

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

The congregation is required to stand while the choir sings Gaudeamus Igitur and the procession enters the Auditorium.

The Chancellor will constitute the Congregation.

The Vice-Chancellor will welcome the Congregation.

The Public Orator, Professor Tom Martin, will present Professor Irvy Marian Archibald Gledhill for the Degree of Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*.

Professor Irvy Gledhill will address the Congregation.

The Dean of Faculty will present the candidates for the conferral of Degrees of Bachelor, Bachelor with Honours and Doctor of Philosophy.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Student Affairs) will present Dr Jessica Cockburn for the Distinguished Award for Community Engagement.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research, Innovation and Strategic Partnerships) will present Professor Julie Coetzee for the Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Senior Research Award.

The Congregation will stand and sing the National Anthem.

The Chancellor will dissolve the Congregation.

The congregation is requested to stand while the procession leaves the Auditorium.

With the exception of the commencement and the conclusion of the ceremony and the singing of the National Anthem, members of the congregation are requested to remain seated throughout the proceedings.

INKQUBO

Ingqungquthela iyacelwa ukuba iphakame ngexesha ikwayala icula uGaudeamus Igitur kwaye umkhosi wemithika ungena ngaphakathi.

INgqonyela imisela iNgqungquthela.

USekelangqonyela wamkela iNgqungquthela.

ISithethi seYunivesithi, uNjingalwazi uTom Martin uza kunikezela uNjingalwazi uIrvy Marian Archibald Gledhill owongwa ngesiDanga sobuGqirhalwazi kwezobuNzululwazi, *honoris causa*.

UNjingalwazi uIrvy Gledhill wenza intetho kwiNgqungquthela.

INTloko yeFakalithi ibiza abaza kuwongwa ngeziDanga ze*Bachelor*, eze*Honours* nezobuGqirhalwazi.

UMncedisi kaSekelangqonyela (imiCimbi yezeMfundo naBafundi) unikezela u uGqirharwazi uJessica Cockburn owongwa ngeMbasa kaSekelangqonyela ngokugqwesa kuThathonxaxheba kwezasekuhlaleni.

UMncedisi kaSekelangqonyela (uPhando, iNguqu noBambiswano lokuPhumeza iiNjongo zeYunivesithi) unikezela uNjingalwazi uJulie Coetsee owongwa ngeMbasa kaSekelangqonyela yokuba nguMphandilwazi okwiNqanaba eliNgentla noGqwesileyo.

INgqungquthela iza kuphakama ivume uMhobe weSizwe.

INgqonyela iza kuchitha iNgqungquthela.

Ingqungquthela iyacelwa ukuba iphakame ngexesha uMkhosi wemithika uphuma.

Ngaphandle kwaxa kuqalwa naxa kusongwa uMsitho, naxa kuculwa uMhobe weSizwe, abantu abakwiNgqungquthela kufanele bahlale phantsi ngalo lonke ixesha kuqhutywa inkqubo.

VOLGORDE VAN VERRIGTINGE

Die kongregasie word versoek om te staan terwyl die koor Gaudeamus Igitur sing en die prosesie die ouditorium binnekom.

Die kanselier sal die kongregasie konstitueer.

Die visekanselier sal die kongregasie verwelkom.

Die openbare spreker, professor Tom Martin, sal professor Irvy Marian Archibald Gledhill voorstel vir die graad doktor in die wetenskap, *honoris causa*.

Professor Irvy Gledhill sal die kongregasie toespreek.

Die dekaan van die fakulteit sal die kandidate vir die toekenning van baccalaureus-, honneursbaccalaureus- en doktorsgrade in die wysbegeerte voorstel.

The onder-visekanselier (akademiese en studente-aangeleentede) sal Dr Jessica Cockburn voorstel vir die toekenning vir uitnemende gemeenskapsbetrokkenheid.

The onder-visekanselier (navorsing, innovasie en strategiese vennootskappe) sal professor Julie Coetzee voorstel vir die visekanselier se toekenning vir uitmuntende navorsing.

Die kongregasie sal staan en die volkslied sing.

Die kanselier sal die kongregasie verdaag.

Die kongregasie word versoek om te staan terwyl die prosesie die ouditorium verlaat.

Met die uitsondering van die aanvang en afsluiting van die seremonie, sowel as met die sing van die volkslied, word die kongregasie versoek om tydens die verrigtinge te bly sit.

