



## **Membership Benefits of the Southern African Archaeology Student Society (SAASS)**

Joining the Southern African Archaeology Student Society (SAASS) offers a range of exclusive benefits that are designed to enhance your academic and professional journey in the field of archaeology and heritage studies.

Here are some of the key advantages you can enjoy as a member:

### **Exclusive WhatsApp Group**

SAASS members gain access to an exclusive WhatsApp group, providing a platform for real-time communication and networking with fellow SAASS members. This group serves as a space for sharing resources, discussing archaeological topics, seeking advice, receiving information, and sharing opportunities.

### **Members-Only Portal**

Our website features a dedicated members-only portal, offering exclusive content. The portal is updated to ensure members have access to the latest information and tools to aid their studies and research.

### **Timely Notifications**

Stay informed about the latest opportunities and events in the field of archaeology. Members receive timely notifications about internships, scholarships, fieldwork opportunities, conferences, and other relevant events. SAASS ensures you are always in the loop regarding opportunities that can advance your academic and professional career.

### **Annual Student Development Workshop**

The Annual Student Development Workshop (SDW) is a cornerstone event for SAASS members. Conceived by SAASS co-founders Dr. Tim Forssman and Dr. Matt Lotter in 2011, the SDW addresses the gap in skill development for students and early career

professionals in archaeology. Held annually since 2013, the workshop introduces participants to various archaeological and heritage careers, skill-based and funding workshops, round-table discussions, and networking opportunities. The SDW, sponsored by ASAPA-PAST-GENUS, brings together SAASS members from around the SADC region to teach valuable and fundamental skills that may be overlooked in university lecture theatres, making it an invaluable step for aspiring archaeologists and heritage specialists.

### **Contribution to the SAASS Blog**

Members are encouraged to contribute to the SAASS blog. This platform allows you to share your research findings, fieldwork experiences, and insights into various archaeological topics. Writing for the blog is an excellent way to improve your writing skills, build your academic portfolio, and gain recognition within the archaeology community.

### **Networking and Community Engagement**

Being part of SAASS means joining a network of passionate and dedicated archaeology students and professionals. You'll have numerous opportunities to connect with peers, mentors, and experts in the field, facilitating valuable relationships that can support your academic and career development.

### **Practical Skills and Professional Development**

SAASS is committed to providing members with opportunities to gain skills. Members can also access information about funding and professional membership opportunities, further enhancing their professional development and career prospects.