

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 Dean of Faculty will present the candidates for the award of Certificates and Diplomas and the conferral of Degrees of Bachelor, Bachelor with Honours, Master and Doctor of Philosophy.

The Interim Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research, Innovation and Strategic Partnerships) will present Professor Christine Mary Boughey and Professor Sioux Margaret McKenna for the Vice-Chancellor's Book 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, umkhosi wemithika ungena ngaphakathi.

INgqonyela imisela iNgqungquthela.

USEkelangqonyela wamkela iNgqungquthela.

INTloko yeFakhalthi ibiza abaza kufumana izatifiketi, neediploma nabaza kuthweswa ngezidanga ze*Bachelor*, eze*Honours*, eze*Masters* nezobuGqirhalwazi.

UMncedisi weSekela Ngqonyela weThutyana (uPhando, iNguqu noBambiswano lokuPhumeza iiNjongo zeYunivesithi) uza kuwonga uNjingalwazi Christine Mary Boughey noNjingalwazi Sioux Margaret McKenna njengabafumana iMbasa kaSekelangqonyela yeNcwadi eGqwesileyo.

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 dekaan van die fakulteit sal die kandidate voorstel vir die toekenning van sertifikate, diplomas, baccalaureusgrade, honneurs-baccalaureusgrade, meestersgrade en doktorsgrade in die wysbegeerte.

Die tussentydse adjunk-visekanselier (navorsing, innovasie en strategiese vennootskappe) sal professor Christine Mary Boughey en professor Sioux Margaret McKenna voorstel vir die visekanselier se boektoekenning.

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 EDUCATION

ADVANCED CERTIFICATE IN EDUCATION (Foundation Phase Literacy Teaching)

ABRAHAMMS, Kasefa, **with distinction**
BATYI, Nelly Nolwando
BOTHAMATH, Mathilda, **with distinction**
CLAASSEN, Engela
FAKASHE, Beauty Neliswa
JAFTA, Lumka, **with distinction**
JOXO-MAKOSI, Elizabeth Nompumelelo
KARRIEM, Sophia Cathrin, **with distinction**
LUPUWANA, Ntombekhaya Susan, **with distinction**
MAQHANQA, Nomfanelo Laricia
MBEKISA, Bulelwa Mydear
NCAMAZANA, Nomazizi
NDLUNGWANA, Lumka Cynthia
NKUME, Nomakhosazana
NTUTELA-MKENTANI, Nandipha
SAAIMAN, Litzie, **with distinction**
SDEBA, Conie
SOUTHGATE, Natalie, **with distinction**
TAYLOR, Ludfunisha, **with distinction**
VAN BREDA, Alison Theresa, **with distinction**
VAN DER MERWE, Albertha Hester, **with distinction**

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (Foundation Phase Teaching)

ADLINGTON CORFIELD, Olivia Peyton
ANTONI, Lusanda
ASHERWOOD, Kayla Lauren, **with distinction**
BOLO, Piwe
BOTHAMATH, Danya Janet, **with distinction**
BOYA, Baphe Luphiwo
BUSHER, Gizelle Kaydene, **with distinction**

CRAIGIE, Caitlin Nicole
DE VOS, Lushca Wyona
DOUGLAS, Duanne Junior
FUNDA, Gugu Inga Thandiswa
GAMA, Letta
HALE, Simphiwe Earnest
HALE, Sinoxolo
ISAACS, Chelsea Claire
JURIES, Quinton
KANYISO, Mihle
KEYE, Vuyolwetu
LENOESA, Mmoledi
MACCALLUM, Lorna Caitlin, **with distinction**
MAKAYA, Laeticia Mmanoko
MANTOLO, Athenkosi
MANYHU, Xola
MAY, Kerishné Chesslyn
MBIVA, Panashe, **with distinction**
METELERKAMP, Alexis De-Ann
MJACU, Nosithembiso
MKALIPI, Ngawethu
MSIMANGO, Inga Siyamthanda
MTHOMBENI, Nomaphela
MTIYA, Simamkelisiwe Chuma
MTWALO, Yandipha
NCAME, Lukhanyo
NGCOZANA, Mdumiseni Christopher
NOMOYI, Nombeko Carly
NQEZO, Siyavuya
NTULINI, Nosiphiwe Gloria
PEYI, Zintle
POTGIETER, Farren Vaneshia Linray
PUFFETT, Christen Nicole, **with distinction**
RAMMUTLA, Collen Kwena
SENTILE, Ambesa
SIBARBOOI, Nonceba Haroldene
SMAILE, Lamla Oyama

SMITH, Kieryn Tate, **with distinction**
THIAM, Bouso, **with distinction**
TSHUNUNGWA, Thandokazi
ZAZINI, Mihlali
ZIKALALA, Hlengiwe Hope

POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN EDUCATION
(Senior Phase and Further Education and Training Teaching)

