



Notes from the 2013 SAWCT scholarship students

With the generous support of SAWCT donors, three deserving students who have completed the Higher Certificate in Nature Conservation are selected to continue their studies at the Southern African Wildlife College. After completing the Advanced Certificate Programme, these students go on to manage some of the world's most biologically diverse areas. In implementing the skills learnt, they collaborate with a broad array of stakeholders including government agencies, conservation groups and communities to achieve long lasting conservation results that help address economic and ecological needs.

Khumoetsile Phala North West Parks and Tourism Board

Recipient of the WWF-SA Award for the most outstanding South African student as well as the Distell Award for the Best Advanced Certificate student in Trans-frontier Conservation Management - 2013

I would like to thank SAWCT and its donors for this opportunity which has enabled me to continue my studies at the Southern African Wildlife College. I had a lot to prove and believe I have, with the help of SAWCT, done my organisation and myself proud and I am now looking forward to implementing what I have learnt back in the workplace. I really hope that SAWCT will be able to continue helping others who are like me and have a passion for conservation so that they can help bring change and solve environmental problems facing the world today.

Simon Muchatibaya Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management

Recipient of the Best Financial Management Student Award - 2013

It is really from deep down in my heart that I would like to show my gratitude to you and all those who are behind our education at the Southern African Wildlife College. This College is so conducive to learning that come year end, failing is not an option.

The relationships forged between management, the academic staff and students is such that even to some of us who are from foreign countries, it feels like home from home. As students we are accommodated in very comfortable rooms, are well nourished and are provided with an abundance of study material.

This course has allowed me to acquire a great deal of knowledge as well as the skills which will be of paramount importance in the execution of my day to day duties when I am back at my work place and will stand me in good stead to become one of the best wildlife managers in Zimbabwe which will help protect Africa's rich heritage.

May the God Almighty bless you.

Simba Sandram Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority

Recipient of the Distell Award for Best Student – Higher Certificate in Nature Conservation Implementation and Leadership - 2012.

I would like to thank SAWCT for affording me the opportunity to further my studies. With financial resources being really limited in my country, the chances of me completing the Advanced Certificate Programme were remote even though I earned top marks in the Higher Certificate programme in 2012. I was really hoping to refine my skills and the SAWCT scholarship has not only enabled me to continue my studies and obtain a further qualification but also to advance within my organisation.

I am now really happy to inform you that my employer has wasted no time and I have been promoted to Acting Area Manager of one of Zimbabwe's most challenging conservation parks - Chewore Sub Region. I really look forward to taking on my new role. Without the support of SAWCT, my dream would not have been realised.

May this spirit of benevolence towards conservation be spread to future managers who will continue to protect Africa's wildlife areas.

Succeeding with SACET

Since the development of the College's new business plan and increased training scope, the student intake has grown with a record number of students enrolling across various programmes in both 2012 and 2013. Over the past 13 years, the Southern African Wildlife College Trust (SAWCT) has recognised the students' achievements and has awarded 30 Higher Education and Training scholarships and 15 bursaries to some of the College's top students. In 2013 SAWCT awarded three scholarships and two bursaries.

To further support the work of the College, in 2013 the trustees approved the appointment of a part-time fundraiser, Heather van Wyk, to help raise the profile of the Trust and to build the endowment portfolio. Heather is based in Cape Town and is making good progress in growing the SAWCT donor base. Many of you will have heard from her already to confirm contact details or to thank you for your contributions. We look forward to her consolidating our relationship with you as donors so that we can continue to build capacity for conservation in Africa.

It must please be noted that we have officially changed our acronym from SACET to SAWCT which reflects the updated and registered name of the Trust. The Southern African Wildlife College, located near the Orpen Gate of the Kruger National Park, is the only beneficiary of the Trust so, as explained in earlier announcements, it made sense to show this in the Trust's official name.



donors

The trustees of the Southern African Wildlife College Education Trust would like to convey their warmest gratitude to all our donors for their generous support.

Donations received from inception to 28 February 2013

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(R1 million and above)

Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust
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The Ruffard Foundation
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World Wide Fund for Nature - South Africa

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Measor CME, Estate Late
Ravazzotti, Mr GAM
Sasol Ltd.
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Van Eeden, The Late Mr Johannes
Whitehead, The Late Mr JH



The Southern African Wildlife College Education Trust is endorsed by IUCN (Regional Office of Southern Africa), South African National Parks, the World Wide Fund For Nature, South Africa (WWF SA) and the Peace Parks Foundation (PPF).

