

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 Deans of Faculties will present the candidates for the award of Diplomas and the conferral of Degrees of Bachelor and Master.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Student Affairs) will present Ms Lynda Bryant, Mrs Monique Purcell, Sr Emily Repinz and Sr Lynnette van Dyk for the Distinguished Award for Community Engagement.

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, Congregation members 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.

IiNtloko zeeFakalithi zinikezela abaza kuwongwa ngeeDiploma nabanikezelwa ngeziDanga zeBachelor, nezeMaster.

UMncedisi kaSekelangqonyela (imiCimbi yezeMfundo nabaFundi) wazisa uNkosazana uLynda Bryant, uNkosikazi uMonique Purcell, uMongikazi uEmily Repinz noMongikazi uLynnette van Dyk abawongwa ngeMbasa yoGqwesileyo kuThathonxaxheba kwezasekuHlalani

INgqungquthela iyaphakama ivume uMhobe weSizwe.

INgqonyela ichitha 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 prosessie die ouditorium binnekom.

Die Kanselier sal die kongregasie konstitueer.

Die Visekanselier sal die kongregasie verwelkom.

Die dekane van die fakulteite sal die kandidate vir die toekenning van diplomas, baccalaureus- en meestersgrade voorstel.

Die Adjunkvisekanselier (Akademiese en studente-aangeleenthede) sal me. Lynda Bryant, mev. Monique Purcell, sr. Emily Repinz en sr. Lynnette van Dyk vir die Toekenning vir Uitnemende Gemeenskapsbetrokkenheid voorstel.

Die kongregasie sal staan en die volkslied sing.

Die Kanselier sal die kongregasie verdaag.

Die kongregasie word versoek om te staan terwyl die prosessie 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 PHARMACY

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF PHARMACY

AMRA, Ismaeel Ebrahim
BANISI, Amahle Vuyisa
BLOSE, Ndumiso
BOBIE, Sonwabise Erasmus
BOTSANE, Makhokolotso Rethabile
BRUKWE, Khanya, **with distinction**
BUTHELEZI, Amanda Simphiwe
BUTHELEZI, Ndumiso Zolani Nhlanhla, **with distinction**
CELE, Lethukuthula Blessing
CHAWANE, Bonginkosi
CHIGUMIRA, Ruvarashe
CHINODYANAMA, Paida, **with distinction**
DLAMBEWU, Thandile
DLAMINI, Anele
DLANGISA, Eddie Msawenkosi
DUMA, Sthabiso, **with distinction**
GAFFER, Yusuf Asad, **with distinction**
GAMA, S'Bonelo Mngqobi
GAMEDE, Sbahle Olwethu Lebo Yenziwe, **with distinction**
GAOLEHELWE, Amantle
GAZIDE, Mikateko Judy, **with distinction**
GOVENDER, Kiara, **with distinction**
GWATIRINGA, Chiyedza Mary-Faith, **with distinction**
HADEBE, Khanyisile Bongiwe
HARRY, Kelly Karen
HASSAN, Juwairyah
HIGGINS, Tarryn Chavonne
HOOSEN, Firdous, **with distinction**
JADA, Ayaka
JECHE, Munashe Justine
JODO, Avela
KALIMASHE, Vuyo
KAZINGIZI, Tutsirai Tendayi, **with distinction**

