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RHO DOS

Volume 14 | 2018/19

**ARE WE
ALONE?**

**BIOWAR
ON WATER
WEED**

**UNIVERSITIES
FACE OFF**

**PUTTING
DOWN
ROOTS**



RHODES UNIVERSITY
Where leaders learn

A PUBLICATION OF THE COMMUNICATIONS AND
ADVANCEMENT DIVISION OF RHODES UNIVERSITY



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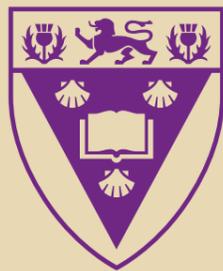


Rhodes University is the only research-intensive university in South Africa located outside a major urban area. This unique characteristic of Rhodes University is played out in the nexus between research, teaching and community engagement. This creates a synergy that has led to Rhodes University becoming a leader in research and community development, proving that when we work together great things are possible.

RHODOS FOREWORD

By Luzuko Jacobs

Director for Communication and Advancement Division



I am pleased to share with you another informative edition of Rhodos. In this edition, we record stories of men and women who continue to push the envelope in academic and research excellence. Initiatives by Faculties and Departments at Rhodes University, including our numerically superior national research chairs, who consistently operate at the cutting edge of excellence internationally, continue to define our value proposition and scholarship. This edition presents a snapshot of this work across our three core purposes, namely: teaching and learning, research and community engagement.

Our comprehensive Community Engagement at Rhodes University is qualitatively and quantitatively above the national average in material respects. Student participation rates, as well as our results and output are not matched by any other institution in our country. There is a strong thread linking our staff and students to the communities in Makhanda (Grahamstown), and within our district, through activities that range from volunteerism to mentoring – a true embodiment of our Vice Chancellor, Dr Sizwe Mabizela's mantra that Rhodes University is of and for Makhanda. The article, "Madiba centenary brings biggest-ever skills trade" on page 39 demonstrates this perfectly.

As a small research-intensive University, the only one of its kind outside of a metropole in South Africa, we continue to punch above our weight. In terms of absolute contribution of research outputs, our capacity is modest in relation to big urban research-orientated institutions. In terms of measures which are normalised to our size, we are outstanding. For the last few years, Rhodes University has been consistently amongst the top achievers in the sector by this measure, and in the most recent audited report is tied in the first position (alongside the University of Stellenbosch). An achievement that we are extremely proud of and continue to build on. Some specific recent achievements in research can be explored through "Anybody out there?" about the MeerKAT project on page 24, and the Centre for Biological Control's "Biowar on waterweed" on page 28.

Despite the number of challenges facing higher education, including the increasing decline in state funding for higher education,

we are doing something right to ensure that no academically deserving student is denied an education. We are convinced that in the South African context, of all the contributions that can be made, an investment in education remains the most important and compelling. To this end, we have created an endowment fund called Isivivane Fund that can be used to support students in need (please see page 3). These are talented young people who come into the system with the potential to expand and develop new areas of research. We invite our alumni, corporate South Africa and friends of Rhodes University to assist us to build on our heritage, and create a lasting gift – a University that stands out as a world-class African centre of research excellence and teaching and learning. A true story of hope can be found in the feature about the pan-

African school for young girls that was started by a Rhodes University alumna, on page 69.

Stories in this edition reflect the four pillars of our newly-launched Institutional Development Plan: sustainability; simultaneous local responsiveness and global engagement; advancing social justice; and advancing the public good purpose of higher education. These four pillars, along with the seven strategic goals of the IDP act as a compass and a roadmap for the University over the next three years.

I hope that these stories will inspire you to pursue your own goals and make Rhodes University your partner in your journey of constantly acquiring and creating knowledge that makes a difference.



BANKSETA beneficiaries



An ABSA representative hands over funds for Isivivane

Through the support of a number of excellent funders, Rhodes University's Isivivane Student Financial Aid Campaign has already helped many dreams come true since its inception in 2017.

With an ambitious target of raising R1 billion in 10 years, Isivivane is by far the biggest fundraising campaign in the history of Rhodes University. Funds raised through Isivivane help support the four key areas of the campaign: undergraduate bursaries; postgraduate bursaries; heightened student experience; and endowments for future sustainability of the fund.

"We are raising funds to enable access to academically-deserving students who through

citizens.

Goal 4 speaks to ensuring financial and environmental sustainability practices at Rhodes University through good governance, leadership and management.

Adding stones to the pile

One of Isivivane's very first donors was Absa, who kickstarted the campaign with a R5-million donation to assist 150 students who fall outside the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) catchment, known as the "missing middle". Since then, the financial services provider has donated a further R2.4million in full bursaries, this time to 49 deserving students.

even while studying," she urged them. "And definitely when you are climbing the corporate ladder, be sure to help others up from wherever they are," she said.

In response to Mangau's plea to give back, a group of young Rhodes University alumni have launched the Ntombesizwe Scholarship. Their programme aims to provide full funding to one black female student from Grahamstown, who falls within the "missing middle".

Zukisa Pityana, one of the funders of the Scholarship says that, "It is easy to get lost in forging our own lives. Part of the Ntombesizwe dream is that we spread awareness about the possibility of building someone else's life, even when young professionals are so busy

YOU RAISE ME UP isivivane fund

"I am confident that we will reach our targets."

- Qondakele Sompondo, Isivivane Fundraising Manager

no fault of their own cannot afford to study at the University," explained Fundraising Manager Qondakele Sompondo. "We act as a vehicle that attracts bursary funding, and a conduit between prospective funders and qualifying students."

Sompondo hopes that after 10 years, Isivivane will raise enough money for the fund to grow in perpetuity through its investments.

In this way, Isivivane is firmly embedded in at least two of the seven goals as set up by the University's newly-implemented Institutional Development Plan (IDP).

Goal 2 speaks to enabling access to Rhodes University for all academically-qualifying students and to provide them with conditions which enable all students to flourish and promote their holistic development as critical

One of the bursary recipients said, "Having met other bursary recipients, I realise what impact this opportunity has not only for us to obtain our degrees, but for us achieving our goals and dreams." With her degree, she hopes to increase the participation of women in sport.

Another considerable contributor to the Fund is the Banking Sector Education and Training Authority (BANKSETA), whose close to R5.8 million donation awarded full tuition to 50 Rhodes University commerce and science students.

The Eastern Cape BANKSETA Regional Manager, Ms Nobuzwe Mangcu, appealed to BANKSETA's beneficiaries, "Even though the BANKSETA is invested in removing your financial stresses, we expect you to plough some of your energy back into the community,

building their own."

As Sompondo reiterated, whether you are helping one student succeed or hundreds, you are doing your part in making our country – and indeed the world – a better place. "You can't go wrong with investing in education, since you are investing in your own future," he said.

Sompondo says that looking at how much has been achieved by the Isivivane Fund since its inception in 2017, there is no doubt that the campaign will achieve its ambitious goal of raising R1 billion by 2027.

"We have made a lot of progress in a short space of time. We are very much on course, and I am confident that we will reach our targets," he stated.

NEW NAMES, NEW PURPOSE

In line with the University's transformation agenda, three student residences have been renamed. As a continued celebration of the cultural identity and geographical location of the University within Africa, South Africa and the Eastern Cape, the Rhodes Council approved the name changes of the old Jameson House, Piet Retief House and Jan Smuts House.

Charlotte Maxeke

Jameson House, which was opened in 1921, is now known as Mmakgano Charlotte Maxeke House.

Maxeke is one of South Africa's first black female graduates; the first woman to participate in the King's court in Thembuland; the founder and president of the Bantu Women's League and the first black woman to become a parole officer actively questioning the administration of justice against women and children. She also founded an employment agency for Africans in Johannesburg, catering to the needs of former political prisoners.

In 1901 aged 30, Maxeke received her BSc degree from Wilberforce University in the United States where she was taught by Pan-Africanists and received an education focused on developing the literacy and quality of life of the African people.

Enoch Sontonga

Piet Retief House was renamed Mankayi Enoch Sontonga House.

Sontonga wrote and composed the South African national anthem, *Nkosi Sikelela iAfrica*

in 1897, a prayer for God's blessing on the African land and its people. The song was originally written for his school choir.

Born in Uitenhage in the Eastern Cape in the late 1800s, he died at the age of 32. He was trained as a teacher at Lovedale College, and went on to become a choirmaster, an amateur photographer, a distinguished poet and a composer.

Nkosi Sikelela iAfrica had become the official song of the African National Congress (ANC), Zambia adopted it as its national anthem, Tanzania translated it into Swahili as Mungu ibariki Afrika, and adopted it as its national anthem. It was also widely sung in the Shona language in Zimbabwe.

In his honour, the "new" Enoch Sontonga House choir gave a beautiful rendition of Tat'uEnoch Sontonga's *Nkosi Sikelela iAfrica* at the renaming ceremony.

Robert Sobukwe

Jan Smuts House became Robert Sobukwe House.

Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe was a prominent South African political dissident, who founded the Pan Africanist Congress in opposition to the South African apartheid system. On 21 March 1960, Sobukwe led a march to the local police station at Orlando, Soweto, in order to openly defy pass laws, where he was arrested.

Following his arrest, Sobukwe was charged with and convicted of incitement, and

sentenced to three years in prison. The new General Law Amendment Act was passed, allowing his imprisonment to be renewed annually at the discretion of the Minister of Justice. This procedure became known as the "Sobukwe clause".

Bishop Andile Mbethe, who was present at the renaming, reminded residents, "It is one thing to name this place after Robert Sobukwe, but this house will only truly become Robert Sobukwe House by what happens inside."

Transformation agenda

Over the past few years, 20 name changes have taken place within Rhodes University. Buildings, facilities, academic units and structures named after liberation icons include Ellen Nnoseng Kuzwayo, Walter Sisulu, Rosa Parks, Ruth First, Joe Slovo, Victoria Nonyamezelo Mxenge, Adelaide Tambo, Helen Joseph, Robert Mmangaliso Sobukwe, Chris Thembisile Hani, Miriam Zenzile Makeba, Lillian Masediba Ngoyi, Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, Desmond Mpilo Tutu and Steve Bantubonke Biko.

"The premise of this work is compatible with the University's transformation project and the values of human dignity, non-racialism and non-sexism enshrined in the South African Constitution. These name changes are collective small steps to promote the redress of past imbalances and a celebration of the cultural identity and geographical location of the University," said Rhodes University Vice-Chancellor, Dr Sizwe Mabizela.



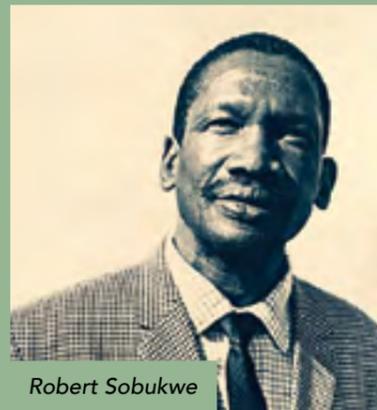
Old residence buildings



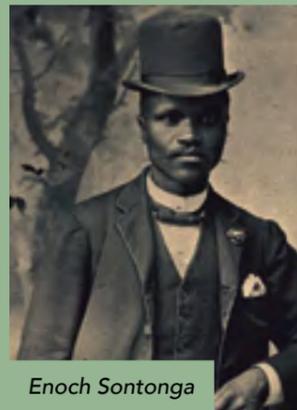
Bishop Andile Mbete at the Robert Sobukwe House unveiling



Charlotte Maxeke



Robert Sobukwe



Enoch Sontonga

RHODES UNIVERSITY GOES GREEN

By Rughsaar Bibi

The Rhodes Environmental Committee seeks to promote the protection of the natural environment, to create an awareness of the environment and promote policies at Rhodes University which would be instrumental in working towards that goal.

“The aim of the Environmental Committee is working actively towards promoting the operations at Rhodes to become more sustainable in the areas of energy, water, waste and travel,” explained Head of Economics at Rhodes University, Professor Hugo Nel, who is also the Chairperson of the Environmental Committee.

The Committee operates in such a way that the projects are organised through working groups within the Committee. In order for the Committee to achieve certain goals within the year, they identify particular working groups which report to the committee on a regular basis and then implement each project.

“The working groups are the policy implementation working group which liaises within divisions of the University to promote sustainability. The second is the Green Fund Working Group which serves as a vehicle for fundraising to generate funding and resources in order to implement certain sustainability projects with a keen interest in energy,” said Prof Nel.

Aligned to the global environmental goals which aim to conserve the natural environment, the Rhodes University Green Fund (RUGF) serves to encourage the Rhodes University and the greater Grahamstown community to become a model of sustainability for the rest of South Africa.

The objectives of the RUGF are to support learning and practice in respect of water, energy, waste, carbon footprint, biodiversity, green buildings, responsible purchasing, sustainable travel and sustainability education.

“An example of this would be the implementation of a grey water project,” said Prof Nel. “Another project we have implemented recently is a clean-up of the University’s rainwater tanks – a pilot project we implemented last year,” he added.

“Part of the water sustainability at the University

is to harvest more water and store more water in order to become a little bit more self-sufficient when there are water cuts,” Prof Nel stated. “It is a pilot project, a very small way to work towards the practices that could improve the sustainability around water.”

“Heat pumps result in a 60% reduction in electricity usage.”

- Dr Iain D’Lange

After water, the next important area to look at is energy. The crux of the sustainability policy is to reduce the carbon footprint of the University. “This means one wants to reduce the extent to which one is reliant on electricity which is produced through carbon firing,” said Prof Nel. Currently, the University is highly interested in investing in introducing solar energy as an alternative energy form.

The green initiatives currently implemented on campus are largely within the residence system. “We no longer install boilers in the residences, we install heat pumps which are far more energy efficient. In fact, heat pumps result in a 60% reduction in electricity usage,” explained Executive Director of Infrastructure and Operations Division, Dr Iain L’Ange. “In the common areas, they have installed motion sensors so that the lights get turned off when there is no movement. They are also rolling out the replacement of incandescent and fluorescent bulbs with LEDs,” he said.

“We are in the process of investigating a scheme whereby we can get the whole campus on to solar power. The other thing we have been exploring with Makana Municipality is the production of electricity using biomass,” said L’Ange. Though the wheels of change move slowly, every initiative makes a difference in

working towards a greener future.

The new environmental policy along with the energy policy, which is still being developed, targets the University’s practices and operations to become more sustainable and, therefore, more friendly to the natural environment.



The Makana Green Fun Run



The Makana Green Fun Run



TRANSFORMATION

AT RHODES UNIVERSITY: UNPACKING THE INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

In the context of Rhodes University, transformation is taking a life of its own and is promising far-reaching effects.



GOAL 6
Provide relevant/ appropriate academic infrastructure, equipment and facilities to support our academic project.



GOAL 5
Attract, nurture and retain staff of high calibre and maintain an inclusive, welcoming, affirming and positive institutional environment.

GOAL 2

Enable access to Rhodes University by all academically qualifying students and provide them with conditions which enable all students to flourish and which promote their holistic development as critical citizens.



TEACHING & LEARNING

GOAL 4

Ensure financial and environmental sustainability practices at Rhodes University through good governance, leadership and management.



GOAL 3

Maintain and strengthen our unique institutional niche as a research-intensive university outside of a major urban area.



RESEARCH



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

GOAL 1

Maintain and strengthen our general formative degree offering and the research-teaching- community engagement nexus which enables our students to access relevant knowledge.



GOAL 7

Promote Rhodes University as an institution for public good in local, provincial, national and international contexts.



This Institutional Development Plan collates, consolidates and expresses our choices and decisions and sets out our institutional goals and strategies that will be pursued for their achievement. It is not cast in stone but will remain a flexible and 'living document', ever-evolving and adapting as new strategies and approaches are implemented to advance our mission and vision as new imperatives and opportunities arise.

Rhodes University's Institutional Development Plan (IDP) is a strategic plan which defines the University's development and goals going forward. It details the University's vision, mission and institutional goals.

According to the Vice Chancellor Dr Sizwe Mabizela, it aims to serve as "a compass and a roadmap of the direction and trajectory for the next five years. It provides us with strategies for the actualisation of the commitments we have made". He goes on to acknowledge that the IDP should be used as a roadmap to erect powerful signposts to indicate how the future pathways must differ from those of the past – emphasising the transformational role of the IDP.

Continuing on the transformation theme, the Chairperson of Council Vuyo Kahla states that "the theme of the Rhodes University IDP is foregrounded by our pursuit of academic excellence and by the constitutional mandate to transform all public institutions in the country".

The IDP is a five-year programme born out of various stakeholder engagements and the 2017 Transformation Summit. The document details the organisational learning strategy and in so doing, dictates how transformation will be achieved. Through this IDP, the Rhodes University community pledges that the transformation process will be sustainably executed, be of local relevance and will not compromise the contributions the Institution makes to advance societal growth. The various transformation initiatives are already unfolding as part of the IDP roll out. Examples of these include the review of language policy, which aims to encourage the use of isiXhosa in official communication within the University. In addition, several buildings and residences on campus are being renamed to reflect this paradigm shift.

Seven strategic goals have been identified to drive the expected developments at Rhodes University to advance the academic project. Aligned to the goals are predetermined objectives and measurable performance indicators. Annual targets have been set respectively for each performance indicator.

According to the Director of the Institutional Planning Unit at Rhodes University, Dr Remy Nnadozie, "We expect to start receiving the first quarterly reports from faculties and departments at the end of the first quarter of 2019."

Teaching and Learning

As part of the strategy outlined in the IDP, Rhodes University plans to progressively increase its student body from 8 000 in 2017 to 9 500 by 2022. This must be carried out in a gradual manner that builds on the present success rate of 84% and with consideration of potential impact of growing student body on service delivery demands in a small community as ours.

The University also put forward a strong academic proposition anchored on the interconnection of research-teaching-community engagement. The University commits to providing an inclusive learning environment that will encourage students from diverse backgrounds to reach their full potential as critical citizens and skilled graduates who can adapt to challenges of the ever-evolving physical and social aspects of our planet.

Research

Rhodes University takes pride in its unique status as a research-intensive university outside any major urban settings. This notwithstanding, the institution endeavours to provide an enabling environment to all qualifying students and to provide them with the necessary conditions to enable them to flourish in their holistic developments as critical citizens. To actualise this ambition, the University seeks to consolidate its present research partnerships and also look for avenues to create new ones. Partnerships bring much needed knowledge interchange and funding to assist the expansion of research activities at Rhodes University.

"The University will continue to be a top-grade research university in the country, contributing to our accumulated stock of knowledge and be able to respond to the urgent and pressing needs of our society," said Mabizela.

In addition, the blueprint document recognises that slow economic growth is compounded

by intense competition for available resources at the state level. Now more than ever, it is imperative that partnerships with institutions such as the National Research Foundation (NRF) and the Andrew Mellon Foundation, amongst others, for support in research are maintained.

Community engagement

In his inauguration speech in 2015, Mabizela made firm commitment to the Grahamstown community and this commitment is central to the IDP. It is encapsulated in the University's Community Engagement programme "Our future and our success as Rhodes University are inextricably bound up with the future and success of the greater Grahamstown community. We are deeply and intimately connected with our local community. It is therefore vitally important that we become actively involved in finding sustainable solutions to the challenges that face us in this space we jointly occupy. We must send a clear and unequivocal message that our University is not just in Grahamstown but is also of and for Grahamstown," Mabizela said.

This vision of an engaged University is finely woven into all aspects of Rhodes University, including teaching and learning and research, with the Community Engagement-Teaching nexus being evident in the number of courses that incorporate service learning in the formal curriculum, and in volunteerism, which increasingly forms part of a student's learning experience at Rhodes University. The culmination of this vision will result in students who are accomplished and responsible citizens at the end of their studies at Rhodes University.

"This flexible, living document represents our collective hopes, our dreams, and our aspirations as an institution of higher learning. It will require a fundamental culture change and mind shift," Mabizela said.

"Our IDP indicates certain commitments we have made to ourselves, our Council, and to the sector of higher learning. It is expected of us to make good on those commitments. If we don't hold each other accountable, then we will not be able to reach the goals we have set for ourselves, and run the risk of financial and reputational loss," he concluded.

Over the years, the generous and modest sums bequeathed to Rhodes University have grown exponentially through careful investments.

PASSING ON THE GIFT OF GRADUATION

- THE POWER OF BEQUESTS

By leaving a bequest to Rhodes University, you are providing tomorrow's promising students with bursaries and scholarships," said Senior Alumni and Stakeholder Relations Officer, Terry Mc Carthy.

Besides money, bequests can take on many forms, including shares, insurance policies and buildings.

"In total for 2017, we received R7 870 957 in bequests from four bequestors. Large or small, the amounts add up," explained Mc Carthy.

A good example of the kind of growth a

bequest can undergo is as with the Patrick & Margaret Ellen Flanagan Bequest, which was bequeathed in 1985. The original bequest was R1 million, and as of 31 December 2017, the market value was R47 million.

To date, 45 scholars have benefited from the Flanagan Bequest, and its current award values are R500 000 per annum.

