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| **SPEECH AT THE INAUGURATION OF VICE - CHANCELLOR OF RHODES UNIVERSITY DR MABIZELA DELIVERED BY NEHAWU FULL-TIME SHOPSTEWARD COMRADE VENA ON THE 27TH OF FEBRUARY 2015** |

*A revolutionary, Communist Leader form Soviet LENIN once said I quote “****WHEN THE HISTORY TURNS IT SHOULD NOT TURN WITHOUT YOUR PARTICIPATION”*** *close quote.*

**Programme Director**

**Chancellor - Judge Mphathi**

**Vice Chancellor - DR Mabizela**

**Registrar - DR. Fourie**

**Rev. Lange**

**Senior Management Team**

**Members of the Senate**

**Members of the Council**

**Student Representative Council**

**Respected Members of Rhodes Community**

Good evening to everyone present. On behalf of NEHAWU members of Rhodes University it is pleasure to be part of this August occasion and deliver a note on behalf of workers.

This gives us an opportunity to formally welcome DR Mabizela, into his new responsibility. Students come and go in this institution so do the academics but the worker component is an institutional memory in that we had an opportunity to work with DR Mabizela before he was appointed as Vice Chancellor we are claiming you, ungunyana wethu, this is just a re-union with your family members.

This also creates an opportunity for us as a collective to rededicate ourselves afresh to the tasks set before us. We have together traveled the journey of transformation and when we look back we are able to see the changes. You would all agree with me that Rhodes University is not what it was before 1994.

We are also confirming that Rhodes University is where leaders learn indeed. Here is our own tree that we have nourished and allowed it to grow, and now is now expected to provide leadership. Nanku umthi wethu esiwukhulisileyo ngobunono sawuncenceshela wakhula ngoku ulindeleke ukuba anikezele isikhokelo.

Rhodes University is part of Grahamstown Community, hence it is very important that we continue our outreach programmes that benefit the community.

**NEHAWU at Rhodes** is different to any other unions, **NUM in the MINES**, **NUMSA** in the **Auto Industry** we are operating within the institution of higher learning hence it becomes important for us to empower ourselves so that we are able to engage the MANAGEMENT.

We need each other, for student to excel in their studies they need us to create a conducive environment and for us to provide that we should also be happy in carrying that important and primary task.

To you **DR Mabizela** we have five important pillars as NEHAWU members that you should always remember as you carry out your responsibilities:

* **LEADERSHIP**
* **INTERGRITY**
* **FLEXIBILITY**
* **TEAM WORK**
* **UNITY**

1. **On leadership** – provide leadership and take decisions without fear.

2. **Integrity** – keep the integrity and dignity of the institution as it is an internationally recognised University. Community should always have hope when you talk Rhodes.

3. **Flexibility** – let us be innovative and think outside the box. Lets get ride of the tendency that says we have been doing this for years, doing it for years does not mean it is the best. Prepare us for change so that we do not resist.

4. **Team work** – this is important for all of us understanding that we are part of the family, inclusive approach helps for ownership of decisions

5. **Unity** – we should not compromise this pillar because everything may collapse if we do not realize that we need each other.

6. we want invite you together with our new Director

***Sitsho singabazali balapha kule University zigcine ke eziziyalo.***

Together we take Rhodes University Forward. Let us do things **Better, Faster and Differently**. We are in agreement with Lenin, History is indeed turning and it is turning with our full participation as worker component.

***CONGRADULATIONS DR MABIZELA IN YOUR NEW APPOINTMENT***

**I THANK YOU…..**