

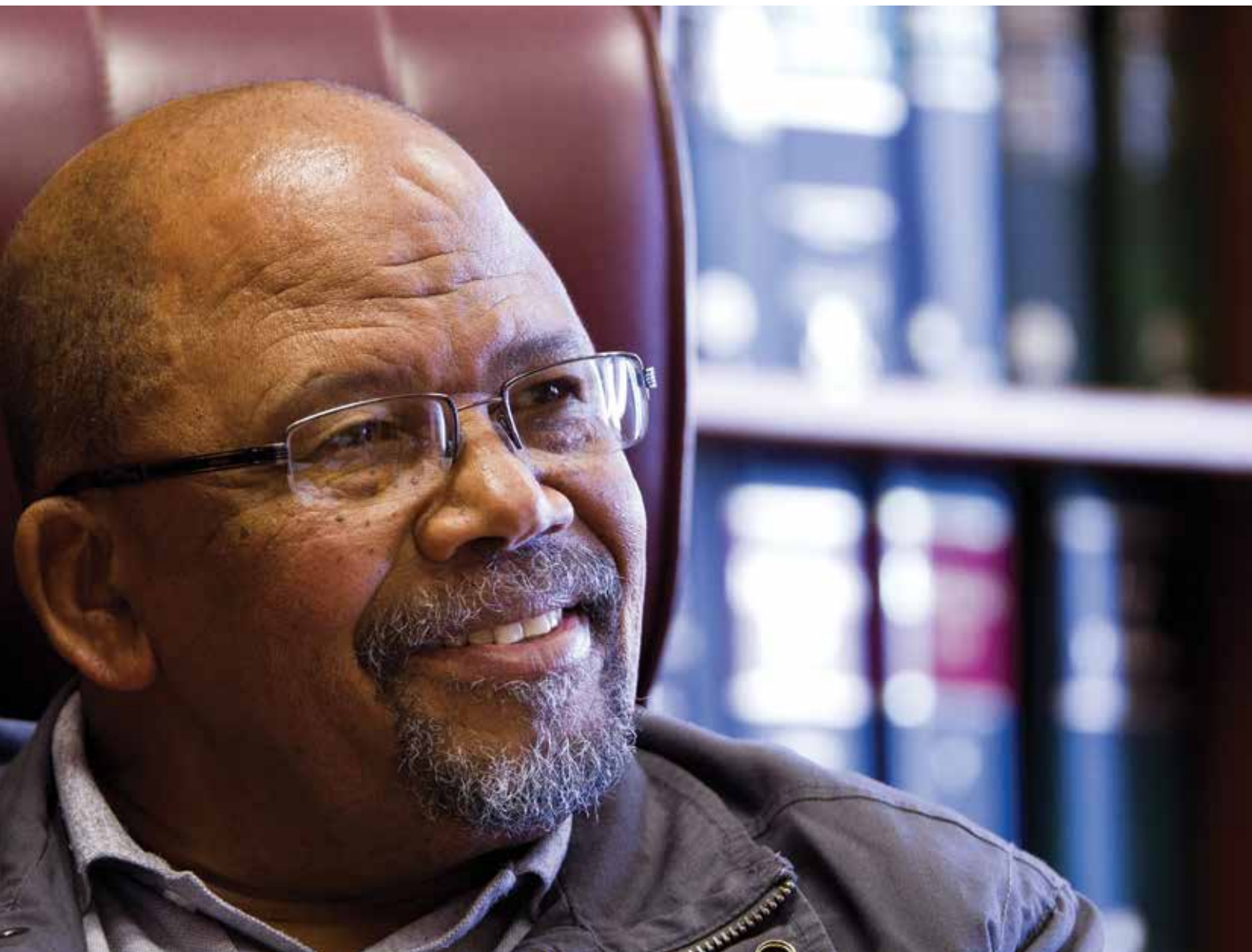
Rhodos

August 2013

THE ALUMNI PUBLICATION OF RHODES UNIVERSITY
WHERE LEADERS LEARN



RHODES UNIVERSITY
Where leaders learn



NEWSMAKERS



LEX MPATI

OUR NEW CHANCELLOR ON HIS
GRAHAMSTOWN ROOTS

SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES THE RAPID
EXPANSION IN LANGUAGE STUDIES

A NEW HUB OF LIFE SCIENCE RESEARCH

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MIKE SUTHERNS is hopefully out living the dream right now.



JEANNIE WALLACE-MCKEOWN works at Rhodes University in the Registrar's Division and as a freelance writer. A Grahamstown resident and Rhodes alumnus, she is also a mother and a poet, and holds writing workshops at her home, where coffee flows freely.

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EXPANDING OUR REACH
ACROSS THE GLOBE

Engaging our alumni

First up, I'd like to congratulate our many alumni who are achieving excellence in their chosen careers. We were pleased to note that you have achieved a 5% presence in the *Mail & Guardian* 200 Young South Africans (see page 36).

In my column last year I mentioned two critical points as my department's aims for the 2013 academic year. We wanted to continue engaging and forming partnerships with you, our alumni community, and become more relevant to our students.

This year we launched our biggest alumni survey yet and have come away with a more nuanced understanding of what drives you, how you perceive Rhodes and South Africa, and most importantly how and what you would like us to share with you.

The web-based survey targeted over 18 000 alumni with traceable emails and was conducted by Global Fluency Inc, a reputable international company owned by an Old Rhodian, Donovan Neale-May, a member of the Rhodes University Board of Governors and chairman of the Rhodes University Trust USA. Data has been compiled and analysed – check page 38 for a report on the survey findings.

Through our strong partnership with the Students' Representative Council (SRC) we have grown our student engagement activities and garnered the support of students, staff and alumni through the Purple Thursday Campaign. We hope more of you will join us in wearing purple with pride to demonstrate your familial ties to the Rhodes leadership ethic.

We were thrilled with the outcome of the student giving program, Give 5, which raised over R40 000 for the student hardship fund which provides pocket money for disadvantaged students at Rhodes. Our students really don't hesitate in going the extra mile to help out one of their own in need.

We have intensified our engagement with our alumni and have enjoyed an increased attendance of reunions in the three major centres of the country, and have held get-togethers in Australasia and southern African countries. The theme of our reunions for 2012 was *Let the Purple Reign* and we had an overwhelming response with attendees wearing purple, a symbol of solidarity and power that pays homage to the value Rhodes places on leadership through individual action.

This year we encourage you to keep the legacy alive with the theme *The Purple Legacy*.

Our Annual Fund has seen some amazing growth from a mere annual appeal to a fully fledged programme that is making a meaningful contribution to the University's third stream funding needs. Here we have explored some



Paul Greenway

new fundraising avenues, one of which is the staff giving program. Following in the footsteps of our Vice-Chancellor, our staff members have signed up for Annual Fund contributions through monthly salary deductions.

At our first fundraising event in Johannesburg later this year we will raise funds for Student Financial Aid to assist students who face financial barriers to coming to Rhodes.

Understanding that there are several platforms on which to engage with you, we have expanded our social network presence to ensure we maintain contact with everybody, particularly our recent graduates and younger alumni who are born digitals. The recent survey alludes to the success of this platform as a surprising 41% of you indicated a preference for keeping in touch with Rhodes through social media platforms.

Another major finding of the survey is that 47% of our respondents said a better

understanding of where contributions go would encourage them to donate. We have used this information to introduce a new feature of our magazine, Donor Recognition, where we will recognise contributions of individuals, corporates and foundations that support the University causes. We will also share success stories of those that benefited from these gifts.

I would like to end off by sending my condolences to the late Chancellor, Jakes Gerwel's family and, although we bade a sad farewell to an exceptional leader, we are honoured to welcome Lex Mpati as our newly installed Chancellor (see page 7).

QONDAKELE SOMPONDO
Manager: Alumni Relations & Fundraising



Stephané Meintjes

RHODES ACADEMICS MAKING THE NEWS

Distinguished Senior Researcher

Professor Denis Hughes who is the director of the Institute for Water Research was awarded the Vice Chancellor's Distinguished Senior Research Award for 2012. "My current projects are mostly about uncertainty in water resources estimations, how these can be quantified realistically in practice and how such quantifications are used in decision making," says Hughes.

While his research over the past five years has remained in the field of hydrological model development and application, the emphasis has moved further towards the twin objectives of achieving practical applications of models. "My involvement with ecologists and the ecological reserve programme has led to an enhanced appreciation of the value of different types of hydrological data and the information requirements of different specialists working in the field of water resources," he says. His consultancy experience extends to areas throughout South Africa, as well as some of the neighbouring countries (Swaziland, Lesotho, Botswana, Zimbabwe and Mozambique). His recent projects include several research contracts with the Water Research Commission and the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry related to developing methodologies for determining and implementing the ecological reserve (EWR) as part of the South African National Water Act. He is also a member of several steering committees for WRC projects being undertaken at other centres and is currently serving a term as vice-president of the International Association for Hydrological Research (IAHS) with special responsibilities for developing countries.

Community engagement at its best

Alex Sutherland is a senior lecturer in the Drama Department and was the recipient of the Vice-Chancellor's award for Community Engagement. Since 2001 she has focused her teaching and research on Applied Theatre and has extended her courses beyond 'traditional' drama teaching, to include community contexts such as adult and women's groups, prisoners, young people with special needs. These deliberately take students out of their comfort zones so they might engage with communities very different from their own and help facilitate positive change and enhance practical learning through established programmes. "It's really about finding the human in the interaction between people from completely different socio-political backgrounds," says Sutherland. For full story see profile on page 20.



Stephané Meintjes



Stephané Meintjes

Vice-Chancellor's Book Award

Professor Catriona Macleod, head of the Psychology Department, received the Vice-Chancellor's Book Award for her book *Adolescence, Pregnancy and Abortion: Constructing a Threat of Degeneration* (Routledge 2011). Exploring crucial social issues such as the invention of teenage pregnancy and abortion as a social problem, issues of race, culture and tradition in relation to teenage pregnancy, and health service provider practices in relation to unwanted pregnancy, this is the second award received by this formative text. In 2011 it was the winner of the Distinguished Publication Award of the Association for Women in Psychology.

Distinguished Teaching Awards

DR LIZANNE RAUBENHEIMER

Only seven years since beginning her career as an academic, Dr Lizanne Raubenheimer, a senior lecturer in the Department of Statistics, is the recipient of the Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award. For Raubenheimer, teaching is about helping each student to develop into a graduate, to try her best to ensure that each individual reaches his/her full potential in their subject. Raubenheimer has been closely involved in the tutorial systems, and training more senior students to act as tutors and mentors. "Most of the time I lecture large classes, ranging from 300 to 600 students, which is challenging when one lectures a mathematical subject," says Raubenheimer. "One of the most important aims to me is to involve each and every student, not just the students who naturally excel at maths. I believe through involvement and one's attitude towards them and the subject, students learn a lot. To quote Teton Lakota Indian: 'Tell me, and I'll listen. Show me, and I'll understand. Involve me, and I'll learn.' This forms the basis of my teaching philosophy."



Stephané Meintjes

PROFESSOR JEN SNOWBALL

An associate professor in the Department of Economics, Professor Jen Snowball was awarded the Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Senior Teaching Award. Teaching Economics with its habitually large first year class of between 500 and 600 students, she seeks time-effective ways of responding to the increasing diversity of the class. "My approach has been to use a combination of face-to-face lectures and tutorials as well as online resources, such as podcasts explaining important concepts using a tablet PC that lets me draw diagrams and talk about them; online multiple choice and graphic questions, and discussion forums." She explains that this variety of learning activities allows students to choose the ones that suit their learning styles best. Snowball finds high reward in watching her students' enthusiasm for economics grow and seeing them connect current events to what they are learning. "What is important, I think, is not so much how or where the teaching and learning took place, but rather the enthusiasm and passion that many of my own teachers had for their subject, which ignited the same response in me. The idea that learning can be an adventure – not always easy, but exciting and rewarding – is very important to me."

Technology for human resource development

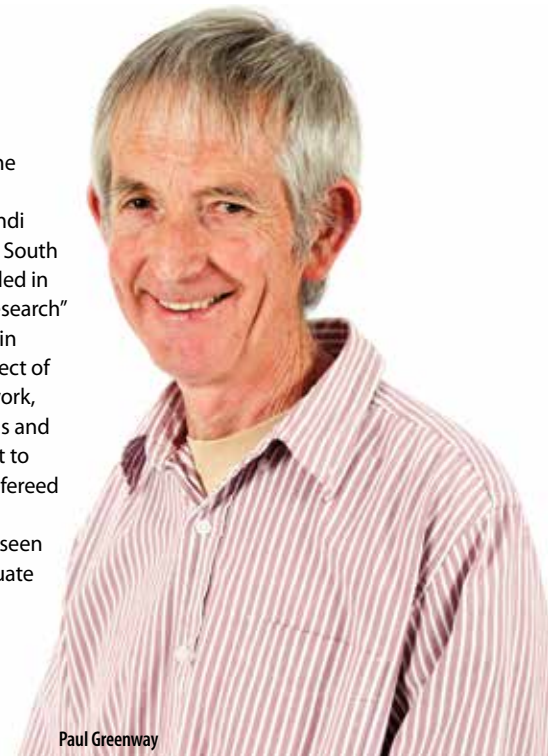
Head of the Telkom Centre of Excellence in distributed multimedia in the Computer Science Department, Professor Alfredo Terzoli won the 2012 Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Technology award in the human resource development category. The award applauded the centre's 'Mobile Services for Ubiquitous Communication and Multimedia Delivery', or MobiSer, project which is building a service delivery platform capable of handling mobility more efficiently and at a lower cost. "For me and several of my postgraduate students it is particularly important to develop a platform that can serve all of society, including the most marginalised, rural communities, as part of our drive to advance ICT for development," he says.

Lifetime service award for research in taxation

Accounting Department Professor Lilla Stack was awarded a 'Lifetime Service Award for the enhancement of research in taxation and empowering of tax researchers and academia' at a South African Tax Educators Association (SATEA) workshop recently. Her involvement with SATEA started in November 2009, when she teamed up with tax academics from Unisa and Pretoria University to improve research capacity. By the following year, the association had grown to include all the universities in South Africa, except two who don't offer postgraduate accounting. SATEA has developed to the stage that the South African Revenue Service (SARS), the National Treasury and other institutions are planning to channel their research needs through the association, effectively feeding research to the various institutes.

National Wetland Award

Professor Fred Ellery, head of the Department of Environmental Science, received the 2012 Mondi National Wetland Award of the South African Wetland Society. Awarded in the category of "Science and research" he has a longstanding interest in these ecosystems, both in respect of why they exist and how they work, and also in respect of the goods and services they provide of benefit to humans. He has well over 60 refereed publications in both local and international journals, and has seen almost 30 of his students graduate with higher degrees at the postgraduate level.



Paul Greenway



Stephané Meintjes

Pioneers in climate change research

BY SARAH-JANE BRADFIELD

With the support of funds from Rhodes University's Sandisa Imbewu Fund, Grand Challenges Global Change Program (GCGC) and Applied Centre for Climate and Earth Systems Science (ACCESS) Professor Brad Ripley of the Botany Department and Professor Martin Hill, Head of Entomology at Rhodes University, are undertaking pioneering climate change research.

According to Ripley, climate change, because of its direct and indirect effects on plant function, can have profound effects on agriculture, rangelands and natural ecosystems. To determine how important these effects are in southern Africa requires experimentation and expertise focused on regionally important plants, crops, invasive aliens and natural ecosystems. Such experimentation requires a specialised facility within which atmospheric CO₂ concentrations can be manipulated, and plants can be grown under "natural" conditions allowing important interactions with both climatic and biotic factors. As such, Ripley and Hill are commissioning a system of large transparent "Open Top Chambers" (OTCs) within which indigenous, alien and crop plants can be grown under conditions which simulate future climates. The OTC system has been donated to Rhodes University by the Veterinary and Agrochemical Research Centre (Belgium, Federal Government) and will be staffed by a dedicated instrument scientist and will allow a unique opportunity for researchers and postgraduates to conduct a sequence of experiments identified for their national importance.

News in Brief continues on page 32



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JUDGE LEX MPATI

A self-made man

BY CATHY GUSH

"There is no better university to study at than Rhodes." One would expect this kind of statement from the Chancellor of the university but, somehow, coming from Judge Lex Mpati, newly appointed to this honorary position, it carries the weight of a measured and unbiased opinion.

Judge Mpati has had a long and distinguished career in the judiciary, capped by his appointment as head of the Supreme Court of Appeal in Bloemfontein, but it has its roots in humble beginnings.

Raised by his grandfather in Fort Beaufort, Mpati was sent to Grahamstown to attend high school. By that stage proficient in Afrikaans, he enrolled at Mary Waters High School and stayed there until his Matric year. "Then I was a bit naughty in deciding that I'd had enough and wanted to earn my own money," he confesses. He worked as a petrol attendant at Albany Auto Services for three years, before taking off for Cape Town. The six-month sojourn in the Mother City ended when his grandfather fell ill back home: "I didn't want him to die alone."

He subsequently landed a job at the Settlers Inn Motel, where he was soon promoted to the Ladies Bar. As an African, he was not allowed to serve whites in those days, "but the local Narcotics guys turned a blind eye until another hotelier reported me and I had to leave." About a year later he was back there ("I had a stint as a furniture salesman which I absolutely hated") and this time his conversations with the students led him to think about pursuing his own studies. The law interested him, because he had once or twice successfully conducted his own defence, but had often witnessed others being

unfairly convicted when they had no one to represent them. Balancing his studies at Rhodes with part-time work, he graduated in 1983, did his articles at a local firm of attorneys and joined the Bar as an advocate in 1989. After a three-year stint at the Legal Resources Centre in the mid-90s, he was appointed as a High Court judge in 1997.

Aside from his work in the legal profession, the other passion in Judge Mpati's life is rugby. Playing on the wing for the Mary Waters first XV, he was selected for a provincial team, and has remained involved in the game ever since. He currently serves as the chairman of the Judicial Committee for the South African Rugby Union, charged with disciplinary matters. He admits to supporting the Cheetahs, "but not when they are playing the Kings!"

Asked why he never relocated to Bloemfontein when he was appointed to the Appeal Court nearly 14 years ago, he says, "I love the sound of the waves and I need to be near the sea. I could not bring myself to move further inland."

He enjoys Grahamstown ("I'm not a big city person"), but is saddened by its lack of development and opportunities to entice dynamic young role models to stay.

Judge Mpati says he was "shocked" when he heard from the VC that he had been elected to succeed Professor Jakes Gerwel as Chancellor. "It never entered my mind that I would be considered."

