



Gold Medal for noteworthy research

Professor Perry Kaye, Head of the Department of Chemistry, has been declared the winner of the South African Chemical Institute (SACI) Gold Medal for 1996.

This prestigious award is made annually to the senior author of a series of noteworthy research papers published in the South African Journal of Chemistry.

SACI Chairman, Dr Mike Davies-Coleman, in making

the award, drew attention to the award-winning papers published by Prof Kaye and his research group, describing the use of chiral auxiliaries in organic synthesis.

Prof Kaye subsequently presented a paper to the well-attended function entitled *Through the looking glass — reflections on the chemical implications of chirality*, in which he described some of the research which led to the award of the Medal.



Prof Perry Kaye (right) receives the SACI Gold Medal for 1996 from Dr Mike Davies-Coleman.

Of Pub, Grub and Leather Craft

With the University in mid-year academic recess, a number of staff members and students made some pocket money — and had a great deal of fun — as stall holders in this year's National Arts Festival.

Instead of sitting home and idling, several Rhodians were involved in a variety of cash-generating activities, ranging from food stalls to pubs.

Prof Ralph Kirby, of the Department of Microbiology and Biochemistry, Bernd Sonnenberg and Jacques Girber, both of the Botany Department, BA student Hamish Mordon, Basil Mills of the National English Literary Museum and others ran a period-style pub in Fort Selwyn which drew many visitors on a daily basis from mid- to early morning!

To add a historical touch, liquor at the pub was served on ancient barrels which, according to Sonnenberg,

were borrowed from the Bathurst Agricultural Museum.

He believed that "the whole point of having this

1820-like pub is to regain our history."

Another popular attraction at the festival was that

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(From left to right) BA student Hamish Mordon; Bernd Sonnenberg Jacques Gerber, both from the Botany Department, Prof Ralph Kirby of the Biochemistry and Microbiology Department and Leon van Rensburg of the South African Police and Bubbles van Rensburg of the National English Literary Museum.



Letters to The Editor

Semesters and exams — what are the implications?

The Editor,

I asked the registrar what the implications are for the length of the examination period when semesters become a rule. He did not know. A couple of senators assured him there are none — they are wrong, but doubtless Strategic Planning and Outcomes Based Education will proceed on that basis. The senators were right only where there is an even number of papers set for each course.

Thus:

Present System	Anthropology I	Anthropology II	Anthropology III
June	(1)	(1)	(1)
October	1	2	1
February	1	2	1

Total for a worst case (3) June tests, 12 exam slots. Total 15.

Semesterised

June	1	1	2(+1)
October	2	2	4(+2)
February	1	1	2(-2)

Total for a worst case 16 exam slots.

However, whereas under the present system the worst case is highly unlikely as supps are unusual for II and III, the pressure to allow them for courses currently 'written off' in June will be intense — if only to ensure continued free board and lodging in some cases. And, if for one semester, why not the other?

You will also observe that the semester and supp system increases the June and October slots by a third, while the February slots decline.

This is the effect that semesterisation will have on the demands of one department.

Before the Faculties blunder on much further and shovel the consequences on the uncomprehending 'admin' to sort out, could the statistical wizards who drive these schemes please do their homework and let us know what the real implications are?

Michael Whisson
HoD Anthropology

Now 'off the market'!

In a dual-cultural ceremony attended by several of her friends and colleagues from Grahamstown, Ms Balise Ntlabezo from the Department of African Languages married Mr Mzwandile Nosilela in Port Elizabeth recently.

The ceremony took place at the Holy Spirit Anglican Church and the reception was held at the Algoa College of Education. The event was a jolly affair combining the best

of the Western and African cultures.

Amongst the guests were Dr Gantsho (PE); Rev Xundu (Idasa); Prof Phithi (UIPE) and Dr John Claughton (Rhodes). Mr Siyanda Manana, the Capital Development Manager at Rhodes was the best man.