KELEMANA, Mpumelelo
KGADITSE, Phegeletso Asnah
KGOMO, Masefele Kamogelo
KHAKHUSE, Ntuthuko
KHOZA, Philani
KHOZA, Xiluva Sagwadi
KOMANE, Lawrence Mphahle
KRAEMER, Kyle Brian, **with distinction**
KUBHEKA, Bongeka Nokulunga Gracia
KUNENE, Ntuthuko Bradley Mhlengi
KUPETA, Melany Tinotenda, **with distinction**
LANGA, Bongumsa Hlakaniphani
LANGA, Lerato Raisibe
MABASO, Nomfundo
MADIOPE, Mohau Nare
MADLALA, Njabulo
MADONSELA, Nomcebo Michelle
MAFUNGWA, Siphesihle
MAHLANGU, Lindiwe Gladys
MAKEKETLANA, Thabang Joseph
MAKHUBELE, Providence Pfumelani
MAKURA, Nyasha, **with distinction**
MALULEKE, Increase Andzani
MAMPANA, Khaya Vusimuzi, **with distinction**
MANJRA, Zahraa
MANZINI, Siphesihle Simphiwe
MASEBENI, Lihle
MASHEGO, Lerato Tikitiki
MASHEGO, Mmakgotso Melon
MASILELA, Kgomotso Michell
MASUKU, Nomalungelo Petronella
MATLAKALA, Maditshwene Annania Gontse
MATODZI, Aunkhangwi Rolivhuwa
MAYISELA, Ziyanda Charlotte, **with distinction**
MAZIBUKO, Sandile Phiwayinkosi
MBAMBO, Melusi
MBAMBO, Ukho

MBONAMBI, Sanele Nontsikelelo
MCEBI, Minentle
MDUNGE, Mbali Yvonne
MEHLO, Annelisa Vuyelwa
MGXOBANE, Vuyokazi
MKHAMBAPHI, Siphesihle
MKHIZE, Sbusisiwe Londiwe, **with distinction**
MKHULISI, Palesa
MKIZE, Ndumiso Gift
MNCUBE, Yandile Thando
MNGE, Phiwokuhle
MNGOMEZULU, Xolile Fortunate
MNGQONTSHI, Siphesihle
MNGUNI, Yamanguni Siphesihle Lwandle, **with distinction**
MOKGOMO, Mamohomotji
MOKOENA, Melissa
MOOLA, Faatimah
MOOLLA, Bilal
MTUKE, Qaqambile Fortune Thole
MUNANDI, Rebecca
MUTAWARIRA, Nyasha Judith
MWELASE, Zipho
MYENI, Ntombiyenkosi Nomvelo
NCUBE, Sinenhlanhla Amanda
NDLEBE, Asekho Ntandokazi
NDZIMANDE, Aphiwe Siyamthanda
NEFALE, Fulufhelo Ellection
NELUHENI, Phumudzo
NENGUDZA, Maipfi Charity
NGWENYA, Amanda Masethembe
NGWENYA, Banzi
NGWENYA, Celokuhle Zamaswazi Sinenhlanhla
NKOSI, Zamangwane Nozipho
NOKELE, Milowo
NOKWALI, Inga
NONDABULA, Ziyanda
NONTSHE, Lona Samkelisiwe

NORUMEDZO, Charity
NOTSHAYA, Siwaphiwe
NOTSOLO, Lungelwa
NTAKA, Punka Phatheka
NTLAKAZA, Nande
NTLALI, Yabanathi, **with distinction**
NTOMBELA, Makabongwe Mabutho, **with distinction**
NTSELE, Anele Bongeka
NTSHANGASE, Nomfundo Smangele
NTSUKU, Lukho
NYOKANA, Yamkela
OFORI-BOATENG, Clinton
PADAYACHEE, Anna
PITJENG, Lethabo
RAMA CHANDRAN, Celeen
RENSBURG, Leah
SAM, Yolanda Faith
SANBO, Perseverence Xolani
SEJAPALE, Maota Berneth
SEKGOBELA, Mabokwane Arneiger
SESHWENE, Vasnary
SHAIK, Aaliyah, **with distinction**
SHAIK, Bibi Aisha
SHEANE, Zukile Bulelani
SHIRILELE, Nhlaluko Laurencia Evanna
SHOBA, Sihle
SHOKANE, Mmapule Charmaine
SIBIYA, Syabonga
SIBIYA, Thula Kuhle
SICETSHE, Nkosenhlanga
SIKADE, Hlumisa
SIMELANE, Nonsikelelo Nontokozo
SIMJEE, Muhammad
SINGH, Rashik
SODO, Zikhona
SOMTHUNZI, Khanya
TAVARWISA, Polite

