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I. ACRONYMS

| ACRONYM | DEFINITION |
|-----------------|--|
| APP | Annual Performance Plan |
| CA | Communications and Advancement |
| CE | Community Engagement |
| CFO | Chief Financial Officer |
| CHERTL | Centre for Higher Education Research, Teaching and Learning |
| DHET | Department of Higher Education and Training |
| DVC: A & SA | Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic and Student Affairs |
| DVC: RI | Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research and Innovation |
| FINCORE | Oracle Cloud Financials |
| 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). $\text{Graduated (Year n) / Enrolled (Year n) } \times 100$ |
| 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 and Efficiency Funding |
| I&TS | Information and Technology Service |
| I/R STAFF | Instructional/Research Staff |
| IRPQP | Institutional Research, Planning and Quality Promotion |
| KPI | Key Performance Indicators |
| NA | Not Applicable |
| NC | Nominations Committee |

| | |
|--------------|---|
| NGAP | New Generation of Academics Programme |
| NDP - 2030 | National Development Plan |
| NCHE | National Commission on Higher Education |
| NGO | Non-Governmental Organisation |
| 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 and Technology |
| SUCCESS RATE | FTE Credited/FTE Enrolled (Incl. Cancellations) x 100 |
| UG | Undergraduates |
| VC | Vice-Chancellor |



II. INSTITUTIONAL GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

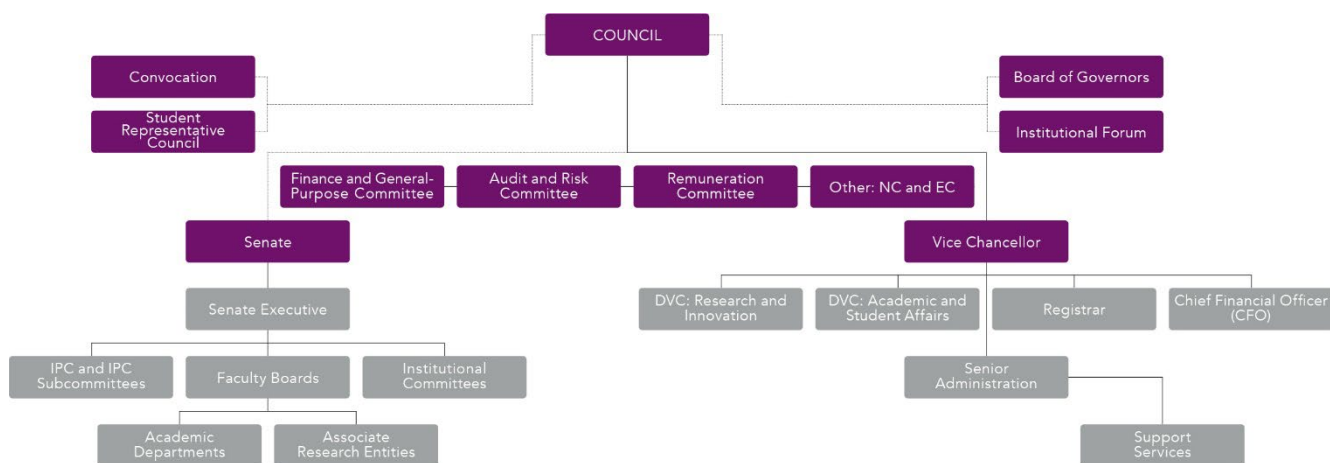
Organisational Structure

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 University's chief academic and administrative officer. 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 Chief Financial Officer.

The academic structure of Rhodes University is organised around six faculties: Humanities, Science, Commerce, Pharmacy, Law, and Education. A Dean leads each academic faculty. Within the six faculties, there are thirty-six (36) academic departments. These provide an extensive range of undergraduate and post-graduate degrees and research interests for students and academics. A Head of Department leads each academic department. Rhodes University also has several 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, Infrastructure and Operations, Library Services, Institutional Research Planning and Quality Promotion, Internationalisation, Communications and Advancement, Equity and Institutional Culture, Research Office, Information and Technology Services, Residential Operations, Officer of the Registrar. The administrative and support divisions are led by their respective Directors.

Rhodes University Governance and Management Organogram in 2021



EC - Executive Committee, NC - Nomination Committee

1. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT REPORT OF THE APP

1.1 Background

Rhodes University is a relatively small university (just over 8 000 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, the academic provision made for them, and the commitment of Rhodes University staff to student development and success.

Table 1 presents a detailed set of enrolment indicators, access, success, efficiency and research. These indicators include the University's ministerially approved enrolment targets for 2021 in the current enrolment cycle (2020 to 2025).

Each key performance indicator in Table 1 is associated with the actual score for the previous year (2020), the target for the reporting year (2021) 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, dark green represents achieved/exceeded target, while lighter green represents the target partially achieved. The last column to the right of Table 1 provides comments/remarks on institutional strategies for achieving each key performance indicator (KPI) target.

Annual Performance KPIs 2021

| Enrolment KPI | 2019 Actual | 2020 Actual | 2021 Target | 2021 Actual | Score | Strategies/Projects/Activities |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------|---|
| A. ACCESS | | | | | | |
| Headcount totals | 8246 | 8594 | 8866 | 8472 | | Increase visibility and marketing through open days and partnerships with local schools. Draw on academic proposition in IDP and unique institutional strengths for marketing and recruitment. Targeted marketing of postgraduate programmes. |
| First-time entering undergraduates | 1485 | 1608 | 1416 | 1290 | | Increase visibility and marketing through open days and partnerships with local schools. Draw on academic proposition in the IDP and unique institutional strengths for marketing, recruitment and retention. |
| Headcount enrolments (Foundation Provisioning) | 148 | 148 | 173 | 141 | | Development of 'flexible curriculum' using extended, augmenting and fully foundational courses using University Capacity Development Grant. |
| Headcount enrolments total UG | 5792 | 6339 | 6307 | 6406 | | Increase visibility and marketing through open days and partnerships with local schools. Draw on academic proposition in IDP and unique institutional strengths for marketing and recruitment. |
| Headcount enrolments total PG | 2454 | 2257 | 2559 | 2066 | | Targeted marketing of postgraduate programmes. Marketing of activities of Centre for Postgraduate Studies. |
| Science, engineering, technology | 2510 | 2596 | 2296 | 2515 | | Increase visibility and marketing through open days and partnerships with schools. |
| Business/management | 1365 | 1302 | 1512 | 1280 | | Increase visibility and marketing through open days and partnerships with schools. |
| Education | 1141 | 1217 | 1360 | 1114 | | Increase visibility and marketing through open days and partnerships with schools. |
| Other humanities | 3230 | 3479 | 3698 | 3563 | | Increase visibility and marketing through open days and partnerships with schools. |
| Distance education enrolments | 0 | 0 | 0 | 26 | | Rhodes University received accreditation to offer new distance programme, PGD in media management. |

| Enrolment KPI | 2019 Actual | 2020 Actual | 2021 Target | 2021 Actual | Score | Strategies/Projects/Activities |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------|---|
| B. SUCCESS | | | | | | |
| Graduates UG | 1216 | 1316 | 1428 | 1226 | | Development of 'flexible curriculum' using extended, augmenting and fully foundational courses. Embedding of support for language/reading/writing in the curriculum. Extended Orientation Programme, Tutorial System, Student Peer mentoring Programme as well as Deans' academic advising. All activities funded by UCDG and other academic development and support initiatives for lecturing staff. |
| Graduates PG | 1158 | 963 | 1153 | 1011 | | Activities of Postgraduate Centre and CHERTL: Support for writing, research design, supervisor development courses. |
| Success rate | 85% | 80% | 83% | 81% | | Several Covid-19 health and safety protocols and academic frameworks continued to be put in place in 2021 to ensure that the University remained functional in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. |
| Engineering graduates | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Life and physical sciences graduates | 112 | 116 | 130 | 144 | | Embedding of support for language/reading/writing in the curriculum. The O-Week and the Extended Orientation Programme. Online course 'RULearning' developed and in place for our students. Tutorial System, Student Peer Mentoring Programme, Course participation supported by activities in residence. |
| Animal and human health graduates | 138 | 159 | 167 | 183 | | Embedding of support for language/reading/writing in the curriculum. The O-Week and the Extended Orientation Programme. Online course 'RULearning' developed and in place for our students. Tutorial System, Student Peer Mentoring Programme, Course participation supported by activities in residence. |
| Teacher education graduates | 261 | 445 | 169 | 303 | | Embedding of support for language/reading/writing in the curriculum. The O-Week and the Extended Orientation Programme. Online course 'RULearning' developed and in place for our students. Tutorial System, Student Peer Mentoring Programme, Course participation supported by activities in residence. |
| Success rate in scarce skills | 90% | 92% | 89% | 87% | | Embedding of support for language/reading/writing in the curriculum. The O-Week and the Extended Orientation Programme. Online course 'RULearning' developed and in place for our students. Tutorial System, Student Peer Mentoring Programme, Course participation supported by activities in residence. |

| Enrolment KPI | 2019 Actual | 2020 Actual | 2021 Target | 2021 Actual | Score | Strategies/Projects/Activities |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------|---|
| C. EFFICIENCY | | | | | | |
| Headcount of permanent I/R staff | 357 | 358 | 340 | 356 | | Rhodes University recognises the scarcity of qualified academics in the country. To this, a number of initiatives have been articulated in the HR plan to ensure retention and attraction of qualified staff in addition to DHET efforts and support through the nGAP and NESP and other UCDG programme |
| % Staff with doctoral degrees | 59% | 60% | 56% | 63% | | There is a strong focus on improving staff doctoral qualifications. Sabbatical Grants are granted to complete PhDs. UK/RSA funding to develop proposals for projects to support academics in attaining PhDs in collaboration with University of Venda and University of Lancaster. |
| Number of nGap staff | 15 | 20 | 25 | 24 | | nGAP co-ordinator brings these early-career academics together for regular meetings and offers personal support to each of them and that provided by their supervisors and mentors. She also organises writing retreats each semester. |
| Ratio of FTE students to FTE instructional/research staff | 14.68 | 14.8 | 17.3 | 15.14 | | The student to I/R staff ratio at Rhodes University is carefully planned to ensure meaningful learning experiences for our students. Each student receives personal attention for authentic learning experience. |
| D. RESEARCH | | | | | | |
| Total research output units | 1190.7 | 998 | 1232 | 1011 | | The research administration division provided necessary support for Rhodes University to meet its 2020 targets with the support of the DHET UCDG. |
| Publication units per I/R staff | 3.3 | 2.73 | 3.62 | 2.8 | | The research administration division provided necessary support for Rhodes University to meet its 2020 targets with the support of the DHET UCDG. |
| Research masters graduates | 253 | 156 | 270 | 178 | | Activities of Postgraduate Centre: Support for writing, research design, supervisor development courses. |
| Doctoral graduates | 112 | 92 | 96 | 77 | | Activities of Postgraduate Centre: Support for writing, research design, supervisor development courses. |

TABLE 1: MINISTERIAL APPROVED ENROLMENT TARGETS

| LEGEND | | | |
|--------------------------|--|---------------------------|--|
| Target Achieved/Exceeded | | Target Partially Achieved | |

¹ Data on certain KPIs (particularly research KPIs) may change as HEMIS reporting is finalised for 2021


2. REPORT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF COUNCIL

The 2021 academic year was presented with many challenges imposed mainly by the COVID-19 pandemic, which significantly impacted the academic project. Although many of us were learning to live with the COVID-19 pandemic during this period, our academic offering continued to be offered online, with a cautious move to contact learning and teaching—all of this required efforts by the entire University community. Several Covid-19 health and safety protocols and frameworks continued to be implemented to ensure that the University remained functional amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2021, the Council performed its fiduciary duties with dedication and commitment. All the meetings of Council were held as scheduled despite the continued disruptions brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. There was a 73% average attendance at meetings of Council; this is a slight decrease from 2020 (76%). Members of Council of Rhodes University 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 2021.

It is evident from the enrolment KPIs in Table 1 that in 2021 Rhodes University excelled in the core mandates of teaching, learning and research despite the challenges. Students achieved an undergraduate success rate of 81%. This is a remarkable achievement for an unprecedented academic year. In 2021, the University achieved a total research output of approximately 1011 research output units. The University continues to punch above its weight in the sector, particularly in terms of research output per capita. Reports from faculties indicate active community engagement drives in the faculties. The overall academic success rate of the University is underpinned by the research-teaching-community engagement nexus, which enables our students to access powerful knowledge.

Notwithstanding the continued challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the impact that it has had on the household incomes, and other challenges within the sector and the entire country broadly, the University has once again succeeded in ending the year in a sound financial position. This is clearly reflected in that total assets increasing by R232.6m, equity and reserve funds increasing by R279.9m, with Council's unrestricted component increasing by R29.3m to R261.8m. This is in part due to the continued implementation of cost management initiatives and active cash management as part of its financial sustainability strategy.



.....

Judge G H Bloem
Chairperson of Council

Date: 15 June 2022



3. COUNCIL STATEMENT ON GOVERNANCE

3.1 Statutory Governance Information

Rhodes University subscribes to the founding principles of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa. In line with the Higher Education Act 101 (1997 as amended), the University embraces the principles of and promotes cooperative governance at all levels and in all its committees. Rhodes University's sustainability and success is underpinned by its values and commitments to good governance and accountability. The University's governance framework is guided by the principles outlined by King IV. These principles have been adopted as far as is practically possible.

The University works cooperatively with government and civil society constituencies and within the Institution. The cooperative governance model includes the responsibility of all participants within the Institution. In this regard, the National Commission on Higher Education (NCHE) proposed cooperative governance model is supported and applied by Rhodes University, where there is shared power, accountability, and responsibility from all participants within the Institution. The cooperative governance model 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 of 1997 (a programme for the Transformation of Higher Education). This assumes a cooperative relationship between the State and the University and 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 Chairperson, is the University's governing body. It administers the University's affairs and property. It is empowered to frame statutes and rules governing the university's general conduct and organisation and make all appointments to the staff.



3.2 Composition of Council

The composition of Council of Rhodes University is presented in Table 2.

| Constituency | | Number of Representatives |
|---|---|---------------------------|
| Ministerial Appointees | | 5 |
| Executive Management | | 3 |
| SENATE Representatives | | 4 |
| Board of Governors | | 1 |
| SRC | | 2 |
| Administrative Staff representatives | | 2 |
| Academic Staff representative | | 1 |
| Makana Municipality representatives | | 2 |
| Appointed by Council | | 6 |
| Co-opted Members | | 4 |
| Total | Members | 30 |
| | In attendance members – (including the Registrar as Secretary) | 10 |
| Grand Total | | 40 |

TABLE 2: COMPOSITION OF COUNCIL OF RHODES UNIVERSITY

3.3 Summary of Attendance at Meetings of Council and Committees of Council

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

| Council 2021 - 30 members | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| 22 Apr 2021 | 10 Jun 2021 | 9 Sep 2021 | 19 Oct 2021 | 02 Dec 2021 | Annual average attendance |
| 27 | 27 | 19 | 22 | 15 | 73% |
| 90% | 90% | 63% | 73% | 50% | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |



| F&GP 2021 - 11 members | | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|---------------------------|
| 08 Apr 2021 | 20 May 2021 | 16 Aug 2021 | 11 Nov 2021 | | Annual average attendance |
| 11 | 8 | 9 | 11 | | 97% |
| 100% | 88% | 100% | 100% | | |
| Audit 2021 - 4 members | | | | | |
| 08 Apr 2021 | 20 May 2021 | 16 Aug 2021 | 4 Nov 2021 | | Annual average attendance |
| 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | | 100% |
| 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | | |

TABLE 3: SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

3.4 Major Statements/Decisions of Council

At its meetings of 2021, Council approved the following Proposals/Policies/Plans/Reports/Appointments:

- Council approved the Annual Performance Plan for 2022.
- Council considered and approved the 2021 mid-year report to DHET.
- Council approved the 2020 Governance Indicators scorecard report for submission to DHET.
- Council approved the Rhodes University's Fees Booklet 2022.
- Council approved the recommendations of the meeting of the Nominations and Governance Committee of Council as follows;
 - Mr Jooste to serve a further term on both the Audit and Risk Committee and the Finance and General Purposes Committee for the period of 01 May 2021 - 30 April 2025.
 - Mr Rusa to serve a further term on Council for the period of 01 June 2021 - 31 May 2025.
 - Mr N Ravgee as a Council-appointed co-opted member of Council, for the period 23 April 2021 - 22 April 2025, subject to his availability.
- Council approved the Budget Control Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.
- Council approved the budget for the years 2021 - 2023.
- Council considered and approved the report of the special meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee of 17 February 2021 and 08 April 2021.
- Council noted the approved minutes of a meeting of the Remuneration Committee of Council dated 03 December 2020.
- Council approved the Charter as recommended by the Remuneration Committee of Council.
- Council approved the Terms of Reference as recommended by the Remuneration Committee.
- Council approved the following policies/protocols (new/revisions):
 - Common Faculty Policy and Procedures on Plagiarism (revised).
 - Rhodes University Grievance Procedure (revised).
 - Protection of Personal Information Policy (new).



- Rhodes University Policy on Community Engagement (revised).
- Research Ethics Policy: Research Involving Human Participants (revised).
- Rhodes University Equity Policy (revised).
- Rhodes University Quality Promotion Framework (revised).
- Honorary Degrees Policy (revised).
- Council approved the offer of appointment to Prof Mnwana at Professor level from 01 January 2022.
- Council approved the term of office of the Ombud for a period of two years from 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2023.
- Council approved the amended Terms of Reference of the Ombud that extend the mandate of the Ombud to include whistleblowing.
- Council considered and approved the Annual Financial Statements 2020 and Annual Report 2020.
- Council approved the establishment of an African Languages Development Unit.
- Council approved the Rhodes University Sports Council Constitution.
- Council approved the renewal of the contract of the internal auditors (Ernst and Young) for the period 01 January 2022 - 31 December 2024.
- Council considered and approved the Audited Financial Statements.
- Council reappointed PricewaterhouseCoopers Inc as external auditors for the year ending 31 December 2022.
- Council considered and approved the Operational Framework for a Vaccination Mandate.
- Council approved the recommendation for an exemption application process for those who would not be able to have the vaccine on medical or other legitimate and justifiable grounds.
- Council considered and approved the recommendation of Senate that there should be no loss of the title of (Full) Professor or Associate Professor for incumbents and future incumbents appointed to executive leadership.

Term of Office for the Vice-Chancellor

- Council noted that the term of office of the Vice-Chancellor would end on 31 October 2021 with the option of a three-year renewal to 31 October 2024.
- Council unanimously approved the extension of the term of the Vice-Chancellor from 01 November 2021 to 31 December 2027.

Council approved the following HoD and Deputy HoD appointments

- Biotechnology Innovation Centre
 - Dr Aileen Boshoff: 01 January 2021 - 30 June 2021.
- Statistics
 - Mr Jeremy Baxter as Head of Department from 01 January 2022 - 31 December 2024.
- Zoology and Entomology
 - Professor William Froneman: 01 January 2021 - 30 June 2021.



- Professor Nicole Richoux: 01 July 2021 - 31 December 2021.
- Professor Martin Villet: 01 January 2022 - 01 December 2024.
- Professor Nicole Richoux (Deputy Head of Department): 01 January 2022 - 31 December 2024.
- Professor N Richoux as Head of the Department: 01 January 2022 - 31 December 2024.
- Professor M Villet as Deputy Head of Department: 01 January 2022 - 31 December 2024.
- Environmental Science
 - Professor James Gambiza: 01 January 2021 - 30 June 2021.
 - Professor Gladman Thondhlana: 01 July 2021 - 30 June 2024.
- Political and International Studies
 - Professor Sally Matthews, extension of term of office as Head of Department: 01 July 2021 - 31 December 2021.
 - Dr S Magadla as Head of Department: 01 January 2022 - 31 December 2024.
- History
 - Professor A Kikardly as Head of Department: 01 January 2022 - 31 December 2024.
- Psychology
 - Dr L Jacobs as Head of Department: 01 January 2022 - 31 December 2024.
- Philosophy
 - Professor U B Okeja as Head of Department of Department: 01 January 2022 - 31 December 2024.
- School of Journalism and Media Studies
 - Professor L Dalvit as Deputy Head of Department: 01 July 2021 - 31 December 2021.
 - Professor Jeanne Du Toit: 01 July 2021 - 30 June 2022.
 - Mr Ryan Hancock as Head of Department: 01 July 2021 - 30 June 2022.
- Mathematics
 - Dr Eric Andriantiana as Head of Department 01 July 2021 - 30 June 2024.
- Biochemistry and Microbiology
 - Professor Heinrich Hoppe as Head of Department: 01 January 2022 - 31 December 2022.
- Accounting
 - Mr Edward Horn as Head of Department: 01 January 2022 - 31 December 2024.
 - Mr Richard Poole as Deputy Head of Department: 01 January 2022 - 31 December 2024.
- Information Systems
 - Professor Greg Foster as Head of Department: 01 January 2022 - 31 December 2024.
- Music and Musicology
 - Dr Boudina McConnachie as Head of Department: 01 July 2022 - 30 June 2025.
 - Professor Catherine Foxcroft extension of the term as Head of Department from 01 April 2022 - 30 June 2022.
- Human Kinetics and Ergonomics
 - Dr S Zschernack as Head of Department: 01 July 2021 - 30 June 2024.
- Biotechnology and Innovation Centre



- Professor E Prinsloo as Head of Department: 01 July 2021 - 30 June 2024.
- Drama
 - Professor A Kruger acting Head of Department: 01 July 2021 - 30 June 2022.

Council approved the Academic Promotions for 2022

- Associate Professor to Professor
 - Professor JA Coetzee (Research Category)
 - Professor JF Dames
 - Professor J Gambiza
 - Professor GB Glover
 - Professor EH van Coller
 - Professor C Young
- Senior Lecturer to Associate Professor
 - Dr TJ Feltham-King
 - Dr LJ Jacobs
 - Ms HJ Kruuse
 - Dr S Nsengiyumva
 - Dr IG Siebörger
- Lecturer to Senior Lecturer
 - Dr M Atemkeng Teufack
 - Dr DD Booyesen
 - Dr JP Davy
 - Dr FA Kajee
 - Ms TN Mashinini
 - Dr BE McConnachie
 - Dr N Pallitt
 - Dr A Parker
 - Dr NZ Songqwaru
 - Dr JD Thumbran
 - Dr JA Williams
 - Dr KD Wilmot

Deans and Deputy Deans

- Council approved the recommendations for candidates in the Faculty of Humanities as Deputy Deans.
 - Professor M de Jager was appointed for two and half years, effective from 01 May 2021 – 31 October 2023.



- Professor P Mwepu was appointed for a period of two and half years, effective from 01 May 2021 – 31 October 2023.
- Council approved the appointment of Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Science.
 - Dr Motara as the Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Science for the period 01 July 2021 – 31 December 2023.
- Council approved the extension of the term for the Faculty of Pharmacy
 - Dr Carmen Oltmann as the Deputy Dean for the period of six (6) months from 01 January 2022 – 30 June 2022.
- Council approved Professor S Khamanga as the Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy for the period 01 January 2022 – 31 December 2026.
- Council approved Professor Helena van Coller as the Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Law for the period 01 January 2022 – 30 June 2024.
- Council approved Professor Nhlanhla Mpofu as the Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Education for the period 01 December 2021 – 31 May 2024.
- Council approved the extension of the term of office of the Dean of the Faculty of Education, Professor D Wilmot, for a period of two months from 01 July – 31 August 2021
- Council approved the extension of the term of office of the Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Education, Professor Eureta Rosenberg for a period of three months from 01 July – 30 September 2021.

Council approved the title Professor Emeritus on the following persons:

- Professor KD Helliker, appointed as Professor in the Department of Sociology and Industrial Sociology from 01 January 2017 retiring 31 December 2021.
- Professor H Nel, appointed as Professor in the Department of Economics and Economic History from 01 July 1997 retiring 31 December 2021.
- Professor LN Strelitz appointed as Professor in the School of Journalism and Media Studies from 01 January 2006 retiring 31 December 2021.
- Professor A Terzoli, appointed as Professor in the Department of Computer Science from 01 January 2009 retiring 31 December 2021.
- Professor MG Hendricks appointed as Associate Professor from 01 April 2013 retiring 30 September 2021.