Another great illustration of how dramatically a bequest can grow is the Henderson Prestigious Scholarship of R1 million, which was established in 1998. As of 31 December 2017, it had a market value of R37 million.

Approximately 25 students are supported annually through this fund. In 2018 Rhodes received a bequest of R3 million from Craib's Estate and a further R165 000 from other bequestors.

"By leaving a bequest to Rhodes, you are giving tomorrow's leaders an opportunity to benefit from your vision, planning and generosity, and the ability to compete in the increasingly competitive education market," stressed Mc Carthy.

For more information, please contact Terry Mc Carthy at t.mccarthy@ru.ac.za.

A BEQUEST IN A NUTSHELL

A bequest (or legacy) is a disposition in a will of money and/or property left to a named beneficiary. The bequest may take various forms, for example:

- A percentage of your estate – a good option, since it is difficult to predict the future value of your estate. In this way, you ensure that all your beneficiaries receive the shares you intend for them;
- The residue - this is the balance of your estate after all costs, debts, and bequests have been paid;
- The proceeds of a life insurance cover – these may be made payable to Rhodes University by means of a cession in favour of the University;
- Your entire estate - there is no stipulation regarding the amount of the bequest and, as we are mindful of the fact that bequests are personal in nature, there is no need to make the amount known.

SIXTY-SIX YEARS OF LASTING LOVE

"Every day has been memorable in some way or another." – BILL MILLS ON 66 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Kit and Bill Mills, two esteemed Old Rhodians recently celebrated 66-years of marriage. Herewith an edited version of the story as told to us by Bill Mills:

"In 1947, I travelled to South Africa from a town called Umtali in the Southern Rhodesian highlands to study for a BCom degree at Rhodes University.

Before I came to Rhodes, my plan was simple: to get a BCom degree, travel back home to do my articles, and then become a Chartered Accountant. However, after meeting Kit, things didn't quite turn out as expected.

Kit arrived two years after I did (in 1949), to do a BA Fine Arts, which ultimately became a BA with a major in isiXhosa, the University's first isiXhosa graduate. She stayed at John Kotze House while she struggled with early-morning Fine Art classes. It wasn't long before Kit and several of her house sisters formed a social group known as the Koffie Party (KP).

I initially started "going steady" with another member of the KP – a friend of Kit's named Jill. Four months into our steady push, Jill met another gentleman she wanted to "go steady" with. During one of the KP meetings, Kit offered to run interference for Jill when she told me the sad news.

With this plan in mind, Jill ended things with me at the St Mary's Hall Ball and, as discussed, Kit quickly swooped in to take me over as her steady push. Not permanently, of course – or

so Kit thought. But Kit and I found ourselves growing increasingly fond of each other, and it wasn't long before I was no longer thinking about losing Jill.

Once I had my BCom, I travelled back home to Umtali, just as I had planned all those years before. Once home, my mother asked me why I was not leaping for joy over getting my degree, and I told her, "I just can't get that girl out of my mind."

She suggested I return to Rhodes University to find out if there was any substance to my feelings for Kit. I hurried back to Rhodes to pursue

relationship with her – under the guise of studying my Honours in Economics, of course.

By 1951, I was employed as an economist in the Rhodesian Civil Service; and Kit, having obtained her BA, followed me to Rhodesia to work in the Civil Service herself.

We were married on 20 September 1952 in Queenstown.

We had five children between 1959 and 1969. One boy and three girls came in quick succession, and the fifth child arrived a full five years after the fourth. "Just to show that we still knew how," as Kit puts it.

Sixty-six years of marriage is a long time. Our journey has culminated in five wonderful children, approximately 22 500 nappy changes, three grandchildren, several career changes (including 14 years helping Vice-Chancellor Derek Henderson to put to rights a rather run-down University), lots of losses and gains, lots of love, and journeys around the world – usually in an RV!

Every day has been memorable in some way or another. When we built our first house, when the first baby arrived, when the fifth baby arrived – every memory has been memorable. You have to have a sense of humour. You need to keep looking for things to talk about and laugh about. Remember your wedding vows, be absolutely honest with your partner and trust one another. Marriage is a partnership of equals."



Kit and Bill Mills

CELEBRATING THE CREAM OF THE CROP

Every year, Rhodes University recognises distinguished alumni who are flying the University's flag high.

2018

Distinguished Alumni Award winners

Max Boqwana

Max Boqwana has extensive knowledge and experience in the legal fraternity. He boasts considerable experience in litigation, commercial as well as constitutional law. Mr Boqwana is the CEO of the Thabo Mbeki Foundation and heads up the implementation phase of the African Renaissance programme



across Southern Africa and throughout the rest of the African continent. He was recently elected as the President of the SADC Lawyers Association. Boqwana holds BA Law and LLB degrees from Rhodes University.

Dr Georgina Kemp

Georgina is the Senior Program Officer at the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the Canadian federal crown corporation that invests in knowledge, innovation and solutions to improve lives and livelihoods in the developing world. Having completed all her studies from undergrad to



postdoctoral fellow at Rhodes University and becoming a senior lecturer in the Department of Environmental Sciences, Georgina was head hunted by the IDRC to lead the Collaborative Adaptation Research Initiative in Africa and Asia (CARIAA), a partnership between Canada's IDRC and the United Kingdoms Department for International Development (DFID).

Dr Clive Shiff

Dr Clive Shiff serves as an Associate Professor at Johns Hopkins University within the Molecular Microbiology and Immunology Department. His main research interests are in the study of tropical parasitic diseases, particularly schistosomiasis and malaria under African conditions. In this capacity, he also serves as the PI and lead scientist running



the Malaria Institute at Macha, Zambia. This functions as a core facility for the Research community at Johns Hopkins University, with a focus on field research. He received his Master of Science and PhD in Zoology at Rhodes University.

Professor Emeritus Pat Terry

The South African Institute for Computer Scientists and Information Technologists awarded Prof Terry with a Pioneer in Computer Science and Information Technology in 2010. The award is to honour persons who have made major contributions over a lifetime to the disciplines of Computer Science and Information Technology in South Africa. Perhaps one of his most significant contributions to the South African academic community was his pivotal role in enabling the first email and networking connections



between South Africa and the rest of the world.

2017

Distinguished Alumni Award winners

Professor Chris Brink

Chris Brink is a logician with a Cambridge PhD and an interdisciplinary DPhil. He holds Master's degrees from Rhodes University in both philosophy and mathematics, and a Bachelor's degree in computer science. His research areas include mathematics, logic, philosophy and computer science, and he has published in all these fields. Before moving into management he held the prestigious 'A'-rating of the National Research Foundation,



which ranked him as one of South Africa's leading scientists. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of South Africa. He holds the Freedom of the City of Newcastle and has been awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Civil Law.

Prof Chris Brink was recognised in the 2018 Queen's Birthday Honours, and awarded a CBE, (Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) for services to Higher Education.

Professor Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela

Author, Professor and Research Chair, Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela completed her Bachelor's and Honours degrees at Fort University, her Masters in Clinical Psychology at Rhodes University, and her PhD in Psychology at the University of Cape Town. She is Professor and Research Chair in Historical Trauma and Transformation at Stellenbosch University, South Africa. She has been Professor in the Psychology Department at the University of Cape Town, and Senior Research Professor at the University of the Free State leading the



Trauma, Memory and Forgiveness Research Initiative.

Gobodo-Madikizela has won several awards for her work. She is the recipient of two honorary doctorates in recognition of her research on victim-perpetrator dialogue—the Degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa, from Holy Cross College in Massachusetts (2002), and the honorary Doctor of Theology from the Friedrich-Schiller University, Jena, Germany (2017).

Tony Granger

South African born author and businessperson, Tony Granger has continued the Old Rhodian tradition as a trustee of the Rhodes University United Kingdom Trust. He attended Rhodes



University from 1970 to 1973 and 1978 to 1979 where he obtained his BA LLB. Tony has interacted with the Rhodes University Business School and has been involved in projects to alleviate poverty in Africa. He is a visiting Professor at London Metropolitan Guildhall University Business and Law School in London and FRSA (Fellow of the Royal Society of the Arts, Commerce).

In 2012, he became a Freeman of the City of London, an honour bestowed by the city to "persons of distinction and persons who have, in the opinion of the council, rendered eminent services" to the local area.

Professor Godwell Nhamo

Professor Godwell Nhamo, (a C3-Rated NRF researcher), has dedicated his life since his first enrolment at Rhodes University in 2003 to opening up critical research areas in the fields of climate policy, green economy and sustainable development.



Given that Prof Nhamo only obtained his PhD in 2005, his achievements are of an outstanding nature and represent Rhodes University well in both the academic and service to community spheres of influence. For his outstanding achievements, Prof Nhamo has received numerous recognitions at international, national and local levels.

Dr Les Shone

Dr Leslie John Shone was awarded the Distinguished Old Rhodian Award 2017 and sadly passed away on the 10th November 2017. Dr Leslie John Shone was known for his personal integrity, exceptional leadership qualities and the ability to deal with people at all levels without pride or prejudice. He made a significant impact on all major water utilities throughout South Africa and the larger water utilities in Africa.



Leslie graduated from Rhodes University in 1964 with a Bachelor of Science degree and a Diploma in Industrial Organisation and Business Management. The Commonwealth University in London awarded him a Doctorate in Science.

David Abbey

David Abbey is widely recognised in the banking and financial services industry for his high intellectual and execution capability, sound business acumen and commercial shrewdness.

A recipient of various accolades and highest honours throughout his schooling career, he graduated from Rhodes University in 2007 with a Bachelor of Commerce. He is a qualified Chartered Accountant, who qualified



concurrently as a Certified Information Systems Auditor (a global qualification recognised as the highest qualification for Information Technology and Information Systems professionals).

Dr Prudence Ogunlade

Dr Prudence Ogunlade is an Executive Manager in the Office of the Chief Operations Officer at Transnet Freight Rail. She holds a PhD in Chemistry from Rhodes University obtained in 2007, has studied Programme in Business Management at Unisa and is currently busy with her studies towards an MBA.



Dr Ogunlade has worked for Sasol, the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), Fevertree Consulting, and Transnet. She was a custodian of developing strategic plans for Magnetic Systems, Chrome Systems as well as Durban-Gauteng Rails Corridor.

Dr Ogunlade is a true professional and role model, who embodies all the qualities that make her an outstanding person.

Krivani Pillay

Krivani Pillay is a highly motivated and passionate journalist. After graduating from Rhodes University in 2001, she has worked as a journalist for almost 17 years. In this time, she developed skills as a field journalist, current affairs producer, bulletin anchor and current affairs news anchor for Newsbreak on Lotus FM.



She also anchored and produced two current affairs talk shows for Lotus FM called Youth Crossfire and Off the Record.

"As an organisation, The Old Rhodian Union has been around for about 108 years and we were founded by Sir George Corey and Professor Cullen Bowles as a way to open communication between current students and alumni," explained Old Rhodian

Union President, Professor Rod Walker. "This has, through the years, evolved into a very strong fundraising organisation. In 2018, we were able to provide support to some 28 individuals, which is an increase from last year."

Traditionally, the Old Rhodian Union has exclusively funded undergraduates, but thanks to alumni signing up for the MySchool card and designating Rhodes University as a beneficiary, the bursaries now extend to include postgraduates students as well.

"You must bear in mind that you have been afforded an opportunity to have a quality and life-changing education at Rhodes University. It is therefore important, where you can, to create opportunities for others as well," Rhodes University Vice-Chancellor, Dr Sizwe Mabizela, addressed the recipients.

He reminded the awardees about the many individuals in our country who are academically-capable, and through no fault of their own are not able to access the kind of education that has been afforded to the bursary recipients.

"We are all rooting for you, and we know that you will make a huge success of yourself. When you succeed, your community succeeds. When your community succeeds, our nation succeeds," said Dr Mabizela. "So go out there and make a success of yourself."

OLD RHODIAN UNION INCREASES STUDENT SUPPORT

Twenty eight hard-working students recently received bursaries totalling R225 000 from the Old Rhodian Union.

THE OLD RHODIAN UNION BURSARIES FUNDER GROUPS:

- The Rosemary Libby Bursary was created in Rosemary Libby's honour with the goal to provide support for quality education.
- The UK Bursaries are sponsored by money donated by the Rhodes University UK Trust.
- The Chapman Bursaries are made possible by generous donations from Mr Mike Chapman in honour of his parents, Professor Hugh Chapman and his wife, Jean.
- The Chris Hummel Bursary was created in honour of the old Rhodes University Professor, for his contribution to the history of Port Alfred and its environs.
- The Williams Family Bursary is made possible by the Williams family' annual donations.
- The Fitzsimons Bursaries are funded by a generous bequest.
- The Old Rhodian Bursaries are made possible by donations from Old Rhodians worldwide.
- The MySchool Bursaries come from money raised by Old Rhodians who have joined the MySchool programme.



"When you succeed, your community succeeds. When your community succeeds, our nation succeeds."

– Dr Sizwe Mabizela, Vice Chancellor

“We are very excited about pioneering this very vital educational initiative.”

- Luzuko Jacobs, Director of Communications and Advancement



Graduation 2018 figures



of the 2494 graduates
were women



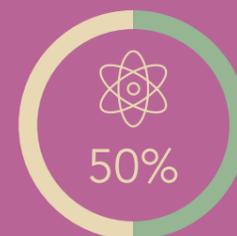
were international students



were undergraduate
Bachelor's degrees



were postgraduate
degrees



88 PhD graduates, with
50% from Science

Graduation at Rhodes University is a major highlight in the University's calendar of events. At the last graduation, things were done a little differently – the whole town joined in on the momentous celebration, when the ceremonies were streamed to local schools.

This is part of Rhodes University's efforts to create more access for learners to the Rhodes experience and to encourage them to come to the University for their tertiary education.

sees Rhodes, since the University is still viewed largely as a faraway ivory tower”.

“I hope that this will be the beginning of a new dawn for all the children of Grahamstown who never dreamt of gaining access to Rhodes,” she said. “We hope to illustrate, by fostering these kinds of initiatives that Rhodes is not only in Grahamstown but it is for Grahamstown.”

According to Nkwinti, the pioneer screening project enjoyed a lot of positive feedback.

FROM GOWN TO TOWN

A first of its kind, this initiative was done in collaboration with the Department of Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), the Department of Education and local schools.

“As a university, Rhodes exists for the public good, and to this end wished to celebrate this momentous occasion with the community of which we are a part and to which we are inextricably bound,” said Vice-Chancellor Dr Sizwe Mabizela.

Graduates from local communities attended the screening events, with the aim of sharing their university experiences and inspiring the students to aspire to graduate.

“We are very excited about pioneering this very vital educational initiative,” said the Director of Communications and Advancement, Luzuko Jacobs. “We view this not as an act of charity, but as an essential part of recognising the collective humanity and shared destiny of the community we live and study in.”

Senior Coordinator of Community Relations and Student Organisations at Rhodes University's Community Engagement (RUCE) Division, Nosipho Nkwinti, who has been actively involved in this initiative since inception, is very passionate about the positive changes to the Grahamstown community this initiative aims to effect.

This initiative was a result of RUCE working with schools within disadvantaged communities. Nkwinti explained how the goal of the initiative was to create “a great paradigm shift in terms of how the Grahamstown community

“Our screening initiative has been welcomed with great exhilaration by the Department of Education and the responses by school principals and deputy principals were very encouraging,” she said. “There have even been enquiries from other tertiary institutions who are now considering doing such screenings for their graduations as well.”

When asked why this project has held such personal interest for her, Nkwinti recalled, “I was a child once, completely clueless about what happens during a graduation ceremony. Fortunately, my father had a photo of himself in his graduation gown and mortarboard mounted on the wall at my childhood home, and I was motivated to have my picture next to his one day. My personal wish is that the students viewing the graduation at these screenings can be similarly inspired.”

As a means to expand the project in future, Nkwinti explained that, going forward, this initiative aims to include all Makana Municipality schools in the Sarah Baartman district. “We urge all Government Departments who are passionate about education to support this initiative. We also hope to strengthen the partnership with stakeholders who can assist in making this possible.”

“It has always been a goal of our University community to empower the local community around education. The screening initiative forms an important part of making education fashionable. I feel privileged to be involved in seeing a dream of so many of us come to fruition, bit by bit and a single small step at a time,” Jacobs added.

RHODES UNIVERSITY HONOURS SIX HEROES



Dr Yvonne Chaka Chaka

Vice-Chancellor Dr Sizwe Mabizela said at the 2018's graduation ceremonies, "We recognise, honour and celebrate six distinguished individuals whose profound and exceptional contributions to our nation and humankind are worthy of our recognition.

Their personal journeys and selfless service and sacrifices serve as an inspiration and an example worthy of emulation by all of us. These are women and men whose significant achievements in public life and distinction in some field or selfless leadership set them apart from others, and are consonant with our own institutional mission, purposes and values. Our University will be greatly honoured to confer honorary degrees to these remarkable people."

While four of the six recipients were present at the Grahamstown graduation ceremonies, a special ceremony was held in Johannesburg for the other two recipients later in the year.

Professor Peter Tshobisa Mtuze

Poet, priest and academic Professor Emeritus Peter Tshobisa Mtuze was bestowed with a Doctor of Letters (DLitt).

A leading scholar in the field of African languages, Prof Mtuze published more than 30 creative and academic works, which often interpret his life and work in the Eastern Cape Province as umXhosa living in a state of constant socio-political and economic

transition. Prof Mtuze represents the very best of what our elders should be: honest; forthright; humble and committed to the greater good.

Professor Mtuze obtained a BA in translation at Rhodes in 1980. This was followed by an



Honours degree from UNISA in 1984 as well as an MA in 1986 in African Languages. He joined Rhodes University as Professor and Head of the isiXhosa Department, the first-ever black professor at the University.

Prof Mtuze has consistently broken new ground, as he was also the first Xhosa academic to write a feminist critique. He is presently the President of the Rhodes Convocation.

In his graduation speech, he told graduates: "If I can suggest anything to you as young, energetic and gifted graduands and graduates of this highly regarded institution it is unity, unity and unity. This has been repeated so many times that it has become cliché

many, but the truth is that this vital fact in our coexistence cannot be overemphasised. We are known throughout the world for the strides we have made in constitutional justice, in electoral freedom and fairness, and for sticking to the Rule of Law in the face of all adversity. You as the new generation of leaders, can only improve on those standards to make this country a better place for all of us."

Professor Vishnu Padayachee

Economist and scholar Professor Mahavishnu



Padayachee was bestowed with a Doctor of Economics (DEcon).

Prof Padayachee has made an exceptional contribution to the post-apartheid transformation of the South African economic policy in ways that serve the economic

and social needs of all South Africans and marginalised black South Africans in particular.

Former President of South Africa, Nelson Mandela, appointed Prof Padayachee to the Board of Directors of the South African Reserve Bank in 1996 where he served three terms for 12 years.

Prof Padayachee has a PhD from the University of Natal in Economics and Economic History. He has authored and edited seven books, written over 30 chapters in books and published over 70 articles in accredited academic journals.

He served as Professor at Rhodes University's Institute for Social and Economic Research.

In his graduation speech, he told graduates: "Too little emphasis is placed in today's modern and commercialized university on the creation of such a Good Society and in the making of an all embracing human economy. Instead too much effort is spent insisting on and defending some imagined and narrow identity. This does not do anything for the task of building our common humanity."

Dr Andrew Mlangeni

Activist and former member of Parliament Dr Andrew Mokete Mlangeni was bestowed with a Doctor of Laws (LLD).

Popularly known as prisoner number 46764 in political circles, Dr Mlangeni spent years of unswerving and sustained commitment to the fight against apartheid. The freedom fighter spent twenty-six years locked up in Robben Island as Nelson Mandela's next-door inmate neighbour.



While on Robben Island, he obtained a degree in Political Science and Public Administration. He also graduated with a BA Honours in Political Science. Upon his release in 1989, he continued to study a law degree, which he unfortunately did not complete because of his work for the ANC preparing for the first democratic elections.

He serves as the Chair of Matodzi Resources Limited in Johannesburg. He is also the founder of the June and Andrew Mlangeni Foundation.

In his graduation speech, he told graduates: "Criticisms or not, there comes a time when bold steps have to be taken to ensure that transformation is realised. Society cannot be paralysed by perennial caution because people's aspiration cannot be put on hold forever. I took a journey of 12 years to gain a BA degree, despite all odds. I went to prison

without a degree, but came out with two."

Dr Sindiwe Magona

Author, poet, and activist Dr Sindiwe Magona was bestowed with a Doctor of Letters (DLitt).

Dr Magona's life story is a compelling and inspirational one. She worked her way up from being a domestic worker to study her Masters in Social Work at Columbia University in the United States.

Dr Magona has produced nine books made up of autobiographical work, over 120 children's books, short stories, novellas and poetry that has been anthologised.

Former president, Jacob Zuma honoured her with the Order of Ikhamanga in Bronze for her outstanding achievements. In 2009, she was shortlisted for the Commonwealth Writer's Prize and was awarded the Molteno Gold Medal for Lifetime Achievement for her role in promoting isiXhosa, and she recently won the English Academy of Southern Africa gold medal.

