

MEDIA RELEASE - 3 April 2002

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK - For immediate release

THE KRUGER EXPERIENCE - ECOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT OF SAVANNA HETEROGENEITY

An international scientific symposium shall be held at Berg-en-Dal Rest Camp in the Kruger National Park as from 16-18 April 2002. The symposium is presented in recognition of the Kruger National Park as one of the world's leading conservation areas that has recently celebrated its centenary. The theme of the symposium will be heterogeneity in savannas, including management issues. The objectives are:

- To present KNP's historical data in a meaningful context;
- To produce a book emanating from the conference which will contribute significantly to savanna ecology by using heterogeneity in savannas as an overarching framework for investigating science and management (and the linkages between them).

Four internationally renowned savanna ecologists have been invited to chair the symposium sessions and to facilitate discussions. All KNP scientists will attend, along with approximately 100 other invited scientists from around the world. About 25 of the invited participants will present papers at the symposium. At the end of each Section the Session Chairs will encourage and lead discussion from the floor regarding the session topic. The essence of these discussions will be captured for inclusion in the ensuing Kruger book. There will also be plenary discussion sessions chaired by in which all invited scientists will participate. There will also be poster sessions to broaden the scope of the presentations.

Anyone who would like to attend the symposium can contact Merle Whyte of Mpumalanga Promotions at merle@mpu.co.za (Tel: 013 735 5195). Please note that members of the press will be given free entry into Kruger National Park and free registration at the symposium. However, they will be liable for all travel, accommodation and food costs.

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