Honorary appointment nominations and renewals

- Council approved the recommendations for honorary appointments and honorary appointments renewals:

| Full Name of Nominee | Honorary Title Category | Primary Department |
|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Prof E Koide | Senior Research Associate | Humanities Faculty |
| Ms P Sakasa | Clinical Associate | Psychology |



| | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Dr S Moore | Visiting Professor | Science Faculty |
| Prof. PD Rwelamila | Visiting Professor | Humanities Faculty |
| Dr M Gustaffson | Visiting Fellow | Humanities Faculty |
| Prof T Smits | Senior Research Associate | Faculty of Education |
| Dr E Sithole | Research Associate | School of Languages |
| Mr W Sihlobo | Research Associate | Institute of Social and Economic Research |
| Dr M Jiwaji | Research Associate | Biotechnology Innovation Centre |
| Ms. S Mhlana | Research Associate | Department of Economics and Economic History |
| Dr K Simpson | Research Associate | Department of Botany |
| Dr. R Nhongo | Research Associate | School of Languages and Literatures: African Language Studies |
| Dr V Masterson | Research Associate | Anthropology |
| Dr P Henderson | Senior Research Associate | Anthropology |
| Prof C de Wet | Honorary Professor | Anthropology |
| Dr L Graham | Clinical Fellow | Faculty of Pharmacy |
| Dr G Kalyatanda | Clinical Fellow | Faculty of Pharmacy |

Council approved the following honorary appointment nominations.

| Full Name of Nominee | Honorary Title Category | Primary Department |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Prof IG Horak | Honorary Professor | Zoology and Entomology |
| Dr E Muthama | Research Associate | CHERTL |
| Dr R Chiapa | Research Associate | CHERTL |
| Dr C Groenewald | Research Associate | Psychology |
| Miss N Wannenburg | Research Associate | Psychology |
| Mr R Rumney | Research Associate | Journalism and Media Studies |
| Dr P Scherman | Senior Research Associate | IWR |



New Honorary Appointments Recommended for Council approval: 4th Quarter 2021

The following have all been through the Honorary appointment's approval process and approved by Senate at its meeting on 15 October 2021.

| Name of Nominee | Honorary Title Category | Primary Department |
|---------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Dr N Oozeer | Research Associate | Physics and Electronics |
| Mr CF Williams | Visiting Fellow | Business School |
| Dr JF Viljoen | Research Associate | Music & Musicology |
| Prof C Nyamukondiwa | Honorary Professor | Zoology and Entomology |
| Dr F Porri | Honorary Professor | Zoology and Entomology |
| Dr T Adjin-Tetty | Research Associate | School of Journalism and Media Studies |
| Dr S Nkosi | Research Associate | Psychology Department |

Other Council Decisions

- Council approved the Response to the Ministerial Task Team on the recruitment, retention and progression of Black South African Academics
- Council considered and approved the Annual Employment Equity Report
- Council considered and approved the Income Differential Report
- Council approved that the University would have virtual graduation ceremonies in 2021, which would be pre-recorded, due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- Council approved the following items as recommended to Council
 - University Budgetary Control Statement Commentary for the 4 months ended 30 April 2021.
 - University Budgetary Control Statement for the 4 months ended 30 April 2021.
 - Residence Operations Budgetary Control Statement Commentary for the 4 months ended 30 April 2021
 - Residence Operations Budgetary Control Statement for the 4 months ended 30 April 2021
 - Finance Research Report for the 3 months ended 31 March 2021
 - University Operating Cash Statement
 - Staff costs: Expectations and forecasts for 2021
- Council noted the proposed review of the Master of Arts degree in Creative Writing.
- Council approved Ms T Nyati as employee representative of the RU Provident Fund for the term of office of three years as from 01 September 2021 to 31 August 2024
- Council approved Mr T Amos as the Chairperson for the Dictionary Unit for South African English as from 09 September 2021 to 08 September 2024
- Council approved the proposed amendments to the Rhodes University Law Clinic Constitution



3.5 Statement on IT Governance

IT Governance Framework

The University applies aspects of COBIT5 and ITIL V3 frameworks for governance controls of its IT assets and services. There is collaboration and training within the sector regarding these frameworks, and staff attend workshops to understand the frameworks and apply appropriate aspects thereof.

Management and Monitoring of IT Assets

IT Assets are placed on the University's central asset register. The new FinCore system adds greater control. This has added controls to standards and the ability to support and honour warranties of all IT equipment. Network Infrastructure assets are replaced according to a structured planned process. This process is dynamic and takes into account the advances in technology and keeping up to the latest software and platform iterations. The budgeting process prioritises the ICT projects and activities, as it is understood that these projects and activities are critical to the future sustainability of the University.

The I&TS Division successfully managed the roll-out of laptops and devices to staff and students during the pandemic. This is in terms of a cyclical upgrade program for staff and the sale of devices to students through the NSFAS initiative. Assets such as laptops and desktop PCs are managed through an upgrade process. During the pandemic, the division also effectively supported the additional laptop requirements for support staff, who traditionally used desktop computers.

Significant IT Investment

The Running Grant of the Information Technology division for 2021 was divided into:

| Grant Area | Amount |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Internet Cost | R 3,135,120 |
| Software Licenses | R 14,000,000 |
| Capital Equipment and Renewal | R 5,879,508 |
| Running Grant | R 642,640 |
| TOTAL | R 23,65,268 |

In line with the University's pledge of "not to leave any student behind", 1 500 laptops valued at R8 970 000 were purchased for students who did not have digital devices as teaching and learning moved to a blended digital platform in 2020. This was continued in 2021.

Student data bundles were also provisioned in 2020 and again in 2021 for students not back on campus.



IT Related Policies/Committee

The University has an Information and Technology Steering Committee, which is a sub-committee of Senate. Strategic inputs from major technology-driven Divisions are tabled at the committee. The committee has representation from Information & Technology Services, Teaching & Learning, Library Services, Communication and Advancement, and Academic Departments such as Computer Science and Information Systems and Finance. This committee discusses IT-related strategy and receives operating reports from Information and Technology Services, Library, Web Unit and the Computer Laboratory Sub-Committee. This Committee approves and signs off the Governance controls regarding central financial systems and servers.

An annual IT General Controls review was performed by the external auditor PricewaterhouseCoopers Inc. and tabled at the Audit and Risk Committee. The final 2021 report has been considered by the Committee.

In reviewing the strategic risk register, cyber risk has been identified as one of the top risks facing the University. Rhodes University is taking appropriate steps to enhance its controls and safeguards, and where necessary has had engagements with specialist advisors to assist with aspects thereof.



Judge G H Bloem
Chairperson of Council

Date: 15 June 2022



4. COUNCIL STATEMENT ON SUSTAINABILITY

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 approximately 65% to the GDP of the Makana municipal region. Some of the key factors contributing to this high proportion are:

- Rhodes University paid R 31.3 million (2020: R35.4 million) for municipal services in 2021; and R17.4 million (2020: R16.9 million) in municipal rates and taxes.
- The University is by far the largest employer in the region. This is underpinned by the University's commitment to “in-sourcing” 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, where possible local SMMEs are considered for outsourced work at University.
- In its procurement policy, the University committed itself to striving 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 Makana community and that the University recognises and affirms that its future and success are inextricably linked to the future and success of the greater Makana 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 Makhanda;
- iii. establish Makhanda 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. Financial sustainability

In 2018 the Council of the University approved an institutional development plan (IDP) that will provide a “compass” for the strategic direction the University will take for the next 5 years. This direction is informed by a financial sustainability plan approved by Council during 2017.

- d. The Vice-Chancellor has appointed a Financial Sustainability Task Team (FSTT) under the leadership of the Chief Financial Officer (CFO). The FSTT has considered various financial scenarios/models, including cash-flow plans and cash preservation. Given the fluidity of both the higher education sector, in general, and the University’s financial situation, the FSTT updates operating budgets and forecasts regularly. The Finance and General Purposes Committee (F&GP) and Council are regularly kept abreast of any material developments and change vis-à-vis the University’s financial position.

The principles on which the forecasting and scenario planning models have been based are:

- Successful continuation of the academic project.
- Social justice: no student should be left behind.
- Financial sustainability of the University.
- Cash preservation.
- Preserving the employment of current staff as far as possible.

e. Student numbers

Detailed student statistics are provided elsewhere in this Report. Over the past decade, in implementing its commitment to making the University accessible to students from poor and working-class backgrounds, the University has provided over R200 million of its funds (over and above the NSFAS allocation) to students requiring financial assistance. The recovery rate of these funds through NSFAS 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.

f. Outstanding research output

Rhodes University accounts for about 0.8% of total student headcount in the Sector but attracts close to 3% of sector research output grant. Our University has one of the highest research outputs per capita as well as the highest concentration per capita of SARCHi Chairs in the sector.



g. Academic staff

There is high demand for qualified academics in the higher education sector in South Africa particularly in the scarce skills areas. Arising from its own experiences of difficulty in appointing and retaining academic staff in certain disciplines, Rhodes University has developed a Staff Accelerated Development Programme using Mellon and Kresge funding to “grow its own timber”. This model has formed the basis of the national nGAP (new generation of academics programme) developed by the DHET to address this issue nationally.

h. Environmental sustainability

Rhodes University is one of five South African universities to sign the Talloires Declaration in 1996, which commits the University to practise and promote environmental literacy. The University’s Environmental Sustainability Policy of 1998, currently under review, aims to promote environmental sustainability best practices within the ambit of the University’s resource constraints. The University has also established a Green Fund to support learning and practice regarding 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 (rainwater harvesting, heat pumps, natural lighting and temperature control, motion sensors, etc.) within the budget constraints.

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 committed to resolutely pursuing knowledge, understanding, critique and reason; to steadfastly continue to promote human dignity, equality, non-sexism and non-racialism, critical citizenship and all aspects of human rights and freedoms that are proclaimed in the Constitution of our country, 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.



Judge G H Bloem
Chairperson of Council

Date: 15 June 2022



5. COUNCIL STATEMENT ON TRANSFORMATION

Rhodes University seeks to address institutional transformation in a number of ways. One crucial area of development is in the documentation of transformation through policy updates and written contributions that are accessible to a broader audience. Our main outputs centring around transformation in 2021 were:

- RRPBSAA report - the office produced the Rhodes University response to the DHET Ministerial Task Team, Recruitment Retention and Progression of Black South African Academics Report;
- Institutional Transformation Implementation Plan Report (ITP) - consultation phase with all the Divisions/Faculties and Institutes has been finalised and submitted. The report will be launched in 2022;
- Translation of two policies from English to Afrikaans and IsiXhosa;
- Sexual Offences Policy for Students;
- Eradicating Unfair Discrimination and Harassment other than Sexual harassment;
- We have also contributed to the DHET online resources with our quarterly Inguquko newsletter.



The Awareness-Raising work took advantage of the online space and hosted a series of Consent Talks and Transformation training workshops from Orientation week until the third term. The virtual platform increased student participation and allowed them to engage anonymously in the dialogues.

- Training and introduction to the E&IC office - 250 student leaders
- 2 Consent Talks (Orientation week) - 1900 first-year students
- 12 Hall consent talks - 600 students
- Consent Pillowcase Drive (working with 50 student leaders) – 1500 pillowcases distributed to First-Years



- 7 GBV talks (on request) - 250 students

The New Generation of Academic Programme (nGAP) is another crucial aspect of transformation. It continues to be an important mechanism for the university to attract and retain young academics across the system into the academy. In 2021, 24 Rhodes University colleagues participated in the programme. This number is as high as our sister universities, whose academic staffing complement is significantly higher than our Institution.

DHET sent out the annual invitation for institutions to participate in the seventh Phase of the nGAP. Rhodes University motivated and was approved for four nGAP posts. In January 2022, the following colleagues will take up academic positions participating in their first of six years of the programme:

- Dr Phemelo Hellemann (Education) - graduating in April 2022
- Ms Odifentse Lehasa (Information Systems) - old Rhodian back from industry
- Ms Karabelo Ramosala (Psychology) - registered with HPCSA
- Ms Unami Sibanda (Pharmacy) - completed compulsory Health Professionals Community Service

We experienced considerable delays filling the History post that was approved as part of the sixth cohort of nGAP. The History department is delighted that Ms Zola Mbinda accepted the contract and will join the university in January 2022 and be part of the seventh cohort.

A signal that the programme is achieving one of the expected outcomes is the number of colleagues graduating with a PhD within the 6-year period. Dr Thoko Sipungu joins colleagues who have graduated. He attained a PhD in Sociology which was confirmed in the virtual graduation ceremony in October 2021.

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6. THE REPORT OF COUNCIL ON RISK ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF RISK

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



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

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 an independent auditor or a specialist. Where there have been cases of impropriety, appropriate action has been taken against the individuals and enhancements to the controls have been made.

Financial sustainability, the maintenance of campus infrastructure, the uncertainty of the trajectory of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the inability of the local municipality to provide basic services remain significant risks to the University. Health and safety, human capital management, transformation and campus security continue to receive due attention.



The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly affected all aspects of the University's operations and activities. Rhodes University will feel the financial and other impacts of COVID-19 for a long time. University leadership has put in place many measures, protocols, and processes to ensure the health and safety of students and staff and ensure that the academic programme continues. Steps have also been taken to protect the University's financial position, both short and long term.

Rhodes University 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. The implementation of the new financial system (Oracle Cloud Financial) in 2022 will further enhance and strengthen the control environment at Rhodes University.

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



Mr H C Staple

Chairperson of Audit and Risk Committee

15 June 2022



Prof S Mabizela

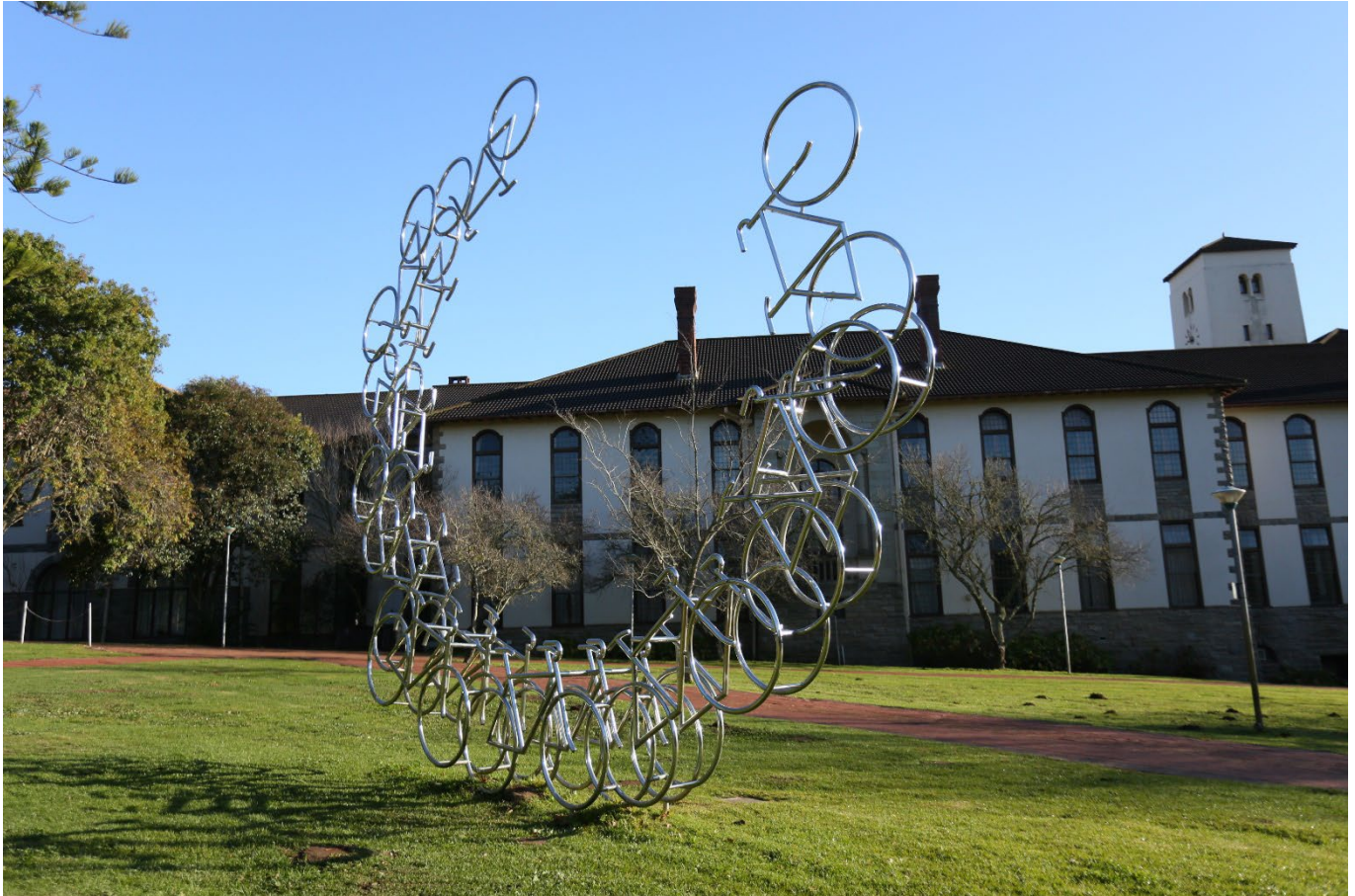
Chairperson of Enterprise Risk Management Committee

Date: 15 June 2022



7. REPORT ON INTERNAL ADMINISTRATIVE/OPERATIONAL STRUCTURES AND CONTROLS

Rhodes University maintains a system of internal controls that governs 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 and Risk Committee (“the 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 ongoing monitoring of strategic and operational risks. External and internal audit plans are presented to the Committee for approval based on the risks identified in this process. The Committee monitors the progress of planned audits and ensures that the reported controls deficiencies are appropriately and timeously addressed by management.



The annual statutory, compliance and required specialist audits are outsourced to third parties. An independent external party that is accountable to the Committee performs internal audits. A Rhodes University Internal Audit charter is in place and reviewed regularly.

During the latter part of 2019, the University appointed Ernst & Young as internal auditors. The COVID-19 pandemic delayed some of their work in 2020, mainly due to the closure of the campus. A revised internal audit plan for 2021 has been presented to the Audit and Risk Committee for consideration and approval. The revised internal audit plan focuses on specific key risk areas and has been approved by the Audit and Risk Committee. The scope and coverage, as well as any findings of internal audit activities, are standing agenda matters for the Committee.

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

The implementation of the new financial system, FinCore (Oracle Cloud Financials) has commenced and is progressing well. The financial system is still scheduled to "go live" in January 2022. As part of the University's ongoing modernisation initiatives, projects to improve the digital technology of the teaching and learning model and enhance the University's surveillance system to improve the safety and security of students and staff and safeguard the University's assets.



Mr H C Staple
Chairperson of Audit & Risk Committee
Management Committee

Date: 15 June 2022



Mr K M Riga
Chief Financial Officer

Date: 15 June 2022



8. VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT ON MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Introduction

Just like the 2020 academic year, the 2021 one was dominated by the once-in-a-century pandemic - the COVID-19 virus. We had to live, work and learn under the challenges, disruptions and uncertainties of the COVID-19 pandemic. We were tested and stretched to the limit by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has been hard on all of us, including our families and friends. But we have endured. We have all experienced immense stress, strain and anxiety. Many of our staff and students had to juggle many roles – as a parent, a caregiver to a sick family member, a teacher and tutor to one's children who had to learn online, a loving and caring partner or spouse, a diligent employee or a conscientious student of Rhodes University, and much more.

When the 2021 academic year started, the COVID-19 situation had deteriorated. The numbers of new daily infections, hospital admissions and deaths had risen sharply. These were driven by a new and highly transmissible COVID-19 variant which had just been identified. The experience gained in 2020 and the systems, processes, procedures and protocols put in place in 2020 made it possible for us to navigate these challenges reasonably well. It is a great tribute to our students and staff that, in spite of the immense challenges, disruptions and devastation of the COVID-19 pandemic, our University was able to remain true and faithful to its academic mission and purpose.

As always, the decisions we have made and the actions taken during the course of the year have been underpinned by our abiding commitment to our students' academic progress and success. We have endeavoured to ensure that no student was left behind and that social justice remained at the core of all that we did. We have endeavoured to provide our students with quality and life-changing higher education while simultaneously ensuring the health, safety and wellbeing of our students, staff and the surrounding Makhanda community.

In spite of the constraints and difficulties encountered as a consequence of the pandemic, there were many achievements and successes in 2021. Some of the collective achievements of our students and staff are recorded in other parts of this report. For that, we are immeasurably indebted to our students and staff. It is their hard work, tenacity, perseverance, steadfast determination and sheer grit that sustained our University throughout the academic year and culminated in a highly successful year. The pandemic has shown us that we are more resilient and adaptable than we might have imagined. It has brought out the best in us. And, we have been able to advance the common good of our University.

Financial Position

- The University's annual financial statements, which are part of this report, show that, notwithstanding the additional expenditure associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, the University's financial position remained strong in 2021. The exercise of fiscal prudence and discipline ensured that our University was able to conclude the 2021 Financial Year in a strong financial position.



- Total assets increased by R233.6m, with the investment portfolio performing well and an increase in cash and cash equivalence. Equity and reserve funds increased by R279.9m to R1.9b. The Council unrestricted component of reserves has increased by R29.3m to R261.8m (2020: R232.4m).
- Despite the pressure of the pandemic, our University paid salaries to all its employees without fail. There was no consideration of laying off people or reducing salaries of staff. Additional and unplanned expenditure was incurred in our efforts to meet the COVID-19 safety protocols. We had to provide mobile data bundles to students in order to ensure their academic progress and success.
- We were fortunate to receive funding from the Oppenheimer Memorial Trust, which assisted in bolstering our Learning Management System.
- We are deeply appreciative of the funding received from our donors and funders who have stayed the course with us. We are also grateful to staff for their understanding, flexibility and forbearance when funding could not be made available for some of the activities they might have wanted to undertake.

Infrastructure refurbishment, upgrade and development

The strict lockdown restrictions imposed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic meant that physical presence on campus had to be kept at an absolute minimum. All infrastructure refurbishments and development had to be halted. With the easing of the lockdown restrictions as the year progressed, the maintenance, renovation, and building projects resumed. These include:

- The completion of the Jan Smuts Dining Hall and Kitchen upgrade and refurbishment project.
- The completion of the College House refurbishment project is projected.
- The completion of Phase 3 of the electrical compliance project.
- The continuation of Phase 4 Medium voltage network upgrade project.
- 23 smaller projects (R10 000 – R1m) such as maintenance of residences and academic facilities, painting of buildings, and repair of roofs.

The African Studies Centre received funding from its German partners to install a 14KVa solar system to cater for the power needs of Randell House, which houses the Faculty of Humanities and the African Studies Centre

Enhanced Student Experience

- In 2017, the Department of Information Systems commissioned its own virtual classroom, the BigBlueButton. During 2021, the Department has used this virtual classroom to support synchronous engagement with remotely located students and tutors. This has proved invaluable. Tutors have been given their own accounts on the server, which has meant that they could tutor remotely located students using this platform. A further benefit is that any lecture sessions are recorded and made available for students to view. The server is zero-Data rated for students reviewing lectures, which has mitigated social justice concerns.
- The first online edition of the Economics Department Postgraduate Student conference was held on the 14th and 15th of October 2021. Keynote speakers were Busi Sibeko (economist and researcher at the Institute for Economic Justice), and Mr Stuart Theobald (co-founder and executive chairman of Intellidex, a research-led consultancy that specialises in capital markets and financial services based in London).