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

ADAM, Ntombekhaya
AFEKI, Tawanda
BAQIWE, Sixolile
BARRY, Mateenah
BAXTER, Tyler Elliot, **with distinction in** Information Systems
BENTE, Onezwa Angela
BOTTCHEER, Heidi Ellen
CENGANI, Sandile Wellington
CENTANE, Athembile
CHIEZA, Tawana Anita, **with distinctions in** Biochemistry and
Microbiology
CHUMA, Casey
COOPER, Frederick Richard
DANA, Duma
DAVIES, Mila-Jo
DE VOS, Ilse Stephanie
DIBAKOANE, Letago Palesa
DLADLA, Samukelisiwe Amahle Pearl
DLAMINI, Lungelo Lindokuhle
DLAMINI, Nokukhanya Phumla
DLAMINI, Simbonge Lindokuhle
DLAMINI, Xolisa Saziso
DOS SANTOS, Sidonio Zavier
DUBE, Davina Nandipa
EDWARDES, Marie Jacqueline Eva-Jane, **with distinction in**
Zoology
EDWARDS, Wynne Raymond
FANI, Siyabulelwa
FILMER, Brandon John
FISCHAT, Jaydin Josh Leo
FOXON, Nicholas John
FRACHET, Joshua, **with distinctions in** Ichthyology and Zoology

FULLARTON, Kyla Anne, **with distinctions in Biochemistry and Human Kinetics & Ergonomics**

FULLER, Cailin

FUTHUSI, Sipehelele, **with distinctions in Applied Mathematics and Information Systems**

GODLA, Liyabona

GOGWANA, Sinenjabulo

GOODALL, Luke James, **with distinctions in Biochemistry and Computer Science**

GUMEDE, Thobeka Khethokuhle

GXUMISA, Sesethu

HENDRICKS, Eden Rhys

HLUNGWANE, Ntokoto Charis

JACA, Likhaya Attwell

JENNETT, Lucy Kate

JIKANA, Kamva Sisipho Indiphile

JOJO, Masixole, **with distinctions in Applied Mathematics and Mathematics**

JONES, Calvin

JOSE, Alwaba Junel

JOURDAN, Manusizwe Felix, **with distinctions in Computer Science and Information Systems**

JUMBA, Uviwe

KHUMALO, Bonokuhle Nokwethemba

KHUMALO, Naledi

KHUZWAYO, Zamokuhle Madodafikile, **with distinction in Information Systems**

KOM, Luzukiso

KUMALO, Londiwe Angel

LEHLOENYA, Kata, **with distinctions in Ichthyology and Zoology**

LEPELE, Lungile Sharon

LIUTLOILENG, Tumelo Junior Kabelo

LOLWANA, Lukhanyo

LUVUNO, Busisiwe

MABANGA, Mbongeni

MABASO, Mandisa Ziyanda, **with distinctions in Biochemistry and Microbiology**

MABONA, Litha Mphakamisi
MADIBA, Thato Kgomotso
MADIHLABA, Mahlogonolo, **with distinction in** Information
Systems
MADIYA, Silindile, **with distinction in** Biochemistry
MAGADLA, Ziyanda Aluncedo
MAGASANA, Qhamani
MAHLANGU, Lindiwe Tshiamo Lillian, **with distinctions in**
Biochemistry **and** Chemistry
MAHOLA, Lunje, **with distinctions in** Biochemistry **and**
Microbiology
MAHUMA, Prudence Mokgadi
MAKAPELA, Lihle, **with distinction in** Biochemistry
MAKHAFULA, Oratile Molebogeng Thato, **with distinctions in**
Biochemistry **and** Microbiology
MAKHALE, Puleng Innocencia, **with distinctions in** Chemistry **and**
Geology
MAMVE, Son
MANGALI, Amahle
MANGO, Emihle Elethu
MAPHASA, Asiphe Patricia, **with distinction in** Environmental
Science
MASEKO, Mpilwenhle Tracy
MASINA, Matlou Arnold
MASOMBUKA, Thobile Sihle
MASWANGANYI, Derel Vonani
MATAPURI, Denzel Tadiwanashe, **with distinctions in** Computer
Science **and** Information Systems
MATHEBULA, Ntsakiso Blessing
MATSHOTYANA, Siphamandla
MAZIMONYE, Nelisa, **with distinctions in** Biochemistry
and Chemistry
MBATHA, Siphwiwe Knowledge
MBHAMALI, Nonkululeko Ritta
MCCULLOUGH, Jordan Scott, **with distinction in** Zoology
MEMANI, Vuyolwethu Verona
MEMELA, Siphumelele Perfect

