

# Note from the editor

*"Someone is sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago."*

– Warren Buffett

As we were preparing the November edition of the journal, I received very sad news on Sunday morning 26 October: Prof Kris Adendorff had passed away during the night. Prof Adendorff is considered by many to be the father of Industrial Engineering in South Africa. Through his wisdom, vision, leadership and endless energy, the Industrial Engineering discipline was established as an academic programme at most of the major academic universities in South Africa in the 60's and 70's. For many of us, he was our teacher, mentor, study leader, colleague and friend.

He was also a founding member of the Southern African Institute for Industrial Engineering (SAIIE), the institute sponsoring this journal, and was a very active reviewer for this journal. Referring to Warren Buffett's quote above, we are all enjoying not only the shade, but also the fruits of the tree planted by Prof Adendorff.

We spoke just a week before his passing - he and Prof Paul Kruger had a submission in the review process, and he made me promise that I personally would also read and review this. As a tribute to this great man who had given so much to our discipline, the feature article in this edition is this very last submission from Prof Adendorff.

Due to a more scalable editorial process where we use section editors to manage the review process:

- The average publication time for a submission reduced to 183 days in 2014, from 240 days in 2013. We foresee that this will reduce further in future - ideally, I would like this to be somewhere between 120 and 150 days.
- The number of submissions per edition is increasing. The average number of articles per edition was typically 16 the last two years, with this one already 17, and we would like this to be about 20 in 2015.

While international exposure for a journal is a good thing, this is a journal with a regional Southern African focus, sponsored by the Southern African Institute for Industrial Engineering, and we are attempting to publish articles that are of interest to the Industrial Engineering, Engineering Management and related disciplines in this region. Consequently, we are aiming to have a healthy balance of international and local authors publishing here. In this edition, ten of the seventeen articles are from South African authors, the balance from international authors.

If you have suggestions on how we can take this journal forward, please let me know.

C.S.L. Schutte: Editor

# Obituary

## ***Prof K Adendorff (21 April 1931 - 26 October 2014)***

Prof Kris Adendorff, a well-known figure in the South African field of Industrial Engineering, passed away on Sunday 26 October 2014 at the age of 83.

Kristian Adendorff was born on 21 April 1931 in Pietermaritzburg. He obtained a BSc in Electrical Engineering at the University of the Witwatersrand in 1953 and MBA and DBA degrees at the University of Pretoria in 1961 and 1969 respectively.

Kris Adendorff joined the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Pretoria in 1959. He started off in the Department of Electrical Engineering and then joined Mechanical Engineering when Industrial Engineering was first offered as a separate degree in the department - this was in 1961. He was thus from the outset involved with the development of the Industrial Engineering degree programme and the training of Industrial Engineers in South Africa and became justly known as the father of Industrial Engineering in South Africa.



Prof Adendorff retired as a Professor in the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering in 1991. As Professor Emeritus, he continued his work in the department on a part time basis until his passing. During this time he taught virtually all under and postgraduate courses in Industrial Engineering and played a key role in defining the Industrial Engineering curriculum right from the start. Prof Adendorff's role as supervisor at masters and doctoral level was truly staggering. The numbers speak for themselves: he supervised in excess of 150 MEng and MBA degrees and more than 20 DEng, PhD and DBA degrees. His alumni truly shaped the Industrial Engineering landscape of South Africa.

Prof Adendorff played a key role in establishing Industrial Engineering as a professional engineering discipline in South Africa. He was a founder member of the South African Institute of Industrial Engineers, now the Southern African Institute for Industrial Engineering (SAIIE). As member of the Institute he served in all capacities including President and he was an Honorary Fellow of the Institute. He was instrumental in achieving recognition from the precursor of the Engineering Council of South Africa for SAIIE as a voluntary association in 1984, which enabled the IE profession to control the professional registration of Industrial Engineers in South Africa. He was a member of the South African Institute of Electrical Engineers and a Faculty Member of the Suid-Afrikaanse Akademie vir Wetenskap en Kuns. He was a registered Professional Engineer.

Our deepest sympathy to his wife Riekie (they would have celebrated 60 years of marriage in April 2015), his daughter Susan and grandchildren Herman, his wife Anneke, and Kristian.