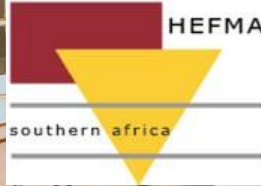


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HEFMAMANIA NEWSLETTER NO.1 OF 2025

Latest Updates in Hefma



EXCO Strategic Breakaway

EXCO held a successful 2 day strategic planning breakaway under the theme “committed to growth and impactful collaborations”. This breakaway was aimed at processing the last Annual General Meeting (AGM) resolutions and to put together a strategic program in pursuit of such resolutions and the promotion of HEFMA.

The breakaway received a number of reports including a report on the state of readiness for North-West University to host the **2025 conference**. The conference is to be held from **13 October 2025 to 16 October 2025** under the theme “*innovating campus spaces*”. Exco was taken on a campus tour while appraised on progress made by the university which includes securing the state of the art facilities for the conference. Exco also took time to visit the local Vuselela TVET College.

“The University is partnering with HEFMA as the Host venue for the 2025 conference”. Said the President of HEFMA, Mr Hendrik Esterhuizen. He went on to say that soon after its declaration as host venue the university set up a task team whose assignment is to organize within the institution, the task team will however form part of the Joint Conference Organizing Committee constituted of HEFMA EXCO and university’s officials.

“The conference will feature panel discussions by Principals and COOs. It will also feature international speakers and experts on cutting edge innovation. The conference will take place within the context of the university’s 20th Anniversary “*20 years of greatness*” and so it will leverage this important milestone to reflect on its past experiences and look ahead on its future aspirations.

Establishment of the COOs Forum

In February 2025 HEFMA established and successfully launched the first of its kind COOs Forum for collaboration, peer benchmarking and sharing of information at that strategic level. Welcoming this historic development, the COOs thanked HEFMA for this move while also acknowledging that it was long overdue.

Giving its message the Department of Higher Education & Training affirmed its support for the new forum and further asserted its eagerness to see strong collaboration through this platform in addressing pertinent issues which include among others planning, infrastructure procurement and delivery and grant reporting. The forum will also explore strategic collaborations with cities or towns within the spirit of the Cities Infrastructure Delivery and Management System (CIDMS). The next meeting of the forum is to be held at the University of Pretoria in May 2025.



Regional Chapters

As part of its growth strategic focus area, the association has launched plans to meaningfully activate the chapters across its regions. This include regular workshops and other strategic interventions where required. The chapters are central in fostering collaboration and peer benchmarking at localized level.



Filling of EXCO vacancy

In line with the AGM resolution, EXCO has closed the vacancy which was occasioned by the non availability of nominations both pre and during the last AGM for the position of Director: Information Services. "After an extensive process as mandated by the last AGM we have successfully closed the vacancy, we now look forward to the work ahead and vibrancy in that environment which is essential for the communication and touch with members and broader interested persons". Said the immediate past president, Mr Lindokuhle Mzolo

Impactful Collaborations

HEFMA continues its pursuit for impactful collaborations. In a game changing move, it has included its sponsors, business and strategic partners in the strategic program. This includes regular engagements with them at both collective and bilateral levels. HEFMA will also jointly host webinars and share case studies with these important stakeholders.



EXCO Beefs Up its Capacity

In its quest to optimize capacity EXCO has recently added Three officers to the team. These include a new Director for Information Services Ms Lerato Maloka whose appointment closed a vacancy which couldn't be closed at the last Annual General Meeting. It also coopted Two additional members namely Mr Kennedy John and Mr Monde Nonjabe. The new team members have already hit the ground running with HEFMA work.