INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SEDIMENTOLOGISTS
16th International Sedimentological Congress
8th - 12th July 2002
Rand Afrikaans University ~ Auckland Park
Johannesburg ~ South Africa

INFORMATION
http://general.rau.ac.za/geology/IAS2002/
Visit the website for all the current information
Congress Chairman: bc@na.rau.ac.za

Photograph: Zerridsense turbidite complex, Lower Ugab River, Namibia. Photo courtesy Roger Swart.
SECOND AND FINAL CIRCULAR

16th INTERNATIONAL SEDIMENTOLOGICAL CONGRESS

RAND AFRIKAANS UNIVERSITY

SOUTH AFRICA

8th – 12th JULY 2002
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Registration Form (download separately as a PDF file from IAS2002 website)

**LATEST NEWS:**

Please access our congress website [http://general.rau.ac.za/geology/IAS2002](http://general.rau.ac.za/geology/IAS2002) regularly as it contains comprehensive information on all aspects of the congress, such as travel and tourism, accommodation, announcements, currency conversion, airport information, southern African weather, technical sessions, excursions and reply form.
An Invitation

On behalf of the Organising Committee, I would like to invite you to attend the 16th International Sedimentological Congress in South Africa. We have already had a positive response to the First Circular and I am sure that this, the Second Circular, will attract even more participation. All of the information you require, from airport transfers to exchange rates, excursions, accommodation and special sessions, are detailed here and on our website: http://general.rau.ac.za/geology/IAS2002

July is an ideal time to visit southern Africa. The days are typically cloudless and daytime temperatures are usually mild, reaching 20°C. Evenings are cold with frost in places. Rain and cold weather will only occur if random cold fronts sweep across the country, but these are few and far between.

Several pre-congress and post-congress field trips will be going to spectacular sedimentological regions of southern Africa. Please note that some of these excursions can only accommodate a limited number of delegates, and seats on these trips will be allocated on a first-come first-paid basis. We have also asked several sedimentological specialists to convene Special Sessions, and these should prove to be a major draw-card for congress delegates.

You will be staying in comfortable hotels and University accommodation, be transported to and from the congress, participate in evening social functions, renew old acquaintances and be exposed to some of the most spectacular geology that the African continent has to offer. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

See you in July 2002!

Bruce Cairncross
(Congress Convenor: 16th International Sedimentological Congress)

Congress Venue

The Venue for the Congress is the campus of the Rand Afrikaans University in Johannesburg. Situated in the tree-lined suburb of Auckland Park, this modern campus offers much for the congress delegates. Please visit the RAU website http://www.rau.ac.za to obtain specific details about our University and its infrastructure.

The technical sessions will take place in the lecture halls that are located in one single wing of the campus buildings, so delegates will be able to move quickly and easily between the venues. All halls are equipped with 35 mm slide projectors, overhead projectors and data projectors (see “Instruction to Speakers” in this circular).
Congress Theme

3.5 billion years of sedimentation

This theme emphasises the antiquity of many of the southern African and worldwide sedimentary deposits. Some sessions will focus on this theme and several excursions will also take place in areas where the Archaean, Proterozoic and Phanerozoic sequences are exposed in southern Africa.

Congress Committee

Prof. Bruce Cairncross (RAU) Congress Convenor
bc@na.rau.ac.za
Prof. Nic Beukes (RAU) Congress Co-Convenor
njb@na.rau.ac.za
Dr John Hancox (University of the Witwatersrand) Scientific Co-ordinating Committee
065pjh@cosmos.wits.ac.za
Dr Dion Brandt (University of the Witwatersrand) Scientific Co-ordinating Committee
065dion@cosmos.wits.ac.za
Dr Gerhard Els (Pretoria University) Scientific Co-ordinating Committee
gels@netactive.co.za
Prof. Marek Wendorff (University of Botswana) Scientific Co-ordinating Committee
Wendorff@mopipi.ub.bw
Dr Udo Zimmermann (RAU) Scientific Co-ordinating Committee
uz@na.rau.ac.za
Dr Thinus Jordaan (Consulting Sedimentologist) Sponsorship Committee
jordaan@worldonline.co.za
Dr Jochen Schweitzer (CSIR – Miningtek) Sponsorship Committee
jschweitzer@csir.co.za
Mr Mark Grodner (CSIR – Miningtek) Sponsorship Committee
mgrodner@csir.co.za
Mr Rod Tucker (AVGOLD) Excursions Committee
trott@avgold.co.za
Mr Johann Neveling (Council for Geoscience) Excursions Committee
ineveling@geoscience.org.za
Mr Michael Knoper (RAU) Webmaster and IT details
mwk@na.rau.ac.za
Mrs Ina Redelinghuys (Secretariat)
inhaR@5thavenue.co.za
Mr Richard Bailey (RPB – Congress and Event Consultant) Travel arrangements
rpbcconference@mweb.co.za
Mr Hennie Jonker (RAU) Treasurer and on-campus logistics

http://general.rau.ac.za/geology/IAS2002
Technical Details

- **Language**
The language of the Congress will be English, and no translation facilities are available.

- **Congress program**
  - Short courses (see below)
  - Workshops (see below)
  - Field trips (see below)
  - Commercial exhibitors.

The congress invites **commercial and educational exhibitors** to display their products during the congress. Display space can be purchased at a fee of R1000 per day, for two tables. A table is 1.8 m x 60 cm. Additional tables space can be hired at R500 per extra table. Exhibitors must bring their own tablecloths, props, etc. Exhibitors who require poster boards should contact the Congress Convenor to arrange for these to be made available.

Instruction to Speakers / Presenters

- **Submission of abstracts:** There are three ways to submit abstracts: (a) by using the online abstract submission form available on the congress website from December 2001, (b) by e-mailing the abstract as an attachment to the Congress Convenor, or (c) by sending a Windows (any version) or Mac formatted disk or CD containing the abstract, together with a printed copy, to the congress address. For options b) and c) above, prepare the abstract using Acrobat Reader (version 4 or higher) in PDF format based on the template that can be downloaded from the congress website. (Acrobat Reader can be downloaded free from [http://www.adobe.com/](http://www.adobe.com/)) For further detailed instructions concerning submission of abstracts using any one of the three options listed above, please refer to the congress website.

  **NOTE:** No abstract will be included in the abstract volume until full payment is received. Delegates will be notified of acceptance of abstracts by 22nd March 2002. If you cannot submit as per the instructions above, please contact Mike Knoper (mwk@na.rau.ac.za).

