

## DENTASA UPDATE

Once again the AGM has come and gone. For DENTASA this has been a tremendous year. The growth in membership was pleasing and the highlight of 2008 was undoubtedly the highly successful AGM.

The support we received, not only from our members, but also from all dental traders made this year very special. The SIRONA DENTASA AGM was held at the Castle Kyalami. The overwhelming positive response received from the questionnaire completed by all the delegates confirms that it was a resounding success.

The 2008 AGM boasted with speakers such as Vanik Jinoian, Dieter Grubel, Alex de Gradde and many more. All speakers are regarded as top international experts in the field of dental technology. This was one of the contributing factors of the record attendance. The other main draw card was the ever-changing industry in which we find ourselves.

The most significant change being the option of technicians claiming directly from the medical aids. The implementation of the ICD 10 codes and new work order forms is a contentious issue and a lot of uncertainty still remains.

Dr. Nic Anderson, Deputy General Manager of Discovery Health was the last of the guest speakers, with the main aim to inform us exactly how the direct claiming is going to affect us. This however was the most disappointing as he was on a mission to boost Discovery Health, and did not answer a single question adequately pertaining to direct claiming.

It is to be noted, that the new order forms need to be completed and signed by the dentist and not by the assistant. If this is not done, the technician has no recourse to claim the monies due to him if a dispute should arise.

Mr. Johan Badenhorst discussed the pension fund, which is compulsory for all employees according to the SADTC act. Any queries in this regard should be addressed to him at 102-4313409.

Congratulations to the unopposed SADTC Council members. A. Ferreira and D. Owen are appointed for another term of five years to represent employers. Magda Smit and Meritia Burger were appointed to represent the employees. May their term of office be fruitful and constructive.

DENTASA would also like to take this opportunity to thank all Dental Traders for their tremendous support. The SIRONA DENTASA AGM 2008 would not have been possible without them. To NOVA Dental, well done on receiving the prize for the best exhibition.

The Executive Committee of DENTASA meets every second Tuesday of the month. If you, the members would like to place anything on the Agenda, please do so in writing one week prior to the meeting.

If you are not a member of DENTASA yet, we invite you to join, and become a part of a new dynamic Association representing all Dental Technologists.