The end of his official career beckons, with only some three years left on the Bench. The judge looks forward to doing more travelling, especially to visit his son, daughter and grandchildren in the United States, and to reading for leisure. "Over the years, people have bought me books as presents – they are all sitting in a pile waiting for my retirement!"

Petrol attendant, High Court Judge, head of the Supreme Court of Appeal . . . introducing our new Chancellor

Funding for new facilities will create a hub for scientific research and make good on national imperatives to increase PhD outputs, especially around human and environmental health

Giving new life to the sciences

BY SARAH-JANE BRADFELD

In line with efforts to build on Rhodes University's position as a research intensive institution and to support the strategic direction of increasing postgraduate numbers and research productivity, plans are underway for a R110 million Life Sciences building that will see the clustering of cognate disciplines in state of the art facilities.

Following unprecedented 109% annual increases in graduates since 2002, the Faculty of Science is the most research-productive faculty on campus, with a record 35 PhD graduates in 2013, up on 14 PhD graduates in 2003. Research outputs in the form of accredited papers have increased by 86% from 2003 to 2010 in the Faculty, which hosts two A-rated scientists acknowledged to be international leaders in their fields, and six DST prestigious Research Chairs.

Combined with a record high number of graduates (a total of 2 288 students graduated this year out of a total of 7 200 students) the University is on track to achieve its stated strategic objective of growing the postgraduate proportion of students to 30%.

According to Dr Badat, the University will spend some R200 million over the next 30 months on new buildings to support increases in postgraduates and staff. This includes the Life Sciences building, R22 million on Health Sciences, R36.8 million on student accommodation, and R31 million on a School of Languages building. The Department of Higher Education will provide R169 million of this funding but the remaining R28.7 million would have to come from other sources.

According to Professor Ric Bernard, Dean of Science at Rhodes University, the new facilities are envisaged to create a hub for the Biological Sciences, and at the same time create much needed space for Chemistry and Biochemistry. Further cascade effects will see additional space become available for Environmental Science. Planned to begin in September 2013 and be completed by June 2015, the cutting-edge research facilities, which will include new office and laboratory facilities for two SARChI Chairs, a quarantine insectary, an accredited analytical laboratory and a new innovation centre, are envisaged to attract postgraduate students, high calibre researchers and leading academics while also speaking to South Africa's national objectives of increasing PhD outputs, and pursuing research around human health and wellbeing, and environmental health.

Bernard said current space restrictions in the various Science departments were proving problematic and that there is currently no extra capacity to allow for future growth. Hosting some of the University's leading researchers – including NRF A-rated scientists Distinguished Professor Tebello Nyokong (Chemistry) and Distinguished Professor Christopher McQuaid (Zoology), various research chairs and leading researchers – the departments of Zoology and Entomology, Ichthyology and Fisheries Science, Biochemistry, Microbiology and Biotechnology, and Chemistry are among the most research-productive on campus. According to Bernard, nine out of the top 10 researchers at Rhodes University are based in the Faculty of Science and 17 out of the top 30 are in Science. He said the plans to create new space and facilities will benefit 14 out of these 17 staff members.

The clustering of disciplines is also intended to encourage collaboration among students, who currently are housed in departments spread all over campus. Bernard hopes the plans will also encourage post-graduate students to stay on for further study.

The plans comprise two phases, with a first phase being built to house the department of Zoology and Entomology. Pending successful fundraising efforts the second phase will include a space for Botany. An indigenous garden will surround the building. The project has received generous funding from the Department of Higher Education and Training.





Artist impressions of the Life Sciences building, courtesy of Moors, Milne and Kievit Architects Inc.

The clustering of disciplines is also intended to encourage collaboration among students, who currently are housed in departments spread all over campus



Nyokong is on the NRF's A-list

BY SARAH-JANE BRADFIELD

The much acclaimed Professor of Medicinal Chemistry and Nanotechnology at Rhodes University, Tebello Nyokong, has been awarded an A-rating by the National Research Foundation in acknowledgement for her ground-breaking research into photodynamic therapy (PDT). Intended as an alternative to chemotherapy, PDT includes harnessing light for cancer therapy using specially developed dyes to direct deadly light onto cancer cells. PDT is combined with quantum dots (QD), which are nanoparticles that absorb and then re-emit light, thus enabling scientists to target the cancer cells with red light and allowing for an efficient cancer treatment involving the photosensitization and imaging of these QD to kill the cancer cells. The new therapy, based on using the blue dye used to colour blue denim clothing, which is inert and harmless by itself but can be activated by exposure to a red laser beam, has already been approved in some countries and reportedly does not destroy hair or healthy cells or cause nausea, unlike conventional chemotherapy. Nyokong's research also extends to early detection of human diseases and environmental clean-up.

Nyokong's rating brings to two the number of NRF A-rated scientists at Rhodes. The leading international scholar on marine ecosystems and Rhodes University's research Chair in Marine Ecology, Professor Christopher McQuaid, was awarded an A-rating last year. Described as the leading marine ecologist in South Africa by the NRF's Monitoring and Evaluation Manager, Joyce Olivier, McQuaid's extensive field experiments have provided insight into the spatial and temporal patterns in ecosystem dynamics and contributed to the advancement of marine science both in South Africa and abroad. According to Rhodes University Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research and Development, Dr Peter Clayton, McQuaid is one of the most prolific and high profile researchers at Rhodes, and one of the most productive and high impact researchers in the country.

Sustaining research, sustaining lives

BY SARAH-JANE BRADFIELD
PHOTOS BY PAUL GREENWAY

Rhodes' newest SARCHI Chairs in the Science Faculty include Professor Charlie Shackleton in the Department of Environmental Science for 'Interdisciplinary Science in Land and Natural Resource Use for Sustainable Livelihoods' and Professor Steve Compton in the Department of Zoology and Entomology for 'Insects in Sustainable Agricultural Ecosystems'.

SUSTAINABLE RURAL LIVELIHOODS

The objective of the 'Interdisciplinary Science in Land and Natural Resource Use for Sustainable Livelihoods' Chair, Shackleton said, is to develop interdisciplinary understandings of and methods to reveal the role, value and importance of natural resources in rural and urban livelihoods for poverty alleviation. With approximately 70% of South Africa's poor living in rural areas, and approximately the same proportion of rural dwellers being classified as poor, the use of natural resources, poverty dynamics and how the environment shapes what humans can do is becoming increasingly critical to notions of wellbeing and, for some, survival. Through personal research, participation in teams and support and mentorship of postgraduate students, the Chair aims to develop interdisciplinary understandings of, and methods to reveal, the role, value and importance of natural resources in rural and urban livelihoods for poverty alleviation. Simplistically this requires attention to four 'subsystems': the growth and production of specific

natural resources; the household use of natural resources for consumptive and non-consumptive purposes; small-scale trade in natural resources; and the scale-dependent contextual attributes that influence each of the other three subsystems and how they interact with one another and change in time and space.

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL ECOSYSTEMS

The Chair in 'Insects in Sustainable Agricultural Ecosystems' will see Compton return to Rhodes University's Department of Zoology and Entomology where he lectured in Entomology in the 1980s and 1990s. Since then he has held academic positions at the University of Leeds, England. According to Compton, insects are the most species-rich group of animals, with a correspondingly large economic impact. They include species that are major enemies of agriculture and health, but also others that are highly beneficial. The Chair will incorporate Compton's work into a highly active and successful research group working on various aspects of applied entomology at Rhodes University. As such, the Chair will integrate his expertise in plant-insect interactions, insect dispersal and parasitoid wasps into existing research programmes that include the use of insects for the biological control of invasive species (especially aquatic weeds) and novel methods of control of agricultural pests.

The Chair also has a broad-ranging mentoring and training remit that extends from technical staff and Honours students to PhD students and postdoctoral students.



PROF SHACKLETON



PROF COMPTON

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN
DONORS AND PROJECTS

The right donor for the job



BY SARAH-JANE BRADFIELD

Nurturing sustainable and mutually beneficial relationships with donors and stakeholders is a core objective and responsibility of Rhodes University's Development Division. In supporting the strategic aims of the University, the Division's main duty is to raise funds for more than 100 research projects and the infrastructure expansion needs of the University, including R28.7 million towards new complexes for Life Sciences and School of Languages.

According to Vera Adams, Development Manager, the Department plays a crucial role in the wellbeing of the University through the nurturing and maintaining of long-standing relationships with donors, be they corporates, trusts, foundations or individuals.

According to Adams, great emphasis is placed on contextualising the University's objectives within global and national discourses

and priorities, such as the national development plan (NDP) and millennium development goals (MDG). "The matching of project to donor is very important and mutually beneficial but, in order to be relevant, we also need to ensure that research is pertinent and speaks to the NDP and MDG," she said.

As a research scientist by training, she said she enjoys learning about the stimulating, innovative research being done across the University. There is relevant research being conducted in many different research areas, she said, aligning with national and global priorities, but there are also exciting and fresh approaches such as Professor Rosie Dorrington and Professor Gregory Blatch's Coelacanth genome research, the Project Eden, Professor Tebello Nyokong's Nanotechnology and Biotechnology research projects to name a few. "Our focus is on positioning these projects within larger discourses and successfully aligning them with interested donors and stakeholders," Adams said.

Vera Adams, Rhodes University's Development Manager, talks about the importance of maintaining strong relationships to research and infrastructural developments



A new home for **LANGUAGE STUDIES**

Welcome funding will allow our facilities to keep pace with the rapid expansion in language studies and house our new SARChI Chair

LEFT TO RIGHT ON THE COUCH: Bulelwa Nosilela; Ntosh Mazwi; Dr Dion Nkomo.
LEFT TO RIGHT AT THE BACK: Prof Russell Kaschula; Dr Mhlobo Jadezweni; Hleze Kunju;
Dr Ds Koos (JC) Oosthuysen; Dr Sydney Zotwana; Dr Pamela Maseko.
ABSENT: Msindisi Sam.

BY JEANNIE WALLACE-MCKEOWN
PHOTOS BY PAUL GREENWAY

The dream of a new School of Languages is becoming a reality. The idea of a building to house language disciplines at Rhodes was proposed some years ago, when it became obvious that the increased uptake in African Languages, Classical Studies as well as other languages, and the installation of the new Confucius Institute and the offering of Chinese Studies, meant that the Arts Block had become too tight for further expansion. The building had been divvied up, says Professor Russell Kaschula, until there was nothing to be divvied up any more.

Various avenues for funding a new building were explored, and towards the end of last year the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) awarded Rhodes R170 million towards new buildings and facilities. Some R31 million, which includes R6 million from the Vice-Chancellor's discretionary fund, has been set aside for the new School of Languages. While there had originally been talk of some R50 million being sought for the project, the

architects have managed admirably to design a building which will give the School the facilities they had requested. The new building, which will be sited where Oakdene postgraduate residence currently stands (and which will retain the façade of that building) will have space available to expand should further funding become available. It is hoped that work on the building will start in January 2014.

“Underpinning the design of the building is the concept of a Language Village,” Kaschula explains. It is envisaged as a structure housing cognate language disciplines, where the spaces within speak to each other allowing for interaction. The new building, which will have a rooftop garden, will be on two levels. The Confucius Institute and Chinese Studies, which require a certain level of community interaction, will be located on the highly-visible Somerset Street frontage.

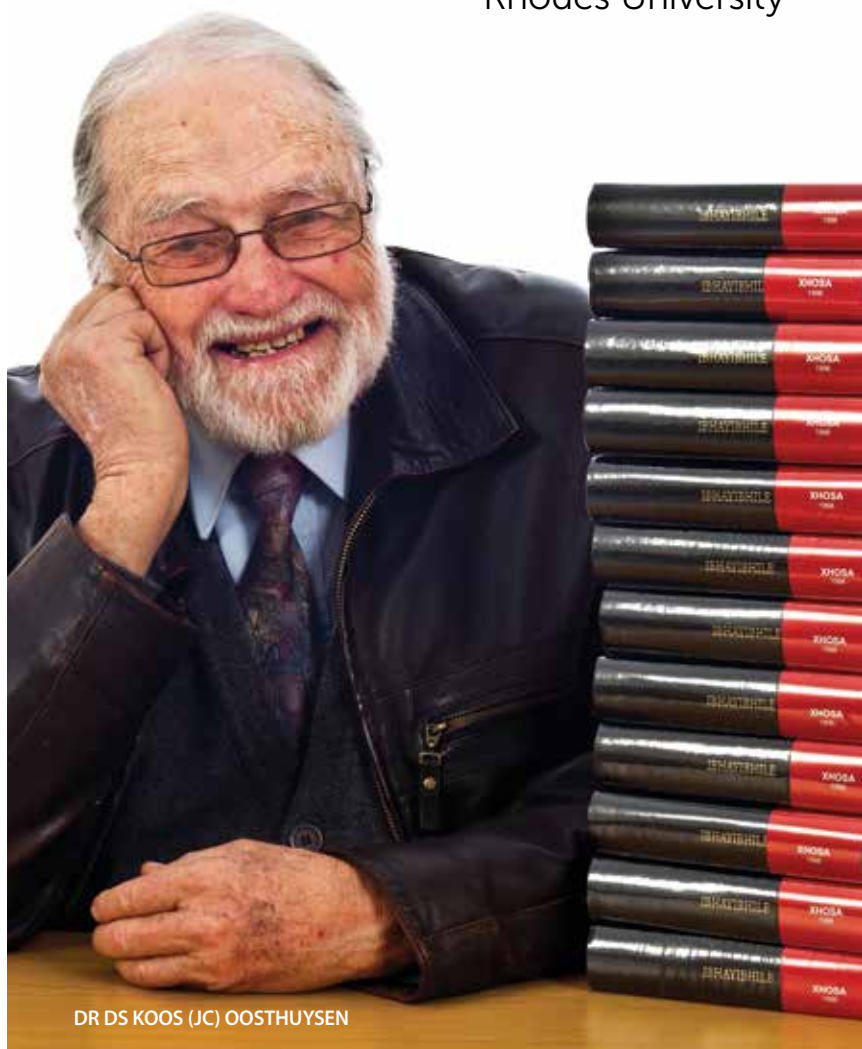
The SARChI Research Chair in the Intellectualisation of African Languages, Multilingualism and Education, held by Kaschula, will be housed above the Institute. To the side of this will be a separate suite for the Head of the School, Professor Patrice Mwepe, and his administrative staff. Additionally, five or six seminar rooms, of approximately 30 seats each, will also be situated on this level, making a very welcome addition to the flat floor space available for the academic project at Rhodes. There will also be a 50-seat language learning multimedia facility. A further, larger, space will open out onto the gardens on the other side of the building, with an attached staff room which can also function as a kitchen for events. Kaschula envisages myriad uses for this space apart from the purely academic, including a venue for book launches.

The School of Languages currently offers undergraduate courses in isiXhosa, German, French, Afrikaans, Classics and Chinese and a comparative Nguni studies module covering Siswati, isiNdebele, isiXhosa, and isiZulu, which was introduced in 2013 by Dr Dion Nkomo. At postgraduate level, most languages are accepted and the School outsources its examiner skills where knowledge is not readily available on campus. The importance of multilingualism, particularly in relation to African languages in South Africa and Rhodes is two-fold: to allow students to improve cognition in their mother-tongue before transferring to English as the language of learning and teaching. Secondly, to encourage students to learn languages other than their mother-tongue in order to create citizens that are more culturally and linguistically aware.

Many of the theses written at postgraduate level cover terminology development in various African languages as well as literature, with a recent notable graduate being Oosthuysen, who, as Kaschula’s first doctoral candidate in his role as SARChI Chair, completed a thesis on Xhosa Bible grammar to earn his PhD. Born of missionary parents in the 1930s, and raised speaking isiXhosa, Oosthuysen played an integral role in the development of a revised edition of the isiXhosa Bible, released in 1996 and replacing the 1942 Revised Union Version. Oosthuysen is continuing his work on the grammaticality of isiXhosa as separate from Western or missionary intervention, in his post-doctoral research.

The new School of Languages building will bear proud witness to the increasing and transformative growth of multilingualism at Rhodes University where the preservation of the ecology of languages remains important and where additional languages such as Kiswahili and Portuguese could be welcomed.

The new School of Languages building will bear proud witness to the increasing and transformative growth of multilingualism at Rhodes University



DR DS KOOS (JC) OOSTHUYSEN



PROF RUSSELL KASCHULA

Responding to core SOCIAL CHALLENGES

BY DR SALEEM BADAT

As a University our work is informed by the reality that, despite some economic and social gains, post-1994 South Africa remains one of the world's most unequal societies. The divisions of race, class, gender and geography and the privileges and disadvantage associated with these are still all too evident – including in the town in which Rhodes University is located. An understanding of these core social challenges informs our overall social and educational goals and objectives.

As an outstanding university in South Africa our objectives are to produce knowledgeable, skilled and socially committed and compassionate intellectuals and graduates equipped to exercise leadership in our society. We continue to pursue a trajectory of becoming more postgraduate and research-oriented without any compromise of the high quality undergraduate provision for which we are well recognised.

OUR KEY TASKS ARE:

- Ensuring that we provide effective academic and financial support to all our students, and especially black South African students who are from historically disadvantaged public schools;
- Identifying potential new postgraduate and research niche areas and programmes, and ensuring that there is effective planning, fund-raising and implementation;
- Developing appropriate institutional arrangements to enhance the quantity, the quality, the academic and social experience and the equity profile of our postgraduates, and especially South African postgraduates;
- Continuing to pursue further chairs in proven or potential new areas of academic excellence so that we continue to help grow South Africa's knowledge economy;
- Improving the equity profile of our academic staff.

INSTITUTIONAL PLANNING

Our newly implemented Institutional Development Plan (IDP) will ensure that Rhodes proactively shapes its future, and that it has carefully considered and formulated ideas on its academic and overall institutional trajectory and development. The IDP will through an open and participatory process:

- Ensure that there is an alignment between enrolment planning, academic planning, staffing, infrastructure planning and financial planning, and that planning occurs on a longer-term horizon;
- Ensure that Rhodes is financially sustainable taking into account its



Paul Greenway

enrolments, academic programmes and operations, and its staffing and infrastructure requirements;

- Help us to effectively address and pursue new social and educational imperatives, goals and strategies.

Integral to the IDP is a Transformation Plan that focuses on issues of equity, institutional culture, knowledge and curriculum. Furthermore, a Campus Development Plan guides the overall physical development and maintenance of the campus. A Green Fund has been created to support the University to institute environmentally-friendly measures, initiatives and activities that ensure that Rhodes becomes a greener campus.

ENROLMENTS AND GRADUATIONS

Considerable attention was given to the new enrolment plan for 2014 - 2019.