- **Verbal presentation:** Each speaker will be allocated 15 minutes for his or her verbal presentation, plus five minutes for questions.

- **Lecture halls:** Each lecture hall has two screens, two 35 mm slide projectors, one overhead projector, and one data projector. Delegates who wish to use data projectors must prepare their talks as a PowerPoint presentation, and copy the presentation to a CD. The congress organiser will provide PC laptop computers equipped with CD-ROM drives running Windows. Mac users please refer to the website for additional instructions.

- **Poster sessions:** Posters must be no larger than 1.7 m x 1.7 m. Delegates will be allocated times to present their posters.
Important Dates and Deadlines

- **Deadline for submission of abstracts:** 15th March 2002
- **Deadline for fees, registration, excursions, short courses:** 30th April 2002
- Notification of acceptance of abstracts: 22nd March 2002
- Reservation of hotels (deal direct with hotels): 30th April 2002
- Reservation of University accommodation: 30th April 2002
- Confirmation of excursions and short courses: 10th May 2002
- Congress dates – technical sessions: 8th-12th July, 2002
- Ice breaker and registration: 7th July 2002 @ 18h00
- Cancellation before 31st May 2002: full refund less 25% handling fee.
- Cancellation after 31st May 2002: no refund.

(The final congress timetable will be posted on the congress website during May 2002).

Special Sessions

In addition to open sessions, the following special sessions will run during the congress:

- Tempos and events in Precambrian time
- Three billion years of Earth’s glacial history
- Evolution of sedimentary basins during Gondwana assembly and break-up
- Placer sedimentology (incorporating gold, diamonds and heavy minerals)
- The late Palaeozoic glacial connection: South Africa – South America
- Karoo-age sedimentary systems
- Black shales and associated mineral deposits
- Stratigraphy, dynamics and consequences of explosive cosmic events
- Bottom currents, contourites and palaeocirculation
- Siltation / sedimentation in harbours and estuaries
- Carbon sequestration in sediments and soils
- Microbial carbonates
- Deep water carbonates
- Rivers, mires and wetlands
- Environmental sedimentology
- The origin and alteration of sedimentary-hosted mineral deposits
- Applications of ichnology: retrospectives, current perspectives and prospects
- Deep-water deposits
- Heterozoan carbonate systems in low-latitudes
- Tectono-sedimentary evolution of foreland basins through time – 3 billion years to present (IGCP Project 419 – UNESCO/IUGS)

- See website for session convenors.
Short Courses

The following short courses will be offered during the Congress, depending on responses:

Short Course Number 1:

**High Resolution Sequence Stratigraphy** by Professor Steven Flint and Dr John Howell, STRAT Group, University of Liverpool. U.K.

Duration of course: 08:30 – 18:00 (Wednesday, 10th July)
Cost: R800 per delegate. R400 per *bona fide* full-time student.
Minimum 15 participants, maximum 40 participants.

**Presenters:** Steve and John run the Stratigraphy Group at Liverpool University. The STRAT Group comprises 3 academic staff, 4 Post-Docs and 6 PhD students, all working on the development of predictive stratigraphic concepts and applications in all clastic depositional systems and basin types, using outcrop and subsurface data. The Group is currently active in the UK and North Sea, Norway, USA, Canada, Argentina, Chile, South Africa, Borneo, Siberia and the Middle East. Projects are funded by a combination of the international oil and mining industries, the European Union and UK Research Councils. **Steven Flint** has a PhD from Leeds University, some years of experience in Shell Research and has been on the academic staff at Liverpool since 1989. **John Howell** has a PhD from Birmingham University and undertook postdoctoral work on the North Sea Central Graben and the Book Cliffs of Utah before joining the teaching staff at Liverpool in 1997.

**Course content:**

**Introduction and basic definitions.**
Time lines. Differences between lithostratigraphy and chronostratigraphy and implications for correlation. Definition of basic terms and concepts of relative sea level and accommodation space. The original Vail model.

**Seismic stratigraphy:** Historical development of seismic stratigraphy. Nature of reflections, reflector types and patterns. Seismic reflectors and time lines. **Parasequences:** Parasequences and their stacking patterns. Parasequence boundaries and their expression. **Sequences and systems tracts:** The relative sea level curve and importance of rate of relative sea level change. Sequence boundaries and maximum flooding surfaces. Systems Tracts and sequences. Anatomy of valley fills. The Forced Regression model. Falling stage vs. lowstand deposits and attached vs. detached shorelines. Type 2 sequences. **Influence of Tectonic Setting on Sequence Architecture:** Basic passive margin Exxon model. Modifications to the model for extensional basins along strike changes in accommodation space and influences of structural topography. Variations in sediment supply. Applications of the concepts to growth-faulted reservoirs. **Controls on sequence development:** Concepts of sequence hierarchy and time. Long term and short term tectonic processes. Glacial eustasy and Milankovitch cycles. The inadequacies of the Global Cycle Chart

**Practical Exercise:** Parasequences, stacking patterns, systems tracts and high frequency sequences; Book Cliffs, Utah.
Short Course Number 2:

**Modern and ancient placers** by Gerhard Els (course coordinator), University of Pretoria) Ian Corbett (De Beers) and John Youngson (University of Otago). Possible additional contributions by other scientists.

Duration of course: 08:00 –18:00 (Wednesday, 10\textsuperscript{th} July).
Cost: R800 per delegate. R400 per *bona fide* full-time student.
Minimum 15 participants.

**Presenters:** Ian Corbett is presently Mineral Resources Manager (placers) for the De Beers Group, and has lectured at a number of universities on alluvial diamonds. His principal study area is the unique west coast of southern Africa, where fluvial, marine and aeolian processes have been operating and interacting to produce economic concentrations of diamonds. Gerhard Els is presently a director of a geological consulting company, Global Geo Services, and extraordinary professor at the University of Pretoria, South Africa. His major interest is sedimentological research on the famous Witwatersrand palaeoplacers of South Africa, and he has wide experience of their mining and exploration. Currently, John Youngson is a Research Scientist at the University of Otago (New Zealand) and is researching various aspects of placer gold. He is particularly interested in the evolution of gold placers, and chemical and mechanical alteration of placer gold.