Dr Magona is the official biographer of Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane and is currently working on abridged versions of multi-lingual books on struggle stalwarts, Walter and Albertina Sisulu.



In her graduation speech, she told graduates: "Stand up for what you believe in; and remember, all things worthwhile take time and perseverance to achieve. Change is never instantaneous. Do not go for immediate gratification. Learn to listen, especially to those with whom you do not agree."

Justice Dikgang Moseneke

SA Judge and former Deputy Chief Justice of South Africa Dikgang Moseneke was bestowed with a Doctor of Laws (LLD).

Justice Moseneke has made an exceptional contribution in the development of judgements relating to affirmative action, property law in respect of land rights and expropriation, and the constitutionality of parliamentary rules.

After joining the Pan-Africanist Congress at the age of 14, he was arrested for participating in anti-apartheid activities and spent 10 years as a prisoner on Robben Island. During his

imprisonment, he obtained a Bachelor of Arts in English and Political Science and a B.Luris degree, and later completed a Bachelor of Laws.

In 1994, he was appointed Deputy Chairperson of the Independent Electoral Commission, which conducted the first democratic elections in South Africa. He became a judge in the Constitutional Court and in June 2005, became Deputy Chief Justice.

Justice Moseneke was the executor of Nelson Mandela's will when he died in late 2013.

In his graduation speech, he told guests: "The most powerful tool for transforming society is excellent education and training. It is a lie that mere numbers and populism will make our world better. Those who are bent on changing society need exact and appropriate skill to accomplish that – not bombast. It is right to bemoan a difficult past, but it is even better to harness past anguish in the service of a progressive future."



Dr Yvonne Chaka Chaka

Singer, entrepreneur, and humanitarian Yvonne Chaka Chaka was bestowed with a Doctor of Laws (LLD).

Former President Nelson Mandela chose Chaka Chaka as the first ambassador for his Children's Fund and ambassador for Mandela's 46664 campaign to raise global awareness of HIV/Aids. She also serves as a UNICEF's Goodwill Ambassador for the Roll Back Malaria Partnership.

Prior to her involvement in humanitarian work, Chaka Chaka had a musical career spanning over three decades. Dubbed the 'Princess of Africa', she is one of the first South African artists to break through to the international stage.

The Soweto-born artist currently runs Chaka Chaka Productions. She also runs a successful non-profit foundation, called the Princess of Africa, established in 2006 to complement the work she has done as UNICEF and Rollback Malaria Goodwill ambassadors in Africa.

In her graduation speech, she told guests: "Growing up in Soweto, I never thought I'd one day wear a red robe, let alone from a wonderful institution such as Rhodes University."



isivivane fund 
**STUDENT
 FINANCIAL
 AID CAMPAIGN**
 2016 - 2026

THE CHALLENGE

It is becoming increasingly difficult for the University to meet the financial demands of a growing institution in a tumultuous climate of diminishing state support in the higher education sector. Our University relies heavily on student fees to maintain smooth operations, provide intensive support structures and a residential environment that is conducive to good scholarship and collegiality.

OUR SOLUTION

ISIVIVANE FUND is an integrated fundraising campaign which seeks to not only raise funds but to also maintain and build lifelong relationships with key University stakeholders. The name is inspired by the Zulu proverb “ukuphonsa itshe esivivaneni” meaning “to throw one’s stone on the pile or monument” to make a personal contribution to a great common cause.

KEY OBJECTIVES

- Increase funding for undergraduate students
- Increase funding for postgraduate intake
- Maintain residences and dining halls
- Grow university endowment to ensure sustainability

Just as Rhodes University will never stop attracting the best students, we must also constantly reaffirm our commitment to making Rhodes University education accessible to everyone. It is our hope that you will see value in supporting this campaign.

For more information on the campaign please visit www.ru.ac.za/isivivane or email development@ru.ac.za



RHODES UNIVERSITY
Where leaders learn

**QUESTION
 & ANSWER**
 WITH DR ZETHU MKHIZE



Rhodos' Emmanuel Ngamale sat down with Dr Zethu Mkhize, Rhodes University's newly-appointed Harassment and Discrimination Manager, to find out how the problem of gender-based violence is being addressed at Rhodes University.

Emmanuel: Let us start with the high rate of rape in South Africa. One could say without a doubt that you have a very difficult job.

Zethu: Yes, certainly so. Most importantly because institutions of higher learning are the microcosms of the broader society and the things that are happening in society are likely to spill into institutions of higher learning..... and Rhodes University is no exception.

E: What do you think is the cause of this general problem of rape and violence against women?

Z: There are many contributory factors. I can highlight patriarchal attitudes and gender stereotypes prevailing in our society. We have to acknowledge that patriarchy has determined gender inequality, such that there is a superior gender and an inferior gender. Some males, for instance, have exhibited a sense of entitlement to have power and control over women. Another reason could be that the justice system has not protected women, as it should. Let us consider a court proceeding of a rape case. Why is it that the burden of proof lies with the survivor and not with the alleged perpetrator? It ends up being a case of "he-said/she-said", as the version of the survivor is weighed against the version of the alleged perpetrator. In most instances, alleged perpetrators hire strong defence lawyers, whose line of questioning can be intimidating, thus, exerting more pressure to the survivor. I suppose that in itself has resulted in women being reluctant to endure the course of prosecution, hence the underreporting of these cases. I suppose our justice system should be revisited with specific reference on the burden of proof in rape cases. Secondly, as a country we need to upscale DNA assessment for forensic evidence purposes.

E: When you look at the scourge of rape and violence against women in the wider society, how do you go about solving this problem, which many think has reached a crisis level?

Z: I am happy that you are saying a "crisis level". You know, when a social issue reaches a crisis level, it calls for an emergency response which would be:

1. To address the problem immediately
2. Identify the factors that contributed to the problem and ways to mitigate these factors.

We need to revisit our legislative framework. For instance, we have the Domestic Violence Act in this country, but there are so many gaps in its enforcement, therefore, it needs to be reviewed. Many women have died in the hands of their partners after protection orders have been served. I suppose it is time that we looked at that piece of legislation to see how best it can be modified to serve

the best interests of women who are abused. Furthermore, the manner in which court proceedings for rape cases are conducted has to be reviewed. I believe legal experts should be able to come up with innovative proceedings that would consider the emotional state of a survivor during a trial. Thirdly, we definitely need to re-socialise males and females in terms of how they have to co-exist.

E: There seems to be a common belief that universities are not taking this problem seriously. What do you say to people who hold that opinion?

Z: Judging institutions of higher learning in this way is unfair, taking into account that institutions of higher learning are microcosms

“We are moving in the right direction, but that is not enough.”

– Dr Zethu Mkhize, Harassment and Discrimination Manager

of the broader society. If gender-based society is prevalent in institutions of higher learning, I suppose more severe instances are prevalent at a societal level. The question should be: to what extent is the legislation serving the best interest of women? Immediate action should be taken towards modifying or bridging those gaps in the implementation of the Domestic Violence Act.

E: In your opinion, are we as society moving in the right direction?

Z: We are moving in the right direction but that is not enough. We need to revisit the strategies that we have employed, as we are moving in a positive direction. The tendency to work on change by having turnaround strategies is not sufficient – especially considering the crisis that we are facing. We do not only need an incremental strategy when dealing with rape; we need a 360-degrees emergency response plan and to bridge those gaps in the policies.

E: Has your work been made any easier by campaigns like #metoo movement, Silent Protests and other campaigns by the national and local level?

Z: Silent Protests are unique social actions of sending messages of discontentment. It is, however, important to ensure that silent protests are complemented by a sustained programme of action that can be monitored and evaluated. This would best ensure that students' needs and demands are addressed decisively.

E: What should academic institutions be doing to fight sexual assault and violence

against women?

Z: It is an understatement to confine gender-based violence to be against women, yet persons of different sexual orientations are equally subjected to gender-based violence. Institutions of higher learning should consider offering gender studies to all students across faculties.

E: Your efforts must surely have some short-term and long-term solutions. In the short-term, what should women be doing to protect themselves?

Z: It is quite unfair because in the short-term, for women to protect themselves, they would have to consider having "soul buddies", and adopt a strategy of walking in groups. This is unfair as it undermines women's freedom of movement which is their constitutional right.

E: Do you think that men are supportive? Are they playing a constructive enough role or should they be more involved?

Z: That is a very tricky question considering that one's behaviour cannot always be a demonstration of their value system. I have seen men out there leading marches, and this behaviour gave me an impression that men are actually coming to the party. However, I have since disputed that perception after one survivor shared an incident with me. She saw men marching in the neighbourhood and cried when she identified one of them to be her perpetrator. So my response would be, having men participating in campaigns against gender-based violence is commendable but it would be more applauded to see them choosing not to be supportive of the perpetrators, since some men out there usually know who the perpetrators are.

E: Who are the stakeholders in your strategy who are helping combat this problem and are you receiving support from them?

Z: Internally the stakeholders are: The Counselling Centre, the Student Services, Campus Protection Unit (CPU), the Human Resources Division (HR), Communications and the Disciplinary Authority Office. [And] yes, definitely! So far I have been receiving enough support from them.

E: Let me conclude. Looking forward, what assurance can you give to students and prospective students about life on campus? Can you give any assurance or guarantees for safer living for all?

Z: Assurance number one is: the policies that relate to sexual offences, discrimination and harassment are under review. We will be reviewing our reporting processes and hopefully by early 2019, we will be having a communication campaign about issues around harassment, sexual violence and discrimination. Hopefully, something positive will come out of that as awareness is key.



RHODES UNIVERSITY
Where leaders learn

Have you been sexually assaulted?

Rhodes University has procedures in place to assist any person who has been sexually assaulted. If you are assaulted after hours, please call ER24.

FIRST PORT OF CALL

Report your case to the Anti-Harassment Office, Room 337 at the Bantu Stephen Biko building. Here you will be supported and advised regarding what options are available.

OPTION 1

If you would like your attacker to be prosecuted, you will follow the Criminal Justice route, which involves the SAPS and the National Prosecuting Authority.

- You will be transported to Settler's Hospital for them to provide a rape kit and provide you with post-exposure prophylaxis, pregnancy prevention and STI prevention.
- A police representative specialised in rape cases will meet you at Settler's Hospital to get a statement.
- An investigating officer will be assigned to your case.
- Your case will be referred to a prosecutor, who will determine if your case is prosecutable based on the evidence provided in your statement and rape kit.
- Rhodes University's Counselling Centre will provide you with continued psychosocial counselling.
- If your case is deemed to be prosecutable, it will advance to trial.

OPTION 2

If you prefer not to go the Criminal Justice route, Rhodes University will conduct an internal process.

- Rhodes University will document your incident.
- You will be taken to the Health Care Centre for post-exposure prophylaxis, pregnancy prevention and STI prevention.
- Rhodes University's Counselling Centre will provide you with continued psychosocial counselling.
- Depending on the circumstances of your assault, Rhodes University may decide to undertake internal disciplinary action against your attacker.

⚠ DID YOU KNOW?

To best preserve evidence, you should avoid:

- Showering or bathing
- Washing your hands or face
- Using the toilet, or disposing of your underwear or sanitary products
- Removing, changing, discarding or cleaning any clothing or bedding or towels that could be used for evidence
- Smoking
- Cleaning or brushing your teeth
- Eating or drinking
- Disturbing the scene in any manner
- Destroying or deleting any evidence such as text messages on your cell phone, e-mails or social media posts

📞 IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Anti-harassment Office:	Office hours: 046 603 8187
Counselling Centre:	Office hours: 046 603 7070
Campus Protection Unit:	Emergency: 046 603 8999/8795 Control room: 046 603 8146
Health Care Centre:	Office hours: 046 603 8523
ER24:	After hours: 010 205 3068
SA Police Service:	All hours: 046 603 9111 10111

For more information on what constitutes a sexual offense, and how sexual offenses are handled at Rhodes University, please refer to the Sexual Offences Policy for Students.

ANYBODY OUT THERE?

MeerKAT, Northern Cape

Several Rhodes University students, staff and alumni, under the directorship of Physics and Electronics Professor Justin Jonas, have been involved in the MeerKAT project, which officially launched in the Northern Cape in July 2018.

Towards the end of 2017, the project team erected MeerKAT's 64th antenna, which have all been fully-functional since the end of May 2018. A hundred and thirty-three dish antennas still need to be constructed to complete phase 1 of the Square Kilometre Array (SKA).

MeerKAT is the precursor to the SKA South Africa project, of which Prof Jonas is the Chief Technologist. Quite a number of the project scientists involved in the SKA are connected to Rhodes University, such as alumnus Dr Adrian Tiplady and Head of the Mathematics Department, Dr Denis Pollney.

"We started off with small prototyping ambitions that turned into a huge project. The SKA project itself started unofficially in the 1990s. Initially, it was to bid for the SKA site, then to build the SKA precursor, as a prototype for the SKA. This idea evolved up to the point where MeerKAT became a real project," explained Prof Jonas.

The launch was attended by a large South African political representation, several African partner countries and many previous ministers of science and technology, who had been exemplary supporters of the project since the beginning.

"The radio images showcased at the launch are the highest-definition images ever captured of the centre of our Milky Way galaxy. They were literally the very first test observations captured by the MeerKAT telescope," Prof Jonas said.

Prof Jonas and his team have been pleasantly surprised by the data captured by the

**"Telescopes are
discovery machines."**

- Professor Justin Jonas

MeerKAT thus far. "Although our design was already twice as good as the original specifications we were given, at the same cost, we were still apprehensive about the results. However, now we can confirm that the MeerKAT is definitively the most powerful telescope of its kind, and that it's not just

'working', but working exceptionally well."

MeerKAT origins

According to Prof Jonas, Rhodes University has made a significant contribution to the development of MeerKAT. "I don't think anybody would deny that if it hadn't been for the legacy of the radio astronomy group at Rhodes, the project would have really struggled to get off the ground, and would not be at the point where it is now," he said.

"We have had a radio astronomy group at Rhodes University since the 1950s, and because of the international standing of this group, I was given the task of initiating the SKA project to South Africa. This led to us envisioning the MeerKAT, of which I was appointed Technical Lead. Since we had not built anything like this in South Africa before, I approached several Rhodes alumni, and their involvement drove the growth of the project. That's when my students got involved and currently, many of the top positions in the MeerKAT project, working as part of what we call the South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO), are held by Rhodes University alumni."

Rhodes University formed the Centre for Radio Astronomy Techniques and Technologies (RATT), which applied for an

SKA research chair, and in 2012 was successful in attracting Prof Oleg Smirnov, who is one of the top people in radio astronomy – specifically in the processing of radio astronomy data. "Since MeerKAT produces such huge amounts of data, there has been an enormous growth in research into data transport, processing and storage," said Prof Jonas.

Huge data

Director of the Inter-University Institute for Data Intensive Astronomy (IDIA) Professor Russ Taylor has said the combined dataset volumes from all the SKA pathfinders to date amount to approximately eight petabytes (8 000 TB) and researchers at IDIA expect this number to increase exponentially now that MeerKAT has joined the group.

"The MeerKAT telescope is the beginning of the creation of a data monster," he remarked.

According to Taylor, data volumes are expected to grow by a factor of 10 million in Africa in the next 10 years.

"This is the biggest data challenge in science coming in the next decade," he said. "And it's coming here to South Africa."

THE 3 BIG SCIENCE QUESTIONS

By Professor Russ Taylor

Q: What does the complete history of time look like?

Our current understanding of the nature of the universe is that it started about 13 and a half billion years ago in a big event called The Big Bang, which created space and time and resulted in a big ball of thermal matter. Although there was very little information content in this blast, there is a very high information content today. We want to understand this complete story – to link the chain of causality between The Big Bang and the rise of life and understand the story of how we came to be.

Q: What is the nature of reality?

In physics, there are two views of the nature of reality, one being Einstein's Theory of Relativity, and the other the quantum view of reality. So what the SKA aims to help us with is to compare the two existing, yet opposing views we have about reality with the true nature of reality. This can be done by exploring what happens to time by measuring gravitational waves emitted from pulsars, which will give us a view into the nature of space-time as far back as the beginning of the universe.

Q: Is there extraterrestrial life in the universe?

There are many approaches scientists are taking to this with the SKA, but perhaps the most intriguing is looking for evidence of intelligent life by virtue of the radio signals such that intelligent life might use for telecommunications or remote viewing. If we can detect information-rich signals from an Earth-like planet elsewhere in the galaxy, it will be direct evidence that there is other intelligent life out there. The SKA will provide a much wider radius of information-collection than ever before.

Rhodes University has world-leading expertise in developing computing algorithms for solving the processing problems of MeerKAT and SKA data, and IDIA is currently in talks with Rhodes about a partnership to facilitate the processing of this data.

Data sent to the Centre for High-Performance Computing (CHPC) in Cape Town via the telescope is currently shipped to the RATT servers hosted by the Rhodes University's IT Division, and IDIA's research cloud for processing.

"Our challenge as South Africa is - if we're going to do the science here, we need to be able to deal with the data. If we can't deal with the data, we can't do the science, and that means somebody else will," Taylor warned.

Global and beyond

It is largely thanks to this project, Prof Jonas

said, that Rhodes University is now producing radio astronomers of an international calibre.

"Now that the basis of the SKA project is in place, I'm hoping Rhodes University will be able to capitalise on it, since the easiest way for astronomers to get access to the telescope is through South African universities."

International astronomers have already scheduled time over the next five years to use MeerKAT to study key questions about the Universe and fundamental Physics. "We have large international science teams that are waiting to use MeerKAT and in some cases, are already using it to help us debug it and get it working optimally," Prof Jonas explained.

"Telescopes are discovery machines. You've got your 'known knowns' science cases, but there are the 'unknown unknowns'," explained Prof Jonas. "Every time you build something that's bigger and better with more capabilities you inevitably end up making new discoveries."



Chad Keates in the field

THE SNAKE CHARMER

By Anima McBrown

Zoologist Chad Keates is the new face of Herpetology - the branch of Zoology concerned with the study of amphibians and reptiles, in the Eastern Cape. His love for snakes, frogs, lizards, turtles and the like has made him the go-to guy in and around Grahamstown. You'll see Keates on Facebook and other social media platforms responding to calls from students and other residents when they come across any

sort of critters that most people are scared of or don't want to handle.

Keates is involved in a range of activities that promote safety awareness about snakes. His Critter Walks, together with local school visits and talks to rangers in game reserves - have all contributed towards establishing of himself as one to watch in his field. He has been invited to speak at the Wildlife and Environment

Society of South Africa (WESSA) AGM, he took second prize at the Environmental Awards, and has been nominated for a Rhodes University Community Engagement award. He is a recipient of the Laura Starke Memorial Bursary Award for his efforts in the direct use of his finding to improve the everyday life of people in his community. He is a co-editor of a chapter focusing in reptiles in an upcoming WESSA publication.

Rhodos chatted to our local 'frog & snake man' about his incredible work.

A: Let's start right at the beginning-ish: where are you from and how did you know Herpetology was the field of Science for you?

Chad: I'm from Johannesburg, and I went to Trinity House High School. I matriculated in 2012. I came to Rhodes [and] studied Journalism, Cell Biology, Linguistics and History in my first year. With time my degree morphed more into a Science degree, with me taking Chemistry, Journalism and Zoology in my second year. In my third year, I took Journalism and Zoology and started to lean more towards Zoology, and more specifically Herpetology.

A: You're currently pursuing your Masters. What academic qualifications do you hold prior to 2018?

C: I have a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism and Zoology and an Honours degree in African Invertebrate Biodiversity. I started my Masters in Science and Zoology, but because of an upgrade process, I'm currently registered as a PhD student.

A: What is the research focus for your PhD?

C: I work in the field of Molecular Systematics, specialising in Herpetofauna - which basically means that I do genetics on snakes. I am working with a particular group of snakes that can be found in Africa. I'm looking for new species and the evolutionary processes that have led to their speciation.

A: When and how did your love and appreciation for amphibians and reptiles start?

C: From a young age I've always loved reptiles. I used to be petrified of them, but one day in preschool they brought a massive African Rock Python to school and put it on my lap - and I was sold.

A: Are you not scared of all those creepy little (and not-so-little) critters?

C: I understand them: their behaviour, their morphology, what they really are etc. They're not animals to be scared of; they just need to be respected. Actually, they're not creepy in the slightest. When you hold up a snake you'll feel that they're not slimy or slippery at all. Rather, they're quite elegant, muscular, beautiful creatures. For me, snakes are a marvel of evolutionary biology. They manage to persevere in some of the most inhospitable environments on the planet, and they don't even have limbs. They are quite a marvel to behold. In addition, reptiles and frogs are an integral part of the ecosystem.

A: Have you ever been bitten by any of the amphibians and reptiles you work with?

C: I've been bitten by many, many, many snakes - but nothing that can kill you, just mildly venomous. Most times the bites are completely painless. Snakes bite you out of

fear, so snake bites come with the job.

A: What draws you to your work, why is it so important to you?

