

BISMiS 2018 – *Capturing species diversity:* Progress and opportunities - FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

international conference **BISMiS**



8 - 11 April 2018
Valley Lodge
MAGALIESBURG
South Africa



For conference logistics and administration, please contact
Carla de Jager Carlamani
Conferences and Events
carla@carlamani.co.za

Venue

After the success of the third BISMiS meeting in Pune, India last year, BISMiS 2018 will be hosted by the University of Pretoria at the Valley Lodge and Spa in Magaliesburg, South Africa from 8 – 11 April 2018. After the 3 previous meetings, BISMiS has become known as the foremost meeting for all microbiologists sharing a passion for bacterial systematics. BISMiS-2018 will again provide an excellent opportunity to exchange scientific ideas but also to catch up with old friends and meet new colleagues. The conference will be organised by Stephanus Venter of the University of Pretoria and his team of local colleagues and students. Details of registration, fees and accommodation will be provided on the BISMiS website in due course.

The BISMiS conference will directly follow the bi-annual meeting of the South African Society for Microbiology which will also be held in Pretoria from 4 - 7 April 2018. BISMiS participants are encouraged to extend their stay to join this meeting, which will be attended by microbiologists and students from all parts of the country. The SASM meeting will provide an ideal opportunity to establish new contacts or even collaborations with microbiologists from a country known for its biological diversity.

The Valley Lodge and Spa (www.valleylodge.co.za) is located in the Cradle of Humankind in the town of Magaliesburg. It is a multi-award winning four star hotel, scenically situated on the banks of the Blaauwbank River and just an hour from the cities of Pretoria and Johannesburg. A day visit to the Sterkfontein Caves, only 15 minutes' drive from there, is definitely recommended where you can explore the site where Mrs Ples and Little foot, two important hominid fossils belonging to *Australopithecus africanus* were discovered.

Magaliesburg is a small town situated below the Witwatersrand mountain range in Gauteng, South Africa. The Magaliesberg mountain range is north and visible from town, hence the name "Magaliesburg". Burg is the Afrikaans name for Town whereas Berg is for mountain.

Other popular attractions near the hotel include:

- World famous Maropeng – 15 minutes drive
- The Cradle of Humankind – 15 minutes drive
- Johannesburg CBD – 30 minutes drive
- Sandton City – 30 minutes drive

Information:

More information regarding the conference including submission of abstracts will be available on the website: www.bismis.co.za soon.

For scientific enquiries, please contact:
Stephanus Venter

Department of Microbiology and Plant Pathology
University of Pretoria
Pretoria, South Africa.
fanus.venter@up.ac.za