



RHODES UNIVERSITY

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STAFF NEWSLETTER

# RHODOS

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## Academic Plan will be strategic factor

Significant changes in the structure and allocation of responsibilities are set to have far-reaching effects on the University's future strategic planning and direction.

One of the more visible of these has been the appointment of Mrs Sandy Stephenson as Academic Planning Officer, reporting to the Vice-Principal, Dr Michael Smout.

Her former position as secretary to the V-P has been upgraded to a full-time job and is being advertised.

Dr Smout will assume overall responsibility for the development of the academic plan, critical to the University's future funding from the government.

The Marketing and Communications Division, formerly part of his portfolio, now reports directly to the Vice-Chancellor. This is partly to enable Dr Smout to adequately address his new challenges and partly due to the fact that Dr Woods wishes to become intimately and personally involved with Rhodes' fund-raising initiatives.

The development of an academic plan, says Dr Smout, is an exciting challenge and is prompted, in part, by the National Higher Education Commission (NCHE) which, in its recently released discussion document,

has indicated a need for this. "The NCHE has proposed that all universities develop three-year 'rolling' plans", he says. "These will be presented to the government and discussed; when approved ours will form the basis for our funding. The plan will directly influence our budget allocation which will itself form part of the National Manpower planning scenario."



Sandy Stephenson — the new Academic Planning Officer.

Sandy Stephenson is very excited by her new post, which is a part-time one at the moment, and looks forward to continuing to work for Dr Smout. She has been his secretary for four years and previously spent seven in the Personnel Division. She is a Rhodes BJourn graduate and freelanced in Cape Town for a period after qualifying. She will be coordinating the input from all departments, institutes and the student body for the academic plan and will also take on some background research. She may be contacted on her new telephone extension (8058/9) or by e-mail at [adls@giraffe.ru.ac.za](mailto:adls@giraffe.ru.ac.za)

## President pays Rhodes a flying visit

President Mandela descended upon Rhodes on Ascension Day, but managed only a two-minute low flypast of our campus.

Approximately 1 200 students, staff members and their families and others waited over an hour in front of the Administration building — but they were not rewarded with even a proper glimpse of Mr Mandela as his motorcade swept through the lower portion of Artillery Road, Drostdy Road and a short section of Lucas Avenue.

With dark-tinted windows tightly closed, his procession of vehicles came and went so quickly that some onlookers asked whether or not he was in fact in one of them.

He was indeed, but you had to be at the airport, the stadium or the Monument to really get a glimpse of the man. At all those places he was his more recognisable, friendly self, stopping to greet young and old alike and allowing, to the lucky few, some memories which they'll never forget.

*continued on page 2*



The scene outside the University's Administration building shortly before Mr Mandela drove past, with some of the 1 200-odd people who waited to see him.



## Responsible for keeping the funds coming in

**S**iyanda Manana is a man who deserves the support of all members of the Rhodes community for his function at Rhodes, integral to the institution, may significantly influence the University's future state of health.

The former Nathaniel Nyaluza High School teacher of English and History has been appointed in the Marketing and Communications Division as Capital Development Manager.

He left teaching "for a more challenging position", and he has certainly found that, for he is responsible for fund-raising in all its aspects for the University.

Now two months in office, the first fruits of his labours are about to be presented to Rhodes in the form of a draft policy on fund-raising. It is hoped that this will provoke comment and feedback which will be incorporated in the final document.

Siyanda has also spent a great deal of time — and will continue to do so — in making contact with corporate South Africa; he has been identifying the keepers of the purse in companies and trusts, large and small.

Concurrently, he has begun to evaluate the various departments, projects and other bodies at Rhodes which need funding and will attempt to marry these to sponsors and donors. He will also be looking out for other forms of support.

"It is of critical importance" says Siyanda, "that I make myself fully aware of previous and current donations, in all their forms, as soon as possible. It can be highly embarrassing to approach a potential donor company on behalf of the University only to discover that it has already been supportive in an area of Rhodes' activities of which I am not aware. If I am kept

informed of the history of past and present associations, I can function far more efficiently."

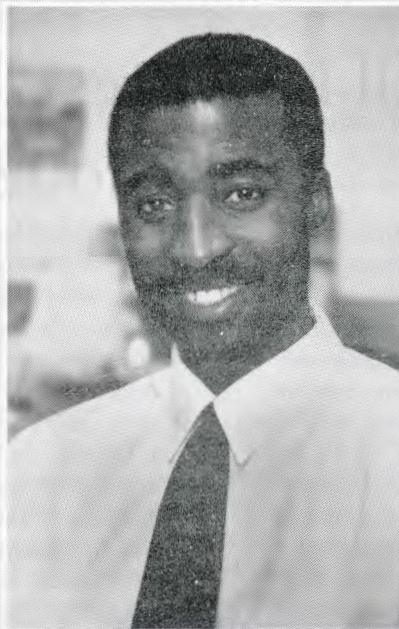
Siyanda stresses that it is not the intention of either himself or the developing fund-raising policy to prevent direct contact between departments, divisions and even student clubs and societies and their past and future supporters. He will also, he makes clear, not work in isolation, but together with a wide range of his colleagues at Rhodes. "It is, however, of critical importance that anyone dealing or negotiating with a sponsor keeps me fully informed", he says. "It is in everyone's interest — donor and beneficiary alike — that there is a centralised 'body of knowledge' where the various aspects and records are coordinated". He says that he will be developing and maintaining profiles of all potential donors and should, after a short while, be rapidly able to identify possible supporters for specific initiatives.

He therefore needs to be well acquainted with the specifics of Rhodes' needs. Departmental Heads and others seeking sponsorship should feel free to provide him with this.

Siyanda will be working closely in his efforts with the Vice-Chancellor, Dr David Woods, and his Director, Ms Aletta de

Villiers. At the time of writing the trio was about to depart for Gauteng where they had several appointments in place.

