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2019 Annual Financial Review

# ACRONYMS

APP	Annual Performance Plan
CA	Communications and Advancement
CE	Community Engagement
CHERTL	Centre for Higher Education Research, Teaching & Learning
DHET	Department of Higher Education and Training
DVC: A & SA	Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic & Student Affairs
DVC: RD	Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research & Development
ED: IOF	Executive Director: Infrastructure, Operations & Finance
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
GRADUATION RATE	The number of students who graduated within a year in relation to the number of enrolled students within the same year (including cancellations). Graduated (Year n)/Enrolled (Year n) x 100
HE	Higher Education
HEIS	Higher Education Institutions
HELTASA	Higher Education Learning and Teaching Association of Southern Africa
HEQC	Higher Education Quality Committee
HEQSF	Higher Education Qualification Sub-Framework
HR	Human Resources
ICT	Information and Communication Technologies
IEF	Infrastructure & Efficiency Funding
IPU	Institutional Planning Unit
ITS	Information Technology Service
I/R STAFF	Instructional / Research Staff
KPI	Key Performance Indicators
NA	Not applicable
NGAP	Next Generation of Academics Programme
NDP - 2030	National Development Plan
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NPHE	National Plan for Higher Education
NRF	National Research Foundation
PC	Personal Computer
PG	Postgraduates
PHD	Doctor of Philosophy
PGDIP	Post-Graduate Diploma
PQM	Programme Qualification Mix
RU	Rhodes University
SARCHI	The South African Research Chairs Initiative
SET	Science, Engineering & Technology
SUCCESS RATE	FTE credited / FTE enrolled (Incl. cancellations) x100
UG	Undergraduates
VC	Vice-Chancellor







Life and physical sciences graduates (112)

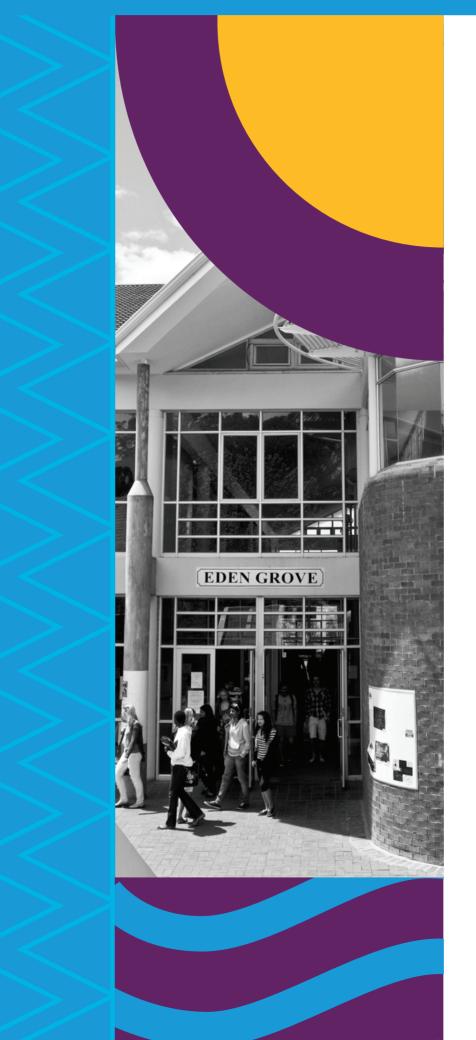
Animal and human health graduates (138)

Teacher education graduates (261)

Engineering graduates (0)



# **MANAGEMENT INFORMATION** GOVERNANCE ONAL AND **INST**



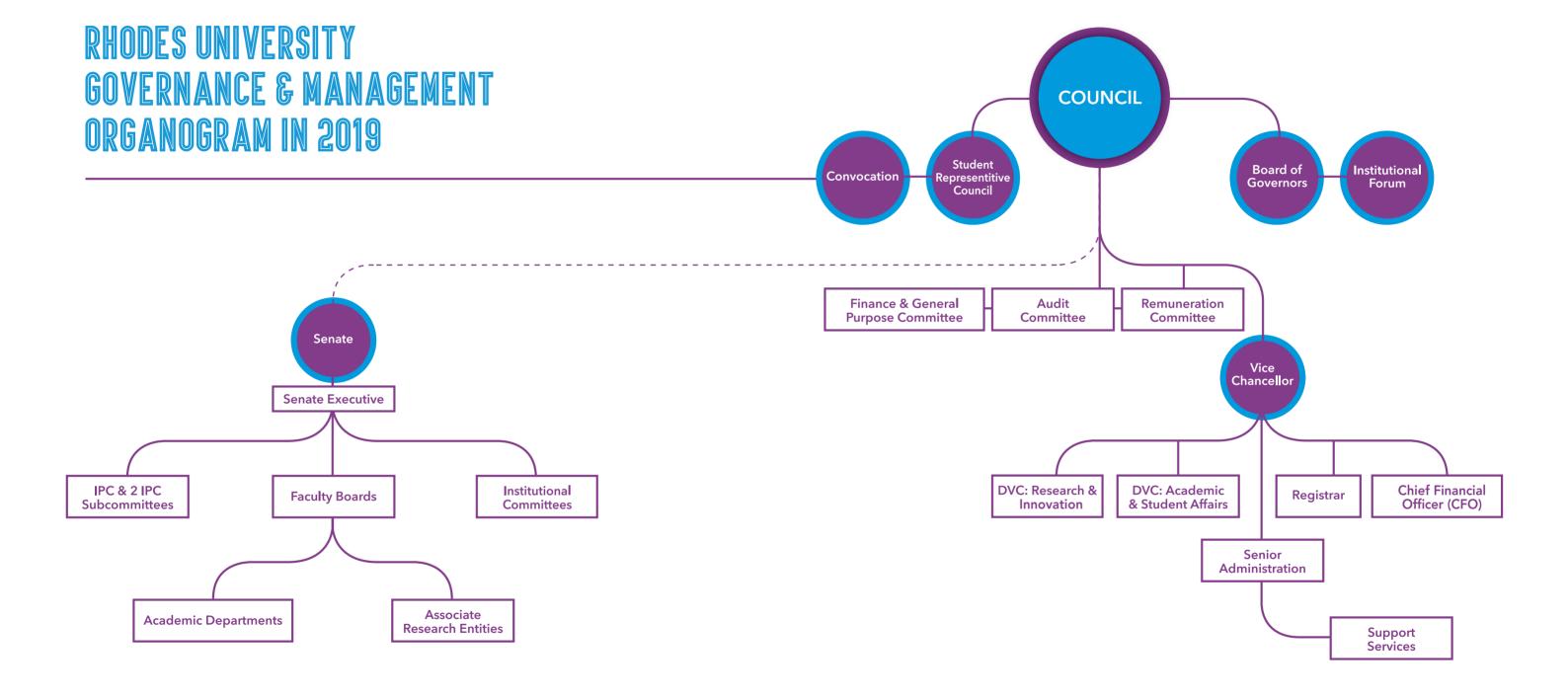
## INSTITUTIONAL GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

### ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Chancellor is the titular head of Rhodes University and is empowered in the name of the University to confer all degrees. The Vice-Chancellor and Principal is the chief academic and administrative officer of the University. The University Executive comprises the Vice-Chancellor and Principal, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Student Affairs), the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation), the Registrar and the Executive Director: Infrastructure, Operations and Finance.

The academic structure of Rhodes University is organised around six faculties: Humanities, Science, Commerce, Pharmacy, Law, and Education. Each academic faculty is led by a Dean. Within the six faculties there are thirty-five academic departments. These provide an extensive range of undergraduate and post-graduate degrees and research interests for students and academics. Each academic department is led by a Head of Department. Rhodes University also has a number of research institutes and centres.

Rhodes University's administrative and support divisions provide support for the University's operations and contribute to the attainment of its strategic goals. The divisions include; Student Affairs, Human Resources, Finance, Library Services, Special Services, Institutional Research Planning & Quality Promotion, Internationalisation, Communications and Advancement, Equity and Institutional Culture, Research, Information & Technology Services, Estates and Residences. The administrative and support divisions are led by their respective Directors.





# ANNUAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT REPORT OF THE APP

### BACKGROUND

Rhodes University is a relatively small University (just over 8000 students), but enjoys the distinction of having among the best undergraduate success and graduation rates in South Africa. This is testimony to the quality of students that Rhodes University attracts, to the academic provision made for them, and also to the commitment of Rhodes University staff to student development and success.

**Table 1** presents a detailed set of indicators of enrolment, access, success, efficiency and research. These indicators include the University's ministerially approved enrolment targets for 2019 in the current enrolment cycle (2013 to 2019).

Each key performance indicator in **Table 1** is associated with the actual score for the previous year (2018), the target for the reporting year (2019) and the actual score for the reporting year. A colour-coded performance indicator column is provided for easier assessment of each indicator. In the colour-code scheme, green represents excellent performance, yellow represents good performance, while red represents poor performance. The last column to the right of Table 1 provides comments/remarks or possible explanations of deviations from the targeted performance score for each KPI.

Enrolment KPI	2017 Actual	2018 Actual	2019 Target	2019 Actual	Score	Strategies/ Projects/Activities
A. ACCESS						
Headcount totals	8077	8153	8357	8246	•	Increase visibility and marketing through open days and partner- ships with local schools. Draw on academic propositions in IDP and unique institutional strengths for marketing and recruitment. Targeted marketing of postgraduate programmes.
First-time entering under- graduates	1339	1361	1672	1485		Increase visibility and marketing through open days and partner- ships with local schools.
Headcount enrolments (Foundation Provisioning)	159	148	150	148		Draw on academic propositions in the IDP and unique institutional strengths for marketing, recruitment and retention.
Headcount enrolments total UG	5661	5661	5902	5792		Development of 'flexible curriculum' using extended, augmenting and fully foundational courses using UCDG. In 2018 and 2019 four new augmented courses added to current range on offer.
Headcount enrolments total PG	2416	2492	2455	2454		Increase visibility and marketing through open days and partner- ships with local schools. Draw on academic propositions in IDP and unique institutional strengths for marketing and recruitment.
Science, engineering, technology	2468	2440	2260	2510		Targeted marketing of postgraduate programmes. Marketing of activities of Centre for Postgraduate Studies.
Business/management	1480	1377	1667	1365		Increase visibility and marketing through open days and partner- ships with local schools.
Education	1071	1177	973	1141		Increase visibility and marketing through open days and partner- ships with local schools.
Other humanities	3058	3159	3457	3230		Increase visibility and marketing through open days and partner- ships with local schools.
Distance education enrolments	0	0	0	0		Increase visibility and marketing through open days and partner- ships with local schools.

	PI	2017 Actual	2018 Actual	2019 Target	2019 Actual	Score
B. SUCCESS						
Graduates U(	G	1454	1359	1300	1216	
Graduates PC	3	1038	960	1193	1158	
Success rate		83%	82%	84%	85%	
Engineering g	graduates	0	0	0	0	
Life and phys sciences grad		146	132	157	112	
Animal and h graduates	uman health	160	155	138	138	
Teacher educ graduates	ation	203	201	220	261	
Success rate scarce skills	in	90%	90%	89%	90%	

### **Strategies/ Projects/Activities**

Development of 'flexible curriculum' using extended, augmenting and fully foundational courses. Embedding of support for language/reading/writing in the curriculum. Extended Orientation Programme as well as Deans' academic advice. All activities funded by UCDG and other academic development and support initiatives for lecturing staff.

Activities of Post-graduate Centre: Support for writing, research design, supervisor development courses.

Embedding of support for language/reading/writing in the curriculum. Extended Orientation Programme. Online course 'RULearning' developed and in place for our students. Course participation supported by activities in residence.

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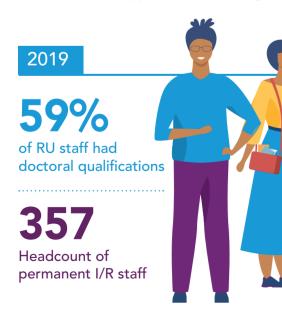
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Enrolment KPI	2017 Actual	2018 Actual	2019 Target	2019 Actual	Score	Strategies/ Projects/Activities
C. EFFICIENCY						
Headcount of permanent I/R staff	322	356	360	357		Rhodes University recognises the shortage of qualified academics in the country. To confront this situation, a number of initiatives have been articulated in the HR plan to ensure retention and attraction of qualified staff.
% Staff with doctoral degrees	53%	58%	55%	59%		There is a strong focus on improving staff doctoral qualifica- tions. Sabbatical Grants are granted to complete PhDs. UK/RSA funding to develop proposal for projects to support academics in attaining PhDs in collaboration with the University of Venda and the University of Lancaster.
Number of nGAP staff	7	15	15	15		The new Generation of Academics Programme (nGAP) is a sec- tor-wide initiative aimed at recruiting candidates from under-rep- resented designated groups who wish to pursue a career in aca- demia and have the academic ability to do so. Since the inception of the programme Rhodes University have successfully appointed 15 Lecturers across various disciplines.
Ratio of FTE students to FTE instructional/ research staff	15.8	14.9	13.9	14.6		The student to I/R staff ratio at Rhodes University is carefully planned to ensure efficient learning experiences of our students. Each student receives personal attention for authentic learning experiences.
D. RESEARCH						
Total research output units	783	888	814	1190.72		The research administration division provides necessary support for Rhodes University to meet its 2019 targets with the support of UCDG.
Publication units per I/R staff	2.4	2.5	2.26	3.3		The research administration division provides necessary support for Rhodes University to meet its 2019 targets with the support of UCDG.
Research masters graduates	235	178	200	253		2019 was exceptionally productive year for Masters graduates particularly in the Science Faculty. Activities of Postgraduate Centre: Support for writing, research design, and supervisor development courses.
Doctoral graduates	87	91	73	122		Activities of Postgraduate Centre: Support for writing, research design, and supervisor development courses.

### Table 1: Ministerial Approved Enrolment Targets



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Mr V D Kahla Chairperson of Council Date: 11 June 2020

Dr S Mabizela Vice-Chancellor Date: 11 June 2020







# **CHAIRPERSON DF COUNCII REPORT BY**





In 2019, the Council performed its fiduciary duties with dedication and commitment. This is testimony to the fact that all the meetings of Council were held as scheduled, with 76% average attendance, a slight decrease from 2018 (79%). Members of Council receive no session allowances/remuneration for their immense contribution to the governance oversight of the University. I commend the members of Council for their selfless commitment to the advancement of the University in its quest for the common public good. I also commend the management, staff and students on their achievements in 2019.

It is evident from the enrolment KPIs in Table 1 that in 2019 Rhodes University excelled in the core mandates of teaching, learning and research. Students achieved an undergraduate success rate of 85% - one of the best records in the higher education sector in South Africa. In 2019, the University achieved a total research output of approximately 1190 research units, about 46% above the target of 814 units set in 2019 APP. The University is punching above its weight in the sector, with a research output of approximately 3.3 units per academic staff member in 2019. Reports from faculties indicate active community engagement drives in the faculties. The overall academic success rate is underpinned by the research-teaching-community engagement nexus, which enables our students to access powerful knowledge.

There has been a steady increase in the number of staff from under-represented designated groups. In 2018, 34.3% of our academic staff were Black. In 2019 this increased to 37.3%. In 2019, the University reviewed the salaries of all academic staff closer to sector benchmarks. Council at its last meeting of 2019 approved the benchmarking of remuneration of support staff in relation to the 50th percentile of the higher education sector. These measures are expected to attract staff to Rhodes University, particularly from under-represented groups.

In 2019 our University invested significant financial resources to improve its infrastructure. This was possible as a result of the support of DHET in the form of various earmarked funding envelopes. For these, the University remains deeply grateful.

The 2019 financial statements indicate that operational expenditure was within the budgeted target. However, the pressure on cash flow has been considerable. The austerity measures approved by Council in 2017 remained in force in 2019 and these have also contributed to containment of costs.

The remarkable achievements in 2019 notwithstanding, the University faces a number of challenges which need to be addressed. These include ensuring the financial sustainability of our institution, research concentration risk, inadequate municipal services, maintenance backlog of aging infrastructure and under enrolment in certain areas, particularly the non-return of students in good academic standing. The Rhodes University leadership team is taking all necessary measures to mitigate and manage the impact of these risks to the University.

Mr V D Kahla Chairperson of Council Date: 11 June 2020



# Z O STATEMENT GOVERNANCE COUNCIL



# **STATUTORY GOVERNANCE** INFORMATION

Rhodes University subscribes to the founding principles of the constitution of the Republic of South Africa. The University, in line with the Higher Education Act 101 (1997 as amended), embraces the principles of and promotes cooperative governance at all levels and in all its committees. In the spirit of cooperative compliance, Rhodes University has also adopted the King IV principles. The University works cooperatively with government and with constituencies of civil society as well as within the institution. In this regard, the NCHE proposed model of cooperative governance is supported and applied by Rhodes University: there is a shared power, accountability and responsibility from all participants within the Institution. The model of cooperative governance includes the responsibility of Council, as provided for by the NCHE. Cooperative governance at Rhodes University respects the spirit of the Higher Education White Paper 3: this not only assumes a co-operative relationship between the State and the University, but also recognises that institutional autonomy is to be exercised in tandem with public accountability.

Directly inherent in the discharge of the mandate of the University is the observance of regulations/policies that govern the operations of public higher education institutions. These include but are not limited to the listed regulations/policies:

- Higher Education Act 101 of 1997 as amended
- National Qualifications Framework Act 67 of 2008
- National Qualifications Framework Act (67/2008): Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQSF-2014)
- Labour Relations Act 66 of 1995
- Basic Conditions of Employment Act 75 of 1997
- Employment Equity Act 55 of 1998
- The Intellectual Property Rights from Publicly Financed Research and Development Act (Act No. 51, 2008)
- White Paper on Post-School Education and Training (2014)
- Education White Paper 3 of 1997 (A Programme for the
- Transformation of Higher Education)
- National Plan for Higher Education (2001)

The Council of Rhodes University, which elects its own Chair-In attendance members person, is the governing body of the University. It administers Grand Total 30 the University's affairs and property, and is empowered to frame statutes and rules governing the general conduct and organisation of the University and to make all appointments to the staff. Table 2: Composition of Council of Rhodes University



Const	ituency	Number of Representatives	
Minist	erial Appointees	5	
Execut	tive Management	3	
Secret	ary (Registrar)	1	
SENA	TE Representatives	4	
Board	of Governors	1	
Senior	Management Staff (In attendance)	9	
SRC		2	
Admin	istrative Staff representives	2	
Acade	mic Staff representative	1	
Makar	a Municipality representatives	2	
Total	Members	21	
	In attendance members	9	

### **SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES OF** COUNCIL

Council 2019 - 30 members 12 September 7 March 30 May 27 June 27 November Annual 24 22 22 25 21 80% 83% 73% 73% 70% 76% F&GP 2019 - 9 members 7 November 2 May 6 June 22 August 0 7 8 8 88% 88% 77% 88% 100% Audit 2019 - 4 members 2 May 6 June 22 August 7 November 4 3 3 2

75%

As per Table 3, Council comprises the Committees as outlined. Summary of attendance at meetings is also provided in Table 3.

Table 3: Council Committees & Attendance of Meetings

75%

100%

### MAJOR STATEMENTS/DECISIONS OF COUNCIL

50%

### **Policies/Reports/Plans Approved in 2019**

At its meetings of 2019, Council approved the following Proposals/ Policies/Plans/Reports/ Appointments were approved

- a) Annual Performance Plan 2019 approved for submission to DHET.
- b) Rhodes University Enrolment Plan approved for the DHET 2020-2025.
- c) Annual Report 2018 APPROVED the Rhodes University 2018 Annual Report and APPROVED the 2018 financials as contained therein.
- d) Budget 2020. Council APPROVED the University and Residence Budgets for 2020.
- e) Annual Performance Plan 2020-2022 was APPROVED.
- f) Governance Indicator Report for 2018 APPROVED for submission to the DHET.
- g) Appointments of Dean and Deputy Dean of Pharmacy: Council approved the appointment of Professor S. Khamanga as Dean; and Dr C. Oltmann as Deputy Dean of Pharmacy • from February, 01 2019 for a period not exceeding 3 years.
- h) Resolution: Council ADOPTED a resolution affirming that: No monetary grant will be made in lieu of academic leave credit accrued by a staff member at any time, whether during service or when he/she leaves the service of the University by resignation or retirement, and no obligation to make allowance for payment in lieu of academic leave shall rest upon the Council.
- i) Dates of Rhodes University Council Meetings in 2020 Council APPROVED the motion that SRC members be assisted in the same way as other external members of Council to attend meetings out of term time.
- i) Policies (including Revisions of) Framework / Protocols Campus Infrastructure Management Policy.
- Rhodes University Disciplinary Code and Procedure.
- Sexual Offences Policy for Students.
- Rhodes University Honorary Degrees Policy.

- Quality Assurance Framework for Teaching & Learning.
- Rhodes University Policy Volume for Teaching & Learning. Rhodes University Language Policy.

75%

- Policy on Eradicating Unfair Discrimination and Harassment. other than Sexual Offences.
- Protocol for the Election of Deans.
- Policy and Draft Terms of Reference for Research Ethics on Animal Subjects.
- Policy on Naming and Renaming Buildings, Facilities and Academic Units and Structures.
- Donor Recognition and Stewardship Policy.
- Policy on Emergency Access to ICT accounts and information.
- Rhodes University Web Content Management Policy.
- Rhodes University Student Disability Policy.
- k) Nominations to Committees of Council Council APPROVED the following nominations.
- Honorary Degrees Committee: Distinguished Professor H Lotz-Sisitka to replace Professor Strelitz for the period 1 June 2019 – 31 May 2023.
- Naming Committee: Ms B Nosilela to replace Professor S Khamanga for the period 1 June 2019 - 31 May 2023.
- I) Appointment of Auditors.
- Council APPROVED the appointment of Ernst & Young as the internal auditors to Rhodes University for a two-year period.
- Council APPROVED the appointment of PwC as external auditors for a two-year period.
- m) Advisory Panel for Afrikaans and Netherlandic Studies Council APPROVED the proposal that Afrikaans be offered as a two-vear major in 2020, on the understanding that the course would be re-curriculated and a staff member at the level of Associate Professor be recruited. n) Parameters for a second Graduation Ceremony
- Council APPROVED a proposal that a second graduation ceremony be held and only Masters and PhD students be considered for the second graduation ceremony.

### STATEMENT ON IT GOVERNANCE

### IT Governance Framework

The University does not comply with either COBIT5 or ITL Capital Equipment and Renewal includes investment on renewing V3 frameworks. Aspects of each are applied for governance systems for telephones, HR and Payroll, and ARCHIBUS. System controls. Adoption of either of these standards is costly. There purchases are capitalised across the budget over four years. Investment for refurbishment of the student laboratories is not is collaboration and training within the sector regarding these frameworks and staff attend workshops to gain an understanding charged directly to the Division but is a centralised University of the frameworks in order to apply appropriate aspects thereof. expense.

### Management and Monitoring of IT Assets

IT Assets are placed on the University's central asset register. The University has an Information and Technology Steering Network Infrastructure assets are replaced according to a cycle Committee which is a sub-committee of Senate. Strategic and the Divisional annual running grant is divided into pockets inputs from major technology-driven Divisions are tabled at the of money to be used for specific purposes e.g. upgrading committee. The committee has representation from Information servers. Assets such as laptops and desktop PCs are managed & Technology Services, Teaching & Learning, Library Services, through an upgrade process. Laboratory replacements are done Communication and Advancement, Academic Departments such as Computer Science and Information Systems and Finance. cyclically. When new PCs are purchased for a laboratory, the next laboratory receives the PCs taken out of the refurbished This committee discusses IT-related strategy and receives laboratory and staff receive the PCs no longer in use. operating reports from Information and Technology Services, Library, Web Unit and the Computer Significant IT Investment Laboratory Sub-Committee. This committee approves and signs off the Governance controls regarding The Running Grant of the Information Technology central financial systems and servers.

division for 2019 was divided into:

Grant Area & Amount

R3,013,662 Internet Costs

R7,678,000 Software Licences

R7,678,000 Software Licences

R4,893,000 **Capital Equipment and Renewal** 

R617.338 **Running Grant** 

R16,202,000 (Total)

### **IT Related Policies/Committee**

An annual IT General Controls review was performed by the external auditors PwC and tabled at the audit committee. The 2019 report was favourable and no new issues were raised. Five findings from previous years remain. Since there is nothing that can be done to resolve these issues, they are accepted as risk by the audit committee. Four of the findings have low priority and one is of medium importance.

Mr V D Kahla **Chairperson of Council** Date: 11 June 2020

**STATEMEN1 SUSTAINABILITY** COUNCIL ZO

### Introduction

In terms of the 2014 amendment to the Higher Education Act pertaining to the regulations for reporting by public higher education institutions, Universities are required to submit a sustainability report as part of the annual report. The guidelines provided in the implementation manual that forms part of the amended legislation indicate that Universities are required to move towards triple bottom-line reporting. However detailed guidelines for such reporting have yet to be provided to the sector. This report, as per previous years, is therefore a brief overview report in line with the guidance provided.

The definition and understanding of sustainability used as the basis or foundation for this report are as articulated by the Brundtland Commission, formally the United Nation's World Commission on Environment and Development:

"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs".

- a. Impact on the local economy
- The University's Department of Economics & Economic History has established that Rhodes University contributes between 60% and 65% of the GDP of the Makana municipal region. Some of the key factors contributing to this high proportion are:
- Rhodes University paid R42 million for municipal services in 2018;
- The University is by far the biggest employer in the region. This is underpinned by the University's commitment to "insourcing" support services such as cleaning, catering and facilities maintenance for reasons of social justice - the local economy would be crippled should the University outsource these services;
- In its recently revised procurement policy, the University committed itself to strive to procure goods and services locally.

### b. Social impact and transformation

In his inauguration address the Vice-Chancellor stated that Rhodes University must actively and purposively contribute to and participate in building a vibrant and sustainable Grahamstown community, and that the University recognizes and affirms that its future and success are inextricably linked to the future and success of the greater Grahamstown community to which it is deeply and intimately connected. Rhodes University declares unequivocally that the University is not just in Makana but is also of and for Makana. To this end the Vice-Chancellor has committed Rhodes University to:

I. work with and alongside all levels of government to support the Municipality to fulfil its constitutional mandate for the benefit of all citizens of Makana;

II. establish and foster partnerships with stakeholders to address the enormous discrepancies in basic education schooling standards encountered in Grahamstown;

III. establish Grahamstown as a wireless city in order to make the information and resources of the internet available to as many of the citizens of Makana as possible.

### c. Student numbers

Detailed student statistics are provided elsewhere in this Report. Over the past decade, in implementing its 60 - 65% commitment to making the University accessible to students from poor and working class backgrounds, the University has provided in excess of R200 million of its own funds (over and above the NSFAS allocation) to students requiring financial of the GDP of the Makana municipal region is assistance. The recovery rate of these funds through NSFAS contributed to by Rhodes University acting as an agency has not been successful. This has caused the University to engage the services of an external agency specialising in student debt.