The projected enrolment growth between 2013 and 2019 is from 70% undergraduate to 68%; and from 30% to 32% postgraduate. The target enrolment for 2012 was a total of 7 576 students – 5 329 undergraduate students and 2 204 postgraduate students. We were under-enrolled by 183 students. We gave careful attention to the 2013 enrolments in order to try and meet our overall three year (2011 - 2013) targets: a total enrolment of 7 645 with 5 329 undergraduates and 2 273 postgraduates. We decided on a new first year intake target in 2013 of 1 600 students instead of the 2012 intake of 1 500.

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

Rhodes is well positioned for our intention to become a more postgraduate university and to further enhance our contribution to knowledge production through research and scholarship. We have a vibrant and supportive research culture that produces the third best research output per capita staff member among South African Universities. We also have the second highest percentage of staff with PhDs (56%); and very good postgraduate graduation rates.

In terms of graduations of the 2012 cohort:

- 1 340 students received undergraduate degrees;
- 948 students or 41% received postgraduate qualifications;
- 1 378 graduates or 60% were women;
- 495 or 22% were international students from 30 countries in the rest of Africa and around the world;
- We celebrated a new University record of 63 PhD;
- The Science Faculty produced 220 students with BSc degrees, 35 PhD graduates, 83 Masters graduates, 132 Honours graduates.

Research continued to thrive in 2012. Despite being the smallest university in South Africa, and comprising only 0.8% of South Africa's university students and 1.9% of all full-time academic staff, we possessed 7% (10) of all the prestigious research chairs that are available to universities as part of the South African Research Chairs initiative (SARChI). Our SARChI chairs are in:

- Medicinal Chemistry and Nanotechnology (Prof Tebello Nyokong)
- Marine Ecosystems (Prof Christopher McQuaid)
- Mathematics Education (Prof Marc Schafer)
- Numeracy (Prof Mellony Graven)
- Radio Astronomy (Prof Oleg Smirnov)
- Intellectualisation of African Languages, Multilingualism and Education (Prof Russell Kaschula)
- Insects in Sustainable Agricultural Ecosystems (Prof Steve Compton)
- Interdisciplinary Science in Land and Natural Resource Use for Sustainable Livelihoods (Prof Charlie Shackleton)
- Marine Natural Products Research (in process), and
- Critical Studies in Sexualities and Reproduction: Human and Social Dynamics (in process).

On the basis of our breadth and depth in water education and research, and in partnership with Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University and the University of Fort Hare, we pressed on in our efforts to become a key institutional hub on the African continent in this field and to bid for a UNESCO facility. We also produced an exciting proposal in search of donor funding for a cooperative project to promote isiXhosa as a language in higher education with other Eastern Cape and Western Cape universities.

Following a grant from Atlantic Philanthropy we look forward to the start-up for a project based in the History department on *Addressing Legacies of the Apartheid Wars*.

During 2012, the Education Faculty gave further attention to how and what Rhodes could contribute to improving schooling in the Eastern Cape, especially through our teacher education programmes. We continued discussions with the Department of Higher Education & Training in this regard.

The University can express especial satisfaction with the continuing development and progress in community engagement and service learning. From a modest beginning in 2006 with a single staff member, today Rhodes has a Director of Community Engagement, five additional staff and a dedicated budget for community outreach, staff and student volunteerism and service-learning. A range of partnerships exist between Rhodes and various kinds of communities and significant numbers of students and clubs and societies are involved in myriad activities. Our objective is to institutionalise service-learning as a curricular innovation that builds on the core knowledge dissemination and production purposes of the University and is infused in the teaching and learning and research activities of the University and staff and students.

STAFFING

Progress in improving the equity profile of academic and support staff remains a significant challenge. Attention is being paid to institutional culture issues through various studies and strategies under the leadership

of a Director of Equity and Institutional Culture. Donor funding from the Mellon and Kresge foundations, supplemented by Rhodes University funding, is being used for an innovative accelerated programme to develop black South African and women scholars who are guaranteed employment at Rhodes on successful completion.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Our increasing enrolments necessarily have implications for academic infrastructure (academic buildings, lecture, seminar and tutorial venues and laboratories), undergraduate and postgraduate residences, and also for staff and developmental and financial planning. Especial attention is being given to putting in place the structures and processes and mobilising the finances to sustain our trajectory of becoming a more postgraduate and research-oriented university.

We also have to consider the capability and capacity of Makana Municipality to provide the necessary services to support larger enrolments and new infrastructure.

Since 2007 we have:

- Built a spectacular new library, completely renovated the existing library and released academic space through the incorporation of some branch libraries into the main library – a cost of R75 million;
- Built five new residences – cost of some R100 million;
- Built a new environmental education building – cost of R12 million;
- Built a new Desmond Tutu dining hall;
- Added additional ICT bandwidth and speed with considerable future savings.

Currently, a new building for teacher education is being completed at a cost of some R17 million.

During 2012 we received welcome new infrastructure funding from the DHET. The salient aspects of the new funding were the following:

- Despite constituting only 0.8% of the student body and commanding only 1.2% of public subsidy funding, we received 2.9% of total infrastructure funding of R5.9 billion. Our share was even better – we were only able to bid for a total pool of R2.2 billion, and our share of this was 7.5%;
- We received R169.6 million over the three years, beginning with an initial allocation of R56.5 million;
- Our matching contribution was R28.7 million – which was 14.5% of the total approved funding of R198.3 million. This was higher than the previous 10% we had to contribute in the first two rounds of Infrastructure & Efficiency Funding;
- The specific allocations were as follows:
 - i. A new Life Sciences building – R86.2 million; our contribution is R14.6 million, giving a total of R100.8 million.
 - ii. A new School of Language building – R25.8 million; our contribution is R5.5 million, giving a total of R31.3 million.
 - iii. Improvements in Pharmacy facilities and equipment – R21.8 million; our contribution is R2.4 million, giving a total of R24.2 million.
 - iv. A new undergraduate residence and refurbishment of current residences – R30.9 million; our contribution is R5.9 million, giving a total of R36.8 million.
 - v. Improvements in disability access – R2.8 million; our contribution is R0.2 million, giving a total of R3.0 million.
 - vi. A contribution towards our project management costs of R2 million.

The Council of the University confirmed to the DHET by 15 December 2012 that it approved the projects, and that it would meet the R28.7 million own contribution that was required and would also ensure that our projects would satisfy all the stipulated conditions.

At the interface

A new labour market research unit will help address the spiral of unemployment, inequality and poverty hampering development in the Eastern Cape

BY SARAH-JANE BRADFIELD

Drawing strength from its active linkages with ISER expertise in social policy and political economy, the newly established Labour Market Research Unit (LMRU) strengthens Rhodes University's work at the research-policy interface and stands as an example of the university's commitment to contributing to the development of the Eastern Cape.

Housed in the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER) it aims to contribute to understandings of unemployment, poverty and labour market relations in the Eastern Cape via a multidisciplinary approach involving a range of sectors.

According to unit's directors, Professor Robbie van Niekerk, Associate Professor: Social Policy and Director of ISER, and John Reynolds, Rhodes alumnus with more than 20 years applied research and policy experience nationally and in the Eastern Cape, the LMRU is a major collaborative intervention on the part of Rhodes University working with the Eastern Cape government and non-governmental and business partners to meaningfully address the labour market challenges of the Eastern Cape.

The LMRU was founded in 2012 with financial support from the Eastern Cape Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism following the release of an Eastern Cape Provincial Jobs Strategy by the Premier of the Eastern Cape. During the development of the strategy, the need for the creation of a labour market research capability in the province, based in a tertiary institution, was highlighted. The LMRU was established following discussions between the MEC for Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Mcebisi Jonas, and the Vice-Chancellor of Rhodes University, Dr Saleem Badat.

According to Reynolds, the LMRU is actively building networks with national research institutions, including those that have been central to the management and analysis of microdata in South Africa and those who have pioneered labour studies. "These linkages serve not only to build LMRU capabilities, particularly in quantitative



Paul Greenway

John Reynolds (left) and Robbie van Niekerk, directors of the Labour Market Research Unit.

research, but also to facilitate active engagement with the community of university-based researchers who are grappling with the enduring challenges of unemployment, poverty and inequality," Reynolds said, adding that while it has been set up as an independent university-based unit, the LMRU also provides research input into policy development processes in the Eastern Cape.

Its location in the rural Eastern Cape, home of two of the largest former Bantustans in South Africa, holds potential for the LMRU to contribute substantively to understandings of the Eastern Cape labour market in both the provincial and national contexts. According to Reynolds, the Eastern Cape has long served as a source of migrant labour for industrial development elsewhere. Although there has been some improvement in services in the former Bantustan areas over the past 18 years, those areas, which house the bulk of the Eastern Cape population, still experience very high levels of unemployment and poverty. "The Eastern Cape provincial government and its social partners have been grappling with ways of dealing with this, complicated by the effects of national policies over which the provincial government has no direct control," he said.

It is envisaged that the LMRU's research outputs will actively explore the implications of the structure and dynamics of the labour market for the people of the Eastern Cape, including the ways in which unemployment, inequality and poverty are reproduced.

*Exploring the nature of leadership, ethics,
integrity, the role of education and individual goals*

BY SARAH-JANE BRADFELD

Grounded on understandings of moral agency and integrity, the Allan Gray Centre for Leadership Ethics (AGCLE) at Rhodes University aims to make a significant contribution to reframing the traditional ethos at South African universities from seeing their main objective as capacitating individuals with skills for the job market to helping form the minds of human beings able to function at their ethical best.

Professor Pedro A. Tabensky, director of the AGCLE, argues that bringing philosophical notions of leadership and ethics to life could help in reinvigorating debates around leadership and moral agency, and understandings of what it means to be a leader with integrity.

Integrity, Tabensky argues, is one of the central aspects of a person who is able to act and feel in ways that express a genuine understanding of the world. Informed by a holistic understanding of the individual, the AGCLE's main objective is to encourage rigorous debate among staff and students about the nature of leadership, ethics, integrity, the role of education and their own dreams and goals.

According to Tabensky, the life of the mind – certainly in the field of philosophy – has to a large extent become isolated from concrete action. “The professionalisation of philosophy, including the field of ethics, has played an important role in turning philosophy into a kind of highly sophisticated board game for the super clever,” he said, but what is missing is real-life application of philosophical principles to everyday life. This shift, if achieved, could radically alter understandings of leadership as individuals grapple with philosophical notions and apply them to their lived experiences.

Established in 2012, the AGCLE is generously funded by a donation from Dr Allan Gray, a Rhodes University alumnus, UCT honorary doctorate holder and founder of Allan Gray Proprietary Limited. The AGCLE will promote ethical and responsible leadership, and develop education and training initiatives to foster such leadership.

To be genuinely transformative requires a wildly creative approach to the academic project, and a reconceptualisation of the notion of leadership. Based on the understanding that the interiority of human subjects has a direct relation to how they operate, the AGCLE promotes self-reflection and interrogation of key concepts on an on-going basis through student-initiated learning. Tabensky conceives of the AGCLE as a safe haven, where students voluntarily participate in activities and are attracted by the quality of the content of the conversations and activities.

The Centre currently has partnerships with the Pan African Youth Dialogue, Allan Gray Orbis Foundation and the Eastern Cape Planning Commission. Three research associates and four postdoctoral students are expected to join soon.

The ethics of RESPONSIBLE LEADERSHIP



Paul Greenway



*New developments in the facilities,
qualifications and curriculum in the
Education Department usher in an
innovative era as it celebrates 100 years*

INNOVATION FOR **Education**

BY CATHY GUSH
PHOTOS BY PAUL GREENWAY

The Rhodes Education Department is in a very exciting space right now – literally and figuratively. They will soon be taking occupation of the brand new teacher education facility that is linked by a bridge to their existing buildings on the beautiful St Peter's campus, and they are fully immersed in re-designing their teacher education curricula as well as expanding their student numbers and the choice of degrees.

All of these new developments are a fitting way to celebrate a hundred years of the Department's existence, as well as taking it firmly into the 21st century. Under the able leadership of Professor Di Wilmot, Dean of Education, the Education Faculty has three main thrusts: initial teacher education, in-service teacher professional development, and research. She feels the strategic imperative of addressing the challenges of the South African education system have "opened up a very generative and creative space for reflection, renewal and re-imagining for teacher education and research at Rhodes".

Given the need to expand teacher production in South Africa, and recognising that Rhodes provides quality teacher education (evident in its graduation rate of 98%), the national Department of Higher Education (DHET) granted the university R16,8 million to increase the enrolment of students registered for a Postgraduate Certificate in Education to 130 by 2014. This target was reached at the beginning of 2012.

Established in 1913 as part of the Humanities Faculty, the Education Department at Rhodes focused almost entirely on secondary school education, until the Grahamstown College of Education closed down and the Department took over its premises in 1978. In 1992, the University decided to transfer the primary section of the Education Department to its East London campus. With the re-structuring of higher education post-1994, Rhodes East London became part of the University of Fort Hare. In response to a national imperative to produce more Foundation Phase (Grade 1 to 3 teachers) especially mother-tongue African language teachers, the Rhodes Education Department plans to re-introduce a four-year Bachelor of Education degree in 2015. The Department has thus come full circle. This time there will be the novel addition of an isiXhosa mother tongue stream, to address the dire need for more isiXhosa-speaking teachers in the lower grades.



Improving the physical teaching and learning space has not been limited to adding a new building. The Department is also in the process of reconceptualising and re-imagining its Resource Centre as a Teaching Innovation Hub.

The establishment of a Mathematics Education Research and Development Chair in 2010 and a Numeracy Research and Development Chair in 2011 has significantly expanded the research agenda.

Rhodes is also the lead partner in a large-scale DHET/European Union Foundation Phase Research Project that is researching teaching and teacher education practices in the Foundation Phase, and grooming a new generation of academics. These innovations have expanded the department's research agenda.

Aside from the Education Department itself, the Education Faculty at Rhodes also comprises a number of other institutes such as the Centre for Social Development (CSD), the Institute for the Study of English in Africa (ISEA), the Centre for Higher Education, Research, Teaching and Learning (CHERTL), the Rhodes Maths Education Project (RUMEP), all of whom are involved in creating opportunities for the in-service development of educators.

Addressing the need to create greater access for students from rural areas, a Winter Tutoring Programme is being piloted in collaboration with the Keiskammahoek community. Some 40 Matric pupils spent a week during the July holidays on the Rhodes campus, where they received intense tuition in Maths and English from lecturers in the Education Department as well as participated in the National Schools Festival. As part of its Centenary celebrations, the Rhodes Education Department is keen to re-establish contact with as many of its alumni as possible. It would not be surprising if some are tempted to return in order to be part of the challenging and exciting environment that constitutes the new Education landscape at Rhodes.

Improving the physical teaching and learning space has not been limited to adding a new building



THEATRE WORKING IN SOCIETY

Listen to the world around you



Alexandra Sutherland has been actively involved in community outreach programmes in Grahamstown since her arrival in 2001. The Rhodes University Applied Theatre lecturer incorporates community service into her philosophy and practice of teaching, and was recently awarded the Vice-Chancellor's Community Engagement Award

BY MIKE SUTHERNS

"We need to start reaching out across the divides of our society and I'm teaching my students how to listen," said Alexandra Sutherland. "To listen to the world around them, to the people around them. I encourage them to get into the spaces they wouldn't normally go. That is what my field – applied theatre – is all about. In Higher Education we need to create opportunities for students to step into those worlds."

Sutherland's first major project was known as the 'Art of the Street' programme which worked with children from the Eluxolweni Children's Shelter. The result was seven works of theatre which were performed at the National Arts Street Festival between 2003 and 2009. "I worked with a group of young people and I got to know them from the age of 13 – I still know some of them today, some are still involved in theatre," she said.

Sutherland's research interest has recently taken her into the field of incarceration, and she started a project with the Grahamstown Correctional Centre in 2010. In May of last year she added another project, inside the maximum security unit in Fort England.

"My projects fuel my practice, which I then pass on to my students, and they get involved. My students do service learning programmes in context all around Grahamstown," she said. So far, Sutherland has set up working relationships with 12 schools and different community organisations, and her honours class has just spent the term working with a group from the prison.

The Head of Community Engagement at Rhodes University, Diana Hornby, believes that Sutherland has used community service as a vehicle to "revitalise the interface between theory and practice". Hornby believes that Sutherland's methods of contextual practice are absolutely vital for the learning process, specifically within arts and drama. "She has successfully integrated community engagement with teaching, learning and research," said Hornby.

My projects fuel my practice, which I then pass on to my students, and they get involved. My students do service learning programmes in context all around Grahamstown



CHRISTINE DIXIE'S
RESIDENCY AT
THE SMITHSONIAN

Larger than LIFE

BY MIKE SUTHERNS

Christine Dixie, a senior lecturer in the Rhodes Fine Art Department, was invited as a research fellow to the Smithsonian Institute in Washington last year. The Institute is one of the largest collections of global art in the world, boasting an inventory of over 140 million items. The Smithsonian Institute Research Fellowship (SARF) is unique among other residency programmes because it offers the artists the opportunity to spend time working among the collection with staff members and experts. "It was an overwhelming but very valuable experience," Dixie said.

Dixie applied for the SARF amid a host of high-level competition. A research proposal entitled *The Heroic Explorer and Angelic Girl* was submitted which used collections from the Smithsonian American History Museum, The National Portrait Gallery and the National Museum of African Art.

Dixie's exhibition of *The Binding* was acquired by the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art in 2010. *The Binding* is an installation of prints and sculptures



ABOVE: *Earth Matters* is the first major exhibition to examine the conceptually complex and visually rich relationship between African artists and the land upon which they live. Approximately 100 artworks are on view in five thematic sections – the Material Earth, Power to the Earth, Imagining the Underground, Strategies of the Surface, and Art as Environmental Action. Dixie's work falls under the theme Imagining the Underground. **Artwork images: Franko Khoury/The Smithsonian**

which depict the inner dreamscape of a boy. It was originally viewed by a number of international curators before the Smithsonian decided to absorb it into their large collection. This installation will be exhibited as part of an exhibition *Heaven, Hell, Purgatory – The Divine Comedy from the Perspective of Contemporary African Artists* at MMK Museum fur Moderne Kunst Frankfurt am Main, Germany, March to July 2014.

She said that in particular being able to view a number of contemporary exhibitions was very rewarding, "One cannot always imagine the actual scale of artwork depicted through photographic representations; nothing quite matches up to viewing an exhibit up close. "The scale of the artworks has a huge impact on how you experience them. You can't

replicate that feeling through a picture. Seeing them, right there in front of me. That was really inspiring," she said.

Returning to South Africa was like waking up from a dream for the lecturer. "It was a surreal feeling. Like I was on a movie set every day for two months," Dixie said. She hopes that she can pass some of the experience she gained on to her students, and teach them that the world of art is much bigger than they imagine. "With an experience like this, your reference points grow."

