and training such as massage and beauty skills, graphic designing and artist classes to name a few.

This initiative provided an opportunity for anyone interested in pursuing a career, changing career path, wanting to attain a skill or seeking employment to use the expo to engage with exhibitors and learn more. Exhibitors in turn had the opportunity to pass on valuable information, advice and experience about career paths, where to study and the availability of job opportunities.

It also provided a platform for workers and professionals from different professions, to share with young people what it's really like to work in industry, the qualifications and requirements needed to succeed in such jobs.

The YP's spent time informing school goers of the tertiary requirements and the important need to know of what engineering is about, fun facts, what studying engineering can potentially lead to, the many doors that can be explored and opened as well as enforcing the importance of engineers in society and the hard work, passion and dedication required during studies.

It was indeed great to have seen the excitement and enthusiasm from these 'little' people and brings back the memories that I have had being in school and dreaming about one day becoming an engineer. **There were many girls showing interest in wanting to study engineering and the pretty pink hardhats was quite a hit at the event 'showing girls can do it too!'**



# Action Soccer

By Nerave Moodley



After 7 successful years of hosting this much anticipated event, the KZN CESA YPF faced their most difficult challenge during this period. Construction work at the regular football arena at the Gateway Theatre of Shopping threatened to derail the event for 2017. Ultimately however, the response and enthusiasm from the regular participating firms to “find a way” to have the event meant the event was hosted at the Durban North Crusaders facility on the 07 April 2017. Due to the venue only possessing two courts, the tournament had to sadly be reduced to only 20 teams, a drop from the record 24 participating teams from 2016.

However, despite the challenges this year also saw the first ever real-time video broadcast of the group stage draw, which was kindly hosted and facilitated by the 2016 defending champions Royal HaskoningDHV at their Umhlanga offices on the 31 March 2017. The use of technology for this created a buzz of excitement throughout participating offices with many organizations dialing in to the broadcast using SKYPE.

The resulting groups from the draw were as follows:

GROUP A	GROUP B	GROUP C	GROUP D
UWP BOSCH	DELCA MAP AFRICA	NAIDU SLB	MCPM SMEC
HATCH SIVEST	ARUP RHDHV	ESCONGWENI AURECON	BMK AECOM
EWS	TRANSNET	MNA	NAKO ILLISO

The 2017 tournament served up some impressive football, colorful fans, and was played with a competitive edge but in good spirit with approximately 300-350 people including players, spectators and supporters attending the event.

Once again, the event was attended by two Client teams in the form of TRANSNET and eThekweni Water and Sanitation (EWS).

At the halfway point of the group stage, the spectators were treated to another all-ladies match, a repeat of the curtain-raiser game from 2016. It was great to see the enthusiasm, commitment and the high level of skill shown by the participating ladies. It was also a privilege to partner with the Durban SAICE committee and host their French foreign exchange students at the event.



The ladies from the foreign exchange group also participated in the all-female fixture and displayed passion and enthusiasm together with our local ladies.

After an exciting match it was unanimously decided by the referees, that two ladies, namely Claudia from Hatch and Babalwa from Naidu were the outstanding players of the match.

Ultimately however, it was Claudia’s performances in the unisex fixtures and in particular a goal she scored during one of these fixtures, described by the referees as “one of the goals of the tournament” which led to the unanimous decision by the referees that she should be awarded the trophy for the best female player for 2017.

Following this the knockout rounds kicked-off. After 4 very thrilling, hard-fought encounters the results were as follows:

EWS (3) beat AECOM (2)

BOSCH (4) beat Nako Iliso (3)

NAIDU (4) beat RHDHV (2)

AURECON (3) beat TRANSNET (2)

With little time to recover, the semi-finals served up two great fixtures,

Semi Final 01 – NAIDU (2) beat EWS (1)

Semi Final 02 – AURECON (5) beat BOSCH (1)

These results left EWS AND Bosch to fight it out for third place with EWS ultimately emerging victorious to claim their first top three finishes.