- The Rhodes Business School is introducing a new module: Entrepreneurial and Technological Empowerment Program (ETEP), in the Postgraduate Diploma in Enterprise Management full-time programme in collaboration with the College of Business, Bowie State University, United States of America. Different stages of the programme incorporate curriculum design and virtual and physical exchanges, including Sarah Baartman District Municipality-based Cooperatives supported by the Department of Social Development. ETEP will link USA-based firms with local communities through joint teaching and learning of RSA-RU & USA-BSU business enterprise students on suitable technologies for entrepreneurs and application of these with our local Co-ops. This is being driven by Prof Tshidi Mohapeloa and Mr Thabang Moleko.
- Mr J Rohlandt, MBA student, Rhodes Business School, was awarded the Archbishop Thabo Makgoba Development Trust Responsible Leadership Essay Prize.
- Ms M Ngobeni, Department of Management, was placed second in the local Rhodes University 3MT competition and went on to represent the University nationally.
- Ms C McCann (Masters Student, Department of Economics) won a Rhodes scholarship to Oxford.

Research and creative endeavours...

- Despite the real challenges of the ongoing pandemic, our University maintained its position as a formidable powerhouse of research, innovation and intellectual creativity. Our intellectual space is our strength as we contribute to local, national, continental and international solutions to some of humankind's grand challenges. Our academics continued to produce ground-breaking research and creative outputs which push back the boundaries of human knowledge and deepen our understanding of what it means to be fully human. All this is for the advancement of humanity.
- Our researchers are recognised nationally and internationally by their peers as leaders and experts in their fields of research. We are one of the universities with the highest research productivity per academic in South Africa. We have the highest concentration of research chairs per thousand students in South Africa. We are part of the continental African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA). This is a highly selective alliance of research-intensive in the African continent. In this regard, our Institute for Water Research (IWR) holds the distinction of being ARUA's Centre of Excellence on Water Research.
- In the year under review, our academics and researchers continued to excel in the research mission of our University. They participated and contributed to national and international conferences and other scholarly meetings.
- Some of our colleagues organised and hosted national and international webinar engagements. We thank all academics and researchers for raising the scholarly profile, standing and reputation of our University.
- The DSI/NRF SARCHI SA Numeracy Chair in the Education Faculty achieved particular success with its research-informed programme Mathematics Mental Starters Assessment Project (MSAP), which is a collaboration between the two numeracy Chairs in South Africa, Prof Mellony Graven from Rhodes and Hamsa Venkat of Wits, and the Department of Basic Education. This research-led work was translated into all official languages in 2021, allowing for the programme to be scaled across all provinces.
- The Education Faculty's participation in the South African Education Research Association's conference was a highlight involving staff and students across disciplines in Education. The SAERA conference is the premier



national research event in Education, and the 2021 conference was organised by Wits University, with Rhodes graduates on the organising team. No fewer than 29 Rhodes staff and students presented papers, two Rhodes publications were launched, and Distinguished Prof Heila Lotz-Sisitka of the ELRC gave a keynote address. The Education Faculty's post-graduate students participated actively by organising and chairing panels as well as presenting.

- Education Faculty members in Mathematics and Science participated in the 29th Annual conference of SAARMSTE, the Southern African Association for Research in Mathematics, Science and Technology Education (online, hosted by the National University of Lesotho). Dr Samukeliso Chikiwa and Prof Mellony Graven; Drs Lise Westaway and Pamela Vale presented long papers based on their research. Prof Graven, Dr Vale, doctoral student and teacher Tarryn Lovemore, Demi Edwards, Tammy Booysen, Dr Chikiwa, and doctoral student Wellington Hokonya, all presented Short Papers. Representing our Science Education programme, Prof Ken Ngcoza and students also presented at the 29th Annual Conference of SAARMSTE.

Research funding...

In 2021 our academics and researchers were hugely successful in securing significant amounts of competitive funding. Our annual report will provide detailed information in this regard. Among others,

- Dr Vincent Smith and colleagues in the Department of Chemistry were awarded a R6 million grant through the NRF National Equipment programme to purchase an X-ray Diffractometer for research at Rhodes University and neighbouring universities.
- Prof Sandile Khamanga was awarded a grant of about R1.35m through the National Equipment Programme of the NRF to acquire an Electronic Tongue (E-Tongue) instrument, which uses an array of sensors.
- Prof Tshidi Mohapeloa and Mr Thabang Moleko received a grant of R4 million from the Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA) to establish the Rhodes University Centre for Entrepreneurship Rapid Incubator (RUCEFRI).
- Dr Duane Booysen of the Department of Psychology successfully applied for and received a R500 000 grant funding from the South African Medical Research Council (2021-2023). His funded project is an effectiveness-implementation clinical trial that investigates the effectiveness, feasibility, and acceptability of treating post-traumatic stress among persons in low resource settings in Makhanda. It is an international collaboration between him and Professor Sheila Rauch from Emory University (USA).
- Prof Nelson Odume of the Institute for Water Research (IWR) received an amount of €1 398 925 for the African water resources mobility network (AWarMN) for building transdisciplinary capacity for sustainable water resource management in Africa.
- Prof Dion Nkomo of the School of Languages & Literatures received a grant of €758 012.00 for the project: Boosting the use of African Languages in Education- A qualified, organised nationwide development for South Africa (BAQONDE).
- Distinguished Prof Martin Hill of the Centre for Biological Control received funding to the amount of R2 247 102.00 for a grouping of citrus research projects.
- Prof Jen Snowball of the Department of Economics and Economic History received a grant of R261 944.45 for a joint project with the Nelson Mandela University on the challenges of pivoting to digital: the COVID-19 shutdown and cultural festivities and events.



- Prof Jen Snowball of the Department of Economics and Economic History received a grant of R300 916.64 for a joint project with the Nelson Mandela University and the Neil Aggett Labour Studies Unit (NALSU) for the project “Measuring the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on the cultural and creative industries in South African – one year on.”
- Prof Jen Snowball of the Department of Economics and Economic History received a grant of R1 608 390 for a joint project with the Nelson Mandela University and the Neil Aggett Labour Studies Unit (NALSU) for the project “Mapping Studies Reports: Mapping the Cultural and Creative Industries in South Africa Field: Mapping Studies Reports.”
- Prof Tally Palmer of the Institute for Water Research (IWR) received a grant of £282 381.60 for a collaboration project with Professor Francis Cleaver of the University of Lancaster on unlocking resilient benefits from African water resources.
- Professor Janice Limson of the Biotechnology Innovation Centre received a grant of R1 454 743.80 for the M-ERA NET Materials Research Innovation Programme.
- Dr Chikas Nnadozie of the Institute for Water Research (IWR) received funding to the amount of R1 450 000.00 from the Water Research Commission to undertake an investigation of the occurrence and risk of infection of pathogenic and antibiotic-resistant *Caplobacter* species in selected source waters within the Kowie catchment, Eastern Cape, South Africa.
- Prof Cyril Mbatha of the Institute for Social and Economic Research (ISER) received funding to the amount of R1 500 000.00 from the Water Research Commission (WRC) for a participatory course to activate ecological infrastructure for water security learning networks.
- Prof Eureka Rosenberg of the Environmental Learning Resource Centre (ELRC) received a grant to the amount of \$18 000.00 for the project “Building a Community of Practice for the TRANSECTS Research Training Partnership (TRANSdisciplinary Education and Collaboration for Transformation in Sustainability).”
- Prof Eureka Rosenberg of the Environmental Learning Resource Centre (ELRC) received a grant to the amount of €56 493.36 for the project “Transitioning of ESD Expert Net Products into National Structure in South Africa 2021 - 2022.”
- Prof Anthony R Palmer of the Institute for Water Research (IWR) received a grant to the amount of £80 686.30 for the project “Evaluating people-environment trade-offs through low-tech intensification of livestock management in communal grazing systems in South Africa.”
- Professor Helena Pohlandt-McCormick of the History Department received a grant of

R5 million as SA-Swiss collaboration for a project into sound, as a site of political and cultural struggle, social and identity formation, entitled *Sounding the Land*. The project is a collaboration between Rhodes University, the University of Fort Hare and the University of Basel.

- Prof Shankar Aswani of the Department of Ichthyology & Fisheries Science received a grant to the amount of US\$249 856.00 for the Belmont Forum Collaborative Research: Negotiating Ocean Conflicts among Rivals for Sustainable and Equitable Solutions (NOCRISES).
- Dr Jo-Anne de la Mare of the Department of Biotechnology & Microbiology received a grant of R501 873.00 for the project “Establishment and characterisation of a panel of cervical carcinoma cell lines from the Eastern Cape patients: towards more relevant disease models for drug discovery in Africa.”



- Distinguished Professor Heila Lotz-Sisitka of the Environmental Learning Resource Centre (ELRC) received a grant of US\$422 313.34 for the project “Capacity Building for Teachers in ESD Advanced Regional Training Programme (ARTP) in Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) for ECCE, Primary, Secondary and TVET Teacher Educators in Southern Africa.”
- Prof Tally Palmer of the Institute for Water Research (IWR) and Professor Barnabas Nawangwe of Makerere University received a grant of £65 466.41 for the project “Unlocking resilient benefits from African water resources.”
- Nosiseko Mtati and Penny Jaca, Department of Environmental Science, received a grant of R500 000.00 for the project “Using citizen science to protect natural untreated drinking water sources: natural springs in rural catchments and B3 municipalities in the Eastern Cape.”
- Dr Dylan McGarry of the Environmental Learning Resources Centre (ELRC) received a grant of £252 567.08 for the One Ocean Hub.
- Professor Charles Young, Dr Ulandi du Plessis and Professor Catriona Macleod of the Department of Psychology received a grant of R494 697.00 for the project “Pregnancy supportability: holistic health systems responses to maternal health during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.”
- Professor Charles Young and Dr Duane Booyesen of the Department of Psychology received a grant of R499 425.00 for the project “Implementation of prolonged exposure therapy for PTSD at a community Psychology Clinic in a low resource context: A hybrid -1 effectiveness- implementation clinical trial.”
- Professor Charlie Shackleton of the Department of Environmental Science received a grant of €2 049 270.00 for the project “Challenges for Inclusive Urban Development in Africa: Designing Nature-based solutions and enhancing citizenship to mitigate hazards and livelihoods risks.”
- The Rhodes Business School received a grant of R9 million to provide educational programmes in partnership with the National School of Government for a period of 5 years.
- Education Faculty researchers participate in and lead international research collaborations that contribute to Rhodes’ third-stream income. The DSI/NRF SARCHI Chair in Global Change and Social Learning Systems in the Education Faculty, for example, participated in an international proposal for a UNITWIN/UNESCO Network, which was approved in February 2021 by UNESCO in Paris, with an overall budget of ca. USD 500,000 per annum. This Network will focus on teacher education and the SDGs. The project links over 50 institutions worldwide and a network of five leading UNESCO Chairs internationally. While the SARCHI Chair is the main partner from Africa, Rhodes University graduates are also leading participation from the Universities of Lesotho and Botswana.
- An international River Commons Project was successfully funded by INREF (the Wageningen Interdisciplinary Research and Education Fund in the Netherlands) with a partnership across six continents in which the DSI/NRF SARCHI Chair in Global Change and Social Learning Systems in the Education Faculty is the main African partner. This project is funded to the value of €1.778.516 over 60 months and will support the tuition and travel of PhD students studying the learning aspects of the governance of iconic rivers around the world.
- In September 2021, Professor Maureen De Jager received R2 million to support the new practice-based PhD in Fine Art practice from the Oppenheimer Memorial Trust.



Graduation Ceremonies

In April, we celebrated with our graduating students and their parents, guardians and families as their degrees, diplomas and certificates were conferred upon them by our Chancellor, Justice Lex Mpati, via a virtual platform. The Chancellor conferred degrees and awarded diplomas and certificates to 2 204 candidates. Of these, 1317 received an undergraduate degree, and 887, a postgraduate degree, diploma or certificate. We are delighted that 66% of the graduating candidates were women, 16% were international students, and 52 PhD graduates. We are always deeply humbled and inspired by the fabulous achievements of our students.

In this virtual graduation ceremony, the Chancellor conferred six (6) honorary degrees on highly eminent individuals in recognition and celebration of their extraordinary lifetime achievements and contributions in a field of knowledge or scholarship, in public service or in artistic creation. Their personal journeys and selfless service and sacrifices serve as an inspiration and an example worthy of emulation by all of us. The recipients of the honorary degrees were: Adv Dumisa Buhle Ntsebeza SC, Dr Marguerite Poland, Mama Ntsiki Biko, Mr William Smith, Ms Mary de Haas and Prof Berhau Abegaz.

In this ceremony, we also paid tribute to the recipients of the 2020 Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Awards. These were: Prof Ozlem Tastan Bishop (Research), Ms Mapula Maponya (Community Engagement) and Dr Sandra Rowoldt Shell (Book Award).

At the end of October, we celebrated with our postgraduate students and their loved ones when we held our second postgraduate graduation ceremony via a virtual platform. The Chancellor conferred degrees on 216 graduates. Of these, 162 (75%) were Master's degree graduates, while 54 (25%) received their doctoral degree qualification. Of these graduates, 112 (52%) were male and 104 (48%) female students. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the graduates were international students. We are a small University. However, there is nothing small about our postgraduate pedigree and standing in the country and in the continent.

The Chancellor also conferred two honorary degrees, Doctor of Science (*honoris causa*) and Doctor of Letters (*honoris causa*), on Prof Salim Abdul Karim and Ms Noxolo Grootboom, respectively.

Our heartfelt congratulations go to all our graduates, recipients of honorary degrees and the Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Awards.

Personal achievements of staff and students

A number of our colleagues successfully completed a new qualification in 2021. This underscores the fact that ours is a learning institution and that academic and support staff set a good example for our students.

- Dineo Diale of the Department of Psychology completed a certificate of competence for the Doctoral supervision course in 2021. The course is a collaboration between African and European Universities. This was the first time it was offered in 2020 and was facilitated by Sioux McKenna and Chrissie Boughey together with colleagues from neighbouring countries as well as European colleagues. She also received an award



at Nelson Mandela University for her contribution in the School of Industrial Psychology, as well as Human Resources for the year 2020.

- Dr T Friderichs, Department of Economics, graduated with her PhD at the October 2021 Graduation Ceremony.
- Dr G Baduza, Department of Information Systems, graduated with her PhD in the 2021 Graduation Ceremony. She was among the first to receive the nGAP funding from the Department of Higher Education & Training.
- Dr S Memela, Department of Geography, graduated with her PhD in the 2021 Graduation Ceremony. She was among the first to receive the nGAP funding from the Department of Higher Education & Training.
- Dr Kavish Jawahar, Department of Education, graduated with his PhD from the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal.
- Ms C Cuthbert, Rhodes Business School, obtained her Certificate in Business Data Analytics from the International Institute of Business Analysis (IIBA).
- Ms S Tommy, Rhodes Business School, obtained her Diploma in Financial Management from East Cape Midlands College.
- Ms L Maholo, Department of Management, graduated with her MCom degree.
- Associate Professor Nhlanhla Mpofo of the Education Faculty led a new collaboration with the University of Antwerp in which a Memorandum of Understanding was signed for a funded research project on the Learning impact of translanguaging in multilingual content-based instruction classrooms. The project will include exchange visits and support for postgraduate students from South Africa and Belgium. In her first year at Rhodes University, Associate Professor Mpofo also initiated research collaborations related to language learning between the faculties of Education, Science and Humanities.
- Prof Mellony Graven, the DSI/NRF SA Numeracy Chair in the Education Faculty, was invited to chair and coordinate a plenary panel on Mathematics education reform post-2020: Conversations towards building back better at the 14th International Congress on Mathematical Education (ICME). ICME is the largest gathering of mathematics educators in the world, and an invitation to do an ICME plenary is one of the most prestigious invitations in the field of mathematics education. (Reference: Graven, M., Borba, M., Jablonka, E., Martin, D. & Subramaniam, K. (2021). Plenary Panel 2: Mathematics education reform post-2020: Conversations towards building back better. 14th International Congress on Mathematical Education (ICME), East China Normal University, Shanghai, China).
- Ms Amanda Nesi of the Department of Education was nominated as a member of USAf's Community of Practice for African Languages (CoPAL).
- Ms Anthea Adams of CHERTL played a strategic role in the organisation of HELTASA 2021, as an active member of the programme development team who also provided mentoring to novice reviewers of programme abstracts. HELTASA is the Higher Education Learning and Teaching Association of Southern Africa.
- Mr Sikhumbuzo Sibanda of the Institute of Englishes in Africa (ISEA) was elected as president of the National Association of English Teachers of South Africa. NAETSA held its first conference from 26 to 27 March 2021. Two other ISEA staff (Ms Khaya Fulani and Dr Qiana Gray) presented workshops, while Mr Sibanda did a presentation on the future of this new Association.
- Five members of the Environmental Learning Research Centre in the Education Department (A-Prof Lausanne Olvitt, D-Prof Heila Lotz-Sisitka, Prof Ingrid Schudel, Emeritus Prof Rob O'Donoghue and Dr Dylan



McGarry) co-authored a book titled *Environmental Ethics: A Sourcebook for Educators* with the lead author Emeritus Professor Bob Jickling from Lakehead University, Canada: ITSI and Google Books.

- Prof Mellony Graven, the DSI/NRF SA Numeracy Chair in the Education Faculty, collaborated with leading international expert in equity in mathematics education, Prof Robyn Jorgensen, to publish a book titled *Merging Numeracy with Literacy Practices for Equity in Multilingual Early Year Settings*. Published by Springer, the book is the culmination of five years of collaborative research across Australia and South Africa in under-served and multilingual contexts. Reference: Jorgensen, R. & Graven, M. (2021) *Merging Numeracy with Literacy Practices for Equity in Multilingual Early Year Settings*. Springer: Singapore. ISBN 978-981-16-7766-3 and e-book 978-981-16-7760-0 doi/10.1007/978-981-16-7767-0
- The NRF renewed the award to the DSI/NRF SARChI Chair in Global Change and Social Learning Systems in the Education Faculty which started its second five-year cycle in January. This Chair convenes an NRF COP (Community of Practice) on Social Learning and Sustainable Development which involves 11 Research Chairs from six Universities, as well as a new Early Career Network involving 20 Masters and PhD scholars. The Environmental Learning Research Centre convened the National Environmental Skills Summit in September, which included a research colloquium of transdisciplinary scientists and policy makers as part of the NRF CoP. The colloquium was opened by Dr Makobetsa Khathi of the NRF, and Mr Imraan Patel of the DSI gave the closing remarks.
- Ms Luyanda Hadebe of the Education Faculty received the Student Volunteer of the Year 2021 award from RUCE (Rhodes University Community Engagement). Luyanda completed a Commerce degree before enrolling for a PGCE in 2021. The Volunteer of the Year is chosen annually from among 800 student volunteers. Ms Hadebe has been in the Student Volunteer programme for four of her five years at Rhodes University, and built up such experience that she now co-facilitates training sessions and mentors new volunteers. Her community engagement has defined her career trajectory by encouraging her to extend her studies with an educational qualification, so that she can continue 'brightening her corner'.
- Selloane Mokuku co-wrote a play called DIPALO with Ginni Manning (UK), and it won the 2021 Standard Bank Ovation Award (Bronze)
- Distinguished Professor Catriona MacLeod received a Lifetime Achievement award at the International Society of Critical Health Psychology for her outstanding scholarship in the field of Health Psychology.
- Professor Kirk Helliker has published two edited books with his former postgraduate students.

We extend our warm and heartiest congratulations to these colleagues and celebrate with them in their achievements.

Personal promotions...

We offer our heartfelt congratulations to all colleagues who achieved a personal promotion in their academic rank.

They are:

Associate Professor to Professor

Professor JA Coetzee (Research Category); Professor JF Dames; Professor J Gambiza; Professor GB Glover; Professor EH van Coller; Professor C Young.



Senior Lecturer to Associate Professor

Dr TJ Feltham-King; Dr LJ Jacobs; Ms HJ Kruise; Dr S Nsengiyumva; Dr IG Siebörger.

Lecturer to Senior Lecturer

Dr M Atemkeng Teufack; Dr DD Booyesen; Dr JP Davy; Dr FA Kajee; Ms TN Mashinini; Dr BE McConnachie; Dr N Pallitt; Dr A Parker; Dr NZ Songqwaru; Dr JD Thumbran; Dr JA Williams; Dr KD Wilmot.

Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Awards recipients

Our University recognises excellence in learning and teaching, research and community engagement through the award of the Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Awards. We are delighted to recognise the following colleagues for their outstanding contributions to our University.

- Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Awards
 - The recipient of the 2020 Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award in the category of more than ten years' experience was Mr David Fryer of the Department of Economics in the Faculty of Commerce.
 - The recipient of the 2021 special Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award in the category of ten or fewer years' experience was Dr Jessica Cockburn of the Department of Environmental Science in the Faculty of Science.
 - The recipient of the 2021 special Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award in the category of more than ten years' experience was Prof Kevin Lobb of the Department of Chemistry in the Faculty of Science.
- Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Research Awards
 - The recipient of the Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Research Award for 2021 was Prof Philani Mashazi of the Department of Chemistry.
 - The recipient of the Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Senior Research Award for 2021 was Professor Rod Walker of the Faculty of Pharmacy.
- Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Community Engagement Award
 - The recipient of the Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Community Engagement Award for 2021 was Prof Rod Walker of the Faculty of Pharmacy.
- Vice-Chancellor's Book Award
 - The recipient of the Vice-Chancellor's Boor Award for 2021 was Dr Bongani Nyoka of the Department of Political and International Studies for his book entitled: *The Social and Political Thought of Archie Mafeje*.

Congratulations to all these recipients of our University's distinguished awards.

Flying our University flag high...

As always, our staff, students and other members of our Rhodes University family flew the Rhodes University flag with great honour and distinction and managed to rack up significant national and international accolades. Amongst these are:



- Distinguished Professor Tebello Nyokong was honoured by McMaster University with an honorary degree, Doctor of Science (*hc*). This is her fifth honorary degree, a tremendous achievement.
- Distinguished Professor Tebello Nyokong was honoured at the NRF Awards Ceremony for the repeat award of an NRF A rating.
- Distinguished Professor Heila Lotz-Sisitka and her team on their successful proposal on the establishment of a UNITWIN Cooperation Programme with the Network on Education for Sustainable Development and Social Transformation.
- Professor Dion Nkomo, our most recent SARChI Chair awardee in the School of Languages and Literatures. Professor Nkomo was our nominee to succeed Professor Russell Kaschula in the SARChI Chair in the Intellectualisation of African Languages, Multilingualism. The National Research Foundation's process returned very positive review reports of the Chair's accomplishment to date and the suitability of Prof Nkomo to lead it into the future, and the chair has retained its tier 1 status.
- Distinguished Professor Catriona Macleod and her team in the SARChI Chair in *Critical Studies in Sexualities and Reproduction*, in their intellectual recognition by the International Society of Critical Health Psychology's 2021 awards. Rhodes University has been acknowledged across the board, with the Emerging Researcher Award going to Dr Ally Gibson (a former student of the Chair who is now an academic at Victoria University, Wellington), the mid-career Researcher Award going to Dr Tracy Morrison (a PhD graduate of Rhodes University, now a senior lecturer at Massey University), and the Society's Lifetime Achievement Award going to Professor Catriona Macleod.
- Prof Rosaan Krüger on her appointment as an Acting Judge in the Eastern Cape High Court.
- Prof Sandile M. Khamanga was elected to the Executive Committee of the Academy of Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa (APSSA).
- Prof Tshidi Mohapeloa was unanimously elected by the university sector as the Deputy Chairperson of the National Entrepreneurship Development in Higher Education (EDHE) Community of Practice (CoP) for Entrepreneurship Learning and Teaching.
- Prof Cliff Jones in Ichthyology & Fisheries Science was awarded the Water Research Commission's Knowledge Tree Award.
- Ms Orla Quinlan, Director of Internationalisation, continued her active and strategic role in the national structure, the International Education Association of South Africa (IEASA).
- Prof Olaf Weyl was awarded the South African Society of Aquatic Science's (SASAQS) Gold Medal. Sadly he passed away suddenly in November last year.
- Ms Natalie Paterson (Pharmacist) has been involved in the Sisonke expansion phase of the vaccine roll-out for health care workers. She has been particularly involved in setting up the vaccination sites at Frontier Hospital in Queenstown and at Settlers Hospital.
- The Department of Chemistry for being the first department in any South African university to join the Green Chemistry Commitment programme. Rhodes University joins over 70 signatories from 11 countries in a commitment to educate the next generation of chemists in Green Chemistry.
- The Faculty of Commerce for hosting the Budget Outreach Programme of National Treasury on 20 April 2021. Full details of the budget and the Vulekamali Portal were presented.
- The Rhodes University's Nine-Tenths Programme was awarded 1st place internationally in the 2021 MacJannet Prize, a prestigious award by the Talloires Global Network for Global Citizenship.