### d. Academic staff

The Department of Higher Education & Training has estimated that South Africa will be short of some 7000 academics by 2020. Arising out of its own experiences of the difficulty in appointing and retaining academic staff in certain disciplines, Rhodes University has developed a Staff Accelerated Development Program using Mellon and Kresge funding in order to "grow its own timber". This model has formed the basis of the national nGAP (new generation of academics program) developed by the DHET to address this issue nationally.

### e. Environmental sustainability

Rhodes University is one of five South African universities to sign the Talloires Declaration in 1996 that commits the University to practising and promoting environmental literacy. The University's Environmental Sustainability Policy of 1998, currently under review, aims to promote environmental sustainability best practice within the ambit of the University's resource constraints. The University has also established a Green Fund to support learning and practice in respect of water, energy, waste, carbon footprint, biodiversity, green buildings, responsible purchasing, sustainable travel and sustainability education. New buildings on campus are designed to be as 'green' as possible (rain water harvesting, heat pumps, natural lighting and temperature control, motion sensors etc) within the constraints of the budget.

During 2017 the Vice-Chancellor directed that as one of the foundational principles of the Institutional Development Plan such sustainability be incorporated in all areas and activities of the University. Rhodes University is therefore committed to resolutely pursue knowledge, understanding, critique and reason; to steadfastly continue to promote human dignity, equality, non-sexism and non-racialism, critical citizenship and all the human rights and freedoms that proclaimed in the Constitution, and courageously and boldly to protect and assert the core values and purposes of a University, including advancing the public good, academic freedom, institutional autonomy and public accountability in ways that are sustainable, responsible and planned.

Mr V D Kahla **Chairperson of Council** Date: 11 June 2020

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COUNCIL STATEMENT ON

To embed the Institutional Transformation plan which was adopted by Council in December 2018, individual sessions with staff and representative students were held with each Department and Division. Institutional Transformation sessions had been held with 86% of the departments and 50% of divisions by the end of 2019. Almost a year after the plan was adopted by Council, the main questions asked in these sessions are on institutional commitment to the plan, on implementation and accountability. Reporting against the plan has been discussed in various forums. The main agreement reached is that an annual institutional Transformation Plan Implementation report will be produced in 2020.

An expanded awareness-raising programme was developed and implemented. All halls of residences, including Oppidan Hall, participated in consent talks and in sessions at which the new Sexual Offences for Students Policy was outlined. This expansion included holding 22 support-staff directed workshops on gender-based violence and harassment and the expansion of the Grahamstown Schools Outreach programme through which activities that enable the exploration of transformation issues such as social justice, gender construction, leadership and self-leadership are made accessible to learners in six schools in Grahamstown East.

Two key teams were established with the aim of overseeing the implementation of visual representation transformation and multilingualism. In 2019, the two task teams focussed on producing concept and policy documents that will guide and enable the goals of transforming visual culture and language use to be implemented. The main goal of one task team is to establish a multilingualism centre. A research technical advisory team was also formed to oversee institutional culture research work. In 2020 two processes will enable the undertaking of a student institutional culture survey and a support staff institutional culture qualitative study.

The attraction of staff has required a review of strategy and investment in new advertising methods. There has been a steady increase in the number of staff from the under-represented designated groups. In 2018, 34.3% of our academic staff were Black. In 2019 this increased to 37.3%. In 2019, the University reviewed the salaries of all academic staff to bring them closer to sector benchmarks.

Council at its last meeting of 2019 approved the benchmarking of remuneration of support staff in relation to the 50th percentile of the higher education sector. These measures are expected to attract to Rhodes University particularly staff from under-represented groups. The new Generation of Academics Programme (nGAP) is a sector-wide initiative aimed at recruiting candidates from under-represented designated groups who wish to pursue a career in academia and have the academic ability to do so. Since the inception of the programme, Rhodes University has successfully recruited and mentored nGAP lecturers. The University has appointed 15 such lecturers across various disciplines.

An agreement was reached with the Unions in the most recent annual wage negotiations process that remission of fees will increase from 75% to 100% effective January 2020. Furthermore, it was agreed that Human Resources and the Unions will meet to identify key skills that need to be developed in staff and put in place a plan aligned to the Skills Development Policy and its budget.

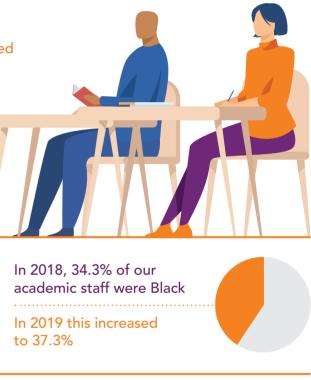
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Chairperson of Counci Date: 11 June 2020



Dr S Mabizela Vice-Chancellor

RISK **RISK ASSESSMENT MANAGEMENT OF** ЦO REPORT Ë Z



The University takes all allegations of theft, fraud, impropriety or unethical behaviour very seriously. All instances are carefully considered and investigated as appropriate, either internally or by independent auditors or specialists. Where there have been cases of impropriety, appropriate action has been taken against the individuals and enhancements to the controls have been made. The implementation of the new financial system will further enhance the control environment at Rhodes University.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant effect on all aspects of the University's operations and activities. The financial and other impacts of COVID-19 will be felt by Rhodes University for a long time to come. University leadership have put in place many measures, protocols and processes to ensure the health and safety of students and staff and also to ensure that the academic program continues. Steps have also been taken to protect the University's financial position, both in the short and longer term.

Financial sustainability, the maintenance of campus infrastructure, and the inability of the local municipality to provide basic services remain as the significant risks to the University. Health and safety, human capital management, transformation and campus security continue to receive due attention.

Rhodes is committed to continuous, systematic, and integrated processes of University-wide risk management that enable the Council to assure stakeholders that risks within and to the University are managed in a diligent, methodical and substantive manner.

At year-end, the Audit Committee was satisfied with the University's risk management processes applied to identify, evaluate and respond to material risks impacting the University's sustainability.



H C Staple **Chairperson of Audit** Committee Date: 11 June 2020

The aim of risk management at Rhodes University is to support the University in attaining its seven strategic goals as outlined in the Institutional Development Plan. Council, through the Audit Committee, is ultimately responsible for the governance of risk. Risk management is embedded into the day-to-day decision-making processes at Rhodes through a system of internal controls.

A risk assessment process, that includes the leadership of the University, informs the Institution Risk Register which comprises the Top Risks to the University. The Risk Management Committee comprising the Vice-Chancellor, the two Deputy Vice-Chancellors, the Registrar, the Executive Director: Infrastructure, Operations and Finance (from January 2020 the newly-appointed Chief Financial Officer) and the Director of Special Projects is responsible for the implementation of a system of risk identification, risk assessment and risk management. The Audit Committee and Council review the progress of risk mitigation plans to ensure alignment with the University's strategic goals.

Dr S Mabizela **Chairperson of Risk Management Committee** 

Rhodes University maintains a system of internal controls that govern business processes, using information and communication technology (ICT) where appropriate. These systems are designed to support the responsible pursuit of the University's strategic goals in an efficient, effective and compliant manner.

These internal controls are to provide reasonable assurance to the University, the Council and other stakeholders that an operational environment exists that ensures the safeguarding of the assets and that the reported financial information is accurate, valid and complete.

Council, through the Audit Committee, is responsible for the governance and oversight of systems of controls in respect of the University's financial and non-financial processes. Management is responsible for the implementation of a system of effective internal controls.

The University has adopted an institutional wide risk management process. This process involves the management of risk through the identification, mitigation and the ongoing monitoring of strategic and operational risks. External and internal audit plans are presented to the Audit Committee for approval based on the risks identified in this process. The Audit Committee monitors the progress of planned audits and ensures that the reported controls deficiencies are appropriately and timeously addressed by management.

Audit and assurance requirements are met through the application of the combined assurance model. Annual statutory, compliance and required specialist audits are outsourced to third parties. An independent external party that is accountable to the Audit Committee performs internal audits. A Rhodes University Internal Audit charter is in place and reviewed regularly.

As part of the review and formalisation of risk management processes, the University re-evaluated the internal audit function and service providers. During the latter part of 2019, the University appointed Ernst & Young as internal auditors. They will commence with their fieldwork and internal audit assignment in the second part of 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic has delayed the commencement of their work, mainly due to the closure of the campus.

Having completed thorough due diligence of the options and alternatives available, the University will begin implementing a new financial system during 2020 as part of the University's modernisation initiatives. The project which will take approximately three years to complete will further enhance the control environment.

Based on reports presented by assurance providers on the assessment of financial and non-financial controls, the Audit Committee is satisfied with management's remotia plans to address identified internal controls weaknesses.

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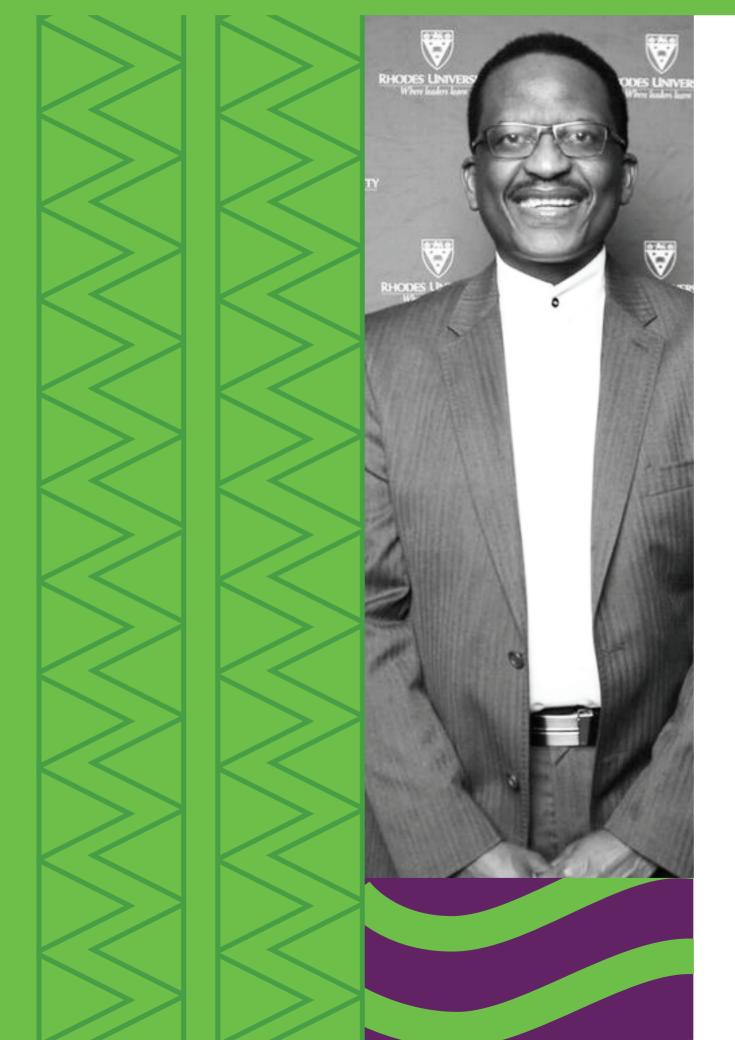
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H C Staple Chairperson of Audit Committee Date: 11 June 2020





# MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION **REPORT ON** OR'S **VICE-CHANCELI**



The year 2019 was one of great success and achievement. This is attributable to the passion, dedication, commitment and hard work of our staff and students. We made significant strides to achieve the goals and objectives set out in our strategic policy documents: the Institutional Development Plan (IDP) and the Institutional Transformation Plan (ITP).

Our University Senior Leadership Team and staff remained committed to and focused on the objective of strengthening our University's position as a distinct and distinctive institution of higher learning which provides outstanding education to young people of our country and beyond, generating and disseminating knowledge of high quality which advances human understanding and wisdom; knowledge that helps us build and sustain a better society and a better world. We are pleased with the progress we have made in this regard. In many respects, our University is in a stronger position now.

Our University maintained its historical reputation for excellence in teaching and learning, research and community engagement. In every respect, our intellectual endeavour remains among the best and the strongest in the country. It is underpinned by our steadfast commitment to ensure a positive, rewarding and fulfilling student experience. Our undergraduate throughput rates are the best in the higher education sector. This can be attributed to our flexible curriculum model, the tuition system, the favourable staff-student ratios, the quality of academic staff, and a conducive learning and residence environment. The overall and holistic student experience remained at the forefront of all our efforts in 2019.

### New staff

In 2019 our University welcomed a number of new academic, support and administrative staff members. Our Vice-Chancellorate was significantly bolstered with the appointment of Dr 'Mabokang Monnapula-Mapesela as our Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Academic & Student Affairs. In addition to her wealth of leadership experience in higher education teaching and learning, Dr Monnapula-Mapesela brought a fresh vision, a strong academic background and abundant energy to this critical portfolio. Dr Monnapula-Mapesela succeeded Professor Emeritus Chrissie Boughey whose contribution to the University is monumental. The University owes Chrissie an unpayable debt of gratitude.

We are delighted to have all these new colleagues as part of our Rhodes University family.

### **Financial Position**

The University's financial position remained healthy and strong in 2019. The student debt levers that have been in place for a few years have proved effective. The austerity measures approved by Council in 2017 remained in force in 2019 and these have also contributed towards containing our costs. The additional funding we received from the Department of Higher Education & Training (DHET) in 2018 assisted significantly in stabilising our financial position.

In 2019, our research income maintained the steady growth which has been its hallmark for several years. There is a need to grow and diversify our third-stream income. This is important if we are to achieve financial sustainability as we need to bolster our unencumbered reserves. An increase in free reserves will allow us the freedom to invest in innovative initiatives that will further • The refurbishment of Botha House residence project at a strengthen our position as a research-intensive University.

Following the #FeesMustFall student protests of 2015 and 2016, the Department of Higher Education & Training has, over the past few years, capped the levels of tuition and residence fee increases. This has placed the University seriously at risk.

One of the most important decisions taken by Council was to invest in the modernisation of our financial system. The acquisition of the appropriate system at an estimated cost of R54m will assist hugely in automating a number of processes while also allowing for better integration of these processes.

The confluence of the COVID-19 pandemic and the downgrading of South Africa's sovereign credit rating to sub-investment grade by the ratings agencies crises has created a perfect economic storm that will significantly impact on the University's financial position. It will have to be planned for and mitigated. It is difficult to predict with any certainty the full extent of the combined impact and cost of the pandemic and the downgrade. Without external financial assistance, the University has no room to manoeuvre. Difficult decisions will need to be made. The University Senior Leadership Team is engaging the University community on appropriate measures to be implemented to mitigate the adverse impact of this situation.

### Infrastructure renewal, upgrade and development

In its Institutional Development Plan (IDP), our University made a strategic commitment to provide our academics and researchers with appropriate academic infrastructure and facilities to support renovation project completed the University's academic project.

In 2019 our University invested significant financial resources to improve its infrastructure. That notwithstanding, the backlog maintenance remains a major challenge. Of particular concern is the maintenance of our older residences. Among the significant **R15.8m** infrastructure renewal, upgrades and developments are the followina:

- The renovation of the Old Randell Cottage for a new model Confucius Institute, a R7.5m project, was completed. The Institute was formally opened in November 2019.
- The renovation of our Biosciences Building, a R100m project, was completed.
- cost of R15.893m was completed.
- The Medium Voltage Network upgrade project, started in 2017, is ongoing. Phases 1 and 2 have been completed. Phase 3 of the project started in 2019. Expenditure to date on this project is R15.263m.
- Electrical compliance project. This project started in 2017 and is ongoing. The total budget for this project is R40m. The contribution by the Department of Higher Education & Training (Infrastructure & Efficiency Funding) is R33m. The balance (R7m) has been funded by the University.
- The Education Department project has created additional teaching space in the Department of Education. The cost of this project is R16.02m. We received R9m from the Department of Higher Education & Training (Infrastructure & Efficiency Funding). The balance was funded by the University.

### Old Randell Cottage

**R7,5**m

for a new model Confucius Institute

### **Bioscience Building**

**R100m** 

Botha House

used to refurbish the residence

### **Education Department**

### R16.02m

for additional teaching space in the education department

### R9m

of the project funding was received from the Department of of Higher Education

### **Enhanced student experience**

Our University places a high premium on student experience. Our Division of Student Affairs plays a vital role in this regard. In its Institutional Development Plan (2018-2022), our University committed itself to giving all our students the best opportunity to realise their full potential.

As in previous years, our University invested significantly in ensuring a positive, affirming, welcoming and rewarding holistic student experience in 2019. Through our teaching and learning and extracurricular activities we offer our students the opportunity to engage with a wide range of new experiences and opportunities outside the classroom. This enables them to embark on the process of understanding themselves in their role as critical, democratic and engaged citizens. This sort of voluntary learning adds enormous value, and encourages self-reflection and personal holistic growth and development. Ultimately, we want to equip our students with the knowledge, skills, abilities, values and attributes that they need to live, work and engage in a society and world in a manner that enhances the greatest common good.

Our Division of Student Affairs ensured that our students had a wide range of extra-curricular experiences through activities such as sport, cultural events, leadership opportunities and much more. Our University community celebrated the stellar achievements of our sports people at a Gala dinner held in October. Our Chancellor, Justice Lex Mpati and other distinguished guests graced this celebration with their presence, which was much appreciated.

We have also committed ourselves to maintain our residence system as living and learning spaces conducive to academic success, a healthy lifestyle and personal growth and development. In line with this commitment, all our Hall and Residence Wardens maintained a close watch on the academic performance of students in their charge and ensured that timely intervention assisted those who were struggling with their studies.

Starting with the Orientation programme early in 2019, extensive awareness-raising and educational campaigns were held across the University, including in the residences, to ensure that our students and staff understood the importance of conducting themselves in a manner that respected and upheld the rights and human dignity of others. In particular, we wanted to ensure a safe institutional environment in which all staff and students were able to study, work and live with dignity, and without any fear of unsolicited and unwarranted sexual attention.

One of the main highlights was the finalisation and approval by Council of our University Sexual Offences Policy for Students and the extensive work undertaken by, and under the guidance of, Dr Zethu Mkhize to familiarise our students with its contents.

Student mental health has, over the past few years, emerged as a significant issue of concern. This is not a challenge unique to Rhodes, but one that universities across the globe are experiencing. Our Counselling Centre provides assistance to students who experience mental challenges of various kinds. In 2019 we made concerted efforts to destignatise issues of mental health so that those who needed assistance would not feel any shame in soliciting assistance in this regard.

### **Research & Innovation highlights**

Our University ranks among the highly productive universities in respect of research outputs. Among the most significance highlights of 2019 are the following:

### **NRF** Ratings

### **DST/NRF SARChI Chairs**

standing as a research-intensive University is in respect of how initiative "designed to attract and retain excellence in research researchers nationally and internationally assess the quality of and innovation at South African public universities." The main the research, creativity and innovation of their peers at Rhodes goal of the Research Chairs initiative is "to strengthen and University. The National Research Foundation's rating system is improve research and innovation capacity of public universities an independent peer validation process of the standing of any for producing high quality postgraduate students and research researcher in this country. Many researchers and academics at and innovation outputs1." Rhodes University have over the years subjected themselves to this rigorous rating. In 2019 several new academics and With fourteen SARChI Chairs, Rhodes University has the highest researchers availed themselves of this process. Others whose concentration in the country of SARChI Chairs per thousand ratings were due to lapse also presented themselves for a re- students. rating.

### Researchers who achieved first time ratings:

- Dr Ben Smit of the Department of Zoology & Entomology received a Y1 rating;
- Dr Kevin Lobb in the Department of Chemistry received a C3 rating:
- Professor Lisa Young in the Department of Psychology received a C2 rating;
- Dr Rob Gess in the Department of Geology/Albany Museum received a C1 rating.

### Researchers who achieved re-rating:

- Distinguished Professor Tebello Nyokong in the Department of Chemistry retained her A2 rating;
- Professor Lorenzo Dalvit in the School of Journalism & Media Studies received a C2 rating (up from a previous Y2 rating);
- Professor Enocent Msindo in the Department of History retained a C2 rating:
- Professor Susi Vetter in the Department of Botany received a C2 rating (up from a previous C3 rating);
- Professor Stephen Flowerday in the Department of Information Systems received a C2 rating (up from a previous C3 rating);
- Professor Anton Krueger in the Department of Drama received a C2 rating (up from a previous Y2 rating);
- Professor Emeritus Chrissie Boughey in the Centre for Postgraduate Studies received a C1 rating (up from a previous C2 rating);
- Professor Adrienne Edkins in the Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology received a C1 rating (up from a previous Y1 rating);
- Professor Kevern Cochrane in the Department of Ichthyology and Fisheries Science received a B2 rating.

One of the significant markers of the University's scholarly The South African Research Chairs Initiative (SARChI) is an NRF

In 2019, Professor Janice Limson, SA Research Chair in Biotechnology Innovation and Engagement, underwent a successful 5-year cycle review, and this SARChI Chair was renewed for a further cycle of five-year funding. This is a powerful confirmation of the success that the Chair achieved in its first cvcle.

Distinguished Professor Martin Hill now holds the SARChI Chair on Insects in Sustainable Agricultural Ecosystems. This Chair was previously occupied by Professor Stephen Compton.

Our investment through Sandisa Imbewu funding initiative of the Board of Governors has enabled us to seed new research projects which have positioned our University well to successfully compete for external research funding, including the SARChI Chairs. We celebrate all our SARChI Chairs for the honour and prestige they bring our University as a research-intensive University.

The NRF acknowledged the "Exceptional Service" of Rhodes University with a Certificate Award at the Annual Research Administrator's Workshop in October 2019.

### **Research related funding**

Our academics were able to attract significant funding in 2019. It is particularly pleasing that in 2019 there was an increasing number of UK funded projects, along with funding from EU countries. Rhodes has also received significant increases in funding from national and provincial governments departments.

- Professor Eureta Rosenberg secured a R1m bid to lead the 10-year review of the national Biodiversity Human Capital Development Strategy implementation.
- Distinguished Professor Heila Lotz-Sisitka and the Chair and the UNESCO ROSA Office raised an R42m for the Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Programme. Of this amount, R9m is hosted at Rhodes University for the research and training contributions.
- The NRF Chair held by Distinguished Professor Heila Lotz-Sisitka was part of a successful international funding Rhodes University joined a consortium of universities around consortium led by Bristol University which received a very the world, including Kenva, the Netherlands, and Turkey on a €950 000 EU-funded project, Creating Postgraduate competitive GCRF Education and Sustainable Development Network Plus grant to the amount of £4.7m (equivalent to Collaborations. This builds on two existing postgraduate R84m). Rhodes University is one of four southern co-ordinating projects, Strengthening Postgraduate Supervision and nodes. Approximately £480 000 (about R8m) will come to Enhancing Postgraduate Environments, which were Professor Lotz-Sisitka's node. undertaken by CHERTL in collaboration with the Centre • A R5m grant from NIPMO was raised on a proposal from for Postgraduate Studies (CPGS). The collaboration will the Research Office (the first grant in 2014 was only R1.7m) enable Rhodes University to offer a series of seminars on and this has allowed us to expand our staff and activities in knowledge production and dissemination, which will be open Technology Transfer. A further grant of R1 234 750.00 has just to all postgraduates. It will also build research design courses been awarded to expand activities and this will encompass a and enable the development of Winter Schools which open to the public. To ensure that the benefits of the project are Patent Audit. Professor Greg Foster, Department of Information Systems, extended into multiple departments and faculties, the project was awarded an initial grant by South Africa-Sweden University partners with academics in Pharmacy, Environmental Science, Forum (SASUF) to work with the Malmö University (Sweden) Commerce and the School of Languages at Rhodes University.
- on a project on "Understanding the design factors for diabetes information sharing when using health information kiosks: A Citizen-centric Approach to Healthcare Management."
- Professor Stephen Flowerday, Department of Information Systems, was awarded an initial grant by South Africa-Sweden University Forum (SASUF) to work with the University of Stockholm on a project on the "Global Sustainability through Cybersecurity."
- The Centre for Higher Education Research, Teaching and Learning (CHERTL) was awarded R178 977 to develop a collaborative project on Social Justice and Quality in Higher Education. This project focused on supporting academics to get doctorates. This project is part of the DHET's Universities Staff Development Programme and is co-funded by the British Council. These funds were used to bring together colleagues from Rhodes University, the universities of Venda and Lancaster to develop an innovative PhD programme. Further

outputs included a literature review on doctoral education and a survey on supervision at Rhodes and Lancaster Universities. The project is led by Professor Sioux McKenna. Modules will be designed and taught by colleagues from all three partner universities

CHERTL was awarded R5 023 844 to support academics to complete their PhD in a structured environment comprising two-years of coursework and a number of collaborative opportunities across the three universities.

### Heila Lotz-Sisitka

R8m of R84m grant will come to Professor Lotz-Sisitka's node at Rhodes University

### CHERTL

R5m was awarded to support academics to complete their PhD

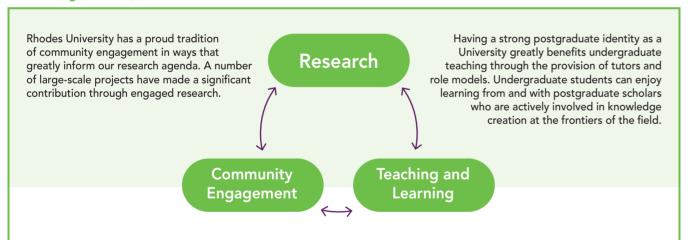
- The Institute for Water Research (IWR) headed by Professor Centre for Postgraduate Studies (CPGS) Tally Palmer was awarded £200K by the UKRI-GCRF to initiate capacity development on the African Continent as part of its One of the strategic objectives of our University is to pursue IWR was also successful in securing a €1.4 million EU-funded of this objective. Intra-Africa Mobility Grant with Rhodes as the lead institution and Dr Nelson Odume as the principal grantholder, which The Centre has enjoyed significant success in supporting Institute.
- 2019. This is titled Turning the Tide: Early Career Scholars academic advancement at the Lecturer level. Furthermore continue to grow, so it is increasingly establishing itself as: a modification request has been submitted to Mellon for • a springboard for developing interdisciplinary research permission to use the accumulated interest earnings from the now closed Unit for the Humanities (UHURU) Mellon grant towards scholarships for Honours, Masters & PhD studies. • a space for fostering connections and networks within and This will see R5m additional postgraduate scholarship funding in the system over the period 2020 - 2023.
- Mellon Foundation grants in excess of \$4m awarded to Rhodes University will continue until 2024.