Siyanda reports that, on the second day, "everybody went back to their roots! The bride was dressed in an African outfit, designed for a Xhosa *makoti* (bride) and a black headscarf. The bride then indulged in the Xhosa tradition whereby she sat, with bare feet, on an *ukbukho* (reed mat) barefoot to show respect to her in-laws."

During this time women were singing and celebrating both that the couple had found each other in marriage and that new relations that were being forged between two families.

Phumeza Mxgashe

Rhodos invites correspondence on matters of concern to the University community which will indicate the wide spectrum of views held and will promote further discussion.

A pseudonym is acceptable, but the writer must supply his or her full name and residential address to the editor, who will respect confidentiality.



Balise Ntlabezo-Nosilela in traditional Xhosa bridal finery.

A first for the ISU and Rhodes

Rhodes students studying in the International Studies Unit (ISU), in the Department of Political Studies, become the first South African university students to have been formally received by the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Together with six MA students in International Studies, Dr Paul Bischoff, Post-Graduate Coordinator at the ISU, organised and led a first collective research trip to Gauteng. It was intended to aid research currently being pursued by these students on their dissertation topics and it is hoped that this can from now on be an annual event.

Bischoff and the students believe that it was a very worthwhile visit especially since the group was mobile and was therefore able to accomplish more than if they had been on their own as individuals.

Their formal reception by the Department of Foreign Affairs was the first time that a group of students from a South African university has been so honoured — this is in line with the DFA's policy of



greater openness and transparency.

Later they were received by the Chief Director of Human Resources, Mr CE Paterson, and had meetings with DFA officials at the various desks charged with Multilateral Affairs, Africa and Asia and the Middle East. They were also introduced to the Foreign Service Institute which trains foreign service cadets.

The party also visited to two libraries, at the Africa Institute and the Jan Smuts

House Library at the SA Institute of International Affairs. Further introductions and meetings followed, at the Institute of Strategic Studies (ISS), the Centre of Policy Studies and the Foundation for Global Dialogue (FGD). Other visits included those to the Human Rights Unit (Pretoria University) and the East Asian Project at Wits.

A courtesy visit was paid to the sponsor of bursaries at the ISU, the Ford Foundation and, at the reception at the Kenyan

The touring party shortly before their departure. From left they are: Dr Korwa Adar (ISU Lecturer), Peter Kimenia, Ms Odette Cummings (ISU Secretary - did not travel), Dr Paul Bischoff, Shadrack Khobotlo, Perminus Tebu, Keith Govender, Savaren Naidoo and Mahesh Chetty.

High Commission, they were briefed on East African integration and the Great Lakes issue.

A full programme, by any standard!

Humboldt/South African Award for 1998 — call for nominations

Nominations are invited for the Humboldt/South African Research Award to the internationally renowned German scholars in the fields of Sciences (natural and social), Humanities, Mathematics Medicine, Engineering and Agriculture in recognition of their achievements in research, for promoting research cooperation between South Africa and Germany and contributing to research capacity building in SA.

This is in terms of an agreement concluded between

the FRD and the Humboldt Foundation for the reciprocal exchange of researchers between South Africa and Germany every year.

The elected researchers will spend a period of research in our country of between four and 12 months.

The nominee's academic achievements must be internationally recognized through proven research work, positive responses by peers to the nominee's published work and by other previous distinctions.

Nominations must be made by leading researchers in

South Africa. The nominating scholar is required to guarantee that sufficient material and equipment are available for research work envisaged by the award.

In addition to the above requirements, several other documents have to be provided.

There are also various conditions attached to the award which, together with all relevant details, may be obtained from the FRD (Mrs R Robertson Tel (012) 481 4102, fax (012) 481 4010 e-mail rose@frd.ac.za. PO Box 2600, Pretoria 0001).