- Rhodes University's Department of Accounting achieved an impressive 94% pass rate in this year's South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA) professional examinations.
- Three students from our Department of Mathematics Rhodes Artificial Intelligence Group (RAIRG) were part of the 5-person team to win the first prize at the nationwide Hackathon challenge organised by the South African National Space Agency (SANSA) in June.
- Ms Yolani Ndamase of the Faculty of Law was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship as a Visiting Scholar to the State University of New York at Buffalo.
- Siphokazi Msengana was the first prize winner of the national Three Minute Thesis competition. She presented her work on control of the cabbage pest, the diamondback moth and received R15 000 for placing first in the national competition. This was the second year in a row that Rhodes University has produced a first prize winner in this national competition.
- At the 76th Annual Meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa in May, Professor Rod Walker was conferred the status of Fellow of the Pharmaceutical Society in recognition of his decades of distinguished service to the Pharmaceutical sector.
- At the Annual General Meeting of the Entomological Society of Southern Africa, Professor Julie Coetzee of the Centre for Biological Control and the Department of Botany was elected President of the Society. This is one of the oldest Entomological Societies in the world and the role of President is prestigious and a great validation from peers across the sub-continent.
- Dr Jonathan Davy of the Department of Human Kinetics and Ergonomics was elected as President of the Ergonomics Society of Southern Africa, a similarly prestigious position with a profile across the sub-continent.
- Professor Makaiko Chithambo of the Department of Physics & Electronics was elected as the President of the South African Institute of Physics, a position of national leadership in the discipline.
- Professor Ryan Wasserman of the Department of Zoology & Entomology was elected as the Treasurer for the Southern African Society of Aquatic Scientists (SASAqS).
- A seminal book, *Understanding Higher Education*, written by Professors Chrissie Boughey & Sioux McKenna was published.
- The Highway Africa Conference was successfully run in June by members of the School of Journalism and Media Studies as a virtual conference, with widespread acknowledgement for the contribution it continued to make at a watershed time.
- Gavin Krastin of the Department of Drama won the Standard Bank Young Artist Award for Performance Art.
- Dr Janeke Thumbran of the Department of History was featured as a nominee for the 2021 Heroic Women (Women in Academia) in the Sunday World Newspaper for her fearless positioning of women in her History curriculum, particularly for her encouraging female students to be bold, question and challenge the undermining of women's intellectual capabilities.
- Distinguished Professor Heila Lotz-Sisitka and her team in the ELRC and the SARCHI Chair in Global Change Social Learning Systems Development, whose research on the scaling of community-based water quality monitoring, in collaboration with the Duzi Umngeni Conservation Trust (DUCT) and the Water Research Commission (WRC), has been used to inform an initial tranche of R25 million from the National Treasury (NT) to the Department of Science and Innovation (DSI) to kick start the process of scaling up a successful pilot project, with the objective of eventually upskilling 10,000 young South Africans over the next few years, which are not taken up in employment or higher education, with hydro-environmental technical



expertise to create job opportunities for them and supply much-needed skills to the local government and NGO sectors involved in water, sanitation and river ecological work. The initiative is part of the Presidential Employment Stimulus to create 100,000 new job opportunities. The Environmental Learning Research Centre at Rhodes University will be involved in designing and scaling up the social learning aspects of the initiative, and partner organisations will undertake the internship training. This is a wonderful example of the high social and environmental impact of research conducted at our University.

- Professor Ozlem Tastan Bishop was awarded an Africa GRADIENT Fellowship in the form of funding to pursue research on the development of TB and Malaria medications tailored to the populations of African. GRADIENT stands for “Genomic Research Approach for Diversity and Optimising Therapeutics”, and is funded by international Pharmaceutical groups GlaxoSmithKline and Novartis through the SA Medical Research Council.
- Mr Simphiwe Ntombela, graduate of our Pharmacy Faculty and current part-time PhD candidate, has gained prominence in his role as manager of COVID-19 Johnson & Johnson vaccine manufacturing at ASPEN’s Gqeberha facility.
- A number of staff and students participated in the National Arts Festival in a virtual way.
 - Arcade - 11 multidisciplinary artists exhibited video artworks and performance films, including works by professionals, as well as current and former RU Drama postgraduate students, curated by Gavin Krastin and with Dr Alan Parker as dramaturge. Swell - installation and film by Gavin Krastin, Dr Alan Parker as dramaturge.
- HA! Man & Anton - Anton Krueger - live-streamed vocal improvisations with internationally acclaimed multi-musician Francois le Roux.
- *Dipalo* - co-written by Ms Selloane Mokuku (Lalu), with Ginni Manning, a play which deals with the pervasive threat of gender-based violence against the background of charismatic religion. *Dipalo* won the 2019 Assitej Africa Playwriting Competition and was published by them in 2020. An audio recording of a reading was hosted by the 2021 Online National Arts Festival.
- Dr G Baduza, Department of Information Systems is part of an international research team with the lead researcher from Cambridge (Dr Nora McIntyre) investigating "Eye-tracking insights into teacher cognition during technology use and integration in resource-constrained settings".
- Prof L Louw, Department of Management, Prof Noel Pearse, Rhodes Business School and Prof S Flowerday, Department of Information Systems, served as international panel members for the programme review of various undergraduate and post-graduate qualifications at a university in Bahrain. Prof Pearse served as both a Chair and Panel member.
- The Department of Physics hosted a hybrid conference *Astronomical Data Analysis Software and Systems (ADASS) XXXI* conference with 55 in-person and 320 virtual participants.

New Deans and Deputy Deans

Deans and Deputy Deans play a central role as academic leaders of their Faculties and in the leadership of our University.

- We congratulate the Deans and Deputy Deans who were elected in 2021. They are: Dean and Deputy of the Faculty of Pharmacy, Prof Sandile Khamanga and Dr Carmen Oltman;



- Deputy Deans of the Faculty of Humanities, Professors Patrice Mwepu and Maureen de Jager; Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Law, Prof Helena van Coller;
- Dean and Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Education, Prof Eureka Rosenberg and Prof Nhlanhla Mpfu, respectively.

We honour our Alumni and convocation

Our alumni and convocation form an integral part of our Rhodes University community. We value their contribution to our University and celebrate with them in their personal and professional achievements.

The Alumni Office has been hard at work re-imagining our engagement with our alumni, Convocation and Old Rhodians. A new portal has been created to maintain contact and engagement with them.

- Literacy Thursday by Old Rhodian Authors was launched in 2021. Each week, we plan to feature an Old Rhodian author or publisher's work on our social media, with a link to our Digital Bookshelf <https://www.ru.ac.za/communicationsandadvancement/alumnirelations/bookshelf/>
- On 11 August, our University Executive Leadership held a Webinar with our alumni to share with them developments at their *alma mater*.
- On Saturday, 28 August, the Rhodes University Convocation held its 71st Annual meeting. This was the last meeting of the outgoing President of Convocation, Prof Peter Mtuze. Dr Michele Ruiters was elected for a two-year term as the President of Convocation. We conveyed our gratitude to Professor Mtuze for serving two terms as the President of Convocation and wished him well in the future. Our warmest congratulations were conveyed to Dr Ruiters. We look forward to her contribution as the President of Convocation of Rhodes University.
- At the meeting of Convocation, the following alumni were announced as the recipients of the Rhodes University Distinguished Alumni Award:
 - Mr Unathi Kamlana, who first registered in 1998 for a B Com degree through the Extended Studies route and then completed a Master's in Taxation in 2005;
 - Ms Heloise Henning Emdon, who first registered in 1976 for a BA degree in African Politics and Philosophy;
 - Mr Bernard Peter Agulhas, who first registered in 1981 for a B Com degree;
 - Dr Roger Scoon, who first registered for his PhD degree in Geology in 1981.

Our warm congratulations go to each one of them.

The Communications & Advancement Division has instituted *Leadership Conversations* as a mechanism publicly to honour and celebrate Rhodes University Distinguished Alumni awardees, to contribute to public thought leadership and to raise the profile of the University. In this regard,

- On 08 October 2021, the Vice-Chancellor held a webinar Leadership Conversation with Mr Unathi Kamlana on *Ethical Leadership and Impact on society*.
- On 26 October 2021, the Dean of Commerce, Prof Dave Sewry held a webinar Leadership Conversation with Mr Bernard Agulhas on the *Future of Audit*.



- On 11 November 2021, the President of Convocation, Dr Michele Ruiters, held a webinar Leadership Conversation with Ms Heloise Henning Emden on *Access and Knowledge Networks for Development: Some lessons for Higher Education in Africa*.
- On 30 November 2021, Prof Steve Prevec of the Department of Geology held a webinar Leadership Conversation with Dr Roger Scoon on the *Geology of South Africa and the National Parks in East Africa: Impact on tourism*.

Celebrating the Women of our country

In the month of August, our University held a number of activities to celebrate the Women's Month.

- On 9-10 August, Dr Siphokazi Magadla of the Political and International Studies Department organized the Virtual Colloquium: S'obashaya Ngamatye: *Women and 60 Years of the Armed Struggle in South Africa*, and commemorating 65 years of the Women's March to the Union Buildings in Pretoria on 9 August 1956, in collaboration with the Centre for Women and Gender Studies at NMU (Dr Babalwa Magoqwana) and the Department of Historical Studies at UCT (Dr Athambile Masola). It was an historic national event, featuring many icons of the women's liberation struggle and leading scholars. Keynote speakers were Honourable Minister Thandi Modise whose *reflections on the women's contribution to the armed struggle and lessons for current struggles* was deeply moving and captivating and Makhosazana Xaba whose rich and reflective presentation on "*Women in the armed struggle: the unaccounted for, the unnameable and the unknowable, 60 years on*" kept the audience glued.
- The reflections from uMkhonto Wesizwe and Azanian Liberation Army women veterans on their personal experiences were captivating and deeply touching.
- The colloquium also provided for a relaunch of the books *Malibongwe – poems from the struggle*, by ANC Women (1981/2020) and *Women in Solitary: Inside the female resistance to apartheid* (2020).
- The Registrar's Division organised two events to celebrate Women's month in August.
 - On Friday, 13 August, a Women's Day seminar was organised and addressed by Ms Desiree Wicks on work-life balance.
 - On 17 August, the Registrar, Prof Adele Moodly delivered a thought-provoking public lecture entitled "*Creating Opportunities towards Women's Leadership - Where does the power lie?*"
- On 13 August, the Student Affairs Division held a discussion themed "Dealing with abusive relationships."
- On 31 August, the Alumni Office organised a webinar to celebrate phenomenal women. The panellists were high profile alumni Ms Ayanda Mbanga, CEO of Ayanda Mbanga Communications, Ms Kim Cloete, Journalist and Media Specialist, Ms Janet Heard, Managing Editor of the Daily Maverick, CHERTL academic Dr Mandy Hlengwa and the SRC President Lebogang Nkambule. The conversation was ably moderated by Ms Laura Wener.

Makhanda and Rhodes University: Our common future and shared destiny...

- Our University has a pivotal role to play as an anchor institution for our community. We must take a lead in building a vibrant, sustainable and liveable Makhanda. In this regard, we are deeply grateful to the work done by the Makhanda Circle of Unity. Mr Sakhe Ntlabezo is providing strategic leadership in this initiative.



- One of the commitments we have made to the young residents of Makhanda is that we would play our part in expanding educational opportunities for them by ensuring that we play our role in improving the quality of teaching and learning in our local schools. Our objective is to make Makhanda a centre of education excellence - from early childhood development through basic education to post-school education.
- We are immensely proud of the remarkable work done by our students and staff through the Community Engagement Office. The progress we have made to improve the quality of teaching and learning in our local schools and our initiative to offer opportunities for the GADRA matric school students to take a course or two at Rhodes University give us much hope for the future.
- We are delighted to celebrate a significant milestone in our efforts in that, for the first time ever, more than 50 GADRA alumni graduated from Rhodes University in a single graduation ceremony on 28 April 2021. Four of the graduates benefitted from the pilot year of our Bridging Programme (in 2017) in which they were allowed to register as occasional students to take a course or two at Rhodes University while improving their marks at GADRA. This is a significant moment in our commitment and determination to transform education in the city. We are infinitely grateful to the Faculty of Humanities and the Department of Psychology for partnering with our Community Engagement Division in initiating the Bridging Programme in 2017. Other Faculties have also come on board, and we are excited that we are able to create pathways into a better tomorrow for the young people of our city.
- Makhanda was the best-performing city in the Eastern Cape (EC) Province in the 2020 public school Matric Examinations (having been one of the four worst performing in 2015). For the first time in its history, the cumulative city matric pass rate was 80% in 2020 in the public school matric exam. This average was 12% higher than the EC average (68%), and 4% higher than the national average of 76%.
- The Nine-Tenths Mentoring Programme for Grade 12 pupils has been core to this success. 67% of the 2020 cohort of 9/10ths Bachelor candidates are registered at Rhodes University in 2021; this outstanding throughput rate is the highest achieved to date.
- Our efforts were recognised by the Talloires Global Network of engaged universities with the award of the prestigious MacJannet Prize for Global Citizenship. We were very excited to learn that the Rhodes University's Nine-Tenths Mentoring Programme² had been awarded 1st place in the MacJannet Prize in 2021. This was a wonderful international recognition of one of our high-profile Community Engagement programmes.
- It is extremely satisfying to see the rate at which Community Engagement (CE) has grown at Rhodes University in the past 5 years. The number of students participating in the volunteer programme has grown from 450 students in 2015 to 2020 (two thousand and twenty) students in 2021. There are a further 1800 students involved in Service Learning and other formal initiatives, bringing to an estimated 50% of our student body formally involved in community engagement. All RUCE volunteer programmes now have a theoretical CE component before students are placed at sites. The short course is online and accredited and launched on the RU Connected site. This really places Rhodes University as a leader in CE thinking in the sector.

² The Nine-Tenths Mentoring Programme derives its name from a quote by the French 1921 Nobel prize laureate for literature, Anatole France, who said "Nine-tenths of education is encouragement."



- Further to this, the recent publication of a book edited by members of our Community Engagement Division entitled “Challenging the Apartheids of Knowledge in Higher Education through Social Innovation” is a significant step in demonstrating the maturity of Community Engagement at Rhodes University, from engaged research and service-learning to building a reputation as a site of scholarship in community engagement itself.
- We are deeply grateful to our Director: Community Engagement, Ms Di Hornby, and her Team for the excellent work they do in our Community Engagement Division. We are also immensely indebted to Mrs Margie Keeton, Dr Ashley Westaway, Prof Di Wilmot, Prof Ken Ngcoza and the Communications & Advancement Team for driving our Schools Initiative. We wish to pay a special homage to the late Dr Thelma Henderson whose remarkable work in, and with, the surrounding community laid a solid foundation on which we have been able to strengthen our University’s role and purpose as a socially engaged institution with a social conscience.

Some of the other activities and events achieved in 2021 include:

- The Education Faculty affiliated Centre for Social Development (CSD) has continued with work on two long-term projects which profoundly address community engagement, namely the HCI Ezinkwenkwezini Excellence in Early Childhood Development (ECD) project in Makhanda and the VW Legacy Literacy Project in kwaNobuhle. In addition, they piloted the Takalani Male Care-Givers project in Manley Flats and Joza and launched Mikhulu book-sharing workshops in Makhanda. CSD also supported all local ECD Centres with registration for the President’s Stimulus Package grant.
- The Education Faculty affiliated Institute for Englishes in Africa (ISEA) and the Rhodes University Mathematics Education Programme (RUMEP) continued to offer capacity development programmes in the Eastern Cape and the Northern Cape, reaching into far-flung rural and semi-rural communities. These academic community engagements consist of externally funded teacher development courses to improve basic education in the key national priorities of Language and Mathematics education. Despite difficult Covid-19 conditions, good results were achieved through the hard work of staff under two acting directors (Dr Rethabile Mawela and Fezeka Mhkwane), and the support of their boards. In the ISEA, 89,6% of the cohort of educators registered in 2018-2020 for the B.Ed. (English Language Teaching) offered in the Northern Cape and Eastern Cape, completed the course. All 29 who registered at the start of 2020 wrote the final exam and 26/29 passed, one with distinction, a pass rate of 89.6%. Dr Mawela describes this as “a testament to the remarkable commitment of staff and students, in another hard year we endured”.
- Prof K Maree, HoD: Department of Accounting, currently serves as the Chair of the Board of LIV Lukhanyiso, a local NPO that has been established to develop a local village for orphaned and abandoned children. The village concept has its roots Uganda and is being modelled on the successfully developed LIV village in KZN. The development of the local village is currently in the EIA phase which requires certifications and approvals across a number of environmental, town planning, construction and engineering areas. This is a significant exercise and it is hoped that this phase will be completed by late 2022. While the village will be developed in phases, the future goal is that it will become home to more than 400 orphaned and abandoned children from our local area.
- Prof N Pearse, Rhodes Business School, is Chairperson of Assumption Development Centre Board



- Prof T Mohapeloa, Rhodes Business School, is Chairperson of Raphael Centre Board
- Prof O Skae (Interim Co-Chair) and Prof N Pearse (Steering Committee member) continue to be involved in Makhanda Circle of Unity (MCU)
- Prof G Keeton, Department of Economics, current president of the Rotary Club of Grahamstown, has established close links to the Rotary Club of Jackson Hole in the USA. Along with other Clubs in the US, the Rotary Club of Jackson Hole helped fund a R2 million upgrade of the kitchens, toilets and sanitation infrastructure at Ntsika Secondary School in Makhanda. The same funders then provided R500 000 for the installation of tanks, pumps and water filters at nine local no-fee schools, which should ensure they have sufficient water during municipal outages. The Rotary Club of Jackson Hole has also lodged an application with the International Rotary Foundation which, if successful, will upgrade the kitchens and toilets at seven no-fee schools which have been chosen because they are part of the Rhodes University VC's education initiative, which has identified them as local schools of excellence.

High profile visitors to our University

- For CHERTL staff and students, highlights of the year included the Online Doc Weeks organised by Dr Kirstin Wilmot and involving a range of world-class presenters. The first Doc Week of 2021 focussed on Decolonial Research Methodologies and featured several distinguished guest presenters including Rhodes alumnus Siseko Khumalo from the University of Pretoria; Savo Heleta (Nelson Mandela); Manjeet Ramgotra (SOAS), Prof
- Professor Cyrus Samimi, the Vice-Dean, Digital Solutions of the Africa Multiple, visited the African Studies Centre from 23 to 30 September 2021 on a visit to assess our digital research environment readiness and to meet collaborative partners affiliated with the Rhodes University African Studies Centre. Vivian Bozalek (UWC) and Prof Michalinos Zembylas (Open University of Cyprus).

Farewell to staff

- Mr Leon Coopasamy, who was head of Auditing resigned from the Department of Accounting at the end of September 2021 to take up a post in the United Kingdom.
- Prof Di Wilmot (former Dean of the Education Faculty) took early retirement in 2021.
- Ms Flora Stofile – Housekeeping Supervisor (34 years at Rhodes)
- Ms Florence Sodladla– Housekeeping Supervisor (35 years at Rhodes)
- Mr David Mesani – Central Cleaning Services (33years at Rhodes)

In memoriam...

During the course of the 2021 academic year, we lost some people who were part of the Rhodes University community.

- Mr Litha Kobokana, a final-year Commerce student, passed away on 22 January 2021.
- Mr Pearce Ernest Rood, an alumnus of Rhodes University, passed away on 15 January 2021. He graduated with an LLB degree from Rhodes University in 1955 and went on to have a distinguished career as a legal practitioner in the UK and Japan.



- Mr Thandisizwe Ngeju, a staff member of the Residential Operations, passed away on 5 April 2021.
- Ms Zoleka Wright, a staff member of Residential Operations, passed away on 28 March 2021.
- Professor Chris Zithulele Mann, a former member of the Institute for the Study of Englishes in Africa (ISEA), passed away on 10 March 2021 after a battle with cancer.
- Dr Mhlobo-wabantwana Jadezweni, a former academic staff member of the School of Languages and Literatures, passed away on 9 February 2021 after a long battle with cancer.
- Dr Sibongile Khumalo, an honorary graduate of our University, passed away on 28 January 2021, after a long illness.
- Professor Emeritus Richman Bangilizwe Mqeke, a former academic in the Faculty of Law, passed away on 23 January 2021.
- Mr Mutalusi Ndou, a first-year Pharmacy student, passed away on 18 April 2021.
- Prof Vishnu Padayachee, an economist and scholar of high repute and an honorary graduate of our University, passed away on 29 May 2021.
- Ms Felicia Mkhabela, a second-year Humanities student who resided at Dingemans House, Hobson Hall, passed away on 09 May 2021.
- Ms Pelonomi Morapedi, a second-year Bachelor of Education Foundation student and an Oppidan, passed away on 30 April 2021.
- Ms. Nomangesi Precious Mdoda, who worked in the Functions Kitchens, passed away on Friday, 25 June 2021.
- Ms Neliswa Yose, who was a cleaner within the Central Cleaning Services and who was a part of Central Cleaning since January 2002 and stationed at the St. Peters building.
- Ms Annette Orsmond, who was a Manager: Recruitment & Selection before her retirement in 2008. She was at Rhodes University for 31 years and eight months.
- Professor Pat Hulley, a retired academic in the Department of Zoology and Entomology, passed away on 16 June 2021.
- Ms Babalwa Ngoqo, who was part of the Central Cleaning team stationed in the Life Science building for the past few years.
- Mr Siphesihle Mazibuko, a third-year Bachelor of Commerce student, passed away on 30 September 2021.
- Ambassador Lindiwe Mabuza who was due to receive an honorary degree, D Litt (hc) in April 2022, passed away on 06 December 2021

We mourn their passing and convey our heartfelt condolences and sympathies to their families and loved ones.

Looking ahead

The discovery and roll-out of the life-saving vaccines has given much hope that the spread and impact of the COVID-19 might come under control. In July, our University launched its own vaccination site at the Gavin Relly Postgraduate Village in order to make vaccinations readily available to students, staff and the surrounding Makhanda community,

In the second semester of 2021, the University community invested significant time, effort and energy to prepare for a safe and full return to face-to-face, in-person and on-campus activities in 2022. In this regard, Task Teams were



established to look at various aspects of preparation that we will need to put in place to ensure a full, safe and sustainable re-opening of our campus. Reports from these Task Teams were consolidated into a comprehensive plan and strategy for a full return to campus. The Task Teams focused on:

- All aspects of residence, student life and wellbeing - convened by the Director of Student Affairs, Ms Noma Mrwetyana, and the Deputy-Director of Residence Operations, Ms Jay Pillay.
- Protocols aimed at a full return of staff to the workplace - convened by the Acting Director of HR, Ms Sue Robertson, who worked with the leaders of unions, divisional heads, and legal and labour advisors.
- Modalities of Teaching and Learning – convened by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Academic & Student Affairs, who worked with Faculty Deans, the Chair of the HoD Forum, the Registrar, HoD: CHERTL and two members of the Teaching and Learning Committee.
- Research support and postgraduate supervision - convened by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research & Innovation.
- Information for new student recruitment – convened by the Registrar and the Recruitment, Registration, Orientation, Curriculum Approval (RROCA) Team.
- Security of provision of water and other essential services related to infrastructure – convened by the Deputy Director: Facilities, working with the Water Task Team.
- Strategies for debunking false narratives, misinformation and disinformation regarding vaccines and promoting the use of vaccinations – driven by the Communications & Advancement.



These preparations culminated with the compilation of the Rhodes University Full Return Plan for 2022 and the approval by the University Council of the University's Vaccine Mandate in October. We look forward to the 2022 academic year with a real sense of hope, optimism and confidence.