He is excited about his work, saying that he likes both travelling and meeting people. When he is not thus engaged he also enjoys a game of soccer (he plays for a Rhodes team, 'New Generation'). He also indulges himself in the martial arts and holds a brown belt in Karate.



## Presidential visit

*continued from page 1*

Amongst them were several with Rhodes connections. Ryan Stephenson, son of the Academic Planning Officer Sandy, was able to sit in the pilot's seat of the Presidential helicopter briefly. When Mr Mandela arrived to fly out of Grahamstown he autographed Ryan's hand-drawn national flag for him. Michael Ginn, who was responsible for designing and producing the beautiful illuminated scroll which the City presented to the President while conferring its freedom upon him, was summonsed to centre stage at the stadium, to meet Madiba, by Presidential request.

He took the opportunity of introducing his colleague, Michael Marangxa, and then had the presence of mind to make Michael's day by photographing the handshake which followed.

Up at the Monument, when the President rose to officially re-open it, he crossed to the front of the stage and greeted Prof Guy Berger with a handshake. He, and the packed auditorium, had earlier listened with

amusement as Prof Peter Mtuzi praised him with lengthy and remarkable resonance!

Ordinary people, too, felt some of the Madiba Magic. The young children and wheel-chaired elderly found he had time to listen to their songs and greet them. The Scandinavian exchange student from Victoria Girls' High who was selected to present him with a rosette at the Monument will also never forget that day.

Further disappointment there was, admittedly, when Mr Mandela was unable to meet his commitments at the luncheon, but, on the whole, it seems that his visit was much appreciated by all.



*President Mandela arriving at the Monument to songs from pre-schoolers and awe from the elderly*



# Rare find for NELM collection

A happy coincidence has led to the National English Literary Museum (NELM) coming into possession of some two dozen letters written by Olive Schreiner to an extremely close friend, Dr Havelock Ellis.

While it was not entirely unsuspected that the letters had been written, none of her researchers and biographers were aware that they still existed until a British woman contacted Dr Derek Henderson, then Vice-Chancellor of Rhodes University, early this year.

She was aware that Olive Schreiner's mother had spent the last years of her life in Grahamstown and had been happy here. She thought that it would be appropriate if the letters could be housed in Grahamstown.

Dr Henderson was quick to tell her of the NELM and its work and when, shortly thereafter, Prof Malvern van Wyk Smith, former Head of the Department of English, visited Britain, he was able to

act as courier and bring them back with him.

"There are few people who could more appropriately have collected them", says Jeremy Fogg, Deputy Director of the NELM. "The letters are a most important and exciting find", he adds. "They appear to cover a period of Olive Schreiner's life from the late 1880s to 1920, the year in which she died."

Although Mr Fogg wasted no time starting to work on the material, he has not yet transcribed all the letters and is in the early stages of transcription and evaluation. He says, though, that apart from their rarity being a factor in their value, he is already in a position to say that there are some new and exciting insights into the author in them. "For instance", he says, "such was the intimacy of the Schreiner/Ellis friendship that she has described, her own attitude to writing, explaining something of what motivated her to put pen to paper." In a rare insight she writes of how

she was at times 'very hurt to think of other people reading my writing'.

In an 1888 letter — and here is another happy coincidence — she is disappointed that "... Wilde has only sent me one copy of W's W.' Jeremy Fogg, during a staff tea break minutes after reading this for the first time, agreed with his colleagues that the Wilde was probably Oscar, but confessed that the reference to 'W's W' had him puzzled. One of his colleagues remembered that Wilde had edited a magazine called *Women's World* for a period and, on immediately checking the NELM's archives, found an example dated March 1888. When it was realised that this particular edition contains an Olive Schreiner short story it was agreed, says Fogg, "that this is almost certainly what is referred to in the letter."

Not all research queries are so easily answered during staff tea breaks and he has much work ahead of him before any

formal publication can be contemplated. He is extremely excited, though, and expects to find more fascinating detail as he works on the transcriptions.

Havelock Ellis met Olive Schreiner in London in 1884 after the publication of *The story of an African farm*. He had gained some notoriety, writing papers and articles on sexual behaviour and sexuality; subjects considered improper in the extreme at that time. The friendship between the two became extremely close — some biographers have suggested that they were lovers — and continued, in the form of letter writing, after their respective marriages.

The circumstances surrounding the discovery of the letters and their acquisition by the NELM are a clear example of the value of the link between Rhodes University and the Museum. But for it, the existence of these letters would certainly still not be recognised.

## Special concert after 25 years' service



It's not everyone who gets a special concert on the occasion of his 25th anniversary with Rhodes, but for Dr Tim Radloff, acting Head of the department of Music and Musicology, his colleagues were happy to make the special effort.

The Rhodes Trio, itself celebrating its 10th anniversary, put on a delightful programme for Tim and a packed Beethoven auditorium recently, performing works by Ignaz Pleyel, Joseph Haydn, Ary Verhaar and Jean-Michel Damase.

From left, the instrumentalists are Sally Imrie (piano), Isbbel Sholto-Douglas (cello) and Daniela Heunis (flute). Dr Radloff is in the foreground.



## Further qualifications

Several staff members have recently been awarded higher qualifications and, as is

customary, their achievements were recognised by the University at an award ceremony held recently.



From left to right, photographed after receiving their Alty Awards, the new PhDs are, in the back row, Drs Mark Welman, Gareth Cornwall, Peter Britz, Richard Foss, Jian-Chuan Li, Brenda Mallinson and Dan Wylie. With them is Dr Rosemary Nelson (front row, centre), with Jonathan Lancaster (left) and Clyde Mitchell on either side of her. Messrs Lancaster and Mitchell received Vice-Chancellor's Awards in respect of their recently obtained post-graduate diplomas.

At another ceremony, held on the East London campus, M Davidson (PhD), B Dale

Jones (MA), and R Stuart (MSc) were presented with Alty Awards.

## Beware this conman

Dave Charteris, Head of Campus Security, has warned all staff that the activities of a confidence trickster have been brought to his attention by the Director of Campus Security at the University of Natal.