Nominations must be submitted via the executive head of the institution to which the nominator is attached and must be directed to the same address (Attention: Mrs R Robertson) at any time of the year. Those received by 31 October of every year will be processed and considered at a meeting of the Humboldt/South African Research Award's Panel during February of every year. Those received after the above date of 31 October will stand over to the next year for processing.

Festive Entrepreneurs — RU folk at the festival

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presented by LIRI Technologies, which had a stall at the Village Green — the heart of the Festival.

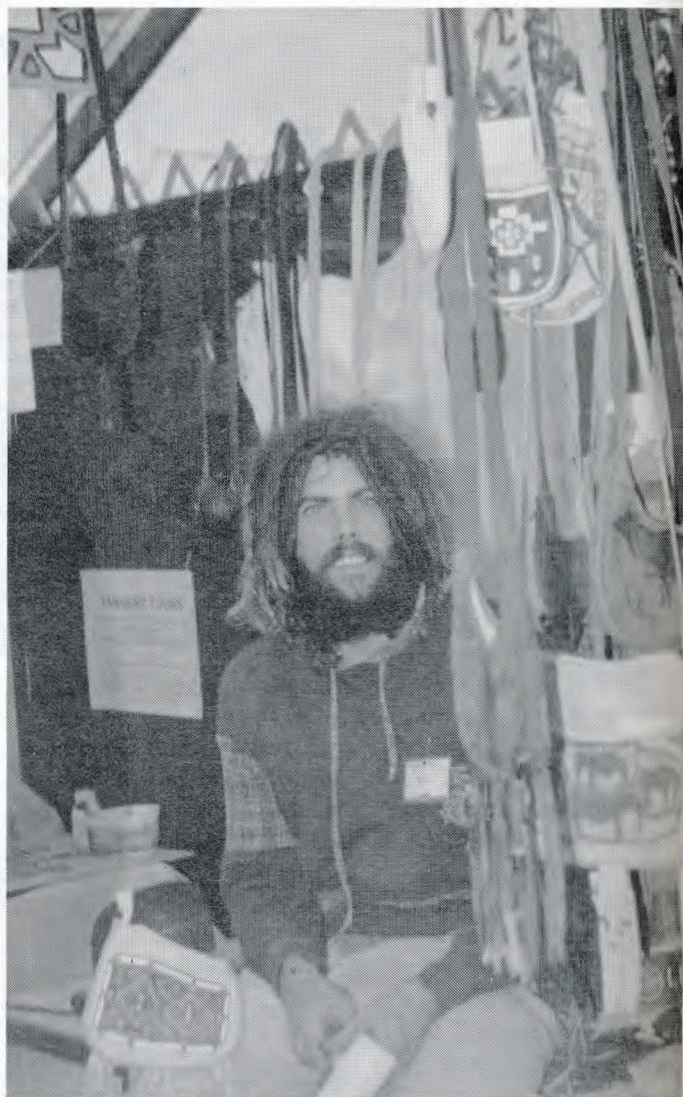
Stallholder Andrew Ginn said: "We have put up this stall to create awareness about the Institute and its activities. By the year 2000 we are hoping to have leather as the Festival theme," he said optimistically. He shared his stall with Rhodes second-year B. Comm student Andrea Haydock who was selling silver jewellery.

Amongst other Rhodians who dared the sometimes chilly weather were Teddy Betchoon and Dorraine

Nortier, both from the Finance Division, who shared a stall in the busy High Street.

Teddy was selling rolls, candy floss and toffee apples. On the other hand Ms Nortier sold scented roses. Selling at the Festival was a new experience for both of them.

Rhodos' Festival Correspondents, Siseko Njobeni and Phumeza Mgxashe also spotted Andrew Ainslie, an Anthropology Masters student and third-year Fine Arts student Lynne McPherson busy setting up their stall which was situated just outside the Village Green. They were both selling lentil burgers.



Andrew Ginn of LIRI Technologies inside his stall (above) at the Village Green.



