

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

The congregation is requested 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, Distinguished Professor Paul R Maylam, will present the Honourable Justice Mbuyiseli Russel Madlanga for the Degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.

The Honourable Justice Mbuyiseli Russel Madlanga will address the Congregation.

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

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Student Affairs) will present Professor Megan Michele Campbell, Dr Duane Danny-Coe Booysen, Ms Christine Lewis, Ms Nqobile Nomonde Msomi and Ms Mandisa Ndabula 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, members of the congregation are requested to remain seated throughout the proceedings.

INKQUBO

Inggungquthela iyacelwa ukuba iphakame ngexesha iKwayala icula uGaudeamus Igitur, umkhosi wemithika ungena ngaphakathi.

INggonyela imisela iNggungquthela.

USekelangqonyela wamkela iNggungquthela.

IsiThethi, uNjingalwazi oBekekileyo uPaul R Maylam uza kunikezela uJaji oBekekileyo uMbuyiseli Russel Madlanga iwonga lesiDanga sobuGqirhalwazi kwezoMthetho, *honoris causa*.

UJaji oBekekileyo uMbuyiseli Russel Madlanga wenza intetho kwingqungquthela.

INTloko yeFakhalthi ibiza abaza kuthweswa ngeziDanga ze*Bachelor*, eze*Honours* neze*Masters*.

UMncedisi weSekelangqonyela (imiCimbi yezeMfundo nabaFundi) wazisa uNjingalwazi Megan Michele Campbell, uGqirhalwazi Duane Danny-Coe Booysen, uNkszn Christine Lewis, uNkszn Nqobile Nomonde Msomi noNkszn Mandisa Ndabula njengabafumana iMbasa kaSekelangqonyela yabaGqwesileyo kuThathonxaxheba kwezokuHlala.

INggungquthela iza kuphakama ivume uMhobe weSizwe.

INggonyela iza kuchitha iNggungquthela.

Inggungquthela iyacelwa ukuba iphakame ngexesha uMkhosi wemithika uphuma.

Ngaphandle kwaxa kuqalwa naxa kusongwa uMsitho, naxa kuculwa uMhobe weSizwe, abantu abakwiNggungquthela 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 openbare spreker, uitgelese professor Paul R Maylam, sal die edeleregter Mbuyiseli Russel Madlanga voorstel vir die doktorsgraad in die regte, *honoris causa*.

Die edele regter Mbuyiseli Russel Madlanga sal die kongregasie toespreek.

Die dekaan van die fakulteit sal die kandidate voorstel vir die toekenning van baccalaureusgrade, honneurs-baccalaureusgrade en meestersgrade.

Die adjunk-visiekanselier (akademiese en studentesake) sal professor Megan Michele Campbell, dr. Duane Danny-Coe Booyesen, me. Christine Lewis, me. Nqobile Nomonde Msomi en me. Mandisa Ndabula voorstel vir die toekenning vir uitnemende gemeenskapsbetrokkenheid.

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 HUMANITIES

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS

ALOMU, Tania, **with distinction in** Political & International Studies
ANOSIKE, Divine Chibuonumu
ASSOUNGA, William Alexander
BANDA, Juliet Matsie
BANJATWA, Nwabisa Tess
BANYINI, Eugene
BARTON, Caitlin Rose, **with distinctions in** Drama **and** Linguistics &
Applied Language Studies.
BAVUMA, Sive, **with distinction in** Drama
BECERRA HERNANDEZ, Marco Don Odysseus
BEKWA, Khwezi Siphosethu
BELL, Caitlin Justine
BENTELE, Talia Athule
BOSCH, Sasha Ciara
BROWN, Calvin Jino
BROWN, Rachel Ashley
BUDELI, Mukondeleli
BULANE, Ofentse Phetheho
BUTHELEZI, Nhlonipho
BUWA, Kamvelihle
CALU, Simanye
CASLING, Tasneem Takirah
CHIGWENDE, Delia Ropafadzo
CHUULU, Chimuka Milambo
CILLIERS, Savannah Chereé
CLAY, Asisipho Thembakazi
DA SILVA, Le-Larchë Leigh
DALINDYEBO, Sibulele Bomi
DE BRUIN, Tiisetso
DELPONTÉ, Loren Kelly, **with distinction in** History
DELPONT, Kate, **with distinctions in** Art History & Visual Culture
and English
DENSTON, Junaid Gerald