Nurturing academics, researchers and scholars of tomorrow

hosting of the ARUA Water Centre of Excellence, and as a strong postgraduate trajectory. The Centre for Postgraduate conduit to compete for a larger tranche of UKRI funding. The Studies is a critical institutional arrangement for the advancement

further enhances the continental and international role of the postgraduate education at Rhodes. It provides students and staff with an important support structure through a range of • A new proposal to the Mellon Foundation for R11 750 events and activities, many of which are briefly listed below. 000.00 was submitted by the Research Director in November The Centre's role in providing support within a research-rich environment is an important one, however, it is positioned by in the Humanities. It will run 2020 - 2023 and will focus on the Institution to do more than this. As the Centre's offerings

- programmes and building on this strength within the University,
- beyond the University, which it does through various funded projects,
- driving a strong postgraduate agenda and providing the structure for postgraduate innovation, in particular in terms of the models of postgraduate education used in the University,
- one cog in the larger mechanism for cementing the academic project of Rhodes University due to its unique position as a research-intensive University in a rural context. The academic project at Rhodes is based on a strong nexus between teaching, research and community engagement, with each pillar informing and strengthening the other.



In this era of marketisation of higher education, it is not uncommon for universities to prioritise their rankings before responsibilities to the local, national and international community. At Rhodes University, we are committed to supporting the development of scholars and the creation of knowledge to serve people and the planet. We believe that one way to do this is by nurturing a strong postgraduate environment in which to develop critical citizens capable of producing meaningful knowledge.

Events and activities offered by the Centre for Postgraduate Studies in 2019 included:

- Sixteen (16) workshops covered a range of topics such as how to: collect qualitative data, apply for a grant, undertake ethical research, and manage your supervisor. Most of these workshops lasted two hours, though some, such as the workshop on academic writing and one on experimental design, required a full day.
- Nine (9) short courses ran online or on campus over the course of a few months. These included courses on writing for publication, introduction to R, using Critical Discourse Analysis, using NVIVO, and introduction to isiXhosa for postgraduates. Some were offered as a collaboration between CPGS and other departments.
- Four (4) writing retreats were offered at nearby Assegai Trails and included workshops and individual writing consultations by facilitators in both Natural Sciences and Humanities & Postgraduate Fellowship Programme Social Sciences.
- Writing Circles were offered throughout the year. These peerand get feedback from others.
- timed slots in the library. In 2019, the CPGS also hosted the 98 Post-doctoral Fellows. first Writathon in which teams of students wrote for an eighthour period. This fun event included prizes for the best team name and the most committed team.
- AcWriMo is held once a year for a month using social media to In 2015, the Minister of Higher Education & Training launched the of daily writing.
- in collaboration with the postgraduate student committee. This event has grown each year and allows students to learn across faculties and to celebrate research work being done. In 2019, the conference theme was 'Joining the academic conversation'.
- The CPGS leads a number of national and international collaborations including the Strengthening Postgraduate Supervision course, a national staff development course offered more than 60 times at 22 South African universities, and Enhancing Postgraduate Environments, which is an programme, a tremendous achievement. We are immensely international collaboration aimed at developing online grateful for Dr Mandy Hlengwa's sterling work in looking after materials for postgraduate supervisors and students. In 2019, our academics on this programme. Our Faculty Deans and the EU Erasmus+ awarded €950 000 to five universities in South Africa and Kenya in collaboration with four universities in preparing our applications for these important posts. Our in Europe for developing postgraduate environments. Rhodes University is the lead South African University.

### 16 workshops

covered a range of topics such as how to: collect qualitative data, apply for a grant, undertake ethical research, and manage your supervisor.



35

Our Post-doctoral Fellowship programme plays a critical role led groups offer spaces for postgraduates to test their writing in sustaining an intellectually stimulating environment in which students and supervisors can thrive. In 2019 we sustained and Pomodoros were run once a week and brought together even grew our Post-doctoral Fellowship opportunities and other students to write for two hours in companionable silence in research capacity development opportunities. In 2019 we hosted

### Nurturing Emerging Scholars Programme

offer support as students and staff commit to audacious goals initiative Staffing South African Universities Framework (SSAUF) as a "comprehensive, transformative approach to developing • The postgraduate conference is run once a year by the CPGS future generations of academics and building staff capacity" in public higher education institutions. One of the SAAAUF programmes is the New Generation of Academics Programme (nGAP) aimed at recruiting new academics who are appointed by universities as part of their staff and are supported on a 6-year development programme.

> Our University has had phenomenal success in securing almost all the posts that have been applied for. To date, our University has nineteen academics supported through the nGAP Professor Emeritus Chrissie Boughey, also played a critical role profound appreciation goes to all the mentors and supervisors who guide and support these colleagues.

Another important programme under the Department of Higher Education's SSAUF initiative is the Nurturing Emerging Scholars Programme (NESP) to target and recruit Honours students for training and development for careers in academia.

Our University is deeply honoured and privileged to have been asked by the Department of Higher Education & Training to coordinate and lead this important national programme on its behalf, under the guidance of Dr Mandy Hlengwa. This is a tremendous recognition of the exceptional leadership and passion of Dr Hlengwa to nurture and mentor young academics.

### Conferences, Workshops and other scholarly meetings

In keeping with the scholarly traditions of our University, Academic Departments held seminars, workshops and other scholarly engagements to deepen and advance our intellectual enterprise. We also organised public lectures in which we, as the Rhodes University community and the public, celebrated the intellectual and scholarly achievements of our colleagues. These included professorial inaugural lectures by Professors Barry Irwin, Patrice Mwepu and Noël Pearse; Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Award recipients lectures by Professors Brett Pletschke, and Caroline Khene.

Our students, researchers and academics participated in national and international conferences, workshops and other scholarly meetings. These include:

- Distinguished Professor Tebello Nyokong delivered the National Research Foundation and Embassy of Sweden Nobelinspired Public Lin Chemistry lecture at Nelson Mandela University on 9 October 2019.
- Professor Jen Snowball was invited to be a speaker at a United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) expert meeting on the Creative Economy to be held in the Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Distinguished Professor Heila Lotz-Sisitka presented keynote addresses at the European Conference on Educational Research in September 2019 in Hamburg, Germany, and the Environmental Education Association of Southern Africa (EEASA) Conference in Johannesburg in October 2019. She also contributed a Plenary Presentation at the Belmont Forum 10-year conference in Taipei, Taiwan in October 2019, and attended and contributed to a Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) international research project meeting in Oxford, UK in September 2019.
- A team of 8 PhD and post-doctoral researchers presented a symposium on Cultural Historical Activity Theory and Sustainability at the EEASA Conference, and were also represented at the Fundisa for Change symposium at the EEASA Conference. A PhD scholar, Injairu Kulundu, attended a research planning symposium in Sweden, focussing on Arts and Sustainability.
- As part of the EEASA conference, Professor Eureta Rosenberg co-hosted the Green Skills stream, presented two papers and conducted two workshops, including a collaboration with Dr Presha Ramsarup and Professor Emmanuel Ojo from Wits, on green economy resources for teachers of economics and business studies, for which she wrote the core text.

• The NRF/DST SARChI Chair on Global Change and Social Learning Systems held by Distinguished Professor Heila Lotz-Sisitka ran the "UNESCO/RU Sustainability Starts with Teachers Advanced ESD Training Programme" at Rhodes University from 24 September - 5 October. This is a partnership initiative with the UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa to strengthen integration of sustainability into Teacher Education. Thirty Teacher Educators from Zimbabwe, Namibia and Botswana attended the programme which is building a strong SADC network of ESD practitioners in southern African universities and teacher education colleges in eleven countries. Rhodes University's Environmental Learning Research Centre is a key partner in supporting this initiative of UNESCO in the SADC Region. The initiative is funded by SIDA, and includes a partnership with the Swedish International Centre for Education for Sustainable Development (SWEDESD) and the Southern African Regional Universities Association (SARUA).

- The Vice-Chancellor, Dr Sizwe Mabizela attended and participated in the inaugural National Higher Education Conference organised and hosted by USAf from 2-4 October 2019. The theme of the conference was "Re-inventing South Africa's universities for the future." He also served as a respondent in the launch of the ACU-USAf joint report 'Generating talent: transforming support for the research landscape in South Africa."
- Professor Sioux McKenna and Dr Kirstin Wilmot ran a workshop and presented, along with other colleagues and postgraduate students, papers at the third international Legitimation Code Theory (LCT) conference, hosted by Wits University in July.
- Professor Mellony Graven and Dr Lise Westaway played a significant role, together with colleagues in other universities, in organising the Conference of the International group for the Psychology of Mathematics Education from 07 - 12 July 2019 at the University of Pretoria where several academics and students from Rhodes University made presentations.
- The Vice-Chancellor, Dr Sizwe Mabizela, presented a plenary lecture titled 'Mathematics and Mathematical Literacy: Gains and Losses,' at the Conference of the International Group for the Psychology of Mathematics Education held from 07 – 12 July 2019 at the University of Pretoria.
- The Department of English Language and Linguistics hosted the African Linguistics School (ALS) from July 1 to 12. The School attracted over 50 postgraduate students and postdoctoral fellows from universities across Africa, Europe and North America. The two-week programme covered such core areas of linguistics as syntax, semantics, phonology, language contact, experimental methods and fieldwork.

- Professor S F Burton of the Faculty of Pharmacy attended the At the Annual Congress of the Grassland Society of Southern Africa, Dr Tony Palmer, a Research Associate in the 10th Biennial International Pharmacy Education Symposium hosted by Monash University in Prato, Italy in July. The theme Department of Environmental Science, was presented with a of the conference was "I am still learning" and Professor Meritorious Award. Dr Iain Paterson and Professor Susi Vetter Burton presented a paper titled 'Listening to the life stories were invited as keynote speakers.
- of older people: an opportunity for transformative learning'. Mr Seeprarani Rath, a PhD student in Pharmaceutics, attended the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists • The Dean of Education, Professor Wilmot, gave the Matthew Goniwe Memorial Lecture at the Eastern Cape Department conference in San Antonio, Texas, USA. Professors Rod Walker, Sandile Khamanga, Sue Burton and of Education World Teachers' Day event in East London on 4 October. two post-graduate students attended and participated in the
- Dr A Hlengwa was invited by the CHE to serve as a theme leader in the CHE's 'Performance of Higher Education System 25 years into Democracy Project'.
- The team of the South African Numeracy Chair (SANCP), held by Professor Mellony Graven, attended the annual NRF Mathematics and Science Education Community of Practice meetings in Pretoria on 2-3 October at which Professor Graven and Dr Vale presented papers.
- Ms B Moore presented a paper entitled "Transitioning from pre-service teacher to mainstream classroom teacher: finding the gaps in a Barriers to Learning course" at the International Ireland Conference for Education in Dun Laoghaire, Ireland, in October
- Dr N Pallitt presented at the Association for Educational Communications & Technology (AECT) convention in Las Ms Gcotvelwa Jimlongo an MA student in Politics, participated Vegas from 21-25 October. in the African Women Writers' Workshop, in Accra, Ghana.
- Professor Lynette Louw and Mr Theus Louw, Department • Mr Delon Tarentaal, Department of Economics, was invited to speak about his research on the gaming and animation of Management, were Visiting Lecturers at the University of sector in South Africa at the 2019 Fak'ugesi Festival on digital Utrecht in the Netherlands. Professor Kevin Lobb (Chemistry) was invited to the Johnson innovation, hosted by the Tshomologong Digital Innovation Hub in Braamfontein in September 2019.
- The Rhodes Business School co-hosted with School of Journalism & Media Studies (JMS) the launch of the late Old Germany. Professor Keith Cowan (EBRU) attended the ALGAEUROPE Rhodian Matthew Buckland's book 'So You Want to Build a Startup?' on the 10 October 2019 at Amazwi South African 2019 in Paris. • Dr John Mack (Institute for Nanotechnology Innovation) Museum of Literature.
- Rhodes University successfully hosted the annual conference of the Higher Education Learning and Teaching Association Phthalocvanines-11 in Buffalo, USA. (HELTASA) of Southern Africa, from 26 to 29 November Dr lain Paterson of the Department of Zoology and 2019. The theme was Pedagogies in Context. The conference Entomology attended the International Plant Protection attracted 245 delegates from 38 institutions. The programme Conference in Hyderabad, India. included four critical dialogue papers, four flipped papers, 110 Professor Tally Palmer of the Institute for Water Research oral papers, 18 poster presentations and five pre-conference (IWR) attended the 22nd International River Symposium in workshops. A number of Faculty of Education members Brisbane, Australia. presented papers at the conference. Professor Peter Britz of the Department of Ichthyology
- The Vice-Chancellor, Dr Sizwe Mabizela, presented a keynote and Fisheries Science (DIFS) attended the 6th International address entitled 'Higher education for a higher social Symposium on Stock Enhancement and Sea Ranching in purpose' at the Conference of the South African Higher Sarasota, USA. Education Engagement Forum (SAHECEF) at the University Dr Remy Nnadozie presented papers at Southern African of Mpumalanga in December 2019.
- Ms Manda Kambikambi received a travel award of R30 000 in recognition of her PhD work and recent publications to attend Evaluation Association (SAMEA) Conference in October 2019. the Southern African Society of Aquatic Scientist Congress Professor Jo-Anne Vorster delivered a keynote address, 2019 (SASAqS). At this Congress, Ms Nonjabulo Matomela "Making the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Count", was placed third in the best presentation in the Honours/ at the Biennial Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) in the South conference, 9 - 11 October 2019, at the Central Masters category. • Professor Emeritus Roy Lubke was invited as the plenary University of Technology in Bloemfontein.
- speaker and was presented with a Lifetime achievement award at the Land Rehabilitation Society of Southern Africa.

- 3rd National Pharmacy Conference held in October at Sun City, North-West.
- Dr Dominique Santos (Anthropology) gave the keynote address at the Anthropology Southern Africa Conference in September. Danger Face Your Fate: Notes from the Adventure Playground for When Things Fall Apart.
- Ms Benita Bobo, a PhD student in Psychology, presented a paper at the British Psychological Society's Community Psychology annual conference in Brighton on 13-14 September. She followed this with a paper at the National Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences (NIHSS) conference in Gauteng (29-31 October), where her paper was listed as one of 7 shortlisted for the prize of best in conference (out of 101 papers).
- Matthey Academic Day in Johannesburg. He also attended the 15th German Conference on Cheminformatics in Mainz,
- attended the International Conference on Porphyrins &

Association for Institutional Researchers (SAAIR) Conference in November 2020 and at the South African Monitoring and

- Professor Sioux McKenna was an invited guest speaker at two national conferences and one international conference Engineering for Human Capital, Virginia Tech, USA; Publish and perish: The perils of supervising in an age of performance metrics, Supervision Enrichment Winter School, University of Johannesburg; Don't count the things you do; Do the things that count, University of South Africa, Research Development Conference.
- Professor Sioux McKenna presented a keynote address Human Capital Theory and Postgraduate Education at the 7th Postgraduate Supervision Conference, University of Stellenbosch, 26-29 March 2019.

### Notable visitors to our University

A number of national and international visitors and scholars visited our University to initiate or strengthen their scholarly collaboration and partnerships with our researchers and academics. These include:

- Dr Imtiaz Sooliman of Gift of the Givers delivered the 2019 Annual Archbishop Thabo Mokgoba Development Trust Lecture on 3 October 2019.
- Mr Lubabalo Oscar Mabuyane, the Premier of the Eastern Cape Province, delivered the inaugural Rev Dr Simon Ggubule Memorial Lecture organised by the Student Representative Council to celebrate the life of Dr Gqubule, the first black student to obtain an PhD from Rhodes University in 1978. Dr Ggubule was President of Rhodes University Convocation for many years.
- Professors Crain Soudien (HSRC) and Vivienne Bozalek (UWC) presented seminars at the CHERTL Doctoral Week in October. Professor Soudien also presented a public lecture, "Ten Years After: The Transformation Narrative of our Universities".
- Ms Carolyn Medel-Anoneuevo, Head of the Education Unit of the UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa gave a keynote lecture at the opening of the UNESCO / RU initiative 'Sustainability Starts with Teachers' on 25 September 2019. The title of the lecture was 'Transformations in Education in Southern Africa - key priorities and directions.'
- The Department of Philosophy hosted Professor Janine Jones from the University of North Carolina at Greensborough for the 4th term.
- · Professor Martin Olivier of the University of Pretoria, gave One of the significant achievements for the University was a guest lecture entitled: 'Digital forensics and the big data 50 postgraduate students and staff of the Departments of Computer Science and Information Systems on 1 October 2019.
- Mr Bruce Howard, Old Rhodian and founder of the listed in the field of direct marketing of insurance products and services, spent two days with our PDEM full-time students on 7-8 October, sharing his experience of taking a start-up to Nigeria). being listed.
- The Department of Psychology hosted Professor Dennis Francis, who presented the Research in relation to Advocacy, The purpose of the RUASC is to support and promote high-level Policy and Practice workshop (which included researchers, partnerships with UBT and related partners in academia and service providers, advocacy workers), and a public lecture.
- The Department of Philosophy hosted Professor Janine Jones teaching, between and among the collaborating institutions. from University of North Carolina at Greensborough for the 4th

term. While at Rhodes, Professor Jones taught a postgraduate course and moderated the department's annual "Grad Day" (a one-day conference in which all the presentations are from the Department's Honours and Masters students).

- Professor Cliff Jones of the Department of Ichthyology and Fisheries Science (DIFS) hosted two workshops. The first was In October/November with participants from BOKU University (Austria), Makerere University (Uganda), Eldoret University (Kenya), Mzuzu University (Malawi), the Official University of Bukavu (DRC) and Rhodes University (representing South Africa), and the second from 5-7 November 2019) with research partners from Alfred Wegener Institute (Germany), University of University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Canary Islands), France Haliotis (Brittany, France) and with local representation from South Africa.
- The Department of Chemistry hosted Professor Len Barbour, who holds a DST/NRF SARChI Chair at Stellenbosch. He also presented the Department's annual Barker Lecture.
- In the Department of Botany, Professor Brad Ripley of the Department of Botany hosted Dr Henning Nottebrock from University of Bayreuth, Professor Charles Mtengwa from University of Fort Hare and Dr Sandy Steenhuisen from the University of the Free State. Professor Susi Vetter hosted Drs Mark Olson and Julieta Rosell Garcia (National University of Mexico) as Hugh Kelly Fellows. They collaborated on thicketsavanna dvnamics.
- In the Department of Biochemistry & Microbiology, Professor Rachel E Sipler of Memorial University, Canada visited Professor Rosie Dorrington's research group from October 14-27. Professor Annie Newell-Fugate from Texas A&M in the USA visited Dr Branden Wilhelmi's group in October.
- The Department of Information Systems hosted Mr Farhan Aleem from the University of Leicester (UK). Mr Aleem was an Erasmus+ visitor. He visited for a week and engaged with the departmental technical staff, as well as the networking team form RU I&TS. Strategies and technical knowledge were shared. mainly in the areas of public cloud services and campus wide networking infrastructure. Mr Aleem also presented a quest lecture to the staff and postgraduate students on Network Security.
- The Black Lawyers Association (BLA) student chapter, in the Law Faculty, hosted Advocate Thuli Madonsela in September 2019.

the establishment and launch of the African Studies Centre in deluge - some concerns based on Ramsey Theory.' to almost partnership with the University of Bayreuth in Germany and three other African universities. Rhodes University was awarded a University of Bayreuth (UBT) African Cluster Centre (ACC), as part of UBT's Africa Multiple Centre of Excellence in October 2019. It is one of the four such African Cluster Centres: the others are company, Clientele, and one of the world's leading experts Université Ouaga J, aka Joseph Ki-Zerbo University (Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso), Moi University (Eldoret, Kenya), and the Institute of African and Diaspora Studies at the University of Lagos (Lagos,

industry with a view to facilitating interdisciplinary research and

Among other things, the Centre will:

- identify opportunities for increasing staff and student mobility between Rhodes University and the University of Bayreuth respectively as well as between partners in the Africa Multiple Our University continues to make a distinctive contribution in Cluster system:
- and Post-doctoral fellows in partner institutions;
- parties:
- develop strategies to approach such opportunities, including Our University is the largest source of employment and approaching them independently or together where and when appropriate:
- facilitate the development of proposals and offers for individual other forms of funding.

### African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA) Centre for Water

Initially announced in 2018, the Institute of Water Research (IWR) We have stitched together this civil society forum which hosting of the African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA) comprises a diverse cross-section of stakeholders in Makhanda/ Water Centre of Excellence (CoE), was officially launched in 2019. Grahamstown. We cannot leave our future in the hands of others. The Institute is led by Professor Tally Palmer as the Water CoE We must take charge of our destiny. This forum is a platform for Director, and Dr Jane Tanner (Rhodes IWR) and Professor Zerihun common purpose and action. In the midst of gloom, pessimism, Woldu (Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia) as co-directors. The cynicism and despair, we need to create a sense of hope and CoE comprises eight University-based nodes in seven countries: optimism for a better and sustainable city. It is in our own best Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia; University Rwanda, Rwanda; interest that we contribute towards creating a strong, vibrant University Cheikh Anta Diop, Senegal; Dar es Salaam University, and sustainable Makhanda/Grahamstown. Tanzania, Makerere University, Uganda; University Lagos, Nigeria, University Cape Town, University of KwaZulu-Natal, What we have committed ourselves to is a big, bold and daunting and Rhodes University (the CoE hub), South Africa. Attended undertaking. Failure is not an option. Fear of failure should never by Professor Ernest Aryeetey, ARUA Secretary General, the drive us to take refuge in the safety and placidity of inaction. Our launch was part of an Inception workshop from 26-30 May 2019, involvement with our local community is not an act of charity but where all the CoE nodes were represented and a strong, vibrant a recognition of our common humanity and shared destiny. network emerged from the process. The workshop collectively agreed on the research focus and direction, the principles of Community Engagement has, over the years, developed into collaboration, and the process of building a directory of CoE a critical platform to embed our University in the life of the researchers and their expertise. greater Makhanda/Grahamstown community. Our Community Engagement has become the best model in our higher education system and many universities send their staff to observe and learn from Rhodes University.

### Community Engagement and our place in Makhanda/Grahamstown

the life of our surrounding community. As a University, we have · continue to develop opportunities for joint PhD candidatures committed ourselves to playing our role in creating a better Makhanda/ Grahamstown for all. We have underscored this • identify and conduct research and other intellectual collaborative commitment by repeatedly emphasising that our University projects in furtherance of joint objectives and of interest to the is not just in Makhanda/Grahamstown but is also of and for Makhanda/Grahamstown.

contributes the highest percentage in the GDP of Makhanda/ Grahamstown. Our future, as Rhodes University, is inextricably bound up with that of the greater Makhanda/Grahamstown opportunities, including exploring possibilities for grants and community. It is in recognition of this inescapable reality that on 30 July and, again, on 16 September 2019 we convened a civil society forum to harness the collective energy, creativity and resourcefulness of our community to contribute towards creating a sustainable future for our city.

Through our Community Engagement activities we endeavour to "take knowledge beyond the confines of the academy into a variety of social domains". In this way, our knowledge is tested and enhanced, our scholarship enriched and the socio-economic condition of our surrounding communities improved. In the process, we gain new and deeper insights into the pressing and complex challenges facing our surrounding communities, and a more deeply nuanced view of the wider patterns of the society in which we are located. In addition to serving as a vehicle for our University to discharge its social responsibility, Community Engagement is critical in the shaping of attitudes and values that should make our graduates critical and engaged citizens; graduates who cannot just be content to see our society or the world as it is but can imagine a better society and a better world and can work with passion and conviction to create a more just, a more humane, a more equitable, a fairer and a more

Our Community Engagement activities are many and varied. They range from supporting learners succeed at our local high schools through the nine-tenths mentoring programme, to supporting reading clubs, to working with hospices and homes for the aged. These activities afford our students opportunities to contribute to the betterment of our surrounding communities while at the same time experiencing a different kind of learning that cannot be experienced in a formal classroom setting. A total of 2 187 students were involved in CE learning programmes, including service learning courses, for the year 2019.



compassionate society and world.

Some of the activities and events achieved in 2019 include:

- The Engaged Citizen Programme. This is the largest student volunteer programme in which students work with community organisations around Grahamstown/Makhanda. Some 301 trained student volunteers worked weekly with 24 community organisations.
- Budding Q Programme. This is a programme working in partnership with students in the Department of Psychology who support some 344 Grade R children in 7 schools. Some 75 trained Department of Psychology students conduct assessments on the Grade R learners.
- Siyakhana@Makana. This is a community engagement programme that involves Halls and Residences in a variety of activities with our Community partner organisations.
- Nine-tenths Programme. This is a learner-mentoring programme in which Rhodes University student volunteers mentor learners in Grade 12 in three local schools. 110 student mentors met with these learners every week during term time in 2019.

In partnership with a well-established and highly regarded NGO, GADRA Education, we have made a tangible intervention in the quality of Grade 12 passes in some of our local schools. The number of Bachelor level passes has increased significantly and many of these learners have been afforded opportunities to study at Rhodes University. Another exciting programme that our University runs with GADRA is the student academic bridging programme. Selected learners at the GADRA Matric School are given an opportunity to take a first year course at Rhodes University. GADRA provides tuition for these students. In this way, they are able to improve some of their Grade 12 subjects while at the same time completing a course or two at University level. The pass rates among these learners in their University courses are very impressive. We are deeply indebted to the Board of GADRA, Dr Ashley Westaway and Ms Margie Keeton for this very productive partnership with GADRA.

One of the notable highlights of our Community Engagement In line with the social justice and human rights commitment of our Division was the successful launch of the Social Innovation Hub University, upholding and entrenching an institutional culture that in June 2019. The Hub is part of the European Union's Common is free of sexism, racism, homophobia, transphobia, xenophobia Good First Project. It is a platform created to identify, showcase and all forms of bigotry, prejudice, discrimination and chauvinistic and connect social impact projects locally and across the globe. behaviour remain at the forefront of all that we do. Sustaining an It is a digital storytelling resource that aims to make technologies institutional environment in which all students and staff are free and resources required to make digital stories freely available to to be who they are is of paramount importance to our University. anyone who would like to share their story or explore a novel A wide range of educational and awareness-raising activities was method of collective knowledge-building. This initiative, funded undertaken in 2019 to give concrete expression and effect to these by the EU Erasmus+ funding, is a partnership between six South institutional commitments. African universities (those of Rhodes, Nelson Mandela, the Free State, Johannesburg, North-West and the Western Cape) and five Our Faculties and academic departments intensified their efforts European universities (Glasgow Caledonian in Scotland, Roskildey and activities directed at curricula review, innovation, transformain Denmark, the South East in Norway, Alicante in Spain, Revkjavik tion and 'decolonisation' with a view to providing an engaging and in Iceland). The launch was attended by, among others, Julie Adair, rewarding educational experience for our students. In both course the Project Manager of the Common Good First Project from Glascontent and pedagogical approaches and practices, the emphasis gow Caledonian and Darelle van Greunen, Director of the Centre is on ensuring that different kinds of 'knowledges' from diverse for Community Technologies at NMU. parts of the globe are incorporated in the teaching and learning experiences of our students.