A certain Dr Abdurrahman Madidi, who claims to have a PhD in Geography as well as a BA Honours and an MSc degree was on the Howard College campus for about a fortnight prior to 3 May 1996. He has been passing himself off as a member of staff of the University of Natal and has borrowed money which he does not repay.

He also claims to be a graduate of the University of Zimbabwe, to have undertaken a planning project for the development of the lake Kariba shoreline and to have been employed in the Economic Planning Unit in the Prime Ministers' Department in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Similar confidence tricks have occurred in recent months at the University of the Witwatersrand and the Rand Afrikaans University and although the conman responsible in these cases have been arrested and charged, people must be on their guard against this type of crime bearing in mind that conmen are always very plausible people.

Any person coming into contact with Dr Madidi is urged to contact the Campus Protection Unit (tel 31 8146/7) and not to part with any money, says Charteris.

## Petty crime largely 'victims' own fault'

An alarming increase in petty crime on the campus has prompted the University to issue warnings to staff and to make several suggestions as to how basic security could be improved.

The statistics show that there has been an increase of more than 70% in a variety of different kinds of theft, housebreaking and attempted housebreaking, malicious damage to property and assault in the first five months of this year.

It's not all bad news; it is also evident that there has been a drop in theft from kitchens and theft of plants (to zero from two and one incidents previously).

That there remains a problem is, however, evident. There have been 14 incidents of theft from offices (five in the previous period) involving office equipment, audio-visual equipment and projectors. Theft from residence common rooms has increased (eight vs three) and that, of clothing in the main, has increased from none to seven incidents.

Rhodos spoke to the Registrar, Dr Stephen Fourie, the Director of the Estates Division, Les Reynolds and the Head of the Campus Protection Unit (CPU), Dave Charteris.

All make one point very strongly and it is that almost all of the reported incidents could have been prevented by the aggrieved individuals. Unlocked doors, to vehicles, offices and residence rooms; open windows; goods left in full view of thieves on the seats of motor vehicles; bicycles with inadequate — usually combination — locks and flimsy chains and the continuing failure of staff and

students to challenge strangers in offices, residence and on the campus are all factors in the crime increase they say. "These symptoms are all open invitations to the opportunist", says Charteris.

Reynolds concurs. "Don't encourage hawkers by purchasing their wares", he advises. "Be wary of strangers, ask them to identify themselves."

While there is obvious justification in their remarks and their points are well taken, Rhodos asked whether it was fair to effectively blame everything on those who have suffered loss or damage. "What is the University doing about the situation, we enquired."

Reynolds says that the CPU is understaffed, mainly because of budgetary constraints. He believes strongly that it might be a good idea to issue all staff with identity cards similar to those carried — and worn — by staff in his division and those of the CPU. Students are already issued with cards, neither they nor the majority of the staff are obliged to carry or display them at the moment. He suggests that the University to provide lockers in change rooms might prove too expensive although Rhodos queries this and believes that users would quickly work out that they should buy their own padlocks and keep them in bags for use when required.

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# Rhodes' 'Brain Trust'

Two Rhodes Professors, Chris Whiteley and Santy Daya, have been elected to the executive council of the South African Neuroscience Society (SANS). Prof Daya is the new Secretary and Prof Whiteley the Treasurer.

Prof Daya is also the South African representative on the governing council of the International Brain Research Organisation (IBRO), a position he will

now hold for six years. He joins SANS Chairperson Vivienne Russel, of Tygerberg, as the second of two representatives for the continent of Africa.

## New library acquisitions

One of the recent titles received by the University Library is an autobiography of Bessie Head, which has been nominated for the Alan Paton Award for Non-Fiction.

Entitled *Bessie Head: thunder behind her ears: Her life and writing*. (Gillian Stead Eilersen. 828.93914 HEA/EIL).

Bruce Chatwin, while best known for his works of fiction, was also an obsessive traveller and a book described as breathtaking (*Far journeys: photographs and notebooks*. Bruce Chatwin. 813.5 CHA) has been published of his photographs and travel notebooks.

A number of works on multilingualism and intercultural communication

were also recently received by the library. Amongst them are:

*Language minority students in the mainstream classroom* (Angela Carrasquillo. 371.9700973 CAR); *Multilingualism* (John Edwards. 417 EDW); *Intercultural competence: interpersonal communication across cultures* (Myron W. Lustig. 301.241 LUS) and *Intercultural communication training: an introduction*, by Richard Brislin and Tomoko Yoshida (301.241 BRI).

A further book of interest, which deals with personal relationships in the work environment, is *Gendertraps: conquering confrontophobia, toxic bosses, and other land mines at work*, by Judith Briles (650.13082 BRI).

and/or research during the following year.

The WD Wilson Visiting fellowships are made to facilitate the exchange of ideas, to stimulate research and to enable local academics to keep in touch with new developments in all fields. Two are awarded annually, to top overseas academics wishing to visit South Africa.

Anyone wishing to nominate candidates for either or both of the fellowships should contact Mr Lancaster who has full details of the supporting information which is required.

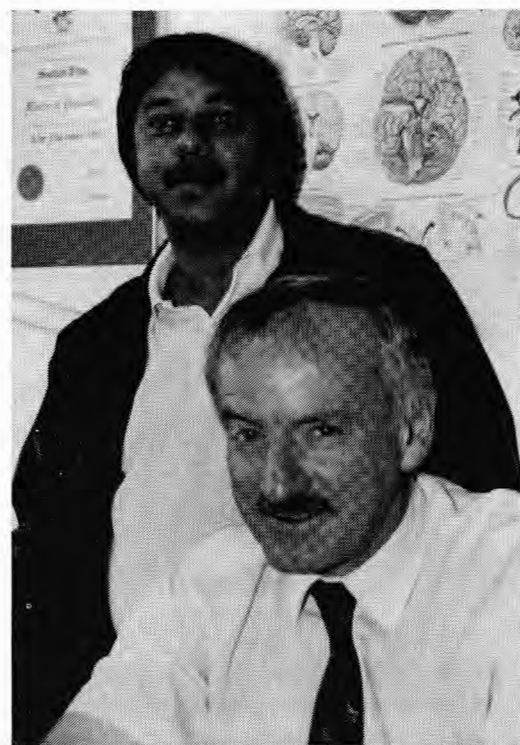
IBRO sponsors research into neuroscience internationally and presents lecture courses, one of which will be held here at Rhodes in September. Another organisation, the Society of Neuroscientists of Africa (SONA) is to hold its 3rd conference in Cape Town next year.