**Course content**
This one-day workshop is aimed at post-graduate students and professional placer sedimentologists. The most recent models for the concentration of placer minerals will be presented, with an emphasis on gold and diamonds. The following major aspects of placer sedimentology will be covered:

- The placer concept
- Characteristics of placer minerals
- Geomorphological and tectonic settings
- Depositional environments and systems
- Concentration agents and processes
- Placer evolution
- Tectonic and eustatic influences
- Economic lithofacies, internal structures and basic fluid mechanics
- Traps for placer minerals

Short Course Number 3:

**The study of heavy minerals and their application** by Maria Anna Mange, University of California, Davis.

Duration of course: One day (Wednesday 10\textsuperscript{th} July)
Cost: R800 per delegate. R400 per *bona fide* full-time student.
Minimum 15 participants.
**Presenter:** Maria Mange is Senior Research Geologist in the Department of Geology at University of California, Davis. Before that, she was at Oxford, University of Bern, Imperial College and the Hungarian Geological Institute. She has a life-long interest in the study of heavy minerals, and has developed a heavy mineral technique termed High-Resolution Heavy Mineral Analysis (HRHMA).

**Course content**

This one-day short course is intended for researchers who are keen to study heavy minerals and who are interested in learning more about heavy mineral identification, and on advanced analytical methods used and on the field of their application. Therefore, the course aims to provide practical information on the identification technique, data evaluation and optimum use of results, advice on the application of heavy minerals within specific areas of geology and, finally, to show stimulating examples from studies of keynote importance. Topics that will be covered and questions asked include:

- Why do we study heavy minerals? - Perfect problems for heavy mineral analysis:
  - Heavy mineral stratigraphy, particularly in “barren” sequences and correlation in “barren” sand bodies.
  - Identification of “mineralogical markers”.
  - Sediment-provenance, sand dispersal and changes in hydraulic regimes.
  - Unroofing studies of orogenic belts, tectonogenic sediments as mineralogical archives of past geological events.

- How to use heavy minerals? Focus on the use of heavy minerals in a wide variety of geological environments, to exploit their maximum potential. The influence of factors modifying heavy mineral compositions, how to recognise them and how to minimise their effect.
  - A view into the laboratory; methods, including up-to-date auxiliary techniques, their advantages, when to use them effectively.
  - Microscopy: Identification, point-counting, species-level and high-resolution heavy mineral analysis (HRHMA), the significance of heavy mineral varieties.
  - Evaluation, synthesis and data presentation. Integration of heavy mineral analyses with other geological techniques, e.g. magnetostratigraphy.
  - Application - keynote studies.

**Field Excursions**

The following field trips / excursions are on offer. There are pre- and post-congress trips, designated by “A” and “B” prefixes respectively. The season will be mid-winter. Expect clear skies with cold nights and sunny but cool days. Rain at this time of year is uncommon. Hats and sun protection is strongly advised for all excursions.

Delegates should preferably select one or two back-up excursions in case their first choice is oversubscribed or cancelled. Places will be allocated strictly on a first-come first-paid basis, based on replies received electronically or by post by the conference organisers, and full payment being received. In the event that an excursion is under-subscribed, that excursion may be...
cancelled at the sole discretion of the organisers. If your first preference is already fully booked, you will be allocated your second choice if available. You will be refunded if your excursion is cancelled or no other choice is available. In the event that you are allocated a second or third choice excursion, you will be asked to pay any difference due. Any credit will be refunded if you are placed on an alternative excursion that is less costly than your first choice.

**Rendezvous time and details** will be communicated to successful participants on confirmation of their participation. Excursion leaders will also communicate with their respective excursion participants closer to the time, to confirm any final details or possible changes.

In case a delegate cancels a field trip booking, the following will be applicable:

- **Before 31st May 2002** – full refund less 25% handling fee.
- **After 31st May 2002** – no refund.

**Excursion fees** include bed-and-breakfast accommodation plus pack lunches. Evening meals are for the delegate’s own account. Excursions involving camping are fully inclusive for the duration of the camping period. The excursion fee does not cover items such as alcoholic beverages, telephone calls, laundry, gratuities, and any other personal items. Fees do not include getting delegates to starting points of excursions, that is the delegate’s responsibility. For pre-congress excursions, delegates need to make their own transport arrangements to get to Johannesburg, if the excursion ends elsewhere.

Please note that excursion fees have been calculated using prevailing petrol prices. Therefore, the Organising Committee reserves the right to adjust the excursion fees if necessary. Participants will be advised in good time should this unlikely situation arise.

**Excursion Number: A1**

- **Theme**: Karoo Basin Turbidites: stratigraphic responses to both simple and deforming basin floor topography and the predictive applications of high resolution sequence stratigraphy.
- **Excursion Leaders**: Prof. Steven Flint, Dr. H De Ville Wickens, Dr. Peter Sixsmith, Dr. Martin Greucula
- **Description**: This excursion will visit the classic Ecca Group exposures of almost complete basin floor fan and slope turbidite complexes. The first 3 days will be spent on building up complete depositional strike and dip transects through basin floor fans in the undeformed Tanqua sub-basin, assessing internal stacking patterns and demonstrating the applications of high resolution sequence stratigraphy in deep water settings. The transition through a relatively stable slope to shelf will be examined. Days 4-6 will take the Tanqua ‘template’ and critically test its utility in the Laingsburg sub-basin where there is clear evidence of syn-sedimentary structural deformation of the basin floor through growth folding. The effects of this folding on facies architecture, geometries and correlation issues will be demonstrated. The unstable slope systems will be examined in terms of ponding, bypass and healed accommodation concepts.
- **Duration**: 6 nights away. Sunday 1 July – Saturday 6 July 2002
- **Start**: International Arrivals, Cape Town International Airport then Geology Department, Stellenbosch University
- **End**: Cape Town, or Johannesburg, if hired vehicles proceed onwards after excursion. Details will follow.
- **Transportation**: Toyota Condors, 4X4 Toyota Hilux’s
Accommodation: Game Farms, Hotels
Weather: South Africa will be in winter. Expect cold nights and sunny but moderate days. Normal field attire will be suitable.
Degree of difficulty: Normal field conditions can be expected, but there are several steep hill climbs that require reasonable fitness and strong hiking boots.
Minimum number of participants: 6
Maximum number of participants: 25
Cost: R5,500 (five thousand five hundred rand)