### Institutional Research, Planning and Quality Promotion

Assuring educational provision that meets appropriate standards Once again, in 2019, our students and staff flew the flag of our Uniof quality is of critical importance. Our Institutional Research, Planversity with great honour and distinction. Their achievements were ning and Quality Promotion Division has the overall responsibility recognised nationally and internationally. These include: of providing support to Faculties and academic Departments in Distinguished Professor Tebello Nyokong was honoured with the achievement of this objective. The Director, Dr Remy Nnadozie an honorary degree, Doctor of Science, by Western University also interacts with external quality bodies regarding all issues of in Canada on 13 June 2019. This was Professor Nyokong's quality assurance of our courses. Among other things, the Division 5th honorary doctorate. She was also recognised with the Lifetime Achievement Award of the International Society coordinates all review of our programmes, ensures the coherence of our Programme Qualification Mix (PQM) and oversees the apof Porphyrins and Phthalocyanines, a recognition that will be formally awarded in New York in 2020. proval, registration and accreditation of our new programmes.

Our Division of Institutional Research and Quality Promotion was significantly enhanced by the arrival in July 2019 of Ms Masego Mabaso as the Manager: Institutional Research, Planning & Quality Promotion.

Some of the highlights for the year under review include:

- Coordinating and driving the process of developing and submitting for approval by Council of the University's student enrolment plan for the period 2020 - 2025;
- Coordinating the process of preparing a Self-evaluation Report (SER) for the Council of Higher Education (CHE) Doctoral Review:
- Preparing and submitting for approval the University's mid-year and Annual Performance Plans;
- · Management of quality assurance processes of applications of new programme in order to ensure compliance with internal and external accreditation requirements.

### Advancing equity and transformation

The advancement of the transformation and equity imperatives of our University continued to receive much attention in 2019. The Office of Equity & Institutional Culture continued the engagements with academic departments, support divisions and research institutes, units and centres to facilitate meaningful and sustainable transformation process which is a sine qua non for excellence.

### Personal and Professional achievements of Staff and Students

- Distinguished Professor Christopher McQuaid was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award for service and contributions to Marine Science by the 2019 International Temperate Reef Symposium held in Hona Kona.
- Distinguished Professor Catriona Macleod was named as first runner-up in the category of Distinguished Woman Scientist in the Human and Social Sciences in the South African Woman in Science Awards ceremony held on 15 August 2019. She was also a member of the team from the International Women's Health Coalition reporting to the US Senate, House of Representatives and Congress on their work on the impact of the Trump Global Gag Rule.

- Dr Ulandi du Plessis, a post-doctoral fellow in Distinguished Professor Catriona Macleod's SARChI Chair, was the winner of the international postgraduate prize of the POWES (Psychology of Women and Equalities Section of the British Psychological Society) and the Feminism & Psychology Journal, for her outstanding scholarly paper submitted to the Society's international conference.
- Professor Janice Limson was recognised by the Department of Science and Technology Intellectual Property Office as one of the top intellectual property creators in the country, at a ceremony in Johannesburg presided over by the Minister of Science and Technology. The award carries with it a R600 000 innovation grant.
- Professor Craig Peter of the Department of Botany was awarded the Botanical Society of South Africa's Stella Petersen Education Award. The award is for any person who has made a significant contribution to the promotion of environmental education which focuses on the flora of southern Africa.
- The Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Academic & Student Affairs, Dr 'Mabokang Monnapula-Mapesela, co-authored a chapter titled: "Reimagining curriculum development and the role of academic developers in a University of technology in the post colonial setting", in Re-Imagining Curriculum Spaces for Disruption edited by Prof. Lynn Quinn.
- The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Dr 'Mabokang Monnapula-Mapesela, was invited to participate in the ACU Round Table Discussion on "Inclusion - Equality, Equity, Gender Based Violence and women participation in STEM", hosted by HRH Duchess of Sussex Meghan Markle at the University of Johannesburg on 1 October 2019.
- Dr Nicola Pallitt was part of a panel for SAGE Method Space on the topic of How to Nurture the Researchers of Tomorrow about supervision, drawing on her learning from the Strengthening Postgraduate Supervision course. This international webinar was attended by hundreds of participants worldwide. Recording at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qvxI57q2oI0&t=4s
- The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Dr 'Mabokang Monnapula-Mapesela, was invited as a guest editor for the Journal Educational Research for Social Change.
- Corinne Knowles was appointed by Minister or Higher
   Education and Training Dr Naledi Pando as a member of a ten-person Ministerial Task Team on Sexual Harassment and Gender-Based Violence and Harm in the Higher Education Sector. The Task Team, chaired by the Vice-Chancellor of Nelson Mandela University Professor Sibongile Mutwa, advises the Minister on how to contribute to the prevention of sexual harassment and sexual violence at universities.
- Professor Lynn Quinn was appointed to the Council of the Higher Education Quality Council (HEQC) for 2019 to 2021.
- Team E-Smart Nobuhle Ndebele, Lindokuhle Nene, Reitumetse Nkhahle and Gauta Matlou won the 2019 Hult Prize Challenge held at the Brookhouse International School
   in Nairobi, Kenya, 19 to 20 April 2019. They were coached and quided by Dr Tshidi Mohapeloa.
- Mr Tariq Blecher, Miss Lerato Sebokolodi and Mr Benjamin Hugo, postgraduate students, were Principal Investigators (PIs) of proposals selected by the South African Radio Astronomy Observatory to use the MeerKAT radio telescope for several months. They are three of only five postgraduate Principal Investigators (PIs) students of the projects accepted by the SARAO. We are immensely proud of our students, and Professor Oleg Smirnov and his team for leading them in this exciting area of national research.
- Dr Teresa Pidduck, who completed her PhD in Taxation under the supervision of Professor Lilla Stack, received the SAIPA

Accountancy Top Achievers Award (PhD-Taxation category) for 2019. This was the third successive year for a PhD student supervised by Professor Stack to receive this award. The previous two were Dr F Schneider and Professor Jackie Arendse.

Mr Ludwe Alex Gcingca: 2019 PGDip Enterprise Management Part Time Student: Honoured with an award by South African Union of Students in the category "Individuals who have contributed towards assisting students with outstanding tuition fees; who have provided platforms of scholarship and opportunities aimed and lifting young student, graduates and communities respectively." This took place at the SAUS National General Council (NGC) Gala Dinner on the 26 July 2019 (University of Western Cape, Cape Town). The award was for his work in securing bursaries for 25 deserving University of Fort Hare students. The bursaries were obtained from UFH alumni and the Motsepe Foundation.

- Mr Hiten Keshave, alumnus of the Department of Accounting and Rhodes Business School was nominated as one of SAICA's Top 35 under 35 for 2019.
- Professor Emeritus Kate Rowntree of the Department of Geography was made a Fellow of the Southern African Association of Geomorphologists at their Biennial Conference on 17 September. Only two such awards have been made since 2005.
- Ms Miriam Mattison (Human Kinetics & Ergonomics) won the Award for the best research paper at The Fourth African Symposium on Human Factors and Aviation Safety (ASHFAS 2019) and the Fourteenth Ergonomics Society of South African Conference (ESSA 2019).
- Ms Desidre Coopasamy of the Department of Accounting was nominated as one of SAICA's Top 35 under 35 for 2019.
- Professor Emeritus Andrew Buckland was awarded the Fleur du Cap Theatre Award for Best Performance by a lead actor for his role in Endgame.
- At the South African Pharmacy Council conference (3-5 October 2019) Professor Rod Walker was awarded the Academic Pharmacist award for his contribution towards Pharmacy and Pharmacy Education in South Africa.
- Professor Jackie Arendse, Head of Department of Accounting, was honoured as an Honorary Fellow of the South African Institute of Tax Professionals (SAIT) in November 2019. The fellowship is awarded to individuals in recognition of their noteworthy service to the tax profession. In Professor Arendse was recognised as a prominent individual with a sustained record of valuable contributions to the taxation field.
- Ms Fiona Drummond received the Founders' Medal for the best Master's thesis by the Economics Society of South Africa for her dissertation entitled "Cultural clusters as a local economic development strategy in rural, small town areas." Professor Jen Snowball was her supervisor.
- Dr Remy Nnadozie, the Director: Institutional Research, Planning and Quality Promotion, was nominated by the Department of Higher Education & Training (DHET) as a critical reader of Annual Enrolment Planning Reports as part of its Annual Performance Targets.
- Dr Eduard Jordaan of the Department of Political and Industrial Relations published South Africa and the UN Human Rights Council: The Fate of the Liberal Order, Routledge Publishing Company.
- Lessons from the Kalahari: Tracking Teachers' Professional Development edited by Associate Professor M Hendricks (ISEA) and Dr G Harrison (former Director CSD) was published.

### Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Awards

The Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished awards recognise and celebrate excellence in research, teaching and learning, and community engagement. These awards serve as a recognition and reward for individuals who have gone beyond the standard practice in advancing our University's mission.

In 2019, a new award, the Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Achievement Award, was instituted to recognise a staff member who has made an extraordinary and distinguished contribution that builds and supports the intellectual work of the University, the sector, and the national and international community of scholars, thereby significantly advancing the reputation of the institution, and which is not adequately recognised by existing Vice-Chancellor's awards. This is intended to be a prestigious award of the highest status in the University, awarded sparingly.

The Vice-Chancellor's Book Award recognises a recent book published by a current staff member, which advances knowledge and understanding, and brings undoubted credit to the University by virtue of the contribution it makes to scholarly literature, or the discipline within which it is authored.

- The recipient of the inaugural Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Department of Physics and Electronics. Achievement Award is Professor Justin Jonas of the Department The recipient of the Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching of Physics and Electronics. He has been called the "Spiritual Award (in the category of ten or fewer years' experience) is Ms Guru" of the SKA (Square Kilometre Array Telescope), having Thina Magubela of the Department of Statistics. been one of the originators of the concept. He became The recipient of the Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Senior the project scientist in 2001, where his serious contribution Teaching Award is Mr Chris Upfold of the Department of commenced as a mix of visionary, scientist, politician, design Information Systems. engineer, and salesman. He has been a key figure in the design The recipients of the Distinguished Vice-Chancellor's Community and construction of the 64-dish MeerKAT radio telescope array Engagement Award are Dr Jono Davy, Mr Andrew Todd and Mr at Carnarvon, Northern Cape. The full-scale multinational SKA Ben Ryan. is expected to be completed by 2027, will cost in excess of • The recipient of the Vice-Chancellor's Book Award is Professor €2 billion, and will be counted amongst the largest scientific Sam Naidu of the Department of Literary Studies in English, for instruments ever built.
- The recipient of the Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Research Award (in the age group 40 and below) is Dr Gladman Thondhlana of the Department of Environmental Science.
- The recipient of the Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Senior Research Award is Professor Makaiko Chithambo of the



The recipient of the Vice-Chancellor's Book Award is Professor Sam Naidu of the Department of Literary Studies in English, for her monograph (co-authored with Professor Elizabeth le Roux of the University of Pretoria) entitled "A Survey of South African Crime Fiction: Critical Analysis and Publishing History" (UKZN Press, 2017).

### **Graduation Ceremonies**

Graduation ceremonies are a major highlight in the University's calendar of events. In April, we celebrated with our graduating students and their parents, guardians and families as they received their degree/diploma certificates. In the 6 ceremonies, 2321 students graduated. Of these, 1261 (or 54%) were undergraduate Bachelor's degrees and 1060 (or 46%) were postgraduate degrees and diplomas. Of the 1060 postgraduate students, 230 received their Master's and 89 their Doctoral degrees.

Of the 2321 graduates, 61% were women and 19% were international students. The youngest graduate was a mere 20 years old (a bachelor's degree recipient) and the oldest was an 81 year old recipient of an honours degree. One of the doctoral graduates was 77-year-old Dr Yvette Van Wijk, who last graduated at Rhodes in 1961.

One of our doctoral graduates, Dr Victor Tichaona Pesanayi passed away of multiple myeloma just five days after his graduation.

In these graduation ceremonies, we also recognised, honoured and celebrated five remarkable people by conferring honorary degrees on them. The recipients of the University's honorary degrees were Professor Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela, Professor Emeritus George Ellis, Chief Oyenike Okundaye, Professor Glenda Gray and Professor Ian Scott. In the 2019 graduation ceremonies, we also acknowledged and celebrated the recipients of the 2018 Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Awards for Research (Professors Caroline Khene and Brett Pletschke), Teaching & Learning (Dr Karen Ellery and Dr Siphokazi Magadla), and Community Engagement (Professor Tally Palmer).

### Keeping contact with our alumni

Our alumni are an important part of our Rhodes University family. We owe much of what we are to their continued commitment and investment in our University. Many of them engage the University in various ways and they contribute to initiatives that support the University. There has been a steady and healthy growth in their individual giving patterns. We are grateful to have had enduring relationships of this nature with many of our alumni. Some Old Rhodians have been giving regularly since 2004. The monthly amounts and in some instances, annual amounts, have been invested well under the custodianship of our Board of Governors. Similarly, the stream of Old Rhodians coming back to the University every year to teach, to mentor, to 'adopt a student', and generally to give of their time and knowledge, beyond monetary support, has been a significant source of inspiration for our students, and all of us. We are also indebted to our alumni for the magnificent ambassadorial roles that they play to market the University, as well as to open doors for the University for strategic projects at the relevant platforms.

# Graduation 2019 54% undergraduate Bachelor's dearees 46% postgraduate degrees and diplomas 89 Doctoral degrees. Of the 2321 graduates Internationa

We continuously seek to innovate ways to broaden and deepen We extend our heartiest congratulations to the recipients of constituent engagements and enhance the relations with the 2019 Rhodes University Distinguished Alumni Award and alumni. In our 2019 alumni reunions, we encouraged them to wish them well in all their future endeavours. We thank them start and formalise Alumni Chapters around the world. We are for flying the flag of our University with great honour and also committed to launch an interactive and dedicated online distinction. platform to connect our alumni across the globe and link them Challenges to the University in a more effective and versatile manner.

The University faces a number of challenges which need to be The sudden and untimely death of our Senior Alumni Relations addressed lest they impact on its unrivalled position as an Officer, Ms Terryl McCarthy, who was driving all our alumni institution of exceptional academic excellence. Some of these are: activities was a huge shock and a great loss for us.

Some of the activities undertaken to keep contact with our alumni and to update them on the developments at their alma mater included:

• The annual reunion dinners and legacy lunches hosted by the Chancellor and/or Vice-Chancellor in the major cities of Cape Town, Johannesburg and Durban;

• Home visits to our alumni who can no longer participate in the group dinners or legacy lunches;

• A special homecoming reunion for the 1980-1995 cohort held on campus;

• A special 50-year reunion for a group of pharmacy graduates held in Cape Town;

• Reunions held in Perth, Ontario and UK;

• The Rhodes Business School formed partnerships with three Old Rhodians viz. Johanna Mukoki, Charles Faul and Bruce Howard:

• Intombi YeSizwe scholarship, launched by a group of young alumni friends last year, entered its second year.

### Rhodes University Distinguished Alumni Award recipients

Through the award of the Rhodes University Distinguished Alumni Award, our University recognises, honours and celebrates its alumni who have distinguished themselves in our society and beyond. The aim of the award is to honour alumni who through their individual actions, achievements and selfless service to humankind, have enhanced the reputation of the University. It is intended to acknowledge the recipients as outstanding role models for current and future generations of Rhodes students. The criteria for consideration for the award are that the recipient should personify the attributes that Rhodes University seeks to cultivate in a leader. Recipients should also have actively demonstrated their support for the University.

The 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award recipients are:

- Professor Roger Brooke
- Ms Johanna Mukoki
- Judge Kathleen Satchwell
- Mr Popo Mfubu
- Mr Zukisa Pityana

• Financial sustainability.

We have mentioned the challenges that will result from the convergence of the COVID-19 pandemic and the sovereign ratings downgrade of the South African economy to subinvestment grade status. While in the short-term government might be able to honour its funding commitments made to universities, it remains an open question as to whether in the medium to long term this will remain so.

The University needs to increase third-stream income. An institutional Third Stream Income Workshop held in October 2019 helped develop a common understanding of how to build third-stream income effectiveness in order to support the University. The Donor Recognition & Stewardship Policy was approved by Senate and Council in 2019. This policy should assist in our advancement initiatives.

Research Concentration risk.

The University relies on a small number of highly productive researchers who produce the bulk of research. Some of these highly productive researchers will be retiring in the next few years.

• Municipal services.

Makana Municipality represents a risk to the life of our University. Its inability to provide reliable supplies of essential services such as water, sanitation and electricity places the University at a significant risk. Poor maintenance of the roads infrastructure also poses a significant risk for the University and the surrounding community.

• Maintenance backlog.

The University's maintenance backlog is upward of R2 billion. Many old buildings, including residences require significant investment in their maintenance.

- Filling of vacant academic positions takes long. There is a combination of issues that make filling of vacant positions difficult. This includes limited school spaces for children of prospective staff, limited employment opportunities for spouses/partners of prospective staff, unaffordable housing prices, inadequate staff remuneration. In 2019 the University invested R20m to augment academic As long as we live, they too will live, for they are now a part of staff remuneration.
- Non-return of students who are in good academic standing. Over the past few years we have observed a phenomenon in which students who are in good academic standing who should be returning to proceed with their studies decide not are experiencing the same pattern. Further work needs to be sexual and gender-based violence in our society. done to arrest this situation.

To the extent possible, the University Senior Leadership Team is taking all necessary measures to mitigate and manage the impact of these risks to the University.

### In memoriam...

During the 2019 academic year, we lost a number of the members of our University family. These include:

- Kitchen;
- Mr Zanokhanyo Mazeka, a third-year Science student;
- student in the Faculty of Commerce;
- Mr John McNeill, a former lecturer in Information Systems;
- Dr Victor Tichaona Pesanayi passed away of Multiple Myeloma just five days after graduating with a PhD;
- Mr Nkcubeko Balani, a fourth-vear Law student:
- Marshall Nyaungwa, a BA(Hons) graduate of Rhodes University Our greatest strength, as an institution, is the guality of our and an MA candidate in Political & International Relations;
- Professor Sydney Brenner, Nobel Laureate and Honorary Graduate of Rhodes University. He was 92;
- Ms Khanyisile Mel Mboya, a Political and International Studies graduate;
- Poloko Sindiso Ngaba, a Political and International Studies dedication of our staff and students. PhD Candidate, who passed away after a long battle with breast cancer:
- Dr Allan Gray, a highly respected alumnus of our University endeavour:
- · Ms Terryl McCarthy who was the Senior Alumni Relations Officer;

- Mothudi Matjila, a second-year Humanities student;
- Mr Tony Long who was our Registrar: Finance & Operations until his retirement in 2009; and
- Ms Andrea Eva Mulder who was a technical officer in the Department of Psychology until her early retirement in 2017.

us as we remember them<sup>2</sup>. May their souls rest in eternal peace.

Our University was touched uniquely by the death of Ms Uyinene Mrwetyana on 24 August 2019. Uyinene, a first-year student at the University of Cape Town, was the daughter of our Director: Student Affairs, Mrs Nomangwane Mrwetvana, Her senseless, to return. Some work has been done over the past two years brutal, cowardly and callous murder at the hands of a Post Office to gain some insight into this phenomenon. Other universities employee brought into sharp focus the pernicious scourge of

### Conclusion

On every measure, 2019 has indeed been an exceedingly productive and successful one for our University. We are pleased that our University remained true to, and pursued with courage and conviction, its higher social purpose of transforming lives for the better, transforming our society for the better and transforming our world for the better. Across a range of indicators, our University has achieved much. Guided by the • Mr Lonwabo Diniso, who was a kitchen attendant Kimberley principles of excellence, innovation, sustainability and social impact as our lodestar, we remained true and faithful to our mission to consolidate our position as a place that inspires hope, • Professor Alexius Amtaika, a Professor in Politics & a place that nurtures imagination, and a place that awakens International Studies, and his daughter Ms Wala Sibutha, a creativity, and a place where ideas matter. As documented above, our University has been able to discharge its hallowed purpose and mission to advance knowledge through research, teaching and learning and community engagement. We are indeed a place of knowledge - indawo yolwazi.

> staff - both academic and administrative support staff. It is their loyalty, dedication, commitment and hard work that have enabled us to build and sustain this fine University as a place of knowledge and a place of opportunity for all. We owe our success to the steadfast commitment, passion, hard work and

We are deeply indebted to our University Council and the Board of Governors for their support, counsel and guidance. Our who contributed generously to our University's academic Deans play a crucial role in the leadership of our University. We are greatly appreciative of their huge contribution

We would not have been able to achieve much of what we have recorded above were it not for the kind and generous support of our funders, donors and alumni, staff and students who contribute to our fundraising efforts. And, of course, the funding we receive from the hard-pressed taxpayers of our country through the appropriation by our national government is acknowledged with much appreciation.

We are well-poised to take the next steps further to strengthen our University's position as a distinct and distinctive place of higher learning. We look forward to 2020 with great excitement, confidence and optimism that we will once again make our contribution for the greater common good. Whatever challenges there may be ahead of us, we are more than equal to them.

Dr S Mabizela

Vice-Chancellor Date: 11 June 2020





# REPORT COUNCIL SENATE'S 뿐



# **COMPOSITION OF SENATE & ATTENDANCE OF MEETINGS IN 2019**

The Senate in terms of the Statute of Rhodes University is accountable to the Council for the teaching, learning, research and academic functions of the University, and all other functions delegated or assigned to it by the Council.

The SENATE of Rhodes University is comprised as shown in Table 4.

Constituency	Number of Representatives
Management	4
Academic Professors	67
Deans	6
Deputy Deans	7
Heads of Departments	17
SRC Representatives	6
Senate Academic Representatives	6
Other (institutes/centres)	12
Administrative Staff Representatives	2
Hall Warden Representatives	2
In attendance members	9
Fotal Members	138

Table 4: Composition of Senate of Rhodes University

### Senate Committees:

### Faculty Boards:

Senate Executive Committee Senate Examinations Committee Honorary Degrees Committee Nominations Committee Constitution Committee Institutional Planning Committee Research Committee Wellness Committee Ethical Standards Committee Financial Aid Committee Teaching & Learning Committee Library Committee IT Steering Committee Student Services Committee Board of Residences **RU Environmental Committee** Disciplinary Committee Health & Safety Committee Equity & Institutional Culture Committee Naming Committee Community Engagement Committee Internationalisation Committee

Humanities Faculty Board Science Faculty Board Law Faculty Board Education Faculty Board Commerce Faculty Board Pharmacy Faculty Board

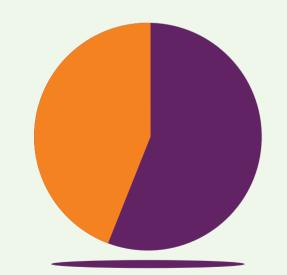




### SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCE OF **MEETINGS OF SENATE IN 2019**

### Senate 2019

29 March:	51%
7 June:	<b>48%</b>
23 August:	<b>45%</b>
18 October:	<b>45%</b>
15 November:	<b>46%</b>



45% Average % Attendance

### MAJOR DECISIONS OF **SENATE IN 2019**

At its meetings in 2019, Senate NOTED that all faculties had recommended approval of the Rhodes University Honorary Degrees Policy, and thus RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL the Honorary Degrees Policy to Council.

Senate APPROVED a proposal that all postgraduate students, prior to submitting their theses, should have registered for an ORCid and that this requirement be added to the Higher Degree Guide.

Senate RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL the proposed changes in respect of the alignment of the Rhodes University Programme and Qualification mix.

Senate RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL the process flowchart for application for new programmes.

Senate APPROVED the upgrade to PhD for the following candidate: Mr Reuben Thifhulufhelwi (16T8577) in the Department of Education (Full thesis).

Senate RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL the proposal to rename Hilltop Hall to Hugh Masekela Hall.

Senate RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL the change of name from Jan Smuts Hall to Solomon Mahlungu Hall.

Senate RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL the proposal to confer the title Professor Emeritus on the following: Professor R Harmer - in the Department of Geology from 1 May 2015 and retires December 2019; Professor GJ Euvrard - in Education from 2005 and retires in December 2019; Professor P Bischoff - in the Department of Politics and International Studies from 2007 and retires in December 2019.

Senate RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL the proposal to confer the title Associate Professor Emeritus on the following: Associate Professor L Steenveld - in the School of Journalism & Media Studies in 2009 and retires in December 2019; Professor JJ Roodt - in the Department of Sociology and Industrial Sociology 2010 and retires in December 2019.

Senate APPROVED the following appointment as Head of Department: Professor R Simango Department of English Language and Linguistics July 1 2019 – June 30 2022

Senate APPROVED the appointment of Professor A Garman as Acting Head of School of Journalism and Media Studies for the period July 1, 2019, to December 31 2019, and Professor H Dugmore as Deputy Head of School for the same period.

Senate APPROVED the appointment of Professor C Young as Senate RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL the Donor HoD of the Department of Psychology, from 1 July 2019 to 30 Recognition and Stewardship Policy. June 2022.

Senate RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL to Council the Protocol for the Election of Deans.

Senate RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL the Rhodes University Quality Assurance Framework for Teaching & Learning.

Senate APPROVED a change to the Identity Management Framework. A member gueried a footnote which stated those Senate RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL the Rhodes members of staff on Grades 1-5 needed internet access only University Policy Volume on Teaching & Learning. where relevant. The DVC: R&I responded, stating that the footnote was badly worded and would be removed. He assured Senate RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL to Council the Policy Senate that staff members on all grades had access to the and Draft Terms of Reference for Research Ethics on Animal internet via eduroam.

Subjects.

revised Rhodes University Language Policy

Senate RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL to Council the Policy recruited. on Eradicating Unfair Discrimination and Harassment, other than Sexual Offences.

Senate RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL to Council the revised proposal for the location of the Neil Aggett Labour Senate RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL the Policy on Naming and Studies Unit (NALSU) in the Department of Sociology, noting Renaming Buildings, Facilities and Academic Units and Structures. that the Council-funded post would remain in the ISER.