Conclusion

Across a range of indicators of academic success, our University achieved much in the 2021 academic year. Notwithstanding the challenges and uncertainties of the COVID-19 pandemic, our staff and students remained focused on achieving the academic mission and purpose of our University. They made significant personal sacrifices to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of one another while simultaneously advancing the reason of our very being. Thanks to their resourcefulness, creativity, and can-do attitude, the achievements of 2021 bear testimony that our University remains an institution of exceptional quality in research, learning and teaching,



community engagement and in the holistic student experience. In the face of challenge and uncertainty, we have endured. We have been resilient. And, we have achieved.

We extend our deep thanks to all members of the Rhodes University community for their contribution to making our 2021 academic year a great success. Throughout the course of 2021, I have been singularly privileged and honoured to be surrounded by a truly dedicated and committed team that has been equal to the task. Our Deputy Vice-Chancellors, Professors Peter Clayton and `Mabokang Monnapula-Mapesela; our Registrar, Prof Adele Moodly; our Chief Financial Officer, Mr Kamlesh Riga; and the Director in the Office of Vice-Chancellor, Ms Sue Smailes, all went above and beyond their call of duty to ensure business continuity of our University.

Our Deans and Deputy Deans, Directors and Deputy Directors, Managers, Heads of Department, Senate, Academics, Support and Administrative Staff, our SRC, cleaning and gardening staff, staff unions (NEHAWU and NTEU) all played their part to ensure we remained true and faithful to our mission and purpose as an institution of higher learning.

We would also like to express our infinite gratitude and sincere appreciation to our Council and the Board of Governors for their wise counsel, thoughtful guidance and steadfast support to our University leadership throughout the 2021 academic year. The nature and depth of the personal investment of the members of Council and the Board of Governors in the success of our University is an absolute marvel and a deep source of inspiration to our University's leadership.



Prof S Mabizela

Vice Chancellor

Date: 15 June 2022



9. SENATE'S REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

9.1 Composition of Senate & Attendance of Meetings in 2021

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 | 45 |
| Deans | 6 |
| Deputy Deans | 8 |
| Heads of Departments | 35 |
| SRC Representatives | 5 |
| Senate Academic Representatives | 6 |
| Other (institutes/centres) | 11 |
| Administrative Staff Representatives | 2 |
| Hall Warden Representatives | 2 |
| Faculty Representatives | 11 |
| In attendance members | 10 |
| Total Members | 145 |

TABLE 4: COMPOSITION OF SENATE OF RHODES UNIVERSITY

Senate Committees:

- Senate Executive Committee
- Senate Examinations Committee
- Honorary Degrees Committee
- Nominations Committee
- Constitution Committee
- Institutional Planning Committee
- Research Committee
- Wellness Committee
- Ethical Standards Committee

Faculty Boards:

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



- Teaching & Learning Committee
- Library Committee
- Student Services Committee
- Board of Residences
- RU Environmental Committee
- Equity & Institutional Culture Committee
- Naming Committee
- Community Engagement Committee
- Internationalisation Committee
- Academic Programmes and Curriculum Quality Committee
- Plagiarism Committee
- Disciplinary Committee
- Financial Aid Committee

Summary of Attendance of Meetings of Senate in 2021

Senate 2021

| 26 March | 4 June | 20 August | 15 October | 27 October | 19 November | Average Attendance |
|----------|--------|-----------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------------|
| 60% | 93% | 61% | 63% | 41% | 48% | 61% |

TABLE 5: SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCE OF MEETINGS OF SENATE IN 2021

9.2 Major decisions of Senate in 2021

Policies, Protocols, Rules, Proposals & Reports

At its meetings in 2021, Senate recommended to Council a number of policies as listed below:

- Senate recommended for approval by Council the Rhodes University Plagiarism Policy.
- Senate recommend for approval the Rhodes University Equity Policy
- Senate recommended for approval to Council the Rhodes University Policy on Community Engagement.
- Senate recommended for approval to Council the Research Ethics Policy: Research involving human participants.
- Senate recommended for approval to Council the new programme proposal for a Master of Arts in Chinese Studies and recommended for noting to Council that there would be no obligation on the part of the University to provide bursaries or scholarships for the programme.
- Senate recommended for approval by Council the vaccination mandate
- Senate recommended for approval to Council the Rhodes University Sports Council Constitution.
- Senate recommended for approval by Council the amendments to the Law Clinic constitution.



Reviews

- Senate supported and recommended for noting to Council the proposed review of the Master of Arts degree in Creative Writing.

Loss of The Title Professor When Taking Up Executive Leadership at Rhodes University

- Senate rejected the recommendations of the task team report and accepted that there should be no loss of the title of (Full) Professor or Associate Professor for incumbents and future incumbents appointed to executive leadership.

Appointments/Departmental Headships

Senate recommended for approval to Council the extension of terms of office of the following HOD terms:

- Professor S Matthews, Department of Political and International Studies, from 1 July 2021 to 31 December 2021.
- Professor A Kirkaldy, Department of History from 1 July to 31 December 2021.

Senate recommended for approval to Council the appointment of the acting HODs for the terms:

- Professor A Kruger, Department of Drama Department from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022.
- Professor J Du Toit, School of Journalism and Media Studies from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022.

Senate recommended for approval the recommendations for Heads of Departments in the Faculty of Science:

- Biotechnology Innovation Centre:
 - Dr A Boshoff from 01 January 2021 to 30 June 2021
 - Professor E Prinsloo from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2024.
- Statistics:
 - Mr J Baxter from 01 January 2021 to 31 December 2024
- Zoology and Entomology:
 - Professor W Froneman: 01 January 2021 to 30 June 2021;
 - Professor N Richoux: 01 July 2021 to 31 December 2021;
- Environmental Science:
 - Professor J Gambiza: 01 January 2021 to 30 June 2021;
 - Professor G Thondhlana: 01 July 2021 to 30 June 2024
- Human Kinetics and Ergonomics:
 - Dr S Zschernack as HOD from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2024.
- Department of Biochemistry & Microbiology:



- Professor H Hoppe from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022.
- Department of Accounting:
 - Mr E Horn from 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2024.
- Department of Music and Musicology:
 - Professor C Foxcroft from 1 April 2022 to 30 June 2022.
 - Dr B McConnachie from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2025.
- Department of Information Systems:
 - Professor G Foster for the period 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2024.
- Department of Mathematics:
 - Dr E Andriantiana from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2024.
- Department of Political and International Studies:
 - Dr S Magadla from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2024.
- Department of History:
 - Professor A Kirkaldy from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2024.
- Department of Psychology:
 - Dr L Jacobs from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2024.
- Department of Philosophy:
 - Professor U B Okeja from 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2024.

Senate recommended for approval to Council the appointment of the following Deputy Heads of Department:

- Mr R Hancock, School of Journalism and Media Studies from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022.
- Mr R Poole, as Deputy Head of Accounting, from 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2024
- Professor L Dalvit as Deputy Head of Department in the School of Journalism and Media Studies, from 01 July 2021 to 31 December 2021.
- Professor M Ville as Deputy Head of Department of Zoology and Entomology from 01 January 2022 – 31 December 2024. Deputy Head
- Professor N Richoux as Deputy Head of Department of Zoology and Entomology from 01 January 2022 – 31 December 2024.

PROFESSOR: SOCIOLOGY AND INDUSTRIAL SOCIOLOGY:

Offer appointment to Prof Mwana at Professor level from 01 January 2022 or as soon as possible thereafter.

Deans/Deputy Deans

Senate recommended for approval by Council the extension of:

- The term for Dr C Oltmann as the Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy for the period of six (6) months from 1 January 2022 to 30 June 2022.

Senate recommended for approval by Council the appointment of:



- Professor H van Coller as the Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Law for the period: 1 January 2022 – 30 June 2024.
- Professor N Mpfu as the Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Education for the period: 1 December 2021 – 31 May 2024.
- Dr Y Motara as the Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Science for the period: 1 July 2021 to 31 December 2023.
- Professor S Khamanga as the Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy for the period: 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2026.

Senate recommended for approval the outcomes of the Humanities Faculty Deputy Deans' Election process to Council.

- Recommended candidates: Professor M de Jager and Professor P Mwepu be appointed for a period of two and half years, effective immediately, once Council approves the recommendations.

Hall Fellows

Senate recommended for approval by Council the appointment of the following Hall Fellows:

Allan Webb Hall

- Professor T Martin (11 October 2021 – 30 September 2026)
- Ms L Salamntu (11 October 2021 – 30 September 2026)

Hobson Hall

- Ms H Kruuse (20 September 2021 – 31 December 2026)

Academic Promotions

Subject to confirmation by Council, Senate APPROVED the recommendations of the Academic Promotions Committee, the promotion of the following staff members effective 01 January 2022:

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR TO PROFESSOR

1. Professor JA Coetzee (Research Category)
2. Professor JF Dames
3. Professor J Gambiza
4. Professor GB Glover
5. Professor EH van Coller
6. Professor C Young

SENIOR LECTURER TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

1. TJ Feltham-King
2. Dr LJ Jacobs



3. Ms HJ Kruuse
4. Dr S Nsengiyumva
5. Dr IG Siebörger

LECTURER TO SENIOR LECTURER

1. Dr M Atemkeng Teufack
2. Dr DD Booysen
3. Dr JP Davy
4. Dr FA Kajee
5. Ms TN Mashinini
6. Dr BE McConnachie
7. Dr N Pallitt
8. Dr A Parker
9. Dr NZ Songqwaru
10. Dr JD Thumbran
11. Dr JA Williams
12. Dr KD Wilmot

Honorary Appointments

Senate recommended for approval the Honorary Appointments and Honorary Appointment renewals below:

| Full name of Nominee | Honorary Title category | Primary Department |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Prof E Koide | Senior Research Associate | Humanities Faculty |
| Ms P Sakasa | Clinical Associate | Psychology |
| Dr S Moore | Visiting Professor | Science Faculty |
| Prof. PD Rwelamila | Visiting Professor | Humanities Faculty |
| Dr M Gustaffson | Visiting Fellow | Humanities Faculty |
| Prof T Smits | Senior Research Associate | Faculty of Education |
| Dr E Sithole | Research Associate | School of Languages |
| Mr W Sihlobo | Research Associate | Institute of Social and Economic |
| Dr M Jiwaji | Research Associate | Biotechnology Innovation Centre |
| Ms. S Mhlana | Research Associate | Department of Economics & Economic |
| Dr K Simpson | Research Associate | Department of Botany |
| Dr. R Nhongo | Research Associate | School of Languages & Literatures: |
| Dr V Masterson | Research Associate | Anthropology |
| Dr P Henderson | Senior Research Associate | Anthropology |
| Prof C de Wet | Honorary Professor | Anthropology |
| Dr L Graham | Clinical Fellow | Faculty of Pharmacy |
| Dr G Kalyatanda | Clinical Fellow | Faculty of Pharmacy |
| Prof IG Horak | Honorary Professor | Zoology and Entomology |



| | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Dr E Muthama | Research Associate | CHERTL |
| Dr R Chiapa | Research Associate | CHERTL |
| Dr C Groenewald | Research Associate | Psychology |
| Miss N Wannenburg | Research Associate | Psychology |
| Mr R Rumney | Research Associate | Journalism and Media Studies |
| Dr P Scherman | Senior Research Associate | IWR |

Senate recommended to Council to accord the title Professor Emeritus on the following persons:

- Professor KD Helliker appointed as Professor in the Department of Sociology & Industrial Sociology from 1 January 2017, retiring 31 December 2021.
- Professor H Nel appointed as Professor in the Department of Economics and Economic History from 1 July 1997, retiring 31 December 2021.
- Professor LN Strelitz appointed as Professor in the School of Journalism and Media Studies from 1 January 2006, retiring 31 December 2021.
- Professor A Terzoli appointed as Professor in the Department of Computer Science from 1 January 2009, retiring 31 December 2021.

Senate recommended to Council to accord the title Associate Professor Emeritus on the following person:

- Professor MG Hendricks appointed as Associate Professor from 1 April 2013, retiring 30 September 2021.

Task Team Recommendations/ Education Faculty Review

Senate recommended for approval by Council the recommendation that three Departments, namely the Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education, Department of Secondary and Post-School Education and CHERTL be established.

The consideration in dividing Faculty was based on both the financial considerations and strengthening of the academic project, with the provision that the student intake and degree programmes be considered in terms of the viability of the proposed structure. As noted in 2021.5.17, there would be no financial implications other than an HoD allowance to be considered by HR1

Senate recommended for approval by Council the recommendation that institutes, centres and projects within the Faculty of Education would all continue or both Boards of Advisors and Boards of Management would be implemented. It was noted that every head of an entity would have a reporting line to a member within the University. Directors would report to Head of Departments for academic matters and report to the Board of Management for governance and financial sustainability.

Senate recommended for approval by Council the recommendation that:



- No Council-funded positions of Director or lecturing positions would be established. It was noted that a task team was working on this matter.
- An annual block grant would be made to institutes, centres and projects; the task team would determine the value of Funding of Entities.
- The Heads of all institutes, centres and projects would be known as directors; the designation would be coupled with specific remuneration packages and responsibilities particular to each entity in question. The directors and their remuneration packages would be seen as different from other directors at the University. It was noted that terminology across the University was selectively considered, and an argument had been made and supported for the differentiation of directors in academic and administrative positions.

Senate recommended for approval by Council the recommendation that for the remainder of the three-year contract of the current Head of the Professional Development Centre (PDC), the activities of the PDC be progressively absorbed into the ambit/work of the proposed three departments. At the end of the three-year contract period, the PDC would cease to exist as a stand-alone entity.

Other Senate Decisions in 2021

- Senate confirmed that Departments should prepare for online June/July assessments.
- Senate confirmed that the University would have virtual graduation ceremonies which would be pre-recorded due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- Senate recommended for approval to Council the establishment of an African Languages Development Unit.
- Senate recommended for approval to council the Response to the Ministerial Task Team on the Recruitment, Retention and Progression of Black South African Academics.
- Senate recommended for approval by Council the Rhodes University Fee Booklet for 2022.



Prof S Mabizela

Chairperson of Senate

Date: 15 June 2022



10. REPORT OF THE INSTITUTIONAL FORUM TO COUNCIL

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;
- policies on race, gender equity, and other grounds of discrimination referred to in relevant legislation;
- the selection of candidates for senior management positions;
- codes of conduct, mediation, and dispute resolution procedures;
- the fostering of an institutional culture which promotes (i) tolerance and respect for human dignity and fundamental human rights and (ii) a positive environment for teaching, research, and learning.

Membership of Institutional Forum in 2021

| Constituency | | Number of Representatives |
|---|---------------|---|
| Senior Management | | 2 |
| Council Representatives | | 2 |
| Senate Representatives | | 2 |
| Academic staff other than members of Senate | | 1 |
| Community representatives appointed by Makana Municipality | | 2 (two seats became vacant in the last quarter due to local government elections) |
| Unions | | 4 |
| SRC Appointed Representatives | | 7 |
| Total | Members | 20 |
| | In Attendance | 6 |

TABLE 6: MEMBERSHIP OF INSTITUTIONAL FORUM IN 2021

Summary of Attendance of Meetings of the Institutional Forum in 2021

| Name of Committee | Number Scheduled | Number Held | Average % Attendance |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------|----------------------|
| Institutional Forum | 4 | 4 | 51% |
| Additional information | 17 March 2021 7 Members present (out of 20) = 35% 17 May 2021 14 Members present (out of 20) = 75% | | |



| | |
|--|--|
| | 22 September 2021 9 Members present (out of 20) = 45% |
| | 16 November 2021 10 Members present (out of 18) = 55.5% |

TABLE 7: SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCE OF MEETINGS OF THE INSTITUTIONAL FORUM IN 2021

Note on attendance: All meetings were quorate. Attendance was somewhat down from the previous year, because of the impact of student protest events and local government elections.

Continued Impact of COVID-19

Institutional Forum meetings proceeded to being held online. The requisite number of meetings were held and all meetings were quorate.

Progress on Major Deliberations of the Institutional Forum – Notes on Implementation

1. Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment (BBBEE)

The IF conducted an assessment on the implementation of BBBEE at Rhodes University. A special presentation was received, on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer of the University. It became apparent that the University had only maintained the minimum compliant level set by the policy since its' inception but regrettably, in 2021, had regressed to non-compliant status. Critical factors impacting on the poor BBBEE performance were identified, including a small pool of local suppliers, under-investment in supplied development and under-reporting of procurement. IF recommended to Council to take urgent steps to address the problem, with a realistic target of becoming a Level 3 Contributor in three years being set. Council was further advised to take urgent steps to bring the University to a compliant level most urgently. This matter was reclassified as a "Class A" matter and moved to a standing item on the agenda of IF, requiring quarterly progress reports on the attainment of the BBBEE turnaround goals.

2. Election of a fixed (12 month) chair for the IF.

The IF continued to elect a Chair on an annual basis, with an amendment to the Institutional Rules APPROVED by Council for 2022 onwards, for the Chair to be elected on a two-year basis.

3. Employment Equity Policy.

The review of the Policy was received and the Institutional Forum received reports from time to time on the implementation thereof, with an annual review of the completed report.

The Policy was recommended to and approved by Council.

4. Affirmation of gender identities project



This project remains critical to the IF as central to the transformation agenda on campus. However, due to the severe restrictions on campus activities due to COVID, it was decided to postpone the implementation of this project to 2022, when a full return to campus was anticipated.

5. Governance updates remain 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.

6. Composition of the IF and Institutional Rules.

In 2021, the amendments to the Institutional Rules, to align the terms of membership of constituent members of the IF, with the broader university practice and terms, was recommended to and approved by Council. The majority of members will now serve two-year terms and *secundi* will be requested per constituency, for when the member from that constituency cannot attend.

The Institutional Forum in 2021 continued a stable and functional path. Senate and Council noted with appreciation the continued positive functioning of the IF. Attendance and coordination, institutional memory and consistency remain strong through keeping a single chairperson.

The IF benefits increasingly from the regular participation by members nominated by the local municipal structures. It is important that the vacancies created by the local government election be filled at the earliest opportunity.



Mr Evert Knoesen *Cert.Dir*
Chairperson of Institutional Forum

Date: 15 July 2022



11. THE REPORT OF THE RHODES UNIVERSITY AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit and Risk Committee (“the 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 Committee reports to the Council and engages with the Finance and General Purposes Committee (F&GP) and other committees as considered necessary.

During the year, the Committee carried out its mandated responsibilities in accordance with its Council-approved Audit and Risk 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 year under review:

- reviewed the audited annual 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 Young as the internal auditors for the period December 2021 to December 2024;
- addressed any concerns or complaints relating to the following:
 - accounting policies;
 - internal audit;
 - the auditing or content of annual financial statements;
 - internal financial controls;
 - fraud and irregularities.
- evaluated and assessed the effectiveness of the internal audit function, which is undertaken by an external independent party;
- reviewed 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 PricewaterhouseCoopers Inc. as the external statutory auditor and the certification auditor for the period December 2020 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 auditor.



- approved the engagement terms and fees of the internal auditor, together with the scope and extent of the services they would provide.
- 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 all significant incidents involving potential reputational risk and/or legislative and regulatory non-compliance which were reported to the Committee or which otherwise came to its attention. The Committee considered the related action(s) taken by University management in respect of these matters.

The 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 representatives are regular invitees to the Audit and Risk Committee meetings:

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



Mr H C Staple
Chairperson of Audit & Risk Committee

Date: 15 June 2022



12. 2021 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REVIEW

12.1 Review of Financial Results

Rhodes University has produced a strong set of financial results despite (or perhaps as a result of) the uncertainty of COVID-19 looming large over the University throughout 2021. The pandemic has altered nearly every aspect of the University's fabric, from admissions and enrolment to assessments and graduation ceremonies. It has had a profound effect on the University's residence system, with limited numbers of students able to return to campus.

Rhodes University has followed the Higher Education sectoral approach and directives from government, adhering to the restrictions placed on its operations, throughout the lockdown and period of the risk-adjusted strategy.

The financial statements have been produced on a consistent basis with prior years. There were no changes in accounting policies and there were no new International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) applicable in 2021.

The financial impact of the pandemic and how it will affect the University remains uncertain. In order to mitigate the effects of the pandemic, the following measures were put into place:

1. Multi-modal remote Teaching and Learning (T&L) and alternative forms of assessment.
2. A reprioritisation of financial resources, including capital projects.
3. The gradual return of students to campus within the ambit of directives provided by the DHET.
4. Allowing a hybrid working environment and thus ensuring business continuity.
5. Careful consideration of all requests for staff appointments and the ongoing reorganisation of staffing structures.

By all accounts, the mitigation strategies and our vaccination drive have been successful and have kept infections to a minimum. Operations and teaching continued unabated.

A Financial Sustainability Task Team (FSTT) has been appointed by the Vice Chancellor under the leadership of the CFO. The FSTT has considered various financial scenarios/models including cash-flow plans and cash preservation. Given the fluidity of both, the higher education sector in general, and the University's own financial situation, the FSTT has updated the operating budgets and forecasts on a regular basis. The Finance and General Purposes Committee (F&GP) and Council are regularly kept abreast of any material developments and changes vis a vis the University's financial position.

The fundamentals and principles on which the forecasting and scenario planning models have been based are:

1. Successful completion of the 2021 academic year.
2. A full return of students and staff to campus.
3. Social justice; no student should be left behind.
4. Financial sustainability of the University.
5. Cash preservation.
6. Preserving the employment levels of current staff as far as possible.



The availability of third-stream and other income remains a challenge. The pool of traditional sources of funding, corporates and donors, is becoming smaller as philanthropic expenditure is looked at critically. Donor funding can also come with conditions which may potentially compromise institutional integrity, independence and autonomy of the university. The acceptance of any third-stream income, no matter how attractive it may appear at first glance, is thus subject to scrutiny and due diligence.

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

Despite the challenges faced in 2021, Rhodes University has once again succeeded in ending another financial year successfully and management and staff are to be complimented on their positive and innovative approach in difficult times.

2021 Financial performance

- Central University Operations

The University's block grant / state subsidy of R533.2m was lower at 1.41% (2020: 1.44%) of the sector allocation after a reallocation by DHET to fund the NSFAS funding shortfall. The University was allocated R68.9m in earmarked grants. The severity of the economic impact of the pandemic on families of self-funded students is evidenced by substantially higher outstanding fee debt at the end of the year, coupled with much slower collection of student fees during 2021.

The Central Operations recorded an R25.5m net surplus (2020: R68.5m), which was better than expected. This was mainly because of the increased expenditure in building maintenance and municipal utilities.

Total recurrent operating income increased in 2021 by 1% to R914.9m (2020: R907.1m). This was mainly because of an increase in the state subsidy income by R3m and an increase in tuition and other fee income of 2.26% to R357.3m (2020: R349.4m).

State subsidies have been marginally lower at 58,3% (2020: 58,5%) of recurring income. The ratio is concerning as the proportion of state subsidy to recurring income has a substantial effect on the financial sustainability of the University. The percentage of recurrent income from tuition fees is marginally higher at 39.1% (2020: 38.5%). The impairment provision in respect of outstanding debtors increased to 86% (2020: 83%), as pressure of the downturn in the economy is being felt by the families of students.

Non-recurring income increased to R15.8m (2020: R8.5m), mainly due to the sale of redundant office equipment and administrative fee recoveries.



Recurrent expenditure rose by 5% to R889m (2020: R848m), with staff costs increasing to R581.6m (2020: R565.6m), making up 65.5% of the recurrent expenditure. Other operating expenditure increased by 36%, as we moved to a more activity on campus.

The increased activity on campus also resulted in the consumption of electricity and water being much higher than the previous year and the budget. Infrastructure maintenance, which was suspended in 2020 and deferred to 2021 also increased as life on campus returned to normal. Higher maintenance costs were also impacted by higher prices and supplier shortages of building materials like roof sheeting, spare parts for residence appliances and cabling.

Additional expenditure incurred by the University because of COVID-19 was R6.5m (2020: R12.1m). This comprised mainly of data provision for students and staff, personal protection equipment, additional healthcare and security personnel, multi-modal teaching and assessments and cleaning and sanitation. We foresee this being the norm going forward and will be included in the specific budgeted line items in future.

- Residence Operations (Accommodation)

The residence operations comprise student residences, conferencing and staff transit housing.

Residence Operations at Rhodes University is a financially self-sustaining unit offering a total of 3,837 beds housed in 14 halls.