Excursion Number: A2
Theme: Post-Gondwana Evolution Of The Orange-Vaal Drainage System: Economic Implications.
Excursion Leaders: Dr. John Ward, Jurgen Jacobs, Prof. Brian Bluck and Dr Mike de Wit.
Description: The Orange River, the principal drainage in southern Africa, is also the route taken by diamonds in their dispersal to the coast. The focus on diamond as part of the bedload aids in our understanding of the concentrating mechanisms in gravel-bed rivers, as well as in unraveling the post-Gondwana erosional history of southern Africa. The trip begins in Kimberley, a source area of the diamonds, follows the river to Augrabies Falls, a long-lived knick point, travels through the deeply incised lower Orange River valley and ends on the Namibian west coast in Diamond Area No.1, or Sperrgebiet (forbidden territory). Diamond mining operations have dissected both fluvial and littoral terraces to yield spectacular exposures of these coarse-grained gravel deposits. A day will be spent following the path of the diamond into the Namib deflation basin, one of the world's most dynamic aeolian systems, which is the main aeolian feeder zone to the Namib sand sea.
Duration: 8 nights away. Saturday 29 June to Sunday 7 July 2002
Start: Horseshoe Motel, Kimberley
End: Waterfront City Lodge, Cape Town (Delegates make their own way to Johannesburg on Sunday)
Transportation: Mini-buses
Accommodation: Camping (1 night – fully provided for), Hotels
Weather: South Africa will be in winter. Expect cold nights and sunny but moderate to cool days. Sea mist / light rain can be expected on the west coast. Normal field attire will be suitable.
Degree of difficulty: Normal field conditions can be expected.
Visas: Visas will be required for entry into Namibia. This will be the delegates responsibility. Security clearance will be required for entry into Diamond areas. Details will be sent to successful applicants.
Minimum number of participants: 10
Maximum number of participants: 21
Cost: R5,000 (five thousand rand)

Excursion Number: A3
Theme: Prelude to the Cambrian Explosion: The Record of Life and Environments in the Terminal Proterozoic Nama Group, Namibia
Excursion Leader: Prof. John Grotzinger, MIT
Description: The Nama Group contains some of the world's best-exposed and most fossiliferous terminal Proterozoic sedimentary rocks. This field trip is designed to provide participants with a general overview of basin development, stratigraphy, and geochronology,
combined with more in-depth analysis of paleontological and paleoecologic data, and facies architecture. The field trip will also visit sites where digital field mapping techniques are being tested and utilized for high-precision facies and paleoecologic mapping.

- **Duration:** Sunday 29 June to Saturday 6 July 2002
- **Start:** Windhoek, Namibia
- **End:** Windhoek, Namibia
- **Transportation:** 4x4 field vehicles equipped with full camping facilities.
- **Accommodation:** 7 nights camping.
- **Weather:** Expect cold nights and sunny but moderate to cool days. Normal field attire will be suitable.
- **Degree of difficulty:** Normal field conditions.
- **Visas:** Visas will be required for entry into Namibia. Delegate’s responsibility.
- **Minimum number of participants:** 6
- **Maximum number of participants:** 20
- **Cost:** R6,000 (six thousand rand)

**Excursion Number: A4**

- **Theme:** The Zerrissene Turbidite Complex, Namibia: sedimentology of a large submarine fan complex.
- **Excursion Leaders:** Dr. Roger Swart, Bill Lyons
- **Description:** The Zerrissene turbidite complex of west-central Namibia has been interpreted as a large passive margin fan system. Outstanding outcrops in the hyper-arid Namib Desert permit recognition of features from seismic (e.g. 1000 x 25m channels in sand lobes) to small-scale sedimentary structures. This is one of the largest ancient submarine fans described and can be used as an analogue for the prolific petroleum reservoirs of the Campos Basin and Congo Fan. Delegates on the trip will have the opportunity to examine large scale features such as the channel outcrops as well as detailed stratigraphic sections and very well exposed sedimentary structures. In addition, excellent outcrops of both the Karoo and Etendeka Groups will be seen.
- **Duration:** 4 nights. Tuesday 2 July to Saturday 6 July 2002
- **Start:** Windhoek, Namibia
- **End:** Windhoek, Namibia
- **Transportation:** 4x4 field vehicles equipped for camping.
- **Accommodation:** Camping.
- **Weather:** Expect cold nights and sunny but moderate to cool days. Normal field attire will be suitable.
- **Degree of difficulty:** Normal field conditions.
- **Visas:** Visas will be required for entry into Namibia. Delegate’s responsibility.
- **Minimum number of participants:** 4
- **Maximum number of participants:** 16
- **Cost:** R3,000 (three thousand rand)

**Excursion Number: A5**

- **Theme:** Placers and unconformities of the Neoarchaean Witwatersrand Foreland Basin.
- **Excursion Leader:** Dr. Gerhard Els
- **Description:** The sedimentary rocks of the Neoarchaean Witwatersrand Supergroup contain the world’s prime gold deposits. During this trip, emphasis will be on placer genesis, the origin and classification of unconformities, and stratigraphic development within this famous
foreground basin. The present tectonic-depositional model is based on the idea of foreground basin
tectophases, which produce characteristic repetitive flexural sequences. Both deep
underground mine and surface exposures will be visited. Altitudes from 1800m above to
100m below sea level are featured!

- **Duration:** 3 nights. Wednesday 3 July to Saturday 6 July 2002
- **Start:** Johannesburg International Airport and RAU, Johannesburg.
- **End:** Hotels, Johannesburg
- **Transportation:** Mini buses.
- **Accommodation:** Hotels.
- **Weather:** Cold nights and sunny but moderate to cold days. Normal field attire will be
  suitable. Underground clothing, boots and hardhat will be provided. Environment
  underground may be hot and humid in places.
- **Degree of difficulty:** Normal field conditions to moderately strenuous underground.
- **Minimum number of participants:** 6
- **Maximum number of participants:** 21
- **Cost:** R3,000 (three thousand rand)

