

The South African Geophysical Association's Biennial Conference and Exhibition 6–9 September 2015



Come September 2015, the hills will be alive with the sound of 'physics', geophysics to be more precise! The South African Geophysical Association's 2015 Biennial Conference and Exhibition will be, true to form, held in one of the most majestic locations South Africa has to offer, the Central Drakensberg. The Champagne Sports Resort, nestled in the foothills of the Drakensberg, below looming basaltic cliffs, will be playing host to this year's event.

The region has much on offer spanning interests from contemporary history and archaeology to fascinating palaeontology and geology. Derived from the Afrikaans name Drakensberge or 'Dragon Mountains', the original native name translates to 'Barrier of Spears', this analogy being most evident when viewed from the sprawling foothills. Reaching a height of 3450 m above sea level, the ~183 million year old flood basalt of the Drakensberg escarpment forms a cap to the Karoo Supergroup, one of the best and most complete sedimentary successions deposited during the Permian and Triassic Periods, a veritable timeline of paleontological evidence. To add to the plethora of treats on offer, a short drive north, plunging nearly 1 km off the face of the Amphitheatre, is the second highest waterfall on Earth, the Tugela Falls!

Join us for three days of comprehensive and in-depth talks, discussions and workshops, presented by the world's leading experts in all disciplines of geophysics. Delegates drawn from the private and public sectors of the mining and petroleum industries include geophysicists, geologists, hydrologists, consultants, geophysical contractors, software developers, geoscience researchers, mathematicians, academics as well as students. In alignment with SAGA's mission to foster and encourage the development of geophysics in South Africa, we are once again running our 'Adopt-a-Student' programme whereby delegates are afforded the opportunity to invest in our future geoscientists through sponsorship and mentoring.

The conference features topics that matter most in modern geophysics including: Seismic Acquisition, Processing and Interpretation, Seismic Case Studies in Petroleum and Mineral Applications, Gravity and Magnetic Methods, Electromagnetics and Electrical Methods, Borehole Geophysics and Rock Physics, Case Studies Integrating Earth Science, Geophysical Modelling and Inversion, Mineral Exploration, Hydrocarbon Exploration, Mining Geophysics, Environmental and Engineering Geophysics, Groundwater Applications

and Hydrogeology. There are also pre- and post-conference geological day trips and multi-day tours hosted by local experts.

The SAGA 2015 Committee is also proud to be hosting the Lalor Symposium at the conference. The Hudbay Lalor deposit is located in the Chisel Basin portion of the Flin Flon Greenstone Belt and is believed to be the largest VMS deposit found in this region to date. The discovery of Lalor by the HudBay team won the 2008 Bill Dennis Award for a Canadian discovery by the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC). The Lalor symposium will be chaired by Dr Dennis Woods (British Columbia Geophysical Society) and will feature a number of eminent geoscientists who have worked on the Hudbay Lalor deposit. The geological and geophysical techniques employed to make the discovery will be reviewed.

We look forward to hosting you and your colleagues in the Drakensberg, a must-see destination! Please go to our conference website www.saga2015.co.za for more information and to register your interest.

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The Drakensberg Mountains in profile.