C: There's just something about reptiles, and specifically snakes, that draws me to them: their mystique, the way they look, the way they feel and go about their business. They are elegant creatures that really fascinate me. I love them because a lot of people don't.

A: How far would you like to take your research? Do you have any projects you'd like to be a part of in the near future?

C: I've got big goals and dreams for my work and you can see this if you look at my website. I do a lot of school talks and visits; I take people on walks; I work with a lot of different groups. I'm passionate about teaching people how to appreciate reptiles and amphibians. I hope to be a researcher one day, and a professional Herpetologist who can travel the whole world and contribute towards their conservation.

A: What's the biggest misconception about your field of work?



Chad Keates

C: The biggest misconception about snakes by a mile is that they are super aggressive. I've never come across a snake that was trying to kill me. They just want to go about their business. They are only dangerous when they are not respected - like when they are cornered. Truth is if you corner any animal [including us humans], it becomes dangerous. With the knowledge we have available to us, ignorance is a choice [and that is] our biggest threat. If you get bitten by a venomous snake you have less than a 1% chance of dying.

A: Tell us more about your objectives in setting up a website.

C: The website is my way of showing South Africans and the rest of the world what we

have to offer in terms of reptile and amphibian diversity. It's also a platform to showcase my research - it's a kind of portfolio.

A: How do people sign up for or get involved in your 'Critter Walks'? What are they all about?

C: All the information is on my Facebook page. All you have to do, after making contact via social media or my email, is to rock up at the Zoology department. We watch a quick demonstration and then we go on a convoy together to the sites, where we can look for reptiles, frogs and scorpions.

A: What's one thing about you that people would never expect?

C: I don't know, maybe that I look for and interact with venomous snakes for a living? So, what normally frightens people doesn't frighten me. Perhaps the coolest thing - which sometimes perplexes people - is that I am able to make them see 'scary' animals in a completely different light. There's nothing better in this world than to watch a child hold a snake, and to see that glint in their eye as the initial fear disappears. To know that from

that moment onwards that child will never kill another snake again, that's amazing.

A: Are you set to become Africa's own Steve Irwin?

C: (Smiles) There are a lot of us out there who would love to do what he did; he had the world's coolest job. Just like him, I love animals and I love protecting them. So we'll see.

Keates has shown that regardless of how specialised your field is, there are still remarkable ways one can play their part and build towards meaningful research, teaching, learning and community engagement.

CENTRE LAUNCHES BLOWAR ON WATERWEEDS

The Rhodes University Centre for Biological Control (CBC), which was established in 2017, recently released its first control agent into the wild.

Photo credit: CBC

The newly-established CBC, that was awarded a R68m contract by the Department of Environment Affairs (DEA) in 2018, has released biological control agents against Brazilian waterweed, which is a significant pest in South Africa and elsewhere in the world.

The research focus of the Centre is the sustainable control of invasive alien plants through biological control using insects. The Centre is involved in the development of these agents in its Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) approved quarantine facility, and the mass-rearing and implementation of the insects once they have been cleared for release.

"The CBC is involved in the research and implementation of biological control for 54 weed species in South Africa," said Director of the CBC and Head of Entomology at Rhodes University, Distinguished Professor Martin Hill.

He explained how invasive alien plant species can have a drastically negative economic impact on land users, and adverse effects on the country's natural resources.

"Most of the invader plant species spread exponentially when there are no biological control interventions in place," Prof Hill said.

Nahoon River

The CBC released a tiny fly from Argentina, *Hydrellia egeriae* on the banks of the Nahoon River in East London, for control against Brazilian water weed, *Egeria densa*.

"This is the first release against a submerged aquatic weed in South Africa, and is the first release of a control agent developed by the CBC," said Rhodes University Botany Professor, Julie Coetzee.

She explained how, according to experience elsewhere in the world, the mechanical removal of this plant does not result in

success. "Any piece of plant left behind is able to regenerate into a new plant, which gives rise to new infestations. And chemical control is not a permanent solution for the same reason as mechanical control – any fragment left behind can regenerate, it is very expensive, it is not selective – non-target species could be susceptible, and it could have unintentional toxic effects in the waterbody."

"The aim of biological control is to reunite invasive weeds with their natural enemies."

- Julie Coetzee, Rhodes University Botany Professor

For these reasons, the CBC promotes biological control as the most sustainable, economic and environmentally-friendly method of control. "Most weeds become invasive in their introduced range because they arrived in the absence of their natural enemies, which are mostly specialist insects that are specific to that plant. So the aim of biological control is to reunite these invasive weeds with their natural enemies."



A close up of the *Egeria densa*

Egeria has huge environmental and socio-economic impacts, such as reduced water quality, impacts to recreation, but more importantly, ecological impacts through reductions in biodiversity. "As with most aquatic weeds, it has become a problem because we have very nutrient-rich waters in South Africa, which aquatic plants thrive in.

With the release of the fly, the CBC aims to reduce the density of this weed, and to recover indigenous flora and fauna so as to create a functioning aquatic ecosystem.

"We will be making further releases around the country, including the Kouga River near Patensie, the Liesbeeck River in Cape Town, a number of systems in KZN, including Midmar Dam," Prof Coetzee explained.

The Centre would like to see this fly released elsewhere in the world where *Egeria* is also a problem, such as in New Zealand, where it is one of the top three aquatic invaders.

"Invasive plant species present a much bigger problem than people realise. With this project, we hope to spread not only our biological control agents, but awareness about the devastating effects the propagation of these non-indigenous plants has on the ecosystem and biodiversity of a country," said Prof Hill.



The CBC team collecting samples of *Egeria densa* at Nahoon River

FROM RHODES UNIVERSITY TO THE NATION

Many of those with ties to Rhodes University go on to become high-level individuals worthy of the noblest of national commissions.

A number of Rhodes University's current staff and alumni have recently been invited to participate in various commissions.

Rhodes University Chancellor and former Supreme Court of Appeal president, Judge Lex Mpati, has been appointed to lead a judicial commission of inquiry into the Public Investment Corporation (PIC).

The PIC, one of the largest investment managers in Africa today with assets of over R2 trillion including government employees' pensions, has for some time been a subject of repeated allegations of impropriety.

Following his appointment, Judge Mpati acknowledged the daunting nature of the task ahead. "I am looking forward to playing my part as expected by the country and the President. I plan on giving this task my full attention," he said.

Former Reserve Bank Governor Gill Marcus and banker Emmanuel Lediga will work with Judge Mpati in the Commission.

Their inquiry into the PIC will look at governance issues, but also a range of investment decisions, whether they were above board and whether they led to anyone unduly benefiting.

Rhodes University Council Chairperson, Mr Vuyo Kahla, was appointed to form part of a commission of inquiry into the tax administration and governance at S A R S .

Kahla is assisting retired Judge Robert Nugent, who is heading the inquiry.

Political and International Studies Senior Lecturer, Dr Siphokazi Magadla, was elected as part of a high-level review panel into the work of the State Security Agency (SSA). The panel, chaired by former minister Dr Sydney Mufamadi, is assessing the mandate, capacity and organisational integrity of the SSA.

Max Boqwana, a Rhodes University alumnus was representing former Deputy Finance Minister Mcebisi Jonas at the State Capture inquiry.

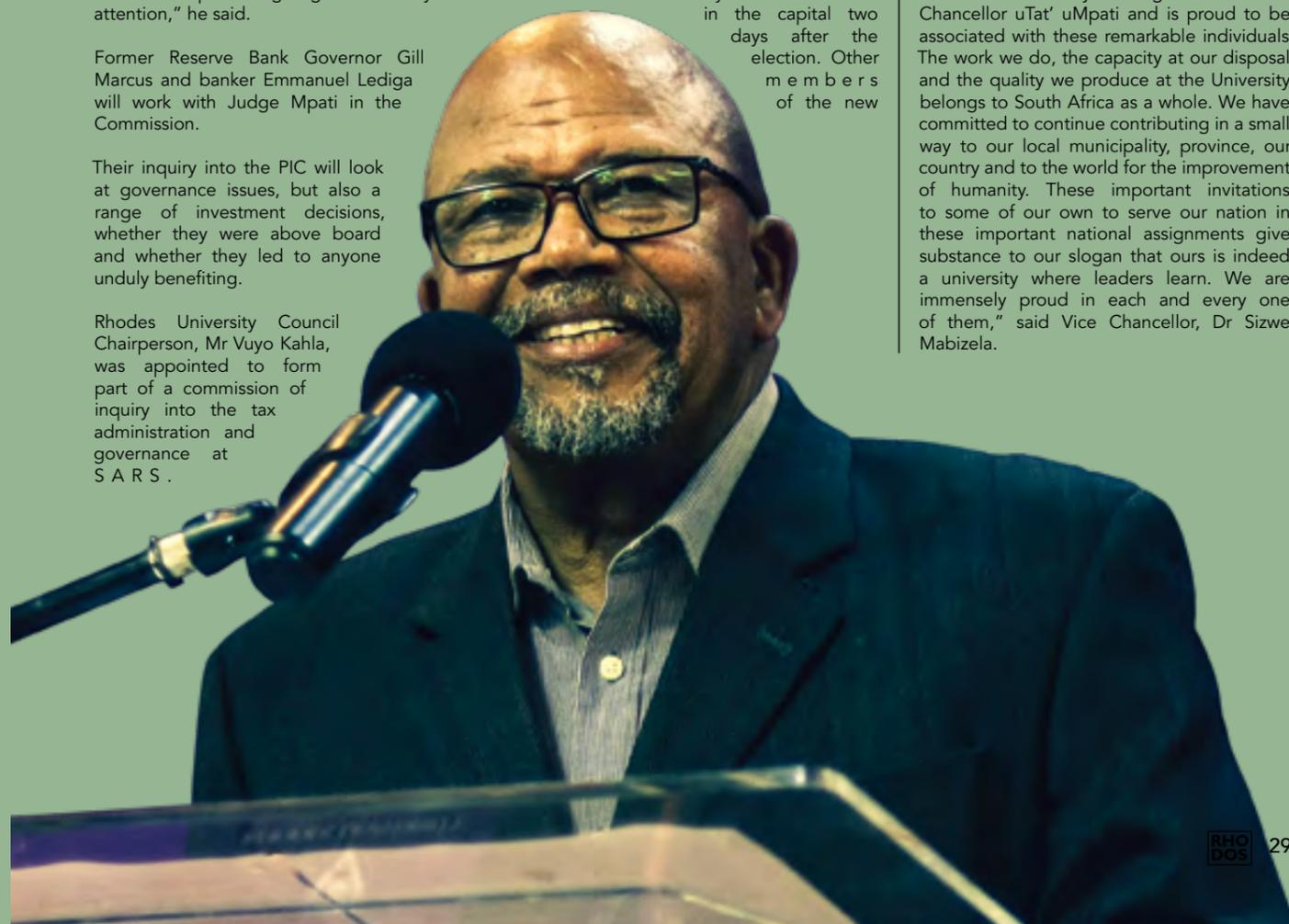
Another alumnus, Rodney Dixon QC is one of the members of the Zimbabwe post-election violence commission. It was set up as an inquiry into the killing of six people following military intervention in the capital two days after the election. Other members of the new

commission of inquiry include Nigerian former Commonwealth secretary-general Emeka Anyaoku, former Tanzanian defense chief Davis Mwamunyange and Zimbabwean legal and political experts.

I am looking forward to playing my part as expected by the country and the President."

- Judge Lex Mpati, Chancellor of Rhodes University

"Rhodes University congratulates our Chancellor uTat' uMpati and is proud to be associated with these remarkable individuals. The work we do, the capacity at our disposal and the quality we produce at the University belongs to South Africa as a whole. We have committed to continue contributing in a small way to our local municipality, province, our country and to the world for the improvement of humanity. These important invitations to some of our own to serve our nation in these important national assignments give substance to our slogan that ours is indeed a university where leaders learn. We are immensely proud in each and every one of them," said Vice Chancellor, Dr Sizwe Mabizela.



Rhodes University international student, Christian Nkanga is from the Democratic Republic of Congo and presently a doctorate student researching liposome-based drug delivery system for tuberculosis, under the supervision of Professor Rui Krause in the Chemistry Department.

He has been working on this for over a year now and that was immediately after he bagged a Masters in Chemistry from Rhodes University. This year, Nkanga was one of 20 Next Generation Scientists (NGS) selected from hundreds of applicants across the world by Novartis Pharma and University of Basel to participate in the programme in Basel, Switzerland. The NGS programme is an extensive three-month learning curriculum on Pharmaceutical Research and Development

topics, combined with applied leadership and communications training. It is designed to foster both scientific and professional development.

Guided by Novartis mentors, the interns work on precompetitive scientific or clinical research projects and participate in a leadership development programme designed to enhance decision-making and communication skills. Research projects expose selected scientists to state-of-the-art methodologies and leading experts in the field while ensuring use within their home infrastructure.

Before becoming an NGS, Nkanga's research was centred on liposomal nanoparticles for pulmonary tuberculosis. Now he says the award has "broadened my research interests

and skills in particulate systems, since I usually work only on nanoparticles for drug delivery. It was a truly fabulous professional and scientific exposure for me, which far exceeded my expectations." He is the first Rhodes University student to ever participate in the programme.

Nkanga's appointment as an NGS has put him on the forefront of a network of Next Generation Science Programme interns across the world, spanning over 15 countries. The programme opens new windows for potential collaborations with Rhodes University and University of Basel and Novartis. Nkanga was awarded the South African Chemical Institute (SACI) Postgraduate Medal last year. He hopes to extend these connections to South Africa and to his home country, where he plans to return to after completing his PhD.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT IS NEXT GENERATION SCIENTIST



Christian Nkanga

ALUMNA SOARS HIGH WITH SKYE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Rhodes University alumna Joanna Pickering was recently awarded the prestigious Skye Foundation scholarship to complete her second Masters degree in Human Rights and Humanitarian Action at the Paris School of International Affairs, a graduate school within The Paris Institute of Political Studies (Sciences Po), in Paris, France.

Pickering, who is originally from Grahamstown, Eastern Cape is currently completing her first Masters degree in European and International Human Rights Law through the University of Toulouse Capitole, a degree taught entirely in French. As part of her current degree, she is completing a three-month professional internship with a French advocate, Yves Laurin, in Paris.

Pickering's current Masters in Toulouse was made possible through funding she received from the Eiffel Scholarship Programme of Excellence, a merit scholarship awarded by the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs to foreign students from emerging countries who wish to complete their masters or PhD studies in France.

Pickering applied to the Skye Foundation with the assistance of Professor Rosaan Krüger, Dean of Law at Rhodes University. The Skye Foundation is based in South Africa and was established by the Zylstra Family Trust to fund postgraduate scholarships in the country as well as abroad. The Foundation awards a number of scholarships annually to South African postgraduates on the basis of outstanding academic achievement in any discipline and their scholarships are tenable worldwide.



Joanna Pickering

Zakeera Docrat



MEET SERIAL AWARD-WINNING DOCTORATE STUDENT

Zakeera Docrat is a PhD student in the Department of African Languages at Rhodes University. A list of her awards indicates she is a rare gem. She developed an interest in multilingualism growing up in a home where isiXhosa, English and Afrikaans languages were spoken. She equally helped her mother in her business where over 90% of her customers spoke isiXhosa. She remembers the priceless moments of seeing delight in someone's face when she responded to them in their own mother tongue. In her undergraduate studies at Rhodes University, IsiXhosa was one of her majors. She believes

that speaking several languages helps in building social cohesion.

Docrat won the Albertina Sisulu doctoral fellowship for African woman of the year. She won the African languages Association of Southern Africa award for best Masters thesis and she is on the present Mail & Guardian list of 200 Young South Africans. She served on the Rhodes University Language Policy

committee and is happy to have represented the student voice. She said she is quite upbeat as the committee is playing an advocacy role to encourage the use of other national languages and not just English as the language of teaching and learning. Her present research interest, which is part of her doctorate thesis, looks specifically at the language of records and its criticism of the recent decision to make English the sole official language of the record in South Africa. She said, "I am investigating whether the university language policy impacts the determination of language of record."

NANOTECHNOLOGY REWARDS THREE

Three postgraduate students from Rhodes University were prestigious recipients of awards in nanotechnology research. Doctorate student Refilwe Matshitse won second prize for her oral presentation. Nobuhle Ndebele, a Masters student won first prize in her oral presentation while a fellow MA student, Aviwe Magadla, emerged second for his poster presentation. They won these prizes at the 8th annual DST/Mintek Nanotechnology Innovation Centre

(NIC) Workshop that took place recently in Randburg, Gauteng province.

The Centre is a national facility, established in 2007 with the goals of undertaking and coordinating research activities. Collaborating with Rhodes University, University of Western

Cape and the University of Johannesburg, DST/Mintek NIC undertakes and coordinates research activities with the universities in sensors, bio labels and water. These recipients are supervised by Rhodes' Distinguished Professor Tebello Nyokong, Dr John Mack and Dr Jonathan Britton. The workshop is an annual event during which students from the three universities are given the opportunity to present their current research endeavours.



Nobuhle Ndebele, Aviwe Magadla and Refilwe Matshitse



Professor Adepeju Layiwola

ART DUO OBTAIN FELLOWSHIP

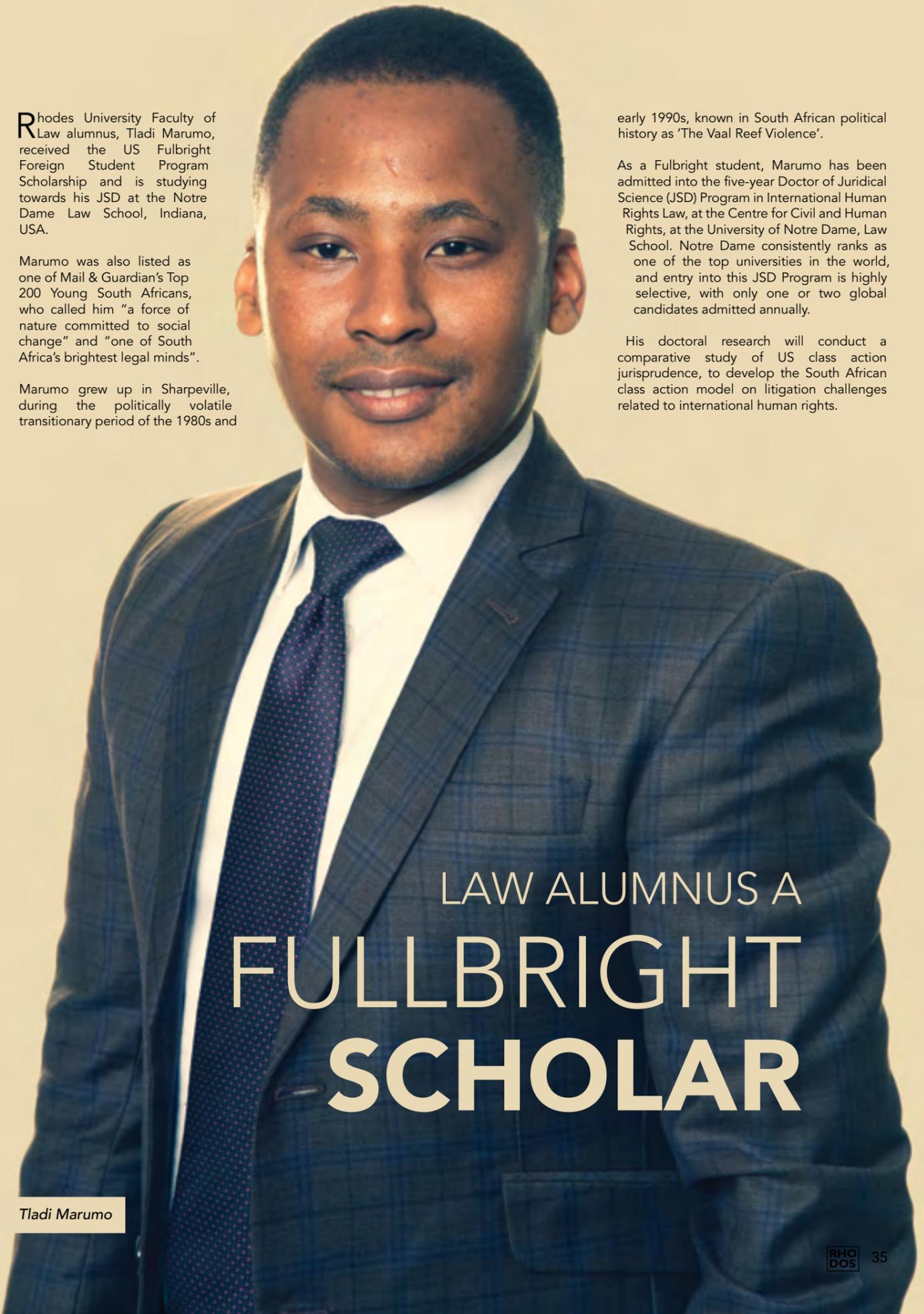
Head of Department of Creative Arts, Professor Peju Layiwola, and English Department Senior Lecturer, Dr Patrick Oloko, both from the University of Lagos (UNILAG) in Nigeria, have been awarded the Rhodes Arts and Writer Residency Fellowship (RAW). The theme for RAW centred on The Arts of Africa and the Global South. It was hosted by Rhodes University, the National Research Foundation (NRF) and the Andrew W Mellon Foundation.