Excursion Number: A6

- **Theme:** Neoarchean Carbonates - Clues to Early Life and Early Ocean Chemistry
- **Excursion Leader:** Prof. Dawn Y. Sumner
- **Description:** The Transvaal Supergroup contains the best-preserved Neoarchean carbonates
  known. This field trip will focus sites that illustrate diverse aspects of Neoarchean carbonate
deposition and the wealth of environmental and biological information that they provide.
The first day will focus on the Boomplaas Formation, a mixed siliciclastic carbonate ramp
with ooids that reach up to 5 mm in diameter, commonly in reversely graded beds, and
associated with stromatolite reefs. On the second day, we will investigate the Monteville
Formation, which contains diverse carbonate ramp facies, including stromatolites, possible
molar tooth structures, and tsunami-deposited impact spherules that provide clues to
correlations to the contemporaneous Hamersley Basin, Australia. The third day will be spent
at the classic section through intertidal to shallow subtidal carbonates at Boetsap (Reivilo
Formation). Here, the depositional relationships of abundant aragonite pseudomorphs and
diverse stromatolite morphologies can be placed into Neoarchean environmental contexts.
The fourth day in the field will be in the Gamohaan Formation at Kuruman Kop, which
contains 200 m of well-exposed section from lagoonal deposits, across a sequence boundary,
followed by deep subtidal microbialites and then banded iron formation. The microbial
structures are complex, some with no other known occurrences in the world, and show
evidence for microbially influenced calcite precipitation. Forty meters of this section
consists of >75% calcite cements and micrite is absent. This site provides numerous insights
into Neoarchean microbial ecology. The drive to and from Johannesburg and the field areas
will include short stops at several geologically interesting sites.

- **Duration:** 6 days. Wednesday 3 July to Saturday 6 July 2002
- **Start:** Johannesburg International Airport or Kimberley.
- **End:** Hotels, Johannesburg
- **Transportation:** Mini buses or coach
- **Accommodation:** Hotels and/or guest houses
- **Weather:** Cold nights and sunny but moderate to cold days. Normal field attire will be
  suitable.
- **Degree of difficulty:** Normal field conditions.
Excursion Number: A7

- **Theme**: Cap carbonates and snowball Earth events on the Otavi margin (Neoproterozoic), Namibia
- **Excursion Leader**: Prof. Paul F. Hoffman
- **Description**: ‘Cap’ carbonates are unique to Proterozoic glacial events and their existence has been touted as evidence for ‘Snowball Earth’ events. This excursion will focus on the sedimentology of two Neoproterozoic ‘cap’ carbonates (Rasthof and Maieberg) and their respective glacial events (Chuos and Ghaub) on the inner shelf, outer shelf and slope of the Otavi carbonate margin in northwestern Namibia (Kaokoveld). Isotopic evidence bearing on the snowball Earth hypothesis will be presented and discussed.
- **Duration**: 6 days (5 nights camping). Monday 28 June (7 am) to Saturday 4 July (6 pm) 2002
- **Start**: Hotel Safari, Windhoek, Namibia
- **End**: Hotel Safari, Windhoek, Namibia
- **Transportation**: 4x4 vehicles, fully equipped for camping
- **Accommodation**: Safari Hotel in Windhoek at beginning and end of excursion. Remainder camping.
- **Weather**: Cold nights and sunny but moderate to cold days. Normal field attire will be suitable.
- **Degree of difficulty**: Normal field conditions. Daily hikes of 5-8 km, including strenuous but non-technical climbing.
- **Minimum number of participants**: 4
- **Maximum number of participants**: 16
- **Cost**: R6,500.00 (six thousand five hundred rand)

Excursion Number: B1

- **Theme**: From deserts to glaciers: a 100 million year transect of the terrestrial sedimentological sequence of the main Karoo Basin.
- **Excursion Leaders**: Dr P. John Hancox, Dr Roger Smith and Prof. Bruce Rubidge
- **Description**: The excursion will demonstrate the stratigraphic, sedimentological and tectonic evolution of the Karoo Basin from the Carboniferous through to the middle Jurassic. The transect will begin in the Jurassic, Aeolian dominated Clarens Formation, and will end in the Carboniferous glacial deposits of the Dwyka Group. Excellent exposures of Permo-Triassic fluvial and deltaic systems, the non-marine PT boundary, palaeosols and fossils will be examined.
- **Duration**: 6 nights away. Saturday 13 July to Friday 19 July 2002
- **Start**: RAU (Johannesburg)
- **End**: Participants will have the option of being dropped at the Cape Town Airport at around 17h00 on the final day or the end point of the tour which is at the Breakwater Lodge at the V&A Waterfront, Cape Town.
- **Transportation**: Coach or mini-bus depending on numbers
- **Accommodation**: Hotels
- **Weather**: South Africa will be in winter. Expect cold nights and sunny but moderate days. Normal field attire will be suitable.
- **Degree of difficulty**: Normal field conditions can be expected.
Excursion Number: B2

Theme: Mires and Wetlands: Quaternary peatlands and wetlands of the sub-tropical eastern seaboard of Maputaland, northern Kwa-Zulu-Natal, South Africa

Excursion Leader: Piet-Louis Grundling and Althea Grundling

Description: Numerous peatlands and wetlands occur on the eastern seaboard of Kwa-Zulu-Natal, South Africa. This excursion will visit a variety of these mires differing in type, extent and habitat spanning 45 000 years of ecological development; shaped by both nature and man. Places to be visited include Kosi, Lake Sibaya, Cape Vidal. It will also focus on current land uses, impacts and long-management of these unique carbon-accumulating eco-systems. A Highveld peat mine will also be visited en route to KwaZulu-Natal.

Duration: 6 days. Saturday 13 July to Thursday 18 July 2002

Start: RAU, Johannesburg

End: RAU, Johannesburg

Transportation: VW Mini buses

Accommodation: Guest houses, Private Bush Camp, Self catering Lodges

Weather: normal wetland field conditions and normal footwear for wetlands: Gumboots / water boots.

Degree of difficulty: Normal field conditions. Wetland field conditions and normal footwear for wetlands (Gum / water boots). Dangerous animals (Elephant, Buffalo, Hippo, Crocodile etc) might be present in mires and wetlands. Anti-malaria precautions are required.

Minimum number of participants: 6

Maximum number of participants: 11

Cost: R3,300 (three thousand three hundred rand)

Excursion Number: B3

Theme: The Bushveld Complex: a layered sedimentary-like igneous rock sequence

Excursion Leaders: Mike Knoper (RAU), Gordon Chunnett (Angloplat) and Jochen Schweitzer (CSIR).