DESEMELA, Simamkele
DILATA, Thozama Charlie
DINGI, Esona
DLOMO, Samkelo Nicole
DOBE, Lisakhanya
DULLABH, Chiara
DYANTYI, Aviwe
ESBEND, Sinekamva Leonora, **with distinction in** Psychology
FLECK, Olwethu
FRONEMAN, Aidan Jarrod, **with distinction in** Psychology
FRYER, Emily Samantha Helen, **with distinction in** English
FUMA, Thandokazi
FUTSHANE, Christelle Katung
GILMOUR, Christopher Robin, **with distinctions in** Classics
and History
GINYA, Anazo
GIYAMA, Siwongiwe
GONDONGWE, Rumbidzai
GOVA, Mbalentle
GROOTBOOM, Nwabisa
GUZANA, Slindokuhle
GWAGWA, Nasiphi Chumisa
HAHN, Jade Lily
HARENS, Lihle
HARTZER, Nicola
HAUPTFLEISCH, Kara-Liv
HJUL, Paul Axel Hansen
HLELA, Lelethu Biancha
HO, Caitlin, **with distinction in** Journalism & Media Studies
HUCKLESBY, Bronwyn Anne
JACK, Chulumanco Chris
JACK, Qhama Shantell
JALI, Gungubele Yolisa
JARVIS, Ryan John Duncan
JIRACHAREONKUL, Alec, **with distinctions in** English **and** History
JOHNSON, Gabriella Mylee
KABWE, Chiti

KAMUNJOMA MUGABE, Vimbai Chiedza
KANDORORO, Tatenda Angeline
KANYANE, Shine
KEENE, Jordan Emma
KETISO, Anam
KGAGENG, Lazarus Thabiso
KHAKHAZA, Sindisiwe
KHETSI, Kamohelo Mamphong
KHUMALO, Amanda Khanyisile
KIBI, Lunga
KILIAN, Jessica
KINGHAN, Julia Christine, **with distinctions in** English
and Journalism & Media Studies
KLETTE, Kimberley Morgan, **with distinction in** English Language &
Linguistics
KLEZI, Babalwa
KOSI, Liyema
LAI, Rikie Jun Hao
LE RAY, Keziah Keann
LEAL, Isabel Holly
LEBJANE, Mmaphegello Palesa
LEVE, Lifa
LIMBADA, Zahrah
MABALA, Neo Carlyon
MABENA, Mamkhambo Motheo
MACHASTELLA, Nkosinamandla, **with distinctions in** Industrial &
Economic Sociology **and** Organisational Psychology
MADISHA, Masego Lesedi
MADOLO, Zintle
MADZIVIRE, Keegan Tanaka
MAFULEKA, Sithembele Londiwe
MAGIDI, Mpho
MAGUSHANA, Nompumelelo
MAGWA, Lwanda
MAGWALA, Olwethu
MAGWEBU, Sinazo
MAHALA, Anam

MAHLABA, Nozipho Samukelisiwe
MAHLANGU, Bongwiwe, **with distinction in** Psychology
MAHLASELA, Siphosethu
MAHLATSHANA, Inga
MAKALIMA, Lulibo Azukiwe
MAKANA, Phindulo Evidence
MAKHEDAMA, Anathi
MALANGENI, Vizicelo
MALEBANA, Tshepo
MALEKA, Koketso Johanna
MANDA, Taonga Natasha
MANDABA, Liliso Minentle
MANGWE, Eric
MANHICA, Blessing Ratsatsi, **with distinction in** isiXhosa Language
Acquisition
MANQINDI, Ayanda, **with distinction in** Journalism & Media Studies
MANXOWENI, Zanele
MAPENGO, Tivani Harriott
MAPHUMULO, Busisiwe
MARASHULA, Lisakhanya Talita
MAREKWA, Keboneng Veronicah
MARGALIT, Galia
MARIBE, Bonolo Amogelang
MARTIN, Mihlali
MASETE, Reneilwe Tlotlomatso
MASHABA, Tendai Lihai-Roi, **with distinctions in** Linguistics &
Applied Language Studies **and** Psychology
MASIZA, Nomatamba Patience
MASWANA, Annelisa
MATAMELA, Phila
MATI, Ngawo Yanga
MATINISE, Aphilile
MATYHOLWENI, Luto
MAUBANE, Masego Itumeleng
MAVIMBELA, Nhlanhla, **with distinction in** Psychology
MAVU, Tafadzwa Sarah
MAZABANE, Lungile