The final was a fierce contest between the two clearly best teams at this year's tournament. This was evidenced by the 3-3 score line at full time resulting in the need for a penalty shootout being required to divide these two phenomenal teams on the day. After the customary 5 penalties each, the teams could still not be separated, and a sudden-death shootout ensued where ultimately AURECON emerged victorious.

***Congratulations to AURECON for being crowned 2017 champions and to Naidu Consulting for playing their part in a thrilling final and for their vociferous support throughout the event.***

The event was as always, a great opportunity to network with colleagues from across the KZN CESA landscape and as always proved to be a fun-filled exciting evening full of tough tackles, light-hearted banter and glorious goals.



The KZN CESA YPF committee look forward to on-going support in 2018 and hope that all who attended the event enjoyed themselves!!!



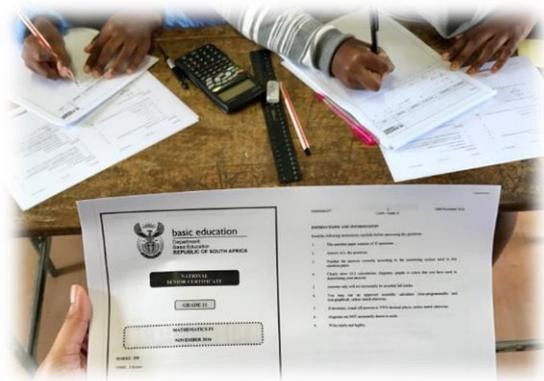


# The Young Einsteins Programme

*By Kavita Shah*

**“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” – Nelson Mandela**

Often the most common question from high school students is: “Why do we have to learn maths? When will it even matter?”. High school students perceive maths as difficult and boring and do not appreciate the fact that many challenging and rewarding careers – not just engineering – demand a strong mathematical ability.



The Young Einsteins programme is a maths workshop to assist disadvantaged grade 11 learners. The workshops take place on the third Saturday of every month at Margot Fonteyn Secondary School in Marianhill near Durban. The programme assists on average a total 150 learners. Volunteers from the CESA member firms make up the team of teachers, who sacrifice 3 hours of their Saturday mornings to take students through Grade 11 maths problems.



Volunteers also put together a monthly stationery and snack pack for the learners.

The relevance of maths beyond high school is often dismissed. The programme aims to give students a clearer insight into why numeracy as well as quantitative and statistical understanding is so important.

**As part of CESA-YPF's mandate to promote the engineering profession to learners, the August maths workshop will devote an entire hour to an “engineering career talk” with a representative from UKZN.**

The programme assists high school students to think critically and to understand the mathematical processes – changing maths habits for a brighter future.



# ECSA Registration Workshop

By Aditi Beesham



The ECSA workshop is presented by ECSA representatives providing information to young professionals on the process for

professional registration as well as “tips” for a successful application. This event has been taking place for the last 6 years and is hosted at the offices of consulting firms.

The annual CESA Registration Workshops took place as follows:

Area	Venue	Date & Time	No. of Attendees
Durban	RHDHV	30/05/2017; 14h00	±40
Pietermaritzburg	MNA	01/06/2017; 14h00	±35
Durban	Bosch	03/07/2017; 14h00	±20
Pietermaritzburg	JG Afrika	05/07/2017; 14h00	±20

Speakers Mr. TC Madikane and Mr. TN Maphumulo presented on the process of registration commencing right from tertiary education level. This included the registration documentation, relevant experience required, writing style, etc.



**The workshops were extremely informative and benefitted technicians, technologists and engineers. Mentors also attended the workshops to ensure that they provide the correct assistance to their mentees.**

The CESA KZN YPF would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the speakers for availing themselves and explaining the registration process in such clarity and conciseness. Further, thanks are also extended to the hosting companies for their hospitality and Aditi Beesham and Avikar Mothilal for organizing the events.

