



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).

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Charles de Villiers and Lesley Richardson pictured with the proud 2012 SACET scholarship recipients:
(From left) James Mulomba from the Zambia Wildlife Authority, Kefilwe Maimane from North West Parks and Tourism and Willem Ponohazo from the Wuparo Conservancy in Namibia.



Notes from the SACET scholarship 2012 students

With the generous support of SACET donors, deserving students who have completed the Higher Certificate in Nature Conservation are selected to continue their studies at the Southern African Wildlife College. The impact that this opportunity has is immeasurable. Many of these students go on to manage some of the world's most biologically diverse areas and through the work that they do are able to strengthen awareness not only within their conservation areas but across cultural boundaries and geographical borders.

Kefilwe Maimane North West Parks and Tourism

The modules covered work as an integrated system - one module is an eye opener which then fits perfectly with the next. Above all, these modules reflect exactly what is needed in the field. As such, the certificate programme has helped equip us with the means to go back to our respective reserves and perform our duties better so that we can sustainably use and protect our natural resources so that future generations can also benefit from them.

I would like to thank SACET for this opportunity to further my studies at the Southern African Wildlife College. I hope you continue helping others like me who have a passion for conservation so that they too can help bring about change and solve environmental problems facing the world today.

James Mulomba Zambia Wildlife Authority

My studies at the Southern African Wildlife College have been very interesting and enjoyable. The lecturers have been very supportive not only to me but to all the students at the College. Since we started the Advanced Certificate we have covered a number of important modules including: Community Based Natural Resource Management, Biodiversity Management, Catchment Management, Conservation Research, Environmental Development Plans and Resource Economics.

I would like to thank my sponsor SACET who made it possible for me to attend the certificate course programme. I will do my best to implement everything that I have learnt back in my work place.

Willem Ponohazo Wuparo Conservancy Namibia

All the modules covered have a common and integral concept for the better protection of our National Parks and Game Reserves. My studies at Southern African Wildlife College have been fundamental to my career and role in conservation. I have moved from a traditional way of conserving to a greater understanding of biodiversity and the ecological factors which give rise to it.

I extend my sincere appreciation to SACET who made my studies possible and I encourage the continued supporting of this programme so that we can protect the world that we live in.

Succeeding with SACET

The 2011 graduation ceremony, when SACET announced its scholarship recipients for 2012, was both a jubilant and thought-provoking occasion. Significantly it coincided with the COP17 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Durban. The central theme focused on wildlife guardianship and the current rhino poaching crisis.

The graduates of both the Higher and Advanced Certificates in Nature Conservation were addressed by Dr Joseph Okori, WWF International's African Rhino Programme Manager, who said, "The guardianship of Africa's wildlife resources has been bestowed upon you. As you all venture back to your countries within the SADC region, there is one thing that binds you all – the plight of the African rhino and other threatened species. You have been empowered with the science of Natural Resource Management and the art of Natural Resource Protection. The protection and survival of Africa's biodiversity and threatened species is in your hands."

"You are the leaders of tomorrow, you are our advance warning system; charged with the propagation of conservation best practices to ensure ecosystem integrity with support from and engagement with communities. As wildlife guardians, you are also the bridge that will strengthen regional conservation efforts. As ambassadors of the Southern African Wildlife College, it is your duty to share your skills and talents with your neighbours to ensure the protection of our natural resources," Okori said.

During the ceremony, SACET thanked the donors for their on-going support for conservation education and announced the 2012 SACET scholarship recipients. Kefilwe Maimane from North West Parks and Tourism, James Mulomba from the Zambia Wildlife Authority and Willem Ponohazo from the Wuparo Conservancy in Namibia, all of whom graduated cum laude in the Higher Certificate in 2011, were the students selected to receive the 2012 SACET scholarships and continue their studies to complete the Advanced Certificate Course in Trans-frontier Conservation Management (NQF Level 6).

This brings to 27 the number of scholarships, together with 13 bursaries, awarded by SACET since its establishment in 2000. In addition SACET provides funding towards curriculum development and, with the approval of its Trustees, has continued to help fund the services of a fundraiser and marketer for the Wildlife College.



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 2012

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(R1 million and above)
Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust
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annual report 2012

nurturing and strengthening conservation leadership for today and tomorrow





The Southern African Wildlife College, inspired by WWF-SA and supported by the Peace Parks Foundation and the SACET endowment fund, plays a pivotal role in training and empowering future leaders in the fields of conservation and environmental management.

To date (end 2012) the College has trained 8291 students from 46 countries, but mostly from countries in the SADC region, in natural resource management. Close to 700 students have completed qualification courses and over 7500 have been through targeted skills development courses, short course programmes and learnerships. Approximately 80% of the learners who have received training at the SAWC are still in wildlife management and most of the graduates have been promoted to more senior management positions. By expanding its reach and becoming involved in training ventures and projects off-site the College has also built the capacity of over 2000 previously disadvantaged South Africans.