Dixie travelled back to Washington this year as a series of her works were selected to be a part of *Earth Matters: Land as Material and Metaphor in the Arts of Africa*. The exhibition is organised by the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art and runs till January 2014.

Dixie hopes that she can pass some of the experience she gained on to her students, and teach them that the world of art is much bigger than they imagine

FAR LEFT: Christine Dixie at the opening of *Earth Matters*, an exhibition in which her series of etchings, *Even in the Long Descent I-V* is displayed at The Smithsonian National Museum of African Art. **Photo: Glenn Virgin**

A passion, A CALLING

CREATING SPACES WHERE ART AND HEALTH INTERSECT; FOSTERING PRIDE, SELF-RESPECT AND HOPE IN AN IMPOVERISHED, OFTEN DESPAIRING COMMUNITY, **DR CAROL HOFMEYR** IS EMPOWERING THE MOST VULNERABLE MEMBERS OF OUR TROUBLED SOCIETY. RHODES UNIVERSITY RECOGNISED HER WORK WITH THE AWARD OF AN HONORARY DOCTORATE

“**W**ithin months of moving to Hamburg and the Eastern Cape with my husband Justus, I realised for the first time in my life, I loved a place and its people with passion,” said Hofmeyr. “I had also never seen poverty close up. I had never been in homes where mothers wondered what they would find for four little children for supper.”

In 2000 Hamburg was a deeply impoverished village – most of its residents unemployed; the main source of income government grants and perlemoen poaching; no proper access to water or medical care; high levels of petty crime and alcoholism. And HIV/AIDS.

Hofmeyr set about making positive interventions, drawing on her two main areas of expertise: first, in the field of medicine, having qualified as a medical doctor at Wits University and worked at the Alexandra Health Centre. And second, in fine art, which she took up in the 1990s at the Technikon Witwatersrand, obtaining a masters diploma in print-making.

She began teaching crafts to a small group of women who collected plastic bags and crocheted them into hats, placemats and bags. Later, embroidery lessons were given by friends Jan Chalmers and Jacky Jesewsky who came from the UK twice a year for 10 years to do this. In 2002 the Keiskamma Art Project held its first two exhibitions – one in Newtown, Johannesburg, and another in the UK, in Oxford and the Cotswolds.

Hofmeyr had not practised as a doctor

for many years, but witnessing the rising AIDS death toll in Hamburg and bemoaning the absence of medical facilities to tackle the epidemic, in 2004 she went back to work as a primary care medical officer at a clinic in the Peddie district.

With Eunice Mangwane, she established an HIV/AIDS programme in Hamburg – converting an old house into an AIDS treatment centre; sourcing anti-retroviral medication privately, securing funding for it, and administering initially to eight patients. Today 50 health workers operate alongside committed doctors, nurses, counsellors and volunteers, with a special focus on poor patients who cannot easily access government programmes.

“My dual fascination and horror with life in Hamburg and my need to tell its stories and the sheer numbers of women embroidering, led to my plan to make large, even monumental art works,” said Hofmeyr.

The first depicted the history of the Eastern Cape – from precolonial times, through the colonial and apartheid eras, to the arrival of democracy in 1994. This tapestry, over 120 metres long, now hangs in the parliament building in Cape Town.

The second, the Keiskamma Altarpiece, illustrates the pain and loss wrought by AIDS and tells of the resolve of the women of Hamburg to persevere in the midst of HIV/AIDS. Its creation involved 130 women and four men in six months of full-time work. It has toured the world – Toronto, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, Washington, London, Durban,

Stellenbosch, Grahamstown, and most recently and appropriately, to Hamburg in Germany.

Another expresses the pain, despair and death that comes with AIDS and poverty, and the courage and resilience of the Hamburg community.

The last Keiskamma tapestry was specially commissioned by the University and depicts the history of Rhodes. Over 40 metres long, it adorns the council chamber.

Under the auspices of the Keiskamma Trust there is also an education programme that supports crèches and a growing number of after-school centres, and reaches out to over 400 children in several villages each day. And a music academy provides music tuition to children.

For her work Hofmeyr has received many awards: the Herald woman of the year award; Shoprite Checkers woman of the year for art, and runner-up in medicine; the Ellen Kuzwayo Award from the University of Johannesburg; an honorary fellowship from the Royal College of Physicians in London; and the Business and Arts South Africa Premier Award.

While she has been the key player in this project, Hofmeyr is the first to acknowledge the vital role played by many other people: Noseti Makubalo, one of the founding artists; Eunice Mangwane and Mavis Zita who both helped to found the health programme; Noluvo Xhotenyi, now the health manager, and Thabang Meslane, the director. And last but not least her husband, and their two sons, Robert and Graeme.



Towards a POSITIVE DESTINY

IN THE SONG, *TONTOBANE*, WHICH JAZZ AND AFROFOLK MUSIC LEGEND **VUSI MAHLASELA** PERFORMED AT THE END OF HIS HONORARY DOCTORATE GRADUATION ADDRESS, HE SINGS ABOUT A YOUNG BOY WHO IS THE PRIDE OF HIS COMMUNITY BECAUSE OF HIS KEEN INTEREST IN EDUCATION. THE EXPECTATION WAS THAT HE WOULD BRING ENLIGHTENMENT TO HIS PEOPLE; GENERATING KNOWLEDGE AND PROVIDING LEADERSHIP TO THE AFRICAN CONTINENT IN PARTICULAR



Mahlasela himself only completed his primary schooling but he has not let this hold him back. Rhodes University has now honoured him for how he has helped to unify South Africa and contribute to building our nation through his popular music.

"A measure of a true artist is the one that is not concerned about making a living but creating life, generating and archiving knowledge, as well as redirecting negative past and current energies or experiences towards a positive destiny," said Mahlasela, also known simply as The Voice.

Blessed with a powerful voice and a gift for poetic, stirring lyrics, Mahlasela made headlines in 1992 for various songs that were dedicated to the struggle for freedom.

Growing up in Mamelodi, he was raised by his grandmother who ran a shebeen. He heard men singing 'ingombabusuku', songs of the night, and is convinced that he learned to sing before he could talk. His first guitar was made by his own hand out of fishing line and a cooking oil can which he taught himself to play. He later took guitar lessons paid for by Nobel Laureate writer, Nadine Gordimer.

Tired of singing cover versions of popular songs he began to compose his own music and lyrics. As a 10-year-old he witnessed the brutal killing of school learners during the 1976 uprising and so he became increasingly politicised. His songs of struggle, freedom and justice were sung at political rallies and cultural events and brought him constant police harassment and eventual imprisonment. Some were written on pieces of toilet paper while in solitary confinement.

Mahlasela's first album appeared in 1992. The title track, *When You Come Back*, was a song for his friends and exiles who had left the country, and spoke of the celebration and hope

for their return. Two years later he sang this song at Nelson Mandela's presidential inauguration. In 2002 he featured in Lee Hirsch's acclaimed documentary on the role of music in the anti-apartheid struggle; in 2005 he contributed six songs to the soundtrack of the award-winning movie, *Tsotsi*; he performed at Mandela's 90th birthday concert in Hyde Park, London, in 2008; and he rang in the 2010 World Cup Kick-off Concert at the Orlando Stadium.

He has performed all over the world – sharing the stage with the likes of the Dave Matthews Band, Sting, Paul Simon, Ladysmith Black Mambazo, Hugh Masekela, Angelique Kidjo, Amos Lee, and many others.

Mahlasela's music is a blend of genres – combining folk, jazz, soul, mbaqanga, and marabi. Quite remarkably, in his 1997 album, *Silang Mabele*, he sings in six different South African languages. There are varying themes in his music – the struggle for freedom during the apartheid era; in the post-apartheid years a call for forgiveness and reconciliation. More recently he has railed against the poverty, inequality and corruption scarring the country. Earlier this year he held a concert before an audience of

about 400 people in the Karoo village of Nieu-Bethesda, organised as a protest against fracking for shale gas in the Karoo.

The Vusi Mahlasela Music Development Foundation is committed to promoting and preserving African music; and he actively supports organisations like Oxfam and the African Leadership Academy.

His outstanding musical career has earned due recognition in the form of South African Music Awards – the best album for *Sibang Mabele* in 1998; best male artist in 2007; and a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2012.

There are varying themes in his music – the struggle for freedom during the apartheid era; in the post-apartheid years a call for forgiveness and reconciliation

Titan's dream

A RHODES
ALUMNUS
IS MAKING
HIS MARK
AT NASA

BY MIKE SUTHERNS
PHOTOS COURTESY OF CAMPOALTO AND NASA

South Africa may still be in its infancy regarding the final frontier, but Rhodes Alumnus Liam Pedersen is doing all he can to stamp his own footprint on NASA. He is currently a part of Project Lakelander; a mission to explore Titan (one of Saturn's moons) for water. Titan is home to the only other source of liquid bodies in the universe. The project is still in its trial phase on a remote lake in Chile, where the team are conducting simulations.

"I always wanted to go to space as a child. I dreamt of being an astronaut. I dreamt of being a scientist," Pedersen said. He spent his schooling years in Swaziland, wanting to escape the vulgarities of apartheid. "I went because of the segregation. But it was only when I returned, when I came to Rhodes, that I realised how unnatural it all was," he said.

Pedersen received a "solid grounding in many subjects" at Rhodes. The Computer Science Department was a strong foundation for his current work, and their dedication to helping their students inspired Pedersen. "They had a very strong focus on what it is that makes a good computer scientist. Not rushing off to do code, but having a deep understanding of the science and the art." His passion for mathematics was another carrying force. "I did so much maths, that when I got to the States, I was completely over-prepared. Rhodes was a fantastic launch point," he said.

Now Pedersen builds robots for NASA. They aren't only for space travel, but for exploring deserts and seas and whatever else the US deems interesting. "I'm doing what I always wanted to be doing. I'm realising my dreams. Although I'm not an astronaut. Yet."

Despite his job in the stars, Pedersen's feet remain firmly on the ground, one in the San Francisco and one in South Africa. "I was born in South Africa. I was raised in South Africa. I love South Africa. It's always going to be where I come from. I have children born in the US and they too understand that they come from South Africa. My mum lives in Grahamstown and I visit when I can," he said.

Why space?

Pedersen believes that "space is one of those grand endeavours of humanity. It is one of those dreams that can inspire us to do great things."



Liam Pedersen at Laguna Negra in Chile.



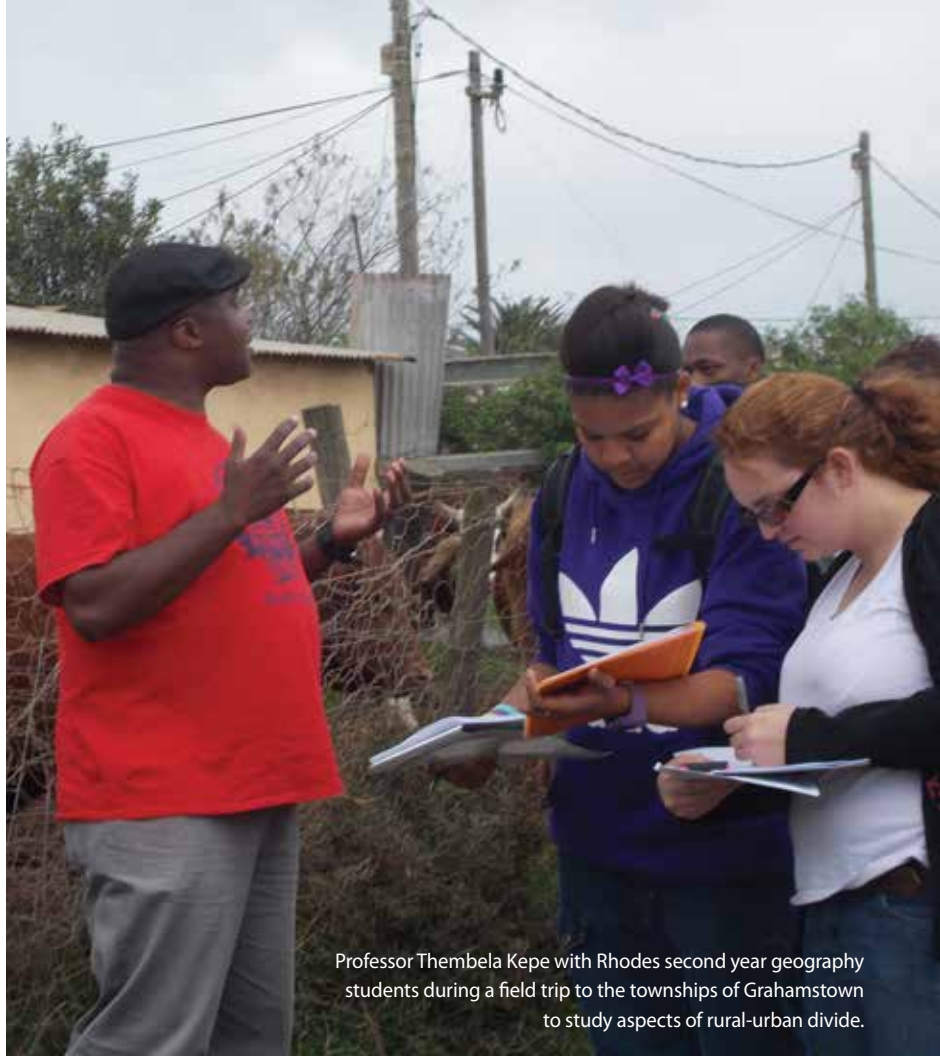
The "LakeLander" robot, built by Liam Pedersen, floating on the lake.



The "Centaur2" rover, for which Liam Pedersen built the navigation systems, at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston Texas.

A time to **GIVE BACK**

"Like many young people who grow up in the townships of Grahamstown, nothing was handed to me on a silver platter. For many of us, scraping through and simply surviving at home, at school and in the streets, is how we defined success as young people," explains Professor Thembela Kepe, an associate professor at the University of Toronto, Canada



Professor Thembela Kepe with Rhodes second year geography students during a field trip to the townships of Grahamstown to study aspects of rural-urban divide.

BY KERRY PETER

Kepe's own sabbatical leave had coincided with an opportunity to visit Rhodes as a leave replacement for one of the professors in the Geography Department. This was his first lengthy stay in Grahamstown since working as a researcher in the Institute for Social and Economic Research in the 1990s and is the realisation of a dream to give something back to the community that supported him in his youth.

Choosing to spend his six-month stay living in his boyhood community in Fingo Village, Kepe wanted a better understanding of the life that his friends, relatives and neighbours live. "The challenges facing my community are too many and complex for any individual person to make a significant impact," he says. "There are many individuals and organizations trying to make a difference in the townships, especially those focusing on youth."

He does however believe that there are innumerable small ways in which individuals can help and is inspired by the wisdom of the great American writer and activist, Maya Angelou. "She has simple words for all of us: 'When you get, give. When you learn, teach,'" he explains. "The way I translate this is that whatever you achieve or receive, is not about you. It should be about what makes others better."

Kepe counts himself as extremely fortunate to have had supportive parents, siblings and teachers and believes firmly in the power of a positive and enabling environment: "For many of these people, all they had to do was to believe that I can achieve certain things before I had that belief myself. This is why I believe young people now need to hear, over

and over again, what is positive about their lives."

"During my time in Grahamstown I have been fortunate to share a little bit here and there with young people in the township, especially in my community in Fingo Village. How I wish that all high school students in the townships can be part of something like the Upstart program, where they learn so much about their abilities."

While Kepe did not get to finish his schooling in Grahamstown because of the political circumstances of the time, as a small gesture of his appreciation of his own beginnings, he set up a scholarship to support two children per year at his former school, Fikizolo Primary School, and hopes others will do the same: "I am a living testimony of how the life of a young person can change because someone has stepped in."

Kepe's own education, from high school to his doctorate, was funded through the support of bursaries or scholarships. But he also affirms the power of the smaller gestures that count for so much. Describing how his parents were too poor to make the trip to Fort Beaufort to see him at boarding school once a month, he recalls how his late Uncle, Maweti Ngcete, would bring food parcels to him whenever he visited his own niece and nephew. "I don't think he realized how much relief that brought in my life there. It was not because I was starving, but it simply showed me and my peers that I was not alone."

His focus on community continues in his academic work and Kepe made significant inroads into several research projects too. "While here, I began working with geographers Gillian McGregor and Philippa Irvine on a research project that uses Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and interviews to try and understand the impact of urban sprawl (growth) on land use conflicts and spatial justice in areas used by initiatives, in the Grahamstown township." He also began other research projects looking at land claims in conservation areas, land redistribution in the Cacadu District and rural uprising in Mpondoland.

By the end of his stay it was clear that the teaching he undertook and the research relationships that had been built between Kepe and staff in the Department had been extremely productive and valuable and the Head of Department in Geography, Professor Ian Meiklejohn, intends maintaining the ties they have established. "I am hoping to spend a few weeks at Rhodes at least once a year for the foreseeable future," affirms Kepe.

Open for DEBATE

BY MIKE SUTHERNS



You can access the Pan African Youth Dialogue via Facebook, Twitter or email at xolani@thepayd.org

Mr Xolani Nyali, a Rhodes Alumnus, the founder and chairperson of the Pan African Youth Dialogue, an organisation which seeks to provide guidance and tutelage to the future leaders of Africa

Xolani Nyali arrived in Grahamstown as a new student in 2006 with two goals. The first was to avoid politics at all costs. The second was to work hard enough to enter the prestigious lifestyle of a chartered accountant. "I failed both," he said. Within three weeks, Nyali was a member of the South African Student Congress (SASCO) and was in talks with the SRC president on student governance related issues.

"I was presented with opportunities that were beyond my imagination," Nyali said about his first year as a student. He went on to join the SRC as residence councillor that same year, keen to entrench himself in the governing body and later became the SRC President.

But it was in 2009 that Nyali decided to take a more action-orientated approach to

being a young African.

The Pan African Youth Dialogue (PAYD) was born as a platform for young people across the continent to come together and debate political, economic and social issues affecting their societies.

"But it is not simply about debating, it is about sharing knowledge and best practices between participants, creating networks for young people who wanted to change the status quo and encourage young people to dominate public discourse on issues affecting their countries," he said.

This kind of action is what spurs Nyali on, gets him out of bed in the morning. "Every day I think 'what crazy idea or product is being piloted by a young person in Africa today'?" The thought that that young person is going to experience obstacles galore in implementing his idea spurs me on to create this platform which will hopefully lead to the eradication of those obstacles."

Nyali urges the future leaders of Africa to be action orientated. He wants the coming generations to be fearless of change, to be eager to try new things. "We must not be afraid of failure," he said, "the young people of Africa are innovating and working to create a better tomorrow."