The disruption of Covid-19 severely affected our residence operations in 2021. The phased return of students during 2021 resulted in 98% occupancy towards year-end. In a challenging year, the residence operations recorded a deficit of R7.1m (2020: surplus R4.7m). Given the lower levels of occupancy in 2021 the negative result was not unexpected.

Recurrent income increased by 16.9% to R206.5m (2020: R176.7m). This was mainly because of the increased number of students at residence for a longer period of time than in 2020. The income was negatively affected by the meal and accommodation refunds to students who did not return to campus in 2021.

Non-recurrent income also decreased substantially as events and conferences, including the National Arts Festival continued to be held virtually.

Recurrent expenditure increased by 21.1% to R211m (2020: R174.1m) mainly due to increased expenditure on maintenance and repairs to residences as well as the increased municipal utility expenses as students and staff returned to campus.

The University continues to implement stringent cost management initiatives to counter the increases in overheads and utilities and their effect on the environment the University operates in.



- Contract (earmarked) fund activity

The net surplus of Council managed funds activity is a surplus of R147.3m (2020: R99.1m), which is an increase of 48.6% compared to 2020. The timing of expenditure largely influenced this result.

The total income decreased marginally to R404m (2020: R406.3m), mainly due to decrease in contract revenue of 4.5% to R161.5m (2020: R177.3m), and interest income, compensated largely by an increase in state and research project income of 21.1% to R189.1m (2020: R156.1m).

The total expenditure decreased by 16.4% to R 256.8 (2020: R307.1m), mainly due to a close out of historic infrastructure projects that were funded by Council and have achieved financial and practical completion.

- Investments

The investment portfolios are made up of, listed securities, government bonds, local and international unit trusts and money market deposits. Stellar market performance during 2021 is reflected in the value of the portfolio appreciating by R115.9m (2020: R50.5m).

The Russia-Ukraine conflict has brought volatility into the global economy. This has been exacerbated by the pandemic placing additional pressure on the South African fiscus. While the economic effects of the Russia-Ukraine war are uncertain and evolving, the global impact is evident, as the supply of global energy, agricultural products, commodities and capital markets remain indeterminate. As part of the Rhodes University mitigation plan, our forecasts are continually reviewed to take into account price fluctuations and the investment portfolio is managed by a professional, global and well-resourced fund manager.

- Cash flow planning

The University's cash flow cycle has remained consistent with previous years. However, the additional activity as we move to a full campus has affected our cash outflows resulting in a reduction in the University's unrestricted liquid funds. The University continues to practice active cash management, careful control of expenditure and the expectation of timely inflow of funds from government and NSFAS. We are confident that the available cash resources, together with the cash inflows forecasted for 2022, will provide adequate liquidity to meet the University's operational, capital and other commitments.

The University's approved overdraft facility was not utilised during the 2021 financial year.

- Retirement fund obligations

The consolidated valuation of the retirement funding liability increased to R81.2m (2019: R70.7m).

The University's liability in respect of post-retirement medical aid benefits increased to R81.2m (2020: R70.7m.).



The liability is entirely unfunded and is not backed by any specific assets.

The University's continued financial exposure to the defined benefit pension fund poses significant risk to the future financial sustainability of the University. An extensive exercise was undertaken whereby the trustees and the University reviewed the current defined benefit structure of the Fund. They considered:

- Latest trends and developments in the retirement benefits industry and the move away from Defined Benefit to a Defined Contribution arrangements
- Consolidation of the staff retirement fund arrangements
- University's objectives to de-risk its balance sheet and therefore support the future financial sustainability of Rhodes University.

Following extensive consultations, the University, the fund trustees and advisors decided that it is no longer appropriate to continue providing retirement benefits within the Pension Fund other than those that have already been accrued on this basis. Further information is provided in note 26 to the financial statements.

A project team which includes trustees of the Pension Fund, Rhodes University management and the fund managers has been appointed to oversee this process. There has been good progress and the project should be completed towards the end of 2022.

As at 31 December 2021 the defined benefit pension fund was fully funded and the plan assets adequately covered the defined benefit obligations.

- Infrastructure investment

Several major refurbishment and deferred maintenance projects continued or commenced during 2021. The modernisation of the campus electrical reticulation system, the fire safety assessment and the refurbishment of the various buildings on campus remain priorities. These projects were completed within budget and on time. 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.

During 2021, two major refurbishments were completed being the expansion of Jan Smuts Dining Hall and Kitchen as well as the complete refurbishment of College House.

The University's financial position at 31 December 2021 remains sound. This is clearly reflected in the Statement of Financial Position and accompanying notes and disclosures. Total assets increased by R232.6m, driven by the Investment Portfolio performing well and an increase in fixed assets and cash and cash equivalents. Equity and reserve funds increased by R279.9m to R1 879.6m (2020: R1 599.8m). The Council Unrestricted component of reserves has increased by R29.3m to R261.8m (2020: R232.4m). Non-current liabilities have increased year-on-year, mainly due to the R10.5m increase in the University's post-retirement medical benefit obligations. Current



liabilities have decreased to R1 085.7m (2020: R1 142.1m) due to a decrease in deferred income on government grants received for funding building and infrastructure upgrades and reduced levels of trade and other payables.

Whilst the University produced a better than expected financial result (given the tough economic environment), the key challenges identified in the viability plan, namely a very high staff cost ratio in the central budget, achieving competitive remuneration levels (particularly for academic staff) and the high level of deferred maintenance of campus infrastructure remain of concern.

The water crisis in Makana due to the prolonged drought and municipal inefficiencies continue to be a challenge. The financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Rhodes University is largely dependent on effectiveness of the University's business continuity strategies that have been implemented. These strategies have resulted in a safe environment to ensure the return of the university community to a vibrant campus.

The budget for 2022 is based on a blended teaching and learning model, the full return of students to campus and to the residence system.

We have a committed staff complement whose hard work contributed to the sustained success enjoyed by the University in these trying times. Their effort and commitment is acknowledged and applauded.



Mr S Tredoux
Chair: Finance & General Purposes Committee

Date: 15 June 2022



Mr K M Riga
Chief Financial Officer

Date: 15 June 2022



12.2 Council’s Statement of Responsibility for the Consolidated Financial Statements

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 81 to 130, 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 auditor during their audit were valid and appropriate.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The consolidated financial statements on pages 81 to 130 were approved by the Council on

15 June 2022, and signed on its behalf by:

Judge G H Bloem
Chairperson of Council



Mr S Tredoux
Chair: Finance & General Purposes Committee



Prof S Mabizela
Chairperson of Senate



Mr K M Riga
Chief Financial Officer





Independent auditor's report to the Council and the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation on Rhodes University

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 81 to 130, which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2021, 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 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 2021, 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 and the Regulations for reporting by Public Higher Education Institutions, 2014, issued in terms of the Higher Education Act of South Africa, 1997.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the consolidated financial statements section of our report.

We are independent of the University in accordance with the Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors' Code of Professional Conduct for Auditors (IRBA Code) and other independence requirements applicable to performing audits of financial statements in South Africa. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the IRBA Code and in accordance with other ethical requirements applicable to performing audits in South Africa. The IRBA Code is consistent with the corresponding sections of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (Including International Independence Standards).

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of the Council for the consolidated financial statements

The Council is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of the Higher Education Act of South Africa, 1997 and the Regulations for reporting by Public Higher

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Reg. no. 1998/012055/21, VAT reg.no. 4950174682.



Education Institutions, 2014, issued in terms of the Higher Education Act of South Africa, 1997, and for such internal control as the Council determines is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, the Council is responsible for assessing the University's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the accounting authority either intends to liquidate the University or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

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

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the consolidated financial statements is included in the annexure to this auditor's report.

Report on the audit of the annual performance report

Introduction and scope

In accordance with the Public Audit Act 25 of 2004 (PAA) and the general notice issued in terms thereof, we have a responsibility to report on the usefulness and reliability of the reported performance information against predetermined objectives for selected objectives presented in the annual performance report. We performed procedures to identify material findings but not to gather evidence to express assurance.

Our procedures address the usefulness and reliability of the reported performance information, which must be based on the University's approved performance planning documents. We have not evaluated the completeness and appropriateness of the performance indicators included in the planning documents. Our procedures do not examine whether the actions taken by the University enabled service delivery. Our procedures do not extend to any disclosures or assertions relating to the extent of achievements in the current year or planned performance strategies and information in respect of future periods that may be included as part of the reported performance information. Accordingly, our findings do not extend to these matters.

We evaluated the usefulness and reliability of the reported performance information in accordance with the criteria developed from the performance management and reporting framework, as defined in the general notice, for the following selected objectives presented in the University's annual performance report for the year ended 31 December 2021:

| Objectives | Pages in the annual performance report |
|---|--|
| Access: Headcount totals | 7 |
| Access: First-time entering undergraduates | 7 |
| Access: Headcount enrolments total UG | 7 |
| Access: Headcount enrolments total PG | 7 |
| Success: Graduate UG | 8 |
| Success: Graduate PG | 8 |
| Efficiency: Headcount of permanent I/R staff | 9 |
| Efficiency: Ratio of FTE students to FTE instructional/research staff | 9 |
| Research: Total research output units | 9 |
| Research: Publication units per I/R staff | 9 |

We performed procedures to determine whether the reported performance information was consistent with the approved performance planning documents. We performed further procedures to determine whether the indicators and related targets were measurable and relevant, and assessed the reliability of the reported performance information to determine whether it was valid, accurate and complete.

We did not identify any material findings on the usefulness and reliability of the reported performance information for these objectives:

- Access: Headcount totals
- Access: First-time entering undergraduates
- Access: Headcount enrolments total UG
- Access: Headcount enrolments total PG
- Success: Graduate UG
- Success: Graduate PG
- Efficiency: Headcount of permanent I/R staff
- Efficiency: Ratio of FTE students to FTE instructional/research staff
- Research: Total research output units
- Research: Publication units per I/R staff

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 University's compliance with specific matters in key legislation. We performed procedures to identify findings but not to gather evidence to express assurance.

We did not identify any 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 University Annual Report 2021”. The other information does not include the consolidated financial statements, the auditor’s report and those selected objectives presented in the annual performance report that have been specifically reported in this auditor’s report.

Our opinion on the consolidated financial statements and findings on the reported performance information and compliance with legislation do not cover the other information and we do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion on it.

In connection with our audit, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the consolidated financial statements and the selected objectives presented in the annual performance report, or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have 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 various parties which had, or could have, an impact on the matters reported in the University’s consolidated financial statements, reported performance information, compliance with applicable legislation and other related matters. These reports did not form part of our opinion on the consolidated financial statements or our findings on the reported performance information or compliance with legislation.

Agreed upon procedure engagements

| Engagement Name | Purpose of the engagement | Period covered | Reporting date |
|---|---|------------------------------|----------------|
| Department of Higher Education and Training – Infrastructure and Efficiency Funding (2010 – 2012) | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021 | 14 June 2021 |
| Department of Higher Education and Training – Infrastructure and Efficiency Funding (2012 – 2014) | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021 | 14 June 2021 |
| Department of Higher Education and Training – Infrastructure and Efficiency Funding (2014 – 2015) | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021 | 14 June 2021 |

| | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Department of Higher Education and Training – Infrastructure and Efficiency Funding (2015 – 2018) | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021 | 14 June 2021 |
| Department of Higher Education and Training – Infrastructure and Efficiency Funding (2018 – 2021) | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021 | 14 June 2021 |
| Department of Higher Education and Training – Statistical Data Return | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 January 2020 – 31 December 2020 | 25 June 2021 |
| Department of Higher Education and Training – Student Statistics | Performance of procedures required by the Department of Higher Education and Training relating to HEMIS submission. | 1 January 2020 – 31 December 2020 | 9 July 2021 |
| National Credit Regulatory Annual Return 2019 | Performance of procedures required by the NCA relating to NCR Annual Return submission. | 1 January 2019 – 31 December 2019 | 9 July 2021 |
| Anglogold Ashanti Grant | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021 | 25 February 2022 |
| CSD – Centre for Social Development Grant | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021 | 28 February 2022 |
| RUMEP Consolidated - Rhodes University Maths Education Project Grant | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021 | 28 February 2022 |
| Sishen Iron Ore Community Development Trust Grant | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021 | 28 February 2022 |
| HCI Foundation Grant | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021 | 28 February 2022 |
| Investec Commerce Foundation Grant | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 February 2021 – 31 January 2022 | 28 February 2022 |
| National Research Foundation Grants | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021 | 14 March 2022 |

| | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Mintek NIC Consortium Agreements | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022 | 21 April 2022 |
| Research Articles | Agreeing research articles to supporting documentation. | 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021 | 28 April 2022 |
| Foundation Enrolment (CHERTL) | Agreeing student, staff and financial data to supporting documentation. | 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021 | 6 May 2022 |
| DHET Infrastructure 2012 – 2014 Grant | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022 | 13 May 2022 |
| DHET Infrastructure 2015 – 2018 Grant | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022 | 13 May 2022 |
| DHET Infrastructure 2018 – 2020 Grant | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021 | 13 May 2022 |
| Pharmacy Clinical Training Grant | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022 | 24 May 2022 |
| University Capacity Development Programme Grant | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021 | 26 May 2022 |
| HELTASA University Staff Doctoral Programme Grant | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021 | 26 May 2022 |
| University Capacity Development Programme Collaborative Grant | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021 | 26 May 2022 |
| University Capacity Development Programme Grant for the British Council (Postgraduate Studies) | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021 | 26 May 2022 |
| University Capacity Development Programme Grant for the British Council (Education) | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021 | 26 May 2022 |
| Department of Higher Education and Training Teaching Development Collaborative Programme Grant | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021 | 26 May 2022 |



| | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------|-------------|
| Covid-19 Responsiveness Grant | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022 | 26 May 2022 |
| University Capacity Development Programme Grant – Project 6 | Agreeing of income and expenditure to contracts and supporting documentation. | 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022 | 26 May 2022 |

Special audits

| | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Public Service Accountability Monitor (PSAM) | Report to stakeholders of the project whether, in our opinion, the annual project statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial performance of the project in accordance with the project agreement. | 1 January 2019 – 31 December 2019 | 23 June 2021 |
| Public Service Accountability Monitor (PSAM) | Report to stakeholders of the project whether, in our opinion, the annual project statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial performance of the project in accordance with the project agreement. | 1 January 2020 – 31 December 2020 | 22 July 2021 |
| 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 performance of the project in accordance with the project agreement. | 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021 | 25 May 2022 |

PricewaterhouseCoopers Inc.
Director: AF Puggia
Registered Auditor
Gqeberha
15 June 2022



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 the reported performance information for selected objectives and on the University’s compliance with respect to the selected subject matters.

Consolidated 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 error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing 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 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 consolidated financial statements. We also conclude, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists relating to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of Rhodes University and its subsidiary 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 consolidated financial statements about the material uncertainty or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion on the consolidated 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 the University to cease operating as a going concern.
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and determine whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation
- obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the University to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

Communication with those charged with governance

We communicate with the Council regarding, among other 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.

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AT 31 DECEMBER 2021**

| | Notes | 2021 R '000 | 2020 R '000 |
|---|-------|------------------|------------------|
| ASSETS | | | |
| Non-current assets | | 1,806,647 | 1,636,534 |
| Property, plant and equipment | 1 | 943,720 | 909,963 |
| Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income | 2a | 300,153 | 215,735 |
| Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss | 2b | 556,861 | 505,282 |
| Other financial assets at amortised cost | 4 | 5,913 | 5,554 |
| Current assets | | 1,253,231 | 1,190,723 |
| Inventories | 5 | 8,652 | 5,969 |
| Trade receivables | 3 | 26,117 | 30,690 |
| Contract assets | 11 | 8,429 | 8,011 |
| Other financial assets at amortised cost | 4 | 233,970 | 239,369 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 6 | 976,063 | 906,684 |
| Total assets | | <u>3,059,878</u> | <u>2,827,257</u> |
| EQUITY AND LIABILITIES | | | |
| Equity funds | | 1,879,630 | 1,599,761 |
| Property, plant and equipment funds | | 493,820 | 469,929 |
| Council unrestricted funds | | 261,764 | 232,420 |
| Council restricted funds | | 1,124,046 | 897,412 |
| Non-current liabilities | | 94,567 | 85,399 |
| Interest-bearing borrowings | 8 | 864 | 1,439 |
| Retirement benefit obligations | 21 | 81,201 | 70,659 |
| Lease liabilities | 10 | 12,502 | 13,301 |
| Current liabilities | | 1,085,681 | 1,142,097 |
| Deferred income | 7 | 812,839 | 822,602 |
| Trade and other payables | 9 | 171,967 | 223,935 |
| Contract liabilities | 11 | 99,101 | 94,194 |
| Interest bearing borrowings | 8 | 576 | 576 |
| Lease liabilities | 10 | 1,198 | 790 |
| Total equity and liabilities | | <u>3,059,878</u> | <u>2,827,257</u> |

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

| | | 2021 | | | | | 2020 | |
|-------|--|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | Council Directed Funds | | | | | TOTAL | |
| Notes | | Central operations | Student Accommodation | Endowed funds | SUB-TOTAL | Council Managed Funds | TOTAL | |
| | | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | |
| | TOTAL INCOME | 930,722 | 208,044 | 105,801 | 1,244,567 | 404,011 | 1,648,578 | 1,572,501 |
| | RECURRENT ITEMS | 914,892 | 206,488 | 36,034 | 1,157,414 | 382,813 | 1,540,227 | 1,499,436 |
| | Revenue from contracts with customers | 358,834 | 206,488 | - | 565,322 | 161,453 | 726,775 | 706,765 |
| | Tuition and other fee income | 357,276 | 204,492 | - | 561,768 | 31,334 | 593,102 | 565,382 |
| | Income from contracts | - | - | - | - | 44,419 | 44,419 | 53,905 |
| | Sale of goods and services | 1,494 | 1,996 | - | 3,490 | 13,278 | 16,768 | 18,503 |
| | Private gifts and grants | 64 | - | - | 64 | 72,422 | 72,486 | 68,975 |
| | Other revenue | 533,283 | - | 12,632 | 545,915 | 197,025 | 742,940 | 702,923 |
| | State Appropriations - subsidies and grants | 533,189 | - | - | 533,189 | 189,114 | 722,303 | 686,579 |
| | Private gifts | 94 | - | 12,632 | 12,726 | 7,911 | 20,637 | 16,344 |
| | Sub-total | 892,117 | 206,488 | 12,632 | 1,111,237 | 358,478 | 1,469,715 | 1,409,688 |
| | Interest and dividends | 22,775 | - | 23,402 | 46,177 | 24,335 | 70,512 | 89,748 |
| | NON-RECURRENT ITEMS | 15,830 | 1,556 | 69,767 | 87,153 | 21,198 | 108,351 | 73,065 |
| | Profit/(loss) on disposal of assets | (172) | - | - | (172) | 2,173 | 2,001 | (937) |
| | Realised capital profits on investment | - | - | - | - | - | - | (719) |
| | Investments fair value gains | - | - | 69,495 | 69,495 | - | 69,495 | 41,405 |
| | Other non-recurrent income | 16,002 | 1,556 | 272 | 17,830 | 19,025 | 36,855 | 33,316 |
| | TOTAL EXPENDITURE | 889,866 | 211,826 | 38,268 | 1,139,960 | 256,764 | 1,396,724 | 1,356,760 |
| | RECURRENT ITEMS | 889,051 | 211,097 | 38,268 | 1,138,416 | 256,178 | 1,394,594 | 1,355,328 |
| | Personnel costs | 581,680 | 80,199 | - | 661,879 | 165,964 | 827,843 | 807,130 |
| | Academic professional | 298,069 | - | - | 298,069 | 70,113 | 368,182 | 371,261 |
| | Other personnel | 279,361 | 80,199 | - | 359,560 | 95,851 | 455,411 | 435,734 |
| | Leave liability increase | 4,250 | - | - | 4,250 | - | 4,250 | 135 |
| | Other operating expenses | 280,727 | 115,084 | 38,268 | 434,079 | 71,122 | 505,201 | 440,207 |
| | NSFAS impairment (reversal) / expense | (4,530) | (1,510) | - | (6,040) | - | (6,040) | 2,272 |
| | Student debtor provision | 6,214 | 6,402 | - | 12,616 | - | 12,616 | 54,737 |
| | Depreciation | 24,776 | 9,980 | - | 34,756 | 19,092 | 53,848 | 49,609 |
| | Sub-total | 888,867 | 210,155 | 38,268 | 1,137,290 | 256,178 | 1,393,468 | 1,353,955 |
| | Finance costs | 184 | 942 | - | 1,126 | - | 1,126 | 1,373 |
| | NON-RECURRENT ITEMS | 815 | 729 | - | 1,544 | 586 | 2,130 | 1,432 |
| | Capital expenditure expensed | 815 | 729 | - | 1,544 | 586 | 2,130 | 1,432 |
| | Net Surplus | 40,856 | (3,782) | 67,533 | 104,607 | 147,247 | 251,854 | 215,741 |
| | OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME | | | | | | | |
| | Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss | | | | | | | |
| | Retirement funding valuation adjustments | (15,305) | (3,353) | - | (18,658) | - | (18,658) | 1,654 |
| | Investments fair value adjustments | - | - | 46,423 | 46,423 | - | 46,423 | 9,111 |
| | TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME | 25,551 | (7,135) | 113,956 | 132,372 | 147,247 | 279,619 | 226,506 |

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

| | 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 | Restricted Contract Fund R'000 | Total Restricted Funds R'000 | Total Funds R'000 |
|---|--|--|---|--|---|--|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Balance at 1.1.2020 | 18,662 | 155,218 | 173,880 | 440,955 | 614,835 | 425,234 | 333,509 | 758,743 | 1,373,578 |
| Retirement funding valuation adjustments | 1,654 | - | 1,654 | - | 1,654 | - | - | - | 1,654 |
| Investment fair value adjustment | - | 1,945 | 1,945 | - | 1,945 | 7,166 | - | 7,166 | 9,111 |
| Net surplus before transfers | 71,533 | 9,626 | 81,159 | - | 81,159 | 35,457 | 99,125 | 134,582 | 215,741 |
| Funds utilised/written off | (323) | - | (323) | - | (323) | - | - | - | (323) |
| Transfers | | | | | | | | | |
| - Depreciation charge | 32,155 | - | 32,155 | (42,741) | (10,586) | - | 10,586 | 10,586 | - |
| - Property, plant and equipment additions | (58,050) | - | (58,050) | 71,715 | 13,665 | - | (13,665) | (13,665) | - |
| Balance at 31.12.2020 | 65,631 | 166,789 | 232,420 | 469,929 | 702,349 | 467,857 | 429,555 | 897,412 | 1,599,761 |
| Balance at 1.1.2021 | 65,631 | 166,789 | 232,420 | 469,929 | 702,349 | 467,857 | 429,555 | 897,412 | 1,599,761 |
| Retirement funding valuation adjustment | (18,658) | - | (18,658) | - | (18,658) | - | - | - | (18,658) |
| Investment fair value adjustment | - | 11,604 | 11,604 | - | 11,604 | 34,819 | - | 34,819 | 46,423 |
| Net surplus before transfers | 37,074 | 16,901 | 53,975 | - | 53,975 | 50,632 | 147,247 | 197,879 | 251,854 |
| Funds utilised/written off | 250 | - | 250 | - | 250 | - | - | - | 250 |
| Transfers | | | | | | | | | |
| - Depreciation charge | 34,756 | - | 34,756 | (46,702) | (11,946) | - | 11,946 | 11,946 | - |
| - Property, plant and equipment additions | (52,583) | - | (52,583) | 70,593 | 18,010 | - | (18,010) | (18,010) | - |
| Balance at 31.12.2021 | 66,470 | 195,294 | 261,764 | 493,820 | 755,584 | 553,308 | 570,738 | 1,124,046 | 1,879,630 |



