



20 May 2017

Dear SAALED members

*"Optimism is the foundation of all good teaching. Optimism in the face of daunting reality is downright heroic - and that, in fact, is what good teachers practice all day long, while others denigrate their contributions to society."* Rafe Esquith (2014)

We at SAALED continue to be optimistic in spite of the many challenges facing volunteer organisations. In order to keep members informed about our organisational changes we hereby share the new structure.

Fleur, (Acting Chairperson National) Caroline, (Previous Chairperson) and Claudia (Chairperson for KZN) recently met to discuss the way forward:

For the past two years, due to costs, attempts to maintain a permanently staffed National office have been unsuccessful and the following decisions have been made to maintain SAALED, but in a different manner -

- SAALED Gauteng will be taking over the functions of the national committee on a much smaller scale.
- Paid-up membership is no longer viable,
- People attending any SAALED function will automatically be added to the membership database.
- The functioning branches will continue to organise regular meetings, mini conferences and workshops in their areas.
- Communication between the branches will remain.
- Annual audits will be conducted by the appointed auditors.
- The newsletter and sponsorships will be discontinued.

The SAALED branches in operation are:

- Gauteng: Chairperson, Joanne Glendinning
- KZN: Chairperson, Claudia Vosters
- Knysna: Chairperson, Susan Minnaar
- Port Elizabeth: Chairperson, Danielle Ah Hing

Emails can be directed to the correct branch via **Jean James Smith** [jean@saaled.org.za](mailto:jean@saaled.org.za)

Unfortunately, the Cape Town branch is no longer operational. We would like to thank Michelle Swanepoel for her efforts and continued support.

Best wishes for a successful 2017.

Kind regards

**Fleur Durbach**  
(Acting National Chairperson)