The RAW Residency Fellowship is a programme encouraging team participation in the production of art scholarship, and

it enhances cultural and professional understanding among artists, scholars and activists in Africa and the Global South. In this year's competition, Prof Layiwola, who is a visual artist and Dr Oloko, a literary analyst, explore the relationship between art production and scholarly writing. Their methodological innovative joint application is focused on demonstrating how social experience and visual culture connect and intersect in Nigeria /South African historical and contemporary experiences.

Prof Layiwola will utilise her wide experiences as a creative artist and art scholar to produce

visuals exploring commonalities between Nigeria and South Africa. Dr Oloko will produce an essay themed on how the artistic productions of Prof Layiwola invite and initiate conversations around every day experiences in Nigeria and South Africa. The relation between Nigeria and South Africa is expected to be enhanced through these cultural and scholarly collaborations, while the work and experiences of both scholars will foster inter-university cooperation between the University of Lagos, Nigeria and Rhodes University, South Africa.



Rhodes University Faculty of Law alumnus, Tladi Marumo, received the US Fulbright Foreign Student Program Scholarship and is studying towards his JSD at the Notre Dame Law School, Indiana, USA.

Marumo was also listed as one of Mail & Guardian's Top 200 Young South Africans, who called him "a force of nature committed to social change" and "one of South Africa's brightest legal minds".

Marumo grew up in Sharpeville, during the politically volatile transitional period of the 1980s and

early 1990s, known in South African political history as 'The Vaal Reef Violence'.

As a Fulbright student, Marumo has been admitted into the five-year Doctor of Juridical Science (JSD) Program in International Human Rights Law, at the Centre for Civil and Human Rights, at the University of Notre Dame, Law School. Notre Dame consistently ranks as one of the top universities in the world, and entry into this JSD Program is highly selective, with only one or two global candidates admitted annually.

His doctoral research will conduct a comparative study of US class action jurisprudence, to develop the South African class action model on litigation challenges related to international human rights.

LAW ALUMNUS A FULLBRIGHT SCHOLAR

Tladi Marumo

“Tree planting is about so much more than simply putting a tree in the ground.”

- Nanamhla Gwedla, PhD candidate



PUTTING DOWN ROOTS: A TALE OF THREE TOWNS

By Ilva Pieterse

When Environmental Sciences PhD candidate Nanamhla Gwedla embarked on a project to identify the barriers to urban greening in Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) areas, she did not expect most of the resistance would come from the residents themselves. Nor did she foresee the exhilarating personal journey that would result from changing the minds of the people.

“Tree planting is about so much more than simply putting a tree in the ground,” she said, summarising her project thus far.

Gwedla first got into urban greening for her Honours project, where she looked at, recorded and published a paper regarding the visions of community services department officials who are responsible for tree planting in the public spaces of 24 different Eastern Cape towns.

For her Masters project, she approached residents from 10 of the 24 towns to find out what they thought about the aesthetic state of their town. It was during this time that Gwedla discovered the dreary state RDP neighbourhoods were in.

“Unsurprisingly, we found that affluent areas are the prettiest and greenest. The townships are okay, with a tree growing here and there, likely an alien plant that came up many years ago. Nothing recent,” Gwedla said.

But what shocked her most was the complete lack of public greening in the RDP areas. “There was nothing. These areas were completely bare of trees,” she observed.

Turning this into the inspiration for her PhD project, Gwedla sought to answer why these areas were so devoid of beautification. “Why does this situation exist in the RDP areas? They are newly developed areas, after all. There should be a greening plan in place, but I saw nothing of the sort.”

Barriers and enablers

For her PhD, Gwedla decided to look at the barriers and the enablers to tree planting in low cost housing areas, with her supervisors Professor Charlie Shackleton from the Environmental Science Department and

Dr Lausanne Olivitt from the Environmental Learning Research Centre.

“What if we could attempt a model where the communities are at the forefront of greening these areas themselves?” she thought. Gwedla was looking for a success model where the communities could become the custodians of this idea. It needed to be sustainable, and include an element of social learning, education and interaction.

She identified three Eastern Cape towns – Grahamstown, Matatiele and Tsolo – based on the perceived interest in tree planting presented by residents during a survey.

Getting the ball rolling was much harder than expected, however. “One of the biggest challenges that speaks to resistance is identifying the context in which we are working. These areas are made up of indigent people. They are hungry, they are jobless and they are poorly educated. And here I am, this little black woman coming here with a ‘white thing’. So how do I make sure I spark interest here?”

Gwedla believes a lot of people didn’t participate because they didn’t see themselves being offered anything. “Which I can understand. When you are desperately trying to get a job, then trees are just trees. Nothing more,” she acknowledged. “This made motivating the people very challenging.”

Not just about beauty

Toughening up, Gwedla tirelessly continued to try and inspire the participants about the project. “Despite the initial resistance, I finally managed to get my message across. That this wasn’t simply about beauty. That it was about well-being, peace, pride and power and agency to change, to make a difference. And about creating a light in an often dark world.”

Besides her difficulties with getting the townspeople on board, Gwedla also struggled with the municipalities themselves. “I couldn’t do the project without going through the correct channels, and this meant getting the municipalities involved. Unfortunately, this further delayed my project, and even threatened to collapse my efforts in some of the cases,” she said.

Overall, it was a very difficult and frustrating process for Gwedla, she admitted. “And yet, there I was, and still am, telling myself ‘I need to do this’. There is just too much potential here. I need to be patient and resilient.”

Soon after embarking on the practical part of her project, it became evident to Gwedla that despite their similarities, each of the three towns was unique in its challenges, and its people distinct in terms of attitude and willingness to participate.



One of Nanamhla’s study sites in Tsolo



Members of the Matatiele treeplanting project

Matatiele

"In Matatiele, for example, the group was more dynamic, more excited and owned the project. Although I see them as the most successful of the three towns, it was not without obstacles. The participants had communicated their distrust of their municipality earlier on. They were worried that the municipality would 'steal' the project. So much so, that they suggested we create a co-operative. The municipality did end up trying to not only take credit for project, but they wanted to dictate where the trees should be planted."

However, spirits in Matatiele remained high, and they were by far the most active group in Gwedla's tree planting project. "They had the unofficial slogan of 'My neighbour will see what I am doing, and also do it', and this drove them."

Gwedla believes the people of Matatiele have become empowered through her initiative. "They now understand the importance of planting trees and are becoming increasingly independent as the projects unfolds. They are well on their way to becoming fully-fledged custodians of beautifying their area. They are even pushing back against the municipality by asking them to recognise the skills they have acquired in tree planting. I can proudly and safely say that at least in one area, the idea that originated from myself and my supervisors at Rhodes University's Environmental Science Department came to life in Matatiele."

Tsolo

In Tsolo, however, Gwedla faced a much less inspiring result. "The people of Tsolo are very quiet and passive – submissive even. They feared their municipality, felt generally powerless and didn't take initiative. They refused to do anything without the express permission of the municipality, which made it so difficult, since the councillor didn't want to get involved."

There were moments where Gwedla wanted to give up. "I won't lie. There were several

times when I asked myself, 'Why didn't you focus on a purely ecological study? Why did you take on a project that was clearly doomed to fail?' I have done everything right and yet, this thing was not working," she recalled. "But then my supervisors reminded me – the fact that it was not working is a result in itself, and could provide lessons for others. And this was enough for me to carry on."

People from Tsolo, instead of greening their own living areas, wanted to turn a nearby dilapidated lot into a park. "Unfortunately, things didn't move along as expected in Tsolo," Gwedla reported.

That was, until the OR Tambo District Municipality and the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries stepped in. "When we had our tree planting event in Tsolo, the district municipality was incredibly supportive, especially since my project speaks to their 'One tree, one child' initiative."

And then, during the tree planting event, something beautiful happened. "As I was packing up, the residents started putting the trees into the ground – without being instructed. They clearly didn't expect anyone else to do it for them. One of the District Municipality representative brought my attention to this and said, 'You see, that is what participation is really about.' It was heartwarming. Remember, this had been the passive group. That's when I knew they were much more excited about the project than I had realised."

Grahamstown

Then in Grahamstown, a place very different to Tsolo, almost opposite in fact, Gwedla had to face her very biggest challenge thus far.

"Grahamstown's residents generally feel a lot of hostility towards their municipality. They are angry and have little faith that the situation will improve. There is also a common belief that the municipality serves mostly the white areas of the town. Because of this attitude

of contempt and activism, Grahamstown presented many, many obstacles to me achieving my tree planting project," said Gwedla.

Unfortunately, these obstacles would, in the end, prove to be nearly impossible to overcome. The Grahamstown tree planting project still very much relies on Gwedla to drive it, as the participants remain despondent. "I had to withstand a lot of judgement, a lot of anger even, from Grahamstown residents about my project. I've been labelled the 'white black person' and accused of coming in to the area with a white agenda. It was hurtful. I had to try very hard to get them to see the point of what I was doing. To convince them that I was one of them. I was treated with so much suspicion. Despite all my efforts, much hesitation remains and I worry that the tree planting project might never get off the ground in Grahamstown," she said.

Not one to be easily discouraged, however, Gwedla offers some inspiring words and advice to Rhodes University students, and hopes that together they can help change the townspeople's attitudes.

"Grahamstown is saturated with Rhodes students. We conduct research and for years we take, take, take. Can we not take in such a way that is less apparent? Because yes, I've taken. But I have taken in such a way that is helpful to advancement. I've given as well, and so should all of us," she urged her fellow students.

Gwedla wants more students to embark on projects like this. "Can it please not be 'just about the science'? Instead of simply going out there, collecting data and then leaving, why not make a difference? Make an impact! It will pave the way for future projects. It will alleviate suspicion and animosity. Let's work together. Let's reach the people, and make them feel as if we truly are working towards the same goal; that we are all part of something bigger. Together."

MADIBA CENTENARY BRINGS BIGGEST-EVER SKILLS TRADE

Nelson Mandela's 100th birthday saw the town of Grahamstown spend more than a week in honour of the hero.



Di Hornby, Director of Rhodes University Community Engagement Division

Trading Live for Mandela is an annual Rhodes University initiative headed by the Community Engagement Division (RUCE) that seeks to honour the legacy of Nelson Mandela and build the community of Grahamstown.

During Trading Live for Mandela Week, student and community organisations, departmental staff, businesses and schools all participate in a bumper community engagement initiative to build new relationships of reciprocity across town. "The whole town engages in activities, called 'trades', in the service of humanity. This is in line with the national and global Mandela Day campaign that calls individuals and organisations to action 67 minutes in betterment of the world," explained RUCE Director, Di Hornby.

While Rhodes is probably the biggest player in Grahamstown in terms of trades, many other groupings get involved, such as local schools, businesses, NGOs, ECD centres as well as local government departments. "Positive social transformation requires a joint effort and it requires the building of bridges that will enable people to share experiences, skills and assets," Hornby said.

The Mandela centenary Trading LIVE that took place in 2018 was the biggest ever, with 151 events taking place across Grahamstown. This figure is up from 121 events in the previous year.

"Our Trading Live initiative dispels the myth that economically-disadvantaged people have no assets and encourages everyone to contribute towards a shared goal," asserted Hornby.

These annual trading events help cement Rhodes University's position as not only in Grahamstown, but of Grahamstown. Many partnerships are formed with the community which continue well after Trading Live is over.

"What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead."

- Nelson Mandela

Monash University adopted Rhodes University Community Engagement Division's Trading LIVE model, and implemented the programme in their own community engagement initiatives. Furthermore, the Nelson Mandela Foundation has approached the RUCE Office to produce a guide that will enable other universities to run similar programmes across the country.

Notable trades

- One of the most successful events that

took place was Makhulu Makhahlaka's 100th birthday party, which was organised by the Friends of Ethembeni. Makhulu shares a birthday with the legendary Nelson Mandela himself.

- Rhodes University Health Suite and the Rhodes University Rowing Club both formed partnerships with the Eluxolweni Child and Youth Care Centre and plan to have weekly or monthly interactions with them. The Rhodes University Cheerleading Club formed a lasting relationship with Raglan Road Service Centre.
- A team of students organised a flash mob in the Rhodes University library, in honour of Madiba, which was uploaded to YouTube. The flash mob organisers have been approached by a few University associations and departments who are looking to hire them for similar initiatives.
- The Albany Museum hosted fun and educational museum tours for some of Grahamstown's Early Childhood Development (ECD) centres.
- Many staff members responded to a call to donate and read a book to each of the 13 RUCE pre-primary school partners. In a follow-up call to action, Programme Manager of the ECD Literacy Programme at Rhodes, Anna Talbot, asked for more staff to join the Early Childhood Literacy Programme, and over 195 sign-ups were received.
- The School of Languages and Literatures took on a very ambitious project for Trading Live for Mandela Week, by visiting the gravesite of SEK Mqhayi in Berlin, Eastern Cape, with Ntsika Secondary School learners.



Successful trade events



Days of trade



Transport: 4 buses and 1 car (from 7:30 to 17:30 every day)



Participating organisations

Trading Live numbers for 2018



NGOs



Primary schools



Rhodes University entities



Departments



State High Schools



Independent Schools



Support departments



Reses



Businesses



College



Halls



Unions

EVERYONE WINS

During RUCE's annual Community Engagement Awards and Gala Evening, it was announced that over a year, 810 well-trained students volunteered weekly in 76 community partner organisations, which has made a meaningful contribution to the areas of academic support, sports coaching, wellness interventions, food security, IT support and leadership programmes. A further 820 pupils were involved through disciplines in the various academic departments.

The nominees and winners of the 2018 Community Engagement Awards:

Community Partner of the Year:

- GADRA Education (Winner)
- Inkululeko
- Upstart

Student Researcher of the Year:

- Thandiswa Nqowana (Winner)
- Angel Ancha Lindelwa Bulunga
- Chad Keates

Student Volunteer of the Year:

- Sesonasipho Yedwa (Winner)
- Adam Butler
- Claire Mary McCann
- Heather Michelle Conyers Dixon
- Keorapetse Ramagaga
- Lebohang Makghoshi Nkambule
- Sanele Ngubo
- Thandiswa Nqowana
- Thozama Clara Ngwenya

Hall or Residence of the Year (Joint Winners):

- Desmond Tutu Hall (Winner)
- Jan Smuts Hall (Winner)
- Nelson Mandela Hall

Student Society or Sports Club of the Year:

- Rhodes University Mountain Club (Winner)
- Bapedi Ba Rhodes
- Sudo Society

It is a faux pas for anyone to think that the youths of Grahamstown are faraway and uninformed about stocks and online trading. Many of them have dabbled with trading software and some even dream of working at the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

YOUNG BROKERS

TAKE STOCK EXCHANGE BY STORM

By Emmanuel Ngamale

This dream moved a step closer to becoming a reality after Rhodes University signed a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with a number of schools in the Grahamstown area to mentor youths and help them take part in the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) Schools Investment Challenge.



Mary Waters High School



Ntsika Secondary School



Graeme College



Kingswood College

Learners from five local schools in Grahamstown are taking part in the JSE schools Investment Challenge. This programme, which is run by the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE), aims to demystify certain issues about stocks and online trading. The Social Corporate Sector of the JSE

contends that the program sets to discredit the perception that any potential investor should have millions and/or fall within a certain age bracket in order to trade in stocks. According to a report published by the Human Science Research Council in 2012 about four percent of South Africans invest in stocks, trust and property amongst others as a form of savings. The report also states that less than half of

South Africa's adult population is conversant with very basic issues relative to investments policies.

The initiative, which is in its 44th year, is still in its second year in Grahamstown. The project only kicked-off after the Rhodes Community Engagement Division Office liaised with some staff and students to assist as catalyst and mentors for the learners. In the first year, learners from Mary Waters High School, Graeme and Kingswood colleges joined their counterparts across the nation to battle for

the best monthly awards for themselves and their schools. They were expected to trade in virtual online portfolios totalling R1 000 000.

It is important to make sure that Black learners from underprivileged backgrounds also participate. Two schools, Ntsika and Nombulelo Secondary, both based in Joza Location have joined to take the number of participating schools from Makana Municipality to five. Even though the learners 'play' with virtual money in 'ghost trading', they get to access resources and knowledge that will otherwise have eluded them if such a partnership had not been made possible.

Senior Lecturer in the Accounting Department at Rhodes University, Leon Coopasamy, is the catalyst tasked with the responsibility of locating participating schools, advertising the initiative and appointing mentors to the different participating teams. He also liaises with the JSE for training of mentors (Rhodes students) who are responsible for guiding these learners in online trading.

These mentors have to think on their feet to beat challenges for business to proceed. For example when they cannot access a computer lab with internet, mentors use their personal laptops, with the catalyst supplying Wi-Fi connection so that valuable time and potential gains are not lost. In addition, to

make trading a worthy enterprise, snacks are used as incentives.

As the momentum grows, the mentoring team is elated about the next trading session, which is set to start in March 2019. With over 12 000 students taking part in the challenge, Grahamstown still has the least number of participants.

Founder of the programme, Leon Coopasamy, hopes to grow this number, which currently has about 160 learners. "In order to create more access for learners into the programme, we have applied for an exemption on registration fees for participating schools. Rhodes has also given the participating learners access to their labs and internet," he said.

UNDERSTANDING THE CREATIVE ECONOMY

By Emmanuel Ngamale

The second iteration of the South African Cultural Observatory (SACO2) has been launched at Rhodes University. This comes three years after the maiden edition of the national statistical and socio-economic research project kicked off in Grahamstown in 2014.

The core business of SACO is to take stock of the arts, culture and heritage sectors as well as keep track of what is happening in the cultural and creative industries in South Africa to gain a real understanding of the creative economy and its underpinnings. It is an inter-university project that is expected to carry out research in the cultural and creative sector of the national economy.

To understand the creative space, SACO is expected to use innovative methodologies, mapping, analysis and other tools to audit the creative economy. It is expected to build a comprehensive cultural information system – or a suite of research, insight, measurement tools and frameworks, as guidelines – for the industry. This will make available the data required to appreciate the sector better and to feed into government policy.

Rhodes University continues to play a key role in SACO. Members of the Rhodes University Economics Department have a long-standing interest in cultural economics research, and have been measuring the social and economic impact of the National Arts Festival for many years. Similarly, Rhodes University will be conducting an analysis of South Africa's gaming industry as

a turnkey and high potential creative industry.

The project is presently led by Nelson Mandela University, in collaboration with Rhodes University, the University of Fort Hare and the University of KwaZulu-Natal as partners in the national data collection and analysis enterprise.



“The word ‘launching’ has all the connotations of something new, but we are, in fact, launching the continual existence of businesses and entities.”

- Professor Dave Sewry, Dean of Commerce



The findings of SACO serve as input to the formulation and drafting of policies in the cultural sub sector of the economy. Feedback from data analysis by SACO act as pointers for government and other departments when it comes to assisting and restructuring the intellectual and other resources serving the creative industries. SACO's input regarding challenges about the types of jobs involved in the sector and hurdles faced by producers of cultural goods and services are vital for the ever-expanding



Executive Director of SACO, Unathi Lutshaba

sector.

In his welcome note, Rhodes University Dean of Commerce, Professor Dave Sewry said, “The word ‘launching’ has all the connotations of something new, but we are, in fact, launching the continual existence of businesses and entities. It is a time of affirming not only our participation in the SACO but our enthusiasm and interest in contributing meaningfully to a better understanding and development of the cultural economy.” Sewry lauded the collective mindset that gets to work on the project stating that many hands do light work.

This tender award represents a significant investment commitment by the South African government into research in the cultural and creative economy. SACO offers opportunities to fund research, conference presentations, publications and its website showcases all the research findings, publications and debates going on in the arts. This second iteration of SACO launched at Rhodes University has initiated routes with the School of Journalism and Media Studies that has depth in cultural studies research. The Rhodes University departments of Computer Science, Geography and the Neil Aggett Labour Studies Unit (NALSU) are equally partaking in the project.

Executive Director of SACO, Unathi Lutshaba noted that, “The sector contributes not just economic value, but social value as well. We have discovered that the cultural and creative industries appear to have a sizeable impact on the national economy and that every year the sector shows signs of growth – it continues to create employment.”

Major universities all across the developed world where data costs are more affordable have been using social media in their messaging and outreach programs to very good effect. More and more, as data costs go down, major organisations are investing heavily in social media because that is where people, especially the youth, are spending a lot of their time these days.

The internet and social media have completely revolutionised the way businesses compete against each other and interact with customers; a mastery of these and other trends are critical for brand success nowadays. Just how do they work and how does one drive quality traffic to one's platforms? That is what the Rhodes Business School wants to know - and understanding how they work will stand Rhodes in very good stead going forward.