One may correctly assume that South Africa is starting to play a significant role in international neuroscience, says Daya. "For many years we were excluded from participation, but now there is great interest from within the country and abroad in the contribution which we are able to make to the discipline at international level."

What, it may be asked, has Rhodes University, with neither medical faculty nor neighbourhood teaching hospital, to offer?

The answer, say Daya and Whiteley, is in that they have found a research niche which is extremely relevant. "Clinical experimental work", says Whiteley, "is what we have been able to bring to the party. This does not take place elsewhere." Most neuroscientists are psychiatrists by training but less than 10 in South Africa are experimental, he adds.

They point out that Rhodes has been indulging in this sort of work for the past ten years, during which time some 17 Masters and PhD



Santy Daya (left) with colleague Chris Whiteley, the Rhodes 'Brains Trust'.

students have been supervised by the Department of Microbiology and Biochemistry and the School of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Their work is supported by the Medical Research Council.

The two departments between them "have trained most of South Africa's basic neuroscientists", says Daya.

Whiteley and Daya have found that their particular specialisations, enzymology and pharmacology respectively, ideally complement each other in the context of neuroscience. They believe that the symbiosis enables them to address neuroscience from a new and valuable direction.

That the rest of the discipline thinks so too is illustrated by their recent appointments and also by their invitations to attend the first Federation of Asia-Oceanian Neuroscience Societies in Pattaya, Thailand, in October this year. Prof Daya attended the IBRO congress in Japan last year.

## Applications for Fellowship

The Deputy Registrar, Mr JCS Lancaster, has been asked to submit applications to the Ernest Oppenheimer Memorial Trust for the University Travelling and WD Wilson Visiting fellowships. The closing date is 5 July.

The University Travelling fellowship, four of which are awarded annually, are each worth R 60 000. Only one candidate may be from Rhodes.

The Fellowship allows senior staff members of South African universities to travel abroad for advanced study



# Eden Grove project now under way

*Work on the Eden grove site, bought by the University about two years ago, begins with the appointment of architects. The project will represent "the most significant single capital project on the Rhodes campus for many years".*

**T**he major capital development project on Rhodes' Eden Grove site, announced 18 months ago on the occasion of the University's 90th birthday, is up and running, with the appointment of a firm of architects, Messrs Osmond Lange Mosienyane to prepare drawings.

Council has agreed that the University should "retain professionals to help plan the development" and to the establishment of a steering committee.

## Wide representation

This committee has representation from Senate (Profs Peter Clayton and Laurence Wright), Council (Mr Trevor Long with Revd Glen Craig as his alternate), the Library (Mr Felix Ubogu, University Librarian), Cory Library (Ms Sandy Rowoldt), the National English Literary Museum (NELM) through its Director Malcolm Hacksley, the Estates Division, in the person of its Director, Les Reynolds and University Architect Ronwyn Coulson, the SRC, which has yet to identify its representative and it is chaired by the Vice-Principal, Dr Michael Smout.

Dr Smout says that the immediate aim — and the committee's brief — is to be able to go back to Council late this year or early in 1997 and to recommend a phased plan of construction with preliminary budgets on a cost-per-phase basis. Shortly thereafter the committee would wish to recommend the commencement of building to a planned programme.

## Most significant project

Staff will remember that, when it was first made public, the development of the Eden Grove site was referred to as

"the most significant single capital project on the Rhodes campus for many years". It was stated at the time that its final objective was the establishment of a new complex to house library, lecture hall and conference facilities. Current thinking is that this will initially be limited to the lower portion of the site, between the walkway through to St Peter's and the parking lot behind the Albany Museum.

## May be hired out

The design and construction of a new and technologically up-to-date teaching facility and conference venue is an important objective. This will include modern teaching aids and facilities for simultaneous translation. Rear-projection equipment and sophisticated video and audio-visual aids will permit lighting conditions in which students or delegates can take notes during illustrated lectures. A spin-off will be the ability to hire out the venue during University vacations.

## Media centre proposed

In addition to this, a proposal under consideration may see a modern media-centre in the end result. If it transpires, it would be equipped with all the necessary production facilities for printed matter, visual aids and other teaching and display material and it would provide access to the Internet, the World Wide Web and electronically stored data journals, library holdings and other data from around the world.

When Rhodes purchased the site two years ago, certain conditions were identified. One of these is that the University must provide accommodation for the NELM, which the Museum will rent from Rhodes, and that this occurred within four years of the purchase date. It is for this reason that NELM

will probably be the first to move into the new building, when it is completed.

NELM's collection is such that specialised facilities are required to house it. These include environmentally controlled premises and effective security measures, such as fire protection and means of limiting access to authorised people. Such measures are sorely needed for the many irreplaceable items in the NELM collections. Given that these requirements are common to the Cory Library, theirs will be another collection to be housed there. In the process, much needed space will be freed in the existing central library.

## Unusual challenges

The architects will face new and unusual challenges, since the complex must blend harmoniously with the different styles of its immediate neighbours: the Baker and Kendall-designed administrative buildings, the St Peter's Building, itself beautifully restored a few years ago, and the Albany Museum. The complex will be the most visible first impression to anyone entering Rhodes' campus from Lucas Avenue.

