**PHD STUDIES AT RHODES UNIVERSITY**

Thank you for your interest in pursuing a PhD with the Department of Environmental Science at Rhodes University. Before we can fully assess your application we require a few further details from you:

1. A full Curriculum Vitae outlining your previous academic record and employment experience. If you go so far as completing a formal application form, we will also require certified copies of your academic transcript.

2. The names and current contact details of three referees.

3. A 2 - 5 page outline of the research area or question/s in which you would like to pursue your studies.

4. An indication of whether or not you have funds available for the research project costs, as well as your fees and personal living costs. At times departmental supervisors may have funds available, but if not, then the expectation is that the student will raise the necessary funds (with or without the help of the prospective supervisor) before coming to Rhodes. It is an express condition of formal acceptance by the university Senate that funds are available for the research projects before postgraduate students can be formally accepted.

Once we have the above, they will be tabled at the postgraduate committee of our department, which is held on a monthly basis. At that meeting we will assess your transcript and possibly referee reports to assess your suitability for PhD studies. If satisfactory we will then attempt to identify a potential supervisor that shares your interest areas and currently has time to take on a new postgraduate. It may be that you have a specific supervisor in mind, but if they already have a full postgraduate load they will not be permitted to accept another student. If a supervisor is identified as available at the departmental meeting, s/he will then contact you, and the two of you together will then communicate further regarding the development of a full research proposal for a project that is of mutual interest to you both and securing avenues of funding. If your research abilities or interests are incompatible with those of the staff of the Dept of Environmental Science, or all possible supervisors currently have full postgraduate loads, we will advise you accordingly and suggest other departments at Rhodes, or other universities, that may be able to assist you.

You only need to consider a formal application to the University after our departmental committee has met and a prospective supervisor identified. Application forms are available on the Rhodes University web-site, as are details re fees, etc.