*If you unfortunately missed the workshop this year, be sure to keep an eye out for the 2018 workshops.*



# CESA Relay

By Yolán Pillay

2017 marked the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual CESA KZN Relay. This is a family fun day which was held at the Eston Farmers Club in Eston on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July. Seventeen CESA Member Firms and over 800 people made the event a success once again.

Family and friends enjoyed the following events:

- Run
- Cycle
- Walk
- Volleyball
- Tug-of-war
- Obstacle Course
- And mini-Olympics

The fun day was not only for adults, the kids enjoyed their activities which included jumping castles, clowns, face painting and balloons.

**The event was made a success due to generous sponsorship from the following companies:**



Our overall winners for the relay are:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Royal HaskoningDHV
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Hatch
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - JG Afrika
- Best Dressed Team - Hatch
- Best Dressed Tent - Ibhongo
- Best Team Spirit – Royal HaskoningDHV



# Cornubia Interchange Site Visit

By Sumith Kasserchun

Our CESA KZN YPF held yet another successful site visit, to the Cornubia Interchange Site, on the 6 September 2017. Led by our outgoing Chairperson, Yolán Pillay, the 22 strong attendees left the Meridian Drive site office, as usual with great pomp and style, in 3 minibus taxis to view the site.

All were in awe and inspired by the massive bridge structure and almost forgot that the interchange also has three

(3) directional ramps and a central dedicated BRT carriageway. The Cornubia Interchange is “Phase 6” of eThekweni Transport Authority’s IRPTN C9 corridor which links KwaMashu to Umhlanga via Phoenix and Cornubia.

The 12.5km long, effectively triple carriageway route, is every Engineer’s dream job! Back to the bridge, the 36m wide 120m long deck clears 15m over the N2 freeway. What inspired the YPF’s was the use of new technology including the polystyrene void former.



The site visit was a great success and the KZN YPF team would like to thank our host’s eThekweni Transport Authority, Royal Haskoning DHV and CMC Di Ravenna SA Branch for accommodating us and for the refreshments after the site visit.





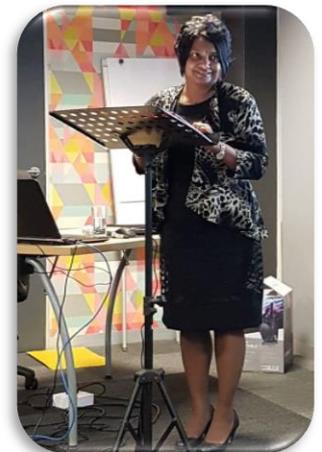
# Celebrating Women in Engineering

By Naomi Naidoo

KZN YPF successfully held its 2<sup>nd</sup> **Women in Engineering** event on the 30<sup>th</sup> of August 2017. The event was held at the stylishly designed Royal Haskoning DHV offices in Umhlanga. The event was attended by approximately fifty Female Engineers.

The program included messages from phenomenal women, including Nozuko Siyothula (Regional Manager of Royal Haskoning DHV), Lynn Pretorius (CESA President 2016/17), Malini Padayachee (CEO of Malini Padayachee and Associates), Jeshika Ramchund (Gama Chairperson), Amanda Mkhize (CESA YPF Chairman). **It was truly inspiring listening to the personal experiences and advice from well established, renown women in the industry.**

Investec generously sponsored a lucky draw prize for a weekend away for 2 people to Drakensberg. The ladies also received beautiful gift packs, courtesy of the women's day sponsors, Royal Haskoning DHV, BOSCH Projects, AECOM, Nyeleti Consulting, Makhaotse, Narasimulu and Associates, JG Afrika and Investec. The ladies ended the afternoon with a networking session over delicious snacks and tea and amazing spa treatments.





