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SAAPAM COMMUNIQUE 2019/01

Dear Members

Compliments of the new season. We trust that you had a restful time with family and friends during festive season. We wish you a wonderful year of productivity in your scholarship endeavours. Below are updates of the association activities.

1. Membership

We request that all members renew their membership before 30 April 2019. The renewal fee is R350-00 for individual members and R150-00 for student members. Your membership runs from January until December. School Directors/Head of Departments are requested to renew their institutional memberships. Members will receive confirmations of their fully paid-up status.

2. Conference

The much anticipated 2019 annual conference is still taking place at the University of Mpumalanga, Nelspruit. We have received over 170 abstracts from different scholars across the world. More than 40 Universities, different public departments and research institutes will be represented. The Call for Papers is extended until 31 January 2019 and the date for full papers remains unchanged (28 February 2019). We encourage authors to submit their papers. Delegates are requested to pay their conference fees before 31 March 2019 and send proof of payment.

3. Journal of Public Administration

Journal of Public Administration (JOPA) remains in the top 10 journals in South Africa. The journal receives more than 15 articles on average weekly. The journal uses triple blind review process. We appreciate the work done by our reviewers. We try to respond promptly to authors and are working on improving our systems

to deal with these high volumes. In this case, we request patience and understanding from authors as we are usually inundated with submissions. Authors are updated weekly on the progress of their articles. Should you not receive a response within two months, Please send an email directly to SAAPAM@tut.ac.za and copy John.Molepo@nwu.ac.za.

Lastly, we wish you a productive and prosperous year. We hope to see you in Mpumalanga.

Yours Faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John Molepo', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

John N Molepo
SAAPAM Executive Director