



RHODES UNIVERSITY
Grahamstown • 6140 • South Africa

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Dear Donors

In my [welcoming address](#) to our First Year students earlier this week, I reaffirmed our commitment to our legacy and proud reputation. It is the legacy that we must continually strive to uphold, and in fact, to, enhance and grow. It is a legacy that has been made possible by every person associated with this fine University. It has also been made possible by the truly gifted and committed young people whom we attract to Rhodes University, and is one of the prime reasons why Rhodes is one of the few Institutions of Higher Learning that successfully completed the 2016 academic year.

I would like to personally invite you to support the [Annual Fund](#), an opportunity to rally our entire community behind Rhodes' mission and to encourage new generations of volunteers, **leaders** and donors to step forward. South African universities have only three sources of income: student fees, state subsidies and donations. Last year, the #FeesMustFall Campaign saw **no** increase in tertiary fees. Aligned with National Agreements in 2017, our fees were increased by only 8 %. Rhodes still provides approximately 50% of the overall undergraduate financial aid budget from its own funds. **Bursary support** for academically talented students in financial need, providing access to a Rhodes University education remains extremely critical in 2017.

We would also like to remind you that your generosity to Rhodes University pays you a tax dividend, please read this recent [article](#) by our tax expert, Prof Matthew Lester from the Rhodes Business School; explaining why there is no better time to invest in Education as South Africa's only hope for the future. As a South African taxpayer, whether you donate in your personal capacity or through your business, you will be issued with a Section 18A tax certificate or invoice which will entitle you to a tax rebate at the end of the 2016/17 Tax Year (ending 28/02/2017).

With so many opportunities and so many worthy causes, I am truly grateful for your willingness to include Rhodes University among your philanthropic priorities.

For more information on this appeal do not hesitate to contact Ellen Bagshawe-Smith at 046 603 8509 or e.duplessis@ru.ac.za. Please find attached the [pledge form](#) with the banking details for your convenience.

Thank you for your support

Dr Sizwe Mabizela
Vice-Chancellor



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