Senate APPROVED the Policy on Eradicating Unfair Discrimination

Senate RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL the Policy on Emergency Access

Senate RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL to Council the Senate RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL to Council the proposal that Afrikaans be offered as a two-year major in 2020, on the understanding that the course would be re-curriculated and a staff member at the level of Associate Professor be

### Senate RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL to Council the following Honorary Appointments:

Person	Department	Appointment
Professor Ioannis Liritizis	Physics	Honorary Professor
Dr Katy Nicastro	Zoology & Entomology	Research Associate
Professor Karen Renaud	Information Systems	Visiting Professor
Dr Henry Roman	Biotechnology Innovation Centre	Professional Associate
Dr Yvette van Wijk	Anthropology	Research Associate
Justice Azhar Cachalia	Law	Visiting Professor
Dr Bongumusa Zuma	Pharmacy	Visiting Fellow
Dr Vatiswa Henge-Daweti	Pharmacy	Clinical Fellow
Dr Nishlyn Ramanna	Music	Senior Research Associate
Professor Harry Dugmore	Journalism	Senior Research Associate

Senate APPROVED the proposal to re-form the Timetable Com- • Department of Chinese Studies mittee, to be constituted as follows:

- DVC: Academic & Student Affairs
- Deans of Faculties or alternatively Deputy Deans as nominated by Dean
- Director: Institutional Research, Planning & Quality Promotion
- Director I&TS or representative
- Registrar

Senate APPROVED the alignment in respect of University practices • Botany and rules concerning Doctoral processes: appointment of external examiners.

### Senate APPROVED the following calendar entries for 2020:

Senate APPROVED the General Rules for Degrees Diplomas and Certificates 2020 subject to the correction below:

- G28.1: should move to G.27
- The need for three bound copies of a thesis to be removed

• Senate APPROVED the calendar change with respect to rule C20.

- Senate APPROVED the proposed amendments to the Faculty of Science calendar entry.
- Senate APPROVED the proposed amendments to the Department of Afrikaans and Netherlandic Studies calendar entry.

Calendar Changes: Faculty of Humanities

- Postgraduate Diploma in Heritage Management
- Department of African Language Studies
- Department of Classical Studies

- Department of Sociology
- Department of Politics and International Studies
- Department of French Studies

Senate APPROVED the proposed amendments to the following departmental/research institutes and units calendar entries:

- Biochemistry and Microbiology
- Biotechnology Innovation Centre
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Environmental Science
- Geography
- Geology
- Human Kinetics and Ergonomics (HKE)
- Ichthyology and Fisheries Science
- Institute for Environmental Biotechnology (EBRU)
- Mathematics
- Physics and Electronics
- Statistics
- Zoology and Entomology

Senate APPROVED Calendar changes for the Faculty of Commerce: • Department of Accounting

- Department of Economics and Economic History
  Department of Information Systems
- Department of Management
- Rhodes Business School





# **FIONA UNCIL** NS<sup>-</sup> RUM POR' Ш



### Role of the Institutional Forum

The Institutional Forum must advise Council on issues affecting the University, including:

- the implementation of the Higher Education Act, 1997, and the national policy on higher education;
- Student enrolment diagnosing the causes behind the • policies on race, gender equity, and other grounds of v failure to achieve enrolment targets. discrimination referred to in relevant legislation;
- the selection of candidates for senior management positions; e. Professor Chrissie Boughey was appointed to undertake a codes of conduct, mediation, and dispute resolution study to analyse and report on the reasons for enrolment challenges and to understand why some students in good procedures; • the fostering of an institutional culture which promotes (i) standing are withdrawing from the University. A report is tolerance and respect for human dignity and fundamental expected toward the end of 2020.
- human rights and (ii) a positive environment for teaching, research, and learning.

### Membership of Institutional Forum in 2019

Const	ituency	Number of Representatives		
Senior	<sup>•</sup> Management	3		
Counc	il Representatives	3		
Senate	e Representatives	2		
Union	S	3		
SRC R	epresentatives	6		
DASO	Chair	1		
SASCO	O Chair	1		
Total	Members	19		
	In attendance	6		

### Summary of Attendance of Meetings of the Institutional Forum in 2019

Name of committee	Number Scheduled		Average % Attendance
Institutional Forum	4	4	>60%

Notes on Implementation

- i. Reports on the implementation of the recommendations of the Transformation Summit
- function departments.
- ii. Election of a fixed (12 month) chair for the IF.
- b. This proposal was implemented. A review was held at the end of 2019 and the decision was made to continue with this practice. A chairperson was elected for the 2020 term.
- iii. Employment equity policy.
- c. The review of the policy was received and the Institutional Forum receives reports from time to time on the implementation thereof. At the final meeting of 2019, it was Mr Evert Knoesen decided that this report should be received formally, at least Chairperson of Institutional Forum on an annual basis.

- iv. Approach to gender, HIV and sexual violence and monitoring the success of applicable policies.
- d. Reports were received and the IF noted with gratitude the wide-ranging implementation of additional policy and operational measures to address gender violence and HIV on campus.
- Staff retention deliberation on factors impacting on vi staff retention, with particular reference to remuneration benchmarking, local socio-economic conditions and attitudes of existing staff toward new staff.
- f. A report was received on the successful implementation of the first round of a two-part salary structural adjustment programme for academics. Part 2 is due to be implemented in 2020.
- vii. Student reports on transformation issues.
- g. Student participation in the institutional forum remains strong. Students were represented at all Institutional Forum meetings.
- viii.Selection of members for senior management; improved guality of recommendations made to IF in respect to the quality of information in considering such appointments.
- h. More consideration still necessary. Not all senior appointment processes leave sufficient time for meaningful Institutional Forum input. Some Senior Appointments were not forwarded to the IF for input.
- ix. More rigorous approach towards compliance with governance best practices; workshop for all members.
- i. Governance updates have become a standing item on the agenda. These are short inputs from selected stakeholders or hour-long workshops before IF meetings. These are welcomed and the practice will be retained.

The Institutional Forum in 2019 continues on a stable and functional path. Senate has noted with appreciation the Progress on Major Deliberations of the Institutional Forum - continued improvement in its functioning. Attendance and coordination, institutional memory and consistency remain strong through keeping a single chairperson.

The past year marked the return to regular participation a. All the reports were received and reviewed. These reports by members nominated by the local municipal structures. and their strategies are now being implemented in line This contributed further to the value of deliberations at the Institutional Forum.

Date: 11 June 2020

# RHODES ш 0 R **JNIVERSIT** REP ш



The Audit Committee is mandated by the Rhodes University Council to discharge its oversight responsibilities in respect of financial reporting, risk management, internal controls, ICT governance, compliance, internal and external audit and the annual report. The Audit Committee reports to the Council and engages with the Finance and General Purposes Committee (F&GP) and other committees, as deemed necessary.

During the year, the Audit Committee carried out its mandated responsibilities in accordance with its Council-approved Audit Committee Charter and annual work plan. In the execution of its duties, the Committee had unrestricted access to required information and/or to relevant sources of information, including technical guidance from independent advisors and/or experts where required.

The Committee undertook the following activities during the vear under review:

- · reviewed the audited financial statements and annual report that were prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and in the manner required by the DHET and, together with the F&GP, recommended that the reports be adopted by Council;
- considered the reported findings presented by the internal and external auditors in respect of the University's system of financial controls, ICT governance controls and internal controls, as well as management's corrective action plans in response to material findings and, where necessary, made recommendations to Council;
- · obtained Council's approval for the appointment of Ernst and representatives are regular invitees to the Audit Committee Young as the internal auditors for the period January 2020 to meetings: December 2022;
- addressed any arising concerns or complaints relating to the followina:
- o accounting policies;
- o internal audit; o the auditing or content of annual financial statements;
- o internal financial controls;
- o fraud and irregularities.
- · evaluated and assessed the effectiveness of the internal audit function, which is undertaken by an external independent party;
- reviewed the annual risk management reports and periodic update reports and, where relevant, made recommendations to Council:
- evaluated the effectiveness of risk management, controls and the governance processes;
- verified the independence of the external auditors,
- obtained Council's approval for the re-appointment of Chairperson of Audit Committee PricewaterhouseCoopers Inc. as the external statutory auditors Date: 11 June 2020

- and the certification auditors for the period December 2019 to December 2022:
- approved the audit fees and engagement terms of the external auditors:
- determined the nature and extent of allowable non-audit services and approved the contract terms for the provision of non-audit services by the external auditors.
- fulfilled its ICT governance objectives through monitoring the ongoing relevance of the ICT strategy in relation to emerging operational requirements, technological developments and ICT risks; and
- · considered information pertaining to incidents of potential reputational risk and/or legislative and regulatory compliance risk

The Audit Committee comprises four independent, non-executive members. The Committee members have a relevant range of financial, commercial, legal and public sector experience and skills.

In addition to the Committee members, the following

- The Auditor General of South Africa;
- The University's external auditors;
- The University's internal auditors:
- Executive management that includes Vice-Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer.
- Advisory management members including the Director: Finance and Director: IT&S

### **Expertise and experience of the Chief Financial Officer**

The Audit Committee has satisfied itself that the CFO, Mr Kamlesh Riga has appropriate expertise and experience. Mr Riga was appointed as CFO Finance with effect 1 January 2020.

H C Staple

# 2019 ANNUAL Financial Review

### **REVIEW OF FINANCIAL RESULTS**

In considering the financial position and results of Rhodes University, one must take into account whether the University is fulfilling its strategic mandate and intent as articulated in the Mission, Vision and Values statement. Leveraging on its strengths and looking for opportunities in the challenges that lay ahead as stated in the Institutional Development Plan (IDP) 2018 – 2022.

It is well documented that in recent years the higher education sector has had to recalibrate or "reimagine" itself, especially regarding accessibility of students and transformation of institutions culture. Universities operate in an environment dependent on government funding, in an economy that is declining and has competing fiscal priorities. Other traditional sources of funding, corporates and donors, is becoming smaller as philanthropic expenditure is looked at critically. In some cases a return on investment is required. Donor funding can also come with conditions that sometimes compromise the institutional integrity and independence of the University.

The Council-approved three-year financial viability plan remains in place as the message from the DHET is clear – the funding increases of recent years have come at the expense of other national budgets, and similar levels of increase are not sustainable into the future. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic makes this a virtual certainty.

The seven strategic goals provide Rhodes University with a clear long-term direction, all being equally important and necessary to attain the vision. The achievement of these goals will ensure that Rhodes remains a sustainable and relevant University in years to come.

### **2019 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

### • Central University Operations

The Central Operations recorded an R90.4m net surplus taking into account the favourable benefit fund valuation adjustment of R44.3m.

### R90.4m net surplus recorded by Central Operations.

Total recurrent operating income increased in 2019 by 13.6% to R864.3m. This was mainly because of an increase in the state subsidy income by R72.0m (16%) and an increase in tuition and other fee income of 8.6% to R312.4m. State subsidies, which as a percentage of recurring income marginally increased to 60.5% (2018: 59.2%), whilst the percentage of recurrent income from tuition fees declined to 36.1% (2018: 37.8%). Our debtor management initiatives have continued into 2019 and have been largely successful in recouping current outstanding fees owed to the University.

### Operating income

**R864.3m** due to a 13.6% increase in 2019

R72m (16%) as a result of an increase in the state subsidy income

### R312m (8.6%)

due to an increase in tution and other income



In 2019, the University changed the accounting policy regarding leases and government grants. These changes have resulted in an adjustment to the 2018 depreciation and state appropriations – grants and subsidies of R13.5m with a resultant nil effect on the 2018 surplus.

### Residential Operations (Accommodation)

The Residential Operations, comprises student residences, conferencing and staff transit housing. This operation of the University is self-sustaining.

The Residential Operations recorded a R28m surplus taking into account the favourable benefit fund valuation adjustment of R6.7m. Recurrent income increased by 7.8% to R240.7m. Recurrent expenditure increased by 25.2% to R223.7m mainly due to increased expenditure on maintenance and repairs to residences as well as the increased municipal utility tariffs. The University continues to implement cost management initiatives to counter the increases in overheads and utilities and their effect on the environment the University operates in.

### **R28m**

surplus recorded in 2019 from residential operations

R240.7m

recurrent income incased by 7.8%

Contract (earmarked) fund activity

## R51m

The net surplus of Council managed funds activity is a surplus of R51.7m, which is an increase of 36.5% compared to 2018 (R37.9m).

The total income increased by 21% to R419.5m (2018: R346.8m), mainly due to increase in contract revenue of 13.1% and an Several major refurbishment and deferred maintenance projects R140.1m.

The total expenditure increased by 19.1% to R 367.8m, mainly due to increased personnel costs.

### Investments

government bonds, local and international unit trusts and money in the central budget, of competitive remuneration (particularly market deposits. Better than expected market performance for academia), the high level of deferred maintenance of campus towards the latter part of the year is reflected in the value of the infrastructure remain. portfolio appreciating by R53.3m (2018: loss of R27.5m).

### Change in Accounting Policies

The University now recognises the right-of-use of assets and University is not certain. A task team has been appointed to lease liabilities for most leases. This resulted in the University consider the financial impact on, and sustainability of, the recognising an additional right-of-use assets and liabilities of University post the pandemic. R12.7m and additional depreciation of R1.4m.

In 2019, the University changed its accounting policy as to how accounts for government grants. In accordance with the chang government grants are now recognised in profit and loss as ar when the University expenses related costs for which the gran are intended to compensate. This has resulted in a restatement of the Deferred Income and Property, plant and equipment the balance sheet by R346.3m and depreciation in the income S Tredoux statement of R13.5m.

Full details of the changes in accounting policies are set out on pages 108 to 110.

### • Cash flow planning

The University's cash flow cycle has remained consistent with the previous year. University unrestricted funds have increased due to active cash management, careful control over expenditure KMRiga and timely inflow of funds from government and NSFAS. The Chief Financial Officer Council mandated and ministerially approved overdraft facility Date: 11 June 2020 was not utilised during the 2019 financial year.

### Retirement fund obligations

The consolidated valuation of the retirement funding liability decreased to R122.5m (2018: R178.1m).

The continued existence of an open defined benefit pension fund poses significant risk to the financial sustainability of the University. Council has therefore appointed a Task Team to assess the impact of this liability and to make recommendations to Council as to de-risking the balance sheet and eventually terminating the fund.

### Infrastructure investment

increase in state and research project income of 29.1% to continued and commenced during 2019. The modernisation of the campus electrical reticulation system, the fire safety assessment and the refurbishment of the various buildings on campus remain priorities. These infrastructure projects were funded from the DHET infrastructure and efficiency funds received for this purpose as well as from University and residence budget allocations.

The investment portfolios comprises listed securities, The challenges identified in the viability plan of high staff cost ratio

Despite these challenges, Rhodes University has once again succeeded in ending another financial year successfully.

The University applied IFRS16; Leases for the first time in 2019. The financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Rhodes

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Chair: Finance & General Purposes Committee Date: 11 June

# COUNCIL'S STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILIT THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATE

The Council is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements of Rhodes University. The consolidated financial statements, presented on pages 70 to 119, have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") in the manner required by the Minister of Higher Education & Training in terms of section 41 of the Higher Education Act, 1997 (Act No. 101 of 1997), as amended, and include amounts based on judgements and estimates made by management.

The Council also prepared the other information included in the Annual Report and is responsible for both its accuracy and consistency with the financial statements. The current viability of Rhodes University is supported by the consolidated financial statements.

The "going concern" basis has been adopted in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements. Based on forecasts and available cash resources, the Council has no reason to believe that the University will not be a "going concern" in the foreseeable future.

The consolidated financial statements have been audited by the independent audit firm, PricewaterhouseCoopers Inc, which was given unrestricted access to all financial records and related data, including minutes of meetings of the Council and all its committees.

The Council believes that all representations made to the independent auditors during their audit were valid and appropriate.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The consolidated financial statements on pages 70 to 119 were approved by the Council on 11 June 2020, and signed on its behalf by:

V D Kahla

**Chair of Council** 

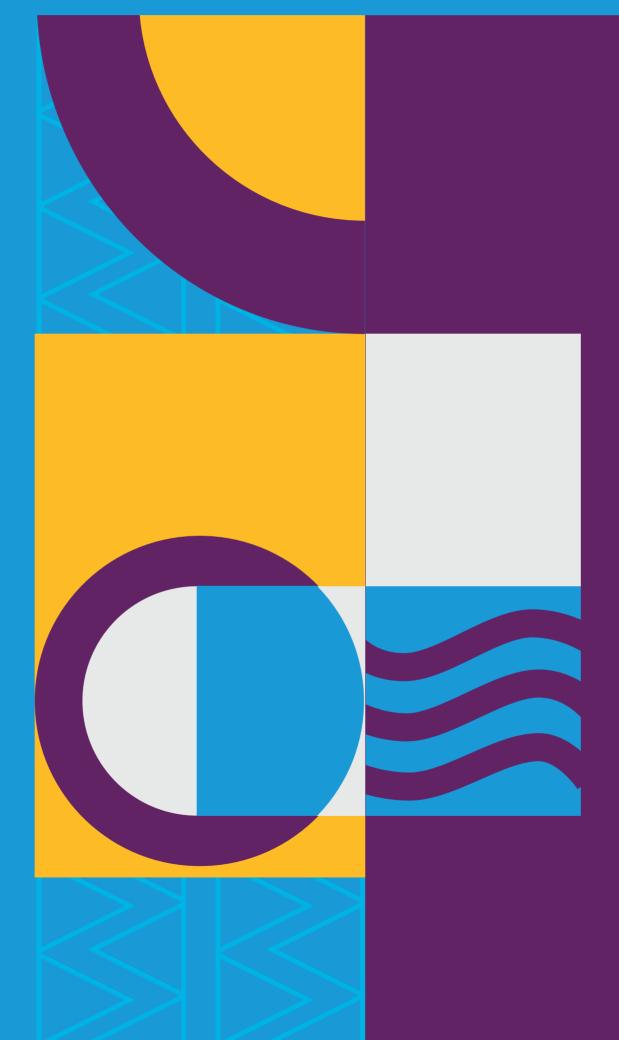


S Tredoux **Chair: Finance & General Purposes Committee** 

Dr S Mabizela Vice-Chancellor



# **2019 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REVIEW**



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### INDEPENDE

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# INDEPENDENT **AUDITOR'S REPORT**



### **REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

### Opinion

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of Rhodes University and its subsidiary (the University) set out on pages 70 to 119, which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2019, the consolidated statement of comprehensive income, consolidated statement of changes in equity, and consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended, as well as the notes to the consolidated financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of the University as at 31 December 2019, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of the Higher Education Act of South Africa, 1997 (Act No. 101 of 1997).

### **Basis for opinion**

Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those our other ethical responsibilities, as applicable in accordance standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities with the IRBA Codes and in accordance with other ethical for the audit of the consolidated financial statements section of requirements applicable to performing audits in South Africa. this auditor's report.

290 and 291 of the Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors' Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' International Code Code of professional conduct for Registered Auditors (Revised of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International January 2018), parts 1 and 3 of the Independent Regulatory Independence Standards) respectively. Board for Auditors' Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors (Revised November 2018) (together the IRBA Codes) We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and other independence requirements applicable to performing and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the International audits of financial statements in South Africa. We have fulfilled The IRBA Codes are consistent with the corresponding sections of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' We are independent of the University in accordance with section Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants and the International

pwc

PricewaterhouseCoopers Inc., Ascot Office Park, 1 Ascot Road, Greenacres, Port Elizabeth, 6045 P O Box 27013, Greenacres, 6057 T: +27 (0) 41 391 4400, F: +27 (0) 41 391 4500, www.pwc.co.za

Chief Executive Officer: L S Machaba The Company's principal place of business is at 4 Lisbon Lane, Waterfall City, Jukskei View, where a list of directors' names is available for inspection. Reg. no. 1998/012055/21, VAT reg.no. 4950174682.

### Responsibilities of the Council for the financial statements

The council is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from the requirements of the Higher Education Act of South Africa, material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to 1997 (Act No. 101 of 1997), and for such internal control as issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable the council determines is necessary to enable the preparation assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee of consolidated financial statements that are free from material that an audit conducted in accordance with the ISAs will always misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, the council individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected is responsible for assessing the University's ability to continue to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to of these consolidated financial statements. going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the appropriate governance structure either intends to A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the liquidate the University or to cease operations, or has no realistic consolidated financial statements is included in the annexure to alternative but to do so. this auditor's report.

### **REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT**

### Introduction and scope

In accordance with the Public Audit Act of South Africa, 2004 (Act No. 25 of 2004) (PAA) and the general notice issued in terms thereof, we have a responsibility to report material findings on the reported performance information against predetermined objectives for selected objectives presented in the annual report. We performed procedures to identify findings but not to gather evidence to express assurance.

Our procedures address the reported performance information. which must be based on the approved performance planning documents of the University. We have not evaluated the completeness and appropriateness of the performance indicators/ measures included in the planning documents. Our procedures did not examine whether the actions taken by the University enabled and contributed to the achievement of service delivery outcomes as planned. Our procedures also We performed procedures to determine whether the reported did not extend to any disclosures or assertions relating to performance information was properly presented and whether planned performance strategies and information in respect of performance was consistent with the approved performance future periods that may be included as part of the reported planning documents. performance information. Accordingly, our findings do not extend to these matters. We performed further procedures to determine whether the in-

We evaluated the usefulness and reliability of the reported assessed the reliability of the reported performance information performance information in accordance with the criteria to determine whether it was valid, accurate and complete. developed from the performance management and reporting framework, as defined in the general notice, for the following We did not raise any material findings on the usefulness and reselected objectives presented in the annual report of the liability of the reported performance information for the objec-University for the year ended 31 December 2019: tives mentioned above.

.....

### Achievement of planned targets

Refer to the annual performance report on pages 10 to 12 for information on the achievement of planned targets for the year.

### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the consolidated financial statements

detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if.

Objectives	Number of Representatives
Headcount totals	6
First-time entering undergraduates	6
Headcount enrolments total UG	6
Headcount enrolments total PG	6
Graduates UG	6
Graduates PG	7
Headcount of permanent I/R staff	7
Ratio of FTE students to FTE instructional/ research staff	8
Total research output units	8
Publication units per I/R staff	8

dicators and related targets were measurable and relevant, and

### **REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION**

### Introduction and scope

In accordance with the PAA and the general notice issued in terms thereof, we have a responsibility to report material findings on the compliance of the University with specific matters in key legislation. We performed procedures to identify findings but not to gather evidence to express assurance.

We did not raise material findings on compliance with the specific matters in key legislation set out in the general notice issued in terms of the PAA.

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

The council is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Rhodes In connection with our audit, our responsibility is to read the University Annual Report 2019. The other information does other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other not include the consolidated financial statements, the auditor's information is materially inconsistent with the consolidated report thereon and those selected objectives presented in the financial statements and the selected objectives presented in annual performance report that have been specifically reported the annual, or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise in this auditor's report.

Our opinion on the financial statements and findings on the If, based on the work we have performed, on the other information reported performance information and compliance with that we have obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, legislation do not cover the other information and we do not we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion information, we are required to report that fact. We have thereon.

appears to be materially misstated.

nothing to report in this regard.

### INTERNAL CONTROL DEFICIENCIES

We considered internal control relevant to our audit of the consolidated financial statements, reported performance information and compliance with applicable legislation; however, our objective was not to express any form of assurance on it. We did not identify any significant deficiencies in internal control.

### **OTHER REPORTS**

We draw attention to the following engagements conducted by Performance audits various parties that had, or could have, an impact on the matters reported in the University's financial statements, reported No performance audits in progress. performance information, compliance with applicable legislation and other related matters. These reports did not form part of Investigations our opinion on the financial statements or our findings on the reported performance information or compliance with legislation. No investigations in progress.

### Audit-related services and special audits

Agreed-upon procedures and special purpose audits on certificates were performed for grants, other funding and similar items. Below is a list of agreed-upon procedures engagements and special purpose audits performed or are in the process of being performed:

Engagement Name	Purpose of Engagement	Period Covered	Reporting Date
Department of Higher Education and Training : Statistical Data Return	Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation.	1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018	27 June 2019
Clinical Training Enrolments - 2017	Agreeing student data to underlying records and Financial data to contracts and supporting docu- mentation.	1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018	29 July 2019
Department of Higher Education and Training - Student Statistics	Performance of procedures required by the Depart- ment of Higher Education and Training relating to the HEMIS submission.	1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018	26 July 2019
Medical Research Council Grant	Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation.	1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019	25 February 2020
University Capacity Development Grant	Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation	1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019	25 February 2020
University Capacity Development Programme Collaborative Grant	Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation.	1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019	25 February 2020
Teaching Development Collaborative Programme Grant	Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation.	1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019	25 February 202
Investec Commerce Foundation Grant	Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation.	1 February 2019 to 31 January 2020	25 February 202
RUMEP – Rhodes University Maths Education Project Grant – Consolidation	Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation.	1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019	25 February 202
RUMEP – Rhodes University Anglo- gold Ashanti Social & Institutional Grant	Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation.	1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019	25 February 202
Eastern Cape Educational Trust	Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation.	1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019	25 February 202
Sishen Iron Ore Community Development Trust Grant	Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation.	1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019	25 February 202
Centre for Social Development – Grant	Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation.	1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019	25 February 202
HCI Foundation Grant	Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation.	1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019	25 February 2020
Heltasa University Staff Doctoral Programme (USDP) of the University Capacity Development Programme (UCDP) Collaborative Grant	Agreeing the interest received to supporting documentation.	1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019	25 February 202
National Research Foundation – NRF Grants	Agreeing of expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation.	1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019	4 March 2020
Rhodes University Law Clinic	Agreed the income for the period to the signed grant agreement and bank statements.	01 January 2019 to 30 September 2019	30 April 2020
Clinical Grant Funds of the Pharmacy Clinical Training Project	Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation.	1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020	26 May 2020

### Audit engagements

As required by the funding agreement, an audit was conducted during the year under review, as indicated below.

Engagement Name	Purpose of Engagement	Period Covered	Reporting Date
Rhodes University Sports Council	Report to stakeholders of the project whether, in our opinion, the annual project statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial perfor- mance of the project in accordance with the project agreement.	1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019	In progress
Rhodes University Board of Governors	Report to stakeholders of the project whether, in our opinion, the annual project statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial perfor- mance of the project in accordance with the project agreement.	1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019	In progress
PSAM – Public Service Accountability Monitor	Report to stakeholders of the project whether, in our opinion, the annual project statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial perfor- mance of the project in accordance with the project agreement.	1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019	In progress



Incewaterhoure Loopers Inc.

PricewaterhouseCoopers Inc. Director: A Rathan **Registered Auditor** Port Elizabeth Date: 11 June 2020

# **ANNEXURE – AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY** FOR THE AUDIT

As part of an audit in accordance with the ISAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout our audit of the consolidated financial statements, and the procedures performed on reported performance information for selected objectives and on the University's compliance with respect to the selected subject matters.

### **Financial statements**

In addition to our responsibility for the audit of the consolidated financial statements as described in this auditor's report, we also:

- · Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements whether due to fraud or Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to financial information of the entities or business activities within those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and the University to express an opinion on the consolidated appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the University audit. We not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve remain solely responsible for our audit opinion. collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Communication with those charged with governance
- · Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate an opinion on the effectiveness of the University's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related We also confirm to the council that we have complied with disclosures made by the council.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the council's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements. We also conclude, based on the audit and, where applicable, related safeguards. evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt

on the University's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements about the material uncertainty or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the opinion on the financial statements. Our conclusions are based on the information available to us at the date of this auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause a University to cease continuing as a going concern.

Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the council regarding, among other in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

> relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and communicate all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to have a bearing on our independence

### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AT 31 DECEMBER 2019

	Notes	2019 R ′000	2018 Restated R '000	2017 Restated R '000
ASSETS		K 000	K 000	R 000
Non-current assets		1,513,385	1,364,338	1,316,301
Property, plant and equipment	1	864,235	789,177	729,072
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive	-			
income	2a	181,232	177,055	-
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss	2b	465,429	395,686	-
Other financial assets at amortised cost	4	2,489	2,420	11,403
Available for sale financial assets		-	-	575,826
Current assets		929,948	751,915	493,764
Inventories	5	5,746	4,854	4,501
Trade receivables	3	40,998	28,679	27,556
Other financial assets at amortised cost	4	319,037	189,969	65,828
Cash and cash equivalents	6	552,323	528,413	366,060
Contract assets	11	11,844	-	-
Available for sale financial assets		-	-	29,819
				=,,,,,,
Total assets		2,443,333	2,116,253	1,810,065
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES				
Equity funds		1,373,578	1,149,895	1,119,901
Property plant and equipment funds		440,955	427,898	409,047
Council unrestricted funds		173,880	41,172	12,937
Council restricted funds		758,743	680,825	697,917
Non-current liabilities		136,934	178,379	114,078
Interest-bearing borrowings	8	2,003	330	65
Retirement benefit obligations	22	122,543	178,049	114,013
Lease liabilities	10	12,388	-	-
Current liabilities		932,821	787,979	576,086
Deferred income	7	687,303	574,012	420,920
Trade and other payables	9	180,934	157,193	154,814
Contract liabilities	11	63,303	56,284	-
Interest bearing borrowings	8	584	490	352
Lease liabilities	10	697	-	-
Total equity and liabilities		2,443,333	2,116,253	1,810,065



## **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019**

	Notes	Central operations	Student Accomm- odation	Endowed funds	SUB- TOTAL	Council Managed Funds	тот
		R'000	R'000	R'000	R'000	R'000	R'(
TOTAL INCOME		871,929	245,694	70,365	1,187,988	419,518	1,607,
RECURRENT ITEMS		864,260	240,729	26,366	1,131,355	395,003	1,526,
Revenue from contracts with customers		314,123	239,233	1,541	554,897	192,620	747,
Tuition and other fee income	11	312,396	224,242	-	536,638	56,369	593,
Income from contracts	11			-		53,502	53,
Sale of goods and services	11	712	14,991	-	15,703	11,300	27,
Private gifts and grants	11	1,015	-	1,541	2,556	71,449	74,
Other revenue		522,426	1,496		523,922	169,854	693,
State Appropriations - subsidies and grants	12	522,426	1,496	-	523,922	140,106	664,
Private gifts	12	-	-	-	-	29,748	29,
Sub-total		836,549	240,729	1,541	1,078,819	362,474	1,441,
Interest and dividends	13	27,711		24,825	52,536	32,529	85,
NON-RECURREN T ITEMS		7,669	4,965	43,999	56,633	24,515	81,
(Loss)/profit on disposal of assets		(259)	(19)	43,777	(278)	454	01,
Realised capital (losses)/profits on investment	2	(237)	(17)	(644)	(278)	454	(6
Investments Fair Value Adjustments	2		_	44,575	44,575		44,
Other non -recurrent income	14	7,928	4,984	68	12,980	24,061	37,
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		825,817	224,339	25,737	1,075,893	367,796	1,443,
RECURR ENT ITEMS	Γ	823,684	223,659	25,737	1,073,080	367,226	1,440,
Personnel costs	15	550,351	82,995		633,346	145,580	778,
Academic professional		285,398	_		285,398	62,057	347,
Other personnel		264,468	82,995	-	347,463	83,523	430,
Leave liability increase/(decrease)		485	-	-	485	-	
Other operating expenses	16	227,408	125,341	25,737	378,486	204,713	583,
NSFAS impairment		3,841	1,281	_	5,122	-	5,
Student deb tor provision		15,921	4,174	-	20,095	-	20,
Depreciation	1	25,957	8,832	-	34,789	16,933	51,
Sub-total		823,478	222,623	25,737	1,071,838	367,226	1,439,
Finance costs	17	206	1,036	-	1,242	-	1,
NON-RECURRENT ITEMS		2,133	680	_	2,813	570	3,
Capital expenditure expensed		2,133	680	_	2,813	570	3,
		2,100			2,010	0,0	37
Net Surplus		46,112	21,355	44,628	112,095	51,722	163,8
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME							
Retirement Funding Valu ation Adjustments	22	44,303	6,700	-	51,003	-	51,
Investments Fair Value Adjustments	2	_	-	8,728	8,728	-	8,
	_	00.445	20.055	57, 25 52, 257	474.00/	F4 700	000 0

90,415

28,055

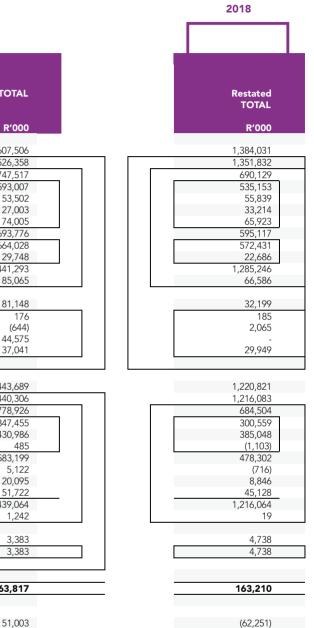
**Council Directed Funds 2019** 

53,356

51,722

171,826

TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME



(27,528)

73,431

	Unrestricted Accumulated Fund R'000	Unrestricted Endowment Fund R'000	Sub-total Unrestricted Funds R'000	Property, Plant and Equipment Fund R'000	Total Unrestricted Funds R'000	Restricted Endowment Fund R'000
Balance at 1.1.2018	(141,124)	154,061	12,937	409,047	421,984	401,797
Prior period adjustment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retirement funding valuation	(62,251)	-	(62,251)	-	(62,251)	-
Investment fair value adjustment	-	(7,843)	(7,843)	-	(7,843)	(19,685)
Net surplus before transfers	126,548	(3,057)	123,491	-	123,491	1,823
Funds utilised/written off Transfers	87	-	87	-	87	-
- Depreciation charge	15,808	-	15,808	(31,603)	(15,795)	-
- Property, plant and equipment additions	(41,057)	-	(41,057)	50,454	9,397	-
Balance at 31.12.2018	(101,989)	143,161	41,172	427,898	469,070	383,935
Balance at 1.1.2019	(101,989)	143,161	41,172	427,898	469,070	383,935
Retirement funding valuation adjustment	51,003	-		-	51,003	-
Investment fair value adjustment	-	1,972		-	1,972	6,756
Net surplus before transfers	67,467	10,085		-	77,552	34,543
Funds utilised/written off Transfers	135	-		-	135	-
- Depreciation charge	34,789	-		(40,331)	(5,542)	-
- Property, plant and equipment additions	(32,743)	-	(32,743)	53,388	20,645	-
Balance at 31.12.2019	18,662	155,218	173,880	440,955	614,835	425,234



Restricted Contract Fund R'000	Total Restricted Funds R'000	Total Funds R'000
296,120	697,917	1,119,901
(43,524)	(43,524)	(43,524)
-	-	(62,251)
-	(19,685)	(27,528)
37,896	39,719	163,210
-	-	87
15,795	15,795	-
(9,397)	(9,397)	-
296,890	680,825	1,149,895
296,890	680,825	1,149,895
-	-	51,003
-	6,756	8,728
51,722	86,265	163,817
-	-	135
5,542	5,542	-
(20,645)	(20,645)	-

# Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 December 2019

	Notes	2019 R ′000	Restated 2018 R '000
Cash flow from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	20	116,006	118,195
Interest received		60,240	43,381
Net cash inflow from operating activities		176,246	161,576
Cash flow from investing activities			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	1	(127,043)	(105,243)
Proceeds on disposal of property, plant and equipment		439	194
Dividends received	13	7,851	8,395
Interest received		16,974	14,810
Net increase in investments		(169,317)	(93,754)
(Advances)/repayments of student, staff and other loans		(4,957)	8,983
Infrastructure grants received	7	124,682	167,008
Net cash (outflow)/inflow in investing activities		(151,371)	393
Cash flow from financing activities			
Interest paid	17	(1,242)	(19)
Lease payments		(1,490)	-
Movement on interest-bearing borrowings		1,767	403
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from financing activities		(965)	384
Increase in cash and cash equivalents		23,910	162,353
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		528,413	366,060
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	6	552,323	528,413

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2019

# 1. Property, plant and equipment (Restated)

	Land and buildings R'000	Furniture and Equipment R'000	Computer Equipment R'000	Vehicles R'000	Library, museum and art collections R'000	Right of use Asset R'000	Total R'000
Year ended 31 December 2019							
Restated opening carrying amount	711,746	66,634	5,426	5,371	-	-	789,177
Additions	71,804	27,199	9,613	3,544	907	13,976	127,043
Disposals/transfers	-	(55)	(80)	(128)	-	-	(263)
Depreciation charge	(19,600)	(19,623)	(9,177)	(921)	(907)	(1,494)	(51,722)
Closing carrying amount	763,950	74,155	5,782	7,866	-	12,482	864,235
At 31 December 2019							
Cost or valuation	940,294	322,931	92,003	29,896	114,706	13,976	1,513,806
Accumulated depreciation	(176,344)	(248,776)	(86,221)	(22,030)	(114,706)	(1,494)	(649,571)
Carrying amount	763,950	74,155	5,782	7,866	-	12,482	864,235
Year ended 31 December 2018							
Restated opening carrying amount	653,118	66,400	4,501	5,053	-	-	729,072
Additions	77,322	18,375	6,678	1,587	1,281	-	105,243
Disposals/transfers	-	(10)	-	-	-	-	(10)
Depreciation charge	(18,694)	(18,131)	(5,753)	(1,269)	(1,281)	-	(45,128)
Restated closing carrying amount	711,746	66,634	5,426	5,371	-	-	789,177
At 31 December 2018							
Restated Cost or valuation	868,490	296,406	83,726	30,662	113,799	-	1,393,083
Restated Accumulated depreciation	(156,744)	(229,772)	(78,300)	(25,291)	(113,799)	-	(603,906)
Restated carrying amount	711,746	66,634	5,426	5,371	-	-	789,177

## 1. Property, plant and equipment (continued)

	31 Dec 2019 R'000	1 Jan 2019 R'000
Right of use assets are included as follows:		
- Canterbury Annex Building	11,636	12,694
- Motor vehicles	846	1,122
	12,482	13,816

Refer to the changes in accounting policies note for further details of the initial adoption of IFRS16. Additions to the right of use asset during 2019, amounted to R160.000.

The statement of profit or loss shows the following amounts relating to leases:	2019 R'000
Depreciation charge for right of use assets:	1,494
Right-of-use Asset: Canterbury Annex Building	1,058
Right-of-use Asset: Motor vehicles	437

Details of all fixed properties, owned or leased, are available for inspection at the University.

Property, plant and equipment under construction at year end includes the construction of the Education Department Building, Main Administration Building, Electrical Compliance and Botha House Projects. The total cumulative costs relating to the mentioned projects incurred at year end included in Work in Progress, amounts to R22.0 million.

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -**31 DECEMBER 2019**

## 2. Financial assets

(a) Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income

(i) Classification of financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI) comprise

Equity securities which are held for trading, and for which the University has irrevocably elected at initial recognition to recognise in this category. These are strategic investments and the University considers this classification to be the most appropriate.

## (ii) Equity investments at FVOCI

Equity investments at FVOCI comprise the following individual investments:

Non-current assets	2019 R'000	2018 R'000
	K 000	K 000
Listed securities		
Investec Portfolio	181,232	177,055
Total financial assets at FVOCI	181,232	177,055

#### (iii) Disposal of equity investments

During the financial year, the University disposed of certain equity investments at a fair value of R31 067 652 (2018: R57 426 635) and a realised loss of R3 087 209 (2018: R19 543 088 gain) which has been included in other comprehensive income.

### (iv) Amounts recognised in other comprehensive income

During the year, the following gains/(losses) were recognised in profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

(Losses)/gains recognised in other comprehensive income, due to the disposal instruments

Fair value gains/(losses) on equity instruments at FVOCI recognised Dividends from equity investments held at FVOCI recognised in profit or loss

(v) Fair value, impairment and risk exposure

Information about the University's exposure to price risk is provided in Note 25. For information about the methods and assumptions used in determining fair value, refer to page 82.

	2019 R'000	2018 R'000
al of equity	(3,088)	19,543
	11,816	(56,642)
in other income	7,851	8,395

#### Financial assets (continued) 2.

(b) Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss

(i) Classification of financial assets at fair value through profit and loss (FVPL) comprise

Debt investments that do not qualify for measurement at either amortised cost or FVOCI

## (ii) Debt investments at fair value through profit and loss

Debt investments at FVPL comprise the following investments in listed and unlisted bonds:

Non-current assets	2019 R'000	2018 R'000
Government bonds	131,692	123,514
International market unit trust	237,842	183,040
Money market deposits	95,895	89,132
Total financial assets at FVPL	465,429	395,686

## (iii) Disposal of debt investments

During the financial year, the University disposed of certain debt instruments at a fair value of R12 999 025 (2018: R98 961 050) and a realised loss of R644 158 (2018: R2 064 747 gain) which has been included in profit or loss.

## (iv) Amounts recognised in profit or loss

During the year, the following gains/(losses) were recognised in profit or loss:	2019 R'000	2018 R'000
(Losses)/gains recognised in profit or loss, due to the disposal of debt instruments	(644)	2,065
Fair value gains on debt instruments at FVPL recognised	44,575	9,571

## (v) Fair value, impairment and risk exposure

Information about the University's exposure to price risk is provided in Note 25. For information about the methods and assumptions used in determining fair value, refer to page 82.

Of the above investments, an amount of R170.3 million (2018: R158.0 million) relates to Council directed funds.

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -**31 DECEMBER 2019**

## 2. Financial assets (continued)

The following table presents the University's investments that are measured at fair value at 31 December 2019.

	Level 1 R'000	Level 2 R'000	Level 3 R'000	Total balance R'000
Assets				
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI)				
Equity securities	181,232	-	-	181,232
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (FVPL)				
- Government bonds	131,692	-	-	131,692
- International market unit trusts	237,842	-	-	237,842
- Money market deposits	95,895	-	-	95,895
Financial assets at amortised cost (Note 4)	-	262,019	-	262,019
Total assets	646,661	262,019	-	908,680

## The following table presents the University's investments that are measured at fair value at 31 December 2018.

	Level 1 R'000	Level 2 R'000	Level 3 R'000	Total balance R'000
Assets				
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI)				
- Equity securities	177,055			177,055
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (FVPL)				
- Government bonds	123,514	-	-	123,514
- International market unit trusts	183,040	-	-	183,040
- Money market deposits	89,132	-		89,132
Financial assets at amortised cost (Note 4)	-	119,616	-	119,616
Total assets	572,741	119,616	-	692,357

# 2. Financial assets (continued)

## **Recognised fair value measurements**

The fair value of financial instruments traded in active markets is based on quoted market prices at the reporting date. A market is regarded as active if guoted prices are readily and regularly available from an exchange, dealer, broker, industry group, pricing services, or regulatory agency, and those prices represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's-length basis. The quoted market price used for financial assets held by the University is the bid price at year-end. These instruments are included in level 1.

The fair value of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market is determined by using valuation techniques. These valuation techniques maximise the use of observable market data where it is available and rely as little as possible on entity specific estimates. If all significant inputs required to fair value an instrument are observable, the instrument is included in level 2.

If one or more of the significant inputs is not based on observable market data, the instrument is included in level 3.

Specific valuation techniques used to value financial instruments include:

- Quoted market prices or dealer quotes for similar instruments.

- Other techniques, such as discounted cash flow analysis, are used to determine fair value for the remaining financial instruments.

## 3. Trade receivables

	2019	2018
	R'000	R'000
Trade receivables	135,998	103,658
Loss allowance	(95,000)	(74,979)
	40,998	28,679

Trade receivables are amounts due from students in the ordinary course of the University's business.

The University holds these trade receivables with the objective to collect the contractual cash flows and therefore measures them subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Details about the University's impairment policies and the calculation of the loss allowance are provided in note 25.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -**31 DECEMBER 2019**

# 4. Other financial assets at amortised cost

## Classification

- The University classifies receivables (Financial Assets) as at amortised cost only if both of the following criteria are met:
- The asset is held within a business model whose objective is to collect the contractual cash flows, and
- The contractual terms give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest.

Other receivables	2019	2018
	R'000	R'000
Fixed deposits	262,019	119,616
Prepayments	18,971	17,350
NRF Control account	6,057	13,430
NSFAS	-	14,013
Accrued interest receivable	15,449	9,363
Receiver of revenue - VAT	4,000	3,000
Water research control account	621	616
Other	14,152	12,581
	321,269	189,969
Less Loss allowance	(2,232)	-
	319,037	189,969

Other receivables are monies due from reputable institutions for various grants, projects and auxiliary activities of the University in accordance with relevant contractual agreements. Due to the nature of these receivables and based on the loss allowance assessments performed, there is no exposure to credit risk and therefore the expected credit loss rate is 0% with the exception of three debtors who are fully provided for.

Of the R262.0 million fixed deposits, an amount of R184.0 million comprises restricted funds with the balance of R78.0 million being Council directed funds.

Loans	2019	2018
	R'000	R'000
Student Loans – NSFAS	110,391	110,525
Loss allowance	(110,391)	(110,525)
		-
Student Loans - Other	24,032	18,750
Loans to employees	2,348	2,563
	26,380	21,313
Less: Loss allowance	(23,891)	(18,893)
	2,489	2,420
Other receivables	319,037	189,969
Loans	2,489	2,420
	321,526	192,389
Non-current	2,489	2,420
Current	319,037	189,969
Other financial assets at amortised cost	321,526	192,389

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## 5. Inventories

	2019	2018
	R'000	R'000
Stationery	211	228
Technical inventories	2,771	2,284
Cleaning material and foodstuffs	2,205	1,850
Study material	559	492
	5,746	4,854

## 6. Cash and cash equivalents

R'000	5/000
	R'000
100,069	57,321
452,254	471,092
552,323	528,413
231,155	303,445
142,731	153,536
178,437	71,432
552,323	528,413
	452,254 552,323 231,155 142,731 178,437

For the purpose of the cash flow statement, the year-end cash and cash

equivalents comprise the following:

Cash and bank balances	552,323	528,413

Cash and cash equivalents are invested with major regulated financial institutions in South Africa.

The credit quality of cash at bank and short term deposits, excluding cash on hand, were all rated as zaA-1+ as at 31 December 2019.

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2019

# 7. Deferred income

As at 1 January
Net increase in deferred income
Government grants received - Infrastructure
Realised in comprehensive income

As at 31 December

Deferred income represents mainly the building and infrastructure upgrade funding received from the Department of Higher Education and Training. Where funds received have been utilised for capital projects, the cost of the asset has been recognised in property, plant and equipment.

Where funds have been utilised to defray related expenses, which do not qualify for capitalisation, income is recognised as the expenses are incurred. Unspent amounts are disclosed under current liabilities, as deferred income.

## 8. Interest-bearing borrowings

Current portion of borrowings Non-current portion of borrowings

Total borrowings

The finance obtained under the instalment sale agreement is to purchase vehicles and trucks. The facility is secured against vehicles with a net book value of R2.0 million (2018: Rnil).

The outstanding amount is to be settled within 60 months, with payments being made monthly in arears with an interest cost linked to the prime rate. The prime rate at the time the agreement was entered into was 10.25%.

Interest rates

Minimum lease payments

Not later than 1 year Later than 1 year, not later than 5 years

Future finance charges Present value of borrowings

2019 R'000	Restated 2018 R'000
574,012	420,920
113,291	153,092
124,682	167,008
(11,391)	(13,916)
687,303	574,012

2019 R'000	2018 R'000
584	490
2,003	330
2,587	820

10.50%	10.00%
10.50%	10.00 %
584	494
2,044	494 402
2,628	896
(41)	(76)
2,587	820

# 9. Trade and other payables

	2019	2018
	R'000	R'000
Trade and other payables	47,770	47,585
Student deposits	59,667	80,056
NSFAS	26,593	843
DHET – fee adjustment funding	13,656	-
Leave pay accrual	9,375	8,890
Payroll accruals	23,873	19,819
	180,934	157,193

The fair value of trade and other payables approximates the carrying amounts as the majority of trade and other payables are non-interest bearing and are normally settled within agreed terms with creditors.

## 10. Leases

This note provides information for leases where the University is the lessee. Refer to change in accounting policy note 1.1 for detailed movement disclosure for the lease liability.

## (i) Amounts recognised in the statement of financial position

	31 Dec 2019 R'000	01 Jan 2019 R'000
- Canterbury Annex Building	11,636	12,694
- Motor vehicles	846	1,122
	12,482	13,816
Lease Liabilities		
Non-Current	12,388	12,852
Current	697	662
	13,085	13,514

Additions to the right of use asset during the 2019 year amounted to R160,000.

## (ii) Amounts recognised in the statement of comprehensive income

	2019 R'000
Depreciation charge for right of use assets:	1,494
Right-of-use Asset: Canterbury Annex Building	1,057
Right-of-use Asset: Motor vehicles	437
Interest expense:	1,060
Canterbury Annex Building	1,036
Motor vehicles	24

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2019

## 10. Leases (continued)

	2019	
	R'000	
Expense relating to low value leases:	168	
Expense relating to short term leases:	221	

## (iii) The lease details

The University's leasing activities consists of a number of property leases. The use of the buildings ranges from the housing of students for domestic use to the housing of different faculty departments.

The Canterbury Annex Building has a lease term of 10 years with an option for renewal of an additional 10 years at the end of the original lease term. The renewal option was taken into account in determining the lease liability to be recognised on adoption of IFRS 16.

The lease rental escalations are dependent on the increase in residence fees each year and an estimation was made to determine lease rentals for future periods.

## (iv) Lease Liability Maturity Analysis

Not Later than 1 year
Later than 1 year not later than 5 years
Later than 5 years

The above maturity analysis indicates the lease capital commitments which the University is liable for contractually in terms of the current lease agreements.

2019 R'000	
1,992	
8,180	
11,675	
21,847	

## 11. Revenue from contracts with customers

Revenue is recognised when control of goods or services are transferred to the customer.

The University derives revenue from the transfer of goods and services over time and at a point in time in the following streams of revenue:

(a) Disaggregated revenue from contracts with customers:	2019 R'000	2018 R'000
Tuition and other fee income	593,007	535,153
Income from contracts	53,502	55,839
Private gifts and grants	74,005	65,923
Sale of goods and services	27,003	33,214
	747,517	690,129

Tuition and other income has been further disaggregated as follows:

	South African Non-NSFAS funded Students R'000	South African NSFAS funded Students R'000	International Students R'000	Total R'000
2019	275,772	234,954	82,281	593,007
2018	274,495	179,541	81,117	535,153

The above table reflects the composition of local and international students during 2019 and 2018, along with the funding status of South African students.

The National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS), funded 39.6% (2018: 33.5%) of student fees. Revenue from international students decreased by 1.3%, representing 13.9% (2018: 15.2%) of total tuition and other income.

(b) Recognised as revenue from contracts with customers over time:	2019 R'000	2018 R′000
Tuition and other fee income	593,007	535,153
Income from contracts	53,502	55,839
Private gifts and grants	74,005	65,923
Sale of goods and services	25,459	31,406
	745,973	688,321

Recognised as revenue from contracts with customers at a point in time:

Sale of good and services	1,544	1,808
	1,544	1,808

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -**31 DECEMBER 2019**

# **11.Revenue from contracts with customers (continued)**

## (c) Contract Liabilities

The University has recognised the following liabilities related to contracts with customers:

Contract Liabilities	
Significant changes in the balance for contract liabil	ities:
Opening balance as 1 January 2019	
Movement during the year:	
Funding received in relation to contracts from custo	

Revenue recognised for which performance obligations have been satisfied Closing balance at 31 December 2019

#### (d) Contract Assets

The University has recognised the following assets related to contracts with customers:

Contract Assets

Significant changes in the balance for contract assets:

Opening balance as 1 January 2019

#### Movement during the year:

Funding received in relation to contracts from customers Revenue recognised for which performance obligations have been satisfied Closing balance at 31 December 2019

The contract assets relate to the University's right to consideration for work completed/ performance obligations satisfied but for which no funding was received at the reporting date.

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2019 R'000	2018 R'000
63,303	56,284
 63,303	56,284
56,284	43,524
30,405	22,087
(23,386)	(9,327)
 (2.202	
63,303	56,284

11,844	-
11,844	-
-	-
(12,403)	-
24,247	-
11,844	-

# 12. Other revenue is made up of

	2019	2018
	R'000	R'000
Donations	29,748	22,686
State appropriations, subsidies and grants	664,028	572,431
	693,776	595,117

State Appropriations - grants and subsidies are made up as follows:		Restated
	2019 R'000	2018 R′000
Subsidy – block grant	522,426	450,396
Specific grants – research	130,211	108,119
DHET infrastructure grants released	11,391	13,916
	664,028	572,431

# **13. Income from investments**

	2019 R'000	2018 R'000
Interest income	77,214	58,191
Dividend income	7,851	8,395
	85,065	66,586

# 14. Other non-recurrent income

	2019 R'000	2018 R′000
South East Academic Libraries Systems operating costs levy income	2,828	2,576
South East Academic Libraries Systems millennium income	3,820	3,217
Board of Governors administration levy	3,667	3,570
Student vacation accommodation	4,639	2,443
Information and Technology System student sales	4,357	4,226
Insurance claims	3,803	631
Other sources	13,927	13,286
	37,041	29,949

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2019

## 15. Personnel

Academic professional		
Other personnel		
Leave liability		
Louro naomej		

# 16. Other operating expenses

The following items have been included in recurrent expenditure:

Advertising
Audit - external
Approved audit fees
Adjustment for previous year
Other services
Audit - internal
Books, journals and periodicals
Catering and entertainment
electricity and water
expenditure on computer equipment written off
Cleaning costs and materials
Rates
Repairs and maintenance expenditure
Residence kitchen supplies
Scholarship, bursaries and merit awards
SEALS Trust software fees
Security
Skills Development Levies
oftware licences and internet expenses
elephone and fax
ravel and accommodation

# 17. Finance costs

Interest expense

2019 R′000	2018 R'000
347,455	300,559
430,986	385,048
485	(1,103)
778,926	684,504

2019	2018
R'000	R'000

2,564	3,196
1,883	2,085
850	674
40	295
993	1,116
810	838
24,881	19,671
8,159	5,691
34,833	23,228
1,344	236
4,214	5,165
14,688	13,496
28,989	22,104
41,832	40,807
119,241	108,635
4,049	3,637
5,719	5,667
5,633	4,650
9,050	10,942
2,452	2,535
52,936	48,396

2019	2018
R'000	R'000
1,242	19

## 18. Commitments

2019 R'000	2018 R'000
167,190	338,257
15,765	12,872
182,995	351,129
27,104	33,369
210,059	384,498
	R'000           167,190           15,765           182,995           27,104

Capital expenditure commitments will be financed through funds specifically designated for the projects and infrastructure grants from the Department of Higher Education. At 31 December 2019, significant commitments relate to the Botha House Project, Electrical Maintenance: Building Compliance Certificates, Electrical Maintenance: Medium Voltage Reticulation Upgrades, Bioscience Project, Education Project and the Main Administration Project.