Dr Smout has specifically invited "... anyone with questions, suggestions or bright ideas to contact a member of the committee. Potential users of the facility and those who will work in it are to be widely consulted", he says. He feels that it is vitally important that any person with suggestions or criticism is able to have a say in influencing what may in time become the new centre point of the Grahamstown campus; one which will effectively draw the University facilities on either side of Lucas Avenue towards each other.

# Umbrella

**A**n exciting capital project is under way near Kimberley Hall which will have the effect of extending Rhodes' educational services to the broader community and which will provide an umbrella venue for the several short courses in a variety of fields already offered by departments and institutions.

The Centre for Continuing Education, as it is to be known, is to be sited on a delightful overlooking Hamilton Dam. When completed it will offer residential accommodation (with an initial 24 rooms) for delegates to courses held on our campus. This capability will almost certainly be extended to house 40.

Vice-Principal, Dr Michael Smout, says that the centre will be ideally positioned to exploit the increasing demand for courses which has been identified in the outside community. "Such instances as LIRI, RUMEP and DIFS, to name but three, are already presenting regular residential





# Education centre for Rhodes

courses", he explains, "and these will be perfectly complemented by the new complex. It will also be available to organisations wishing to use it for their own courses, executive think-tanks and 'bosberaads' and to visitors to the National Arts Festival."

## Joint ownership

The proposal represents a joint initiative by Dr Smout and the Director of LIRI Technologies, Prof Peter Rose. The key to its success lies in an plan master minded by Tony Long, Rhodes' Registrar of Finance. Companies and other organisations may buy into a position of joint ownership of the complex through tax-deductible donations. They will share in the operating costs and will enjoy preferential and rebated use in respect of their staff members who attend any courses presented there. Where profit accrues through the use of the Centre by other, 'non-member' bodies, this will be distributed to the joint

owners, probably through the form of rebates.

Dr Smout said that a major attraction of the centre is that it is going to be able to bring "collegiality and congeniality" to delegates attending courses there. "Rhodes regularly sees residential courses on our campus", he explains, "but people who attend them are sometimes housed in different residences, depending on where accommodation is available at any one time. Both those organising courses and the students involved are keen to "keep the team together", especially in the evenings when informal discussions often prove to be so valuable.

## High occupancy expected

Dr Rose said that there has already been extensive interest shown in the proposal by outside organisations, especially in the footwear and leather industry. This allows him to believe that it will be quite possible for the Centre to operate at a 70% occupancy

rate in its first year of operation. His belief in the viability of the concept is shared by potential participants, he says, who are agreed that it represents an ideal way to save on conference costs well into the future.

## Science and technology

"Importantly", he adds, "the residential aspect of the courses to be presented there add great value in that this allows for the far more effective delivery of science and technology education than is possible in traditional distance learning. This, added to the ability to 'peg' the rising costs of residential accommodation at courses and conferences, is a great attraction."

LIRI Technologies itself plans to be the prime 'shareholder' in the project and is seeking the right to interest itself, over a period of time, in up to two-thirds of the complex. Rhodes itself will initially fund the development.

Someone who is particularly excited by the scheme is University Architect Ronwyn Coulson. She was, at the time of writing, piloting her drawings through municipal approval and supervising soil compaction testing on the site. She says that she gained great satisfaction from designing the Centre, even though there are very tight budgetary and aesthetic constraints. In spite of these she fairly bubbles with excited pride when she talks about it.

## Single beds

"Each room", she says, "will have a single bed, wardrobe, writing or work surface, shower, toilet and basin. These will be heated, possibly with underfloor elements. The conference area itself will be equipped with video facilities and other lecture aids. It will also be able to serve as an after hours relaxation area, with its bar and servery, and will be well suited to functions, such as for the presentation of course certificates."

There is to be an outside wooden deck along two sides of the conference room which will overlook the dam.

## Early completion?

Dr Smout believes that the construction work, tenders for which will be invited soon, could be completed by as early as December. The message to potential users is, therefore, that they should book early. There has already been a most gratifying response from those who have been advised of the project, he says.



*The architect's perspective of the new Centre for Continuing Education is shown at left. This side of the complex faces the dam.*



# Ergonomics nerve centre

Professor Pat Scott, of Human Movement Studies, has recently returned from a successful conference, of which she was the organiser.

ESSA '96, the sixth conference of the Ergonomics Society of South Africa (ESSA) was held at the World Trade Centre, Kempton Park, in an attempt to disseminate an understanding of the principles and benefits of Ergonomics throughout South African industry. It was held in conjunction with NOSHCON '96, the Annual Occupational Health and Safety Conference which was attended by some 1 000 delegates from a broad spectrum of industries across the country and from beyond our borders. Prof Scott was an invited speaker at NOSHCON '96 where she addressed about 400 industrial representatives on *An Ergonomics approach to enhanced worker well-being and improved productivity*.

"Ergonomics", says Prof Scott, "is, or should be, an applied science aimed at

facilitating work efficiency. While some solid research is being conducted in South Africa it is time to see the application of these projects in industry itself."

Earlier this year the International Labour Organisation (ILO) opened a South African office in Pretoria and ESSA began to forge links with this allied body focused on improving work conditions. Consequently the key speaker at the ESSA Conference was Mr Jackson Nkurlu, Director of the ILO Southern Africa Multidisciplinary Advisory Team who spoke on *The ILO Perspective on Occupational Safety, Health and Ergonomics* thus bonding the three organisations in directing their efforts to improve working conditions in South Africa.

Rhodes had four delegates at ESSA '96, Prof Jack Charteris (Chairman of the Society) Prof Pat Scott (Secretary), Scott MacKinnon and Karyn Jacka (HMS Masters student). In order to foster participation in



Pat Scott is greeted by Mr Jackson Nkurlu, Director of the ILO Southern Africa Multidisciplinary Advisory Team, at the ESSA conference, while Head of Human Movement Studies, Jack Charteris, looks on from the right.

Ergonomics a special student session was introduced; five universities were represented and the calibre of the papers was most encouraging.