Viwe, a second-year BA student was selling Xhosa beadwear and traditional clothing.



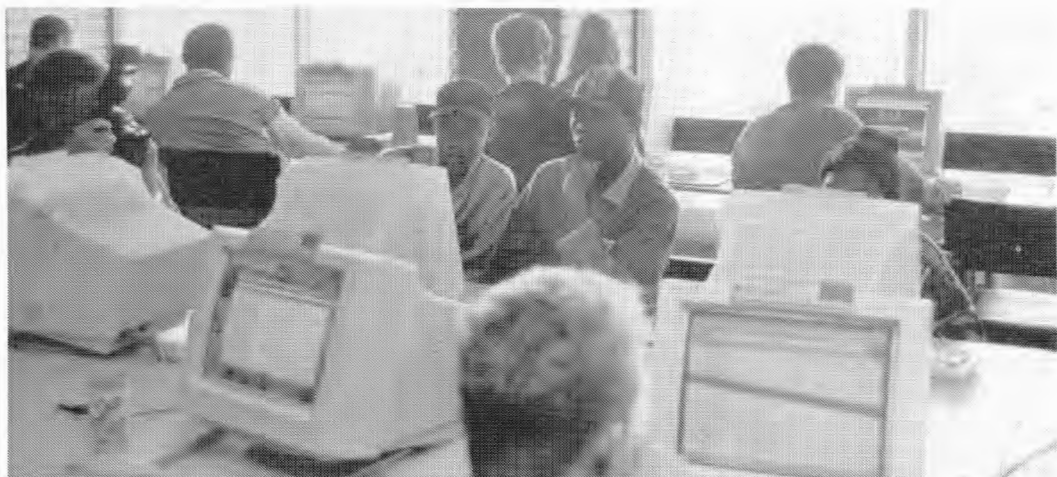
Rhodes University Finance Division staff members Teddy Betchoon (left) and Dorrane Nortier in front of their stall in High Street.

Centre of Excellence at Arts Festival

The newly formed Centre of Excellence in Multimedia Products and Services made its first public appearance at the Grahamstown National Arts Festival with two virtual reality demonstrations.

The Centre is a result of an initiative by the Department of Computer Science at Rhodes University and three companies, namely Telkom, Lucent Technologies and Dimension Data. It was signed into being at a ceremony held at Rhodes on March 19 1997.

The presentation by the Centre followed the theme of Distributed Multimedia, and consisted of two demonstrations showing a virtual reality trip to the city of Grahamstown and a number of interactive virtual reality applications which can be viewed via the Internet.



Visitors to the Rhodes CoE/Intekom stand at the Festival were able to indulge in Net surfing and send e-mail messages.

These applications allow one to explore the virtual city, examine individual venues, and access multimedia content such as images, sound clips and movie sequences pertinent to each venue.

The purpose of the presentation was to promote the Multimedia Centre of

Excellence, to provide an information and entertainment service to the community and to build up experience in presenting multimedia content to a diverse audience.

The demonstrations and applications were created as a combined project by students

and staff in the Computer Science Department under the auspices of the Multimedia Centre of Excellence.

The demonstrations were seen in the Settlers' Monument at the Intekom Internet Cafe. The Web address for the presentation is: <http://cs.ru.ac.za/coe/fest97/>.

Industrial Education Conference

Education and Training in industry will form the focus of an intensive two-day conference which will take place at Rhodes University in September. The theme of the conference is *Integrating Education and Training: What this means in practice*.

One of its convenors, Prof Laurence Wright, when asked to explain the need for the conference, said that "Growing the South African economy places the emphasis squarely on improving competitiveness and productivity. At the same time, the social and political framework is changing rapidly. Narrow old-style training programmes are no

longer adequate or efficient. The key challenge facing industrial education is the successful integration of education and training," he elaborated.

