

# **EXTENDED STUDIES STUDENTS WELCOME**

22 February 2007

Welcome to Rhodes University and to the Extended Studies programme at Rhodes.

This is the beginning of an exciting new phase in your intellectual and personal development and life, and you have made an excellent choice in choosing Rhodes, as we are committed to producing high quality graduates who are equipped to contribute to a changing South Africa, African continent and world.

Of course, we have also chosen you – because we recognise that you have the potential and talent to succeed.

And so you choosing us, and us choosing you, means there is a partnership between yourself and Rhodes of mutual commitment to learning, and the pursuit of knowledge.

Our responsibility is to provide you through the Extended Studies Programme a stimulating and enabling environment that develops your intellect, and supports you to graduate as a knowledgeable and skilled professional, a critical intellectual, and a caring and compassionate person.

Your responsibility is to grasp the opportunities that Rhodes provides and to develop your talents and promise to the full.

There are different reasons why students could be accepted into the Extended Studies Programme. There is, however, one main reason: We recognise that are many talented students who have perfectly good brains and intellects and lots of potential but are being unfortunately in many cases being short-changed by schools and are therefore under-prepared for the demands of a university degree.

Reading for a Rhodes University degree is an exacting challenge, and I urge you to take seriously the considerable demands that your academic programme will make on your mind and time. It is vital that you strike a good balance between the requirements of your academic studies and the many temptations and distractions of campus life.

Students that do not meet our academic requirements are inevitably excluded, and it is my sincere hope that I will not have to read your appeal against exclusion arising from your failure to give due attention to your academic studies.

The Rhodes University slogan is *Where Leaders Learn!* You have the wonderful opportunity to learn and develop and graduate as a leader. I hope you will seize this opportunity.