Description: The Bushveld Complex is a (~2.06 Ga) layered igneous rock sequence that exhibits a remarkably consistent sedimentary-like stratigraphy, which appears to be laterally continuous across the Complex for over 350 km. This field excursion will leave Johannesburg and begin at the Loskop Dam Nature Reserve in the eastern Bushveld Complex, by first examining the well-preserved clastic, volcaniclastic, and volcanic rocks of the Rooiberg Group, which immediately predate (or are synchronous) with emplacement of the ultramafic and mafic rocks of the Complex. The excursion will next examine the igneous stratigraphy and marker horizons of the Complex, by starting in the roof, working through the (~9 km thick) stratigraphy of the Rustenburg Layered Suite (e.g., Upper, Main, Critical, and Lower Zones), and ending in the floor of the Complex. From top to bottom, stops will be made to view granitic and granophyric rocks in the roof, followed by olivine diorite, magnetite gabbro, Magnetite Layer 13, Main Magnetite Layer, Pyroxenite Marker, pigeonite-bearing gabbro-norite, gabbro, spotted and mottled anorthosite, Merensky Reef cyclic unit, UG3-UG3a chromitite layers, UG2 chromitite layer, UG1 chromitite layer in anorthosite at Dwars River, harzburgite, pyroxenite, marginal zone norite, and in the floor of the Complex, migmatic and cordierite-bearing meta-sedimentary rocks of the Transvaal.
Supergroup. The final day of the excursion will be spent in the western Bushveld Complex, where sections of the Critical Zone stratigraphy will be examined in underground exposures at a platinum mine. During the excursion, various hypotheses that have been proposed to explain the origin of sedimentary-like features in the igneous stratigraphy, and the origin of the Bushveld Complex itself, will be discussed.

- **Duration:** 5 days. Saturday 13 July to Wednesday 17 July 2002
- **Start:** RAU, Johannesburg, Sandton Hotels, followed by RAU.
- **End:** RAU, Johannesburg
- **Transportation:** VW Mini buses
- **Accommodation:** Hotels or equivalent
- **Weather:** Cold nights with sunny warm to cool days. Normal field attire will be suitable.
- **Degree of difficulty:** Normal field conditions, but there are several hill climbs that require reasonable fitness and hiking boots. During the underground visit, it will be hot and humid. The mine will provide hardhats, overalls and gumboots.
- **Minimum number of participants:** 5
- **Maximum number of participants:** 22
- **Cost:** R3,400 (three thousand four hundred rand)

**Excursion Number: B4**

- **Theme:** Archaean to Proterozoic sedimentological superlatives along the eastern Kaapvaal craton
- **Excursion Leaders:** Prof. Nic Beukes, Prof. Ken Eriksson and Prof. Dawn Sumner.
- **Description:** This excursion takes place in the rather scenic setting of the eastern margin of the Kaapvaal craton. We will visit some of the spectacular outcrops of pristinely preserved Archaean and Proterozoic sedimentary and volcanic successions and their environmental significance, in terms of the composition of the atmosphere, will be discussed. The first day will focus on thestromatolitic carbonates of the middle Archaean Nsuzi Group of the Pongola Supergroup in the White Mfolozi Gorge emphasizing rapid lateral facies variations and possible karstic erosion surfaces. The second day will focus on tidalites and pyritic auriferous conglomerates of the Mozaan Group of the Pongola succession in the White Mfolozi Gorge, followed by a late afternoon stop on some of the oldest known glaciogene diamictites; also in the Mozaan Group. The third day will be a traverse of the Barberton Mountainland, viewing early Archaean pillow lavas, black chert, iron-formations, turbidites and conglomerates of the Onverwacht, Fig Tree and Moodies Groups at, for example, such classical localities as the Komati River Gorge. The fourth day would be spent in the vicinity of Barberton looking at turbidites in the Fig Tree Group, including possible evidence for storm overprint, tidal sand wave deposits, and evidence for fluvial-tidal interaction in the Moodies Group. On the fifth day we will study NeoArchaean shallow subtidal to supratidal carbonates of the Malmani Subgroup (Transvaal Supergroup), including numerous shallow marine sedimentary structures, diverse stromatolites, and rare halite casts. In the Echo Caves area, the carbonates contain fenestrate microbialites unique to Archaean carbonates as well as sea floor coatings of calcite cements, microbial-cement cycles, and diverse physical sedimentary structures. The last day would include a visit to one of the classical sites showing igneous layering between chromitites and anorthosites of the Bushveld Complex, the oldest known (~2,4 Ga) oolitic and pisolitic ironstones in the world from the Timeball Hill Formation and the well-known 2,2 Ga Hekpoort palaeosol. The localities have direct bearing on our understanding of the development of oxygen in the ancient atmosphere.
Duration: 6 days (5 nights). Saturday 13 July, early morning, to Thursday 18 July, very late afternoon. Delegates responsible for own arrangements after our arrival in Johannesburg.

Start: RAU and Hotels, Johannesburg
End: Hotels and / or airport, Johannesburg International Airport at approximately 18h00.
Transportation: Mini buses
Accommodation: Hotels and Chalets
Weather: Cold nights and sunny but moderate to cold days. Normal field clothes, but with some possibility of rain.
Degree of difficulty: The White Mfolozi Gorge traverse involves some boulder hopping and strenuous hiking, but the rest of the excursion is relatively easy going.
Minimum number of participants: 10
Maximum number of participants: 27
Cost: R3,200 (three thousand two hundred rand)

Excursion Number: B5
Theme: Superlarge iron and manganese ore deposits of the Palaeoproterozoic Transvaal Supergroup, South Africa
Excursion Leaders: Prof. Jens Gutzmer (RAU).
Description: The Transvaal Supergroup is undoubtedly one of the finest examples of Early Precambrian (2.6-2.1 Ga) chemical and siliciclastic sedimentation. In the Northern Cape Province of South Africa, this succession hosts a variety of world-class ore deposits, including the giant Kalahari manganese field, high-grade iron ores and closely associated karst-hosted manganese deposits of the Maremane Dome, but also the oldest known MVT-style Pb-Zn deposits. The excursion will provide a detailed view of the geological setting of these sediment-hosted ore deposits – and current ideas about their origin will be discussed. The formation of the ore deposits has important bearings on our knowledge of the paleoenvironmental evolution across the Archean-Proterozoic boundary. Paleoenvironmental evidence provided by the ore deposits will thus be brought into context with other important geological features in the Transvaal Supergroup that will also be visited during the excursion. This includes outcrops of the Makganyene diamictite (evidence for Paleoproterozoic ‘Snowball Earth’ episode) and the oldest known lateritic soil profiles.
Duration: 13-18 July (6 days)
Start: Johannesburg
End: Johannesburg
Transportation: VW Mini buses
Accommodation: Hotels, Chalets at caravan parks
Weather: The weather will be sunny and dry. Day temperatures will be between 15º and 20ºC, but with possible cold spells as low as 10ºC. Night temperatures are expected to be cool, between 0º and 10ºC. Field conditions are moderate but solid footwear is required. No malaria vaccination is required.
Degree of difficulty: Normal field conditions. Participants need to be physically fit for an underground mine visit.
Minimum number of participants: 6
Maximum number of participants: 21
Cost: R3,000 (three thousand rand)
One-Day Geological Excursions
Several one-day geological excursions will be offered during the congress. If there is sufficient interest, these will run mid-week on Wednesday (10th July). The costs of these trips will be relatively cheap. Lists for these excursions will be posted early in the congress week. Please indicate your potential interest by ticking the relevant box on the “Tours and Social Programme” registration form, Section 4.