While most ESSA activity is being directed to the development of Ergonomics within South Africa it is important to establish and maintain regional and overseas international contacts. The Ergonomics Society of Australia has organized the First International Cyberspace

Conference on Ergonomics (CybErg), and papers were presented on the internet for review during the month of April. Pat Scott, a member of the CybErg review board, reports that over a 100 papers were submitted from 38 countries including papers from Pat herself, Jian-Chuan Li and Scott MacKinnon, all of the Rhodes HMS Department. Selected papers will be presented on the World Wide Web during September.

## Belated farewell

It took his colleagues almost eight months to get him back to town so that they could see him leave again properly, but Prof Malcolm Sainsbury was finally seen off in style last month at a function hosted by Lydia and Mike Palmer.

Prof Sainsbury started the Department of Information Systems at Rhodes, in 1981.

Described by John McNeill as a great visionary, lateral thinker, musician and very good mentor, Malcolm and his family have 'emigrated' to Gauteng and the courier industry. A loss to Rhodes, say his colleagues.



Malcolm and his wife Denyse (seated in front) with a Mike Ginn original water colour to help him remember the view from his office. He is joined by colleagues, from left. Nick Vat, John McNeill, David Sewry, Dean of Commerce Philip van der Watt, Mrs Lydia Palmer, Chris Upfold, Paul Goodwin and Rinette Roets.



# New show stars Andrew Buckland

Suitcase Productions, a Grahamstown based theatre company creating new work for young people, has devised a new show aimed at Standard 8-10 pupils starring Andrew Buckland, Sheena Stannard, Jenni Davies, Miki Tame, Charles January, Sarah Till and Lisa Greenstein.

The play is called *Freestyle* and deals broadly with themes of identity and conformity — in a metaphorical way.

It is directed by Michael Carklin who says "I think any adult audience should find it thoroughly enjoyable".

The story is of two travellers, a mother and daughter, who get stuck in the desert and whose experiences bring them into contact with a range of characters — perhaps they're part of the real landscape; perhaps they're part of 'dreamscapes'. Carklin says about the production: "This is not didactic theatre. It is an exciting theatre experience which incorporates acting, physical theatre, music and innovative visual design".

This production has been made possible by a grant from the Foundation for the Creative Arts. It has been workshopped by the cast, designed by Lindy Roberts, scripted by Lisa Greenstein, choreographed by Jenni Davies and features music by Miki Tame.

In addition to the play itself, workshops will be organised for teachers who are interested in gaining drama skills for use as a methodology in the classroom. Basic resources and support material will be provided to teachers to assist them to follow-up some of the ideas of the play with their own pupils.

*Freestyle* is being performed in the Box Theatre on Saturday 1st June at 14:30 and 19:30. Tickets are available from Grocott and Sherry or Guy Nelson at the Rhodes Theatre and cost R 5,00 each.



Here are the cast and crew of *Freestyle*, photographed during rehearsal. From left, they are Jenni Davies, Lindy Roberts, Sheena Stannard, Mickey Tami, Lisa Greenstein, Andrew Buckland, Michael Carklin, Sarah Till and Charles January.

Picture: Hepburn and Jeanes.

## Rising to the challenge

The Department of Education has responded to the challenge in the new educational language policies which recommend bilingual, and in some instances multilingual, education.

On a national level, and certainly in the Eastern Cape, the new direction means that teachers will need to be able to communicate in the major languages of the their region.

For this reason, Rhodes has introduced a short introductory course in Xhosa for the HDE students. Coordinated by Ms Sarah Murray, a senior researcher in the Education Department, and taught by students who either speak Xhosa as their first language or are doing Xhosa Method, the course



also benefited by having, as advisors, Ms Ntosh Mazwi and Ms Nontuthuzelo Foster from the Departments of African Languages and Education respectively.

The teachers were recently presented with testimonials by Prof Peter Mtuze, Head of the

Department of African Languages.

The photograph above shows Prof Peter Mtuze and Ms Sarah Murray (centre) with the ten teachers who presented the introductory course in Xhosa. They are, from left, (front row) Ms Tandeke Peter, Mr Simphiwe

Njoko, Mr Mthuthuzeli Koliti, Ms Nosipho Ngwalangwala and (second row, Mr Makhaya Ben, Ms Mbuyi Tini, Ms Trish Bowker, Mr Andile Mdana, Ms Nomsa Makopo and Ms Andy Lump.

Behind them are some of the HDE students who attended the course.



## Funds urgently needed

Rhodes Drama Department's highly regarded *The First Physical Theatre Company*, flushed with success from its run at the FNB-Vita Dance Umbrella has found itself in great demand.

The Company has been invited to perform in Botswana, Durban, Port Elizabeth, Bloemfontein and in the National Schools' festival in Grahamstown later this year.

It has, however, been feeling the pinch for some time and is urgently in need of funds. To attract donations First Physical has launched a benefit fund and invites all supporters of the arts and especially those who appreciate what the Company is doing in the Eastern Cape, to assist them in their fund-raising efforts.

Several scales of membership are offered, from Honorary Board Member (lifetime) at R 7 000 or above, to 'Student' and 'Friend' at from R 30 and R 51 and upwards. Benefits in return range from free tickets to all shows over a five-year period to four tickets annually.

Further details and pledge forms are available from the Drama Department.

## News from the Rhodes Women's Association

A moving farewell to Thelma Henderson, President of the RWA for the past 20 years, was held on Monday 29 April. For the occasion, Oriel House Library was adorned with some of those spectacular flower arrangements for which the Rhodes Floral Group has become renowned, and a table laden with delicacies produced by members.

Jean Wright, current chairlady, welcomed seven of her ten predecessors. Starting with Margaret Best, visiting from East London, each spoke warmly of the role Thelma had played in the diverse

activities of this vibrant Association. Messages from the other three past chairladies were read out, one from as far away as Canada.

One was aware, from the turnout of women at the party and the stories of the past, how many Rhodes wives and woman members of staff have been enriched through the RWA, especially through the inspiring support of Thelma Henderson — a facilitator *par excellence* who has brought out unexpected gifts in so many of its members, and set a high standard of service to the Rhodes community and beyond.