## 19. Contingent liabilities

	2019 R'000	2018 R'000
Surety Guarantees - Contingent liability		
Surety guarantee over motor vehicle and other loans financing scheme granted to staff by financial institutions.	2	400

## 20. Cash generated from operations

	2019 R'000	Restated 2018 R'000
Reconciliation of net surplus to cash generated from operations:		
Net surplus before transfers	163,817	163,210
Prior year adjustment	-	(43,524)
Adjustments for non-cash items:		
Depreciation	51,722	45,128
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	(176)	(185)
Loss/(profit) on investments	644	(2,065)
Fair value gain of investments	(44,575)	-
NSFAS impairment	5,122	(716)
Student debtor impairment	20,095	8,846
Movement in retirement benefit obligation	(4,719)	1,785
Interest received	(77,214)	(58,191)
Dividends received	(7,851)	(8,395)
Interest paid	1,242	19
DHET infrastructure grants released	(11,391)	(13,916)
Changes in working capital	19,290	26,199
Trade receivables and other financial assets at amortised costs	1,266	24,174
Inventories	(892)	(353)
Trade and other payables	23,741	2,378
Contract assets	(11,844)	-
Contract liabilities	7,019	-
Cash generated from operations	116,006	118,195

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2019

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# 21. Compensation paid to Executive Personnel

The following disclosures relate to compensation paid to executive management for the year ended 31 December 2019. The amounts reflected below are based on the total cost of employment to the University and comprise flexible remuneration packages. The following are key management:

	Office held	Basic salary R'000	Employment benefits R'000	Other allowances/ payments R'000	Total cost to Rhodes University R'000
Dr S Mabizela	Vice-Chancellor	2,512	622	54	3,188
Dr P Clayton	Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research & Development	1,885	340	105	2,330
Dr C Boughey	Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Academic & Student Affairs (Jan to Jun 2019)	812	457	-	1,269
Dr M Monnapula- Mapesela	Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Academic & Student Affairs (Jul to Dec 2019)	972	154	11	1,137
Dr A Moodley	Registrar	1,396	240	22	1,658
Dr I L'Ange	Executive Director: Infrastructure Operations & Finance	1,673	294	5	1,972

The following disclosures relate to compensation paid to executive management for the year ended 31 December 2018. The amounts reflected below are based on the total cost of employment to the University and comprise flexible remuneration packages. The following are key management:

	Office held	Basic salary R'000	Employment benefits R'000	Other allowances/ payments R'000	Total cost to Rhodes University R'000
Dr S Mabizela	Vice-Chancellor	2,358	583	50	2,991
Dr P Clayton	Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research & Development	1,755	312	120	2,187
Dr C Boughey	Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Academic & Student Affairs	1,830	312	-	2,142
Dr A Moodley	Registrar	1,309	206	22	1,537
Dr I L'Ange	Executive Director: Infrastructure, Operations & Finance	1,572	275	-	1,847

## 22. Retirement benefit obligations

The University operates a defined benefit pension fund as well as two defined contribution provident funds. These funds are separately administered and managed in terms of the Pension Funds Act.

The responsibility for governance and management of the defined benefit pension fund lies with the trustees. The trustees engage professional pension fund administrators to assist them in discharging their responsibilities. In managing the Fund, the trustees take into consideration the latest statutory valuation performed in terms of the Pension Fund Act and recommendations made by the actuaries.

For the purposes of the preparation of these financial statements, the retirement obligations are required to be valued in terms of IAS19R Employee Benefits. In terms of IAS19R, a different actuarial valuation method and assumptions are used, compared to the statutory valuation.

The University also provides post-retirement healthcare benefits to retirees employed by the institution prior to 1991. The entitlement to this benefit is based on the employee remaining in service up to retirement age and the completion of a minimum service period. The obligation is also valued in terms of IAS 19R Employee Benefits.

	2019	2018
	R'000	R'000
Statement of financial position obligations for:		
- pension benefits	49,180	113,513
- post-retirement medical benefits	73,363	64,536
	122,543	178,049
Total income / expenditure charge for:		
- pension benefits	(32,929)	(27,664)
- post-retirement medical benefits	(6,204)	(6,416)
	(39,133)	(34,080)
Recognised in other comprehensive income:		
- pension benefits	59,464	(63,038)
- post-retirement medical benefits	(8,461)	787
	51,003	(62,251)

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2019

# 22. Retirement benefit obligations (continued)

#### **Pension benefits**

The defined benefit pension fund is valued by independent actuaries on an annual basis using the Projected Unit Credit method.

The latest actuarial valuation of the pension fund was performed on 31 December 2019.

This plan is registered under the Pension Fund Act. The assets of this fund are held independently of the University's assets in a separate trustee-administered fund.

The plan is a final average salary pension plan which provides benefits to members in the form of a guaranteed level of pension, payable for life. The level of benefits provided depends on the member's length of service and their salary in the final year prior to retirement. The plan is governed by local regulations and practices of the Financial Services Board as well as the Pension Fund Act of South Africa. There were no financial significant rule amendments, curtailments or settlements during the year under review.

The fund is required by law to maintain a funding level of at least 100%. A statutory valuation is conducted every three years to confirm the fund's financial soundness. An interim valuation is conducted annually.

The amounts recognised in the statement of financial position are as follows:
Present value of funded obligations
Fair value of plan assets
Funded status
Unrecognised surplus due to surplus apportionment legislation
Liability at year end
The movement in the defined benefit obligation over the year is as follows:

Beginning of the year Current service cost Interest cost Member contributions Remeasurements gain Benefits paid Administration costs and risk premiums

End of the year

2019 R'000	2018 R'000
K 000	K 000
1,008,746	998,776
(959,566)	(885,263)
49,180	113,513
-	-
49,180	113,513
998,776	986,846
20,726	21,405
99,800	97,244
14,911	14,030
(36,819)	(43,533)
(85,839)	(74,780)
 (2,809)	(2,436)
 1,008,746	998,776

## 22. Retirement benefit obligations (continued)

The gain on the defined benefit obligation is largely as a result of the following:

- Change in statutory minimum benefits;
- Change in economic assumptions;
- Lower than expected pension increases;
- Higher than expected salary increases; - Demographic experience; and
- Other miscellaneous items.

2019 R'000	2018 R′000

Beginning of the year	885,263	937,234
Interest	87,597	90,985
Employer contributions	37,798	26,801
Employee contributions	14,911	14,030
Benefits paid	(85,839)	(74,780)
Risk premium	(2,809)	(2,436)
Remeasurement gain/(loss)	22,645	(106,571)
End of the year	959,566	885,263

The net actuarial gain on the fair value of plan assets arose as a result of the actual returns on the assets being higher than the calculated interest income on assets.

Net effect of the valuation in the income statement		
Current service costs	(20,726)	(21,405)
Net interest expense	(12,203)	(6,259)
Total, included in staff costs expense	(32,929)	(27,664)

(59,464)

63,038

## Amount to be recognised in other comprehensive income

Current year (gain)/loss

Plan assets, as set out in the actuarial valuation, are comprised as follows:

Cash	5.2%	5.7%
Equities	32.8%	34.3%
Bonds	23.9%	24.2%
Property	2.2%	2.3%
International	31.9%	29.5%
Other	4.0%	4.0%
	100.0%	100.0%

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2019

# 22. Retirement benefit obligations (continued)

## Pension benefits (continued):

## Analysis of remeasurements

#### Defined benefit obligation:

Remeasurement gain due to change in financial assumptions Remeasurement gain due to experience adjustment

#### Plan assets:

Remeasurement gain/(loss): Return on plan assets, not included in interest income above

The principal actuarial assumptions used were as follows:	
Discount rate	
Future salary increases	
Future pension increases	
Inflation rate	
Interest income on assets	

## Mortality Rate:

Pre-retirement: SA85-90 (Light) table Post-retirement: PA(90) ultimate table rated down 1 year plus 0.5% improvement per annum from 31 December 2013.

#### Sensitivity analysis

Sensitivity analysis looks at the effect of deviations in the key valuation assumptions and other implicit valuation assumptions. The effect of changes in the key valuation assumptions to the defined benefit obligation is as follows:

Assumption	Change	Defined benefit obligation R'000	% change
Salary increase rate	1% increase	(1,025,054)	4.6%
Salary increase rate	1% decrease	(1,003,307)	-4.0%
Discount rate	1% increase	(969,415)	-10.5%
Discount rate	1% decrease	(1,088,962)	12.8%
Pension increase rate	1% increase	(1,058,866)	8.2%
Pension increase rate	1% decrease	(970,466)	-7.1%
Life expectancy	2 years increase	(1,059,494)	5.0%
Life expectancy	2 years decrease	(961,703)	-4.7%

2019	2018
R'000	R'000
(17,916)	(23,303)
(10.000)	(0.0.000)
 (18,903)	(20,230)
 (36,819)	(43,533)
22,645	(106,571)
10.2%	10.1%
6.6%	7.0%
3.4%	3.6%
5.6%	6.0%
10.2%	10.1%

## 22. Retirement benefit obligations (continued)

## Pension benefits (continued):

The RU Pension Fund valuations reflected in these annual financial statements are arrived at in compliance with IAS19. The Trustees of the Pension Fund, whilst mindful of these IAS19 valuations, manage the fund with reference to the valuations undertaken by the Fund's statutory actuary, whose valuations are subject to scrutiny by the Financial Services Board. The most recent such valuation reflected the fund as fully funded.

The Trustees of the pension fund take into account the following employer risks in the management of the fund:

- Inflation: The risk that future CPI inflation to which salary increases and pension increases are linked is higher than expected and uncontrolled.
- Longevity: The risk that pensioners live longer than expected and thus their pension benefit is payable for long than expected.
- Open-ended, long-term liability: The risk that the liability may be volatile in future and uncertain.
- Future changes in legislation: The risk that changes to legislation with respect to the post-employment liability may increase the liability for the University.
- Future changes in the tax environment: The risk that changes in the tax legislation governing employee benefits may increase the liability for the University.
- Administration: Administration of this liability poses a burden to the University.

Expected contributions and benefit payments for the period 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020:

	R'000
Administration costs	(1,488)
Risk premiums	(1,492)
Member contributions	15,294
University contributions*	76,513
Benefit payments	(43,313)
	45,514

\*This includes the additional contributions due by the University to alleviate the deficit in the fund.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -**31 DECEMBER 2019** 

# 22. Retirement benefit obligations (continued)

## Post-employment medical benefits

The University provides post-retirement medical benefits to certain qualifying employees in the form of continued medical aid contributions. Entitlement to this benefit is based on the employee being employed by the University prior to 1991, remaining in service up to retirement age and completing a minimum service period. This unfunded defined benefit liability in respect of this obligation is valued by independent actuaries annually using the Projected Unit Credit method. This liability was valued at 31 December 2019. The plan is registered under the Medical Schemes Act. The plan is governed by a Board of Trustees.

The amounts recognised in the statement of financial position are determined follows:

Present value of unfunded medical benefit obligations

The movement in the liability over the year is as follows: Beginning of the year Current service cost Interest cost Benefits paid Remeasurement due to changes in financial assumptions Remeasurement due to experience adjustment End of the year

The amounts recognised in total income/expenditure are as follows:

Current service cost Interest cost Total included in personnel costs

Remeasurement loss /(gain) recognised in the statement of comprehensive inc

	2019	2018
	R'000	R'000
d as		
	73,363	64,536
	64,536	64,401
	300	323
	5,904	6,093
	(5,838)	(5,494)
	7,919	(3,753)
	542	2,966
	73,363	64,536
	(300)	(323)
	(5,904)	(6,093)
	(6,204)	(6,416)
	(0,204)	(0,410)
come	8,461	(787)

## 22. Retirement benefit obligations (continued)

## Post-employment medical benefits (continued):

## Sensitivity analysis

Sensitivity analysis looks at the effect of deviations in the key valuation assumptions and other implicit valuation assumptions. The effect of changes in the key valuation assumptions to the defined benefit obligation is as follows:

Assumption	Change	Defined benefit Obligation R'000	% change
Health care inflation	1% increase	80,032	9.1%
Health care inflation	1% decrease	67,569	-7.9%
Discount rate	1% increase	67,462	-8.0%
Discount rate	1% decrease	80,268	9.4%
Expected retirement age	1 year older	73,426	0.1%
Expected retirement age	1 year younger	73,972	0.8%
Withdrawal tables	0% - 15% p.a.	73,398	0.05%

Membership data:	2019 R′000	2018 R′000
Employed members (in service)	32	36
Retired members	257	262
Total number of eligible members	289	298

## The principal actuarial assumptions used were as follows.

Interest rate	9.3%	9.6%
Healthcare cost inflation	6.9%	5.8%
CPI inflation rate	4.9%	5.8%
Net discount rate as prescribed	4.2%	3.6%
Salary inflation rate	6.4%	7.3%
Duration used to set assumptions	9.2 years	9.4 years

### Mortality rate:

During employment: SA 85/90 (Lite)

Post-employment: PA (90) ultimate life tables less than 1 year age adjustment with an improvement of 0.5% per annum from 2007 onwards.

There are several risks faced by Rhodes University as a result f the post-employment healthcare obligation and can be summarised as follows:

- Inflation: The risk that future CPI inflation to which salary increases and pension increases are linked is higher than expected and uncontrolled.

- Longevity: The risk that pensioners live longer than expected and thus their pension benefit is payable for long than expected.

- Open-ended, long-term liability: The risk that the liability may be volatile in future and uncertain.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -**31 DECEMBER 2019**

# 22. Retirement benefit obligations (continued)

## Post-employment medical benefits (continued):

- Future changes in legislation: The risk that changes to legislation with respect to the post-employment liability may increase the
- liability for Rhodes University. - Future changes in the tax environment: The risk that changes in the tax legislation governing employee benefits may increase the liability for Rhodes University.
- Perceived inequality by non-eligible employees: The risk of dissatisfaction of employees who are not eligible for a post employment healthcare subsidy.
- Administration: Administration of this liability poses a burden to Rhodes University.
  - Enforcement of eligibility criteria and rules: The risk that eligibility criteria and rules are not strictly or consistently enforced.

Expected components of defined benefit cost for the period 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020.

Interest cost Current service costs Benefit payments

## 23. Related parties

The Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) is considered to be a related party. The DHET is considered to exert significant influence over the University. Refer to note 12 for details of state appropriations received and note 7 for details of grants received for building and infrastructure funding.

R'000
6,523
317
(6,116)
724

## 24. Financial instruments by category

The financial assets and liabilities of the University are classified as follows

	2019 R′000	2018 R'000
Financial assets		
Financial assets at amortised cost		
- Trade receivables	40,998	28,679
- Other financial assets at amortised cost	298,555	172,036
- Cash and cash equivalents	552,323	528,413
	891,876	729,128
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI)	181,232	177,055
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss (FVPL)	465,429	395,686
Financial liabilities		
Liabilities at amortised cost		
- Interest bearing borrowings	2,587	820
- Trade and other payables	180,934	157,192
Lease liabilities	13,085	-
	196,606	158,012

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2019

## 25. Financial risk management

### Fair value estimations

For more information about the methods and assumptions used in determining the fair value of financial instruments, refer to note 2.

## **Financial risk factors**

The University's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks: market risk (including currency risk and interest rate risk), credit risk and liquidity risk. The University's overall risk management processes focus on the unpredictability of financial markets and seek to minimise potential adverse effects on the University's financial performance.

Day to day risk management is the responsibility of management and staff of the University and is achieved through compliance with the documented policies and procedures of the University. All such policies and procedures are approved by Council or an appropriately mandated sub-committee of Council.

### (a) Market risk

(i) Foreign exchange risk

Foreign exchange risk arises from transactions which are denominated in a currency which is not the University's functional currency. The University has no significant foreign exchange exposure and therefore no formal policy is in place to manage foreign currency risk.

The only area where the University is exposed to foreign exchange risk at financial position date is in the non-current investments which include international market unit trusts which are exposed to the US dollar. The impact of a 5% increase/decrease in exchange rates with all other variables held constant on the valuation of the international asset swaps at reporting date would be R11.8 million (2018: R9.1 million) higher/lower.

(ii) Price risk

The University is exposed to equity securities price risk because of investments held by the University. The University is not exposed to commodity price risk. To manage its price risk arising from investments in equity shares, the University diversifies its portfolio. Diversification of the portfolio is done in accordance with the limits set by the Investment Committee of the Rhodes University Foundation.

At 31 December 2019, if the FTSW/JSE CPI index increases/decreases by 10% with all other variables held constant and all the University's equity instruments moved according to the historical correlation with the index, the market value of the listed equities would have been R18.1 million (2018 : R17.7 million) higher/lower. Due to the unpredictability of equity market returns, a general indicative percentage of 10% is used to highlight the changes in market value on equity investments.

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# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2019

## 25. Financial risk management (continued)

## (b) Market risk (continued)

(iii) Interest rate risk

The University is exposed to interest rate risk due to financial assets and liabilities bearing variable interest rates. Interest rate risk is managed by ensuring that the University's assets are invested in accounts which earn the best possible interest rates.

## (c) Credit risk

## Trade receivables

The University has applied IFRS 9 to measure its expected credit losses (ECL).

To measure the expected credit losses, trade receivables have been grouped based on shared credit risk characteristics. The expected loss rates are based on the payment profiles of outstanding student fees, over a period of 36 months before 31 December 2019 and the corresponding historical credit losses experienced within this period. The historical loss rates are adjusted to reflect current and forward looking information.

On this basis, the loss allowance as at 31 December 2019 and 31 December 2018 was determined as follows:

31 December 2019	Total:
Expected Credit Loss rate	70%
Gross carrying amount – Trade receivables	R135,998,000
Loss Allowance	R 95,000,000

Risk categories	Amounts outstanding at year end 2019 R'000	Loss rate applied	Expected credit loss R'000
SA Graduating (non NSFAS)	16,853	46%	7,752
SA Returning (non NSFAS)	41,958	65%	27,287
SA non registered (non NSFAS)	41,097	90%	37,097
International Graduating	2,337	80%	1,875
International Returning	7,963	70%	5,583
International non registered	6,771	100%	6,771
SA Graduating (NSFAS)	3,813	47%	1,792
SA Returning (NSFAS)	15,206	45%	6,843
IFRS 9 lifetime ECL: Year end	135,998	<b>70</b> %	95,000

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2019

# 25. Financial risk management (continued)

## (c) Credit risk (continued)

## Trade receivables (continued)

## 31 December 2018

Expected Credit Loss rate Gross carrying amount – Trade receivables Loss Allowance

Ageing buckets	Amounts outstanding at year end 2018 R'000	Loss rate applied	Expected credit loss R'000
SA Graduating (non NSFAS)	7,940	60%	4,766
SA Returning (non NSFAS)	26,992	60%	16,144
SA non registered (non NSFAS)	29,537	95%	27,912
International Graduating	2,207	60%	1,313
International Returning	6,246	70%	4,341
International non registered	5,467	100%	5,467
SA Graduating (NSFAS)	7,277	60%	4,331
SA Returning (NSFAS)	17,992	60%	10,705
IFRS 9 lifetime ECL: Year end	103,658	72%	74,979

The closing loss allowances for trade receivables as at 31 December 2019 reconciles to the opening loss allowances as follows:

## Opening balance at 1 January

Increase in loss allowance recognised in profit or loss during the year Receivables written off during the year

Balance at 31 December

## Other receivables

Other receivables are receivables due from institutions for various grants, projects and auxiliary activities of the University in accordance with relevant contractual agreements.

The loss allowance for other receivables as at 31 December 2019 reconciles to the opening loss allowance as follows:

## Opening balance at 1 January

Increase in Ioan loss allowance recognised in profit or loss during the year **Balance at 31 December** 

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## Total:

72% R103,658,000 R 74,979,000

2019	2018
R'000	R'000
74,979	66,212
20,095	8,846
(74)	(79)
95,000	74,979

	Other Receivables
2019	2018
R'000	R'000
-	-
2,232	-
2,232	-

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NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2019

## 25. Financial risk management (continued)

#### Loans

Loans include NSFAS student loans, other student loans, employee loans and other loans. The University applied IFRS 9 to measure the expected credit losses.

### **NSFAS student loans**

NSFAS student loans have been fully provided for, as the recoverability of the NSFAS debtor amount is considered low. Therefore, the expected credit loss rate is 100%.

The expected loss rates are based on the payment profiles of outstanding NSFAS student loans, over a period of 36 months before 31 December 2019 or 1 January 2019 respectively and the corresponding historical credit losses experienced within this period. The historical loss rates were adjusted to reflect current and forward looking information.

#### Other student loans and employee loans

Other student loans relate to post-graduate students. Employee loans are made available for housing and personal purposes.

The expected loss rates are based on the payment profiles, over a period of 36 months before 31 December 2019 or 1 January 2019 respectively and the corresponding historical credit losses experienced within this period. The historical loss rates are adjusted to reflect current and forward looking information.

The loss allowance for other financial assets at amortised cost as at 31 December 2019 reconciles to the closing loss allowance as at 31 December 2018 as follows:

	NSFAS Stud	lent Loans
	2019	2018
	R'000	R'000
Opening balance at 1 January	110,525	116,341
Provision reversed	(134)	(5,816)
Balance at 31 December	110,391	110,525

	Other Loans	
	2019	2018
	R'000	R'000
Opening balance at 1 January	18,893	3,894
Increase in loan loss allowance recognised in profit or loss during the year	4,998	14,999
Closing balance at 31 December	23,891	18,983

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2019

# 25. Financial risk management (continued)

## (d) Liquidity risk

Prudent liquidity risk management implies maintaining sufficient cash and marketable securities, the availability through an adequate amount of committed credit facilities and the ability to close out market positions. Council, through the Finance and General Purposes Committee, and the Management of the University monitor the University's liquidity on an ongoing basis. At the end of the reporting period, the University held Council directed deposits at call of R78.0 million that are expected to readily generate cash inflows for managing liquidity risk.

The table below analyses the University's financial liabilities into relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period at the statement of financial position date to the contractual maturity date. The amounts disclosed in the table are the contractual undiscounted cash flows.

	Within 1 year R′000	Between 1 and 5 years R'000	Later than 5 years R'000
At 31 December 2019			
Interest-bearing borrowings	584	2,003	-
Trade and other payables	81,016	-	-
At 31 December 2018			
Interest-bearing borrowings	490	330	-
Trade and other payables	76,293	-	-
Lease liabilities	697	12,388	

### (e) Capital risk management

The University's objectives when managing capital are to safeguard the ability of the University to continue as a going concern and meet its stated objectives. This objective is met through careful consideration by the Council each year of the critical strategic objectives of the University.

# 26. Events after reporting period

On 30 January 2020, the World Health Organisation declared COVID-19 outbreak as a public health emergency of international concern. The spread of COVID-19 has severely affected many local economies around the globe. In many countries, institutions are being forced to cease, limit or move to new forms of delivery of their operations for long or indefinite periods.

Rhodes University has followed the Higher Education Sectoral approach and directives from government adhering to the restrictions placed on its operations, through the "lockdown" and the adjusted Risk strategy.

The financial impact of the pandemic will affect the University negatively both in the short and medium term. In order to mitigate the effect of the pandemic as much as possible the following measures have been put into place:

- 1. Multi-modal remote Learning and Teaching has been implemented.
- 2. A reprioritisation of financial resources including capital projects is being reviewed.
- 3. The gradual return of students to campus within the ambit of directives provided by the DHET.
- 4. An extension of the academic year if necessary into the 2021 calendar year.

The University has determined that these events are nonadjusting events. Accordingly, the financial position and results of operations as of and for the year ended 31 December 2019 have not been adjusted to reflect their impact. The duration and impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the effectiveness of government responses, remains unclear at this time.

The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the impact of the volatility in global and local markets, on the University's financial position is being carefully monitored and assessed. Future revenue streams and costs are expected to be adversely affected. Action plans are being put in place and will be appropriately implemented when necessary. Whilst, it is not possible to reliably estimate the duration and severity of these consequences, as well as their impact on the financial position and results of the University for future periods, based on the current information and forecasts, the University's cash and liquidity position remains sound.

## SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – 31 DECEMBER 2019

## 1. Changes in accounting policies

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards on a basis consistent with the prior year, except for the adoption of the following new or revised standards.

## 1.1 IFRS 16 Leases

The University applied IFRS 16 from 1 January 2019. As a result, the University has changed its accounting policy for lease contracts. IFRS 16 was applied using the modified retrospective approach and there were no impact on retained earnings at 1 January 2019 as the right of use assets were measured at an amount equal to the remaining lease liabilities. The impact on the financial statements on transition of IFRS 16 resulted in the University recognising additional right of use assets and liabilities of R 12.7 million.

As a lessee, the University previously classified leases as operating leases based on its assessment of whether the leases transferred significantly all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the underlying asset to the University.

Under IFRS 16, the University recognises right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for most leases, including operating leases.

On transition to IFRS 16, the University applied the practical expedient to the assessment of which transactions are leases. It applied IFRS 16 only to contracts that were previously identified as leases. Contracts that were not identified as leases under IAS 17 and IFRIC 4 were not reassessed for whether there is a lease. Therefore, the definition of a lease under IFRS 16 was applied only to contracts entered into or changed on or after 1 January 2019.

## Leases classified as operating leases under IAS 17

At 1 January 2019 transition lease liabilities were measured at the present value of the remaining lease payments, discounted at the University's incremental borrowing rate at 1 January 2019. Right of use assets are measured at an amount equal to the lease liability, adjusted by the amount of any prepaid or accrued lease payments.

The following practical expedients were used when applying IFRS 16 to leases previously classified as operating leases under IAS 17:

- applied the exemption not to recognise right-of-use assets and liabilities with less than 12 months of lease term remaining; and
- excluded initial direct costs from measuring the right-of-use asset at the date of initial application.