METISO, Ayanda Carol, **with distinction in** Organisational Psychology

MFAZWE, Lonwabo, **with distinction in** Mathematics

MGETYENGANA, Mthuthuzeli

MHAMBI, Asekho, **with distinction in** Biochemistry

MHLAULI, Unakho Iva Owami

MLINDAZWE, Asanda

MOFUBETSOANE, Kolitsoe Florance, **with distinctions in** Biochemistry **and** Microbiology

MOGORU, Yedidyah Elishma

MOKANYANE, Lesedi

MOKOENA, Mathapelo Lydia

MONA, Ayabonga

MONJELELE, Mavhungu Marcia

MOODLEY, Dasendri

MOTHIBI, Chuene Khomotso

MOTSHEGOA, Nelisiwe Michell, **with distinction in** Biochemistry

MOTSI, Cheryl Munotida, **with distinction in** Organisational Psychology

MOTSILILI, Rebaballe

MPHUTHI, Modiehi

MQAYI, Sange

MQOQI, Nondzondelelo

MTEBENI, Zikhona

MTHEMBU, Nokubongwa

MTYUTU, Athi-Enkosi

MUNJOMA, Amy

MUNZHELELE, Muvhango

MUPAZVIRIHO, Taboka Phil

MUSARIRI, Farai Bodias

MWANAWENE, Ian Brian, **with distinctions in** Biochemistry **and** Chemistry

MXOKO, Ayabonga

NAKENE, Lebo Yolanda

NCAMANI, Sesona

NDABANKULU, Siyasamkela

NGCOBO, Ntokozo Lwandile

NGQUKUVANA, Ntuthuko, **with distinctions in Biochemistry
and Microbiology**

NGWENYA, Prelic

NGXOWENI, Sinothando

NHLANHLA, Jabulile Charmaine

NJOBE, Zimasa

NKUNA, Siyabonga Fortune, **with distinction in Information
Systems**

NOCANDA, Siphesihle

NOMKHE, Ongako

NOMNQA, Tebogo

NONYANE, Yen Philicia

NTAME, Lindelwa

NTSHAKAZA, Unathi

NTULI, Faithhealer Njabulo

NTULI, Nkosinathi Jabu

NTWABANE, Nomvulo

NYALUNGU, Moyo Austin

PALISO, Busisiwe Dorcas

PHOSWA, Victor Maqina

PILLAY, Keenan Josiah

PONDO, Yibanathi

QUVILE, Emihle

RAATS, Michael John

RADEBE, Ntokozo Sizwe Ofentse

RADEMAN, Caron, **with distinctions in Biochemistry and
Computer Science**

RAJABU, Sikelelwa Nia

RAKOESHA, Tsepiso, **with distinctions in Biochemistry
and Microbiology**

RAMOHAPI, Lebo Patricia

REDDI, Kezia Uriah

RIKHOTSO, Shongile

RINYAMA, Farai

RITSHURI, Ntsakisi Mankadimeng Kelly

ROJI, Zusakhe Mila

SALIWA, Zandile

SESHANE, Amanda Mmankoele
SHABALALA, Siphesihle Njabulo
SHABALALA, Wendy
SHELEMBE, Philile Silungile, **with distinctions in Biochemistry
and Microbiology**
SHEZI, Zakhele
SIFANELE, Lindani, **with distinction in Environmental Science**
SIKO, Kungentando
SIKUTSHWA, Abongile
SONO, Simphiwe Eunice
TOKWE, Siyolise, **with distinction in Instrumental Music Studies**
TSABEDZE, Bongamusa, **with distinction in Mathematics**
TSABEDZE, Nontsikelelo Millicent, **with distinction in
Environmental Science**
TSHABALALA, Mpho
TSHAKA, Menezi
TSHIVHASE, Arinao Kashe
TSOEUTE, Retshidisitswe
TSOTETSI, Snowy Nompumelelo
UNDERWOOD, Stacey Skye
VAHEKENI, Shaningwa
VAN DER MERWE, Chanté, **with distinction in Zoology**
WICKS, Cameron Newton
YAYA, Mziwabantu
ZAMILE, George
ZAZU, Kudakwashe, **with distinction in Information Systems**
ZINYANA, Buhlebenkosi Sibusisiwe
ZITHA, Nolwazi
ZULU, Mpilo Zisebenzele
ZULU, Nombuso Amanda, **with distinction in Biochemistry**
ZULU, Sphiwe Thandokuhle
ZWENI, Lungelwa