# Bowling Championship

By Vikaar Severaj

As another year flashes by, we once again converge at the Electric Avenue in Gateway to go to battle in the lanes. The Bowling Championship of 2017 marked the final event of the CESA-YPF calendar and for member firms to get their hands on last piece of silverware as we countdown to 2018. For many, silverware had eluded them during the course of our other events throughout 2017.



If you were a betting man you would have had your money on HATCH to take the trophy, but it was not to be. With an impressive 428 points, ARUP – King Pins (Andrew, Kelvin, Vimal & Adhir), stole the show as they bagged our coveted YPF Bowling Championship floating trophy.

**The year-end Bowling Championship once again proved to be a great final opportunity to network with your peers before we all get into the festive break.**

CESA-YPF KZN would like to convey a heartfelt thanks to all firms that have continuously supporting this event over the years and we look forward to seeing you all bright and ready in the New Year.

Due to the popularity of the Bowling Championship, two sessions were once again required. Session one began just after 16h00 with some fury as firms trashed their bowling balls towards the pins hoping for early strikes to get the edge over their rival firms. Strikes and gutter balls filled the air...

As the first session teams wiped the sweat of their brow, they were welcomed to a pizza and refreshment break as session two teams began to weigh up the earlier scores. Session two began with just as much energy and enthusiasm, strikes flowed as teams admired the floating trophy that lay waiting for the best team overall.

After many hard-fought battles and strikes, the final scores were tallied and very carefully audited! Prize giving began with the best female score of the day which went to Tracy from HATCH. She scored an impressive 118 points which left many of the males in awe. The best male score of the day was also from HATCH with Risenga scoring 158 points.



## KZN YPF SCHEDULE FOR 2018 (draft)

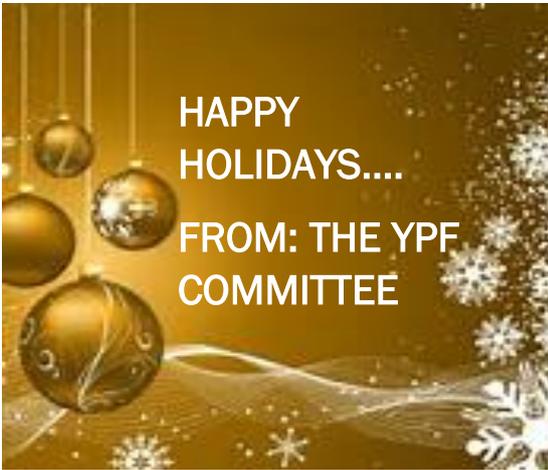
### SOCIAL EVENTS

- ❖ Social Initiative – Kwa-Mashu Creche - January
- ❖ Annual Soccer tournament - March/April
- ❖ Quiz Night - June
- ❖ Industry Bodies Networking – July
- ❖ Celebrating CESA Woman - August
- ❖ Christmas Drive - December
- ❖ Year-End Function – December

### CESA and YPF EVENTS

- ❖ Grade 11 Math's Workshop (1 Saturday/month starting in February)
- ❖ CESA Presidential Visit - TBC
- ❖ ECSA Registration workshop - April
- ❖ Technical Seminar/Workshop 1 – TBC
- ❖ CESA Relay - May or August (Venue Dependant)
- ❖ Technical Seminar/Workshop 2 - TBC
- ❖ Mandela Day Initiative - July
- ❖ YPF Imbizo/CESA Awards - August
- ❖ Technical Seminar/Workshop 3 - TBC
- ❖ CESA Conference November
- ❖ Industry Visits 2 -TBC

For any comments, queries or suggestions please contact Yolán Pillay on [Yolan.Pillay@rhdhv.com](mailto:Yolan.Pillay@rhdhv.com). If you are involved in an exciting project or have something to say about an industry related topic, please feel free to send through your submissions.



HAPPY  
HOLIDAYS....  
FROM: THE YPF  
COMMITTEE