Research on social media use by various cohorts are usually presented in the form of graphs, tables, pie charts and accompanying literature. Other researchers would have been very happy to tackle this topic by publishing

such as social media reach, positive sentiment, passion, a number of unique authors or retweets with facial features (eye, eyebrows, nose, hairline and others). For example, the strength of the brand can be allocated to the facial line. A nice round face would represent higher brand strength, whereas a thin face shows low brand strength. Similarly, a less appealing social media face would have smaller eyes, a balding hairline, a narrow nose, thin eyebrows and an inverse or neutral mouth curvature.

However, the research team was not contented to have just static representations to describe a situation that is constantly changing. They also wanted to modernize the works that Chernoff did in 1973. They decided to produce a longitudinal representation as opposed to the fixed Chernoff version. In this era of continuous interchanges between business and clients via the internet, they argued that it was time to move past still representations. Visual representations are easy to understand and the same way we send emojis to represent moods, feelings and emotions, the faces generated by this

Especially in the world today where there is so much information to digest and understand and so many corporations fighting to get the attention of people who always seem to be busy and on the move. The research results will certainly make for exciting reading. It is a first of its kind and a reference point for media and communication departments in higher education institutions who know that you may get only one fleeting shot to present your brand to stakeholders, customers and prospects.



Brand 1



Brand 2

EASTERN CAPE UNIVERSITIES FACE OFF

By Emmanuel Ngamale

There is some exciting research going on at the Rhodes Business School to understand how universities in the Eastern Cape are responding to social media in branding themselves and attracting high quality students.

findings using the normal industry practice. This, however, did not satisfy the research interest of the Rhodes business administration students. They adopted a different approach.

Marketing Professor Deon Nel and his present cohort of MBA students at the Rhodes Business School gathered field data which was used to generate social media faces for the four universities in the Eastern Cape Province over a longitudinal time period. The researchers collected data points at fixed time periods, for example over an eight-week period. Their results were then compiled in the form of computer-generated faces using methods first pioneered by Herman Chernoff.

The longitudinal display will mean they have to carry out their observations over a longer time period and then present these dynamic situations using the mathematical and computerised techniques to display the research results. To come up with Chernoff faces, a data scientist writes and matches the computer code to social mention measures

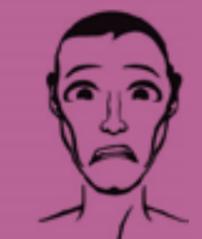
research is going to mirror different messages mined from the data.

Still, some critics are not sold on this approach. While the idea sounds stimulating, it will first and foremost, have to test its popularity against scholars who think human faces can only be used for visualisation and not for calibration. These skeptics add that faces are so distinct that we really need to know their perceptual properties, which we don't, before we could use them. Secondly, Chernoff faces have been around for a while and it is still to test its market value against existing ideograms and smileys such as emoji. No one can tell how and when the right time is for any innovation to take off the ground. The story of Facebook and its troubling creation is a case in point. While it has had a lot of success, this platform can easily be manipulated to send dangerous messages to vulnerable people.

On the bright side, it is common knowledge that we humans are bad at reading data but very good with understanding faces.



Brand 3



Brand 4

WHEN LEADERS FAIL

By Emmanuel Ngamale

We live in fast changing times where trust between leaders and their followers is eroding at all levels. The challenges of the 'New South' are yet to be met but strangely enough, those who cast themselves as the guardians of the dented yesterday have become vultures and opportunists, feasting on the resources needed to build schools, hospitals, provide water and educate the young. It is precisely the debates surrounding the type of leadership needed in South Africa that the Archbishop Thabo Makgoba Trust (ATMDT) was launched to encourage and mediate.

At the fourth ATMDT annual lecture, South African politician Dr Makhosi Khoza used the analogy of a

democratic enterprise and the promise of the Constitution, especially on issues such as land and economic emancipation.

In the inaugural lecture, former Public Protector Advocate Thuli Madonsela used the opportunity to drive home the importance of Ubuntu as a key driver in building an equal society in which human dignity as underscored in the constitution becomes the cornerstone.

Advocate Madonsela told the audience to follow the example of Archbishop Makgoba in "walking the talk". She acknowledged that the Archbishop had been one of the vocal critics speaking truth to power when most chose to keep quiet in exchange for political appointments.

She also underscored the importance of focusing on values-based leadership, which provided the answer to the question of why the Rhodes Business School is collaborating in this illustrious enterprise.

Since the first ATMDT lecture in 2015, three of the four keynote speakers have been women. Whereas this may point to women empowerment, it is also by no coincidence that this yearly event has been planned as such. Men dominate public life and



Archbishop Thabo Makgoba with attendees of the ATMDT annual lecture

psychological defeat to problematise what is not right with present day political leaders in South Africa. Coming at a time when the Zondo Commission on State Capture is hard at work, and the VBS bank heist, the questioning of leadership values becomes a critical exercise, if we have to build and nurture young leaders that we hope will deliver on the



Dr Makhosi Khoza

private society as well, and a deliberate choice was made to give women the platform to shine.

That said, the organisers also invited former President Kgalema Motlanthe whose talk focused on leading like a servant. He used the example of Jesus Christ to point out the wrongs in our society and how we are failing to follow his example. He deplored the dearth of selfless leadership that South Africa faces today when leaders fight to be served first. The former president did not mince his words when he called on citizens to hold their leaders accountable and re-echoed the need to reawaken the dying spirit of Ubuntu.

Last year, former First Lady, Graca Machel shared her experience in fighting hunger and taking care of refugees across the African continent. She spoke about the importance of humility in those who occupied high office. She also said that building the society we want led by the leaders we want is a collective effort. We all have a role to play in making future better and brighter.

The ATMDT has set high goals for the development of Southern Africa through the use of dialogue, economic growth and quality education.

Why the choice to focus on ethical leadership is a step in the right direction.

Leaders invited to speak at the annual lecture must be committed to its objectives of fighting inequality, poverty, unemployment and promoting entrepreneurial development.

Society is not static; things change all the time and problems cannot be waved away with a magic wand. It takes thousands of lectures to make a difference – and the ATMDT is a step in the right direction.

This is why there is a lot of buzz as followers of the ATMDT seek to know in advance, who will grace the pulpit next and which gaps he/she will be filling. The Archbishop led his Church by example and the Rhodes Business School's partnership with him is a great initiative.

This thrilling combination is what dominates the atmosphere in the announcement as to the person who will keep Rhodents away from their dinner table next year. We have a lot riding on this partnership – the future needs honest leaders who will not hesitate to call out wrong behaviour. That is an example all Rhodents are expected to follow.

THE FIGHT AGAINST UNSAFE ABORTION

Critical Studies in Sexuality and Reproduction (CSSR) at Rhodes University hosted the Abortion and Reproductive Justice: The Unfinished Revolution III conference, which was aimed at increasing awareness, circulating knowledge, and presenting workable solutions to the many pressing issues concerning reproductive injustices around the world.

Hosted in collaboration with various partners including the Department of Social Development, the Sexual and Reproductive Justice Coalition of South Africa, the International Campaign for Women's Right

to Safe Abortion, and the Open Society Foundation, the international conference built on two previous conferences held in Canada and Northern Ireland.

According to Professor Catriona Macleod of the CSSR, the aim of the third iteration was to bring the conversation to Africa, thereby enabling dialogues between those living in jurisdictions where abortion access is highly restricted, and those in countries with liberal abortion laws such as South Africa.

"The notion of reproductive justice has been important in moving reproductive health

debates forward to locate understandings within context and to highlight power relations and disparities in reproductive outcomes," Macleod said.

"Women of colour have been central in highlighting how intersecting inequalities – such as race and class – result in the disproportionate difficulties experienced by marginalised women. These inequalities serve to prevent certain women from exercising their rights to safe abortion, as well as their right to continue a pregnancy and parent a child. A social justice perspective requires that inequities are addressed," she added.

POST-SCHOOL TRAINING BOOK LAUNCH

Professor Rogan of the Neil Aggett Labour Studies Unit (NALSU) at Rhodes University was recently invited to speak at the Human Resource Development Council (HSRC) Summit, as the only academic from a South African university.

Prof Rogan's talk, which showcased the work of the Labour Market Intelligence Partnership

(LMIP), followed the Summit's opening by the Deputy President of South Africa, David Mabuza.

LMIP, which is funded by the Department of Higher Education and Training, was set up as a partnership between government and a consortium of researchers led by the HSRC.

Prof Rogan and his co-researchers developed a book on their LMIP work entitled Post-School Education and the Labour Market in South Africa which offers insights about and up-to-date analyses of the way that young people in South Africa navigate their way through a host of post-school training and education options.

POSTGRADUATE CONFERENCE GROWS

Rhodes University's 9th annual Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Conference saw postgraduate students engage in 'public good' debates about climate sustainability, socio-economic development, the fourth industrial revolution and blue-sky research.

The focal point of the discussions was how postgraduate scholars view their work in the context of the societies in which they live – which takes into account, among other things, who the public is, and what constitutes 'good'.

"This conference grows every year and is proving to be a key event in the academic calendar," said Professor Sioux McKenna from the Centre for Higher Education Research, Teaching & Learning at Rhodes University. "Being a research-intensive university means we have a strong postgraduate sector, being a small university means that these postgraduates are able to get to know each other and share conversations about research across disciplines and make a difference to the whole culture of the institution."

With over 70 presentations and over 170 participants, the conference included a World Café discussion, open to all attendees, regarding what is meant by the overarching theme's message, which was "Postgraduate Education is a Public Good".

Feedback from attendees ranged from "inspired" to "encouraging" with most of the participants looking forward to presenting their own work at the next conference.

A NEW DAWN OF STUDENT LEADERSHIP

By Anima McBrown

Samkelo Mngadi, a 24-year-old Masters student has taken the helm in the most sought-after position in the Student Representative Council (SRC). He is no stranger to leadership, as he is the former Nelson Mandela Hall Senior Student. He steps into his new role knowing what it means to lead a diverse and dynamic Rhodes University student body.

“I promise to reintroduce the student voice back to where it was – at the centre of the university structure.”

- Samkelo Mngadi, SRC President

Mngadi carries a chirpy smile, is approachable and easy to get along with. He's always relaxed and incredibly upbeat at the same time. Hailing from Pietermaritzburg and having matriculated in 2012 from Carter High School, Kwazulu Natal, he acknowledges that his leadership style is greatly informed by a strong sense of matriarchal prowess that has been a critical part of his upbringing. “I come from a strong and long line of matriarchal leadership; my grandmother, mother and aunts have shaped my views of the world and how to interact with other people,” Mngadi points out.

His family values education and he takes this family position seriously. Mngadi holds a degree in History and Legal Theory and an honours degree in History from Rhodes University. He is a Masters student, serving as a course co-ordinator and tutor in the History Department. His Masters thesis investigates the life and work of Chief Albert Luthuli as an African intellectual. He is happy that Rhodes University offers the free space to question and explore beyond the commonly accepted ideas boxed as Chief Luthuli.

The new SRC President says he will be a ‘servant leader’ and has promised to reintroduce the student voice back to where it was at the centre of the University structure. His administration plans to facilitate dining hall visits across residences - where SRC members can sit, share meals and chat with students about various issues of concern.

Mngadi plans to use workshops and other educational programmes to tackle gender-based violence on campus. He asserts that he has to start somewhere. Even though 10

months may not be enough to bring about complete change, he remains positive to initialise some institutional changes before leaving office.

In answering the call to lead, Mngadi accepts he's not faultless and reiterates that leadership does not demand a perfect individual but somebody who avails themselves to the job with the ability to learn and accept criticisms. He says his tenure as president is a journey and not a destination. He understands that the fruits of his labour might only be enjoyed by future generations. The road ahead is going to be challenging as

University space is a complicated terrain where conflicting interests often clash. However, these issues are not discouraging the 2019 SRC leader who wants the student body to be proud to have entrusted their votes in him. During the campaigns he promised to bring about some positive changes and that's a deal he plans to hold.

The SRC president says “I am not good at public speaking – it is not my strength... people have called me a bit nervous. [But] I want to use these things to learn and grow, [and] to challenge the norm of what we expect of a leader. Not every leader is the full package – and they don't have to be. Leadership comes in many different forms. I am one of these [forms].”

THE PULSE AND PACE OF BEAUTIFUL ART

By Anima McBrown

At a time when many are calling for transformation, inclusion, recognition and redistribution of space, access and resources, there has never been a more opportune a moment to shed sufficient light on some areas that do not get enough attention in the mainstream media or in relevant government sectors. The arts is a classic example and it brings the whole nation and the world once every year to Grahamstown through the National Arts Festival (NAF).



Mmatumisang Motsisi's play 'Seeing Red'

Drama and theatre play an important role in the city's social life, artistic potential and cultural preservation and this is buttressed by the output of the Drama Department of Rhodes University. This conducive environment is encouraging the rise of black female storytellers and we celebrate two of them who have created and performed thought-provoking works that challenge the present status quo. Their productions add significantly to promoting gender equality in the theatre industry while improving diversity in the same work space. By teaching, grooming and giving back to younger fellow thespians, they have dedicated their time and efforts to being part of sustainable development in the arts.

Mmatumisang Motsisi

She is a shy 23-year-old Pretoria born performer and director who has always felt at home in the theatre space and after enrolling for Drama and English in 2014 at Rhodes University, her life took a turn for the better. In her own words, "theatre became a space of affirmation for me, a place where I could express myself fully".

She has etched her name on the local 'theatresphere'. Last year, her play Cult Clit received the award for Best Original Work within the Student Theatre Festival. In it Motsisi, casting alongside the winner of the 2017 Best Stage Manager Award, Manoko Tlhako, tackled femicide and female mutilation.

This year Motsisi returned to the Student Theatre Festival with Seeing Red. In this piece the cast confronts sexual repression and sexual taboos, by reinvigorating the

"I want to touch lives and move people; I want to empower."

- Mmatumisang Motsisi

conversation around menstruation and women's sexuality. She said, "I want to teach, to comfort young people, I want to help dispel the supposed shame attached to menstruation. It's a coming-into-womanhood which should be celebrated".

Having completed her Honours Degree in Drama, and now embarking on a Masters degree, she believes that there is so much she has yet to achieve. She is using meaningful collaboration and combative theatre-making to add value to the theatre scene. She promotes the exploration and representation of the lived experiences of black women especially. She admits that because of the collective and individual historical pains that people carry around, there is a lot of internal damage that we are all living with – particularly people of colour. That is why she wants her work to contribute positively towards a larger sense of acknowledgement and ownership of black pride.

She is grateful to her strong support system from her Rhodes University family that has helped propelled her at both individual and professional levels. Motsisi is developing Seeing Red and plans to take it to different local schools as part of her work in sexual education for young women.

Photo credit: Kyle Prinsloo





Photo credit: Kyle Prinsloo

“We make work that reflects how we see and experience the world.”

- Thembela Madliki

Thembela Madliki

Another exciting young theatre-maker Thembela Madliki is no stranger to NAF's stage. At 25, she holds a Masters in Drama from Rhodes University. Her passion for theatre has taken her from the small township of Phakamisa in the rural Eastern Cape to Cape Town's Theatre Arts Admin Collective (TAAC).

Madliki is one of the recipients of the 2018 Theatre Arts Admin Emerging Directors Bursaries. She takes keen interest in work that explores and interrogates human relationships. She feels highly motivated working in the presence of many young directors, especially black women. The award-winning director, who fell in love with directing during matric,

makes an important note of not overly-romanticising what is otherwise a tough and competitive profession. “It's a very difficult industry to be a part of; you find creatives living pay cheque to pay cheque.”

While she acknowledges the issues of rights and representation (in the Performers Protection Amendment Bill for instance), and challenges of exploitation, she hopes to make positive impacts for the role she plays and the space she occupies as an emerging theatre maker.

After her most memorable works Nyanga during NAF 2016 – which won Best Production – and Bayephi in 2017, she hopes to return to the Festival next year with more illuminating

offerings to share with audiences. The 2016 NAF Most Promising Director, and nominee for Most Promising Playwright of that same year, hopes to share pieces that deeply inspire her audiences to think about, feel and discuss what they see long after the curtains are drawn.

Looking forward, Madliki said, “I hope to work on projects that allow me to give something back to the youth in the Eastern Cape. I want to make sure that arts education is happening effectively and that children and young people are aware of the arts as a viable career option.” Madliki said she gets her inspiration to do better from the response from her family, colleagues and her impressive audiences.



Thembela Madliki's play 'Bayephi'

RHODES UNIVERSITY HELPS UN FIGHT CORRUPTION

Professor Pedro Tabensky from the Allan Gray Centre for Leadership Ethics (AGCLE) at Rhodes University has developed a learning module for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) under its Education for Justice (E4J) initiative.

The module forms part of the E4J University Module Series on Integrity and Ethics, and is accompanied by a teaching guide with pedagogical guidance. In response to the Doha Declaration, which aims to reduce corruption globally, the Series is aimed at helping university lecturers, who have little or no ethics training, to make ethics an integral part of classroom teaching.

The module seeks to help students understand how commonplace psychological mechanisms can lead towards unethical behaviour in unpropitious conditions.

“One of the programmes we have at the AGCLE addresses ethical matters using, among other things, social psychology and behavioural economics,” explained Prof Tabensky. “The UN became interested in what we do, and invited me to design a module.”

He believes most ethics programmes aimed at changing behaviour typically use the wrong approach. “Many still think about teaching in traditional terms, which is to give learners conceptual resources with which to reflect on how to be more ethical. This doesn’t work. Merely having an intellectual grasp of what to do doesn’t guarantee that behaviour will be consistent with commitments. It is naïve to think, for instance, that corrupt accountants cook the books because they lack the conceptual resources for understanding that what they are doing is wrong. Similarly, it is a

mistake to think that this sort of understanding is what is typically lacking in the minds of genocide perpetrators.”

The aim of the AGCLE programme is to design and implement a pedagogical intervention that not only invites people to reflect on ethical matters, but to create the conditions for people to become more ethical. “To set them on a path, so to speak, to becoming more ethical,” Prof Tabensky explained.

Prof Tabensky was invited to Sounio in Greece, along with other module developers, where the team worked together to finalise and approve some of the modules for publication.

Prof Tabensky was also invited to the University of Denver, Colorado, to do a series of lectures and workshops over four days, where he presented the module material, explained the underlying approach, and gave attendees a sense of what the AGCLE programme is about. “Denver is interested in transformative education, and the university is thinking of using the module that I developed for the UN as a kind of first attempt to incorporate what AGCLE does into their own curriculum,” Prof Tabensky said. “They very much like the idea of incorporating ethics into their programmes in a way that leads to changes in patterns of behaviour.”

Prof Tabensky’s module is already available free of charge on UNODC’s website. UNODC has partnered with the European Public Law Organization (EPLO), whose global university network are among those who will be making use of the E4J modules.

“The UN became interested in what we do.”

– Professor Pedro Tabensky, Director of AGCLE



Rhodes University at ELSA Trade Law Moot

RHODES UNIVERSITY LAW STUDENTS EXCEL IN DEBATE

Four final year Rhodes University LLB students participated in the All Africa Round of the ELSA Trade Law Moot competition in Nairobi, Kenya.

This was the largest competition in Trade Law with 20 universities competing from across the African continent.

The Rhodes University Faculty of Law is the second South African team to have made it to the top, with the team finishing second place in the All Africa round.

The award-winning team was made up of Welsey Howe, Christopher John White, Kudzanai Winnet Tsvetu, Samantha

Tanyaradzwa Chiunzi and their coach, Advocate Shuaib Rahim.

The team argued a hypothetical trade law scenario which tested the ability of teams to apply international trade law, economics and lateral thinking. The objective was to find solutions to a complex problem seeking to reconcile trade objectives and imperatives with sustainable development. All of this was to be done in a manner that does not unjustifiably prevent the economic growth of any party or unfairly prejudice trading partners.

The students were able to draw on their Rhodes-taught skills in mooted, from civil procedure to alternative dispute resolution

while competing in Kenya. The students were especially thankful to their coach, Adv Rahim, as well as Advocate Craig Renaud and Professor Jonathan Campbell for their academic support. A special word of thanks was extended also to Professor Owen Skae, Director of the Rhodes Business School, for spending time in sharing his experience on international trade with the team.

As the runner-up for Africa, the Rhodes University team competed against the top teams in the world in Geneva, Switzerland during the final round. Kudzinai Tsvetu was awarded a full internship in Geneva starting in January of 2019.

FUTURE LAWYERS

IN THE MAKING

By Rachael Layzell

“As a global law firm with a South African footprint, we see it as our moral and professional obligation to assist in creating opportunities for aspiring young lawyers. We take pride in being a global law firm with a personal touch and a friendly approach and we value our partnership with Rhodes University. We chose to partner with Rhodes University because of the calibre of legal professionals the University produces. We trust that our donation has made a meaningful difference to the lives of those who received these awards.”

- Baker McKenzie



The Rhodes University Law Faculty prides itself in excellence and producing quality graduates each year. The faculty recognises exceptional graduates through the Law Graduation Prizes in various categories, which are donated by a of loyal patrons including Baker McKenzie, Cliff Dekker Hofmeyer, Bownman Gilfillan, and Spoor and Fisher.

