



**LESI International Management & Delegates Meeting (IMDM)**  
Montréal, Canada  
30 April 2023

**2023 LES Society Fact Sheet**

Thank you for providing us with an updated LES Society Fact Sheet. This information helps us share your annual activities with the LESI Board and the Membership Committee. We have also asked for (optional) data on your members (while helpful, we appreciate that not all societies might have this data).

**SOCIETY INFORMATION**

**SOCIETY NAME:** LES SA

**CONTACT PERSON**

*(This person is responsible for communication with & timely submissions to the LESI Office. You may alternatively update your information directly on the website [here](#) and indicate below that it is up to date)*

**Name:** Madelein Kleyn

**Company:**

**Address:**

**Phone:**

**E-mail:** madelein@omnisient.com

**Website:**

**Twitter handle:**

**CURRENT SOCIETY OFFICERS**

**President:** Johan du Preez

**Secretary:** Joanne van Harmelen

**Treasurer:** Alan Lewis

**Society Administrator(s):** Madelein Kleyn/Lea Chapman

**Delegates:** Danie Dohmen  
[Danie.Dohmen@adams.africa](mailto:Danie.Dohmen@adams.africa)

**Madelein Kleyn**

[madelein@omnisient.com](mailto:madelein@omnisient.com) (VP – LESI Board)

*(please provide delegate e-mail addresses)*

**Term of Current Society Officers/ Date of Next Change of Officers:**

*(please notify LESI with a complete list of officers when the change takes place)*

*AGM normally in August, 2022 change of Presidency occurred only in November. Presidents serves a 2 year term.*

**Annual Membership Dues:** ZAR2550 renewal and for new members ZAR2750

*(please note currency and any categories of membership)*

## MEMBERSHIP DATA

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Category	Total Number	% Change from last year
<b>Total Number of Members:</b> <i>(please also note separately categories of membership)</i>	105 (of which 25 members are overdue on membership)  Many of the group memberships were reduced from multiple members to just 1 or 2 members per organisation	14%
<b>Young Members (&lt; 40 years of age):</b>	20	-10%

### Date and Location of Next Annual General Meeting (AGM): August 2023

#### Notable Society Activities / Educational Events during the past year:

*(please include the date, purpose and number of attendees) May 2022- May 2023*

- 9 June 2022 – an online panel discussion on **Strategies to bolster enforceability of confidentiality agreements**, facilitated by Pieter Visagie and hosted by the on CEEM committee. The event had 39 attendees.
- 4 August 2022 – an in-person panel discussion on **The intersection between artificial intelligence (AI), advanced materials and synthetic biology with particular emphasis on the life sciences industry** which was hosted in collaboration between the LES SA Life Sciences and IUGT committees at SARIMA’s annual conference at Wanderers, Johannesburg attended by 30 delegates.
- 25 August 2022 - an online webinar on **Roundtable Discussion on NFTs** presented by the LES SA and LESI Entertainment, Media and Copyright committees which had 107 (mostly international) attendees.
- 8 September 2022 - in-person mini conference and annual general meeting followed by a cocktail and networking function. The conference theme was “**Intellectual Property and Licensing – Growing Business**” and included presentations by Mr Thandanani Cwele, the South African Registrant of Patents who shared valuable information on the current activities at the Patents Offices as well as plans going forward, Ms Jetane Charsley, the Head of the National Intellectual Property Management Office which controls all intellectual property creation, reporting, registration and commercialisation conducted by Government funded institutions in South Africa. Jetane reported on current policy evolutions at NIPMO, the results from recent surveys as well as the significant commercial successes being achieved under NIPMO’s guidance, Mr Modise Sefume, who is intimately involved in new generation examples of how intellectual property and licensing evolve and adapt to technology changes and societal trends. He gave a fascinating insight into the interaction between intellectual property and licensing in sports and entertainment agreements as well as influencer agreements, Dr Cynthia Motsi who is a senior manager at the South African Agricultural Research Council. Cynthia explained the diverse roll that the ARC plays in the agricultural research field at its 10 campuses across South Africa and shared information on the global impact which the ARC’s more than 500 Plant Breeders Registration commercialisation projects have, and Mr Fred Makgato, the CEO of the Franchise Association of South Africa. Fred explained the significant contribution which franchising businesses make to the South African economy (almost 14% of GDP), as well as the broad range of different sectors where franchising models are used. Franchising brings together and utilises diverse types of intellectual property and translate the intellectual property into businesses that drive economic growth and employment.

- 2 to 4 November 2022 - **Realising Value from Intangible Assets: IP Valuation Course (Face to Face – Western Cape, South Africa) – 16 delegates and 4 trainers**
- 24 November 2022 – year end function and YMC events: The LES South Africa year end function hosted by the YMC at Salsa Mexican Grill and Restaurant was a lively affair; (15 attendees)
- 25 November: In Stellenbosch, Western Cape the evening was enjoyed at the beautiful Longridge wine estate. The Cybarete IoT Start-up founders Dr Karel Kruger and Dale Sparrow addressed the attendees sharing their BASE technology which provides a cost-effective, customizable, and scalable solution to automate, optimize, schedule, keep track of, and get timely feedback on activities and processes in a wide variety of industries, including manufacturing, agriculture, and even healthcare (15 attendees)
- 7 March 2023 - Johan du Preez (President LES SA – Co-chair of LESI Copyright Committee) and Danie Dohmen (Immediate Past President LES SA – Co-chair of LESI Education Committee) represented LES SA before **the South African Parliament’s National Council of Provinces Select Committee on Trade and Industry, Economic Development, Small Business Development, Tourism, Employment and Labour**. They made oral representations to the committee on the South African Copyright Amendment Bill B 13D of 2017 which is currently making its way through the South African Parliamentary system. The LES SA representations focused on the provisions of concern in the Bill which may have a negative influence on licensing and IP and technology transfer agreements.
- 16 March 2023: Afternoon Talk – Public hearings on the copyright and performers’ protection bills have been taking place in the NCOP and Provincial legislatures since the end of February and will continue until April. The LES SA Board presented an afternoon talk covering the main aspects presented to the hearing. It was attended by 27 on-line participants and 20 in-person delegates.
- 17 March 2023: Kids IP Day – sharing of video material to schools and linked-in blast

**Please List Your Professional Committees** (e.g., Education, Life Sciences, Transportation):

Environment, Energy, Materials, and Chemicals (CEEM)  
 High Technology  
 Life Science  
 Patent & Technology Licensing  
 Industry and University Liaison  
 Copyright, Trade marks, Designs and Merchandising  
 Education

**Does your society have (or plan to start) a Young Members Congress (YMC)? Would your Society be interested in becoming more involved in WILA?** If so, please provide a contact for each.

*YMC in existence (Refilwe Ngoato [refilwe.ngoato@up.ac.za](mailto:refilwe.ngoato@up.ac.za))*  
*Yes on WILA (M Kleyn)*

## How can LESI or other LES Societies further support you?

*Support online events*

*International events : on-line events – use of LESI internationally registration platform and Zoom facilities*

Report completed by :     Madelein Kleyn     Date : 20 April 2023