Tshabalala on first principles

Recently appointed as joint-CEO of Standard Bank, Sim Tshabalala began his illustrious career as a so-called 'disciple of life' in the Humanities Faculty at Rhodes.

BY MIKE SUTHERNS

What started as a simple Bachelor of Arts, however, evolved into a deep love and respect for reading, business and law. It also resulted in five more major honours – including an LLB and a Higher Diploma in Taxation Law.

"Because I studied for a liberal arts degree, I got to read extensively, to think about first principles, and to focus on the human implications of taken-for-granted social structures and institutions," he said. This turned out to be a very 'relevant' education for Tshabalala, as "many of the issues that I started to think about seriously at Rhodes, I now grapple with every day at work."

Tshabalala took a keen interest in the Black Students' Movement and the South African National Students' Congress, a precursor for his Masters in Public International Law - Human Rights. The businessman wasn't all work

and no play as a student though, and he could often be found "watching sport – either live or on TV; or 'jolling' and enjoying the fruits of Bacchus in reasonable quantities."

Nevertheless, at 21-years-old Tshabalala was "an idealistic young man with big dreams and hopes, determined to be a successful lawyer one day."

Now at the helm of one of the largest institutions in the country, Tshabalala feels as though he reflects many of the qualities he absorbed during his studies. Although he jokes that his colleagues may find him "noticeably shorter than they imagined," he tries to lead by example each and every day.

"There are no substitutes for professionalism and for hard work. One must be reliable and consistent, and set clear expectations for yourself and others. It's also essential to listen to people and to see things from their point of view," he said.

Tshabalala has developed a close bond with Standard Bank and his peers, and he believes in the power of Standard Bank to make a large-scale positive difference to the country and the continent. "Ben (Kruger) and I intend to use our time as leaders of the bank to make sure we achieve our purpose as fully as possible. There is no where else I'd rather work."



WORTH TELLING

*Journalism alumnus
Sherwyn Bryce-Pease
alludes to the huge
difference Rhodes
made in his life*

BY CATHY GUSH

It has taken Sherwyn Bryce-Pease exactly 10 years from graduating at Rhodes with a degree in Journalism to sitting in the White House with President Barack Obama. Along the way he has covered a wide range of stories ("all worth telling") and some pretty significant events, such as Michael Jackson's memorial, the US elections, and the goings-on at the United Nations.

Comparing the Rhodes campus to his new working environment, he jokingly says it was much easier to get around the former. "I don't remember seeing snipers positioned in the Clock Tower keeping a beady eye on Drostdy Arch!" Almost a household name now to those who watch the news regularly on South African television, Bryce-Pease remains involved with his alma mater by actively supporting the fundraising and promotional efforts of Rhodes in the United States. "One tends not to forget the things that make a huge difference in one's life."



Committed to the cause

*A woman of determination, alumnus **Judge Judith Cloete**, takes her place on the High Court bench*

BY CATHY GUSH

Judith (Allen) Cloete was appointed as a Judge in the Western Cape High Court earlier this year. For her it is the affirmation that with sheer determination, courage and resilience, it is indeed possible for a woman to be considered by the Judicial Service Commission as being appropriately qualified to do the job.

As an individual, she appreciates the opportunity to make a meaningful difference to the lives of the litigants who appear before her. Although now constrained by her new responsibilities, she is as committed as ever to the protection and promotion of the rights of women and children.

Cloete is grateful to the Rhodes Law Department for requiring students to prepare in advance of their lectures, as well as to analyse and think on their feet - qualities that gave her a definite advantage when entering the legal profession. She also remembers it being quite a culture shock (after UCT) when she was "confronted with row upon row of hairy-legged men in khaki shorts, socks and sandals, who had already taken all of the available seats!"

Alumni who inspire

Such was the high calibre of leadership and community mindfulness that four Old Rhodian Awards were awarded this year. Our two Emerging Old Rhodian awardees exemplify business acumen and social and political savvy



Paul Greenway

TREVOR EVANS

Rhodes champion: Trevor Evans has played a significant advocacy role for the University and he has without question been one of Rhodes' most influential ambassadors over the years. As director, chief executive officer and his several roles in Metal Box, Nampak and within the packaging industry of South Africa and internationally, Evans has been a leader in his industry. He received the gold medal from Plastics Federation of South Africa for exceptional service to his industry and the Black Management Forum named him "The most progressive chief executive in South Africa."

Since 1999 he has served on the Rhodes Board of Governors, became Chair in 2005 and served in this position until early 2012. He initiated and facilitated the establishment of the Rhodes Development Committee, set up to provide assistance to the University in funding large infrastructural and academic development projects. He accompanied the fundraising team on visits to donors and willingly used his extensive network of contacts to open doors. In addition to this, Trevor also served on the Rhodes Business School Board of Advisors.

While Evans was head of Nampak and during the Centenary Campaign between 2001 and 2004, Nampak donated R1 million towards a postgraduate scholarship in Environmental Management. He also personally made a generous donation to the Library campaign.



Paul Greenway

PROFESSOR PAUL SKELTON

Science and truth: "Seeking the 'truth' is behind science and 'honesty and truthfulness' go hand in hand, so, when pushed I would say that 'being true to myself' is what I try to be."

Paul Skelton was largely responsible for the establishment of the South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity (SAIAB) as a national facility and internationally renowned marine research platform in South Africa. His excellence as a leader, a negotiator and partnership developer came to the fore as he guided the Institute as a new member of the National Research Foundation (NRF) family. Having demonstrated its relevance to crucial conservation initiatives, SAIAB also began to play a role as an educational and training provider. The Bright Sparks Development Programme is a model to encourage and support disadvantaged learners to engage in freshwater science and to follow a career in science, thus contributing to capacity development in South Africa. SAIAB itself underwent major infrastructural reconstruction and on his retirement in 2011 he left behind a state-of-the-art collections building, a new collections management centre, library facility, molecular biology laboratory and refurbished building. Such was his impact during his SAIAB tenure, that Skelton was made a Member of the Executive of the NRF. He is currently Managing Director Emeritus of SAIAB.

There were two clear defining moments that led to Skelton becoming an ichthyologist. The first was while working as a 'learner official' on the coal mines: "Following a particular incident, I realised that underground was not where I wanted to be, and that above all else I wanted to be a biologist." The second 'moment' was meeting Dr Rex Jubb during his Honours year.

STUART PENNINGTON

Personal mantra: "We don't describe the future we see, we see the future we describe."

Steuart Pennington is the chairman of Executive Office of South Africa – The Good News and through this has helped inspire our nation to believe in its own future. Increasingly concerned about the extent to which South Africans understood the truth of their own country, he gave up a successful career in industrial relations and strategic consulting to write and self-publish a book on progress in South Africa since 1994. Eight other books followed. He has since reached over 60 000 South Africans at approximately 500 talks and his website now has 40 000 readers and 20 000 Twitter followers. He also takes his messages to disadvantaged schools in townships and rural areas, speaks on a weekly basis on SAfm to some 800 000 listeners and is a regular correspondent with major newspapers. The sales of Pennington's first book rose to 10 000 in six months and he was acknowledged by President Mbeki twice in his weekly newsletter for positively contributing to the South African narrative.

He has generously donated to Rhodes in his personal capacity.



RIGHT REVEREND DUNCAN BUCHANAN

Leading by example: "One of the things we have learned in South Africa is that you can start by being hugely polarised but that doesn't mean that's where you'll end up."

Duncan Buchanan loved to teach and write and was convinced that we all have a responsibility to set an example. His book, *Breaking a Mould*, the text of which was completed shortly before he passed away last year, is based on the 14 years he was Bishop of Johannesburg, spanning some very turbulent and difficult years in the history of South Africa.

His deep interest in the welfare of all South Africans and his compassion for humankind was evident from the very outset of his career. He was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the General Theological Seminary of New York in 1987. He became chairperson of the Church Unity Commission and helped initiate the Johannesburg Church Leaders' forum. He was chairman of the SA Anglican Theological Commission and the Theological Education by Extension College. In 2006 St John's College awarded him the prestigious "Eagle Award" and he served as Bishop's Representative on the Council of St John. Buchanan had a long association with Grahamstown and Rhodes as vice-principal and principal of St Paul's Theological College, and as Archdeacon of Albany. He worked tirelessly to support Rhodes as a member of the Board of Governors and also as chairman of the Johannesburg Rhodes University Bequest Association. In his personal capacity he donated to the University on a regular basis. The award was presented to his wife Di and family, at the Johannesburg bequest function last year.

AYANDA MBANGA

Philosophy: "Fail fast. Fix fast," says Ayanda Mbanga. "Essentially this means that if you do not stick your head out and take a chance, you are unlikely to make significant inroads."

Mbanga is the founder of recruitment advertising company Ayanda Mbanga Communications, a company that is currently rated second out of some 35 recruitment advertising companies in South Africa and now forms part of the Saatchi and Saatchi group. She was appointed deputy CEO of Saatchi and Saatchi South Africa in 2011 and is responsible for driving new business development, talent management and group client relations. This same company gave her her very first break as a copywriter in 1994. She received the Black Business Executive

Kaelo Award for 2012.

Social responsibility is an important pillar of her company and it is a committed supporter of community projects such as the Mount Zion ex-offenders Rehabilitation Centre in Hillbrow, Orange Farm Community Library Donation project, Legal Resource Centre, Lesbian and Gay Equality Project, and the Cancer Association of South Africa. She also offers professional consulting services to a number of Section 21 not-for-profit organisations at highly discounted rates.

She continues to serve her alma mater by facilitating a number of Rhodes graduates' placements in her company's graduate placement programme and at Saatchi and Saatchi, offering tomorrow's leaders the type of boost that helped launch her own career.



EUSEBIUS MCKAISER

Political activist: Eusebius McKaiser thrives on getting to grips with the social and political topics that impact on our lives, and making people sit up and take notice of this.

He is currently an associate political and social analyst at the Wits Centre for Ethics where he most recently participated in research that examined the relationship between civil society and the state in the policy arena, particularly in the light of the changing post-Polokwane political landscape. McKaiser was born in Grahamstown to a family of little means. He graduated his Master in Philosophy with distinction and was awarded a Rhodes scholarship to study at the University of Oxford. In 2010 he was named among the *Mail & Guardian's* Top 200 South Africans to take to lunch.

He writes widely in the local and international press and has a particular interest in questions of identity and their policy implications. He is also community driven and provides a living example of victory over racism and homophobia. In this role he has returned to Rhodes as a speaker and will this year feature as one of the TEDxRhodesU speakers on the topic of "Africa Inspired". He is both sensitive and responsive to the urgent need for rational and open discussion of HIV/Aids, sex, getting tested and the ethics of disclosing your status. He recently published his controversial bestseller *A Bantu in my Bathroom*.

OUR CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY ANNOUNCED 2013 AWARDEES

DISTINGUISHED

Dr Janet Cherry of Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University is a fighter for justice.

Dr Sandile Malinga is making waves as CEO of the South African Space Agency.

EMERGING

Jennifer Thorpe is a champion of women's issues and rights.

Nomkhita Nqweni is head of ABSA Wealth and Investment Management.

STAFF ACHIEVERS

First Rhodes academic to hold the CFA Charterholder

Professor Mark Bunting of the Department of Accounting is the first Rhodes academic ever to achieve the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Charterholder professional designation conferred by the CFA Institute in the United States. This is a globally recognised postgraduate qualification standard for finance professionals. Worldwide, there are approximately 116 000 CFA charterholders in more than 100 countries, working in finance, investments, retirement planning and asset management, and a very small number in academia. In South Africa, there are approximately 1 500 charterholders, as opposed to 34 000 who are chartered accountants. However, the strength of the CFA qualification in South Africa is dramatically illustrated by the fact that in this country a similar number of candidates write the CFA and SAICA exams each year. Of about 119 000 candidates who wrote the CFA Level 1, 2 and 3 exams in June 2012, only 43% passed.

There is increased interest among Rhodes students in a CFA-relevant fourth year offering at Rhodes. For historical reasons, Rhodes has been able to react only partially to this demand, by offering a Finance Honours qualification to students with an accounting background. Bunting's achievement opens up the possibility of extending a CFA curriculum-based postgraduate offering at Rhodes to a wider range of students, with bachelor's degrees in disciplines as diverse as economics, management, information systems and statistics.



President of LIASA

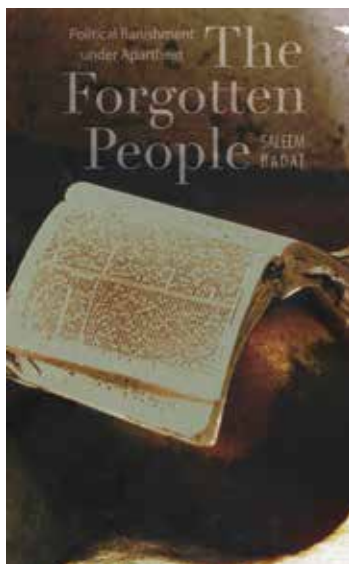
The director of Library Services, Ujala Satgoor, was elected as the new president of the Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA) for the term 2012 to 2014. "While we have consolidated and strengthened our credibility and platform we are now well positioned to take the lead on locating the profession within the broader socio-economic development agenda," she said. Among LIASA's strategies are to provide dynamic leadership for the sector in terms of current trends and best practices, norms and standards as well as engaging with the political and economic issues impacting libraries and creating awareness of the role of libraries within the context of development in South Africa.



Making Way

Making Way: Contemporary Art from South Africa and China, curated by Ruth Simbao, associate professor of Art History & Visual Culture, invokes the Chinese concept *kailu* and the Xhosa phrase *ukuvulindlela* — "opening up the road" — to present a range of responses to migration, travel and movement. Simbao's curation is motivated by a desire to find the middle way between two opposing but equally popular views about China-and-Africa. On the one hand, there is the narrative of China as economic saviour of our continent, seeking to establish mutually beneficial trade and industry agreements. On the other, there is Sinophobia: China is the new imperial power in Africa, it shows scant regard for democracy and human rights. Simbao allows geopolitical discourses to recede or blur as the artists she has selected focus on the lives of individuals and communities. (This is an excerpt from a piece by Chris Thurman for *Business Day Live*)

First exhibited at the 2012 National Arts Festival, *Making Way* was at the Standard Bank Gallery in Johannesburg from 30 January – 28 March 2013. For more information about *Making Way* see www.makingway.co.za.



VC's new book a first on political banishment

Rhodes University Vice-Chancellor Dr Saleem Badat's new book *The Forgotten People: Political Banishment under Apartheid* answers many questions about banishment, a largely hidden and unknown aspect of our "brutal history". This is the first study of an important but hitherto neglected group of opponents of apartheid, set in a global, historical and comparative perspective. It looks at the reasons why people were banished, their lives in banishment and the efforts of a remarkable group of activists, led by Helen Joseph, to assist them. The work is illustrated with stunning photographs by Ernest Cole, Peter Magubane and others.



Stephané Meintjes

English Academy gold medal

The former head of the English Department, Professor Malvern van Wyk Smith, was awarded an English Academy of Southern Africa gold medal for his lifetime achievements as a teacher, academic and literary scholar. The author of several acclaimed books, the retired professor has made major contributions to English in South Africa, including many years as a member of the joint matriculation board and chairman of its English committee, a member of the National English Literary Museum council and on the board of the Dictionary Unit of South African English. "We lost at least two decades in the 1970s and 80s – in the throes of apartheid and academic boycotts – wrangling in the mudbaths of polemic rather than engaging in the hard graft of scholarship," he says. "Literary theory does not make good frontline reading, poems are not petrol bombs, and conference halls become venues for comedy rather than discovery when they are mistaken for combat zones."

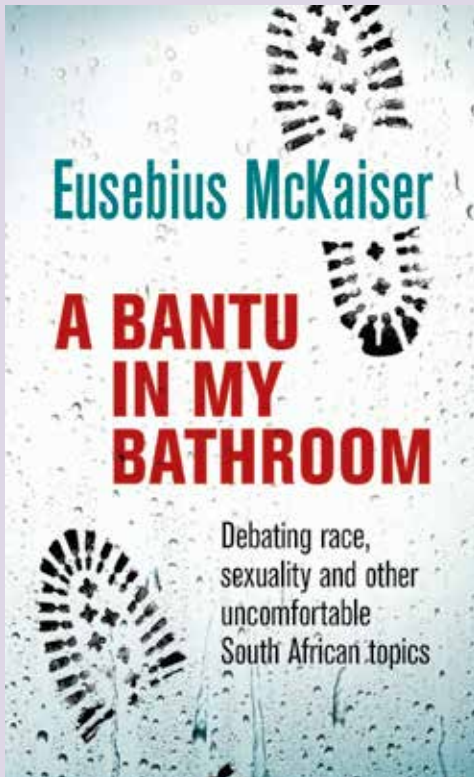
Research project: A new history of Rhodes University

Professor Paul Maylam, former head of the Rhodes History Department who retired recently, is engaged in a three-year project to produce a new history of Rhodes University. The project is funded by the Mellon Foundation, and will also involve postgraduate students. Maylam has been working through the early records of the University, held in the Cory Library, as well as consulting the archives of the Rhodes Trust in Oxford – the body that provided most of the funding that enabled the establishment of Rhodes University College in 1904. He aims not to write a dry institutional history but rather a book that is readable and colourful, covering the academic, cultural, political, social and recreational life of the University, highlighting particular personalities and episodes, while being at once both celebratory and critical in its approach. He will soon be approaching past and present staff and students with a view to conducting interviews. Maylam particularly welcomes contributions – stories, memories, documents, or other items of interest – from anybody who has been associated with the University. He can be reached at p.maylam@ru.ac.za, or at the following address: History Department, Rhodes University, PO Box 94, Grahamstown 6140.



Stephané Meintjes

RHODES ALUMNI MAKING THE NEWS



Controversial bestseller by alumnus

In May alumnus Eusebius McKaiser launched his book on the Rhodes campus. The controversial book is a collection of essays about race, sexuality and other uncomfortable South African topics. It became a best-seller within a couple of weeks of publication, and was printed four times in six months. He is currently working on his second book, a polemic about the DA's chances in the 2014 elections. Read more about Eusebius McKaiser in our story about the Emerging Old Rhodian Awards on page 31.



Moira Lister Theatre Award

Drama Masters graduate Madelé Vermaak was awarded the prestigious Moira Lister Theatre Award in 2012, given to a Rhodes University drama student for the first time. She was recognised for the body of work she created while at Rhodes, and her directing debut at the 2012 National Arts Festival. The award was a financial boost for the emerging artist and she put some of it towards bringing *Tender* back to Festival this year. "It's a little bit of a different process this year, seeing as I am now a freelance artist in Cape Town and no longer a student with all the wonderful resources that a university offers at my disposal," she said. "However the Drama Department at Rhodes continues to be a supportive environment for me!" She completed her Masters in 2012 with distinction. Her music band Footnotes has been performing at venues all over Cape Town and are currently in the process of recording. She works as a freelance performer and writes online articles to help pay the bills. After festival she joins the cast of *In the Wings*, directed by Jared Kruger at ARTSCAPE, and another choreographed by Alan Parker at the Theatre Arts Admin Collective.