"Current national policy promotes an integrated system of industrial education which has two broad goals", he believes. These are to develop international competitiveness and productivity through enhanced quality awareness and capacity for multi-skilling and, secondly, to develop knowledge, skills and understanding for effective participation in a full range of environments — social, political and scientific/natural.

The Rhodes conference aims to bring together practitioners who work in an industrial context to explore the different ways in which these goals can and are being met within the National Qualifications Framework.

The conference will be relevant to all those involved in the planning, implementation and practice of education and training in the industrial sector, says Wright.

"Human Resource personnel, National Training Board practitioners, Union representatives, Workplace Trainers, Employers and Education, Training and Development Practitioners

(ETDPs) should all gain from it", he reckons.

The conference is hosted by the Institute for the Study of English in Africa (ISEA) which is itself developing a major industrial education and training programme for on-site and distance delivery in industry. It will be presented over two days, 10 and 11 September. Enquiries and bookings should be directed to the ISEA at ext 8565 (Fax: (0461) 31 8566; e-mail: lyn@aardvark.ru.ac.za or laurence@aardvark.ru.ac.za).

Painting and poetry in matrimony

Painting and poetry are not words one would normally use interchangeably, but that is exactly what happened when Chris Mann, a poet, and his painter wife Julia Skeen exhibited their work earlier this month, seven years after embarking on it.

Paintings of fruit, vegetables and birds, accompanied by appropriate poems, were exhibited at St Peter's and the opening was sponsored by NELM (National English Literary Museum).

The *Horn of Plenty* exhibition at this year's Festival was officially opened by the Vice-Chancellor, Dr David Woods, who was quick to comment that the "painting that really lives for me is the stew". He congratulated Julia for correctly organising all the



Three artists and a microbiologist . . . Chris Mann, left, with his wife, Julia Skeen (second from right), Dr Marion Arnold from Stellenbosch University and Dr David Woods.

cell organelles (remember he's a microbiologist) and thanked her "for her thoroughness".

Dr Marion Arnold, the keynote speaker from Stellenbosch University, said that "Paint and poetry have a

historical relationship and both provoke the imagination with allusions that invoke illusion."

She repeatedly stressed how paint and poetry compliment each other. "Paint

makes no attempt to simulate life but the words describe the visual picture and therefore the person is able to process two types of imagery at the same time."

Phumeza Mgxashe

Guidance in essay-writing a popular innovation

The Academic Development Centre's *Writing Respondents Programme*, which has been running in East London for some time, was piloted in Grahamstown last year and is now running on both campuses

It functions through responding to students' writing, giving feedback on a first draft of an essay, which students can use in writing their final version.

This programme recognises that writing is an important part of the learning process at University. In most cases students only get feedback on their essays at the end of the writing process and research has shown that feedback given *during* the process is more valuable in terms of facilitating learning.

Embarking on the process, a student will initially consult with the lecturer concerned about the essay and how it fits into the curriculum. A group of respondents is briefed on specific requirements by the lecturer. The respondents have been trained not to evaluate the essay but to give feedback in a questioning and encouraging way. This assists students in clarifying their understanding of the content and in improving their essay writing skills.

Arona Dison and Lynn Quinn, of the ADC, say that they

have been involved in two projects with large classes. "The first one was with Anthea Garman and her Journalism 2 students in a news writing course", they recall. "Approximately 125 students were involved in writing a first draft of a feature article which was responded to prior to their submission of the final version."

Anthea felt that it was particularly beneficial for trainee journalists to develop an understanding of writing as a process and the need for redrafting.

The second project involved an essay set by Prof Vivian de Klerk, for about 215 Linguistics 1 students, on naming practices. These students were asked to fill in a questionnaire evaluating the process.

"The majority said that they appreciated the opportunity to redraft their essays. Many indicated that, especially as first-year students, the feedback was valuable. We have also been involved in training tutors in the Psychology and Journalism Departments to respond to drafts of student writing."

"We are available to consult with lecturers about the use of writing in their courses support them in projects such as these", say Dison and Quinn.



