



President's report

NACA is a non-profit scientific organization with the amicable aspirations of promoting clean air in South Africa. Since its inception in 1969 the organization has contributed towards the prevention of air pollution through the co-operation of various stakeholders. The organization serves as a centre for information accumulation and dissemination by maintaining relations with national as well as international role players through educational programs, conferences, seminars, the NACA journal and now the NACA Magazine.

NACA membership currently exceeds 500 and is growing steadily with membership open to all individuals, companies, organizations and authorities interested in clean air. The NACA Council is responsible for the management of the organization and ensuring that all clean air objectives are met. There are currently five active regional branches, i.e. Western Cape; Eastern Cape; Kwazulu-Natal; Northern Branch (primarily Gauteng) and the Vaal Triangle with two new branches to be established in the near future (one in North-West Province and one in Mpumalanga).

Education is one of the focus areas for this year. NACA has formed a partnership with the University of Johannesburg to establish a number of air quality management courses, ranging from introductory, right through to more specialized courses. The University established a unit standard for the training material providing NQF credits to be earned by attendance and making it available to other tertiary institutions. An Air Quality Management Short Course is registered with the University with another three to be submitted for approval this year.

NACA also has a memorandum of understanding with the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism; scheduling the annual NACA conference to be held in conjunction with the department's Lekgotla. This relationship enables NACA members to stay abreast with the latest development in air quality legislation. NACA has also played a major role in coordinating expert comment on draft legislation, regulations and standards.

The launch of this magazine, together with the O!News and website will facilitate the advancement of air quality management within the broader gamut of science and specifically as a tool for human advancement within the context of sustainable development. □