**Rhodes University Green Fund**

**Guidelines: Application for Project Funds**

Given environmental challenges around sustainability of environmental resource use and waste production, and recognition that environmental sustainability needs to be tackled at a range of scales from local to global, Rhodes University commits itself to adopting practices that reduce its ecological footprint and promote positive actions for sustainability. The vision is to make Rhodes University and Grahamstown more broadly, a national leader in this regard.

In order to achieve this vision and support initiatives that contribute to environmental sustainability, Rhodes University has established a Green Fund (the RUGF) to be used to change practices that reduce the ecological footprint of the University; and which enhance the sustainability of the university and its sustainable development activities at university and community level. The Green Fund is a special ring-fenced fund entirely devoted to advancing the sustainability practices of Rhodes University and the town in which it is situated. The aims of the Green Fund are:

1. To support the introduction of energy saving and efficient plant, machinery, fixtures and equipment in existing and proposed new buildings at Rhodes University.
2. To support the introduction of plant, machinery and equipment that can reduce consumption of carbon fossils and paper at Rhodes University; and promote more effective refuse management and the recycling of waste water and materials at Rhodes University.
3. To support initiatives that promote environmentally sustainable practices at Rhodes University and in the Makana District where the university is located. Such initiatives should strengthen the universities’ commitment to community engagement and a more sustainable university and community environment.

To apply for a Rhodes University Green Fund grant, ALL applicants must first submit a Letter of Inquiry (LOI). For proposals requesting R2,500 or less, the LOI constitutes the full proposal. This is considered a ‘small’ project. If a LOI requesting more than R2,500 is recommended for a possible grant award, the applicant will be notified and invited to submit a full project proposal. This is considered a ‘large’ project

Applicants may request funding up to R8 / 10,000. However, applicants should keep in mind that the aim is to create a diversified portfolio of grantees and projects to best meet the RUGF objectives. A project requesting a grant from the RUGF is required to both demonstrate environmental benefits and project sustainability.

To apply for funds for both small and large projects:

* Complete the RUGF Letter of Inquiry.
* The evaluation of the Letter of Inquiry will be based on the criteria as outlined in the RUGF Letter of Inquiry Evaluation. The proposal needs to score at least a 7 in each of the applicable scored criteria before being considered for funds.

To apply for funds for a large project that has initial approval:

* Complete the RUGF Large Project Grant Application.
* The evaluation of the Large Project Grant request will be based on the criteria as outlined in the RUGF Large Project Grant Evaluation. The proposal needs to score at least a 7 in each of the applicable scored criteria before being considered for funds.

For more info: **www.ru.ac.za/environment/committee/greenfund**