In 2012, thirty five learners from six different countries enrolled for the Higher Certificate in Nature Conservation: Conservation Implementation and Leadership. These included 22 students from South Africa, five from Zambia, four from Zimbabwe, two from Namibia, one from Mozambique and one from Swaziland.

Thirty three learners from five different countries enrolled for the Advanced Certificate in Nature Conservation in Trans-frontier Conservation Management, including nine students from Zambia, one student from Zimbabwe, eighteen from South Africa, two from Malawi, two from Namibia and one from Israel.

TRAINING

Never before in the history of the College has the occupancy rate been as high as it was in the year under review. 2012 also represented the highest number of students to be trained in one year at the College.

Since the beginning of 2012, the facilities at the College were booked to the maximum which necessitated Manyeleti Game Reserve, which is in close proximity to the College, being used for shorter courses to accommodate all the training to be conducted. Most of this training included the 220 Rural Development students who underwent a 13 week programme covering two different conservation skills programmes. The College also moderated an additional 80 of these students who were to be trained at the Wilderness Foundation in the Eastern Cape. The highlight of this project was an event on Youth Day held at the College, and attended by the Deputy Minister of Rural Development and Land Reform, the Honourable Mr Tsenoli, who addressed the students and had a meeting with senior management of the College.

The Liberty Wildlife Fund, which funded the Wildlife Guardian Programme, also accounted for a number of field rangers being trained both on and off-site. Other Field Ranger training which took place was the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park (GLTP) joint Field Ranger re-training and train-the-trainer programme. This training was a great success and the College hopes to offer this course to all TFCAs across the country.

The DBSA jobs fund awarded the College a grant to train 30 field rangers per year in the full conservation guardianship national certificate. Kruger Park has agreed to employ all 30 of the trainees per year for a total of 3 years. Kruger Park will be actively involved with the selection and mentorship of the learners. Support for the inception of this project was provided by RMB's Environmental Fund.

The school leaver bridging programme "An Introduction to Conservation and Environmental Education", supported by the Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust (managed by Nedbank Private Wealth) since its inception in 2010 has gone from strength to strength with a further 23 students being enrolled this year. The Community Liaison office which facilitates the programme is also involved in other community projects such as presentations and talks at local schools.

Another exciting new development was the training of 100 community members in conservation and environmental issues with special focus on Rhino awareness. This training took place under the Rhino awareness banner of EZKZN Wildlife. Our trainer, Malcolm Douglas, who developed the course content, was based in Hluhluwe Umfolozi Park during the training.

In 2012, the College was visited by Tiger Reserve Managers from Malaysia and also hosted a training team from Kitabi College of Conservation and Environmental Management (KCCCEM) for a training and development internship on programme development. This internship is the second part of a development programme for the College in Rwanda.

WORK INTEGRATED LEARNING ON CAMPUS

Consultative meetings for improving on work integrated learning and learning through best practice were held at the College with the relevant stakeholders. The meetings were followed by a workshop. The purpose of the meetings was to gather ideas on the best practice and efficient use of the College surroundings to benefit all involved. It was then agreed that a plan for higher education modules for best practice be developed, as well as a working model for the

Kruger to Canyon area (in particular Kempiana and surrounding land users) for the management and sustainable utilisation of natural resources in an African ecosystem.

INTERNATIONAL VISITS

The CEO of the College spent an inspiring week in India thanks to Dr Joseph Okari (WWF-International) who facilitated the collaboration between the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) the College and WWF-India in order to participate in joint capacity building initiatives in India. The main focus of the collaboration will be capacity building in anti-poaching techniques.

The well awaited Zoofäscht event and visit to Zürich proved to be very successful in that a number of new contacts were established as a result of a presentation made to key people in Zürich at the FIFA Club. The College was well represented at the Zoofäscht event itself by way of the award presentation. This award was sufficient to cover the bursary costs of three students on the Higher Education Courses and also represented the first event linked to the fundraising efforts of the College's Supporters Club.

The College, as an IUCN member in good standing, was offered a funded delegate ticket to attend the IUCN World Conservation Congress in South Korea. This congress, an extensive information exchange and networking opportunity, proved to be very beneficial with Theresa Sowry, the College's CEO now following up a number of good introductions. The Namibian Nature Foundation, In-Service Training Trust – Zambia, DeBeers Conservation Trust and WWF-International to name but a few. The most important and exciting development is that the College will be a partner in the Global Initiative to Professionalize Protected Area Management Training. The College is following up on a way forward with regards to the Commission on Protected Areas, under whose banner this initiative is rolling out.