Writing respondents Judith Reynolds, Candice Caldwell and Fleur Theophilus at a training workshop.

Valuable bursaries for two from Rhodes

The Arts & Culture Trust has awarded a grant of R 6 000,00 to the Rhodes Drama Department as a bursary for students in 1997.

Two Drama students who have each been awarded a R 3 000,00 bursary each are James Cairns, a BA Honours Drama student and Tamara Guhrs, Masters by Thesis Drama student. Ms Guhrs' thesis title is *Communal Ecstasy: The Social and Metaphysical Function of African Masquerade Drama*.



DIFS student named best speaker

Grahamstown confirmed its status as a strong centre for aquatic research and resource management when a strong local contingent attended the 1997 South African Society for Aquatic Sciences (SASAQS) Conference in Mtunzini, KwaZulu-Natal recently.

Staff and students from the Institute for Water Research (IWR), the Albany Museum, the JLB Smith Institute for Ichthyology and the Departments of Ichthyology and Fisheries Science (DIFS), Zoology and Geography were responsible for more than a third of the oral and poster papers presented.

Andrew Gordon a student in the DIFS, won the prize for the best speaker.

Prof Jay O'Keefe, the outgoing President of SASAQS, discussed the juxtaposition of ecological theory and management practice as applied to aquatic resources.

Other contributions from local folk were in the novel feature of the presentation to

the congress of two papers dealing with drafting of policy, on which Dr Carolyn Palmer of the IWR has been extensively involved for the past two years, and an interesting presentation, by Nicky Motteux from the Geography Department, on the assessment of the community understanding of the management of riverine resources.

Dr C G Palmer and Mrs H D Davies-Coleman represented Rhodes and Africa at a recent international conference held in San Marco, Texas.

Dr Palmer presented an oral paper on the use of artificial streams in setting water quality guidelines and Mrs Davies-Coleman presented a poster on the life-cycle and growth of a fresh-water limpet from a local river.

Some 800 delegates, from Australasia, Europe and the Americas, attended the North American Benthological Conference.

Situations Vacant

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates, irrespective of race, gender or creed, for the post of **General Manager — Catering Services** from 1 October 1997 or as soon as possible thereafter.

The successful candidate will be required to manage and direct the catering needs of the University's residence system and for official functions. Candidates should be fully conversant with all aspects of large scale catering, including budgetary controls and accounting, the purchasing of commodities and the negotiating of contracts, the motivation and supervision of staff and the compilation of menus.

Good interpersonal skills are a prerequisite together with sound organisational and administrative abilities. Preference will be given to persons with recognised qualifications and experience in catering management at a senior level.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates, irrespective of race, gender or creed, for the post of **Part-time Secretary — Electron Microscope Unit** from 1 September 1997 or as soon as possible thereafter.

Candidates should be competent typists with general office experience and a willingness to learn database and spreadsheet applications. A knowledge of basic bookkeeping would be a recommendation.

Application forms and salary particulars in respect of both the above posts may be obtained from Miss X K Wakashe in the Personnel Division (tel ext 8117/8115, e-mail adxw@warthog.ru.ac.za) to whom completed applications should be returned by 25 July and 6 August respectively.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates, irrespective of race, gender or creed, for the post of **Senior Buyer — Information Technology** from as early a date as possible.

The successful candidate will be required to purchase all the University's scientific and computer equipment and software and to manage the recycling and replacement of information technology equipment. Responsibilities include the accounting and budgeting control of the above purchases for which a sound knowledge of bookkeeping/accounting is required. Candidates should be familiar with formal and informal tender procedures and have experience of scientific and technical equipment. Good interpersonal skills are a prerequisite.

Application forms, salary particulars and further information may be obtained from Mrs A Orsmond in the Personnel Division (tel ext 8117/8115, e-mail adao@warthog.ru.ac.za) to whom completed applications should be returned by 31 July.