TERWIN, Kyle Richard, **with distinction**
TUSWA, Tembakazi
VILANE, Nhlanhla Percy
XANA, Mihle Mihle
XEGO, Mhlali
XOKI, Siso
XULU, Lillian Mshopery
YOHANE, Takudzwa Terrence
ZULU, Ayanda Junita
ZULU, Samukelisiwe Zinhle
ZULU, Vuyolwethu
ZUNGU, Luyanda Mxolisi
ZWANE, Andiswa Minenhle

FACULTY OF COMMERCE

ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS ANALYSIS

BLOUW, Siyanda
BOHLOKO, Bokang Romeo
BROWN, Robert Kennedy, **with distinction**
CHAPWANYA, Ruvimbo, **with distinction**
CHAUKE, Fanelo Ndhavuko, **with distinction**
CHIKUKWA, Tatenda, **with distinction**
CHONCO, Nontando Olwethu
DANA, Mamokete Cumeka, **with distinction**
DANIEL, Trevor
DELI, Qhamani, **with distinction**
DIGOMO, Mpotsa Hunadi
DUDA, Lithetha
DYANTYI, Sibahle
FLENTE, Bukeka Vinolia
GADIPEDI, Mogomotsi Thato, **with distinction**
GALEHOLE, Segomotso Lornah
GANGIAH, Demetrius Noah, **with distinction**
GIDIMI, Phumelela, **with distinction**
GUMEDE, Nondumiso Ayabonga

HLATSHWAYO, Nqobile Thembelihle, **with distinction**
HLEFANE, Wandile
HLONGWANE, Gugu
HLOPHE, Famabo
JADA, Nqwenelwa, **with distinction**
JALI, Asisipho Henrietta Irene
KESWA, Yonela
KHANYILE, Siphokazi Queenette
KHAZAMULA, Siyabonga Kingstone
KHOHLISO, Esihle
KHUMALO, Nomkhosi Thabile
KIBOWA, Ambrose Lincoln
KOMA, Neo Ntwampe Noah
KOTOLA, Hilda Zimunya
KUJINGA, Bonita Susan
LANGA, Marcelina Zandile
LANGE, Ndiyakholwa Thobela
LEKOE, Emily Mamokete, **with distinction**
LEPHATSOE, Paballo Peniel
LETSWALO, Thabiso Raymond
LUTHULI, Cebile Nondwe
MABIZELA, Ziningi Yonela, **with distinction**
MABUNDA, Rishongile Meekness
MAFENUKA, Linety
MAGADLA, Hlumelo, **with distinction**
MAGIDA, Nomthandazo
MALOKA, Dieketseng Veronica
MANDINDE, Tapiwanashe Nigel, **with distinction**
MASEKO, Marilyn Lerato
MASENYE, Mbali Ednah, **with distinction**
MASHIYI, Abegail Ntswaki
MATHEBULA, Itumeleng Mmamma, **with distinction**
MATHEKGA, Moloko Kgaugelo
MATHONSI, Sibusiso
MATIWANE, Sithembiso Michael, **with distinction**
MATYALENI, Azola, **with distinction**
MAVUSO, Siyabonga

