

# RHODOS



RHODES UNIVERSITY STAFF NEW SLETTER

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Vol 6 No 3

# Staff numbers to reduce over next two years

A long term decline in the level of the State's financial support of universities in general, and of Rhodes in particular, is the main factor causing a worrying financial situation at our University. So said the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Derek Henderson, at a well attended staff meeting last week.

Rhodes finds itself in an immensely difficult situation, he said, and the time has come to take firm and definitive action. "State funds earmarked for education", he advised the meeting, "are going to be directed more towards the primary and secondary levels". He thinks that this is rightly so, but there are significant implications for the University.

Theoretically, in terms of the subsidy formula, the Government should supply Rhodes with some 83% of its financial needs, leaving us to find approximately 17% from fees, investments and endowments. "The current situation, however, is that we may now expect to receive only two-thirds of that 83% this year – approximately 55% of our annual requirement", he explained. "Fees will account for 25% of our income and some 7% will come from endowments and investments".

#### A variety of options

There is an obvious shortfall and the Academic Planning Committee and other decision-forming groups are urgently exploring a variety of options. Some have already been implemented, such as the privatisation of certain services (Kaif and the Union), the rationalisation of others (the residence kitchens) and, regrettably, some retrenchment of staff. Other action already taken includes the establishment of an 'on-site' travel office, the change to reimbursement of expenses by electronic means, the advance booking of meals in residences and changes in the computer systems including the commissioning of new hardware and software. Further options being evaluated include a change of pension fund and the rationalisation of other supplied services in order to qualify for group discounting and sharing of facilities and infrastructure.

Dr Henderson told the staff members present that it is not possible to rely on or even accurately predict the extent by which the subsidy from the State may still reduce. Some 24 hours earlier he had been informed of a further cut of R 470 000, representing Rhodes' 'share' of the costs of the election.

What is needed now is intelligent and creative



The Academic Planning Committee met on Thursday 26 May to consider the implications of the proposed 10% reduction in Staff Cost Units (SCUs) by the beginning of 1997. Broad target figures for SCUs in each of the three categories of disciplines (Commerce, Humanities and Sciences) were discussed. These targets will now form the basis of discussion with these three groups.

(The Research Institutes will be considered as a separate category, as will the ADP).

It must be emphasised that this is the beginning of a debate. Extensive discussions will be held at all levels before the APC is in a position to make recommendations to the University's decision making structures.

Dr M A Smout, Vice Principal.

effort on the part of all staff, directed towards increased efficiency in the use of available funds and the attraction of new financial support. He queried whether Rhodes can afford to maintain its very attractive student to staff ratio in these serious times and advised that great caution must be exercised in raising fees in the face of the now measurable consumer resistance. Some 250 fewer students than we had anticipated this year had actually registered, Dr Michael Smout, the Vice-Principal, told the meeting. He added that sheer inability to afford Rhodes' product, its tertiary education, was the prime reason. Many potential students are being lost to urban universities and technikons, while significant numbers are seeking academic qualifications through distance education.

The Registrar (Finance), Mr Tony Long, well illustrated Dr Henderson's concern when he showed abridged statements of income and expenditure to the meeting. He was followed

by the Director of Personnel, Mr Bruce Smith, who clearly positioned Rhodes in the context of the other Universities insofar as its ratio of students to staff was concerned. Both speakers capably elaborated on Dr Henderson's earlier remarks and the gravity of the situation.

#### Infrastructure

Dr Smout said that an obvious avenue would be to increase student numbers, taking them up by some 400 - 600 to a level with which our present infrastructure can adequately cope. This falls considerably short of the figure which would solve our problems, however, and Dr Henderson and his colleagues do not believe that we should seek to accommodate and then enrol up to some 6 000 students. Nor, said Dr Smout, will we arbitrarily reduce our staff complement by some 32%, to achieve parity with the average position of other historically white universities.