- Archaean geology of the Johannesburg area, including the Witwatersrand Supergroup
- Proterozoic Transvaal Supergroup dolomites
- Sterkfontein Caves hominid site
- World-famous Cullinan diamond mine
- Post-Gondwana landsurfaces and palaeosols around Johannesburg

Travel

If you require information regarding travel to and from South Africa, please contact our designated congress coordinator, Richard Bailey [rpb.conference@mweb.co.za]. He can also assist in advising on airport / hotel transfers. Also, access the congress website and click on the “Travel - Tourism” link.

Visas

All overseas delegates are strongly advised to check with their nearest South African Diplomatic Mission or Embassy or travel agent on visa requirements. No visas are issued on arrival. This is particularly important for delegates participating in excursions in neighbouring countries such as Namibia and Swaziland. The Embassy of each of these countries must also be consulted.

Accommodation

- Airport transfers. If you require airport transfers to either the Sandton hotels or the University, please tick the appropriate box on the “Airport Transfer and RAU Accommodation” registration form, Section 3.

- Hotels:
Below are the hotels that have been pre-booked for the congress. All hotels are very comfortable and located in the Sandton area (see map). Delegates staying in hotels will be transported to and from the congress. It takes approximately 30-40 minutes by bus to the RAU campus. **You must make your reservation direct with the hotel of your choice. VERY IMPORTANT:** Please quote the “Reservation number” given for each hotel when you make your booking, otherwise you will not receive the discount rate that we have negotiated for you. The exchange rate in October 2001 was US$1 = R9.2, UK£1 = R13.4 Euro1 = 8.3

SANDTON SUN & TOWERS INTER-CONTINENTAL: 5 Star Rating
Reservation number: 1040.53
Allocation: 50 rooms
Single Accommodation Bed & Breakfast: R 1085.00 per person
Sharing Accommodation B&B: R 1270.00 per couple
Corner 5th & Alice Streets, Sandton
Tel: +27-11-7805000 Fax: +27-11-7805002
Contact: Karen Isaacs Tel: +27-11-7805508. Fax: +27-11-7805312
Adjoining a luxury shopping complex, Sandton City, and the Sandton Convention Centre.
Each bedroom has remote control colour TV with M-Net, 24-hour CNN and pay-movie channel, in-room safes, 24 hour room service, laundry and valet, health centre, beautician, hairdresser, outdoor swimming pool, sauna, steam-bath, personal fitness centre with qualified trainers. International Business Centre, 4 Restaurants: The Ferns, Gazebo Lounge & Bar, Villamoura & Daruma.

**SANDTON CROWNE PLAZA: 4 Star Rating**
**Reservation number: 905.78**
**Allocation:** 100 rooms

Single Accommodation Bed & Breakfast: R 595.00 per person
Sharing Accommodation Bed & Breakfast: R 674.00 per couple

Corner Grayston Drive & Rivonia Road, Sandton
Tel: +27-11-7835262 Fax: +27-11-7841764
Contact: Jacqui Rawlings Tel: +27-11-7835289. Fax: +27-11-7835289
Five Minutes from Sandton City Shopping complex. Each bedroom has remote control colour TV with M-Net, 24-hour CNN and pay-movie channel, air-conditioned, tea/coffee facilities, minibar, trouser press, PC Modem outlet, telephone voicemail, 24-hour room service, Fitness Centre, 2 Restaurants: The Continental Restaurant & Salathai Restaurant. Outdoor swimming pool.

**HOLIDAY INN GARDEN COURT SANDTON CITY: 3 Star Rating**
**Reservation number: 2335.02**
**Allocation:** 150 rooms

Single Accommodation Bed & Breakfast: R 600.00 per person
Sharing Accommodation Bed & Breakfast: R 720.00 per couple

Corner West & Maude Streets Sandton
Tel: +27-11-2697000 Fax: +27-11-2697100
Contact: Adele de Klerk Tel: +27-11-2697000. Fax: +27-11-2697200
Situated next door to the Sandton City Shopping Complex. Each bedroom has remote control colour TV with M-Net, 24-hour CNN and pay-movie channel, air-conditioned, tea/coffee facilities, PC Modem outlet, telephone voicemail, Restaurant & Bar. Outdoor swimming pool.

**HOLIDAY INN GARDEN COURT SANDTON: 3 Star Rating**
**Reservation number: 355.01**
**Allocation:** 125 rooms

Single Accommodation Bed & Breakfast: R 560.00 per person

http://general.rau.ac.za/geology/IAS2002
Sharing Accommodation Bed & Breakfast: R 660.00 per couple

Corner Rivonia Road & Katherine Street Sandton.
Tel: +27-11-8845660 Fax: +27-11-7832004
Contact: Nellie Zungu Tel: +27-11-8845660 Fax: +27-11-7832004
Situated in Sandton opposite the Sandton City Shopping Complex. Each bedroom has remote control colour TV with M-Net, 24-hour CNN and pay-movie channel, air-conditioned, tea/coffee facilities, PC Modem outlet, telephone voicemail, Restaurant & Bar. Outdoor swimming pool.

UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION

Afslaan Hostel cost: R250 per person per day, excluding meals.
Allocation: 120 rooms
Book via the registration form, Section 4.

