

PEN South Africa newsletter / Issue 15 2017

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Issue 15
16 August 2017
ISSN 2410-2210

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PEN South Africa AGM Report

By Deborah Horn-Botha

The electronic AGM document was emailed to all members on the 31st May 2017. Members were asked to respond approving (or not) the contents of the AGM document, the financials, and proposed changes to our constitution by 5.00 p.m. on the 30th June 2017. Comments were also invited.

As per our current constitution 25% of members in good standing were required to form a quorum. 165 members out of 310 were in good standing and 79 attendance responses/votes were received, thus 47.88% and so a quorum was formed. Six comments were received.

In order to change the constitution 66.6% of members in good standing were required to approve the suggested changes. One objection to one of the proposed clause amendments was received. Only 47.88% of members voted and so the required percentage was not achieved and thus the changes cannot be implemented at this time. The proposed changes concerned officially changing the name of SA PEN to PEN SA, officially providing for different types of membership (Professional, Supporter, Honorary and Publisher), and providing for how electronic AGMs should operate.

Nadia Davids, Nooshin Erfani-Ghadimi, Yewande Omotoso and Karina Szczurek, were proposed as members of the committee at this 2017 AGM. Their CVs were provided in the AGM document. No objections being received, these four candidates were duly elected on to the executive committee.

Margie Orford indicated at this AGM that she would be stepping down as President at the subsequent executive committee meeting but was happy to remain as an ordinary member of the committee. Nadia Davids was duly, as per the constitutional requirements, elected by the executive committee at a meeting held 15th June 2017, as our new President. Thus subsequent to this AGM the PEN SA executive committee consists of:

Nadia Davids (President), Mandla Langa (Executive Vice-President), Raymond Louw (Vice-President), Gabeba Baderoon, Nooshin Erfani-Ghadimi, Justin Fox, Mark Heywood, Adré Marshall, Yewande Omotoso, Margie Orford, Karina Szczurek, Deborah Horn-Botha (Secretarial Services & Treasurer).



PEN SA at Open Book 2017

We are pleased to announce that PEN South Africa will be presenting two events at this year's Open Book Festival, which is being held from 6 – 10 September. Join us at *Women's Manifesto*, with PEN SA President Nadia Davids, Buhle Ngaba and Sindiswa Busuku-Mathese; and at *The Sellout* with Paul Beatty and Harry Garuba. Click through for more details and to see which PEN SA members will be speaking at the festival...[read more](#)

(Image courtesy of [Open Book](#))

NEW MEMBERS' TITLES

the JOHANNESBURG REVIEW of BOOKS

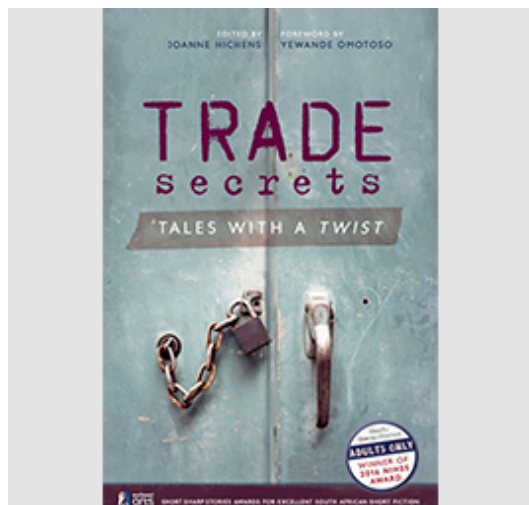
***The Johannesburg Review of Books* Volume 1, Issue 4**

The latest issue of *The Johannesburg Review* features writing and photographs by PEN SA members Efemia Chela, Imraan Coovadia, Victor Dlamini, Niq Mhlongo, Masande Ntshanga, Nick Mulgrew and Richard de Nooy...[read more](#)

(Image courtesy of [The Johannesburg Review of Books](#))

UPCOMING EVENTS

See what's still coming up in [August](#) and what's on [next month](#),



The latest Short Sharp Stories anthology, [Trade Secrets](#), features stories by PEN SA members Amy Heydenrych, Sally Partridge, Darrel Bristow-Bovey, Andrew Salomon, Stephen Symons and Kerry Hammerton. The foreword was written by PEN SA Board Member Yewande Omotoso and PEN SA member Liesl Jobson judged this year's competition. Other new titles by PEN SA members are [The Architecture of Loss](#) by ZP Dala, [Overkill](#) by James Clarke, [Gathering Shards](#) by Emmaleen Kriel and [Nameless the Hitman](#) by Hsien W Lou. Abigail George also has poems featured in [The Seasons](#) compiled by Robin Barratt...[read more](#)

CONGRATULATIONS!

including Open Book and the South African Book Fair.

CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS

Theme announced for the 2018 Short Sharp Stories Award...[read more](#)

AVBOB Poetry Competition...[read more](#)

Wergle Flomp Humor Poetry Contest...[read more](#)

African Fact-checking Awards...[read more](#)

Badilisha Poetry X-Change...[read more](#)

TRIBUTES TO ANNE SCHUSTER (1947 – 2017)

PEN SA member Anne Schuster sadly passed away on 12 June 2017. Dawn Garisch, Rahla Xenopoulos and Jade Gibson have written tributes to Anne, who was a writer and creative writing teacher...[read more](#)

Mohale Mashigo was awarded the UJ Debut Prize...[read more](#)

Kopano Matlwa's novel [Period Pain](#) has been published in the UK and the US as *Evening Primrose* and Masande Ntshanga's novel [The Reactive](#) has been published in the UK and will be published in Italy soon...[read more](#)

The first novel for adults by PEN SA member Jill Morsbach, titled *African Paradise*, is due to appear next year, along with her new novel for teens, *Flight*, plus a novel for younger readers titled *Secret Mission in the Cederberg*. Jill has written mainly for children to date and is encouraged that her first venture into the adult market has now met with success. The publisher of all three novels will be Publishing World SA.

AWARDS NEWS

The Crime Writers' Association has announced the shortlist for the Dagger Awards...[read more](#)

The winner of the Goethe-Institut & Sylt Foundation African Writer's Residency Award has been announced...[read more](#)

The Nielsen Booksellers Choice Award shortlist has been announced...[read more](#)

JOB AD: POST-DOC RESEARCH ASSISTANT

The Writers' Organizations and Free Expression Project is looking for a Post-Doc Research Assistant...[read more](#)

[Send us your news](#)

Had a book published recently? Attended or participated in a festival? Won an award? Achieved a personal milestone of note? We welcome any news of your

activities for future issues of the PEN SA newsletter. Please let us know if your email changes so we can update our mailing list.

Please email your contributions
to communications@pensouthafrica.co.za



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