RHODES UNIVERISTY DEGREE CERTIFICATES

Security features on an <u>original</u> Rhodes University degree certificate

(with effect from April 2020)

1. **Watermark** – A clear ink printed across the face of the document that can be noticed on the original if held at an angle. This watermark doesn't show up on a colour copy of the same document. It therefore makes it impossible to colour copy.

2. **Silver Toner** – Silver toner is used to incorporate a subtle drop shadow behind text. It enhances the look of the document but also makes a colour copy impossible to pull off, as the silver toner doesn't show up as silver on the copy.

3. **Microtext** – A small font, so small that you need a magnifying glass to read the words. Without a magnifying glass, it simply looks like a line on a page. This font, just 1/100th of an inch high, is designed to help make valuable documents with personal information on even harder to forge. If a copy is made, the text is illegible, even when using a magnifying glass.

4. **Variable Data** – A unique number/code (e.g. student number) is printed on each parchment, in any position. This number/code can also be replicated in the Microtext, to be cross referenced to prove authenticity.

5. **Embossed Crest** – The embossed crest on each document serves as an added security feature.

6. **QR Code** – A unique QR code can be printed on each certificate which can be scanned with a cell phone or scanner to confirm authenticity. Once scanned, the QR code will direct you to a secure, managed site, where the <u>document</u> is verified, showing a digital copy of the actual document, along with details on the recipient.

*Please note that Rhodes University does not confirm or verify their own qualifications nor confirm dates of attendance. This is done through a company called MIE Kroll who run the National Qualifications Register.

Academic Administration Manager
Registrar's Division