

## The 11<sup>th</sup> INCOSE SA Conference

*By Ad Sparrius*

The Eleventh INCOSE SA Conference 2015 was held at the CSIR International Conference Centre from Wednesday 16 through Friday 18 September 2015. The conference architecture was 3 x 4, i.e. three days with four parallel tracks per day. Each day started with a plenary keynote and ended with a plenary endnote. There were two paper tracks and two tutorial tracks – one for Technical Development tutorials and the other for Personal Development tutorials. There were a total of 227 registrations.

Richard Lord was the 2015 Master Reviewer of Papers, using two double-blind reviews per paper, with most papers receiving three reviews. The lack of experience of South Africans in authoring and reviewing conference papers remains a constraint to the INCOSE conference.

The Greatest Young System Engineers Of The Year 2015 Challenge had its pilot during the 2015 conference and was handled by Cobus Scannell, with Louwrence Erasmus and his panel as evaluators. Three teams participated – one each from Denel Dynamics, Denel Land Systems, and Armscor. The Denel Dynamics Team (Elsabé Ebersohn, Jeff Joseph, Purusha Naidoo and Yoshlyn Naidoo) won the Ad Sparrius Greatest System Engineers Of The Year 2015 award as well as a cash prize. Purusha Naidoo won the IncoSE SA Sharpest System Engineer Of The Year 2015 award.

The Ad Sparrius Best Paper Award was won by Gerhard Swart for the paper Learning Systems Engineering Lessons from the Joule Electric Vehicle Development. INCOSE made a donation in the name of all keynoters and tutorial presenters to Médecins sans Frontières (MSF) South Africa, in recognition of keynoter Stefan Kruger, who is a South African medical doctor who volunteered for MSF in the Kailahun Ebola clinic in Sierra Leone.

The organizing concept for the INCOSE SA Conference was and remains “many hands make light work”. Without the hard work of many individuals, including all members of the CMC, there would have been no conference. I am deeply grateful to all for their professionalism.