**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

| | Notes | 2021 R '000 | 2020 R '000 |
|--|-------|-----------------|----------------|
| Cash flow from operating activities | | | |
| Cash generated from operations | 19 | 112,166 | 172,119 |
| Interest received | 13 | 47,110 | 61,545 |
| <i>Net cash inflow from operating activities</i> | | <u>159,276</u> | <u>233,664</u> |
| Cash flow from investing activities | | | |
| Purchase of property, plant and equipment | 1 | (88,444) | (95,476) |
| Proceeds on disposal of property, plant and equipment | | 2,174 | 1,076 |
| Dividends received | 13 | 8,016 | 11,278 |
| Interest received | 13 | 15,386 | 16,925 |
| Reinvestment of investment income | | (18,070) | (23,239) |
| Fixed deposits (invested)/matured | | (2,600) | 72,400 |
| Advances of student, staff and other loans | | (2,503) | (1,712) |
| Infrastructure grants received | 7 | - | 143,314 |
| <i>Net cash (outflow)/inflow in investing activities</i> | | <u>(86,041)</u> | <u>124,566</u> |
| Cash flow from financing activities | | | |
| Interest paid | 17 | (1,126) | (1,373) |
| Lease payments | | (584) | (1,912) |
| Repayments on interest-bearing borrowings | | (2,146) | (584) |
| <i>Net cash outflow from financing activities</i> | | <u>(3,856)</u> | <u>(3,869)</u> |
| Cash and cash equivalents movement for the year | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year | | 69,379 | 354,361 |
| Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year | 6 | <u>906,684</u> | <u>552,323</u> |
| | | <u>976,063</u> | <u>906,684</u> |



NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2021

1. Property, plant and equipment

| | 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 Assets R'000 | Total R'000 |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|--|------------------------------|----------------|
| Year ended 31 December 2021 | | | | | | | |
| Opening carrying amount | 811,873 | 71,853 | 6,700 | 6,791 | - | 12,746 | 909,963 |
| Additions | 47,926 | 24,927 | 12,013 | 743 | 1,383 | 1,452 | 88,444 |
| Disposals/transfers | - | - | (23) | - | - | (150) | (173) |
| Remeasurement | - | - | - | - | - | (666) | (666) |
| Depreciation charge | (21,723) | (16,691) | (11,602) | (874) | (1,383) | (1,575) | (53,848) |
| Closing carrying amount | 838,076 | 80,089 | 7,088 | 6,660 | - | 11,807 | 943,720 |
| At 31 December 2021 | | | | | | | |
| Cost | 1,056,725 | 360,596 | 110,246 | 26,949 | 117,726 | 18,251 | 1,690,493 |
| Accumulated depreciation | (218,649) | (280,507) | (103,158) | (20,289) | (117,726) | (6,444) | (746,773) |
| Carrying amount | 838,076 | 80,089 | 7,088 | 6,660 | - | 11,807 | 943,720 |
| Year ended 31 December 2020 | | | | | | | |
| Opening carrying amount | 763,950 | 74,155 | 5,782 | 7,866 | - | 12,482 | 864,235 |
| Additions | 68,509 | 14,037 | 9,550 | - | 1,637 | 1,743 | 95,476 |
| Disposals/transfers | - | (3) | (35) | (101) | - | - | (139) |
| Depreciation charge | (20,586) | (16,336) | (8,597) | (974) | (1,637) | (1,479) | (49,609) |
| Closing carrying amount | 811,873 | 71,853 | 6,700 | 6,791 | - | 12,746 | 909,963 |
| At 31 December 2020 | | | | | | | |
| Cost | 1,008,803 | 336,508 | 100,742 | 25,302 | 116,343 | 14,593 | 1,602,291 |
| Accumulated depreciation | (196,930) | (264,655) | (94,042) | (18,511) | (116,343) | (1,847) | (692,328) |
| Carrying amount | 811,873 | 71,853 | 6,700 | 6,791 | - | 12,746 | 909,963 |



1. Property, plant and equipment (continued)

| | 31 Dec 2021 R'000 | 31 Dec 2020 R'000 |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Right of use assets are included as follows: | | |
| - Canterbury Annex Building | 8,921 | 10,578 |
| - Motor vehicles | 2,886 | 2,168 |
| | <u>11,807</u> | <u>12,746</u> |

Additions to the right of use assets during the year is R1,451,806 (2020: R1,743,573).

The statement of profit or loss shows the following amounts relating to leases:

| | 31 Dec 2021 R'000 | 31 Dec 2020 R'000 |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Depreciation charge for right of use assets: | 1,575 | 1,479 |
| Right-of-use Asset: Canterbury Annex Building | 991 | 1,058 |
| Right-of-use Asset: Motor vehicles | 584 | 421 |

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 upgrade of the Main Administration Building, Electrical Infrastructure upgrade, Jan Smuts upgrade and College House upgrade projects. The total cumulative costs relating to the mentioned projects incurred at year end included in Land and Buildings, amount to R18 million (2020: R23.1 million).



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)

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 | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Listed securities | | |
| Investec Portfolio | 300,153 | 215,735 |
| Total financial assets at FVOCI | 300,153 | 215,735 |

(iii) Disposal of equity investments

During the financial year, the University disposed of certain equity investments at a fair value of R35,203,644 (2020: R30,264,257) and realised a gain of R6,492,989 (2020: R17,599,574 gain) which has been included in other comprehensive income.

(iv) Amounts recognised in other comprehensive income

| | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|

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

| | | |
|---|--------|---------|
| Gains recognised in other comprehensive income, due to the disposal of equity instruments | 6,493 | 17,600 |
| Fair Value gains/(losses) on equity instruments at FVOCI recognised | 39,930 | (8,489) |

(v) Amounts recognised in profit or loss

| | | |
|---|-------|--------|
| Dividends from equity investments held at FVOCI | 8,016 | 11,278 |
|---|-------|--------|

(vi) Fair value, impairment and risk exposure

Information about the University's exposure to price risk is provided in note 24. For information about the methods and assumptions used in determining fair value, refer to page 110.



2. Financial assets (continued)

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

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

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 | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Government bonds | 169,904 | 154,475 |
| International market unit trusts | 343,474 | 273,986 |
| Money market deposits | 43,483 | 76,821 |
| Total financial assets at FVPL | 556,861 | 505,282 |

(iii) Disposal of debt investments

During the current financial year, the University did not dispose of any debt investments. During the 2020 financial year, disposals of debt investments at a fair value of R56,561,934 gave rise to a realised a loss of R719,350 which has been included in profit or loss.

(iv) Amounts recognised in profit or loss

| | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| During the year, the following gains/(losses) were recognised in profit or loss: | | |
| Losses recognised in profit or loss, due to the disposal of debt investments | - | (719) |
| Fair value gains on debt investments at FVPL recognised | 69,495 | 41,405 |

(v) Fair value, impairment and risk exposure

Information about the University's exposure to price risk is provided in note 24. For information about the methods and assumptions used in determining fair value, refer to page 110.

Of the above investments an amount of R209.3 million (2020: R181.9 million) relates to Council directed funds.



NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2021

2. Financial assets (continued)

The following table presents the University's investments that are measured at fair value at 31 December 2021.

| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Total balance |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------|------------------|
| | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 |
| Assets | | | | |
| Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI) | | | | |
| Equity securities | 300,153 | - | - | 300,153 |
| Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (FVPL) | | | | |
| - Government bonds | 169,904 | - | - | 169,904 |
| - International market unit trusts | 343,474 | - | - | 343,474 |
| - Money market deposits | 43,483 | - | - | 43,483 |
| Financial assets at amortised cost (Fixed deposits – refer to note 4) | - | 192,219 | - | 192,219 |
| Total assets | 857,014 | 192,219 | - | 1,049,233 |

The following table presents the University's investments that are measured at fair value at 31 December 2020.

| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Total balance |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------|----------------|
| | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 |
| Assets | | | | |
| Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI) | | | | |
| - Equity securities | 215,735 | - | - | 215,735 |
| Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (FVPL) | | | | |
| - Government bonds | 154,475 | - | - | 154,475 |
| - International market unit trusts | 273,986 | - | - | 273,986 |
| - Money market deposits | 76,821 | - | - | 76,821 |
| Financial assets at amortised cost (Fixed deposits – refer to note 4) | - | 189,619 | - | 189,619 |
| Total assets | 721,017 | 189,619 | - | 910,636 |

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 quoted 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

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | R'000 | R'000 |
| Trade receivables | 183,125 | 180,339 |
| Loss allowance | <u>(157,008)</u> | <u>(149,649)</u> |
| | <u>26,117</u> | <u>30,690</u> |

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 24.

4. Other financial assets at amortised cost

Classification

The University classifies receivables (Financial Assets) 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.

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | R'000 | R'000 |
| Other receivables | | |
| Fixed deposits | 192,219 | 189,619 |
| Prepayments | 4,353 | 19,897 |
| NRF Control account | 10,992 | 14,429 |
| Accrued interest receivable | 11,579 | 6,141 |
| VAT | 5,697 | 4,000 |
| Other | 12,203 | 11,453 |
| | <u>237,043</u> | <u>245,539</u> |
| Less Loss allowance | <u>(2,373)</u> | <u>(1,870)</u> |
| | <u>234,670</u> | <u>243,669</u> |

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 two debtors who are fully provided for.

Fixed deposits are made up of a current portion of R191.5 million (2020: R185.3 million) and a non-current portion of R0.7 million (2020: R4.3 million) with a total of R192.2 million (2020: R189.6 million). Of the R192.2 million fixed deposits (2020: R189.6 million), an amount of R184.2 million (2020: R181.6 million) comprises restricted funds with the balance of R8.0 million (2020: R8.0 Million) being Council directed funds.

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | R'000 | R'000 |
| Loans | | |
| Student Loans – NSFAS | 100,390 | 110,335 |
| Loss allowance | <u>(100,390)</u> | <u>(110,335)</u> |
| | - | - |
| Student Loans - Other | 27,208 | 25,363 |
| Loans to employees | 3,387 | 2,729 |
| | <u>30,595</u> | <u>28,092</u> |
| Less: Loss allowance | <u>(25,382)</u> | <u>(26,838)</u> |
| | <u>5,213</u> | <u>1,254</u> |
| Other receivables | 234,670 | 243,669 |
| Loans | 5,213 | 1,254 |
| | <u>239,883</u> | <u>244,923</u> |
| Non-current | 5,913 | 5,554 |
| Current | <u>233,970</u> | <u>239,369</u> |

| | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Other financial assets at amortised cost | <u>239,883</u> | <u>244,923</u> |
|---|----------------|----------------|

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2021

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| 5. Inventories | 2021 | 2020 |
| | R'000 | R'000 |
| Stationery | 179 | 294 |
| Technical inventories | 6,145 | 2,373 |
| Cleaning and other materials | 1,803 | 2,771 |
| Study material | 525 | 531 |
| | <u>8,652</u> | <u>5,969</u> |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 6. Cash and cash equivalents | 2021 | 2020 |
| | R'000 | R'000 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | 67,633 | 72,290 |
| Short term bank deposits | 908,430 | 834,394 |
| | <u>976,063</u> | <u>906,684</u> |

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents consist of: | | |
| DHET restricted funds | 473,729 | 358,282 |
| Research restricted funds | 184,481 | 182,174 |
| University unrestricted funds | 317,853 | 366,228 |
| | <u>976,063</u> | <u>906,684</u> |

For the purpose of the cash flow statement, the year-end cash and cash equivalents comprise the following:

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Cash and bank balances | <u>976,063</u> | <u>906,684</u> |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|

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

Credit ratings of the institutions at which the University funds are held, as at 31 December 2021, is as follows:

| Institution | Moody's rating |
|---|-----------------------|
| The Standard Bank of South Africa Limited | Aa1.za |
| Nedbank Bank Limited | Aa1.za |
| ABSA Bank Limited | Aa1.za |
| Investec Bank Limited | Aa1.za |
| FirstRand Bank Limited | Aa1.za |

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2021

| 7. Deferred income | 2021 | 2020 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| | R'000 | R'000 |
| As at 1 January | 822,602 | 687,303 |
| Net (decrease)/increase in deferred income | (9,763) | 135,299 |
| Government grants received - Infrastructure | - | 143,314 |
| Realised in comprehensive income | (9,763) | (8,015) |
| As at 31 December | <u>812,839</u> | <u>822,602</u> |

Deferred income represents predominantly 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 | 2021 | 2020 |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | R'000 | R'000 |
| Current portion of borrowings | 576 | 576 |
| Non-current portion of borrowings | 864 | 1,439 |
| Total borrowings | <u>1,440</u> | <u>2,015</u> |

The finance obtained under the instalment sale agreement was for the purchase of motor vehicles. The facility is secured against vehicles with a net book value of R1.1 million (2020: R1.6 mil).

The outstanding amount is to be settled within 30 months, with payments being made monthly in arrears with a fixed interest rate.

| | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Interest rates | 10.60% | 10.50% |
| Minimum lease payments | | |
| Not later than 1 year | 687 | 733 |
| Later than 1 year, not later than 5 years | 932 | 1,619 |
| | <u>1,619</u> | <u>2,352</u> |
| Future finance charges | (179) | (337) |
| Present value of borrowings | <u>1,440</u> | <u>2,015</u> |

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2021

| 9. Trade and other payables | 2021 | 2020 |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | R'000 | R'000 |
| Trade and other payables | 31,582 | 51,636 |
| Student deposits | 71,408 | 66,282 |
| NSFAS | 3,791 | 50,445 |
| DHET – fee adjustment funding | 25,938 | 21,385 |
| Leave pay accrual | 13,857 | 9,510 |
| Payroll accruals | 25,391 | 24,677 |
| | <u>171,967</u> | <u>223,935</u> |

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.

(i) Amounts recognised in the statement of financial position
The balance sheet shows the following amounts relating to leases:

| | 31 Dec | 31 Dec |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | 2021 | 2020 |
| | R'000 | R'000 |
| Right of Use assets | | |
| - Canterbury Annex Building | 8,921 | 10,578 |
| - Motor vehicles | 2,886 | 2,168 |
| | <u>11,807</u> | <u>12,746</u> |
| Lease Liabilities | | |
| Non-Current | 12,502 | 13,301 |
| Current | 1,198 | 790 |
| | <u>13,700</u> | <u>14,091</u> |

Additions to the right of use assets during the year amounted to R1,451,806 (2020: R1,743,573).

(ii) Amounts recognised in the statement of comprehensive income

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| | R'000 | R'000 |
| Depreciation charge for right of use assets: | 1,575 | 1,494 |
| Right-of-use Asset: Canterbury Annex Building | 991 | 1,058 |
| Right-of-use Asset: Motor vehicles | 584 | 436 |
| Interest expense: | 1,117 | 1,060 |
| Canterbury Annex Building | 942 | 1,036 |
| Motor vehicles | 175 | 24 |

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2021

10. Leases (continued)

| | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Expense relating to low value leases: | 175 | 184 |

(iii) The lease details

The University's leasing activities consists of a number of property leases. The use of the buildings range 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.

The total cash outflow for leases amounted to R2,145,000 (2020: R1,912,000).

(iv) Lease liability maturity analysis

| | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Not Later than 1 year | 750 | 1,882 |
| Later than 1 year not later than 5 years | 4,727 | 8,275 |
| Later than 5 years | 8,713 | 11,384 |
| | <u>14,190</u> | <u>21,541</u> |

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

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 for the following streams of revenue:

| (a) Disaggregated revenue from contracts with customers: | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Tuition and other fee income | 593,102 | 565,382 |
| Income from contracts | 44,419 | 53,905 |
| Private gifts and grants | 72,486 | 68,975 |
| Sale of goods and services | 16,768 | 18,503 |
| | <u>726,775</u> | <u>706,765</u> |

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 |
|------|--|--|---|------------------------|
| 2021 | 212,465 | 329,457 | 51,180 | 593,102 |
| 2020 | 190,641 | 320,272 | 54,469 | 565,382 |

The above table reflects the composition of local and international students during 2021 and 2020, along with the funding status of South African students.

The National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) funded 55.5% (2020: 56.6%) of student fees. Tuition and other income from South African Non-NSFAS funded students increased by 11.4% (2020: 45% decrease). Revenue from international students decreased by 6%, representing 8.6% (2020: 9.6%) of total tuition and other income.

(b) Recognised as revenue from contracts with customers over time:

| | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Tuition and other fee income | 593,102 | 565,382 |
| Income from contracts | 44,419 | 53,905 |
| Private gifts and grants | 72,486 | 68,975 |
| Sale of goods and services | 12,450 | 17,314 |
| | <u>722,457</u> | <u>705,576</u> |

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

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Sale of goods and services | <u>4,318</u> | <u>1,189</u> |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|

4,318

1,189

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2021

11. Revenue from contracts with customers (continued)**(c) Contract Liabilities**

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

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| | R'000 | R'000 |
| Contract Liabilities | 99,101 | 94,194 |
| | <u>99,101</u> | <u>94,194</u> |
| Significant changes in the balance for contract liabilities: | | |
| Opening balance as 1 January | 94,194 | 63,303 |
| Movement during the year: | | |
| Funding received in relation to contracts from customers | 73,297 | 99,178 |
| Revenue recognised for which performance obligations have been satisfied | (68,390) | (68,287) |
| Closing balance at 31 December | <u>99,101</u> | <u>94,194</u> |

The contract liabilities relate to the University's obligation to complete work/satisfy performance obligations, for which contracted funding was received at the reporting date.

(d) Contract Assets

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

| | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Contract Assets | 8,430 | 8,011 |
| | <u>8,430</u> | <u>8,011</u> |
| Significant changes in the balance for contract assets: | | |
| Opening balance as 1 January | 8,011 | 11,844 |
| Movement during the year: | | |
| Funding received in relation to contracts from customers | (35,823) | (56,189) |
| Revenue recognised for which performance obligations have been satisfied | 36,242 | 52,356 |
| Closing balance at 31 December | <u>8,430</u> | <u>8,011</u> |

The contract assets relate to the University's right to consideration for work completed/ performance obligations satisfied but for which the contracted funding was not received at the reporting date.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2021

| 12. Other revenue is made up of: | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Donations | 20,637 | 16,344 |
| State appropriations, subsidies and grants | 722,303 | 686,579 |
| | <u>742,940</u> | <u>702,923</u> |
| | | |
| State Appropriations - grants and subsidies are made up as follows: | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
| Subsidy – block grant | 533,189 | 530,524 |
| Specific grants – research | 179,351 | 148,040 |
| DHET infrastructure grants released | 9,763 | 8,015 |
| | <u>722,303</u> | <u>686,579</u> |
| | | |
| 13. Income from investments | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
| Financial assets at amortised cost | | |
| Interest income | 47,110 | 61,545 |
| Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss | | |
| Interest income | 15,386 | 16,925 |
| Dividend income | 8,016 | 11,278 |
| | <u>70,512</u> | <u>89,748</u> |
| | | |
| 14. Other non-recurrent income | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
| South East Academic Libraries Systems operating costs levy income | 2,921 | 2,980 |
| South East Academic Libraries Systems millennium income | 4,710 | 4,280 |
| Board of Governors administration levy | 4,775 | 3,922 |
| Student vacation accommodation | 1,299 | 2,093 |
| Information and Technology System student sales | 4,600 | 4,590 |
| Other sources | 18,550 | 15,451 |
| | <u>36,855</u> | <u>33,316</u> |

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2021

| 15. Personnel | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Academic professional | 368,182 | 371,261 |
| Other personnel | 455,411 | 435,734 |
| Leave liability | 4,250 | 135 |
| | <u>827,843</u> | <u>807,130</u> |

The number of academic employees is 510 (2020: 515)

The number of other employees is 1,176 (2020: 1,238)

| 16. Other operating expenses | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|

The following items have been included in recurrent expenditure:

| | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Advertising | 2,741 | 3,100 |
| Audit fees- external | 1,910 | 1,898 |
| Approved | 970 | 900 |
| Adjustment for previous year | - | 157 |
| Other | 940 | 841 |
| Audit – internal | 1,747 | 604 |
| Books, journals and periodicals | 27,292 | 25,701 |
| Catering and entertainment | 1,940 | 2,484 |
| Covid 19 related expenditure | 6,513 | 12,077 |
| Electricity and water | 31,197 | 23,018 |
| Expenditure on computer equipment written off | 903 | 1,344 |
| Fincore expenses | 16,235 | 6,962 |
| Cleaning costs and materials | 5,349 | 3,027 |
| Internet expenses | 5,045 | 5,026 |
| Insurance | 7,501 | 4,597 |
| Rates | 17,363 | 15,996 |
| Repairs and maintenance expenditure | 31,990 | 21,692 |
| Residence kitchen supplies | 33,046 | 20,117 |
| Scholarship, bursaries and merit awards | 116,988 | 113,442 |
| SEALS Trust software fees | 4,506 | 4,646 |
| Security | 6,459 | 6,568 |
| Skills Development Levies | 5,488 | 3,593 |
| Software licenses and internet expenses | 14,224 | 10,345 |
| Telephone and fax | 1,992 | 1,825 |
| Travel and accommodation | 22,050 | 18,136 |
| Other | 142,722 | 135,353 |
| | <u>505,201</u> | <u>440,207</u> |

| 17. Finance costs | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Interest expense | <u>1,126</u> | <u>1,373</u> |

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2021

| 18. Commitments | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Commitments for capital expenditure - authorised and contracted | | |
| Capital Projects | 207,174 | 240,900 |
| Other | 5,060 | 3,979 |
| | <u>212,234</u> | <u>244,879</u> |
| Commitments for operating expenditure - authorised and contracted | | |
| | 44,169 | 61,385 |
| | <u>256,403</u> | <u>306,264</u> |

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 2021, significant commitments relate to the Health Sciences, Well Founded Labs, Residences, Chemistry and Pharmacy Building, Main Building, Electrical and Fire Safety Compliance projects. .

| 19. Cash generated from operations | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Reconciliation of net surplus to cash generated from operations: | | |
| Net surplus before transfers | 251,854 | 215,741 |
| Adjustments for non-cash items: | | |
| Depreciation | 53,848 | 49,609 |
| (Profit)/loss on disposal of fixed assets | (2,001) | 937 |
| Loss on investments | - | 719 |
| Fair value gain of investments | (69,495) | (41,405) |
| NSFAS impairment (reversal)/expense | (6,040) | 2,272 |
| Student debtor impairment | 12,616 | 54,737 |
| Post retirement obligation | (8,116) | (50,230) |
| Interest received | (62,496) | (78,470) |
| Dividends received | (8,016) | (11,278) |
| Interest paid | 1,126 | 1,373 |
| DHET infrastructure grants released | (9,763) | (8,015) |
| Changes in working capital | (41,351) | 36,129 |
| Trade receivables and other financial assets at amortised costs | 8,812 | (41,373) |
| Inventories | (2,683) | (223) |
| Trade and other payables | (51,968) | 43,001 |
| Contract assets | (419) | 3,833 |
| Contract liabilities | 4,907 | 30,891 |
| Cash generated from operations | <u>112,166</u> | <u>172,119</u> |

20. Compensation paid to Executive Personnel

The following disclosures relate to compensation paid to executive management for the year ended 31 December 2021. The amounts reflected below are based on the total cost of employment to the University and comprise flexible remuneration packages. The following are executive management:

| | Office held | Basic salary R'000 | Employment benefits R'000 | Other allowances/ payments R'000 | Total cost to Rhodes University R'000 |
|----------------------------------|--|--------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Prof S Mabizela | Vice-Chancellor | 2,765 | 706 | 61 | 3,532 |
| Prof P Clayton | Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research & Development | 2,179 | 394 | - | 2,573 |
| Prof M Monnapula Mapesela | Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Academic & Student Affairs | 2,046 | 368 | 197 | 2,611 |
| Mr K Riga | Chief Financial Officer | 2,025 | 378 | 193 | 2,596 |
| Prof A Moodyly | Registrar | 1,412 | 253 | 144 | 1,809 |

The following disclosures relate to compensation paid to executive management for the year ended 31 December 2020. The amounts reflected below are based on the total cost of employment to the University and comprise flexible remuneration packages. The following are executive management:

| | Office held | Basic salary R'000 | Employment benefits R'000 | Other allowances/ payments R'000 | Total cost to Rhodes University R'000 |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Prof S Mabizela | Vice-Chancellor | 2,644 | 646 | 100 | 3,390 |
| Prof P Clayton | Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research & Development | 2,092 | 358 | 23 | 2,473 |
| Prof M Monnapula Mapesela | Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Academic & Student Affairs | 2,132 | 324 | 28 | 2,484 |
| Mr K Riga | Chief Financial Officer | 2,128 | 344 | 22 | 2,494 |
| Prof A Moodyly | Registrar | 1,483 | 230 | 24 | 1,737 |
| Dr I L'Ange | Executive Director: Infrastructure Operations & Finance (Retirement - Jan 2021) | 139 | 22 | - | 161 |

21. 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 Funds 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 IAS 19R Employee Benefits. In terms of IAS 19R 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 University 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.