MBASOLA, Nelisiwe Khethelo Fufu
MBI, Lusanda
MBONAMBI, Nontobeko Lady Peace, **with distinction**
MBOWENI, Vutomi
MCHUNU, Thandiwe, **with distinction**
MDABE, Sanelisiwe Thalente, **with distinction**
MDYOGOLO, Lilitha
MEKULA, Luyanda, **with distinction**
METH, Sinovuyo Sanelisiwe, **with distinction**
MGUBU, Nosandiso, **with distinction**
MKHONZA, Thobekile Banzi, **with distinction**
MLAMBO, Jonathan Nkosinathi
MLUNGU, Sivuyisiwe
MMOKWA, Tuduetso, **with distinction**
MNGOMEZULU, Bongwe Namile
MNGUNI, Khanyi Mondli
MOHALE, Senate Priscilla, **with distinction**
MOILA, Lerato Luara, **with distinction**
MOKOENA, Caryn Unathi Precious, **with distinction**
MOLOI, Lehlohonolo
MOLOKWANE, Kgalalelo
MOSEHLA, Letau Dashea
MOSS, Robyn, **with distinction**
MOTLANA, Lehlogonolo Michell
MPETE, Kgaugeto Salome, **with distinction**
MTHEMBU, Mazwi, **with distinction**
MTHEMBU, Nothando Mbali, **with distinction**
MTHETHWA, Makhosi Tracy
MTHETHWA, Nokwazi Nandipha Farehope, **with distinction**
MUKWEVHO, Thitendelwi Faith, **with distinction**
MZOZOYANA, Lulo
NAMA, Maqhamsela Joshua, **with distinction**
NDABA, Nonkanyiso Brightness
NDAMSE, Yanga Athi
NDLELA, Sithokozile Sindiswa Samanta
NETHENGWE, Mutshinye, **with distinction**
NGEYANE, Okuhle

NGUBANE, Nonduduzo
NGUBANE, Ntombifuthi
NKOSI, Simphiwe Felishia
NONKUBA, Siphosethu
NTABENI, Ntokozo, **with distinction**
NTAKANA, Samkelisiwe, **with distinction**
NTOMBELA, Alibongwe Wendy
NTONDINI, Mbulelo, **with distinction**
NTSHANGA, Yonela, **with distinction**
NTSHANGASE, Lulama Gabrielle, **with distinction**
NTULI, Nolwandle Beula, **with distinction**
NYULUSHE, Milisa
PAFA, Pamela
PETER, Brian Vukile
PETSHWA, Ozivayo Honey
PHAAHLE, Ramatabane Lindy
PHANDLE, Babalwa
PHANGENI, Tshidi Desiree, **with distinction**
PHUBASO, Sandiswa Gloria
PRETORIUS, Sylvia, **with distinction**
RABASIMANE, Ratang Phineah Thandie, **with distinction**
RADEBE, Mpho, **with distinction**
RAMOROKA, Seipei
RASILINGWANE, Ntsako Happy
SCOTT, Kelly-Page
SHABANGU, Kamogelo Agape
SHELEMBE, Bonisiwe Skholiwe
SHEZI, Luthando, **with distinction**
SHIVAMBU, Casey, **with distinction**
SHOKANE, Mpho Carel
SIAS, Varonique Euphemia
SIBIYA, Sindile Pertunia, **with distinction**
SIHONGO, Rofhiwa
SITHONGA, Sikholise
SOPEZA, Sisipho, **with distinction**
SOTONDOSHE, Qama, **with distinction**
SPAJI, Sikhumbuzo, **with distinction**

SWAARTBOOI, Naanda
TSATSI, Lebone Khanyisile Princess
TYANI, Mbali
ZVAVAMWE, Abigal, **with distinction**

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN ADVANCEMENT AND
RESOURCE MOBILISATION

HACKSLEY, Timothy Christopher, **with distinction**
KONDILE, Hlumela
MOHALE, Bafana Abraham
NGALO, Aphiwe
NGUBANE, Christopher Mzwandile
NTLABEZO, Sisesakhe, **with distinction**
REDDY, Kristena

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS ANALYSIS

BABA, Anam
CUBA, Lwazi Mazizi
GIJANA, Asiphe
JAMA, Nikelo
KEKANA, Kabelo David, **with distinction**
KERN, Olivia Nabasha
KGOMO, Kwena Edith Dikeledi
KWEYAMA, Londeka Xoliswa, **with distinction**
LEKOTA, Thabang
MABUNDA, Noxolo Jabhisa
MACUACUA, Rosetta Rosa
MAKUPU, Mosa Pontsho, **with distinction**
MALAHLA, Sinazo Kuhle
MPOTULO, Athenkosi
MPSHE, Mpumelelo Goodness
NAKANA, Kutlwano Thabo Keamogetse
NDAMSE, Sibulele
NDONGENI, Nomonde Patience
NDUNA, Masonwabe