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
(INFORMATION SYSTEMS)

CHUMA, Roland Tapiwa

MATIREKWE, Panashe Phibion, **with distinction in** Information Systems

MORRISON, Cabe Rowan

MUSIIWA, Emmanuel, **with distinction in** Information Systems

NKUMANE, Zamokuhle Nompumelelo, **with distinction in** Information Systems

NWACHUKWU, Kelechi Iheanyi, **with distinction in** Information Systems

PITSI, Lesego Quincy

SIBANDA, Mthokozisi, **with distinction in** Management

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE WITH HONOURS

ABRAHAM, Anil Gabriel, in Computer Science

AFEEF, Mohammad, in Biochemistry

BIYELA, Nosipho Mpho, in Chemistry

BOSSEKOTA GBAYA, Jessy-Maurice, in Computer Science/Information Systems

CAIGER, Quinlan Victor, in Computer Science, **with distinction**

CHAUKE, Peace Ntsakisi, in Biotechnology

CHIEZA, Kenneth, in Computer Science, **with distinction**

CHOTSANI, Siyabonga Isaac, in Mathematical Statistics

CORNFIELD, Matthew Harrison, in Computer Science/Information Systems

CUTHBERT, Luke, in Geology

DILLON, Daniel Francis, in Environmental Science

DLAMINI, Njabulo Luvuyo, in Geography

DRINKWATER, Richard Dennis, in Chemistry/Computer Science, **with distinction**

DU PLESSIS, Kaelin, in Botany

DWYER, Stephanie Rebecca Shaw Dwyer, in Applied Mathematics, **with distinction**

GAMBIZA, Amanda Brandina, in Environmental Science, **with distinction**

GODDARD, Deandra Rochelle, in Biochemistry

GOVENDER, Britney Kishendri, in Biochemistry

GROBLER, Coleen Elizabeth, in Biochemistry, **with distinction**
 GUMEDE, Nduduzo Seth, in Mathematics
 HAKRAJ, Tristan John, in Chemistry
 HENDRICKS, Robyn Natalie, in Human Kinetics & Ergonomics
 HLOPE, Ntokozo, in Zoology
 JASCHKE, Karla Marie, in Entomology, **with distinction**
 KAMBANI, Tadiwanashe Keith Thamsanqa, in Biotechnology
 KANOSVAMIRA, Peter Brain Tafadzwa, in Information Systems,
with distinction
 KEMOHENG, Resego, in Economics
 KNIGHT, Thomas, in Ichthyology & Fisheries Science
 KOPANE, Gosego, in Computer Science
 LABUSCHAGNE, Riaan Johan, in Entomology
 MACKENZIE, Michael James, in Ichthyology & Fisheries Science
 MAGORIMBO, Tapiwa, in Microbiology
 MAHAYI, Siku Ervin Vusumuzi, in Computer Science
 MAHLAPHA, Karabo Elsie, in Geology
 MAKHOYANE, Gcinile Gladys, in Geology
 MANANA, Yamnkela, in Biotechnology
 MANTSHI, Hlumelo Theo, in Entomology
 MASHIANE, Bokang, in Information Systems
 MATAPURI, George Tanatswa, in Information Systems
 MATEYISI, Lwazi Knowledge, in Mathematics
 MATOMANE, Cikizwa, in Geography
 MATSEPE, Kefuoe Silvia, in Geography
 MAZIBUKO, Siyabonga Muna, in Biotechnology
 MBILINI, Lihle, in Mathematical Statistics
 MDLETSHE, Siyabonga Bonisa, in Ichthyology & Fisheries Science
 MHLONGO, Muhluri, in Information Systems
 MOIR, Matthew Robbie Gerald, in Botany, **with distinction**
 MOLELEKI, Morapeli Justice, in Biochemistry
 MOLLAH, Iffat, in Computer Science
 MORALE, Mamorunyane, in Chemistry
 MORGAN, Emily Clare, in Computer Science, **with distinction**
 MSHENGU, Faith Zandile, in Environmental Science
 MTHETHWA, Siyabonga Elias, in Economics
 MUKHAWANA, Jackey, in Zoology