MBALI, Zukhanye
MBANE, Sikhona
MBATHA, Zakhona Neliswa
MBENYA, Sizile Beauty
MBONA, Andiswa Asanda Faith
MBONISO, Athandile
MCHUNU, Senamile Nichole
MDITSHWA, Zubenathi Zhuu
MDOKO, Siyasanga
MELTZER, Rebecca Vania
METH, Zanele Rose, **with distinction in** Music Theory & Analysis
MEYER, Karyn Lena
MEYI, Loyiso Karel
MGOBHOZI, Amahle Zamahlobo
MGQWANCA, Anelisiwe
MHLABA, Limise
MKHABELA, Dick Eric Jnr Ntsako
MKHULI, Athule
MLAMBO, Sithabile Barbra Mwaona
MNYAMANA, Xolani David
MODIMAKWANE, Mahlatsi Lourence
MOFOKENG, Lehlohonolo Lincoln
MOKITIMI, Refiloe Savuya
MOKOENA, Dumazile Linah
MOKOENA, Lehlohonolo
MOKOPANELA, Karabo
MOLEFI, Ditebogo
MOLOI, Lindokuhle Kimberley, **with distinctions in** Psychology
and Sociology
MONYE, Katleho Pampoen
MORRIS, Lauryn Shannon, **with distinction in** Psychology
MORRISON, Caitlin Meghan
MORROW, Damian Junior
MOYO, Lebohang Rebecca
MOYO, Zoe Zinhle
MPENGESI, Inga Mfihlelo
MPHAMO, Ofentse Benedicta

MPHEPUKA, Esona
MPONGOSHE, Buntu
MQULO, Zizipho
MTHETHWA, Buhle Akhona, **with distinction in Journalism & Media Studies**
MTIMKULU, Ntando
MUGOBO, Ruth
MUSHWANA, Sharlene Nyathela
MUZA, Matifadza
MVUNDLA, Nduduzo Ntuthuko
NAIDOO, Kayleen Sharne
NAIDOO, Ruvesen
NATHANE, Kopo
NCOKAZI, Zola Asia, **with distinction in Chinese Studies**
NDIBAZA, Khanya
NDLELA, Tshwanelo
NDLOVU, Nhloshle Akhona
NDLOVU, Nomsa Lovenes
NDLOVU, Thamsanqa Gift
NDWANDWE, Makabongwe Ntandoyenkosi Saziso
NDZENGU, Liswelihle
NELANI, Lebo
NEMAVHOLA, Lutendo
NENE, Phumelele Nqobile
NGCETANE, Lisekho, **with distinction in Drama**
NGCONGWANE, Cebisa
NGEMA, Samukele
NGUBANE, Anele Nombulelo
NGUNA, Nwabisa Tanya
NGWADLA, Aphelele
NGXOKELA, Milani
NHLAPO, Tiisetso Kwanda
NKANGANE, Sesethu
NKANZA, Musachi Kanema
NKHWAZI, Markan Andreas
NKOSI, Qhamani
NKUNA, Khanyisa

NKUNA, Surprise Sophia
 NKWAKWA, Simamkele
 NOMADUMO, Bonga
 NOMBWU, Thando
 NOXHAKA, Aza Chumisa
 NTATAMALA, Lethabo Joy
 NTJANA, Monnye Malebo
 NTLAKI, Amanda
 NTOMBELA, Sizakele Yanga, **with distinction in** Psychology
 NTOMBOLWANA, Zikhona Qayiya
 NTSHINGILA, Reitumetse
 NTUSI, Buhle
 NXIBA, Amangile Busisiwe
 NXUMALO, Bongane Lynda
 NYAKALE, Kgomotso Salome
 NYALUNGA, Linda Kennedy
 NYANZI, Daniel Mutume
 NYONI, Nomvuyo
 NYUSWA, Sphelele Ntwenhle
 PADAYACHY, Talitha Hope, **with distinctions in** English **and**
 History
 PAE, Lerato
 PAHAD, Wade
 PANYANE, Palesa Nthabiseng, **with distinction in** Drama
 PELLEMU, Bongani Prosperity
 PHALATSE, Palesa Asanthe
 PHILLIP, Sanele
 PIETERSE, Leonard Lionel
 PLANGA, Liyabona, **with distinction in** Psychology
 PLATT, Emily Kate, **with distinctions in** English **and** French
 POHL, Frances Mary, **with distinction in** Classics
 PRETORIUS, Marizél Jacolien
 RADUSIN, Ramona Désireé Elsbeth, **with distinctions in** Human
 Kinetics & Ergonomics **and** Psychology
 RALA-RALA, Thabile, **with distinction in** Drama
 RALO, Sposethu
 RAMOHLANKA, Moeketsi Daniel