NGALO, Nomajuta Phumla
NGUMLA, Unakho Lithemba
NOLAN, Henry Chadwin
NTAJE, Lesedi
PHUNGULA, Phumela Pamella
POLISI, Siphosethu
QOLOHLE, Mandilakhe
QWASE, Sinetemba
SIBANYONI, Msawenkosi Guyborn
SIMANI, Busisiwe
SIYAKATSHANA, Ashley Menelisi
STOFILE, Xhanti
VAN NIEKERK, Reagan Peter, **with distinction**

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN ENTERPRISE MANAGEMENT

ACKERDIEN, Faisal
BAMBISO, Abongile
BANDLA, Mpumelelo Phillipson
BULULU, Uyanda
DAVID, Luthando
DINGINTO, Akha
DOYLE, Herby Granville
EDWARDS, Shelley
GONGXEKA, Unathi
KUSHANE, Nkululeko Whadley
MGIBANTAKA, Felicia Nonkoliso
MHLANGA, Richwell
MJOBBO, Aphelele
POTTS, Tarryn, **with distinction**
ROYLE, Matthew James
SAMSON, Fikile, **with distinction**
SHUMI, Nomaxesibe
SUKWANA, Mhlahli Lilitha
TYSON, David Anthony
WOLHUTER, Jordan

FACULTY OF PHARMACY

DEGREE OF MASTER OF PHARMACY

DABENGWA, Nqobani Mathew, BPharm (Rhodes), in Pharmacy Practice, in the Faculty of Pharmacy. Degree by thesis. Thesis: Pharmacy students' lived experiences of the Mental Health Support Structure at Rhodes University. Supervisor: Professor S Burton. Co-supervisor: Dr S Shaik

DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE (PHARMACY)

BOTHA, Crystal May, BBA (Stenden), in Pharmaceutical Chemistry, in the Faculty of Pharmacy. Degree by thesis. Thesis: Biological hazards and the role of emergency and disaster risk managers in public health. Supervisor: Professor R Tandlich. Co-supervisor: Dr R Oosthuizen (Stenden).

DUBE, Brendon Panamoyo, BPharm (Rhodes), in Pharmaceutical Chemistry, in the Faculty of Pharmacy. Degree by thesis. Thesis: Investigation into the indicators of community resilience and value of statistical lives lost in South Africa post natural disasters: Implications on public health disaster risk management. Supervisor: Professor R Tandlich.

SIBANDA, Anele Makhanjana, BPharm (Rhodes), in Pharmaceutics, **with distinction**, in the Faculty of Pharmacy. Degree by thesis. Thesis: Development, manufacture and characterisation of a sublingual thermosetting salbutamol sulphate gel for the management of acute paediatric asthma. Supervisor: Professor RB Walker. Co-supervisor: Professor SMM Khamanga.

FACULTY OF COMMERCE

DEGREE OF MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

KA-SIPHIWO, Mongi Mesuli, NDip (Industrial Engineering) (CPUT), PDBA (NMU), in Business Administration, in the Rhodes Business School. Degree by coursework and thesis. Thesis: Implementing quality improvement projects in South African automotive firms: A case study of an Eastern Cape Automotive Manufacturer.

Supervisor: Mr EP Knoesen.

KHALANI, Qaqamba, BA, LLB (Rhodes), in Business Administration, in the Rhodes Business School. Degree by coursework and research project. Research project title: Evaluating the most effective means of ensuring director independence. Supervisor: Ms L Greyling.

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.

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 ukhangelwa 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 ezingenangcambu 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 iqinisekiswe yiNgqonyela eye ibabethe entloko noMabhala-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.

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 verbeeld 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.