MULUNDA, Pierse, in Physics, **with distinction**
MURAPE, Natasha Ruvarashe, in Microbiology
NANGU, Thulisa, in Entomology
NAPIER, Helen Sarah, in Marine Biology
NDHLOVU, Kurhula, in Environmental Science
NDLODAKA, Akho, in Mathematical Statistics
NGCAMPHALALA, Thobile, in Applied Mathematics/Mathematics,
with distinction
NKABINDE, Luyanda Zamokuhle, in Microbiology
NOTSONONO, Anovuyo, in Chemistry
NTANJANA, Sinoyolo Mzikhona, in Mathematical Statistics
NTSHANGASE, Sphumelele Bulelo, in Information Systems
NXEPE, Emihle, in Mathematical Statistics
PHOSWA, Siyabonga Lindokuhle, in Microbiology
RAGOLEKA, Palesa, in Human Kinetics & Ergonomics
RAMBA, Lindile, in Chemistry
RAMBAU, Jones Junior, in Chemistry
RAMGOPAL, Tashmika, in Ichthyology & Fisheries Science
SABASABA, Sana, in Chemistry
SALIE, Daanyaal, in Computer Science, **with distinction**
SEKELEME, Shakhola Emmanuel, in Chemistry, **with distinction**
SEWPERSAD, Nikisha, in Chemistry
SIBANDA, Solethu, in Mathematical Statistics
SIYOTHULA, Siphos Moses, in Information Systems
SOGIBA, Pamela, in Geology
TABANE, Tshegofatso Mpho, in Microbiology
TAMBUDZE, Vimbayinashe, in Geology
THORESSON, Caitlin, in Psychology
TSOKOTSIYANA, Asiphe, in Ichthyology & Fisheries Science
VAN STRAATEN, Riaan Paulus, in Environmental Science
VAN ZIJL, Kalita, in Environmental Science
WHITE, Agatha Agnes, in Information Systems
XULU, Sinothando Nokubonga Qiniso, in Chemistry

DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

BASO, Nompumelelo Catherine, MSc (Rhodes), in Botany, in the Department of Botany. Degree by thesis. Thesis: The Enemy Release Hypothesis and beyond: *Lagarosiphon major* invasion dynamics and management options for New Zealand using native natural enemies from South Africa. Supervisor: Professor JA Coetzee.

DE BEER, Ernst Friedrich Ludwig, MSc (NWU), in Entomology, in the Department of Zoology and Entomology. Degree by thesis. Thesis: Augmentation of *Aphytis melinus* DeBach Hymenoptera: Aphelinidae) for the control of California red scale *Aonidiella aurantii* Maskell (Hemiptera: Diaspididae) on citrus. Supervisor: Distinguished Professor MP Hill. Co-supervisor: Professor S Moore.

DIEVART, Alexia Madeleine Angele, MSc (Université de La Réunion), in Zoology, in the Department of Zoology and Entomology. Degree by thesis. Thesis: Ecological impacts of photoautotrophic Euendoliths on South African mussel beds. Supervisor: Professor PW Froneman.

DUNA, Oliver Olwethu, MSc (Rhodes), in Marine Biology, in the Department of Zoology and Entomology. Degree by thesis. Thesis: The influence of the physical environment on invertebrate larval transport, settlement and recruitment with insights on early-stage physiological performance. Supervisor: Professor F Porri. Co-supervisor: Distinguished Professor CD McQuaid.

FRANCIS, Buhle, BSc (NUST), MPhil (Stell), in Environmental Science, in the Department of Environmental Science. Degree by thesis. Thesis: Implications of *Lantana camara* invasion on rural livelihoods and native woody species in the Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation area, Zimbabwe. Supervisor: Distinguished Professor CM Shackleton. Co-supervisor: Professor J Gambiza.

LUHANA, Charles Benjamin, BEd (Malawi), MSc (NENU) in Chemistry, in the Department of Chemistry. Degree by thesis. Thesis:

Graphene and its composite electrodes for selective detection of catecholamine neurotransmitters. Supervisor: Professor PN Mashazi.

MAGADLA, Aviwe, MSc (Rhodes), in Chemistry, in the Department of Chemistry. Degree by thesis. Thesis: Phthalocyanine-based bio-functional conjugates: Photodynamic therapy and photoantimicrobial chemotherapeutic efficacy evaluation *in-vitro*. Supervisor: Distinguished Professor T Nyokong.