The impact on the financial statements on transition to IFRS 16, the University recognised additional right of use assets and lease liabilities of R12.7 million. Right of use assets are included within property, plant and equipment and lease liabilities are included within noncurrent and current liabilities on the face of the statement of financial position. Right of use assets are depreciated over the shorter of the asset's useful life and the lease term on a straight-line basis. Depreciation for the current year increased by R1.4 million. When measuring the lease liabilities at present value, a weighted average incremental borrowing rate of 9% was applied.

# SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – 31 DECEMBER 2019

# 1. Changes in accounting policies (continued)

## 1.1 IFRS 16 Leases (continued)

The following table summarises the impact of transition to IFRS 16 at 1 January 2019:

Operating lease commitments disclosed as at 31 December 2018

Discounted using the lessee's incremental borrowing rate of at the date of initi Adjustment as a result of the extension option Add: finance lease liabilities recognised as at 31 December 2018

Lease liability recognised as at 1 January 2019 Disclosed as: Current lease liabilities Non-current lease liabilities

### 1.2 Government grants – IAS 20

This note explains the impact of the change in accounting policy relating Government Grants (IAS 20), on the consolidated financial statements.

In accordance with IAS 20, Government Grants are recognised in profit or loss on a systematic basis over the periods in which the University recognises expenses for the related costs for which the grants are intended to compensate, which in the case of grants related to assets requires recognition of the grant as deferred income or deducting it from the carrying amount of the asset.

Previously, the University elected to offset the grant received against the carrying amount of the asset. In the current financial year, the University has elected to voluntary change their accounting policy to recognise the grant as deferred income which is released to the profit or loss on a systematic basis.

	2019 R'000
	1,208
tial application	1,160
	11,534
	820
	13,514
	662
	12,852
	13,514

## SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – 31 DECEMBER 2019

#### Method of transition applied

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The change in accounting policy has been applied retrospectively by restating each of the affected financial statement line items for prior periods as follows:

	31 Dec 2017 As originally presented R'000	Adjustment R'000	31 Dec 2017 Restated R'000	31 Dec 2018 As originally presented R'000	Adjustment R'000	31 Dec 2018 Restated R'000
Statement of Financial Position						
Non-current assets - Property, Plant and Equipment						
Cost	937,968	364,432	1,302,400	973,864	419,219	1,393,083
Accumulated depreciation	(513,916)	(59,412)	(573,328)	(530,970)	(72,936)	(603,906)
Carrying value	424,052	305,020	729,072	442,894	346,283	789,177
Current liabilities						
Deferred Income	115,900	305,020	420,920	227,729	346,283	574,012
Statement of Comprehensive Income						
Other revenue						
State Appropriations - subsidies and grants	501,907	11,688	513,595	558,906	13,525	572,431
Expenditure						
Depreciation	31,454	11,688	43,142	31,603	13,525	45,128

# SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – 31 DECEMBER 2019

## 2. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, except for the changes in accounting policies as described in note 1.

## 2.1 Basis of Preparation

The consolidated financial statements of the Rhodes University (the University) have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and in the manner prescribed by the Minister of Education in terms of section 41 of the Higher Education Act 1997 (Act No. 101 of 1997), as amended. The consolidated financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by financial assets, which were carried at fair value.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise judgement in the process of applying the University's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the consolidated financial statements, are valuation of employee benefits, impairment of receivables and calculation of lease liabilities.

## New Standards not yet adopted

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for 31 December 2019 reporting periods and have not yet been adopted by the University. The University's assessment of the impact of these new standards and interpretations is set out below:

## IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts

The IASB issued IFRS 17, 'Insurance contracts', which has significant implications for insurers. Whereas the current standard, IFRS 4, allows insurers to use their local GAAP, IFRS 17 defines clear and consistent rules that will significantly increase the comparability of financial statements. For insurers, the transition to IFRS 17 will have an impact on financial statements and on key performance indicators.

This standard is mandatory for financial years commencing on or after 1 January 2021 and is not expected to have any impact on the University.

## Definition of Material – Amendments to IAS 1 and IAS 8

These amendments to IAS 1 and IAS 8 and consequential amendments to other IFRSs:

- use a consistent definition of materiality through IFRSs and the Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting;
- clarify the explanation of the definition of material; and
- incorporate some of the guidance in IAS 1 about immaterial information.

This standard is mandatory for financial years commencing on or after 1 January 2020 and is not expected to have a material impact on the University.

# SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – 31 DECEMBER 2019

# 2. Accounting policies (continued)

## Amendment to IFRS 3 Business combinations

This amendment revises the definition of a business. According to the ISB received by the IASB, application of the current guidance is commonly thought to be too complex, and it results in too many transactions qualifying as business combinations. The likely impact of this amendment is that more acquisitions are to be accounted for as asset acquisitions.

This standard is mandatory for financial years commencing on or after 1 January 2020 and is not expected to have a material impact on the University.

### Other

There are no other standards, interpretations or amendments that are not yet effective and that would be expected to have a material impact on the University in the current or future reporting periods and on foreseeable future transactions.

## 2.2 Consolidation

Subsidiary entities are those entities over which Rhodes University has the power, directly or indirectly, to exercise control. All subsidiaries are consolidated, except if control is expected to be temporary, or if there are long term restrictions on the transferability of funds. Subsidiaries are consolidated from the date on which effective control is transferred to Rhodes University and they are de-consolidated from the date that control ceases. All inter-entity transactions, balances and unrealised surpluses and deficits are eliminated.

Uniform accounting policies are applied for all entities consolidated.

The following entity is included in the consolidated financial statements of Rhodes University:

• David Rabkin Project for Experiential Journalism Training (Pty) Ltd (trading as Grocotts Mail)

## 2.3 Income recognition

University income falls into the following main categories:

- State appropriations: subsidies and grants
- Tuition and other fee income
- Private grants and income from other contracts
- Private gifts
- Sale of goods and services
- Finance income
- Other non-recurrent income

## State appropriations: subsidies and grants

State subsidies and grants for general purposes, are recognised as revenue at fair value in the financial year to which they relate. They are recognised when there is reasonable assurance that the subsidies and grants will be received and assurance is given that the University will satisfy all the relevant conditions. There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies attached to this category of revenue.

#### Income-based grants

Income-based grants are initially treated as deferred income. They are subsequently recognised in income on a systematic basis, in the periods in which the University recognises the related costs for which the grants are intended to compensate.

## Asset-based grants

Grants relating to assets are initially recognised as deferred income and, thereafter, are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income on a systematic basis over the useful lives of the related assets.

## Tuition and other fee income

Tuition and other course fees relate directly to the provision of specific academic and non-academic courses. Income is recognised on a pro-rata basis across the length of the course, in line with the provision of the courses to students.

Tuition and other fee income is stated gross of any expenditure and credited to the statement of comprehensive income over the period students study.

## Private grants and income from contracts

Income is recognised in the statement comprehensive income when the grant or income is receivable (legal/contractual commitment) and performance related conditions specified in the agreement are met. In the absence of performance conditions, income is recognised in full as soon as it becomes receivable.

Income received in advance of completion of performance conditions is recognised in the statement of financial position as a contract liability and released to the statement of comprehensive income as conditions are met. Where grants or income are received in arrears, accrued revenue or receivable assets are recognised in line with income.

## Finance income

Finance income is recognised on a time proportion basis, taking account of the principal outstanding and the effective rate over the period to maturity, when it is determined that such income will accrue to the University.

### Sale of goods and services

Income from the sale of goods or services is credited to the statement of comprehensive income when the University transfers control of the goods or services to the external customer.

# SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – 31 DECEMBER 2019

## 2. Accounting policies (continued)

## Other non-recurrent income

Occasional sales and services are recognised in the period in which control is transferred to the external customer. Income from such sales and services are included in 'other nonrecurrent income' in the statement of comprehensive income.

### 2.4 Research costs

Research costs are expensed in the period in which they are incurred.

## 2.5 Reserve funds

#### 2.5.1. Council unrestricted funds

The unrestricted operating fund reflects the University's subsidised activities. These funds are created by the appropriation of retained surpluses other than those retained for specific purposes. These funds fall under the discretion and control of Council.

#### 2.5.2. Council restricted funds

These funds may be used only for the purposes that have been specified in legally binding terms by the provider of such funds or by another legally empowered person.

2.5.3. Property, plant and equipment funds

The amount in property, plant and equipment funds represents the carrying value of the University's fixed assets that is financed from unrestricted funds.

## 2.6 Foreign currencies

Foreign currency transactions are accounted for at the exchange rates prevailing at the date of the transactions. Gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income in the year in which they arise. Such balances are translated at year-end exchange rates.

## 2.7 Offsetting financial instruments

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the statement of financial position when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, or realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

# 2.8 Property, plant and equipment (a) Owned assets

All property, plant and equipment is stated at historical cost. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items. Donated property, plant and equipment is recorded at fair value at the date of the donation. Property, plant and equipment purchased with government grant funds are treated as set out in note 2.3.1. Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the University and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the statement of comprehensive income during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Depreciation on property, plant and equipment is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate their cost or revalued amounts to their residual values over their estimated useful lives. The estimated useful lives are:

Vehicles 4	50 years to 15 years to 10 years 3 to 8 years
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Library books and periodicals are written off in the year of acquisition.

Land is not depreciated as it is deemed to have an indefinite life.

Assets which individually cost less than R5 000 are not capitalised and are expensed in the year of acquisition. Assets which individually cost between R5 000 and R15 000 are capitalised and written off in full in the year of acquisition.

The residual values and useful lives of all significant assets are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at year end. An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with carrying amount. These are included in profit in the statement of comprehensive income.

## (b) Leased assets

- the amount of the initial measurement of lease liability
- any lease payments made at or before the commencement
- date less any lease incentives received
- any initial direct costs, and
- restoration costs

Right-of-use assets are generally depreciated over the shorter of the asset's useful life and the lease term on a straight-line basis.

Payments associated with short-term leases and all leases of lowvalue assets are recognised as an expense in profit or loss. Shortterm leases are leases with a lease term of 12 months or les

# SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – 31 DECEMBER 2019

# 2. Accounting policies (continued)

## 2.9 Impairment of non-financial assets

Non-current assets are reviewed for impairment losses whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the carrying amount of the asset exceeds its recoverable amount, which is the higher of an asset's net selling price and value in use. For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest level for which there are separately identifiable cash flows.

## 2.10 Leases

## Policy applicable before 1 January 2019

Prior to 1 January 2019, leases of property, plant and equipment were classified as either finance or operating leases.

Assets leased in terms of finance lease agreements are capitalised. These are leases where a significant portion of the risk and rewards are taken up by the University. At commencement of the lease term, the lessee recognises finance lease assets and liabilities in the balance sheet at an amount equal to the fair value of the leased asset or if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments. These assets are depreciated on the straight-line basis to their estimated residual value at rates considered appropriate to reduce book values over the shorter of the duration of the lease agreements or useful life of the assets. Finance costs are charged to the income statement over the period of the lease.

Finance leases are capitalised at the estimated present value of the underlying lease payments. Each lease payment is allocated between the liability and the finance charge to achieve a constant rate on the finance balance outstanding.

Leases in which a significant portion of the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Payments made under operating leases (net of any incentives received from the lessor) are charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

## Policy applicable from 1 January 2019

From 1 January 2019, leases are recognised as a right-of-use asset and a corresponding liability at the date at which the leased asset is available for use by the University.

Assets and liabilities arising from a lease are initially measured on a present value basis. Lease liabilities include the net present value of fixed monthly lease payments (including in-substance fixed payments), less any lease incentives receivable. The lease payments are discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease. If that rate cannot be readily determined, which is generally the case for leases in the University, the lessee's incremental borrowing rate is used, being the rate that the individual lessee would have to pay to borrow the funds necessary to obtain an asset of similar value to the right-of-use asset in a similar economic environment with similar terms, security and conditions.

To determine the incremental borrowing rate, the University:

- where possible, uses recent third-party financing received by the individual lessee as a starting point, adjusted to reflect changes in financing conditions since third party financing was received; and
- makes adjustments specific to the lease, e.g. term, country, currency and security.

Lease payments are allocated between principal and finance cost. The finance cost is charged to profit or loss over the lease period to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability for each period.

Right-of-use assets are measured at cost comprising the following:

- the amount of the initial measurement of lease liability;
- any lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentives received;
- any initial direct costs, and
- restoration costs.

Right-of-use assets are generally depreciated over the shorter of the asset's useful life and the lease term on a straight-line basis.

Payments associated with short-term leases of equipment and vehicles and all leases of low-value assets are recognised as an expense in profit or loss. Short-term leases are leases with a lease term of 12 months or less.

### 2.11 Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or net realisable value. Cost is determined by the weighted average method.

## 2.12 Financial instruments - IFRS 9

Financial instruments, consisting of financial assets and financial liabilities, carried at the reporting date by the University include bank and cash, trade receivables, trade payables, borrowings and bank overdrafts. Trade receivables and trade payables exclude

# SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – 31 DECEMBER 2019

## **2.Accounting policies (continued)**

## 2.12 Financial instruments - IFRS 9 (continued)

prepayments and certain statutory and employee-related payables for the purposes of financial instruments.

Trade receivables are initially recognised when they are originated, in conjunction with IFRS 15. All other financial assets and liabilities are recognised on the balance sheet when the University becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. A financial asset (unless it is a trade receivable without a significant financing component) or financial liability is initially measured at fair value plus, for an item not at FVTPL, transaction costs that are directly attributable to its acquisition or issue. A trade receivable without a significant financing component is initially measured at the transaction price. Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the balance sheet when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

## Loans receivable at amortised cost

#### Classification

Loans receivables are classified as financial assets subsequently measured at amortised cost. They have been classified in this manner because the contractual terms of these loans give rise, on specified dates, to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal outstanding, and the University's business model is to collect the contractual cash flows on these loans.

#### **Recognition and measurement**

Loans receivable are recognised when the University becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the loan. The loans are measured, at initial recognition, at fair value plus transaction costs, if any. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost. The amortised cost is the amount recognised on the loan initially, minus principal repayments, plus cumulative amortisation (interest) using the effective interest rate method of any difference between the initial amount and the maturity amount, adjusted for any loss allowance.

## Classification

Trade and other receivables, excluding, when applicable, VAT and prepayments, are classified as financial assets subsequently measured at amortised cost.

They have been classified in this manner because their contractual terms give rise, on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal outstanding, and the University's business model is to collect the contractual cash flows on trade and other receivables.

#### **Recognition and measurement**

Trade and other receivables are recognised when the University becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the receivables. They are measured, at initial recognition, at fair value plus

# 31 DECEMBER 2019

transaction costs, if any. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost. The amortised cost is the amount recognised on

the receivable initially, minus principal repayments, plus cumulative amortisation (interest) using the effective interest rate method of any difference between the initial amount and the maturity amount, adjusted for any loss allowance.

## Impairment

The University recognises a loss allowance for expected credit losses on trade and other receivables, excluding VAT and prepayments. The amount of expected credit losses is updated at each reporting date. The University measures the loss allowance for trade and other receivables which do not contain a significant financing component, at an amount equal to lifetime expected credit losses (lifetime ECL). The loss allowance for all other trade and other receivables is measured at lifetime ECL when there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition. If the credit risk on these receivables has not increased significantly since initial recognition, then the loss allowance for those receivables is measured at 12-month expected credit losses (12 month ECL)

Lifetime ECL represents the expected credit losses that will result from all possible default events over the expected life of a loan. In contrast, 12 month ECL represents the portion of lifetime ECL that is expected to result from default events on a loan that are possible within 12 months after the reporting date. In order to assess whether to apply lifetime ECL or 12-month ECL to trade and other receivables which do have a significant financing component, the University considers whether there has been a significant increase in the risk of a default occurring since initial recognition rather than evidence of a receivable being credit impaired at the reporting date or of an actual default occurring.

## Trade and other payables

## Classification

Trade and other payables, excluding VAT and amounts received in advance, are classified as financial liabilities subsequently measured at amortised cost.

## **Recognition and measurement**

Trade and other payables are recognised when the University becomes a party to the contractual provisions, and are measured, at initial recognition, at fair value plus transaction costs, if any. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. The effective interest rate method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial liability and of allocating interest expense over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments (including all fees and points paid or received that form an integral part of the effective interest rate, transaction costs and other premiums or discounts) through the expected life of the financial liability, or (where appropriate) a shorter period, to the amortised cost of a financial liability. If trade and other payables contain a significant financing component, and the effective interest rate method results in the recognition of interest expense, then it is included in profit or loss in finance costs

# SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – 31 DECEMBER 2019

# 3. Accounting policies (continued)

## Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and demand deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of 3 months or less that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value. These are initially and subsequently recorded at fair value.

### Investments and other financial assets

### Classification

The University classifies its financial assets in the following measurement categories:

- those to be measured subsequently at fair value (through OCI or through profit or loss), and
- those to be measured at amortised cost.

The classification depends on the University's business model for managing the financial assets and the contractual terms of the cash flows.

For assets measured at fair value, gains and losses will either be recorded in profit or loss or other comprehensive income. For investments in equity instruments that are not held for trading, this will depend on whether the University has made an irrevocable election at the time of initial recognition to account for the equity investment at fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI).

The University reclassifies debt investments when and only when its business model for managing those assets changes

### **Recognition and derecognition**

Regular way purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on trade date, being the date on which the University commits to purchase or sell the asset. Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or have been transferred and the University has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership.

### Measurement

At initial recognition, the University measures a financial asset at its fair value plus, in the case of a financial asset not at fair value through profit or loss (FVPL), transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition of the financial asset. Transaction costs of financial assets carried at FVPL are expensed in profit or loss.

### **Debt instruments**

Subsequent measurement of debt instruments depends on the University's business model for managing the asset and the cash

flow characteristics of the asset. There are two measurement categories into which the University may classify its debt instruments:

- Amortised cost: Assets that are held for collection of contractual cash flows, where those cash flows represent solely payments of principal and interest, are measured at amortised cost. Interest income from these financial assets is included in finance income using the effective interest rate method. Any gain or loss arising on derecognition is recognised directly in profit or loss and presented in other gains/(losses). Impairment losses are presented as separate line item in the statement of profit or loss.
- FVOCI: Assets that are held for collection of contractual cash flows and for selling the financial assets, where the assets' cash flows represent solely payments of principal and interest, are measured at FVOCI. Movements in the carrying amount are taken through OCI, except for the recognition of impairment gains or losses, interest income and foreign exchange gains and losses, which are recognised in profit or loss. When the financial asset is derecognised, the cumulative gain or loss previously recognised in OCI is reclassified from equity to profit or loss and recognised in other gains/(losses). Interest income from these financial assets is included in finance income using the effective interest rate method. Foreign exchange gains and losses are presented in other gains/(losses), and impairment expenses are presented as separate line item in the statement of profit or loss.
- FVPL: Assets that do not meet the criteria for amortised cost or FVOCI are measured at FVPL.
- A gain or loss on a debt investment that is subsequently measured at FVPL is recognised in profit or loss and presented net within other gains/(losses) in the period in which it arises

Debt instruments do not meet the criteria for amortised cost or fair value through other comprehensive income, and are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

## **Equity instruments**

The University subsequently measures all equity investments at fair value. Where the University's management has elected to present fair value gains and losses on equity investments in OCI, there is no subsequent reclassification of fair value gains and losses to profit or loss following the derecognition of the investment. Dividends from such investments continue to be recognised in profit or loss as other income when the University's right to receive payments is established.

Changes in the fair value of financial assets at FVPL are recognised in other gains/(losses) in the statement of profit or loss as applicable. Impairment losses (and reversal of impairment losses) on equity investments measured at FVOCI are not reported separately from other changes in fair value.

Management has elected to present fair value gains and losses on equity instruments in other comprehensive income.

## SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – 31 DECEMBER 2019

## 2. Accounting policies (continued)

## Impairment

The University assesses on a forward-looking basis the expected credit losses associated with its debt instruments carried at amortised cost. The impairment methodology applied depends on whether there has been a significant increase in credit risk. In relation to the impairment of financial assets, IFRS 9 requires an expected credit loss model. The expected credit loss model requires the University to account for expected credit losses and changes in those expected credit losses at each reporting date to reflect changes in credit risk since initial recognition of the financial assets. In other words, it is no longer necessary for a credit event to have occurred before credit losses are recognised.

Specifically, IFRS 9 requires the University to recognise a loss allowance for expected credit losses on debt investments subsequently measured at amortised cost, contract assets and loan commitments and financial guarantee contracts to which the impairment requirements of IFRS 9 apply.

In particular, IFRS 9 requires the University to measure the loss allowance for a financial instrument at an amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses if the credit risk on that financial instrument has increased significantly since initial recognition, or if the financial instrument is a purchased or originated credit-impaired financial asset.

On the other hand, if the credit risk on a financial instrument has not increased significantly since initial recognition (except for a purchased or originated credit-impaired financial asset), the University is required to measure the loss allowance for that financial instrument at an amount equal to 12 months expected credit losses. IFRS 9 also provides a simplified approach for measuring the loss allowance at an amount equal to lifetime expected credit losses for trade receivables and contract assets in certain circumstances.

### 2.13 Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the University has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, when it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation, and when a reliable estimate of the amount of the obligation can be made.

Provisions are measured at the present value of the expenditures expected to be required to settle the obligation using a pre-tax discount rate. The increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognised as interest expense. Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses.

## 2.14 Employee benefits

## 2.14.1 Accumulated annual leave

Employee entitlements to annual leave are recognised when they accrue. An accrual is made for the estimated liability for annual leave as a result of services rendered by employees up to the statement of reporting date.

### 2.14.2 Pension obligations

The University operates a defined benefit pension plan, the assets of which are held in a separate trustee-administered fund. The pension plan is funded by payments from employees and the University. Valuations of these obligations are carried out annually by independent

## 2.14.2 Pension obligations (continued)

actuaries. All actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in the year in which they arise in other comprehensive income.

The University also operates two defined contribution provident plans. The University's contributions to these plans are charged to income as incurred.

## 2.14.3 Other post-retirement benefit obligations

The University provides post-retirement healthcare benefits to retirees employed by the institution prior to 1991. The entitlement to these benefits is based on the employee remaining in service up to retirement age and the completion of a minimum service period. The expected costs of these benefits are accrued over the period of employment, using an accounting methodology similar to that for defined benefit pension plans. Valuations of these obligations are carried out annually by independent actuaries. All actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in the year in which they arise in other comprehensive income.

## 2.14.4 Termination benefits

Termination benefits are payable when employment is terminated by the institution before the normal retirement date, or whenever an employee accepts voluntary redundancy in exchange for these benefits.

The institution recognises termination benefits when it is demonstrably committed to either:

- terminating the employment of current employees according
- to a detailed formal plan without possibility of withdrawal; or
  providing termination benefits as a result of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy.

Benefits falling due more than 12 months after the end of the reporting period are discounted to their present value.

## 2.15 Taxes

The University is exempt from income tax.

## **ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019**

# **APPENDIX I: MEMBERS OF COUNCIL IN 2019**

## MEMBERSHIP & ATTENDANCE OF MEETINGS OF COUNCIL IN 2019

Title	Name	Surname	Constituency	Gender	Race	Portfolios	Meeting 1: March 7	Meeting 2: May 30	Meeting 3: June 27	Meeting 4: Sept 12	Meeting 5: Nov 27	% Attendance
Dr	Sizwe	Mabizela	Vice-Chancellor	М	Black	Vice-Chancellor						100%
Dr	Peter	Clayton	DVC (Res & Dev)	Μ	White	DVC						100%
Dr	Chrissie	Boughey	DVC (Academic & Student Affairs) until 30 June 2019	F	White	DVC		$\checkmark$		n/a	n/a	100%
Dr	Mabokang	Monnapula-Mapesela	DVC (Academic & Student Affairs) from 1 July 2019	F	Black	DVC	n/a	n/a	n/a		$\checkmark$	100%
Revd	Vicentia	Kgabe	Minister Ed rep	F	Black		$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$	-		80%
Prof	Rasigan	Maharajh	Minister Ed rep	Μ	Indian		$\checkmark$	-	$\checkmark$	-		60%
Mr	Mawethu	Rune	Minister Ed rep	Μ	Black		$\checkmark$	-	-	$\checkmark$		60%
Ms	Gugulethu	Ndebele	Minister Ed rep	F	Black		$\checkmark$		-	$\checkmark$	-	60%
Justice	Baaitse	Nkabinde	Minister Ed rep	F	Black		-	$\checkmark$	-	$\checkmark$	-	40%
Mr	Sivu	Ntlabezo	Minister Ed rep	Μ	Black		$\checkmark$		-	-		60%
Prof	Larry	Strelitz	Senate rep (term ended 31 March 2019)	М	White		$\checkmark$	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	100%
Distinguished Prof	Heila	Lotz-Sisitka	Senate rep (from 1 April 2019)				n/a		$\checkmark$	-		75%
Prof	George	Wells	Senate rep	Μ	White		-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	-		60%
Prof	David	Sewry	Senate rep	М	White		$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		100%
Prof	Catriona	Macleod	Senate rep (resigned 31 March 2019)	F	White		-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0%
Prof	Di	Wilmot	Senate rep (replaced Prof C Macleod for remainder of term)	F	White		n/a	n/a	n/a			100%
Dr	Dion	Nkomo	Academic staff rep (from 1 August 2019)	М	Black		n/a	n/a	n/a	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	100%
Mr	Tembani	Ndingana	Supp staff rep (1-5)	Μ	Black		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	-	$\checkmark$	80%
Ms	Desiree	Bekker	Supp staff rep (6-18)	F	White		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	-		80%
Cllr	Brian	Fargher	Makana Mun	М	White		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	100%
Cllr	Rumsell	Xonxa	Makana Mun	М	Black		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	-	80%
Mr	Andile	Sangqu	Board of Gov	М	Black		-	$\checkmark$	-	$\checkmark$	-	40%
Mr	S	Mngadi	SRC President	М	Black		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	100%
Mr	Khaka	Mpofu	SRC rep	Μ	Black		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	-	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	80%
Mr	Charles	Staple	Appointed by Council	Μ	White	Chair: Audit	$\checkmark$	-	$\checkmark$	-	-	40%
Mr	Vuyo Dominic	Kahla	Appointed by Council	М	Black	Chair: Council	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	-	80%
Ms	Madeleine	Schoeman	Appointed by Council	F	White		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	-	80%
Dr	Nommso	Stubbs	Appointed by Council	F	Black		-		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		80%
Mr	Mandisi	Rusa	Appointed by Council	М	Black		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	-	80%
Mr	Steve	Tredoux	Appointed by Council	Μ	White	Chair: F&GP	$\checkmark$		-			80%
Ms	Nkuli	Pityana	Co-opted	F	Black						-	80%
Judge	Gerald	Bloem	Co-opted	Μ	Coloured				$\checkmark$			100%
Mr	Tom	Тадд	Co-opted	Μ	White		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		100%



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