ADAMS, Cherilee Anne, **with distinction**
ALEXANDER, Levi Eudo
ANTHONY, Lisa Nicole
ANTROBUS, Richard Roy, **with distinction**
BAM, Zetu
BARNARD, Devon Vernon, **with distinction**
BOOI, Phumelela
BOOI, Siphosethu Trevor
BREYTENBACH, Martha Maria, **with distinction**
BRITS, Donovan
BRITZ, Tristan Martin, **with distinction**
BUTINA, Esethu Felicia
CHAPMAN-THOMPSON, Jade-Leigh
CHILOANE, Tania
DE VRIES, Justin
DELPOR, Jamie Lee
DENGE, Hombakazi
DETTMER, Nicholas Alexander
DIAL, Sandisiwe
DLAMINI, Khangelani, **with distinction**
DLOKOLO, Nompumelelo Patience
EDMONDSON, Guy Ian
FANI, Akhanya Siyanda
FUNDANI, Ntombekhaya
GABELA, Abongile
GERBER, Nikita
GQAMANE, Amanda
GQOLI, Esona

GRAZIANI, Magenta Luna, **with distinction**
GUGWINI, Siphosihle
GUMENGE, Elona
HENDRICKS, Nina
HENGE, Nosisa
HILA, Simanye Quinta
HOFMEYR, Blaize Murray, **with distinction**
JACOBS, Estin
JAKUJA, Ubenathi
JEGGELS, Vinique
JIBA, Nomawele
JOKA, Nicole, **with distinction**
JONASE, Nokubonga
JONCK, Sulize Elizabeth, **with distinction**
JORDAAN, Candice Tracy, **with distinction**
KAVE, Anelisa
KLAAS, Zandile
KLOPPER, Margaretha, **with distinction**
KUBHEKA, Zamokuhle Gift
KUHAMBA, Zama
LUDLALA, Olwethu
LUKUBENI, Sniko
LUKWE, Luvuyo
LUPONDWANA, Bubele
MABALEKA, Lutholwethu
MABLAYI, Sesethu
MADIKANE, Siviwe Siposethu
MADIKIZELA, Yanelisa
MADLABATHI, Xolani Dion
MAFUYEKA, Thomas
MAGABA, Sihle
MAJAVU, Cinga Bryce
MAKATHANGANA, Sililitha
MAKULENI, Mhlali
MAKWENKWE, Phiwekazi
MALGAS, Banoyolo
MALOPE, Conny Khensani

MAMASE, Zikhona
MARX, William Günther
MASCHAKA, Bevin
MASHAPHU, Thabiso Leonard
MATABANE, Matsimele Eugene
MATINISE, Ntombomzi
MATROOS, Moèsha, **with distinction**
MATYESHANA, Princess
MAVATA, Amanda
MAVUSO, Luvuyo
MBANE, Aphendulwe
MBATHA, Ncedile Precent
MBAZIMA, Lindokuhle
MC NEILL, Iona Sarah
MCCARTHY, Holly Patricia, **with distinction**
MDIDIMBA, Sivuyisiwe-Yinkosi Sivenkosi
MEMA, Mhlali Cecil
MFENYANA, Anelisa
MGAJU, Anelisa
MGQALA, Sibulele
MKHONTO, Sinenhlanhla
MKONJENI, Sibongiseni
MNGOMENI, Yanga
MNGQILA, Amahle Sibonele
MOHLALA, Lesiba Thuto
MOLESHE, Candice Elizabeth
MONARENG, Thulani
MSULULU, Lizo
MTSHININDO, Emma
MUKOSI, Uaripfa Arehone, **with distinction**
MUKWEVHO, Madilonga
MUTHATHE, Tshilidzitshawe
MVUNGE, Zethu
MZILENI, Sihle
MZINYATHI, Tabela
NAKO, Pumelela
NDOU, Vhutshilo

NDOVELA, Thanduxolo
NDUKU, Ntombizethu Ntombizekhaya Purity
NDWANDWA, Buhle
NKUNA, Katlego Precious
NOMNYANGWANA, Samela
NONDLOBO, Vuyokazi
NORTJÉ, Danielle Jane, **with distinction**
NOVOKOZA, Aviwe
NZENI, Athobile
OLKERS, Megan Maude
PAKADE, Sandisiwe
PASELA, Vuyolwethu
PHIRI, Luyanda Sinenhlanhla
PHOPHI, Tendani Lucy, **with distinction**
POSWAYO, Buhlebenkosi Onesimo
QUBENGE, Sinesona Sipehelele, **with distinction**
RALI, Yonwaba
RANANA, Ntomzandile
RESHA, Usivile
REYNOLDS, Bryn
ROTTCHER, Janette, **with distinction**
SABANE, Somila
SCHUTTE, Maria Louisa
SHAKOANE, Lindelwa Sharon
SHIBA, Sebenzile Ashanti
SIAS, Darryn Eltino
SIBALI, Athi
SIKADE, Busiswa
SINYONGO, Zikhona Eudocia
SMIT, Maxine Chelsea
SOKONI, Siwaphile
SOMTSORA, Siphamandla
STEMELA, Busiswa Deborah
STEMELA, Siphesihle, **with distinction**
STEMELE, Nwabisa
SWAZI, Asive
TAKATSHANA, Odwa