MAHLASELA, Zuko, MSc (Rhodes), in Applied Mathematics, in the Department of Mathematics. Degree by thesis. Thesis: Keychains and preferential fuzzy sets with applications. Supervisor: Professor Emeritus V Murali.

MOTHUPI, Frans Makwena, MSocSci (Rhodes), in Environmental Science, in the Department of Environmental Science. Degree by thesis. Thesis: Wild edible plants in rural home gardens: Livelihoods, perceptions, economic value and traditional knowledge. Supervisor: Distinguished Professor CM Shackleton.

MUNGENGE, Chipso Perseverance, MSc (Zimbabwe), in Zoology, in the Department of Zoology and Entomology. Degree by thesis. Thesis: Plankton and macroinvertebrate dynamics in the Khakhea-Bray transboundary aquifer region. Supervisor: Professor RJ Wasserman. Co-supervisor: Dr T Dalu (UMP).

NTOKOANE, Tholoana, MSc (UJ), in Ichthyology, in the Department of Ichthyology and Fisheries Science. Degree by thesis. Thesis: A revised checklist of extant freshwater fishes of the Zambezian Lowveld Ecoregion, with taxonomic revision of the lowveld largescale yellowfish, *Labeobarbus marequensis*. Supervisor: Professor A Chakona (NRF-SAIAB). Co-supervisors: Dr EJW Vreven (RMCA) and Professor WT Kadye.

OCKHUIS, Samantha Angelique Natasha, M.Tech (CPUT), in Fisheries Science, in the Department of Ichthyology and Fisheries Science. Degree by thesis. Thesis: Genetic connectivity of the slinger

Chrysoblephus puniceus among Marine Protected Areas and unprotected areas along the east coast of South Africa. Supervisor: Dr T Murray (SAIAB). Co-supervisors: Dr S Fennessy (ORI) and Professor P Cowley (SAIAB).

REDELINGHUYS, Suzanne, MSc (Rhodes), in Marine Biology, in the Department of Zoology and Entomology. Degree by thesis. Thesis: A multidisciplinary study to assess the ecology of the Cape sea urchin, *Parechinus angulosus*, and its emerging use as a bioindicator to monitor coastal resiliency. Supervisor: Professor F Porri (SAIAB). Co-supervisor: Dr GF Matcher.

SCHEEPERS, Martinus Johannes, MSc (Rhodes), in Ichthyology, in the Department of Ichthyology and Fisheries Science. Degree by thesis. Thesis: Review of the systematics and regional diversity of the diploid barbs (*Enteromius* Cope, 1867) of southern Africa. Supervisor: Professor A Chakona (NRF-SAIAB). Co-supervisor: Dr P Braganca (SAIAB).

TONUI, Ronald, BSc (MMUST), MSc (PAU), in Biochemistry, in the Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology. Degree by thesis. Thesis: Identification of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* DnaK substrates – towards inhibiting DnaK as a novel drug target for the treatment of tuberculosis. Supervisor: Professor AL Edkins.

WALKER, Gareth Alexander, MSc (Stell), in Zoology, in the Department of Zoology and Entomology. Degree by thesis. Thesis: The impacts of bottom-up and top-down drivers in shaping the herbivore community in Pafuri, Kruger National Park, South Africa. Supervisor: Professor DM Parker (UMP). Co-supervisor: Dr L Minnie (UMP).

WOLMARANS, Abigail, MSc (NWU), in Entomology, in the Department of Zoology and Entomology. Degree by thesis. Thesis: Developing biological control agents for the management of the invasive tree *Robinia pseudoacacia*. Supervisor: Dr GD Martin. Co-supervisor: Dr P Weyl (CABI).

What is graduation?

Graduation is a time of enormous celebration for students and their families. It is a time to revel in a sense of achievement, to take photographs and store memories, to applaud and, of course, to dress up with the dignity that the ceremony deserves.

Graduating students traditionally wear an academic gown that marks them as ‘special’ and different to others attending the ceremonies. They walk across the stage, kneel before the Chancellor, who then taps them on the head with a ceremonial hat, before proceeding to the Registrar who ‘hoods’ them according to the degree they have earned.

For many attending the graduation ceremonies, a key question is what all this ceremony and procedure, much of which originated in Europe hundreds of years ago, actually mean in contemporary South Africa. One way to answer this question is to focus on the graduates themselves. As students walk across the stage today, they are not the same people they were who enrolled in the University three, four or more years ago. If the University has done its job well, they are completely different people.