RAMPHELE, Letumile
REID, Robynne-Lee
RHODE, Jade, **with distinction in** Journalism & Media Studies
ROODT, Daniel Andrew Sephton, **with distinction in** Journalism &
Media Studies
ROODT, Sarah Justine
ROOI, Jodi-Anne
ROWLEY, Beth Keryn, **with distinction in** English
SABELO, Simphiwe Njabulo
SAM, Siliziwe Ayakha
SANGA, Zubenathi
SEBATA, Oratile Karabo
SEKWELE, Lethabo
SELEBOGO, Ofentse
SHABALALA, Njabulo
SHEPSTONE, Denham Theophilus
SHONGWE, Thabo
SIBANYONI, Zamaswazi Gerry Simnkiwe
SIGONYELA, Vuyisa
SIHLUKO, Luphilile Lucky
SILINDA, Kamogelo Mbali
SILUMKO, Siphesihle
SINEKE, Awethu Asivile
SISHUBA, Zimkita
SITHOLE, Prevail Muhluri
SIWENDU, Hlumelo Anita
SIWISA, Lukhanyo
SIYEKA, Iviwe
SLATER, James Cuan, **with distinctions in** Philosophy
and Psychology
SOKKIE, Taylon Timera
SONDIYAZI, Buhlebenkosi Sivuyile
SONTSELE, Mcebisi Sive
SOTYANTYA, Qaphela Rose, **with distinction in** isiXhosa Language
Acquisition
STEPHEN, Sibusiso
STOFILE, Abongile Donald

SWART, Candace Cae
THABETHE, Owethu Sibusiso
THAMAE, Mojabeng Charlotte
THOBELA, Rebone Nelisiwe
TIMA, Azole
TOWLER, Lana
TWALA, Tengesihle Siphesihle
VAHED, Ayesha Ebrahim
VAN NIEKERK, Nia Searlaith Beth, **with distinction in** English
VANDA, Indibabale
VENA, Luchwayito
VUSO, Bulelani
WILLIAMS, Albernique Zandr e
WILLIAMS, Bonga
WILLIE, Chulumanco Kulungile
WILLOUGHBY, Teresa Mpho, **with distinction in** Journalism &
Media Studies
WRIGHT, Adrian John, **with distinction in** Psychology
XINTOLO, Lavel'Ikhwezi Liwa-Lam
XUMA, Awongiwe Qhama
YENDE, Khethani Johannes
ZULU, Thobela Faith
ZWANE, Mbalenhle Nomfundo

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF FINE ART

DALASILE, Mivuyo Pride, **with distinction in** Art History & Visual
Culture
DUKE, Kate Sarah, **with distinction in** Art History & Visual
Culture
EDOM, Jascy Leigh, **with distinctions in** Art History & Visual
Culture **and** Fine Art Practice
ERASMUS, Anneri, **with distinction in** Fine Art Practice
JACKSON, Xanth e Athena **with distinction in** Studio Practice
LACON-ALLIN, Emily Taylor, **with distinction in** Art History &

Visual Culture

LÉ KAY, Caryn Britney, **with distinctions** in Art History & Visual Culture **and** Fine Art Practice

MAFULU, Muyon Danyela, **with distinction** in Art History & Visual Culture

MASONDO, Siphesihle Gift

MOMMSEN, Chanté, **with distinction** in Fine Art Practice

PAYNE, Leroy, **with distinction** in Fine Art Practice

RETIEF, Daniel, **with distinctions** in Art History & Visual Culture **and** Fine Art Practice