TAYI, Sinelizwi
THWALA, Makaziwe Nosipho
TSHAKA, Nonkuthalo
TUKULU, Namhla Lisa
TUTU, Lwando Musa
TYELAKHE, Thandiwe Eudora
TYS, Khanya
VENEVENE, Amahle
WAKA, Sanelisiwe
WHITE, Christopher Hilton
XEGO, Sinovuyo
XULU, Sinothando Nokubonga Qiniso
YOKWANA, Achumile
ZAHN, Markus
ZULU, Nwabisa

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN HIGHER EDUCATION

ATEMKENG TEUFACK, Marcellin, **with distinction**
BEHARA, Kavita
CAMPBELL, Megan Michele, **with distinction**
MANYAGE, Tshidaho
MASHININI, Thethiwe Nomalanga, **with distinction**
MLUNGU, Fezile Cecil
MOHLOAI, Tisetso Ntombizodwa
MWABVU, Tarombera
NDOU, Vuledzani Nico
NKHEBENYANE, Sebolelo Jane
SHIBESHI, Zelalem Sintayehu
TEELING, Marinette
VAN ROOYEN, Enslin Johannes
VILJOEN, Jan-Paul

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION HONOURS IN EDUCATION LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

SAMENDE, Gervasius Siyengo

SHIKONGO, Petrus Helao Laudika

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION HONOURS IN ENGLISH
LANGUAGE TEACHING

GABRIEL, Naftal Indileni
HAMWAAMA, Ester India
KANDJIMI, Theresia Popa
POHAMBA, Sylvia Twahafifwa
SHIINDI, Ndapewa Omagano

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION HONOURS IN SCIENCE
EDUCATION

HAMUKWAYA, Lavinia Tuutaleni
NANYALA, Helvi Pefimboliwa
SHIGWEDHA, Albertina Pendukapo
SIMON, Heralia Niilonga

DEGREE OF MASTER OF EDUCATION

BOOYSEN, Tammy Irene, BEd (Hons) (Rhodes), in Education, **with distinction**, in the Department of Education. Degree by thesis. Thesis: The nature of visual representations of multiplication and division exercises in nine Grade 1 to 3 South African textbooks. Supervisor: Dr L Westaway. Co-supervisor: Professor M Graven.

ORTMAN-GAWESEB, Dominika, BEd (Hons) (Rhodes), in Education, in the Department of Education. Degree by thesis. Thesis: The use of lesson study to assist junior primary 'in-service training teachers' to develop learners' number sense using number talks. Supervisor: Dr L Westaway.

SHIMAFO, Hildegard, BEd (Hons) (Rhodes), in Education, in the Department of Education. Degree by thesis. Thesis: "Pedagogical practices teachers use to teach reading lessons in the Junior Primary Phase in Kavango West Region". Supervisor: Mrs B Moore. Co-supervisor: Dr E Musara.

DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

BHUREKENI, John, MEd (Great Zimbabwe), in Education, in the Department of Education. Degree by thesis. Thesis: Exploring aspects of community of inquiry (COI) in Afrophilia learning processes for transformative education using an Afrophilic “Philosophy for Children” approach. Supervisor: Distinguished Professor H Lotz-Sisitka. Co-supervisor: Professor RB O'Donoghue.

FERGUSON, Robin Anne, MPhil (Stell), in Education, in the Department of Education. Degree by thesis. Thesis: A Pedagogy of Love: Reflections on 25 years of informal vocational education and training practices in the commercial fishing industry in South Africa. Supervisor: Distinguished Professor H Lotz-Sisitka.

HODGSKISS, Jennifer Adelé, MEd (Rhodes), in Education, in the Department of Education. Degree by thesis. Thesis: An in-depth investigation of an early literacy intervention in Grade R. Supervisor: Dr C van der Mescht.

LOVEMORE, Tarryn Shirley, MEd (Rhodes), in Education, in the Department of Education. Degree by thesis. Thesis: Integrating music and mathematics for connecting across multiple constructs of fractional understanding: An RME task design journey. Supervisor: Dr S-A Robertson. Co-supervisor: Professor M Graven.

SIMASIKU, Fredrick Simataa, MEd (Rhodes), in Education, in the Department of Education. Degree by thesis. Thesis: Leveraging a peer-learning community and expert community members in the integration of indigenous knowledge into the learning and teaching of Grade 10 Chemistry on the rate of reactions. Supervisor: Professor K Ngcoza. Co-supervisor: Dr Z Nhase (UFS).

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 ukhangelela 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 – bebhiozela 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 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.

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