The graduate looks at the world with an entirely different set of eyes. They now look for evidence for what is stated and to contest anything that does not appear to them to be valid or fair on the basis of the evidence presented.

At a university like Rhodes, graduates have also been trained to look through the lenses of theory. Theory is exactly like the lenses in a pair of spectacles. It allows us to see things we would not see without the spectacles, or to see things differently. Because theory allows us to see things we would not normally see, it allows us to imagine a world which does not yet exist, a world transformed from the one we currently inhabit. These are valuable attributes in the workplace and this is why graduates are highly sought after. They are especially important, however, in a fledgling democracy like ours.

As graduates walk across the stage today and participate in rituals which do not have their roots in African soil, one way to understand the proceedings is to see them as signifying an identity shift. Much as the way young men in some cultures, for example, may wear new clothes after an initiation ceremony, the wearing of an academic gown symbolises a shift in who the graduates have become. This shift is recognised by the Chancellor who taps them on the head and by the Registrar who places the hood over their shoulders. The Deans, academics, together with the entire University community, look on - celebrating and acknowledging our students’ achievements.

Enjoy the ceremony today, but, more importantly, remember its significance in the lives of our young graduates and, indeed, in the history of our country.

Congratulations to RU120 graduates!

Yintoni uthweswo-zidanga?

Uthweswo-zidanga lixesha lobhiyozo elikhulu kubafundi neentsapho zabo. Lixesha lokugcoloda nokuchulumancela impumelelo, ukuthatha imifanekiso nokugcina iinkumbulo, ukuqhwabela izandla, yaye ngokuqinisekileyo, lixesha lokunxiba ngesizotha esifanele lo mnyhadala.

Kulisiko ukuba abafundi abathweswa izidanga banxibe izidanga zabo ezibaphawula ‘njengabakhethekileyo’ nabohlukileyo kwabanye abantu abazimase umnyhadala. Bahamba eqongeni, baguqe phambi kweNgqonyela, iye ibathwese indwe, phambi kokuba badlulele kuMabhalane-jikelele weYunivesithi oye ‘abafake umxwayo’, ohambelana nesidanga abasithwesiweyo.

Kuninzi lwabo bazimase iminyhadala yothweswo-zidanga, umbuzo ophambili ngowokuba lo mnyhadala, inkoliso yawo esusela eYurophu kumakhulu ngamakhulu eminyaka eyadlulayo, ingaba uthetha ntoni kuMzantsi Afrika wale mihla. Enye indlela yokuphendula lo mbuzo kukugxila kwabathweswa izidanga. Njengoko abafundi behamba kwiqonga namhlanje, abasengabo aba bantu babengabo mhla babebhalisela ukufunda kule Yunivesithi kwiminyaka emithathu, emine okanye engaphezulu eyadlulayo. Ukuba iYunivesithi iwenze ngokuphume izandla umsebenzi wayo, bangabantu abohlukileyo kwaphela.

Lowo uthweswa isidanga ulibona ihlabathi ngamehlo ohlukileyo. Ngoku ukhangela ubungqina boko kuthethwayo aze aphikise nayiphi na into ebonakala ingenasihlahla kuye okanye enetyheneba ngokuphathelele kubungqina obunikezelweyo.

Kwiyunivesithi efana neRhodes, abo bathweswa izidanga bakwaqeqeshwe ukuba bajonge izinto ngamehlo enkcazo-bungcali(theory). Inkcazo-bungcali ifana nqwa neelensi kwiintanyongo. Isinceda ukuba sibone izinto ebesingenakho ukukwazi ukuzibona ngaphandle kweentanyongo, okanye sibone izinto ngendlela eyahlukileyo. Kuba inkcazo-bungcali isincedisisa ukuba sibone izinto ebesingenakho ukukwazi ukuzibona, isinceda ukuba sibe nomfanekiso-ngqondweni wehlabathi elingekabikho, ihlabathi eliguquke kakhulu kwelo siphila kulo ngoku. Ezi zizidingo ezixabisekileyo kwindawo yokuxelengela yaye kungoko abo bathweswa izidanga belangazelelwa. Babaluleke ngokukhethekileyo, ingakumbi kulawulo lwentando yesininzi efana neyethu esakhulayo.