STUDENTS REACHING FOR THE STARS

Geography fellowship success

Geography student Natalie Ellis, who is now doing her Honours, and her mentor Professor Roddy Fox were selected for the MyCOE/SERVIR fellowship programme in Nairobi, Kenya, in December last year. They were among a select 18 out of over 150 applicants from African countries. The 10-year-old programme is funded by NASA and arose out the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002 and promotes the use of geography for sustainable development. Remote sensing and GIS special analysis has potential application for land degradation, extreme weather events, flooding, growing crops, and coastal events amongst others. "It was good training as I had to formulate my abstract, which gave me new confidence in my project, and one of the exercises was to pitch the project as if I was presenting to prospective funders," says Ellis. She has now developed her own network of contacts through the American Association of Geographers to share information with and to collaborate on studies, it opens her to new funding opportunities and also possible job openings. Completing her Honours project at the end of this year, Ellis has started looking towards her Masters application.

Paul Greenway



Abe Bailey Travel Bursary

Amy Richardson, a Masters student in English Language and Linguistics, was awarded the 2012 Abe Bailey Travel Bursary. The bursary selects a single candidate from 16 South African universities for the sole purpose of cultivating future leaders through travel, giving them the chance to experience British culture and history, while also fostering unity and understanding among South Africans of various cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Richardson's Masters looks at access to literacy and "the mismatch between frames of reference for people from different backgrounds". She is a serious student who funded her own studies from the beginning, having worked the year following high school to save for university. While on the tour, each recipient gives a presentation on topics of special interest, ranging from politics and education to development and economics. As Richardson herself points out, "travel gives you a kind of education and experience you can't get from books".

Stephané Meintjes



Mandela Rhodes Scholarship Awards

LIHLE MANCOBA, ABIGAIL McDougall AND MICHAEL GLOVER, WERE AMONG THE 29 YOUNG AFRICANS TO RECEIVE THE PRESTIGIOUS MANDELA RHODES SCHOLARSHIP FOR 2013



MICHAEL GLOVER

Glover, who was involved with the Rhodes Organisation for Animal Rights and the GADRA matric school 'Critical Thinking Skills' course, completed his Honours with Academic Colours through the Philosophy Department. He is now at the University of Cape Town, where he is pursuing an MA in Historical Studies. His interests are in policy and the vulnerable. "I recall fondly the friendliness and patience of the English and Philosophy departments. The teaching was excellent and engaged," he said. "I am extremely grateful for the scholarship and feel the weight of its accompanying responsibility."

LIHLE MANCOBA

Mancoba has focused on youth development and coordinated an annual programme called the Young Women's Dialogue to provide a platform for local Grade 8 to 10 girls to discuss challenges and realise their potential. Mancoba is undertaking a Joint Honours in Organisational Psychology and Political Studies.

ABIGAIL McDougall

McDougall was involved in Galela Amanzi from 2010 and chaired the organisation in 2012. The organisation has forged links with local businesses and community groups with the goal of providing rain water tanks to impoverished areas. She has a BA in Journalism and Media Studies and Political and International Studies, and Honours in Political and International Studies. Her academic interests have centred on development journalism and she is currently studying towards a Masters in Sustainable Development at the University Stellenbosch. The full-time, two-year programme is a combination of coursework and thesis, but the first year of coursework is technically a separate BPhil and funded by the Mandela Rhodes foundation.



10 OLD RHODIANS IN THE M&G'S 200 YOUNG SOUTH AFRICANS!

At Rhodes we're inspired to hear news of our alumni making their mark on the world. This year we're exhilarated to learn that no fewer than 10 Old Rhodians were singled out as young people who are making South Africa's future bright and beautiful.

"Each year *Mail & Guardian* find 200 young people, aged 35 and under, who were born here or have made South Africa their home, and who are full of talent, dreams and drive," wrote Tanya Pampalone, the executive editor of 200 Young South Africans. "What we know without a doubt is that next year we will find 200 more that are doing even more spectacular things. Turns out South Africa is full of overachievers."

We're proud to see Rhodes alumni are making a strong contribution to the over-achievers in the country, they are:

- Poet and writer Genna Gardini (2005)
- Visual and performance artist Gerald Machona (2011)
- Physical performer and artistic director Richard Antrobus (2001)
- Law professor Avinash Govindjee (1995)
- Finance and corporate services director Zoe Waters (1998)
- Medical anthropologist Gcobani Qambela (2007)
- PhD candidate Elizabeth Nosizwe Vale (2007)
- Artist and art history lecturer Nomusa Makhubu (2003)
- Assistant Professor of earth, ocean and atmospheric sciences Kim Sarah Bernard (1997)
- DA Parliamentary Research and Communications Phumzile van Damme (2003)

Mellon visit to Rhodes

The new President of the Andrew W Mellon Foundation, Professor Earl Lewis paid a visit to Rhodes at the end of June. The Andrew W Mellon Foundation only funds one country outside of the USA, and that is South Africa. Within this country its three key beneficiaries are UCT, Wits and Rhodes. The Mellon Foundation is Rhodes' largest US donor and has over the past five to six years provided support in the region of R50 million. In the past year alone there was some R8 million, and this year we have already received about R3.6 million for two projects and are awaiting another R6 million for a further two. The Mellon Foundation largely funds the Humanities and Social Sciences. The longstanding previous president of Mellon, Don Randel, has retired and Lewis, who was Provost of Emory University in Atlanta, has succeeded him. Lewis is a historian who holds a BA from Concordia College, and an MA and PhD from the University of Minnesota.



Stephané Meintjes

A sporting chance

The Rhodes Sports Foundation facilitates the maintenance, upgrading and building of new sporting infrastructures at Rhodes as well as serving as an endowment to a scholarship fund providing bursaries for outstanding people to attend Rhodes

Rhodes has an urgent need to improve the facilities and through the Sports Foundation we hope to see more leadership and participation in raising and distributing funds. In this regard, the Sports Council has just finished a first draft of Rhodes Sports Strategic Plan.

Although traditionally small in terms of its ability to compete with the larger universities, we have several high profile sportsmen and women at Rhodes and all those involved have a passion for raising the profile of sport at Rhodes. The Department of Human Kinetics and Ergonomics have teamed up with the Rowing Club to set up protocols and criteria for a High Performance Program and provide an example of how academics and sporting programmes are mutually beneficial.

Recent Lotto funds to the value of R1.2 million, for which Rhodes Sports has recently signed an agreement with the Board, will be strategically invested in growing the sporting offerings at Rhodes: R1.192 million is for Rowing High Performance and R80 000 is for soccer, netball, hockey, and karate community outreach programmes at R20 000 each. "The funds will be transferred in two tranches of

R800k first and R400k after the submission of a report," said Mandla Gagayi, the Head of Sport. "The funding will be enough for the first phase but because all these programs are long term we will definitely need more funding in future."

Other recent highlights for sports at Rhodes have included:

- In the past year Rhodes University has signed an agreement with Furman University in the United States where three rugby players from each university will be taking part in an exchange programme.
- In July this year Gagayi represented South Africa in Russia as the Deputy Chef de Mission of University Sports South Africa (USSA) in the delegation that travelled to the World Student Games held in Kazan.

In terms of events to look forward to, the ever-popular Intervarsity will be hosted at NMMYU this year and for sporting alumni, the Old Rhodian Golf Club is as active as ever and the Sutherland Golf Day will be held at Royal Johannesburg & Kensington Golf Club on Friday 15 November. Also a credit to our alumni, the only major sporting bursary given annually is the Old Rhodian Golf Club bursary – this year it was awarded to a rower, Nicholas Greeff.



Rhodes Alumni Relations Manager, Qondakele Sompondo, and the Head of Sports, Mandla Gagayi.

An online alumni survey has given us a clearer indication of the type of interactions you'd like to have with Rhodes

BY QONDAKELE SOMPONDO

As part of our strategic planning process and endeavours to tailor our programs and services according to the preferences of our alumni, Rhodes University's Development and Alumni Relations division launched a comprehensive online survey for its Alumni in May 2013 with the help of GlobalFluency, an international marketing firm, and The SABLE Accelerator, a global network of South African expats advancing commercial innovation in South Africa. The marketing firm is owned by Old Rhodian, Donovan Neale-May, a member of the Rhodes University Board of Governors and chairman of the Rhodes University Trust USA. He also authored the survey.

Rhodes invited over 18000 alumni with traceable emails to take the survey. There were 957 participants from 22 countries. Some 40 percent of respondents (387) currently reside abroad.

The data has been compiled and analyzed and some overarching themes have emerged. We have found that:

- 74 percent view their time spent at Rhodes as extremely memorable and valuable

Talking to you

- 79 percent of alumni believe that the unique campus and community setting distinguishes Rhodes as a place of higher learning;
- 67 percent point to academic standards and teaching excellence
- 47 percent say a better understanding of where contributions go would encourage them to donate
- 37 percent say that interesting and groundbreaking projects, or research, would encourage donations

The majority of these Global South Africans still identify with their home country – 36 percent say they have strong emotional and cultural attachment and 51 percent retain affinity and connections.

Several key indicators will help us to target our communication with alumni in a way that is informative to their interests and assists us in attaining our end goals.

Longstanding friendships are the primary way alumni stay in touch with one another and the University. And more than half of alumni favour digital media channels (social media, web sites, mobile devices) as ways of engaging them with news from their alma mater.

Only a small percentage of Old Rhodians rely on the alumni website and 49 percent have never visited the site. Those who have visited feel strongly that the website could be improved to make it more navigable, current

and engaging.

In addition many believe that Rhodes should provide better "early career" assistance, including: 1) professional mentoring; 2) business internships; 3) job placement services; 4) career counseling.

Given their economic status, alumni are most inclined to help Rhodes by sharing experiences, making introductions, mentoring, using their influence on behalf of the university, and contacting other alumni.

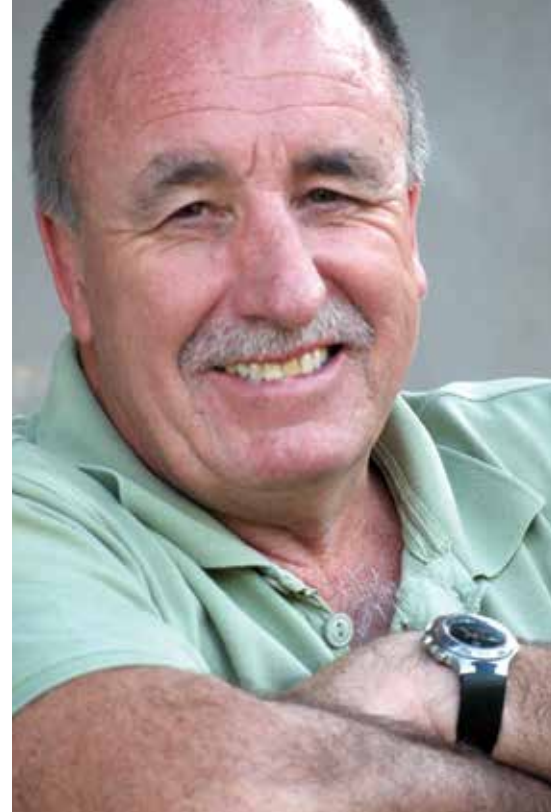
While a pleasing 71 percent of alumni would attend a reunion if it were held close to them, only 20 percent would attend a fundraising event.

Just 29 percent of Old Rhodians have contributed money to Rhodes in the past. With a better understanding of where contributions would go, in addition to communication about developments, interesting, groundbreaking projects or research from Rhodes, more of them would feel encouraged to donate.

As a feather in our caps 49 percent of alumni believe that Rhodes is equal in calibre, or better than, leading private colleges or universities in other parts of the world. However, 42 percent agree that Rhodes does need to raise its profile to become better known outside of South Africa and to gain prominence internationally. A good 57 percent of alumni have the confidence in our standing to refer and recommend Rhodes to others.



**THE SABLE
ACCELERATOR**™
SOUTH AFRICAN BUSINESS LINK TO EXPERTS



Donovan Neale-May is an Old Rhodian, the owner of GlobalFluency, an international marketing firm, and the brains behind The SABLE Accelerator. He is also a member of the Rhodes University Board of Governors and chairman of the Rhodes University Trust USA.

CONNECTING EXPERTS

*South Africa's new silicon valley-based
springboard for business has its roots at Rhodes*

Co-Founded by Old Rhodians in August 2012, The SABLE Accelerator is a knowledge and consulting network of highly influential expatriates, dedicated to jump-starting South African business ventures in world markets.

Offering their know-how on access to capital, licensing, markets and partners, SABLE's advisors – from CEOs to university academics and NASA technology pioneers – have signed up expressly to “give back” to local innovators, and South Africa's economy as a whole.

SABLE is partnering with the CSIR and The Innovation Agency to optimise technology transfer and intellectual property pathways for local start-ups. And it has forged close links with SA Good News and Brand South Africa, as part of its core mission to help boost South Africa's image.

After a generation of competing as outsiders in the west, South African expatriates have emerged often as leaders of global industries. Beyond well known names like Elon Musk, YouTube financier Roelof Botha, or Westpac's Gail Kelly, South Africans now lead a swathe of key western institutions, from the Stanford School of Business to giant pharmaceutical companies, like AmerisourceBergen, to America's largest residential clean energy company, Solar City.

SABLE's fast-growing advisory board already features over 60 key industry experts, including Pieter de Villiers, CEO of Clickatell, Roelof van Ark, past CEO of the California High-Speed Rail Authority, and Bernard Wolfsdorf, the world's highest-rated immigrations lawyer. A host of Old Rhodians on the

board include Michael Spicer, former executive vice president of Anglo American, Cedric Tyler, CEO and founder of BusinessGenetics and Barifor, and Dr Liam Pedersen, NASA team leader on autonomous space exploration rovers.

Their common message is this: South African entrepreneurs need no longer “cold call” for partners, knowledge transfer and funding in the west; they'll find highly placed mentors in the global marketplace with surprisingly familiar accents at the top end of the rope. Crucially, these experts are on hand to advise on product strategy in western markets – and to guard against the notorious “down-side” of South African ingenuity: that the best product doesn't always win; especially with an overwhelming focus on product development. (Just ask the ingenious designers of the Rooivalk helicopter and the Joule electric car).

Are you a life science start up, wondering how to license and commercialise your drug or device, and navigate standards and compliance with the Food and Drug Administration? SABLE's Dr Stephen Bell (yet another Old Rhodian) co-founded a \$250 million pharmaceuticals company from patents he personally re-engineered in American labs, and is now a Trustee with the U.S. Federal Trade Commission – and his Life Science Initiative team is available to guide you through it all.

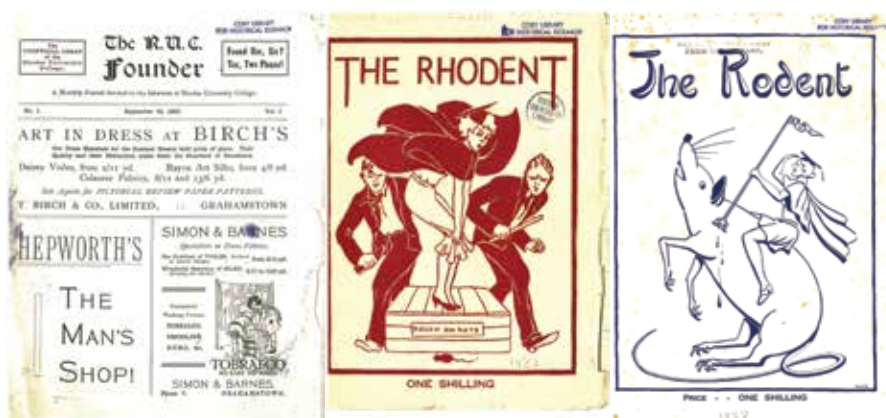
Are you an exporter needing to map customer demand and trends within the U.S. market? SABLE has three key South African academics at the Stanford School of Business to help survey the landscape for your product, as well as an abundance of expertise on entry into new markets.

It's notable that every one of the dozens of Old Rhodians directly associated with SABLE credit their university education, and the broader fellowship among its alumni, for much of their commercial success overseas – from Raymond Low, chief financial officer at AXT, to Desmond Low-Kum, risk director at the Stanford Management Company.

And it's the innovative, big-thinking, collaborative spirit of Rhodes which is driving this new business bridge for all South Africans, while a new survey of over 300 expatriate alumni makes clear their collective optimism for the country, and their commitment to support home-grown ideas.

SABLE is committed to nurturing the nurturer: assisting with both the structuring of the University's Technology Transfer Office and the launch of a new Biotechnology & Innovation Centre.

But SABLE's own growth will hinge on your response to this new, uniquely South African tool for success. And so the knowledge network invites all South African innovators, entrepreneurs and academics to consult the website and become members (or expert advisers), and to take advantage of bright western trails already blazed. Learn more at <http://www.bpinetwork.org/>.



A SHORT HISTORY OF RATS... or Rhodents

The Rhodes student association with rats has grown over the years and who could have resisted the more obvious and literal interpretations – we're Rhodents after all but rats are also pretty fast-learning, cunning and versatile creatures. It was a match. Dig a little into the student press archives and it is probably safe to say that the rat has been used as a Rhodes student symbol pretty much from the beginning.

The Rhodent was the name of the annual Rhodes Rag magazine, sold to raise funds for charities. Cory Library holds an early edition, Vol. V, from 1933, on which the cover shows a woman student on a platform labelled "rough on rats", cowering at the sight of a small rat in the foreground, while two male students bear down on it.

The title page states: *The Rhodent* incorporating *The RUC Founder*. Under patronage of the Master - Prof. CW Bowles, MA. Official organ of the R.A.T.S. (Rhodian Associated Tomfoolery Societies!). Above the contents there is a drawing of three rats – two blowing trumpets, and one banging a drum.

Of the early copies of *The Rhodent* (Cory has 1933, 1938, 1939, 1946, 1952-65) only 1946, 1963 and 1964 do NOT have the image of a rat somewhere on the cover.