Trustees (as at 28 February 2013)

- Mr CH de Villiers
Individual Capacity
- Mr I Goodwin
WWF South Africa
- Mrs A Hefers
Peace Parks Foundation
- Dr AA Kaka
IUCN Eastern & Southern Africa
- Countess SSM Labia
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- Mr W Myburgh
Peace Parks Foundation
- Ms LJ Richardson
Individual Capacity (Chairperson)
- Dr LD Sefu
Individual Capacity
- Dr T Terferi
WWF-ESARPO

Gareth Hadres-Williams and Lesley Richardson pictured with the 2013 SAWCT Scholarship recipients:
(From left) Khumoetsile Phala, Simba Sandram and Simon Muchatibaya.



southern african
wildlife
college trust

annual report 2013

Nurturing and strengthening conservation leadership for today and tomorrow





college news

Established by WWF-South Africa in 1996 and supported by the Peace Parks Foundation and the SAWCT endowment fund, the Southern African Wildlife College plays a critical role in training and empowering future conservation leaders and the men and women on the ground who protect Africa's wildlife.

Since the College's inception, it has held fast to an unwavering course to empower and inspire protected area managers and others involved in environmental practices to embrace the challenges of conservation in Africa. To date over 10,000 people have been trained at this SADC recognised centre of specialization in conservation education, training and skills development.

message from the chairperson and the founder trustee

We are delighted to present to you, our loyal and dedicated partners in conservation, our Annual Report for 2013 which we trust will give you some valuable insight into the work being done at the Southern African Wildlife College.

Thanks to you, our valued funding partners, SAWCT's reserves now stand at an impressive R25 474 340 – a tremendous achievement by any standard and one that could never have been realised without the contributions made to the SAWCT "potjie" depicted in our logo.

Your support has meant that the Southern African Wildlife College Trust not only had the privilege of awarding three scholarships and two bursaries to some of the most promising students at the College in 2013 but that it was also in a position to assist the College with funding projects that have a direct influence on the quality of education provided by the College.

We are pleased to announce that Simba Sandram together with Simon Muchatibaya both of Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority and Khumoetsile Phala from the North West Parks and Tourism Board were awarded scholarships to continue their studies and attend the Advanced Certificate Programme in Nature Conservation: Transfrontier Conservation Management. Please enjoy their personal notes of thanks to you which we have published on the last page of this report.

In addition SAWCT was also able to award two bursaries to students enrolling for the Higher Certificate in Nature Conservation: Conservation Implementation and Leadership. The two bursary recipients were Mondli Ndlamini from the Swaziland National Trust Commission and Vakele Zulu from Luangwa Management Service in Zambia.

In the words of the late Nelson Mandela: "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." May the College continue to provide education, training and skills development to enable its students to make a real difference when they go back to their places of work. And with your support, may SAWCT grow to keep pace with the leadership training demands for conservation in southern Africa.

Sincerely

Lesley Richardson
Chairperson

Sylvia Labia
Founder Trustee



Lesley Richardson
Chairperson



Sylvia Labia
Founder Trustee

income and disbursements



STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2013

	2013	2012
	R	R
INCOME		
Donations and voluntary contributions	429,158	921,297
EXPENDITURE	149,549	277,845
Administration disbursements	96,321	237,844
Fundraising campaign	15,928	5,501
Management services	37,300	34,500
Net surplus before finance income adjustment	279,636	643,452
Finance income	448,667	610,232
Investments - change in market value	1,581,309	1,494,945
Total comprehensive surplus/(deficit) for the year	2,309,612	2,748,629

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2013

	Capital	General	Total
	Fund	Fund	
	R	R	R
Balance at 1 March 2012	20,387,633	3,554,724	23,942,357
Total comprehensive income for the year	429,185	1,880,427	2,309,612
Distribution to beneficiary	-	(780,629)	(780,629)
Transfer between funds	1,214,203	(1,214,203)	-
Balance at 28 February 2013	22,031,021	3,440,319	25,471,340
Balance at 1 March 2011	18,805,958	3,537,770	22,343,728
Total comprehensive income for the year	421,297	2,327,332	2,748,629
Distribution to beneficiary	-	(1,150,000)	(1,150,000)
Transfer between funds	1,160,378	(1,160,378)	-
Balance at 29 February 2012	20,387,633	3,554,724	23,942,357

2013 OVERVIEW

The principal business and corporate directions of the College have born fruit and 2013 proved to be a very significant year in the College's history. Once again, the College had a record number of students pass through its doors and, with the help of SAWCT, it purchased African Field Ranger Training Services (AFRTS). With funding from the Liberty Wildlife Fund it also bolstered its anti-poaching training and capability by acquiring a Bathawk light aircraft. In addition and perhaps more importantly, the College has worked well towards achieving financial stability and, in line with its growth, Phase 2 of its infrastructure development is fast becoming a reality in terms of KFW's commitment and investment.