The initiative began with Pierce Rood, a Rhodes University alumnus and founding partner of the Baker McKenzie partnership, who has donated a prize in his personal capacity for many years. When he stopped, Baker McKenzie took over the donation of the prize, and since then has been the Law Graduation Prizes' longest standing donor.

The Baker and McKenzie prize is rewarded to Law students for academic excellence. It awards R10 000 to the top students in legal theory for first, second and third year, and the best LLB student in their penultimate year.

The Law Graduation Prizes comprise of over 20 prizes with both bursary and scholarship opportunities, donated by firms and old alumni. One of these is the Bownman Gilfillan Prize, which awards R5000 to the best third year student in Corporate Law. The 2017 recipient was Tuscany Parkin. Another is the Spoor & Fisher Prize, which awards R2500 to the best student in Intellectual Property Law. Robyn Clarkson won this prize for 2017.

The Mtshali and Sukha Prize is also one of significance. “We were the first University to start offering legal ethics and professional responsibility as a compulsory course a couple of years ago,” said Dean of Law, Professor Rosaan Kruger. “In an attempt to provide an incentive to students, two of our alumni agreed to sponsor this prize, in the interests of enhancing ethics within the legal profession.” The 2017 prize was awarded to Robyn Clarkson.

The vast amount of prizes and generous lump sums attached to these awards, provides Law students with great incentive and set as a basis for them to develop a tenacious work ethic and mindset. In some instances, the cash assists the students resolve some financial issues as they pay their way through university. However, the partnership between the donors and the University benefits both students and law firms. According to the Dean, “It's useful to the firms because they invest in quality law graduates.”

Prof Kruger noted that “some of these partnerships have existed for many years and we truly value them. For them the benefit is an investment in quality legal education and academic excellence for the greater part, and for contribution to the greater good in society.”

The initiative to produce quality lawyers and other legal personnel is another priceless contribution into the legal space and for the country's growing democracy. For example, we have seen the judges and the courts intervened in calling out other arms of government to sit up as in the case of social grants payments, calling political parties to book and even asking cabinet members to account for executive maladministration. The courts are always having a full day and regrettably the crime rate is not showing any signs of falling. The focus on ethical practice becomes critical if in seeking justice people gets satisfied at the end of the day.

In March 2018, the management at the Faculty of Pharmacy was somewhat on edge as the USA's Food & Drug Administration (US FDA) descended on Rhodes University's Biopharmaceutics Research Institute (BRI) to audit the facility. It was a successful audit for BRI but this is not an achievement that is taken for granted. Even though the research outlet has not failed any inspection beforehand, "Compliance with FDA regulatory requirements is considered amongst the strictest in the world, and there are national and international contract research organisations involved in such testing, many of whom are multi-million-dollar companies that have failed such regulatory audits," said Professor Emeritus Isadore Kanfer, who often serves as Principal Investigator for BRI studies.

Over the years, the BRI has had regular successful inspections by the US FDA, and other audit organisations such as the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the South African Medicines Control Council (MCC), now known as the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA). Additionally, it is internationally acknowledged as a premier testing site for dermatological products using the US FDA's Vasoconstrictor Assay (VCA) by a specific guidance issued by the FDA.

The BRI provides VCA services to pharmaceutical manufacturing companies both nationally and internationally for testing topical corticosteroid drug products that are earmarked registration and marketing authorisation around the world as well as for formulation and development purposes. According to Prof Kanfer, "The expertise involved when carrying out the Topical Corticosteroid Human Skin Blanching Assay allows us to test these dermatological therapeutic formulations without having to apply such products to affected skin. The BRI uses a skin-blanching method that can establish the potency and therapeutic

safety and efficacy of products such as creams, ointments, lotions containing topical corticosteroids based on the 'whitening' or blanching effect produced on human skin following application."

This testing method is mainly used to measure whether generic topical corticosteroid products are as good as the innovator product from comparative assessment level. This is a unique service provided by the BRI in this respect where the efficacy and safety of these products are assessed, though not in patients – that is, in healthy subjects. This means that this type of study is much more cost-effective to conduct as opposed to clinical trials in patients. It can also be done much faster than clinical studies which may take several years to produce the expected results with extremely high financial costs.

“Compliance with FDA regulatory requirements is considered amongst the strictest in the world.”

- Professor Emeritus Isadore Kanfer, BRI Director

The full range of services for the clinical, statistical and report generation aspects of bioavailability/bioequivalence and pharmacokinetic studies are undertaken according to Good Clinical Practice and standard operating procedures. The BRI is a Specialty Contract Research Organisation dedicated to conducting bioavailability/bioequivalence and pharmacokinetic studies

on topical corticosteroid drug products in accordance with international requirements and specifications. "Topical corticosteroid products which have been successfully tested at the BRI, have been targeted for marketing authorisation and commercialising in South Africa, USA, Europe and Canada," Prof Kanfer noted.

A further sign of the BRI's success comes from the peer-reviewed publications and the graduation of students undertaking research for MSc and PhD degrees. In 2013, Prof Kanfer, in collaboration with colleagues in Europe, were awarded an FDA grant for a project on in vitro/in vivo release tests for topical dermatological products to the tune of US\$500 000 for a three-year period. In 2017 the grant of the same amount was renewed for a further 3-year period for a project on the development of a universal bioequivalence test method for topical drugs using dermal open-flow microperfusion which his research group is currently investigating.

Apart from the provision of the VCA service to industry, the Institute also provides excellent facilities for postgraduate projects leading to the awards of MSc and PhD degrees, as well as bursaries and scholarships for deserving post-graduate students. The Rhodes University BRI serves as a unique training ground for both students and scientists in this area of expertise.



BIOPHARMACEUTICS RESEARCH INSTITUTE RETAINS FDA ACCREDITATION



The treatment of acid mine wastewater

South Africa is the 30th most water scarce country in the world, yet we pollute huge amounts of it due to mining and industrial activities being land locked. Legislation is forcing mines to deal with their wastewater, creating a ripe opportunity for on-site, decentralised water treatment solutions. Existing brine and acid mine drainage (AMD) solutions are centralised and focus on lined evaporation ponds, mechanical evaporation and chemical solutions. These existing solutions are either becoming too expensive (energy costs), or have land use implications. Environmental Biotechnology at Rhodes University (EBRU) uses a novel microfiber support, which targets sulphate instead of iron as the substrate for microbial treatment of AMD. The iron is removed indirectly as a metal sulphide precipitate using a consortium of algae and bacteria to achieve a functional Rotating Biological Contactor (RBC) system. EBRU and Rhodes Technology Transfer office is collaborating with UBA Biologix a South African water treatment and biotechnology company to commercialise this technology.

RHODES UNIVERSITY USES INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SA ECONOMY

Recognised as one of the leading research intensive universities in South Africa, Rhodes University can be incredibly proud of its research outputs. Closely linked to the traditional way of producing and disseminating knowledge through research is the production of Intellectual Property (IP) by the University, potentially a positive contribution to the economy of the country.

During research and development (R&D) activities, Rhodes University produces valuable IP in the form of patentable inventions, registrable designs (both functional and aesthetic designs), copyright protected databases, publications, film scripts and software/digital programmes, sound and music recordings, multimedia works, new plant varieties amongst many others. Together,

these novel creations are collectively known as technologies.

The Technology Transfer Office seeks to protect 'high impact' or saleable IP, to develop and mature the technologies to get them market ready, and commercialise them either in the form of a spin-out company or a license deal. This has the potential to generate third stream income for the University, thereby contributing towards the financial sustainability of the University.

In addition to contributing towards the sustainability of the University, the most important outcome mandated by the Intellectual Property Rights from Publicly Financed Research and Development or the South African IPR-PFRD Act, 2008 (Act

51 of 2008) is to ensure that the Intellectual property emanating from publicly financed Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) is commercialised for the benefit of the people of the Republic of South Africa.

"Our vision to see our technologies reach the market in order to create jobs, expand industrial activity and contribute to the South African economy. The Rhodes University Technology Transfer Office is making it their mission to create local innovation, job opportunities and economic development. To date, a number of interesting scientific and technological development have been made at Rhodes University, a few of which are showcased here," said Suzanne Wolhuter, Manager of the Technology Transfer Officer at Rhodes University.



African Honey bee as a vector to apply fungicide/pesticide to blooming agricultural crops

The aim of the project is to find ways to use the African honey bee to apply pesticides or fungicide directly to the blossoms of relevant food crops. This will make the application of these crop saving substances much more targeted, thus saving the farmer money. It certainly saves the environment from over spraying and off target effects. The bees will have the product applied to them by electro charging the product particles or getting dusted/sprayed or other ways of directly or indirectly applying the product to the bees. The bees then release the pesticides or fungicide directly on the flower of the target crop either by touching or landing on the flower, or when the pesticides or fungicide "electro jumps" onto the flower when a charge is reversed.



Diagnosis of malaria

New classes of novel biomolecules that can enhance the performance and lifespan of diagnostic tests have been developed at Rhodes University's Biotechnology Innovation Centre, specifically to be used in remote areas. Their research funded by the South African government through a SARChI chair and UNICEF has led to patents for development of diagnostic tests for CD4 monitoring (HIV progression and drug efficacy testing), BHCG (early indicator of pregnancy complications) as well as for malaria. This will lead to the development of accurate and user-friendly point of use diagnostics.



Growth of the Kalahari Truffle for the food market

Mycorrhizal Funghi's are normally pervasive in all plant roots and form a symbiotic relationship with plants by increasing access of nutrients and water to the plant. However, many modern agricultural practices eliminate these beneficial funghi. Professor Joanna Dames has identified a particular fungus that could be cultured from which an inoculum can be developed. This inoculum would allow the hydroponic growth of the Kalahari Truffle, an indigenous truffle that is sought after a rare culinary treat.



Blowfly larvae as an abattoir cleaning tool

Blowfly larvae consumes waste including meat and other animal products that are discarded in abattoirs. The aim of this project is to use the blowfly larvae as a low-cost and clean bioremediation or recycling method for this waste. Once the larvae have 'done their job', they can be recycled into other agricultural products, such as animal feed. This project has been a collaboration between the Honours students of Zoology & Entomology's Professor Martin Villet, the industry giant, Agriprotein and the Rhodes Technology Transfer Office.

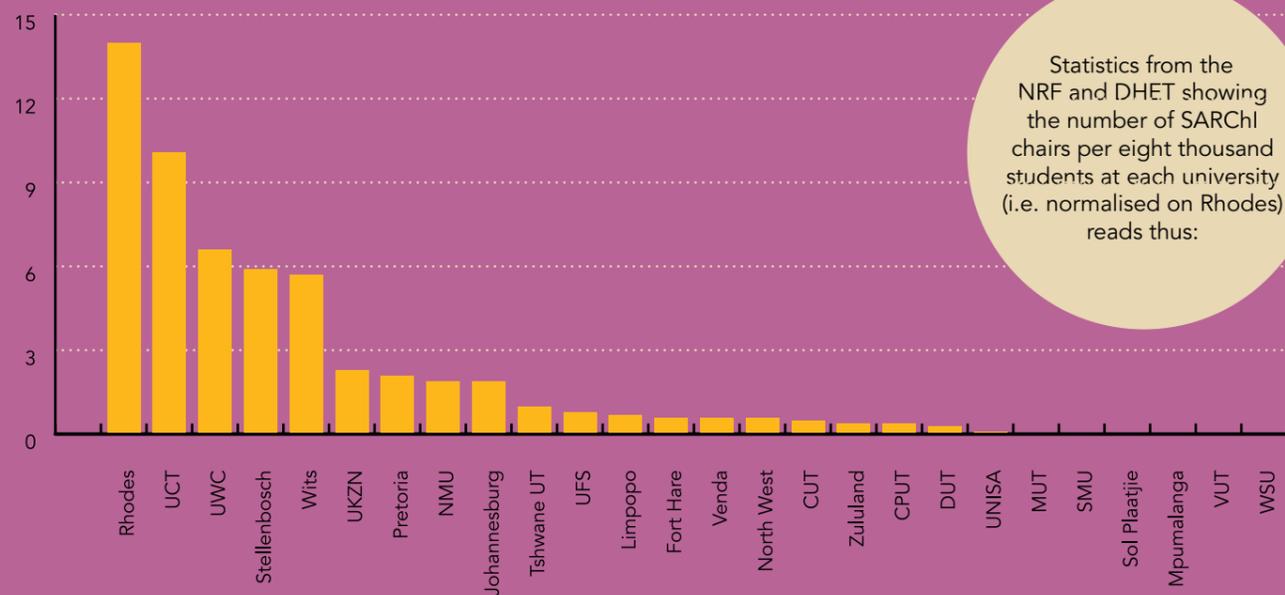
RHODES UNIVERSITY LEADS THE PACK

Despite being the smallest university in South Africa, Rhodes University consistently ranks in either first or second position in terms of per capita research outputs - that is, the number of publications and postgraduate graduations per permanent academic staff number. The University is

known for excellence in research and has one of the highest student success and graduation rates for public higher education institutions in the country. According to the per capita accredited research output benchmark produced by Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) for 2018, Rhodes

University was in first place (along with Stellenbosch University) in terms of per capita outputs. The University has one of the largest proportions of postgraduate students and has amongst the best postgraduate throughput and graduation rates in the country.

CONCENTRATION OF SARChI CHAIRS



Statistics from the NRF and DHET showing the number of SARChI chairs per eight thousand students at each university (i.e. normalised on Rhodes) reads thus:

Source: NRF and DHET

ACCREDITED RESEARCH OUTPUT PER CAPITA

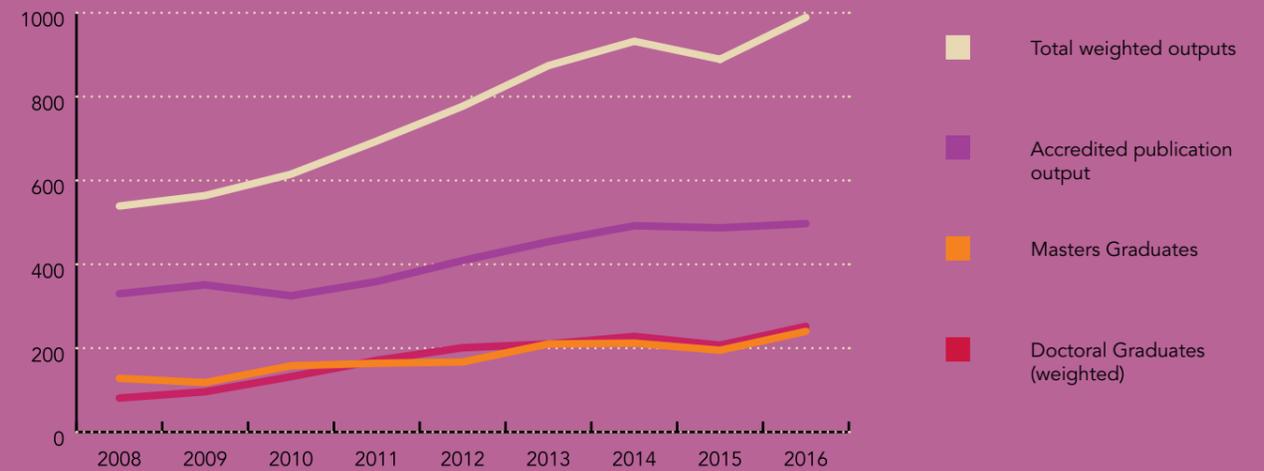


In terms of accredited Research Output per Capita, the following graph shows the weighted accredited research output per capita across all universities according to the DHET output reports for 2018.

Source: DHET

RHODES UNIVERSITY'S ACCREDITED RESEARCH AND POSTGRADUATE GRADUATION OUTPUT GROWTH 2008 TO 2016

The below graph illustrates accredited publication outputs, Masters graduates and Doctoral graduates from Rhodes University from 2008 to 2016. The total weighted outputs is a combination of the three other outputs.



Source data from: DHET

Rhodes University's undergraduate throughput rates are among the best in the sector. This can be attributed to the University's flexible curriculum model, the tuition system and the

favourable staff to student ratio. To this can be added the quality of academic staff, conducive learning and residence environment.

The data was presented by the DHET in October 2018. The source of data is the DHET HEMIS (Higher Education Management Information Systems).

THROUGHPUT RATE FOR UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES

Rhodes University	SA HE Sector	Rhodes University	SA HE Sector
76.7%	52.0%	77.6%	53.6%

The throughput rate for three year undergraduate degrees at Rhodes University is far above the national average (76.7% vs 52.0%). This percentage relates to students in a specific three year undergraduate degree intake cohort that graduate in n+2 (five) years using the 2011 intake cohort.

Our throughput rate for undergraduate degrees of four or more years' duration is equally impressive (77.6% vs the national average of 53.6%) with three of every four intakes successfully going through the programme. The percentage relates to students in a specific four-or-more years undergraduate degree intake that graduate in n+2 (six) years using the 2011 intake cohort.

Source: DHET



BEADING FOR READING

By Emmanuel Ngamale

Cape and she discovered that the only dictionary available at the school was the private property of one of the teachers.

One of the most lasting ways to impact on a child's overall success and joy is by instilling in them a love and passion for reading earlier on in life. Learning to read and write gives the child limitless opportunities – it gives them an entirely new way to communicate, expand their imagination, and learn new information. Moreover, if a child learns to enjoy reading, they will further develop reading skills on their own and not

see it as a chore or difficult task to avoid. Most importantly, sharing books with a child promotes a lifelong love of books and reading.

It was this vision which drove Anne Smailes from Rhodes University's Institute of English in Africa (ISEA) to start a project called Beading for Reading three years ago when she visited Cockhouse Primary School in rural Eastern

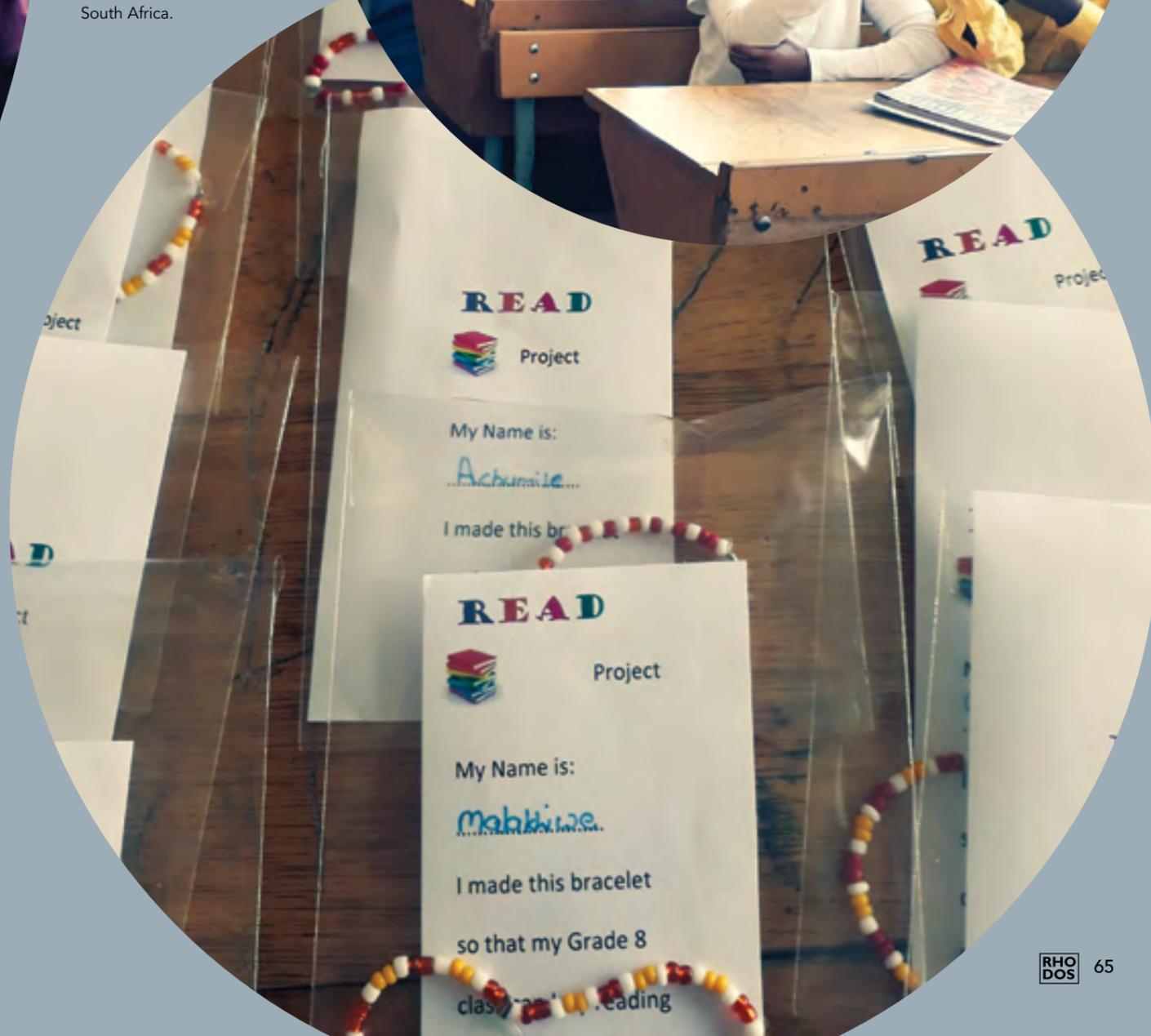
Beading for Reading is a project whereby learners in each class are required to start a reading club. To raise funds, the learners were required to make and sell beaded jewellery in order to buy second-hand books for the club, with the support of the teachers.