"*The RUC Founder* started in September 1927 as 'a monthly journal devoted to the interests of Rhodes University College' but I don't think it ever actually was a monthly! It does not refer to students as Rhodents, and

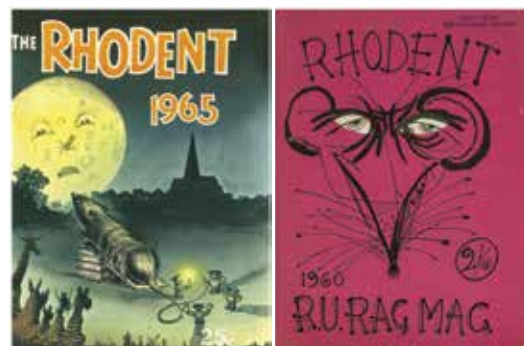
there are no illustrations," says Liz de Wet from Cory. "It therefore seems that the 1933 *Rhodent* was the first depiction of a rat in connection with students."

Has this rat been successfully sniffed out? What better explanation for it than the Rhodian Associated Tomfoolery Societies? Rats or not, Rhodes students are well known for their mischievous pranks and antics.

The content of *The Rhodent* makes fascinating reading – it is light hearted and a lot is tongue in cheek, yet the prevailing sexist idiom of the times is very apparent and there is a fascinating use of slang.

So while some things change and today we have a more inclusive student body that strives to celebrate and embrace its diversity across race, gender, sexual orientation and cultural difference, the Rhodes rat is an abiding symbol of the Rhodes spirit of fun.

Rhodie, our current mascot was ordered by the Student Representative Council in 2012 who took inspiration from the 2012 RAD Rhodent. This Rhodent was designed specifically for 2012 first-year students who each received a metal badge upon registration. RAD is an acronym for Rhodes Alumni Development. "This year we designed another RAD Rhodent and put it on a key ring and so, in future years, each intake will have their own Rhodent designed especially for them," explains Terryl McCarthy, the Alumni Relations Officer.



GET YOUR OWN LIMITED EDITION RHODENT PICTURE

We are selling Rhodent pictures from Alumni House and all sales are going towards Give5 from where it will be contributed to the Pocket Money Fund. The artists who drew these pictures for us are Brenda Sweetman, who is a previous staff member and Jaine Rist, who is married to an Old Rhodian, Reverend Tim Rist. "The Rists' son, Troy, was awarded an ORU Bursary Award, and so she designed some rats for us to use as a thank you and a part in giving back," said Alumni Relations Manager Terryl McCarthy. Visit us at Alumni House or email alumni@ru.ac.za to get yours.



Walking ON FIRE

This year Rhodes Alumni Development (RAD) and the Students' Representative Council (SRC) collaborated with CASE ASAP, and launched their first Student Engagement and Philanthropy Day on 28 February. Institutions around the world hold organised events and activities to enhance awareness and engagement of students in higher education advancement. RAD and the SRC invited students to RU GAME? at the SRC Library wall to launch the Give5 Fire Walk Challenge



Uva Ngattjizeko, Tim Yelland and Goalese Moroeng are members of the Botha House student body, the winners of the Give 5 student giving campaign.

It is common knowledge that Rhodes students will do just about anything to help their fellow students

As is expected of the popular Give 5 campus fundraising campaign, our supporters went the extra mile this year, this time on a four-metre bed of hot coals.

The Give 5 Fire Walk took place in April and 36 daredevils walked on hot coals to raise money for the Pocket Money Fund, which was selected by students as a worthy beneficiary again this year. The Pocket Money Fund assists needy students with a monthly allowance.

The Phoenix Foundation's Gordon Cooper briefed participants beforehand and guided them through their first walk across the coals. The fire walkers were supported by chanting staff and students who willed them across the coals each step of the way. Roger Adams, the Deputy Dean of Students, literally walked the talk by taking several walks across the coals.

If fire walking is seen as a method of overcoming personal obstacles, then there is no better fit for Give 5. As SRC President Sakhe Badi commented, the concept of fire walking for charity contributed to the idea of walking in someone else's shoes.

Fundraising began in earnest after the fire walk with Community Engagement representatives and senior students from each residence running the collection week. Volunteers baked muffins, held events, sold doughnuts, and tables were set up around campus to collect donations of R5 or more.

Competition was tough with students from Adamson and Oakdene House putting in a lot of work and taking an early lead. Botha and College House took up the challenge and stepped up their game with Botha House being the winning Res and Founders Hall, the winning Hall. By the end of the week, Rhodes students had raised R47 859.36!

If you would like to see the fire walkers in action visit <http://goo.gl/QyuRdF>

SHOW YOUR TRUE COLOURS ON THURSDAYS

PURPLE IS THE RAGE

Have you been wearing purple each Thursday as you recall your days as a student with pride and the many fond memories of Rhodes? Well, Purple Thursday is now an established Rhodes calendar weekly event and we regularly receive photographs from near and far via email and on our Facebook page. On campus, staff and students turn out in pantone shades of purple on Thursdays. Our family of students, alumni and staff is certainly unified in the understanding that leadership based on Strength, Virtue, Truth is all of our responsibility.

Rumour has it that the more shades you wear together, the more likely you're going to cajole a curious onlooker into asking you why you're dressed like that. What an ideal opportunity to spread the Rhodes legacy to a complete stranger.

DVC: Student Affairs Dr Sizwe Mabizela, Vice-Chancellor: Dr Saleem Badat, and DVC: Research Dr Peter Clayton get into the purple groove.





Staff and students around campus sporting their purple colours.

Wear purple on Thursday
and help us show the world
the true colour of leadership

LET THE PURPLE REIGN

PURPLE POWER PEOPLE POWER

The Rhodes family has a happy knack for staying united; over the years and across the many distances between some of us there is an instant familiarity, a picking up where we last left off, so

that at these events we are really able to reunite with the members of our Rhodes family.

The theme for the 2012 reunions appealed to Old Rhodians to continue to show leadership in society through their individual conduct, values and deeds. It is at Rhodes – #Where leaders learn – that we begin to understand that leadership is everyone's responsibility. By embracing these values of Strength, Virtue, Truth, Old Rhodians have become true leaders who bring power to the people.

Reunion events were held in London, Sydney and Brisbane as well as back home in Durban, Johannesburg, Cape Town and Knysna.





Our Rhodes reunions are infinitely more than just a collection of social gatherings where groups of people who have not seen each other for some time reunite



WILL YOU JOIN US IN 2013?

We met up with Old Rhodians in Perth earlier this year and could be coming to a city near you shortly. This year the theme is *The Purple Legacy* and calls Old Rhodians to action to embrace their ability and responsibility to carry that legacy forward. Make sure you place our 2013 REUNION DATES in your calendars:

CAPE TOWN – 4 OCTOBER
UK (LONDON) – 23 OCTOBER
DURBAN – 1 NOVEMBER
JOHANNESBURG – 8 NOVEMBER

Please update your details regularly so that we can stay in touch. Notify us of changes in your contact details online or email alumni@ru.ac.za. Or call our Alumni Relations Officer, Terry McCarthy on 046 603 8887 or email t.mccarthy@ru.ac.za



THE OLD AND
THE NEW RHODIANS

RU NETWORKING?

Above: Rhodie the Rhodes mascot was there to stir some giggles too.
Below: The Old and the New Rhodians.

Some 60 guests consisting of Old Rhodians, first-year students and academic staff attended an Old Rhodian Cocktail Party held in February during Orientation at Alumni House. This was a unique opportunity to connect with Old Rhodians who were returning to campus to drop off their children or relatives who were about to embark on their own journey with Rhodes. It also offered the chance to provide new students with a sneak preview of the lifelong relationships they will enjoy with fellow members of their extended Rhodes family in years to come.

Do you want to be aware of the news coming out of Rhodes University as and when it happens? Our Facebook page brings you events on campus as well as across the world, and gives immediate and intimate insight into university life.

Reconnect with your alma mater, find long lost friends from your varsity days, find out who is doing what and stay abreast of new developments on campus. The Alumni Relations Manager, Terry McCarthy, is excited that more alumni are now connecting with Rhodes and each other via our social networks. If you'd like to see events unfold on campus as they happen, connect with us via Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. We would love to hear from our Old Rhodians around the world, so please feel free to post your comments, memories, photographs from your varsity days and updates on our networks too.



facebook

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/RHODESUNIVERSITY



twitter

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linkedin

[RHODES UNIVERSITY](https://www.linkedin.com/company/rhodes-university)

FUTURE PERFECT RU Giving?

WITH A LITTLE FORWARD
PLANNING WE CAN BRING
FRESH HOPE FOR THE
FUTURE EDUCATION OF
SOUTH AFRICA'S BRIGHT
YOUNG MINDS

We cannot underestimate the powerful impact of a bequest in the field of education. Through the generosity and vision of our alumni we are able to give today's students the opportunity to benefit from a top-class education and to be groomed for the possibility of becoming one of tomorrow's leaders.

Elizabeth Paterson came to Rhodes in 1944 to study English and History, ultimately finishing her studies with a Postgraduate Diploma in Education. Her sister, Mary, had studied at Rhodes prior to this, from 1939 till 1944, taking an identical study course but topping it off with a Masters in English.

Both sisters attended the very first bequest launch held in Cape Town and proceeded to put a lot of thought into leaving a bequest to Rhodes as their legacy to the future students of South Africa. Mary left money to her sister after she passed away in the knowledge that Elizabeth would be able to leave a bequest to Rhodes in her own estate. Elizabeth had been in regular contact with our Alumni Division over the years, showing great interest in how the residence experience and age-old academic traditions were upheld over the years. We were saddened to her of her passing earlier this year but are every grateful to the lasting legacy that the Patersons have left our students.

She has left a bequest to Rhodes that will go to bursaries in the English and Music departments as well as to purchasing books for the library. A true philanthropist with a keen interest in history and art, she has left further bequests to the Albany History Museum, the Tatham Gallery Trust in Pietermaritzburg and the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

Our sincere condolences go to the Paterson family on their loss. The sisters' legacy brings fresh hope for the future education of South Africa's bright young minds and we are profoundly grateful to her for this investment in the next generation.



Paul Greenway

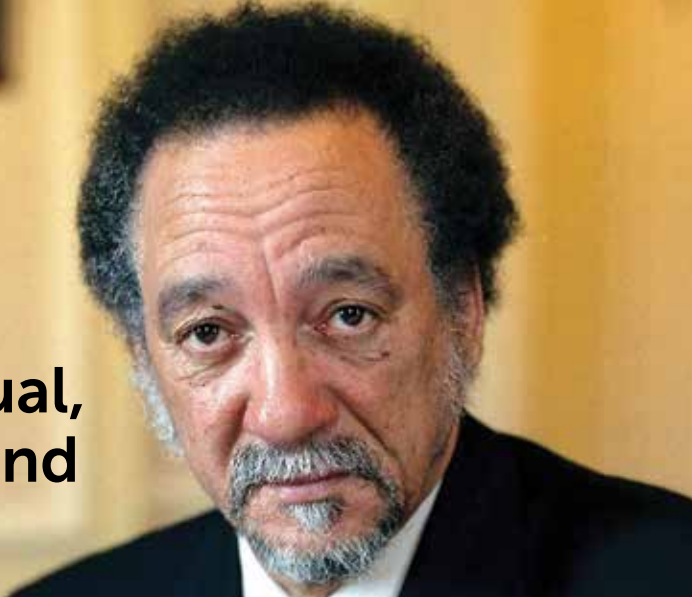


THE UK LEGACY LUNCHEON

At the 2012 UK Bequest Luncheon we launched the Bequest Association in the UK, with Mike Chapman (above) as the chairman and Tony Granger as the legal adviser. Re-launched as the UK Legacy Luncheon, the event will be held at the Victory Services Club in London on 23 October. All Old Rhodians over the age of 50 are encouraged to attend, join us and help to keep the legacy of Rhodes alive.

JAKES GERWEL
(1946–2012)

Humble intellectual, scholar and leader



Jakes Gerwel was an exceptional, courageous and pioneering South African intellectual, scholar, leader, activist and citizen with a deep commitment to equity, social justice and democracy. In a country deeply challenged to improve schooling and realise the potential of all youth, his example of a rural boy who achieved remarkable success under adverse conditions must serve as a source of inspiration for young people who struggle under the burden of dismal educational opportunities.

Through a long and distinguished association with the higher education sector, as an academic, dean, vice chancellor, chairperson of the Committee of University Principals in the early 1990s, Chancellor of Rhodes University, and chairperson of the Mandela Rhodes Foundation, Gerwel was an outstanding champion of higher education.

He became the first radical Vice-Chancellor of UWC – indeed, of any South African university. He boldly rejected the apartheid principles on which UWC had been established.

UWC committed itself to non-racism, non-sexism and social justice and “the development of the Third World communities in South Africa”. Access was opened to all South Africans and UWC began to ditch its previous baggage as a ‘coloured’ and ‘bush’ university. Intellectual debate flourished and UWC became an exciting space for socially committed and engaged scholarship. There was educational innovation that was years ahead of any other university. One area of profound work was in academic development programmes, which sought to provide ‘epistemological access’ and equity of opportunity for the poor. Many black intellectuals and scholars owe their achievements and positions to Gerwel’s bold and inspired leadership and the exciting intellectual environment that he cultivated at UWC.

Recognising Gerwel’s intellect, integrity, circumspect nature and pragmatic approach, Nelson Mandela invited him to become democratic South Africa’s first Director General in the Office of the President and Cabinet Secretary. According to Joel Netshitenze:

“His approach to the establishment of the Office of the President is a study in the calm management of a transition. The honest and deliberate way in which he sought to ease the remaining staff of the ‘old order’ into the new dispensation was as critical to a smooth transition as the celebrated efforts of President Nelson Mandela and other political leaders. He handled the apprehensions of the ‘old staff’ and the impatience of the new with a deftness that came to characterise the stability of our transition within the state and in broader society.”

Departing office with Mandela in 1999, he was to become a close confidant of Mandela, chair of the Nelson Mandela Foundation and his emissary on important political missions. The CEO of the Mandela Rhodes Foundation, Shaun Johnson, wrote:

“Without Jakes Gerwel’s contribution there would be no Nelson Mandela Centre of Memory, no Mandela Rhodes Foundation, and no Mandela Rhodes Scholars. Talk about leaving a legacy – these things would be lifetime achievements for most people, but in the case of Jakes they are a couple of sparkling pieces in a much larger kaleidoscope.”

Today, too many politicians, businesspersons and state officials have as their god accumulation through bribery, corruption and looting of the state. Jakes Gerwel, in contrast, is a magnificent symbol of intellectual, academic, social and personal integrity, and ethical professional conduct in the service of human good. He leaves a powerful legacy of bold leadership, critical scholarship, commitment to social justice and a humane society, and social action towards these ends. Koos Bekker, CEO of Naspers, said that he had examined some dictionaries for the antonym of ‘racist’ but could not find one. He concluded that the word should be ‘Jakes’.

Hambe kahle, bold, humble and gentle man, leader and mentor of great integrity and intellect and dry and understated wit. You will be dearly missed.

This is an excerpt taken from Dr Badat’s obituary for Jakes Gerwel published in the South African Journal of Science, Volume 109 Number 1/2, January/February 2013. For the full published version visit <http://dx.doi.org/10.1590/sajs.2013/a006>



AMINA CACHALIA
(1930 – 2013)

True guardian of the vulnerable

Once described by the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Saleem Badat as “a woman who embodies the qualities of selflessness, humility, compassion, courage, and determination”, it is with great humility as well as great honour that we pay tribute to struggle stalwart and anti-apartheid activist Amina Cachalia.

As a member of the ANC in the early 1950s, Cachalia worked hard to make the Defiance Campaign a success by distributing leaflets, making home visits and recruiting volunteers. She was arrested and sentenced to 14 days in Boksburg Prison for her participation in the Germiston March.

Her concern about the oppression of women led her to play an instrumental role in launching the Women’s Progressive Union in 1948, which aimed to make women financially independent.

In 1954, she took the lead in launching the Federation of South African Women (FEDSAW) to oppose the proposed extension of pass laws to black women, a campaign which culminated on 9 August 1956 in a national march of 20 000 women of all races to the Union Buildings to present their petition against pass laws – a day now celebrated in South Africa as Women’s Day.

In March 2012 Rhodes University named one of its student residences located in the Desmond Tutu Hall, in honour of this inspirational and extraordinary life.

Rhodes and the students of Amina Cachalia House have pledged to keep her memory alive and to continue in the spirit of one of South Africa’s well loved human rights activists, a true guardian of the vulnerable.

HELPING STUDENTS IN NEED HAS ITS OWN REWARDS

A welcome boost

The Old Rhodian Union was thrilled to be able to give out Old Rhodian Bursary Awards to the value of R174 000 to deserving students. The Chapman Bursaries and Scholarships were set up by Tony Ardington and Mike Chapman after Hugh Chapman passed away. "I welcome the chance to put in support for bursaries and scholarships and am pushing hard to have more set up and funded," says Chapman. "Sadly, there is now not enough in the fund to support as many as I would like and can see the need for every year."

A co-founder and former chairman of the Rhodes University UK Trust and currently chairman of the UK Old Rhodian Bequest Association, Chapman is serious about getting this most important need across and has appealed to all Old Rhodians to answer his call to action.

He says an annual update and details of who has been awarded is moving and rewarding in itself. "It is not a big amount, sadly, but it is so well received [by the recipients and their parents] that I wish all Old Rhodians and others could share in this gratitude and what it means to those who get them."

A recipient of one of the Chapman bursaries this year is Nadia Schmidtke who says the bursary works to ease financial concerns so that she can remain focused on her studies: "Being recognised and supported further motivates me to achieve academically and highlights for me the value in supporting others in the future." Schmidtke is currently in her final year of study towards a BA in Human Kinetics and Ergonomics, and Philosophy. She hopes to complete her Honours in both subjects too and ultimately aims to

work as an academic. Finding the Rhodes academic and support staff remarkably friendly, helpful and encouraging, she believes that working towards a degree is a fragile project that cannot be achieved effectively without such a supportive network as is available to students at Rhodes.

Another recipient of an Old Rhodian bursary is Bradley Pieter, who has been raised and educated by Old Rhodian Allen James and his family. "Bradley has been in our family since the day he was born – in fact my wife helped to deliver him at Johannesburg General Hospital because there was no staff," he says. "Since then we have tried to give him the best start we possibly could."

"To be selected as a recipient for this award is something very special as I know that out there, there are many applicants in the same situation as me," said Pieter, who is studying towards a Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting. "By receiving this award it is a clear indication to me that people do care and do have faith in me and there are expectations that I have to live up to and this is a great and exciting responsibility I must live up to."

Pieter sees himself working for Pricewaterhousecoopers as they are also helping him with his university studies. "I also see myself living here in South Africa for the rest of my life," he said. "I also would like to, one day, to the best of my ability, like other Old Rhodians, help out other students and keep the cycle going."

This is the first time the Old Rhodian Union has given an OR Bursary to a student who has been sponsored by an Old Rhodian as opposed to being a child of an Old Rhodian.



