



SAIW's 66th annual celebration

The Institute's 66th Annual Awards Dinner was held at the Gold Reef City Conference Centre on Friday August 15. Compèred by cabaret artist and comedienne, Irit Noble with additional entertainment by music group, the Delivery Boys, some 350 SAIW and welding industry stakeholders celebrated the industries 2013/2014 successes.

SAIW president Morris Maroga says that the Awards Dinner serves two purposes. "First, we are here to recognise and celebrate success within the welding industry and the SAIW. Also, though, tonight presents an opportunity for business networking," he begins, before quoting Henry Ford who said: *'Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.'*

"I also want to take you back to the times of William Shakespeare, who once said: *'We know what we are, but not what we may be.'* So tonight, ladies and gentlemen, I urge you to take the opportunity to socialise and network with an open mind so that new opportunities might emerge," says Maroga while welcoming guests, SAIW staff and past presidents, and the South African welding industry.

Special thanks were reserved to the industry sponsors of the event, including VBV Holdings, ESAB, WASA, Afrox; Techtra Engineering, Air Products; voestalpine Böhler Welding, Steinmüller and New Age Welding Solutions. "Thanks to all of you and SAIW looks forward to working with you," adds Maroga.

Following dinner and entertainment from Irit Noble and the Delivery Boys, Maroga was again called to the stage along with Gert Joubert from ArcelorMittal, the chairperson of the SAIW Certification Board to present the Annual Awards.

SAIW presents four awards every year, two awards to the best students on NDT and weld inspection courses, respectively; an award for the best research paper; and a Gold medal award for an outstanding contribution to the South African welding industry.

Starting with the student awards, Joubert says that the SAIW has been training NDT personnel, welders and welding inspection personnel of more than 30 years and has been an important contributor to skills development in these areas for all of that time.

"SAIW involves industry in every aspect of the development of these courses. It is very important that industry gives its input, because industry knows the skills that are needed from graduates entering the work place. Industry is the employer of all graduates and it needs employees that can be

productive and useful," he says, adding that industry involvement helps to ensure that SAIW training programmes and the qualifications that are awarded are well suited to industry requirements and that all "graduates have good prospects of employment".

"These courses are demanding. Students have to be able to apply theoretical knowledge and code specifications and pass closed and open book exams as well as practicals. So, particularly to those students receiving awards tonight, well done, you have done excellently!" he says, adding, "Student winners will receive a voucher of R20 000 for use on any SAIW course or seminar".

SAIW Presidents Award for NDT

"The first award of the night is the Presidents Award for NDT and is made in the name of the past presidents of the SAIW, three of whom are with us tonight, Willie Rankin, Robin Williamson and Andy Koursaris. The award recognises the best students on SAIW NDT courses.

"This year is special because we have two winners: Petrus Stephanus



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Receiving their Awards from SAIW president Morris Maroga are the best students on SAIW NDT courses: Petrus Stephanus Rossouw, and (right photo) Lorraine Lerato Montsho.



Winner of the Phil Santilhana Memorial Award, Duran Naidoo, who qualified with distinctions at both Level 1 and Level 2 on the SAIW welding inspection courses, receives his award from Maroga.

Rossouw, for outstanding marks in one volumetric method and two surface methods at Level 1; and Lorraine Lerato Montsho – and this is the second time that Lerato has received this award, as she won it in 2012 for her success at Level 1,” Joubert announces.

The Phil Santilhana Memorial Award

The second student award is the Phil Santilhana Memorial Award presented to the best student on one of the Institute’s welding supervision and inspection courses. Santilhana was SAIW’s first full-time employee and technical director, who was appointed some 32 years ago. “This years winner is Duran Naidoo, who qualified with distinctions at both Level 1 and Level 2 on the SAIW welding inspection courses,” says Joubert.

Harvey Shacklock Gold Medal Award for 2014

Moving on to the Harvey Shacklock Gold Medal for the author of the best technical paper presented at an Institute event, Joubert says: “Harvey Shacklock was instrumental in founding the SAIW and was elected as its first president on 1 March, 1948. This award was named in memory of his contribution to the welding industry and it was first presented in 1949. Afrox, part of the worldwide Linde group, generously donates a gold medal for the award.”

The 2014 winner is Prince Dlamini from Eskom for his presentation ‘*Dealing with materials and welding quality on Eskom’s new build plant*’. The presentation was made to an evening meeting of SAIW and it is being converted to a technical paper that will be published in *African Fusion* in November.

The SAIW Gold Medal Award

“The final award for this evening is the

Institute’s Gold Medal Award, the highest annual accolade presented by the SAIW,” Joubert announces. First introduced in 1966, the Gold Medal Award “can be made to a company or an individual in recognition of outstanding contributions to welding technology or to the Institute”.

“Last year, if you remember, the award was made to a company, Steinmüller, but this year it is the turn of an individual. For 2014 the award is made to Robin Williamson, who has been involved with the Institute for more than 30 years. He has seen the Institute grow from the rented facilities it first occupied in Kempton Park in the late 1970s and early 1980s to its present situation. He has been an elected member of Council since 1985 and has played no small part in the development of the Institute.

“He was president of the SAIW from 1994 to 1998 and was awarded honorary life membership in 2003. Not content to being involved with SAIW alone, he has been a director of SAIW Certification since that company was founded in 2005 and he participates in other SAIW committees, most notably the pressure vessel inspector committees. Robin has helped to prepare many SAIW course syllabuses and examinations and, although he is still working as a full time consultant, he regularly finds time to assist in a variety of activities when requested to do so,” says Joubert.

The award citation reads: “In recognition of 30 years of selfless service to the Institute”.

“In our 66th year we are pleased to make the award of the Institute’s gold medal to an outstanding individual.



The 2014 winner of the Harvey Shacklock Award is Prince Dlamini from Eskom for his presentation ‘*Dealing with materials and welding quality on Eskom’s new build plant*’.



Robin Williamson (right), winner of the SAIW Gold medal Award with wife, Janet and daughter, Rachael.

We are also very pleased that his wife, Janet and daughter, Rachael, are able to join us this evening especially as Rachael is visiting from Hong Kong,” adds Joubert in concluding the awards for the evening.