Rand Afrikaans University offers accommodation on campus in student dormitory houses. Each house has 6 separate, private rooms, sleeping one person. Rooms have single beds and the house has communal showers, washbasins and ablution facilities. The rooms are only a few minutes walk from the congress venue. At least one fridge is available in each house, and there are basic cooking facilities. IMPORTANT: The student rooms do not have bedding or central heating. If you choose to stay in the university rooms, you must bring your own warm sleeping bag. July is the coldest month where evening temperatures are below freezing, so it is recommended that you bring warm bedding. Breakfast in the student cafeteria costs R20 per person. You can have dinner in one of the many neighbouring restaurants.

(Check the Congress website “accommodation” link for more details on hotels and the University hostel).

Student Grants

- Some financial assistance is available to young, full-time student sedimentologists who are planning to present a talk or poster at the congress. Suitable candidates should apply to the Congress Convenor as soon as possible, together with the submission of their abstract. They will be informed of the outcome as soon as possible.

Payment and Fees

- **Congress registration fees:**
  - IAS member: R2,300.00 (after 30th April 2002, R2,800)
  - IAS non-member: R2,800.00 (after 30th April 2002, R3,300)
  - IAS student member: R1,400.00 (after 30th April 2002, R1,700)
  - Student: non-IAS member: R1,800.00 (after 30th April 2002, R2,100)
  - Accompanying person: R 400.00 (after 30th April 2002, R 500)

- **Cancellation policy:** Any cancellations before 31st May will receive a full refund less a 25% handling fee. Any cancellations after 31st May will receive no refund. All cancellations must be in writing, via fax, email or letter.
• All payments can be made in South African rands (ZAR). The prevailing exchange rate in October 2001 is: US$1 = ZAR9.2, UK£1 = ZAR13.4, EURO1 = 8.3
  ➢ You can pay via credit card. Master or Visa cards only. Please fill in the card details on the registration form, Section 9.
  ➢ You can pay via direct deposit into the congress bank account:
    Name of Bank: ABSA Bank, Auckland Park, South Africa
    Name of Account: Rand Afrikaans University
    Account number: 2840-000-136
    Branch code: 335-105
    Please fax or email a proof of payment to the Congress Organising committee.
    Fax number: (27-11) 489-2309. email: bc@na.rau.ac.za
  ➢ You can pay via a bank guaranteed draft (no private checks accepted). All checks must be made payable to Rand Afrikaans University. The draft can be mailed to the Congress Secretariat.

Social Events

Functions during the Congress:

• A welcome reception and ice-breaker cocktail party will be held on Sunday evening 7th July between 18h00 at the Convention Centre located next to the Sandton Sun & Towers InterContinental hotel. Delegates will be able to register and collect their congress bags during this function. Those delegates staying in the University accommodation will be transported from the University to the venue. Buses will depart at 17:30H from the University. The cost of the ice-breaker is included in the congress registration fee.
• The official gala dinner for the congress will be an African theme dinner at Lesedi Village on Tuesday evening, 9th July. The cost per person is R300.00 (three hundred rand). Delegates will be transported to and from the venue where traditional African food and drink will be enjoyed, including traditional African music, dancing and entertainment will take place.
• Several non-geological one-day or half-day tours can be run throughout the week of the congress, depending on interest levels. Please contact our Events Organiser, Richard Bailey rpb.conference@mweb.co.za for advance details about these trips. These include the following:
  ➢ The world-famous Cullinan diamond mine
  ➢ Krugersdorp game reserve
  ➢ Sterkfontein Caves hominid site
  ➢ De Wildt Cheetah and Wildlife Centre breeding station
  ➢ Sun City casino, holiday resort and Pilanesberg National Park
  ➢ Tour of Soweto
  ➢ Gold Reef City, a reconstructed 19th Century Witwatersrand mining village and casino
16th International Sedimentological Congress

General Information

- For general information about South Africa, tourism in South Africa and other interesting information about southern Africa, please visit the Congress website and click on the “Travel – Tourism” link. For any other non-academic information you may require, please contact Richard Bailey, our event organiser.
- The climate in South Africa during early July is temperate. It is mid-Winter and days should be cloudless and mild. Night temperatures can fall below freezing. We suggest that you check the international weather forecasts on the congress website prior to departure.
- Congress lunches. All congress lunches are excluded from the congress fee. Delegates can choose from a variety of eateries on or near campus. These include fast food outlets, a staff dining room and a supermarket. Morning and afternoon tea / coffee are included in the congress fee.
- Transportation. For all ground and air transport queries, please contact our Events Organiser, Mr Richard Bailey of RPB Management.
- Miscellaneous information
  - The electricity supply in South Africa is 220 volts (15 amp) through 3-pin outlets. You can purchase adaptors in hardware stores in South Africa.
  - Travel agent facilities will be available during the congress via Richard Bailey.
  - Banking facilities are available on or near campus.
  - Photocopying, telephone and fax facilities will be available via the Geology Department at a fee.
  - Shopping facilities are available on campus as well as opposite nearby, where large supermarkets and fast food outlets can be found.
  - The time zone during July is: GMT +2 hours in South Africa, and GMT + 1 hour in Namibia.
  - Drive on the left hand side of the road in all southern African countries.
  - Special medical requirements. Those delegates travelling to malaria areas on excursions need to take the necessary precautions.
  - VAT (value added tax) of 14% is included in all goods purchased in South Africa, excluding some basic foodstuffs such as bread. Tourists can claim back this tax at the airport on departure. Ask any shop for details.

Personal insurance

All delegates attending the congress must ensure that they have their own personal insurance coverage for sickness, personal injury, third party insurance and public liability while in southern Africa.

Security

As in any major city, crime is present, and you need to take certain fundamental crime-prevention precautions. If you are walking, do not openly display cameras, tourist maps, wallets and cash. Always try to travel in groups or take a taxi to and from your destination. Your hotel can advise you on reputable taxi companies and tour operators. Be alert and aware of your
surroundings when you are walking on the street. Get advice from hotel staff and the Congress Committee.

Waiver of liability

The congress organisers have taken reasonable care in making arrangements for the congress and excursions. The organisers do not accept any liability and cannot be held liable for any loss or injury sustained by delegates, or for any unforeseen changes to the congress programme. The congress committee reserves the right to cancel any event(s), excursion or technical session due to insufficient participation or interest, or for any unforeseen reason.
DIRECTION TO SANDTON HOTELS

HOTELS
H1 — Sandton Sun & Towers Inter-Continental
H2 — Holiday Inn Garden Court Sandton City
H3 — Sandton Crowne Plaza
H4 — Holiday Inn Garden Court Sandton

http://general.rau.ac.za/geology/IAS2002