Nadia Schmidtke, HKE 3rd year student and recipient of an Old Rhodian scholarship award. Photo: Paul Greenway

OLD RHODIAN SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2013

- Diamond – Sabina Funk (BA)
- Fitzsimons Gold – Alyxandra Carolus (BA)
- Fitzsimons Gold – Cachendra Vlotman (BSS)
- UK Gold – Cailene Murray (BA)
- Gold – Thembele Madliki (BA)
- Chapman Gold – David Glover (BFA)
- Chris Hummel – Meryn Tee (BSS)
- UK Silver – Lelona Mxesibe (BA)
- Silver – Bryan White (BCom)
- Bronze – Sakhe Sotashe (BA)
- Chapman – Troy Rist (BMus)
- Chapman – Christie Craig (BSc)
- Chapman – Niamh Vorster (BA)
- Chapman – Chayse Kriel (LLBC)
- Chapman – Nadia Schmidtke (BA)
- Fitzsimons – Sandra Remsing (BA)
- Fitzsimons – Shalom Mushwana (BFA)
- Fitzsimons – Samantha Parsons (BA)
- Old Rhodian – Siyasanga Nlangelavu (BA)
- Old Rhodian – James Radloff (BSc)
- Old Rhodian – Bradley Pieter (BCom)
- My School – Vuyolwethu Silimela (BAF)
- My School – Lonwabo Jay (BSc)

WHO ARE THE CHAPMANS?

Professor Hugh Chapman, fondly remembered as Chappie, was a proud Old Rhodian in the late 20s and returned in 1955 as the first Dean of Students in Africa. He had taught Mandela, Matanzima, even Mugabe, and several other future leaders during his term as Professor of History at Fort Hare. Madiba recalled him well and fondly and was once heard to say that Prof Chapman was "a very good man". Chapman Fountain was donated to Rhodes by Mike Chapman in honour of his father and more recently his mother, Jean. Chapman Dining Hall in Kimberley Hall also bears his name and a portrait.

Both father and son were Senior Students of Founders and chaired the Students' Representative Council, and apparently the only father and son to share these roles in their respective years.



Palesa Mcimbi, recipient of a full financial aid scholarship from the annual fund. Photo: Paul Greenway

Connecting students with funding

Each year, the Financial Aid Office receives over 1700 applications from students in need of monetary assistance, but budgetary constraints restrict the number of students they are able to help to around 1000

BY KYLA HAZELL

The Rhodes University Financial Aid Office makes every effort to ensure that funding opportunities are made available to deserving candidates and for students like Palesa

Mcimbi, Bachelor of Commerce candidate and recipient of the Moshal Scholarship, this work proves invaluable.

"The Moshal Scholarship programme is administered via the financial aid offices of the different universities with which it works. The scholarship programme is truly amazing and I will be forever grateful for the opportunity to share in it," Mcimbi said.

Each year, the Financial Aid Office receives over 1700 applications from students in need of monetary assistance, but budgetary constraints restrict the number of students they are able to help to around 1000. "Due to the size of the institution we get a very small allocation from the government for financial assistance. The University makes a substantial contribution towards undergraduate funding, but still the demand for funding is way more than the supply," said Luyanda Bheyile, the Financial Aid Office manager.

For this reason it is essential that the office works to link students up with outside sponsors that approach Rhodes each year seeking to fund underprivileged students with sound academic records. "Even before I became a recipient of the scholarship, the financial aid office would send us emails with information regarding available scholarships and bursaries," said Mcimbi, who was on financial aid in her first year.

Originally from Mthatha, Mcimbi was awarded the full Moshal scholarship after being recommended by the Financial Aid Office to Link-SA, a non-governmental organisation which approached the University seeking good Science or Commerce students to be funded by United Kingdom-based businessman, Martin Moshal.

"The Moshal scholarship programme endeavours

to better the situations of the students it works with. The programme is designed to grant opportunities to students from disadvantaged backgrounds and equip them with the soft skills necessary to help them find their way in the job market," Mcimbi explained.

According to Mcimbi's residence warden, Belinda de Lange, Mcimbi is a remarkable young woman and worthy scholarship recipient. "Palesa is a hard-working and dedicated student. She has outstanding work ethics and she is very dedicated to her academics," she said.

Mcimbi, who has known accounting to be her passion since she was 13, plans to qualify as a chartered accountant and registered auditor once she completes her degree at Rhodes. She hopes to use her skills in business to drive her passion for social development. "The motto of my scholarship is 'pay it forward' which basically means that you do not owe the scholarship anything upon making it, but they aim to create a network of individuals who will empower students in the same situation that they were once in," Mcimbi said.

To other students seeking scholarship opportunities, Mcimbi said that the key is being able to show potential sponsors that you are passionate and goal-orientated. She recommended that students apply early and even consider approaching companies that do not currently offer bursaries to encourage them to branch out into student funding.

"Tertiary education does not come cheap and it is on those wishing to obtain it to seek financial assistance if they cannot afford it," said Mcimbi. "The key is not to be discouraged but to keep applying even if things do not seem to be working out."

Bheyile offered similar advice: "Hard work pays off, all the time. Get good grades and be relevant. Check out websites, read emails, attend presentations that are organised by some companies on campus, or ask around. Don't just sit there like a dish of pudding!"



Ella van Tonder



**RHODES
ANNUAL FUND**

ANNUAL FUND REPORT

Helping Rhodes grow



THE ANNUAL FUND THE SHAPE OF OUR FUTURE

Rhodes University's Annual Fund has, through the generosity of our alumni, staff members and students, made a strong case for the wisdom of helping our own. Channelling funding into the Rhodes Sports Foundation, research, student bursaries and support, faculties and departments, and general funds, we are making an effective and meaningful contribution to shaping the future of Rhodes University and its students.

During 2012 the Annual Fund raised R1 176 049.45 through 1447 donations from alumni. The bulk of the donations were for bursaries and we raised a total of R370 000 through two telethon campaigns. After that the best supported project was General Funds and then Faculties and Departments.

About 70 staff members currently make monthly contributions to the Annual Fund. Our staff members most commonly support the Pocket Money Fund which provides 109 students with a monthly stipend of R150. This is to help students who receive funding from the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) to afford extras such as stationery or toiletries.

During the course of 2012 we rebranded the Annual Fund and over the past year have raised considerably more funds and the number of individual donors has also increased. We have ongoing quarterly appeals including mail shots, telethons and an appeal in *Rhodos*.

We also have a presence at all of our reunions and dinners and over the past year there has been improved interaction with alumni, staff and even students who are interested in fundraising for the Annual Fund.

No matter what the size of the donation, all our donors are acknowledged personally in writing. Donors who sustain a donation of R100 and more over a long term are acknowledged with a plaque on the Centenary Walkway.

To learn more about the Annual Fund visit
<http://www.ru.ac.za/development/annualfund/annualfund/>

STORIES FROM OUR BENEFICIARIES

What is your money doing to help?

Student support

In the area of student support the Annual Fund is playing a vital role in creating opportunities for students with potential and promise who do not have the means to study. Each year, despite the University allocating a substantial share of its own funds to financial aid there is always a shortfall in financial aid and bursary support. For Palesa Mcimbi, a passionate and goal-oriented Commerce student, the financial aid she has received for her studies has bridged a great divide between potential unemployment and being skilled for the job market. She aims one day to use the business skills that



her degree will equip her with to drive her passion for social development. She also hopes to pay it forward and empower students in circumstances similar to her own. See her full story on page 50.

Research

Academic research is by nature both time consuming and costly. At a research-intensive institution such as Rhodes University we pride ourselves on growing our research outputs and our ability to attract more postgraduate students with our high-profile researchers and modern facilities. There is, however, still great need to help cover the research costs of these students.

"Our core business is towards tuition fee reduction, as well as living costs," said John Gillam, the Postgraduate Financial Aid Officer. "So what we have decided to do is to keep our funding from the Annual Fund as a reserve for a needy student who is in Masters or undertaking a PhD and approaches us for research funds."

He adds that there is no doubt a need, and advertising the funds would result in hundreds of applications for the much-needed financial assistance: "If one of my NSFAS

students asks for research costs, then we will turn to this sum."

"If we could generate more funds in this category, this would be a huge bonus for the students. This funding will be most likely to go to a Humanities or Social Science student, as many Science students have project funds via their supervisors through the HSRC, CSIR, NRF, MRC and others.

Infrastructure

"The funds raised for the Library extension were vital for the project," said Dr Iain L'Ange, Executive Director: Infrastructure, Operations & Finance. "Without these funds the project would in all likelihood not have taken place." As Rhodes does not have significant reserves available for new infrastructure development, it is hoped that the donations toward the Annual Fund will similarly make a significant contribution to the continued growth of the University. "We are very heavily reliant upon funding from government and from donors for new infrastructure development," said Dr L'Ange. "For example, the total cost of the full Life Sciences project is estimated to be



R197.8 million. In the recent round of infrastructure funding from DHET the Life Sciences project was awarded R86.3m with an own contribution of R14.7m. This means we have had to phase the project. The School of Languages project is similar. Obviously any additional funds received for these projects will allow us to realise the full projects much sooner, which, given the significance of these projects, will significantly enhance the academic project of the University."

STORIES FROM OUR DONORS

Why do I give to Rhodes?

ALUMNI

Given the uniquely personal and familial experience afforded to students who attend Rhodes University, many alumni feel a lifelong affinity to the institution that compels them to give in order to allow other students to live that experience and to open doors for those who might not have the means to study to tertiary level. We asked some of our donors to tell us why they give to Rhodes:

"Because I had a wonderful four years there; I feel a sense of obligation to my alma mater; I wish to help the less fortunate; I know the funds will be used responsibly; I can afford it. – **Stuart Pennington**

"I give to Rhodes because it has given so much to me and I hope that the little I am able to give will allow for another person to be exposed to the opportunities that I was exposed to during my time there. I hope to be able to contribute more as time passes. I think it's very important to give back and to afford others the same opportunities that were given to you in some way. The AF is a great initiative and it facilitates the process of alumni involvement. We want to get involved but time and lack of know-how gets the better of us, so I think this is great and convenient." – **Tsepang Tlhapi**

STAFF

We are fortunate to have committed staff members in all sectors of the University, many of whom first experienced Rhodes as students themselves. They are not only passionate about the work of our University, they are also committed to helping the University and South Africa reap the rewards of the social changes it so desperately needs by assisting deserving students to skill themselves to contribute to the betterment of South African society.

"Education has the ability to change one's life for the better and I know this from personal experience. When I joined Rhodes in 2002 both my parents were unemployed so I know how it feels to be in a desperate situation and still want to further your studies," says Luyanda Bheyle. "If my small donation can make a difference to somebody's education at Rhodes then that's all that matters to me. I get a sense of comfort knowing that I am playing a part,



Ella van Tonder

however small, in making a Rhodes education accessible to all students regardless of race, gender and class."

"Having worked in the financial aid office for just over five years now it is evident that more funding is needed to support the University's needy and academically sound students. Funding from government and corporate firms is just not enough," adds Bheyile. "I doubt I would have been where I am today if it was not for my Rhodes education. For this reason giving back to the annual fund is one way of expressing my gratitude to the University for affording me the opportunity to grow and discover the potential I never thought I had in me."

Bheyile says he will continue to give to the Annual Fund as long as he is able to and believes it is "one of the structures needed to inspire the spirit of philanthropy among the alumni community."

"I know a lot of past students who want to make a difference and if we have the platforms such as the Annual Fund in place it makes it easier for one to give back to the causes they believe in." – **Luyanda Bheyile**

"I give to the Annual Fund because I received a fair amount of financial help with various scholarships through my undergraduate and postgraduate studies and I feel it is only fair to give back now that I am in a position to do so. Personally I think that further education has become a necessity in today's job market and it should become accessible to anyone based on merit rather than on financial status. I see myself continuing to fund

further education as long as I am able to do so. It may be a small amount, but together with all the other small (or large) contributions others give it will hopefully make a difference to someone in the next generation of undergraduates." – **Bernadette Hubbard**

"It's easy, I don't have to do anything to make it happen, and I don't miss the money when it is already removed before I see my salary. I consider myself to be a privileged person in the midst of so much poverty, and think that the only way I can deal with poverty is if I am prepared to share what I have. So the Annual Fund is one of the ways in which I do this, and it is a way to morally legitimise the salary I earn. I believe in education, and it makes sense to support the Annual Fund which will have direct impact in the place where I put my energy." – **Corinne Knowles**

"The fundamental reason behind my contributions is that I am able to help students who otherwise could not afford to be here. I am particularly struck by the needs of students that are invisible to us and it is important to support their material needs and thus make sure that their academic success is not contingent on doing additional work to afford their basic needs for living. So in some ways we are contributing to a better success rather than leaving it to chance." – **Professor Jean Baxen**

Baxen also described how, while she worked for an NGO with street children in Cape Town they were able to adopt a particular child and provide gifts for their birthdays and



Christmas in addition to their basic needs. In this way donors were allowed to get to know the life to which they contributed. It is her hope that such support for students could grow in this way since the University is small. Her own research is around social justice and she believes strongly that you cannot write and work within this framework if you do not do anything to contribute yourself.

STUDENTS – GIVE 5

Our main student campaign, under the hat of the Annual Fund, is the Give 5 project and this year's beneficiary is the Dean of Students' Pocket Money Fund. For the full story on this year's campaign see page 41.

But how do we introduce the culture of giving among students and how do the students view their status as potential contributors too? SRC Community Engagement Counsellor, Thabo Seshoka, says that the reward of giving is in the act of helping someone. "It is no use complaining," he says. "I must do something to help and even if it does not seem much, I am contributing to helping someone to do their varsity degree."

"This is not about the street cred, for me personally there is a real feel-good factor because through my small contribution I have been able to make someone smile. It is about the people and making sure that students don't become isolated just because they cannot afford to invite their friends over to their residence room for a cup of tea." Seshoka is inspired to contribute quite simply because he wants to and his vision for student giving is to see it grow, to raise more money and to help more people.

GIVING THROUGH BEQUESTS

Over the past 50 years a number of quite modest sums bequeathed to Rhodes University have been carefully invested and, in many cases, have grown to millions of Rands, which now provide annual bursaries and scholarships for promising students. Bequests of shares, insurance policies and buildings have also been put to good use.

The Levenstein bequest was the most significant ever received by the University. This will be channelled towards postgraduate studies in support of one of the University's key strategic priorities. A total of R35 404 610.24 million from this specific bequest was left to Rhodes University.

There is also an established UK branch of a Bequest Association and 20 senior Old Rhodians attended the launch function. Thanks must be given to Tony Granger and Mike Chapman for agreeing to handle enquiries from potential UK bequesters.

DEVELOPMENT: THE SIZE AND SCOPE OF OUR FUTURE

It is essential that as Rhodes continues to grow not only in its size but also in its offerings as a research intensive institution geared to postgraduate studies and further research, that it responds to this growth appropriately and timeously in ways that fuel these strategic objectives.

Nurturing sustainable and mutually beneficial relationships with donors and stakeholders is a core objective and responsibility of the Development Division. In supporting the strategic aims of the University, the Division's main duty is to raise funds for more than 100 research projects and the infrastructure expansion needs of the University, including R28.7 million towards new complexes for Life Sciences and the School of Languages.

The Division is actively exploring third stream income sources to supplement the infrastructural funding already received from the Department of Higher Education. In addition, through our fundraising initiatives we are committed to assist Faculty project leaders with their funding needs. For a full story on the importance of development to Rhodes see page 11.

IN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OUR DONORS

INDIVIDUAL DONORS: JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2012

We acknowledge the generosity of individual donors who contributed between January and December 2012

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ANNUAL FUND REPORT

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JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2012

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THE OLD RHODIAN UNION REPORT

Continuing the legacy

BY PROFESSOR ROD WALKER

In this edition you will find articles referring to the many initiatives carried out by the Alumni Office, but I would just like to emphasise their importance in the context of the Old Rhodian Union. Appreciation for the work of the Alumni Office is shown by the number of wonderful letters and emails that are received from alumni. Here is just one example:

"Thank you for the card and good wishes for my 84th birthday yesterday. The card brought back many happy memories of the time I spent at Rhodes. I went to Rhodes not knowing much about what life was about but due to many wonderful lecturers I believe that I graduated knowing what my purpose in life should be. Cowper Johnson (1950)"

We are proud to announce that we were able to add two new Old Rhodian Bursaries worth R6 000 each to our Awards this year. This is due to the success of our MySchool programme. I encourage all alumni resident in South Africa to get a MySchool Card. You can really make a difference to a student's life by supporting this initiative and it costs you nothing other than remembering to swipe your card at participating stores. For more information contact Sharon Tweddle at s.tweddle@ru.ac.za.

There is much else that Old Rhodians can do to *Continue the Legacy*.

Bequests are now the fastest growing segment of unrestricted third-stream income for charities – Rhodes realised the importance of this vital income source and 10 years after the founding of the Rhodes University Bequest Association we are starting to reap the benefits of this programme. Already during 2013 we have benefited from bequests of over R3,5 million – the majority of this money has gone towards bursaries and will make a difference to many students' lives.

Our social media platforms generate great value through their provision of up-to-date views and news. Some examples are: the Knocking on Heaven's Door group for those who attended Rhodes between 1965 and 1975; the Sports Foundation page for news and pictures of sporting achievements past and present; and you can wear your "Purple Heart" on your sleeve by participating on Purple Thursday every week by sharing your pictures.

It was a privilege to witness the handing over of the 2012 Old Rhodian Awards at the Founders' luncheon and seeing what these awards meant to the recipients. Congratulations to all of you, it humbled us to see hard core



Paul Greenway

business people and world renowned scientists struggling to speak through their emotions at receiving the award. If you know someone who is deserving of an Old Rhodian Award please let us know.

Our Old Rhodian Bookcase grows from strength to strength and is a focus of interest for all visitors to Alumni House. The diversity of the topics is eye opening – from politics to Ferraris and everything in between! We have recently received requests to add on-line books and music CDs and DVDs.

If you have the opportunity to come back to Grahamstown for a visit or to drop off your children for their Rhodes experience let us know and we can organise campus tours, or a tour of your old Residence or Faculty. We invite Old Rhodian parents and their new Rhodents to meet the Vice-Chancellor and Faculty Deans on a personal basis. During the National Arts Festival we hold a Festival cocktail party where you can meet and chat to the Vice-Chancellor.

Over the 2013 Founders' Weekend we will be showing our support for and celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Rhodes University Chamber Choir.

Finally, don't think because you are now living overseas you have to lose contact with your alma mater – today the world is a much smaller place and staying in contact is easy. We love to know what our Rhodents are doing and hear of their successes.



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