Thelma hands over a going concern whose 1996 activities have got off to a good start with three entertaining and interesting speakers at the monthly lunch/suppers: Prof. Christopher McQuaid on the Greenhouse Effect; Mr Christopher Cockburn on the Rhodes Choir; and Mr Malcolm Hacksley on NELM.

The Lunch Club meets on the second Tuesday of each month during Rhodes terms, alternately at lunch-time and in the evening. Anyone interested in attending should contact Jean Wright on 31 8256.



*Seen at the Rhodes Women's Association's farewell for Mrs Thelma Henderson, are from left, Mrs Jean Wright, Margaret Best, Pat Lanham, Liz Cooper, Nicci Fein, Liz de Wet, and seated from left, Anne Eales, Thelma Henderson and Sally Terry. The function was held in the Oriel House Library. After various speeches recalling the activities of the Rhodes Women's Association through the years, Dr Derek Henderson appeared, much to Mrs Henderson's surprise, to speak on a topic close to his heart: Thelma Henderson — My Wife.*

## Eastern Cape Old Rhodian reunion being planned

Following a suggestion made after the Eastern Cape Old Rhodian Reunion which was held at Rhodes in September last year, it has been decided to repeat the exercise on our campus again this year, and to include the Annual general

Meeting of Convocation in the programme.

The Reunion will be held from 6th to 8th September, with the AGM on the 7th, a Saturday.

This is an important time in the life of the University, says ORU President Desmond

Eve, when much planning will be done. It will also be an opportunity for those who attend to meet our new Vice-Chancellor, Dr David Woods and to hear his views on 'The Rhodes Ahead'.

Details of the programme are being worked out and

more information will be sent with the July Rhodes Newsletter. Meanwhile comments and suggestions are welcomed, by e-mail to [chde@giraffe.ru.ac.za](mailto:chde@giraffe.ru.ac.za), by post, or by fax sent to (0461) 2 5109.



# Cathy's on the top of the world!

Quabbles between team members and their main sponsor, the *Sunday Times* newspaper, and the resignations of some of the climbers notwithstanding, the South African Everest expedition has succeeded in climbing Mt Everest, the world's highest peak.

Cathy O'Dowd, a 27-year old Masters student and part-time lecturer in the Department of Journalism and Media Studies, reached the summit early in the morning (SA time) on Saturday, 25 May and in doing so became the fifth woman to stand on top of the world.

Some Grahamstonians who know that Gauteng's Radio 702 can be heard here during the hours of darkness were able to listen to her speaking to the radio station and her mother in Johannesburg from the summit. She told them that she was overwhelmed by the beauty which surrounded her.

Her triumph, on which she is heartily congratulated by all who know her, was tempered by the tragic loss of Bruce Herrod, a member of the team and the expedition's official photographer, after he, too, had reached the summit, several hours after Cathy, team leader Ian Woodall and their Sherpa companions.

They were successful on their third attempt to the top, having previously abandoned earlier plans in the face of some of the worst weather seen on the mountain for years. It has been a tragic climbing season with nine people, including Herrod, losing their lives in the past month. Another seventy five have succeeded in returning safely.

Cathy was selected for the trip after responding to a

nation-wide call to appoint a woman to the team. After many applications had been evaluated, six women were short-listed and, after a climbing trip to East Africa, Cathy and one other were taken to Nepal prior to final selection for the summit attempt.

After her selection several months ago she has been concentrating on becoming totally fit, physically and mentally, and the hard work which this entailed has paid dividends.

The South Africans were the last of several national teams to climb the mountain. The *Star* newspaper in Johannesburg said Nepalese authorities have ordered all foreign climbers off the mountain by June 11, as the warmer monsoon season approaches.

According to Monty Cooper, Lecturer in Photojournalism, Cathy will probably arrive back in South Africa within the next fortnight. Cooper spent some weeks with the expedition in its early stages and has, since he returned to Grahamstown, managed to maintain almost daily contact with the Base Camp on the mountain. He was intending to fly to Katmandu to meet Cathy, and to return home with her, as *Rhodos* went to print.

Cathy will obviously have commitments to sponsors on her return and will no doubt be in great demand on the 'speakers' circuit' and to endorse a wide range of products and services. To what extent these circumstances will delay her return to Grahamstown and Rhodes remains to be seen, but she may certainly look forward to a fitting welcome when she does so.

# Quite Wright too!

The Andre Huguenet Memorial Medal, an award previously presented to notables such as Siegfried Mynard, Professor Guy Butler, Barry Ronge, Jonathan Paton and Professor Robert Mohr, was recently awarded to the President of the Shakespeare Society of Southern Africa and Director of the Institute for the Study of English in Africa (ISEA) at Rhodes University, Professor Laurence Wright, who delivered this year's Andre Huguenet Memorial Lecture at a function in the Port Elizabeth City Hall recently.

During the course of the lecture Wright sketched the history of Shakespeare in Africa, including the interests of notable African Shakespeareans such as Sol. Plaatje and Julius Nyerere, and explored the future of Shakespeare in South Africa.

He went on to mention the role of the Shakespeare Society of Southern Africa in sponsoring a new generation of school Shakespeare texts

designed specifically for the South African context. These texts, developed by the ISEA, are being widely used and seek to emphasise the plays as scripts for performance, giving special attention to helping second or third language learners read, discuss and write using English. "The money, which is earned from royalties on the school texts, comes as a gift to the citizens of P.E., so that the children of Port Elizabeth can have their live Shakespeare next year," said Wright.

"There is a need to relate Shakespeare to learner's lives. Readers must first find this meaning before they can move on to working with the complexities of the language."

The lecture series was founded in 1971 to commemorate the versatile Afrikaans actor and theatrical personality Andre Huguenet who, with Will Jamieson and Leslie French, was one of the inspirational forces behind the P.E. Shakespearean Festival.

