

13 November

2008

### Chairman's Report 2008

Dear Member,

By virtue of you being a delegate at this conference membership of our association is automatically bestowed on you. Enjoy!

May I say at the outset that my two years as Chairman of this great organisation have been extremely rewarding and I trust you have derived value from attending our Annual Conferences, which are the mainstay of our activities.

You will recall that exactly a year ago we had a very successful conference at Kwa-Maritane, which regrettably burnt down about two months ago. The conference was well attended with in excess of 100 delegates and about 30 students. We were also very pleased with overseas delegate attendance, many of whom gave us an insight into international best practise.

The financials of Rapdasa remain sound and our Treasurer Mr. Eugene Erfort needs to be complimented on all his hard work and diligent control of all financial transactions. Unfortunately the host institution for last year did not make a financial contribution to cover the shortfall of hosting the event of R106 000, as had been the custom over the last seven years.

We would, however, like to thank our generous sponsors over many years including Sasol and AMTS who provide substantial grants, and all of the other sponsors who were acknowledged during the event. This allows us to keep the cost of attendance down, and subsidises the student participation at our event, as well as student prizes for best paper/s.

A major project for this year was our website, and Neil de Beer burnt the proverbial midnight oil to design same and launch. Thank you Neil!

**Pauline Bullock continued as secretary and had to make sense of our monthly meetings and reflect all decisions in our minutes, Thank you Pauline!**

**And then of course to our committee who give up personal time to volunteer their assistance to ensure we grow the association. All are experts in their fields and collectively are spearheading the industry in South Africa, keeping us current with world trends.**

**I think we can be proud of what has been achieved over the past eight years and our recipe of meeting annually at exciting venues. Certainly by being a member of Rapdasa you will see the country, from the Cape West Coast, Game Reserves and the Cultural Capital of South Africa, Bloemfontein, were we have constituted the 2008 event. (close to the biggest prototyping centre on the continent according to Deon de Beer)**

**Deon de Beer and his team need to be complimented on the organisation for this event, special thanks to Jenny van Rensburg who has overseen the day-to-day arrangements and confirmed bookings.**

**To you our delegate, thank you for attending this event. We are sure you will gain useful information on the state of the industry. Please feel free to contact any committee member for further assistance or information.**

**Once again, to our committee members, your efforts are greatly appreciated!**

**Yours sincerely**

**Bob Bond**