

# THE RESIDENCES

Residence accommodation is comfortable and attractive. Most of the older houses, some designed by Baker and Kendall, the original architects of Rhodes, have been restored externally and the interiors modernised. Generally, students have their own rooms. Of the 3523 residence rooms on campus, 139 are double rooms (4%). First year students are allocated to these rooms using a lottery system. Early application for residence accommodation is essential, and ensures a wider choice of residence. For details of residence fees see the Fees and Charges section.

The 55 residences or 'houses' are grouped in 13 halls, all with their own dining-halls, and all within easy walking distance of lectures and town. There are three women's halls, one men's hall and 8 halls accommodating men and women in separate houses, as well as a separate Post-Graduate Village (which is self-catering).

Each hall governs its own internal affairs to a large extent. However, certain rules apply to all students in residence (see the Student Disciplinary Code). It is important to note that a student living in a University residence may at any time be required to leave that residence if the Director of Student Affairs, in consultation with the Hall Warden concerned, is satisfied that this is in the best interest of the residence or of the student concerned. Subject to conditions laid down from time to time by the Director of Student Affairs, Hall Wardens have the right to decide which returning or Oppidan students (who have previously lived in a Rhodes residence) they will admit to their respective halls, and may refuse to admit or readmit a student if they consider this advisable. Should a Hall Warden decide **not** to admit a student into residence he/she would need to substantiate his/her decision in writing to the Director of Student Affairs. The final decision, with regard to admitting a student into residence shall always be vested with the Vice Chancellor.

A Hall Warden is in charge of each hall, and House Wardens, assisted by Subwardens and House Committees, are in charge of individual houses. Senior members of the academic and administrative staff are elected as Fellows of the various Halls, and play an active part in the life of their Hall.

## WARDEN'S POWERS OF SEARCH

A Hall or House Warden has the right to search a student's room if they have reasonable grounds for believing that evidence of the commission or

attempted commission of a disciplinary offence may be found in the room concerned. In such instances, the Student Protocol for Search and Seizure is closely adhered to.

## HOUSEKEEPING

It is important to be aware that there are certain times when Housekeepers are required to enter student rooms. They are trained, as per hotel standards, to knock three times before entering a room. They are also required to say "Housekeeping" between each knock. If there is no response from the room, they are then permitted to enter using the master key, which has been entrusted to them.

Reasons why Housekeeping may be required to enter a student room include: Window cleaning; fumigation; requisition work; checking Rhodes University furnishings etc.

## RESPONSIBILITY FOR UNIVERSITY PROPERTY

Each student allocated a room in residence must sign a statement as and when required to do so by the Hall Warden listing all University furniture and other property in the room and certifying that it is in good order. At the end of each term when students are required to clear their rooms, the house warden will check the rooms, and the students will be held responsible for leaving all the furniture, other property and the room itself, in the same good order in which it was found (fair wear and tear excepted). In the case of damage to, or loss of, University property, the student or students responsible, if known, are required to bear the cost. If not known, the cost of loss or damage will be charged either to a particular group of students or to the general funds of students in the house.

A student should report any damage or loss of University property in a room while he/she is in occupation, and for which he/she is not responsible, immediately, in writing, to the House Warden. If this is not done, it will be presumed that the loss or damage is the responsibility of the occupant of the room, who will have to bear the cost.

## INSURANCE (ACCIDENT)

**Students are not covered by university insurance while at Rhodes unless they are injured while engaged in activities for which they are remunerated by the University. All other insurance is the responsibility of each student.**