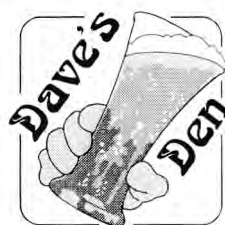
For your diary — Monday, 28 July

MASTERCLASSES & CONCERT

Dept of Music Robin Alleson — Violin / Neville Schafer — Piano In Beethoven Auditorium Master classes from 14:00 to 17:00. Evening Concert at 19:30 includes compositions by Veracini, Grieg, Debussy and Prokofiev

Staff pub open tonight!

Dave's Den will be open tonight (July 25th). Staff members and their guests are invited to join their colleagues after work, from 17:00.



Smalls

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HOUSE/BABY/PET SITTING

House/baby/pet sitter with transport; R 15,00/night (house); R 6,00/hour for baby sitting (R 8,00 after midnight). Phone: Belinda 2 2577 (e-mail: 693w5583@giraffe.ru.ac.za).

FOR SALE

External fax modem - 28 800 - brand new. Also copy of Digital Orchestrator Plus, Warrior Joystick and midi cable. All at negotiable prices. Contact Hennie at Education Department (edhm@croc). Home phone 2 2576.

PUPPIES FOR SALE

4 Cross Collie-German Shepherd Puppies from beautiful parents with lovely natures. Innoculated, dewormed and ready to go. R 200,00. Phone Arona on ext 8171 (w) or 31 1179 (h).

HOUSE FOR RENT

Nice, unfurnished home for rent September — December 1997. 3 bedrooms, 2 lounges, open plan kitchen, bathroom, toilet. Garage, carport, swimming pool, well tended garden. Hi-tec Security. R 1 500,00 per month. Contact: Roddy Fox (8319), ggrrf@warthog, or Kate Rowntree (8321), ggkr@giraffe.

FOR SALE

Toyota Corolla 1986, 1,3 litres. Excellent condition, R 15 000. E-mail g9610183@giraffe or tel 28 9169 (h).

LISZT LOLLIPOPS

28 July to 1 August. Dennis Stander (piano). Beethoven Auditorium. Daily from 13:10 to 13:45. Public R 5,00. Students R 2,00.

SITUATION WANTED

Reliable domestic worker seeking employment 1 or 2 days a week. Her English is limited but she works exceptionally well. Please contact Lisl on ext 8569 or e-mail adlg@giraffe.

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WANTED - HOME FOR RENT

Clean, 3-bedroomed house required for long-term rental. Contact Vanessa at ext 8308 (work).

Senior research fellowships in biomedical science

The Wellcome Trust has invited applications for five-year senior research fellowships in biomedical science to be held in Australia, New Zealand or South Africa, to commence 1999. The fellowships continue the scheme which has provided funding for many outstanding Australian, New Zealand and South African biomedical researchers since 1985.

Outstanding researchers who are either medically qualified or science graduates, with recognised postdoctoral achievements, seeking to establish a career and undertake research in an Australian, New Zealand or South African academic institution are eligible to apply whether or not they are currently working in those countries. Applicants need not

be nationals of the countries concerned.

The scheme aims to encourage young researchers with an outstanding postdoctoral record who wish to establish a research career. Preference is given to applicants who have overseas postdoctoral experience. Direct personal enquiries by possible candidates are encouraged but formal applications must be submitted by the Head of Department in the Institution where the candidate will work. General enquiries may be directed to Miss Carole Roberts (Tel: 021 938 0359, Fax: 021 938 0368, e-mail: croberts@eagle.mrc.ac.za) from whom, at P.O. Box 19070, Tygerberg 7505, application forms can be obtained.

ADVERTISING RATES

Display ads: R 3,00 per column centimetre; double for front and back pages.

Classifieds: 20 cents per word. Advertising copy must be supplied in writing, on diskette or by e-mail and must be accompanied by full payment.

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