PHASE 2 UPDATE

The SAWC- Phase 2 consultant for KfW visited the College during July 2012. This marked the initiation of the Phase 2 consultancy stage. The College was advised that a training needs analysis would be conducted and that each SADC country would be assigned a consultant. The training needs of the country as well as the capacity to address these needs would then be investigated. On completion of this process, a workshop was held and all consultants presented their findings and compiled a consolidated SADC training needs document.

SAIS & SABINET

Another notable development included the revival of the College's affiliation to the Southern African Inter-lending Scheme (SAIS). This affiliation gives students and trainers access to additional study materials which the College does not have on site, from both local and international libraries. The resource centre also subscribed to the South African Bibliographic and Information Network (SABINET), which allows students and trainers to access on-line journals.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENTS

On the community front an Educators Eco-Schools Workshop was organised and hosted by the College. The College also organised and hosted a community committee meeting aimed at reporting on the activities of the College community liaison department and role that it has played in the community to date. These activities included the Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust school leaver bridging programme, the eco-school's programme, support to youth centres and to schools and crèches in the area. The College was thanked and commended for its community work.

DELIVERING ON ITS MANDATE

Under the leadership of its current CEO, Theresa Sowry, with the guidance of its Board and with the commitment of its staff, the College has continued to go from strength to strength. In 2012 the College ensured the successful running of its operation and has exceeded expectations for 2012 by training and upgrading the skills base of 1826 students from all over Africa and beyond.

In developing the potential of its students, the College continues to increase the range and scope of our offerings and in so doing meet the changing needs of the conservation and tourism industry. The College's current business plan has guided the College management in developing and diversifying training products to address training needs identified in the training needs analysis of SADC conservation organizations. The move towards sustainability of the College, while still focusing on training needs, the quality of its courses and its infrastructure, is the driving force behind a new business plan to be developed by the College in 2013. The consideration being an even more business focused approach to its strategy moving forward with training hubs or themes being developed in line with its business model.

The success of the College depends on the support and collaboration of conservation groups, government agencies, conservation organisations and other stakeholders and partners such as SACET. Moreover, the College would not exist without the financial support of its donors, both past and present, who enable the College to continue with its crucial task of providing education, training and skills development in the conservation and tourism sector.

message from the chairperson and the founder trustee

It is with great pleasure that we bring you, the loyal supporters of the Southern African Wildlife College Trust, our 2012 annual report.

The wonderful news is that the funds in the SACET "Pot" (depicted in our logo) continue to grow having been generously topped up once again by many of you. At year-end the "Pot" contained the impressive sum of R24-million. The income from investments allows the Trustees to disburse a substantial sum to the Southern African Wildlife College annually for scholarships and for pressing projects. The latter are carefully screened by the Trustees to ensure that they improve students' access to quality learning material and programmes.

Under the leadership of Theresa Sowry, CEO, the College continues to scale new heights. We commend them for exceeding their targets for student intake this past year. This year the tightknit and dedicated team trained and upgraded the skills of 1,826 students from all over Africa and beyond. Last year in our message to you we highlighted the dire situation with regard to rhino poaching. The threat has not diminished but the capacity to deal with it and many other threats to our biodiversity certainly has been given a boost thanks to the College's programme and the role of SACET.

A special word of congratulations goes to the SACET scholars of 2012: Kefilwe Maimane from North West Parks and Tourism, James Mulomba from the Zambia Wildlife Authority and Willem Ponocho from the Wuparo Conservancy in Namibia. They have each penned a lovely message of thanks to you, the SACET donors, extracts of which appear later in this report. This means we have another three "ambassadors" in the workplace in positions that make a difference to the well-being of communities and nature in Africa. We wish them well in their careers. Through the College Alumni programme we will all stay informed of their achievements.

Our sincere thanks once again to everyone who has contributed to the SACET initiative. As new donors come on board and previous donors continue to give, we will ensure that the fund keeps growing and focuses on the greatest need in conservation. Now as never before the greatest need is to grow a work-force of well-equipped young professionals to manage the Africa of the future.

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 29 FEBRUARY 2012

	2012	2011
	R	R
INCOME		
Donations and voluntary contributions	921,297	1,029,533
EXPENDITURE	277,845	161,248
Administration disbursements	237,844	68,272
Fundraising campaign	5,501	60,476
Management services	34,500	32,500
Net surplus before finance income adjustment	643,452	868,285
Finance income	610,232	679,933
Investments - change in market value	1,494,945	2,375,236
Total comprehensive surplus / (deficit) for the year	2,748,629	3,923,454

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 29 FEBRUARY 2012

	Capital	General	Total
	Fund	Fund	R
	R	R	R
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
Balance at 1 March 2010	17,128,766	2,311,508	19,440,274
Total comprehensive income for the year	1,029,533	2,893,921	3,923,454
Distribution to beneficiary	-	(1,020,000)	(1,020,000)
Transfer between funds	647,659	(647,659)	-
Balance at 28 February 2011	18,805,958	3,537,770	22,343,728