Njengoko abo bathweswa izidanga behamba kwiqonga namhlanje yaye bethatha inxaxheba kwizithethe ezingenangambu ezikumhlaba waseAfrika, enye yeendlela zokubona ukuqhutywa kwalo mnyhadala kukubonisa inguqu ngokobuni. Oku kuyafana nokuba kwezinye iinkcubeko, umzekelo, amatyendyana anganxiba iimpahla ezintsha emva kolwaluko. Ukunxitywa kwesidanga kuphawula inguqu ekubeni lowo uthweswa isidanga uye abe ngubani na. Le nguqu iye iqinisekise yiNgqonyela eye ibabethe entloko noMabhalane-jikelele weYunivesithi oye abaxakathise. Iintloko zamasebe, iimfundimanekunye nalo lonke uluntu lweYunivesithi, bayabukela – bebhiyozela bekwaqaphela impumelelo yabafundi bethu.

Yonwabela umnyhadala namhlanje, kodwa ngokubaluleke ngakumbi, khumbula ukubaluleka kwawo kumlisela nomthinjana wethu othweswa izidanga, yaye nangokwenene, ukubaluleka kwawo kwimbali yelizwe lethu.

Halala! Siyavuyisana nabathweswa izidanga ngoRU120.

Wat is 'n gradeplegtigheid?

'n Gradeplegtigheid is 'n tyd van feesvieringe vir studente en hulle families. Dit is 'n tyd waarin prestasie gevier, foto's geneem en herinneringe gemaak word. Dis 'n tyd vir applous en natuurlik om aan te trek na gelang van die waardigheid wat die seremonie verdien.

Studente wat gradueer dra tradisioneel 'n akademiese toga wat hulle uitwys as 'spesiaal' en anders as ander mense wat die seremonie bywoon. Hulle loop oor die verhoog, kniel voor die kanselier, wat hulle dan met 'n seremoniële hoed op die kop tik voor hulle aanbeweeg na die registrateur wat vir hulle 'n 'kap opsit' volgens die graad wat hulle verwerf het.

Vir baie mense wat die gradeplegtigheid bywoon, is daar 'n sleutelvraag rondom wat al hierdie seremonie en prosedures, waarvan die oorsprong honderde jare gelede meerendeels in Europa ontstaan het, in kontemporêre Suid-Afrika sou beteken. Een manier om die vraag te beantwoord is om te fokus op die gegradueerde self. Soos studente vandag oor die verhoog stap, is hulle nie dieselfde mense wat drie of vier jaar gelede by die universiteit ingeskryf het nie. As die universiteit hulle werk goed gedoen het, is hulle geheel en al ander mense.

Die gegradueerde kyk met 'n nuwe paar oë na die wêreld. Hulle soek nou vir bewyse vir stellings wat gemaak word en bestry enige iets wat nie vir hulle geldig of regverdigbaar is volgens die bewyse wat aangebied word nie.

By 'n universiteit soos Rhodes, is gegradueerdes ook opgelei om deur die lens van teorie te kyk. Teorie werk presies soos die lense van 'n bril. Dit skep die geleentheid om dinge te sien wat ons nie sonder die bril sou kon sien nie; of om dinge anders te sien. Aangesien teorie ons die kans gun om dinge te sien wat ons andersins nie sou kon sien nie, gee dit ons ook die geleentheid om 'n wêreld te verbeel wat nog nie bestaan nie, 'n wêreld wat getransformeer het van die een waarin ons op die oomblik woon. Dit is waardevolle eienskappe in die werkplek en dit is waarom gegradueerdes gesog is. Hulle is veral belangrik in 'n jong demokrasie soos ons eie.

Soos wat gegradueerdes vandag oor die verhoog stap en deelneem aan rituele wat nie in Afrika gewortel is nie, is een manier om hierdie verrigtinge te begryp om dit te sien as 'n verskuiwing in identiteit. Op dieselfde manier waarop jong mans in sommige kulture nuwe klere ná 'n inisiasie-seremonie sou dra, simboliseer die dra van 'n toga 'n verskuiwing in die persoon wat die gegradueerde nou geword het. Hierdie verskuiwing word erken deur die kanselier wat hulle op die kop tik en die registrateur wat die kap oor hulle skouers plaas. Die dekane en akademici, saam met die hele universiteitsgemeenskap, aanskou dit – ter viering en erkenning van ons studente se prestasies.

Geniet vandag se seremonie, maar – belangriker nog – erken die uitsonderlike belang daarvan in die lewens van ons jong gegradueerdes en, inderdaad, in die geskiedenis van ons land.

Veels geluk aan ons RU120 gegradueerdes!