TRAINING

Higher Education and Training

2013 marked the 16th year that the College has been offering its flagship protected area management programmes designed to help achieve long lasting conservation results across the region. A total of 52 full time students representing different conservation organisations enrolled for the Higher Certificate and Advanced Certificate Programmes coming from nine different countries including Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Conservation Guardianship (Field Rangers)

The African Field Ranger Training Services division of the SAWC trained more than 470 field rangers in four different countries including South Africa, South East Asia, Mozambique and Tanzania. In addition 15 park wardens were trained in Protected Area Security Planning and 18 people were enrolled for a Patrol Leaders Course.

The use and application of the Bathawk Light Aircraft has also allowed for the inclusion of aerial surveillance across various parks and has resulted in further and more realistic training of field rangers in Ground to Air operations since that activity is now prevalent in all major parks. It represents a large step ahead in the fight against Rhino Poaching and adaptation to the technological advances poachers have made in their criminal activities.

Professional Guiding & Sustainable Utilization

The highlight of this programme is to see how the students have developed not only in terms of the competencies relating to wildlife management but also in character. As the year progressed they became more focused and as the work load increased so did their commitment to putting in the extra effort required. Apart from all the time spent in class students have accumulated a vast amount of "bush" hours – on foot in "Big 5" domain putting into practice classroom theory. This has proven to be the most important component of the whole course and underlines the need to put the most emphasis on practical work.

Conservation Learnerships and Short Course Programmes

2013 can be described as one of the busiest in terms of Further Education and Training Programmes. A total of three learnerships at NQF Level 5 were conducted for SANParks at Kruger National Park, Mpumalanga Tourism Parks Agency at Manyeleti Nature Reserve and an on-site course for Free State Department of Environmental Affairs. A full NQF Level 2 qualification for the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform (RDLR) was also conducted within the year.

The learnerships were supplemented by a total of 14 Short Course Programmes offered to Kruger National Park, North West Parks Board, Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, Exeter Private Game Lodge and Botswana's National Parks Board. Seven international university groups also visited the College on Study Abroad Programmes to complement the learnerships and short courses. In addition, the Conservation and Environmental Education Bridging Programme, first offered in 2010, was once again run this year.

Alternative livelihoods

The two largest projects within this training division include a three-year Community Rangers Project funded by the Jobs Fund which will train 30 unemployed youth per annum in a 12-month Conservation Guardianship Programme and a three-year Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) Youth Environmental Services Project aimed at recruiting and training 100 unemployed youth per annum.

The first project focuses on training the students in subject areas such as anti-poaching, combating soil erosion, combating alien invasive plants, harvesting fauna, infrastructure maintenance, area integrity including patrol tactics, and use of firearms. The second project focuses on environmental monitoring, environmental awareness and waste management and recycling which enables the students to provide these environmental services within their communities.

Innovation & Development for Communities & Natural Resources

In line with the College's development, this newly established department endeavours to network with organizations in SADC countries (in particular Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia & Zimbabwe), the K2C Biosphere, SANParks and other provincial agencies and private protected areas. This networking will allow for the development of the most up to date appropriate practices for the conservation industry such as the hands-on learning-by-doing governance module and the incorporation of methodologies in holistic management practice.

Quality Management System and Accreditation

The College has been operating within a Quality Management System since registration as Private Provider of Further Education in 2008, and Private Provider of Higher Education in 2011. This system is currently being revised and updated to reflect current practices, the expansion of departments and to include new processes and current policy updates. Accredited with CATHSSETA, the Culture, Arts, Tourism, Hospitality and Sports Sector Education and Training Authority (SETA), the College is also an appointed Institute of Sectoral and Occupational Excellence (ISOE) given its outstanding contribution to skills development and organisational capacitation.

Support

The success of the College depends on the support and collaboration of conservation groups, government agencies, conservation organizations as well as stakeholders and partners such as WWF-SA, Peace Parks, SAWCT and the donor community. In the year under review, the College continued to develop sound relationships with long-standing friends and donors whilst also developing new funding initiatives. During 2013 a number of new proposals were submitted and successful donor visits and fundraising events were conducted. Good media relationships were also forged with valuable coverage being generated across electronic and print media both locally and internationally.