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE WITH HONOURS

BEALE, Nonyezi Chloe, in Organisational Psychology, **with distinction**

BVUDZIJENA, Mazvita, in Organisational Psychology, **with distinction**

CALITZ, Geoffrey George, in Economics, **with distinction**

DE KLERK, Eloise Nadine, in Anthropology

DIAS, Sasha Elliot, in Development Studies, **with distinction**

DLAMINI, Thandeka Takhona, in Political & International Studies

DOSINI, Liyema, in Economics

DUBE, Lluia, in Development Studies

EGAN, Sarah Caitlin Stadler, in Psychology, **with distinction**

GOEIEMAN, Jordyn Paul, in Interdisciplinary Studies

GWALA, Nonhlakanipho, in Industrial & Economic Sociology

HALLOWES, Lari Chanel, in Anthropology

HARKER, Azelea Nerine Robyn, in History

HARRIS, Haden Dean, in Anthropology

HOVE, Taguma Florence, in Development Studies/ Political & International Studies

HUDSON, Emma Mckenzie, in Industrial & Economic Sociology

JARVIS, Matthew John Curtis, in Economics

KONDILE, Lisa, in Geography

MAGAZI, Pezile, in Organisational Psychology, **with distinction**

MAKALIMA, Buthanani Vuyokazi, in Sociology
 MANASE, Hilda Anesu, in Development Studies
 MAZIBUKO, Thembalami, in Environmental Science
 MEYS, Thomas, in Organisational Psychology
 MKHIZE, S'Nenhlanhla Sethabile, in Psychology
 MKUMBENI, Kgaugelo Hellen, in Political & International Studies
 MOTAUNG, Ntsebeng Goodness, in Psychology, **with distinction**
 MOTUBATSE, Thabanabo, in Industrial & Economic Sociology
 MSUTU NDHLOVU, Malumbo, in Industrial & Economic Sociology
 MTHETHWA, Kuhle, in Environmental Science
 MTHITSHANE, Phamela Misherly, in Development Studies
 MUFUKARI, Panashe, in Political & International Studies/Sociology,
with distinction
 MYATAZA, Kamvakazi Bongiwe, in Political & International Studies
 MZONDO, Sinokuhle, in Sociology
 NDERERE, Nompumelelo Agnes, in Development Studies
 NIKIFOROS, Declyn Michael Costa, in Sociology
 NTLOKWANA, Athabile, in Political & International Studies
 NTSANE, Mantsane Tabitha, in Classics
 OLOO, Madiba Zwane Ogao, in Organisational Psychology
 PILA, Anastacia Mosima, in Sociology
 PLAATJIES, Kinnie, in Industrial & Economic Sociology
 RALA, Tsidi, in Political & International Studies
 READ, Rebecca Leigh, in Environmental Science, **with distinction**
 REES, Joshua, in Organisational Psychology
 SAMELA, Uthandile Siyambulela, in Organisational Psychology, **with
 distinction**
 VAN GEUNS, Saskia, in Psychology, **with distinction**
 VAN WYK, Tiffany-Amber, in Psychology
 XONGO, Zamokuhle Isabella, in Psychology
 YEKA, Minienhle, in Political & International Studies
 ZINGWE, Tadiwa, in Political & International Studies

DEGREE OF MASTER OF FINE ART

ARBUCKLE, Julia Ruth, BFA (Rhodes), **with distinction**, in the Department of Fine Art. Degree by practice as research and thesis. Practical Exhibition: Looking After. Thesis: Archontic Aporias: The Mediums of Memory. Supervisor: Professor D Thorburn.
Co-supervisor: Dr T Goniwe.

DEGREE OF MASTER OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

SIMPO, Hazel, BSocSciHons (Rhodes), in Psychology, in the Department of Psychology. Degree by thesis. Thesis: An analysis of womxn's understanding of South African public health awareness campaigns' message on HIV/AIDS using cognitive interviewing.
Supervisor: Mr W Bohmke.

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.

Amended: A contribution by Emeritus Professor Chrissie Boughey, Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic and Student Affairs, Rhodes University.

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 isincedisela 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.

Ilungiselelwe nguNjingalwazi uChrissie Boughey, Owayesakuba nguSekela Ngqonyela weMicimbi yezeMfundo neyaBafundi, eRhodes University.

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.

Gewysig: 'n Bydra deur emeritus professor Chrissie Boughey, voormalige adjunk- visiekanselier akademiese en studentesake, Rhodes Universiteit.