To date, 920 learners have benefited from the initiative. 23 classrooms in the area have active reading corners. Three schools in Riebeeck East have dedicated time slots on Fridays where learners can borrow books, read and make the beaded jewellery to generate income to buy more books.

Learners are also encouraged to take personal accountability for the books they take turns looking after as librarians. Participants in the programme are recognised through certificates of excellence that are handed out at assembly.

Smailes says to date, not a single book has been lost since the initiative was started three years ago. "The generous support from the Grahamstown community has been phenomenal. We do however face challenges in that the projects are located in rural areas which are far from each other. This makes the logistics of getting to these areas a challenge in terms of time and accommodation," she says.

Despite these challenges, Smailes and her team have grand plans to reach learners all over South Africa.



WHEN THE NUMBERS DON'T ADD UP



Tom Penlington, RUMEP Director with former RUMEP Director, Dr Rose Spanneberg

The Rhodes University Mathematics Education Project (RUMEP)'s recent 25-year anniversary celebration was sadly overshadowed by the initiative's urgent need for funding.

Speaking at the anniversary event Vice-Chancellor Dr Sizwe Mabizela, said, "As an NGO attached to Rhodes University, RUMEP has remained at the forefront of mathematics education in the province. However, with rural schools in the Eastern Cape being the poorest in the country, we face huge challenges for teaching and learning, especially within the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) disciplines."

"RUMEP has worked with the remotest of schools because it is them that are forgotten."

- Tom Penlington, RUMEP Director

RUMEP's mission is to promote in-service teachers' content knowledge, teaching and

reasoning skills in mathematics that will enable them to be confident and competent in teaching the subject. Its mission is to support the continuous professional development of mathematics teachers through a variety of programmes in order to address the crises in mathematics teaching and learning. This will, in turn, help to produce graduates from rural and semi-rural backgrounds who are confident, resourceful and sufficiently skilled to guide and support other teachers of mathematics in



a cluster of neighbouring schools. A large part of RUMEP's role is to continually raise funds to support and empower teachers of previously disadvantaged communities to attend and participate in a university-based specialised course to address the crisis in under-qualified mathematics teachers in rural schools in the Eastern Cape Province.

South Africa as a whole, but the Eastern Cape, in particular, has long grappled with a lack of learners from disadvantaged backgrounds achieving necessary mathematics pass rates. This in turn, continues to have a negative impact on the development of the country. According to 2017 matric results, only 42% of the province's pupils passed maths.

Although RUMEP has provided a solid service for a quarter of a century, classroom support visits done last year showed learners still lack fundamental computational skills, content knowledge and language proficiency. RUMEP Director Tom Penlington, explained, "Further hindrances include student dependency on their knowledge of both mathematics as a language and the language used to teach mathematics."

Inadequate resources such as poor building structures, lack of furniture and a lack of space, contribute to teachers being unable to teach mathematics effectively. Teachers either do not have the expertise or are unqualified to teach mathematics and, as such, often lack the confidence to teach it adequately.

"RUMEP has worked with the remotest of schools because it is them that are forgotten," said Penlington. Despite RUMEP's efforts to improve teaching and learning, very little assistance has come from some of the Department of Education districts. Fortunately however, departmental officials in the seven clusters which do assist are very loyal to the programme.

"We are grateful to all of our funders, but even so, this is not enough. Funding remains the biggest challenge at RUMEP," Penlington concluded.



WHO IS YOUR BEST TEACHER?

By Emmanuel Ngamale



Dr Callie Grant at the launch of My Best Teacher



Dr Sizwe Mabizela attends the launch

In a world that is constantly changing, research has proven that learners and students need role models and positive relationships with teachers that give them a sense of belonging and comfort to be able to study better and enjoy classes and their academic experience.

As part of their preparation to be these types of teachers, first year Bachelor of Education (B Ed) in Foundation Phase students class set about to translate their experiences of being students themselves into short stories about what they had learnt about teaching from their own schooling experiences. As part of the process, they were encouraged to use the positive memories as a stimulus to think about who their best teacher was, what made this person so special, the values they espoused

and how this teacher influenced their decision to become teachers. To stimulate their ideas, further, students read a selection of stories from Jonathan Jansen's book, Great South African Teachers (2011). The end result of their exercise was 40 short stories in a publication called My Best Teacher.

The stories were organised into seven categories, describing different characteristics of 'best teachers'. These categories were used to provide an organising framework for the booklet and included themes such as believing in all children, no matter their differences; foundation phase stories and classrooms; going beyond the call of duty; the inspirational teacher; love of the subject; mother and father figures and the

unconventional teacher.

Although the brief to the students did not specify that the stories had to be about their Foundation Phase teachers, a large number of the stories were based on their Foundation Phase teachers. Also interesting to note is that most of these heartfelt stories emanate from all corners of South Africa, demonstrating the rich diversity that can be found amongst this group of students.

The Education Faculty hopes these future teachers will in turn value the voices of their learners and guide them to think and write positively about their own experiences.



Ezile Titi and her former teacher, Mrs Kirk lady



Natalie Williams and her former teacher, Mrs Arnold

RHODES UNIVERSITY ALUMNA HIGHLIGHTS BLACK WOMEN'S HISTORY IN NEW SCHOOL'S CURRICULUM

By Anima McBrown



Athambile Masola, Rhodes University Alumna and Masters Degree holder in Education, is the co-founder of a groundbreaking new Pan-African private school for girls in Khayelitsha, Cape Town.



The writer, blogger, activist and teacher has some wonderful educator experience at prestigious schools in Gauteng and in the Western Cape. She has also written for major publications, including *Mail and Guardian*, *Thought Leader*, *Huffington Post*, *Al Jazeera* and *The Journalist*.

While working on her PhD, she is embarking on a phenomenal educational project that will challenge the ways in which learners discover black women's historiography and their intellectual legacy, which remains marginal in the curriculum.

Affordable, quality education for South African children remains one of the most pressing issues on the national agenda. As we approach yet another difficult year that is set to be financially challenging for many parents and families across the country, we have to ask what the future holds for our schooling curricula and the promise of inclusive, fee-free and transformed education.

Masola is one remarkable, pioneering individual who – together with her team – has worked tirelessly to answer one such call for an education initiative that will change the lives of many young girl children in the country, starting in one of South Africa's largest and fastest-growing townships – Khayelitsha.

The 31-year-old Masola is one of the co-founders of Molo Mhlaba (Hello World), a Pan-African low-fee independent private school for girls. Born in Queenstown (Komani), and raised in East London, Masola's own journey with reading, libraries and education started at a very young age.

"It was mostly a love of reading which led to my love for education", she said. "From a young age I saw the library as a living part of my life which helped to foster my imagination and learning."

With Molo Mhlaba, Masola and her partners are hoping to open up more avenues for quality education to reach rural and township areas. The school's curriculum is powered by iSTEAM (innovation, science, technology, engineering, arts/design, and mathematics) – which Masola believes can be done through a Pan-African approach.



Molo Mhlaba will provide a platform for girls to embrace all sorts of enriching academic, sporting and extra curricula activities in their own communities, to encourage taking control of their learning – all whilst in a safe environment. "We believe poor black children in marginalised communities should have a quality education which prepares them for the future," affirmed Masola.

One of Molo Mhlaba's visions is to see young girls – regardless of their background – empowered to follow and fulfil their own unique paths. The school will provide a solid foundation for its learners, so that they are anchored with the right kinds of tools and resources to excel even further in their educational journeys.

While the road to getting the school off the ground hasn't been an easy one, Molo Mhlaba is now on its way to opening its doors



to a new group of deserving young girls who will embrace the chance to be part of the production of "future scientists, engineers and physicists who are grounded in their African identities".

The 2019 academic year kicked off with Molo Mhlaba accepting girls in Grades 00, R and 1. The school plans to expand by a grade each year. The school's model of teaching and learning includes bilingualism, localisation (with the school situated right in the heart of



On the all-important issue of language, Masola believes that it "is at the core of everything". Language allows us to show up in the world, gives everything meaning and enables us to communicate. "The more languages one speaks the more human they can become because they give themselves more access to other worlds and other

ways of being," she said.

Masola has big goals for the growth of Molo Mhlaba in the next five to 10 years. "We hope that we will have the land to expand beyond renting space for our schools. We dream of teacher education through our school. We dream of becoming a social enterprise which provides employment for women in communities," she remarked.

All members, supporters and donors of the Rhodes University family who believe in the growth and prosperity of such an innovative and important educational project are encouraged to become a sponsor at Molo Mhlaba. With your help, the dedicated Molo Mhlaba team and its promising young future leaders can truly 'transform South Africa, one girl at a time.

MOLO MHLABA'S FIVE CORE VALUES ARE:

1. Freedom (inkululeko)
2. Botho (ubuntu)
3. Black love (ukuthanda abantsundu),
4. Individuality (ubuwena)
5. Honesty (ukunyaniseka).



SPORTS



SHOOTING BIG

The rifle club of Rhodes University (RU) made a strong showing at this year's Eastern Cape rifle championship for small-bore. The Rhodes University Rifle Club provided six of the twelve competitors that represented Grahamstown at the events. The locals started well, with Gerrit Vlok of PJ Olivier rifle club winning Gold in Match 1 in the F Class. Match 2 in the F Class was won by another local, Geoff Bagshawe-Smith (RU).

Class D was dominated by competitors from Rhodes University. Ethan Sebakwane (RU) won Gold in both matches, as well as the overall Class D Gold. He was followed by Claire McNish (RU), who added a Bronze in Match 1 and Silver in Match 2 to her overall Silver in Class D. Overall Bronze went to Jade Jack (RU), who also took Silver in Match 1. David Taylor (RU) took Bronze in Match 2.

Karen Bradshaw (RU) dominated Class C, winning Gold in both matches as well as overall category. In the process she set a new personal best of 573. She was followed by James Connan (RU) who took Silver in both matches as well as the overall Silver medal. Bronze in both matches, as well as the overall Bronze medal, went to Nadine Janse van Vuuren from Mpumalanga.

While it must be recalled that the weather was ideal for shooting and the scores were high, John Dean (SANDF) took overall Gold in Class B. Basil Human (PJO) kept the Silver in Grahamstown while Anita Dean (SANDF) took home the Bronze. Human also took Silver in Match 1 and Bronze in Match 2, while Graeme Schmeldt (RU) took Gold in Match 2.

ROWING CLUB GOES GLOBAL

The Rowing Club at Rhodes University may not be a big winner at the national level but on the international stage, it is making bigger and better headlines. Recently, Micheen Thornycroft was declared winner of the 2017 Filippi Spirit Award. Thornycroft is an international student from Zimbabwe doing a Masters in Human Kinetics and Ergonomics, focusing on elite performance centres in Africa. She intends to use her skills to develop the sport across the continent.

Maike Diekmann, a recent Geology Honours graduate from Rhodes University in South Africa, embarked on a trip last year, with a group of 18 rowers from six different countries that undertook a 14-day sculling exploration down the wild Kafue River, the third largest tributary of the Zambezi River in Zambia.

Diekmann said she is targeting an even greater goal – the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games. Her rowing talent at university level earned her an Olympic Solidarity Scholarship, which is handed to athletes in developing countries by the International Olympic Committee. This will go a long way in helping her reach her ultimate Olympic dream.



TAKING PUNCHES IN SUPPORT OF OTHERS

Boxers from the South African National Defence Force (SANDF), Joza fight clubs, and the Rhodes University MMA and Boxing clubs, recently challenged each other in the name of charity.

Matthew de Barros and his classmates Tefo Matsheka, Asa Ndzabe and Eryn Page organised the event as part of their Postgraduate Diploma in Enterprise Management (PEM). "We had amazing support from the Grahamstown community, including Mr Thabang Hlalele from the Department of Arts and Culture, Sports and Recreation," de Barros explained. "He took us to all the clubs around Grahamstown to start the match-making. This involved meeting with all the clubs in Joza as well as the SANDF."

The group received immense support

from the Rhodes Business School in the form of expertise and funds and even received personal aid from Senior Lecturer Evert Knoesen. They were also assisted by Mfuzo's MACABO club, who provided them with fighters, gear, referees and judges. Mfuzo was commended for his great work in promoting Grahamstown through boxing and for his great work in uplifting the community. "Mfuzo does so much for the boxing community around Grahamstown," de Barros stated. MACABO first partnered with Rhodes University's Department of Human Kinetics and Ergonomics in 2016, to give students within the department an opportunity to get involved in service learning.

The funds raised at the event were donated to both Jehovah Jireh Haven, a home for vulnerable children, and the Rhodes Business School Alpha Project Bursary, which provides bursaries to students who have academic merit but need financial assistance.

Many people don't realise that there is a thriving boxing culture in the Eastern Cape and within Grahamstown, said de Barros. "The boxers from Joza never had an opportunity to show off their talent to the University community until now. This concept works because it created awareness about the various local clubs, as well as showcasing how good these boxers are at their sport, regardless of background."



TAKE A BOW... AND ARROW

Rhodes University Archery Club committee member, Dave Martin, was selected to do duty as the Judge Chairman at the World Archery Indoor Championships in Yankton, South Dakota early in this year. He is a founding member of the Rhodes University Archery Club and has been a competitive member of the club for many years. He has been awarded the Eastern Provincial colours on numerous occasions throughout his time in the sport. As a judge, he is responsible for maintaining a fair competition field, a fair conduct of competition and a fair performance of athletes.

Dave developed interest in judging archery and initially started training as a club judge. This sparked a new passion within him, pushing him to take further training over the years and these climaxed when he qualified as an International Archery Judge. This is the highest qualification in judging Archery and he is one of only two such judges in South Africa. In order to maintain his judge status, Dave has to travel the world regularly to sit for assessments with the most recent reaccreditation tests such as the one he took last year in Thailand.

Dave has served as a judge during some of the largest competitions and these include: the World Archery Field Championships in Val D'isere in 2012; Zagreb in 2014 and Dublin in 2016; the World Archery Para Championships in Bangkok in 2013 and in Beijing in 2017; the World Archery 3D Championships in Terni in 2015, The World Archery Championships in Copenhagen in 2015 as well as the Para Olympics in Rio in 2016.

FAREWELL

TO LONG SERVING STAFF

Every year, Rhodes University commemorates its retiring staff by planting a tree in their honour. Here are a few of our dedicated and long-serving staff members who retired in 2018.

AURIA SOYEYE

When she joined Rhodes University on 1 May 1984, Central Cleaning Services as we know it today was called the Janitor's Department. Between then and her retirement, Ms Soyeye worked across a wide range of Departments including Finance, Politics, Philosophy, Arts, Mathematics and finally, Humanities. She will be remembered for her eloquence, friendliness and most of all, her sense of humour by those who affectionately called her "Mamzoo".

In her 34 years of service, she helped and advised many cleaners who came after her.

She used to keep a particular eye on casual workers, making sure they understood what their duties and expectations were.

After her retirement, she will be greatly missed for her hard work, but most of all, her colleagues will miss her kind smile and warmth. The University community remains indebted to her for her dedication and long-service and wish her all the best for her retirement.



JEFFREY QUBUDA

He was very possessive of these gardens and took great pride in the annual floral displays. It will be hard to find a student on campus who hasn't taken photos between these twin gardens. The same could be said of many newlywed couples in town taking wedding photographs to immortalise their events taken against the backdrop of Mr Qubuda's carefully-nurtured flower beds.

Just before his retirement, Mr Qubuda asked that he be relieved from this area because of health challenges. He was relocated to the Steve Biko area, where he continued to render an outstanding service, despite health concerns. During his many years of caring for some of the most important

gardens on campus, Mr Qubuda's name had become synonymous with not only Grounds & Gardens, but the University as a whole. He impressed countless numbers of students, academics, peers and visitors with his warm and friendly demeanour. Mr Qubuda found renewed inspiration with each such testimony as people say thank you and give him a smile as a sign of appreciation.

Mr Qubuda is well-known for being an outstanding citizen and a dedicated church leader in the southern Methodist Church of Africa. Grounds & Gardens and the whole of the Rhodes community wish him well for the future and his retirement.

The iconic twin gardens in front of the entrance to the main admin building were his pride.

LYNETTE BODILL

Lynette Bodill joined Rhodes University on 14 May 1990 as a Telephonist and worked her way up to Senior Telephonist after several years. This position entailed answering incoming calls, making outgoing calls, managing of the telephone billing system and maintaining the online staff directory.

Mrs Bodill has always been meticulous in maintaining the billing system and ensuring that the office was always properly managed. When she joined the switchboard team, they used to report to the Registrar. The team was later transferred to Marketing and Communications, then to IT Division and finally back to the Registrar's Division. She has worked under three Registrar's (Dr Keith Hunt, Dr Stephen Fourie and now Dr Adele Moody) and four Vice-Chancellors.

Mrs Bodill has "survived" six switchboard systems during her time at Rhodes University. Once during a testing phase, IT contacted

10 different Universities to measure response times for information on a degree course. IT reported that Rhodes came out second only to WITS which has a much larger switchboard system. This is thanks to Lynette and her team. Mrs Bodill says that she has enjoyed her time at Rhodes University working for all her different Rhodes families, and is looking forward to her retirement in Boknes.



LULAMILE MARANGXA

existed before. He became the first Official Tour Guide for Rhodes University.

Mr Marangxa's passion for showing the grounds and buildings to guests never faltered, come rain or shine. In 2007, a kind donor, who had noticed Mike's dedicated love for his job, gave him a golf cart to use for showing people around campus. The cart became fondly known as "Skoro-skoro" – colloquial for battered old car (which the cart is not).

Those who have interacted with and been inspired by Mr Marangxa over the years are effusive in their praises of him. He received many letters and mentions of thanks during

his time at Rhodes. Nadine and Brendon Lahana posted on Facebook: "Once again, I want to send a MASSIVE thanks to Michael Marangxa... he is just the absolute best for Rhodes. Whenever I needed help, he has been there. We hope he doesn't retire too soon – we are coming to take him out for a special lunch!"

Charles Nicolle wrote in a letter, "Dear Michael - We could not believe how much time and effort you afforded us and the sound advice given to our daughter. You are an outstanding ambassador to the University, and it is a pleasure to meet someone so proud and enthusiastic in their job, a rare quality."

IN MEMORIAM

Rhodes University would like to pay tribute to all of the friends and colleagues we lost in 2018. Each one made our University richer in their own special way.

Honorary Doctorates

Dr Ramapolo Hugh Masekela (DMus): **23 January 2018**
Dr Trudy Thomas (LLD): **11 June 2018**

Staff

Prof Lex Martin Graham Poole (1956): **26 September 2018**
Prof Brian Gaybba (1989): **26 February 2018**
Prof Matthew Robert Lester (1980): **12 March 2018**
Prof Emeritus Anthony Giffard: **20 April 2018**
Ms Nontsikelelo Mpahlwa-Mene: **5 April 2018**
Prof Robert Jackson (1979): **October 2018**
Prof Jeff Rowlands (1984): **October 2018**

Old Rhodians

Mr Lawrence Hamilton Gordon Shuttleworth (1933): **2 May 2018**
Mr Noël Sydney Dudley Estcourt (1948): **March 2018**
Sir Rupert Charles Bromley (1953): **23 May 2018**
Mr Colin Bland (1957): **14 April 2018**
Mr Neville Woollgar (1958): **28 July 2018**
Mr Derek Llewellyn Coetzer (1962): **29 July 2018**
Mr Clem Gutsche (1965): **8 March 2018**
Ms Betty Louise (Asprey) Hobbs (1967): **1 July 2018**
Mr David Norman Allison Murray (1968): **26 October 2018**
Mr Kevin Lawlor (1970): **3 July 2018**
Mr John Claughton (1974): **15 April 2018**
Ms Debra Jane Webb (1975): **22 March 2018**
Ms luleka Peteni (1979): **July 2018**
Adv Perry Beningfield (1981): **September 2018**
Ms Zanele Abegail Mofu (1997): **27 September 2018**
Ms Sinazo Zandile Manentsa (2003): **12 January 2018**

Students

Ms Damilola Deborah Olorunfemi: **14 November 1999 - 24 July 2018**
Ms Saajida Cassim: **28 August 2000 - 20 June 2018**
Ms Khensani Ntando Nkanyenzi Maseko: **24 July 1995 - 03 August 2018**
Ms Sinazo Tshongweni: **28 February 1995 - 28 September 2018**

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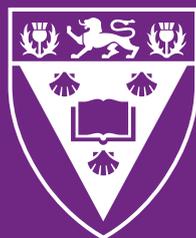




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