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| | R'000 | R'000 |
| Statement of financial position obligations for: | | |
| - pension benefits | - | - |
| - post-retirement medical benefits | 81,201 | 70,659 |
| | <u>81,201</u> | <u>70,659</u> |
| Total income/(expenditure) charge for: | | |
| - pension benefits | (8,849) | (19,781) |
| - post-retirement medical benefits | (13,628) | (6,840) |
| | <u>(22,477)</u> | <u>(26,621)</u> |
| Recognised in other comprehensive income: | | |
| - pension benefits | (15,172) | (1,774) |
| - post-retirement medical benefits | (3,486) | 3,428 |
| | <u>(18,658)</u> | <u>1,654</u> |

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2021

21. Retirement benefit obligations (continued)

Pension benefits

The defined benefit pension fund is valued for IAS 19R purposes 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 2021.

This plan is registered under the Pension Funds 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 Funds 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.

| | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| <i>The amounts recognised in the statement of financial position are as follows:</i> | | |
| Present value of funded obligations | 998,836 | 947,710 |
| Fair value of plan assets | (1,130,459) | (1,044,917) |
| Funded status | (131,623) | (97,207) |
| Unrecognised surplus due to IFRIC 14 | 131,623 | 97,207 |
| Liability at year end | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |

The movement in the defined benefit obligation over the year is as follows:

| | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Beginning of the year | 947,710 | 1,008,746 |
| Current service cost | 8,849 | 19,707 |
| Interest cost | 106,972 | 99,869 |
| Member contributions | 13,686 | 14,799 |
| Remeasurements loss/(gain) | 44,540 | (97,433) |
| Benefits paid | (119,103) | (95,249) |
| Administration costs and risk premiums | (3,818) | (2,729) |
| End of the year | <u>998,836</u> | <u>947,710</u> |

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2021

21. Retirement benefit obligations (continued)

Pension benefits (continued):

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

- Change in financial assumptions (in particular the decrease in the gap between rate of discount and the medical aid contribution increase rate);
- New continuation data excluded from the previous valuation data; and
- Demographic experience adjustments.

The movement in the fair value of plan assets over the year is as follows:

| | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Beginning of the year | 1,044,917 | 959,566 |
| Interest | 104,554 | 99,795 |
| Employer contributions | 24,021 | 73,153 |
| Employee contributions | 13,686 | 14,799 |
| Benefits paid | (119,103) | (95,249) |
| Risk premium | (3,818) | (2,729) |
| Remeasurement gain/(loss) | 66,202 | (4,418) |
| End of the year | <u>1,130,459</u> | <u>1,044,917</u> |

During the year the employer made additional contributions of R24 million.

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 | (8,849) | (19,707) |
| Net interest expense | <u>(2,418)</u> | <u>(74)</u> |
| Total, included in staff costs expense | <u>(11,267)</u> | <u>(19,781)</u> |

Amount to be recognised in other comprehensive income

| | | |
|-------------------|--------|-------|
| Current year loss | 15,172 | 1,774 |
|-------------------|--------|-------|

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

| | | |
|----------|-------|-------|
| Cash | 2.4% | 7.8% |
| Equities | 42.6% | 36.3% |
| Bonds | 17.3% | 18.8% |
| Property | 1.9% | 2.0% |

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| International | 32.7% | 29.9% |
| Other | 3.1% | 5.2% |
| | <u>100.0%</u> | <u>100.0%</u> |

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 DECEMBER 2021

21. Retirement benefit obligations (continued)

Pension benefits (continued):

Analysis of remeasurements

| | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
|--|---------------|-----------------|
| <i>Defined benefit obligation:</i> | | |
| Remeasurement loss/(gain) due to change in financial assumptions | 14,722 | (59,751) |
| Remeasurement loss/(gain) due to experience adjustment | <u>29,818</u> | <u>(37,682)</u> |
| | <u>44,540</u> | <u>(97,433)</u> |

Plan assets:

| | | |
|---|--------|---------|
| Remeasurement gain/(loss): Return on plan assets, not included in interest income above | 66,202 | (4,418) |
|---|--------|---------|

The principal actuarial assumptions used were as follows:

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|
| Discount rate | 11,4% | 11,9% |
| Future salary increases | 6,0% | 6,0% |
| Future pension increases | 3,6% | 3,6% |
| Inflation rate | 6,0% | 6,0% |
| Interest income on assets | 11,9% | 11,9% |

Mortality Rate:

Pre-retirement: SA85-90 (Light) table

Post - retirement: PA(90) ultimate life table less a 1 year age adjustment with an improvement of 0.5% per annum from 2007 onwards

Other Demographic Assumptions:

Expected retirement age: 62 or 65 years

Percentage married at retirement: 90%

Sensitivity analysis

The sensitivity analysis examines 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:

21. Retirement benefit obligations (continued)

Pension benefits (continued):

| Assumption | Change | Defined benefit obligation R'000 | % change |
|-----------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|----------|
| Salary increase rate | 1% increase | 1,044,141 | 4.54% |
| Salary increase rate | 1% decrease | 959,899 | -3.90% |
| Discount rate | 1% increase | 891,476 | -10.75% |
| Discount rate | 1% decrease | 1,130,344 | 13.17% |
| Pension increase rate | 1% increase | 1,079,509 | 8.08% |
| Pension increase rate | 1% decrease | 928,186 | -7.07% |
| Life expectancy | 2 years increase | 955,485 | -4.34% |
| Life expectancy | 2 years decrease | 1,040,420 | 4.16% |

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.

The expected service costs for the University, to the defined benefit obligation for the year ending 31 December 2022 are R11.4 million.

21. 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 2021. The plan is registered under the Medical Schemes Act. The plan is governed by a Board of Trustees.

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|---|-----------------|----------------|
| | R'000 | R'000 |
| <i>The amounts recognised in the statement of financial position are determined as follows:</i> | | |
| Present value of unfunded medical benefit obligations | <u>81,201</u> | <u>70,659</u> |
| <i>The movement in the liability over the year is as follows:</i> | | |
| Beginning of the year | 70,659 | 73,363 |
| Past service cost | 6,918 | - |
| Current service cost | 224 | 317 |
| Interest cost | 6,486 | 6,523 |
| Benefits paid | (6,572) | (6,116) |
| Remeasurement due to changes in financial assumptions | 2,458 | (1,709) |
| Remeasurement due to experience adjustment | 1,028 | (1,719) |
| End of the year | <u>81,201</u> | <u>70,659</u> |
| <i>The amounts recognised in total income/expenditure are as follows:</i> | | |
| Current service cost | (224) | (317) |
| Past service cost | (6,918) | - |
| Interest cost | (6,486) | (6,523) |
| Total included in personnel costs | <u>(13,628)</u> | <u>(6,840)</u> |
| Remeasurement losses/(gain) recognised in the statement of comprehensive income | 3,486 | (3,428) |

21. Retirement benefit obligations (continued)

Post-employment medical benefits (continued):

Sensitivity analysis

The sensitivity analysis examines 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 | 88,646 | 9.2% |
| Health care inflation | 1% decrease | 74,796 | -7.9% |
| Discount rate | 1% increase | 74,796 | -7.9% |
| Discount rate | 1% decrease | 88,646 | 9.2% |
| Expected retirement age | 1 year earlier | 82,251 | 1.3% |
| No withdrawals | | 81,209 | 0.0% |
| Mortality | 2 years younger | 87,643 | 7.9% |

| <i>Membership data:</i> | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Employed members (in service) | 38 | 26 |
| Retired members | 252 | 252 |
| Total number of eligible members | <u>290</u> | <u>278</u> |

The principal actuarial assumptions used were as follows:

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Interest rate | 10.3% | 9.6% |
| Healthcare cost inflation | 8.0% | 6.9% |
| CPI inflation rate | 6.0% | 4.9% |
| Duration used to set assumptions | 8.5 years | 8.75 years |

Mortality rate:

During employment: SA 85-90 (Light) table

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

Other Demographic Assumptions:

Expected retirement age: 65 years

Continuation at retirement: 100%

Percentage married at retirement: 90%

21. Retirement benefit obligations (continued)

Post-employment medical benefits (continued):

There are several risks faced by Rhodes University as a result of 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.
- **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.

22. 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.

23. Financial instruments by category

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

| | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Financial assets | | |
| Financial assets at amortised cost | | |
| - Trade receivables | 26,117 | 30,690 |
| - Other financial assets at amortised cost | 229,833 | 221,026 |
| - Cash and cash equivalents | 976,063 | 906,684 |
| | <u>1,232,013</u> | <u>1,158,400</u> |
| Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI) | <u>300,153</u> | <u>215,735</u> |
| Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss (FVPL) | <u>556,861</u> | <u>505,282</u> |
| Financial liabilities | | |
| Liabilities at amortised cost | | |
| - Interest bearing borrowings | 1,440 | 2,015 |
| - Trade and other payables | 70,830 | 85,824 |
| Lease liabilities | 13,700 | 14,091 |
| | <u>85,970</u> | <u>101,930</u> |

24. 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.

24. Financial risk management (continued)

(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% weakening/strengthening in exchange rates with all other variables held constant on the valuation of the international asset swaps at reporting date would be R17.2 million (2020: R13.7 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 2021, if the FTSE/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 R30 million (2020: R21.6 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.

(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.

The following sensitivity has been prepared using a sensitivity 100 basis points in interest rates. All other variables remain constant.

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | R'000 | R'000 |
| Interest-bearing borrowings | (18) | (20) |
| Lease liability | (112) | (117) |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 4,711 | 6,154 |

24. Financial risk management (continued)

(b) Credit risk

Credit risk arises from cash and cash equivalents, contract assets, contractual cash flows of debt investments carried at amortised cost, at fair value through profit or loss (FVPL) and at fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI), as well as outstanding receivables.

The University has three types of financial assets that are subject to the expected credit loss model:

- trade receivables;
- other receivables; and
- loans.

While cash and cash equivalents, contract assets, investments at fair value through profit or loss (FVPL) and at fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI) are also subject to the impairment requirements of IFRS 9, the identified impairment loss was immaterial.

Trade receivables

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

The University applies the IFRS 9 simplified approach to measuring expected credit losses which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance for all trade receivables.

In order 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 2021 and the corresponding historical credit losses experienced within this period. The historical loss rates are adjusted to reflect current and forward-looking information.



24. Financial risk management (continued)

(b) Credit risk (continued)

Trade receivables (continued)

On this basis, the loss allowance as at 31 December 2021 and 31 December 2020 was determined as follows:

31 December 2021

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

Total:

86%
R183,125
R157,008

| Risk categories | Amounts outstanding at year end 2021 R'000 | Loss rate applied | Expected credit loss R'000 |
|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| SA Graduating (non NSFAS) | 15,049 | 90% | 13,544 |
| SA Returning (non NSFAS) | 36,189 | 80% | 28,951 |
| SA non-registered (non NSFAS) | 76,585 | 100% | 76,691 |
| International Graduating | 1,894 | 75% | 1,421 |
| International Returning | 8,854 | 75% | 6,640 |
| International non-registered | 11,689 | 100% | 11,689 |
| SA Graduating (NSFAS) | 6,968 | 55% | 3,828 |
| SA Returning (NSFAS) | 25,897 | 55% | 14,244 |
| IFRS 9 lifetime ECL: Year end | 183,125 | 86% | 157,008 |

31 December 2020

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

Total:

83%
R180,339

| Ageing buckets | Amounts outstanding at year end 2020 R'000 | Loss rate applied | Expected credit loss R'000 |
|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| SA Graduating (non NSFAS) | 14,843 | 90% | 13,359 |
| SA Returning (non NSFAS) | 39,267 | 90% | 35,340 |
| SA non-registered (non NSFAS) | 55,919 | 100% | 55,919 |
| International Graduating | 3,226 | 100% | 3,226 |
| International Returning | 9,189 | 74% | 6,794 |
| International non-registered | 8,949 | 100% | 8,949 |
| SA Graduating (NSFAS) | 15,161 | 51% | 7,742 |
| SA Returning (NSFAS) | 33,785 | 54% | 18,320 |
| IFRS 9 lifetime ECL: Year end | 180,339 | 83% | 149,649 |

24. Financial risk management (continued)

(b) Credit risk (continued)

Trade receivables (continued)

The closing loss allowances for trade receivables as at 31 December 2021 reconciles to the opening loss allowances as follows:

| | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Opening balance at 1 January | 149,649 | 95,000 |
| Increase in loss allowance recognised in profit or loss during the year | 7,362 | 54,744 |
| Receivables written off during the year | - | (95) |
| Balance at 31 December | <u>157,011</u> | <u>149,649</u> |

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 2021 reconciles to the opening loss allowance as follows:

| | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Opening balance at 1 January | 1,870 | 2,232 |
| Increase/(Decrease) in loan loss allowance recognised in profit or loss during the year | 503 | (362) |
| Balance at 31 December | <u>2,373</u> | <u>1,870</u> |

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 2021 and the corresponding historical credit losses experienced within this period. The historical loss rates are adjusted to reflect current and forward-looking information.



24. Financial risk management (continued)

(b) Credit risk (continued)

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 2021 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 2021 reconciles to the closing loss allowance as at 31 December 2020 as follows:

| | NSFAS Student Loans | |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
| Opening balance at 1 January | 110,335 | 110,391 |
| Provision reversed | (9,945) | (56) |
| Balance at 31 December | 100,390 | 110,335 |
| | Other Loans | |
| | 2021 R'000 | 2020 R'000 |
| Opening balance at 1 January | 26,838 | 23,891 |
| (Decrease)/Increase in loan loss allowance recognised in profit or loss during the year | (1,456) | 2,947 |
| Closing balance at 31 December | 25,382 | 26,838 |

(c) 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 unrestricted cash and cash equivalents of R317,8 million.

24. Financial risk management (continued)

(c) Liquidity risk (continued)

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 2021 | | | |
| Interest-bearing borrowings | 576 | 864 | |
| Trade and other payables | 70,830 | | |
| Lease Liabilities | 750 | 4,727 | 8,713 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| At 31 December 2020 | | | |
| Interest-bearing borrowings | 576 | 1,439 | |
| Trade and other payables | 85,824 | | |
| Lease liabilities | 1,882 | 8,275 | 11,384 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |

(d) Capital risk management

The University's objectives when managing capital (which includes capital, borrowings, working capital and cash and cash equivalents) 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.

25. Going Concern

Management believe that the University has adequate financial resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future and accordingly the consolidated annual financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. Management have satisfied themselves that the University is in a sound financial position and that it has access to sufficient cash and liquid reserves, including borrowing facilities to meet its foreseeable cash requirements. Management are not aware of any new material changes that may adversely impact the University. Management are also not aware of any material non-compliance with statutory or regulatory requirements or of any pending changes to legislation which may affect the financial position of the University.

The consolidated annual financial statements have been prepared on the basis of accounting policies applicable to a going concern. This basis presumes that funds will be available to finance future operations and realisation of assets and the settlement of liabilities, contingent obligations and commitments will occur in the ordinary course of business.

Management has considered the continued effect of the pandemic on the University. This analysis includes the impact of COVID-19 on student fee collection, the resultant effect on our future student enrolment numbers, state subsidy, fixed costs, infrastructure and capital projects requiring funding, as well as available facilities. Based on this assessment, the University has sufficient cash resources to continue and sustain operations. The University continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its consolidated annual financial statements.



26. Events after reporting period

As part of the restructuring of the Rhodes University Pension Fund, the Trustees have decided to keep the defined benefit structure of the fund for active members up to 1 April 2022. This means that active member's actuarial reserve values as at 1 April 2022 will continue to accrue on a defined benefit basis. With effect from 1 April 2022, all Active Members will join the Rhodes University Provident Fund and their new contributions from 1 April 2022 will accumulate on a defined contribution basis.

With the changes as at 1 April 2022, the Trustees have decided to offer an additional level of flexibility to Active Members to the extent that they will also have the option of voluntarily transferring their actuarial reserve value as at 1 April 2022 to the Rhodes University Provident Fund, thereby having all their retirement benefits in the Rhodes University Provident Fund accumulating on a defined contribution basis.

Pensioners can remain in the Defined benefit pension fund and continue to receive their pension benefits.

As part of the restructuring programme, the Trustees are providing all Pensioners with an opportunity to voluntarily purchase their pension benefits through another provider of their choice. The Fund's rules are being amended to allow Pensioners, subject to certain requirements, to elect permanently and irrevocably to uplift their pension capital in the fund and to use this capital to purchase a pension from another provider, such as a life insurance company. This will be a once off opportunity and Pensioners will be able to make use of this option during a window period from 1 April 2022 until 30 June 2022.

The Russia-Ukraine conflict has brought volatility into the global economy. This has been exacerbated by the pandemic placing additional pressure on the South African fiscus. While the economic effects of the Russia-Ukraine war are uncertain and evolving, the global impact is evident, as the supply of global energy, agricultural products, commodities and capital markets remain indeterminate. As part of the Rhodes University mitigation plan, our forecasts are continually reviewed to take into account price fluctuations and the investment portfolio is managed by a professional, global and well-resourced fund manager.



1. 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.

1.1 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.

(i) New and amended standards adopted by the University

There were no new standards which had an impact on the amounts recognised in the current year.

(ii) New standards and interpretations not yet adopted

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for 31 December 2021 reporting periods and have not been early adopted by the University. The University's assessment of the impact of these new standards and interpretations is that these standards are not expected to have a material impact in the current or future reporting periods and on foreseeable future transactions.

- Amendment to IAS 1 'Presentation of Financial Statements' on Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current (effective 1 January 2022)
- Amendments to IAS 37 'Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets' on Onerous Contracts—Cost of Fulfilling a Contract (effective 1 January 2022)
- Amendments to IFRS 17 and IFRS 4 'Insurance contracts' (effective 1 Jan 2023)
- IFRS 17, Insurance contracts Amendments (effective 1 Jan 2023)



1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.2 Rounding of amounts

All amounts disclosed in the financial statements and notes have been rounded off to the nearest thousand currency units unless otherwise stated.

1.3 Presentation and Functional currency

Items included in the financial statements are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the University operates ('the functional currency'). The consolidated financial statements are presented in South African Rand currency (ZAR), which is the functional and presentation currency.

1.4 Critical estimates and judgements

The areas involving significant estimates or judgements are:

- estimated fair value of certain financial assets – notes 2 and note 24
- estimation uncertainties and judgements made in relation to lease accounting – note 10 and accounting policy 1.13
- estimation of pension benefits – note 21
- estimation of post-employment medical benefits – note 21
- impairment of financial assets – note 24 and accounting policy 1.15
- estimation of useful lives of property, plant and equipment – accounting policy 1.11

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated. They are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on the University and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

1.5 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).

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.6 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 duration 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.



1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.6 Income recognition (continued)

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.

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 non-recurrent income' in the statement of comprehensive income.

1.7 Research costs

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

1.8 Reserve funds

1.8.1. Council unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds reflect the University's operating 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.

1.8.2. 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.



1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.8 Reserve funds (continued)

1.8.3. *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.

1.9 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.

1.10 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.

1.11 Property, plant and equipment

(a) Owned assets

All other property, plant and equipment is stated at historical cost less depreciation. 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 1.6.

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:

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Buildings | 50 years |
| Furniture and equipment | 6 to 15 years |
| Vehicles | 4 to 10 years |
| Computer equipment | 3 to 8 years |

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.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.11 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

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

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 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.

1.12 Impairment of non-financial assets

Non-financial 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, non-financial assets are grouped at the lowest level for which there are separately identifiable cash flows.

1.13 Leases

Leases are recognised as a right-of-use assets and a corresponding liability is raised 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.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.13 Leases (continued)

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.

1.14 Inventories

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

1.15 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 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 statement of financial position 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 amount outstanding, and the University's business model is to collect the contractual cash flows on these loans.



1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.15 Financial instruments - IFRS 9 (continued)

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 initially recognised on the loan, 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.

Trade and other receivables

Classification

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.15 Financial instruments - IFRS 9 (continued)

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 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) over 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.

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 amortised cost.

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.



1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.15 Financial instruments - IFRS 9 (continued)

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 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. The measurement categories into which the University may classify its debt instruments are:

- 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.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.15 Financial instruments - IFRS 9 (continued)

- FVPL: Assets that do not meet the criteria for amortised cost or FVOCI are measured at FVPL. 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.

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.



1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.15 Financial instruments - IFRS 9 (continued)

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.

1.16 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 management's best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation at the end of the reporting period.

1.17 Employee benefits

1.17.1 *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.

1.17.2 *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. The liability or asset recognised in the balance sheet in respect of defined benefit pension plans is the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the end of the reporting period less the fair value of plan assets. Valuations of these obligations are carried out annually by independent actuaries using the projected unit credit method. The present value of the defined benefit obligation is determined by discounting the estimated future cash outflows using interest rates of high-quality corporate bonds that are denominated in the currency in which the benefits will be paid, and that have terms approximating to the terms of the related obligation.

The net interest cost is calculated by applying the discount rate to the net balance of the defined benefit obligation and the fair value of plan assets. This cost is included in employee benefit expense in the statement of profit or loss.

Remeasurement gains and losses arising from experience adjustments and changes in actuarial assumptions are recognised in the period in which they occur, directly in other comprehensive income. Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation resulting from plan amendments or curtailments are recognised immediately in profit or loss as past service.

The University also operates two defined contribution provident plans. The contributions are recognised as employee benefit expense when they are due.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.17 Employee benefits (continued)

1.17.3 *Other post-retirement benefit obligations*

The University provides post-retirement healthcare benefits to retirees employed by the University 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.

1.17.4 *Termination benefits*

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

The University 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.

1.18 Taxes

The University is exempt from income tax.



13. APPENDIX I: COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP FOR 2021

| Constituency | Title | Name | Surname |
|---|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| Chair Appointed by Council | Judge | Gerald | Bloem |
| Vice-Chancellor | Prof | Sizwe | Mabizela |
| DVC (Research & Innovation) | Prof | Peter | Clayton |
| DVC (Academic & Student Affairs) | Prof | Mabokang | Monnapula-Mapesela |
| Minister Ed rep | Revd | Vicentia | Kgabe |
| Minister Ed rep | Dr | Rasigan | Maharajh |
| Minister Ed rep | Mr | Mawethu | Rune |
| Minister Ed rep | Ms | Gugulethu | Ndebele |
| Minister Ed rep | Justice | Baaitse | Nkabinde |
| Senate rep | Professor | George | Wells |
| Senate rep | Professor | David | Sewry |
| Senate rep | Distinguished Prof | Heila | Lotz-Sisitka |
| Senate rep | Professor | Patrice | Mwepu |
| Elected by Academic Staff | Prof | Dion | Nkomo |
| Supp staff rep (6-18) | Ms | Desiree | Bekker |
| Supp staff rep (1-5) | Mr | Tembani | Ngindana |
| Makana Mun | Cllr | Brian | Fargher |
| Makana Mun | Cllr | Rumsell | Xonxa |
| Board of Gov Rep | Mr | Andile | Sangqu |
| Apptd by Council | Mr | Charles | Staple |
| Apptd by Council | Ms | Madeleine | Schoeman |
| Apptd by Council | Dr | Nommso | Stubbs |
| Apptd by Council | Mr | Sivu | Ntlabezo |
| Apptd by Council | Mr | Mandisi | Rusa |
| Apptd by Council | Mr | Ted | Pillay |
| Co-opted Members | Ms | Roshni | Gajjar |
| Co-opted Members | Mr | Steve | Tredoux |
| Co-opted Members | Mr | Ravgee | Nierlesh |
| SRC President | Ms | Lebogang | Nkambule |
| SRC Vice-President | Ms | Hlumela | Mpiti |



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