# Resources under threat

The Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER), which is running a research project in the Willowvale and Elliotdale districts of the former Transkei recently commissioned members of the Law Faculty to compile an historical overview of the environmental legislation pertaining to the area.

This has been provoked by the continuing unrelenting pressure on the natural resources of the former homeland. The situation has been compounded by a lack of clarity concerning the current status of

environmental legislation following Transkei's absorption into the Eastern Cape.

The report provides both a commentary and collation of all relevant legal material pertaining to the Transkei forests and seashore, from 1890 up until the present day, and may be of use to anyone involved in natural resource based research and work relevant to this area.

Anyone who is interested in viewing or acquiring this report should contact Carol Booth on extension 8551 at the Development Studies Unit of the ISER.



# Sports Scoreboard

## Sports results — 10 to 25 May

### Friday 10 May

Rugby: RU 1st XV vs Cambridge  
Rhodes lost 8-42

### Saturday 11 May

Rugby: RU 2nd XV vs King  
Williams Town

Rhodes won 39-5

Tennis: RU vs Sevenfountains 1

Rhodes won 6-4

Volleyball: RU Women vs SAP

Rhodes won 3-0

RU Women vs Dower

Rhodes won 3-0

RU Men vs Paterson

Rhodes won 3-1

Hockey: RU Women 1st XI vs

Westview

Rhodes lost 0-2

RU Women 2nd XI vs UPE

Rhodes lost 1-2

Basketball: South Eastern Cape

Team selections

Women: Martha Banda, Julie

Dennison, Liesl Williams

Men: Peter Menezes, Zama

Mtembu, Mac Goduka

(Hector Chidiya)

Athletics: Duathlon:

1st Elite - Barrie

Knox-Davies

1st Junior - Gary Rabie (5th overall)

2nd Junior - Ian McGregor (7th overall)

### Sunday 12 May

Hockey: RU Men 1st XI vs Old  
Grey

Rhodes lost 1-4

RU Men 2nd XI vs Uitenhage

Rhodes won 3-0

### Monday 13 May

Squash RU 2 vs SAAME

Rhodes lost 7-13

### Tuesday 14 May

Badminton: RU Men vs Sentraal A

Rhodes lost 0-6

Squash: RU 1sts vs Old Grey

Rhodes lost 5-8

### Friday 17 May

Basketball: RU Men 1st XIA vs  
UPE

Rhodes won 42-41

### Saturday 18 May

Rugby RU 2nd XV vs Shamrocks

Rhodes lost 6-12

RU U21 V vs Shamrocks B

Rhodes won 84-0

Hockey: RU Women 2nd XI vs  
Westview

Rhodes won 3-0

RU Men 2nd XI vs PE Crusaders

Rhodes won 5-0

Tennis: RU vs Sidbury 1

Rhodes lost 2-8

Table Tennis: Rhodes vs Unitra vs

Fort Hare

Rhodes came 1st

Climbing: East Cape Competition

Open Division:

Jeremy Colenso 1st

Shannon Law Joint 2nd

Athletics: Cycling - 2 man 45 km

EP time trial

Adam Sargent (RU) and

Mario Nell (EP) 1st

59 min 40 sec - new EP record

### Sunday 19 May

Hockey: RU Men 2nd XI vs Alpha  
Maple Leaf

Rhodes won 6-1

RU Men 3rd XI vs PE Crusaders

Rhodes won 4-2

Basketball: RU Women vs UPE

Rhodes won 23-30

RU Men B vs Dyn M1A

Rhodes lost 22-66

RU Women vs Dyn W

Rhodes lost 31-37

RU Men A vs Dyn M1B

Rhodes won 45-34

### Monday 20 May

Squash: RU 2 vs Crusaders

Rhodes won 12-6

### Tuesday 21 May

Badminton: RU mixed vs Kragga

Kamma A

Rhodes lost 2-5

Squash: RU 1 vs Technikon

Rhodes won 11-0

### Wednesday 22 May

Badminton: RU Men vs Sentraal B

Rhodes lost 0-6

Netball: RU 1 vs All Saints

Rhodes won 22-9

RU 2 vs All Saints

Rhodes lost 9-26

### Saturday 25 May

Rhodes student Cathy

O'Dowd reached the summit of Mount Everest in the Himalayas, the highest point on earth.

# Smalls

## SITUATION VACANT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates irrespective of race, gender or creed for the full-time position of Secretary to the Vice-Principal from 1 July 1996 or as soon as possible thereafter.

The successful candidate, who should have sound organisational skills, will be required to provide secretarial services to the Vice-Principal and, when necessary, the Vice-Chancellor. Duties will include, *inter alia*, diary management, straightforward bookkeeping and the organising of meetings and functions. Candidates should have a thorough knowledge of word processing, including spreadsheets, excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to manage effectively under pressure.

Application forms and salary details may be obtained from Miss X K Wakashe in the Personnel Division to whom completed applications should be sent by 7 June 1996.

## ACCOMMODATION WANTED

I am seeking a 2-3 bedroomed house to rent. Immediate (next 3 months) occupation for long or short lease. Contact Tina Moss at 318291 (w) or 26200 (h) or e-mail cssec@cs.ru.ac.za

## FESTIVAL ACCOMMODATION

I am looking for accommodation for four responsible people between July 7-14. Willing to feed pets, water plants etc. If you can help, please contact Julie Gibson at 31 8509(w) or 2 3883 (h).

**SITUATION WANTED**  
Honest, reliable, hard-working domestic. Excellent with small children. Full or part-time position required. Tel: 2 3218.

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Articles should be forwarded to the Editor, at the Marketing & Communications Division. They are preferred on diskette in any of several common formats, including ASCII and Word Perfect. Text may also be e-mailed to [rhodos@ru.ac.za](mailto:rhodos@ru.ac.za).

Photographs and line art are also welcome, either as stand-alone items or illustrative of articles. Please note, however, that we prefer black and white photographs as the quality of reproduction is better than from colour originals.

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## RHODOS DEADLINE DATES

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