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#### Staff numbers to reduce - from page 1

"Perhaps, he suggested, "an initial goal of increasing student enrolment by 10% while lowering academic staffing levels by a similar figure over a reasonable period would be a good place to start."Increasing the infrastructure (to accommodate even greater numbers of students) would be too costly, Dr Henderson added, "nor do we want to become just another undistinguished, medium sized university. Such an exercise would deprive Rhodes of a particularly valuable competitive edge".

Another option is that of staff retrenchment. Dr Henderson and Mr Smith made it very clear that the University management is aware of the serious implications of this and the effect which such a step would have on University and staff members alike. He gave a categorical assurance that large-scale retrenchment would

be an absolute last resort.

He advised that it must be accepted, however, that staff numbers must come down in the short term but that there are ways other than retrenchment which need to be investigated first. Rationalisation, freezing of vacancies, early retirement and natural attrition all have a role to play. Staff in cognate departments can assist with teaching outside departmental boundaries and have done so in the past, Rationalisation of the teaching of common subjects in different departments can be implemented. This will lead to bigger classes and tutorial groups but this is something that we have to accept. Our ratios will have to change, but will be controlled to maintain that competitive edge.

Both Dr Henderson and Dr Smout have identified a major need for some innovative

Rhodos invites correspondence on all matters of concern to the University community. It is hoped that the contents of such letters, which should, ideally, not exceed 200 words in length, will

indicate the wide spectrum of views held and will promote further discussion. A pseudonym is acceptable, so long as you also supply your full name and traceable address to the editor, who will

and aggressive marketing of the University, to prospective fee payers and students, to corporations and other bodies who might invest in contract work and sponsored research and also to existing and potential providers of financial support in other spheres. Director of Public Relations and Development, Mrs Annette Clifford-Vaughan advised the meeting that much is happening in this area. An early result is expected to be the coordination of all marketing-related activities under one marketing umbrella.

The meeting provoked some lively questioning and ended fairly late. All present left with no doubts as to the implications of the current circumstances, however. But, Dr Henderson reiterated, it is not the time to panic and be rash; creativity and innovation are needed.



#### Letters to The Editor

"Boarding school authoritarianism"
The Editor,

We the undersigned note with dismay the impact of the recent privatisation of Kaif.

For many of us, both as students and as staff, it has been through the years a vibrant meeting place, which, while not quite *haute cuisine*, at least offered a wide variety of competitively priced snacks and meals.

This is no longer the case. Choice of lunch is restricted with boarding school authoritarianism to one unappetising meal a day, and supper unthinkable. The consequence of this Dickensian menu has been to reduce the conviviality of the venue, as a meeting place, to that of the inside of an empty Spoornet container.

Like a graveyard, our once proud cafeteria has become the dead centre of campus. No longer can the student or teacher of social science regard this as a prime spot for observation of dynamic human interaction. Instead one is reminded of High Street on a Sunday morning during the Christmas vacation.

As old students and present staff, the more sensible and restrained amongst us are concerned at the strong attraction a programme of rolling mass action has for some of our more alienated colleagues. We urge the authorities to act before it is too late.

Viva the old Kaif and the new South Africa!

(Letter signed by Monty J Roodt and 14 other people) The letter on the left was referred to Posh
Nosh c.c., prior to publication, for comment.

The manager of Kaif has replied as follows:

The Editor,

respect confidentiality.

In reply to Monty Roodt et al, I would like to comment as follows:

Prior to doing so I should state that I am a former Rhodes student of recent vintage and that I am familiar with the situation in Kaif prior to its privatisation.

To state that the menu has in any way been reduced is completely inaccurate. In fact this could not be further from the truth. I have retained 90% of last year's menu items, scrapping only those which have proved to be bad sellers. Further to this, I have added items too numerous to mention, most of which have been met with considerable enthusiasm. The net result of this is that the current menu has been expanded by approximately 20%.

To answer the meal of the day question, it must be clearly understood that my business is in no way subsidised by the University or any other structures, related or unrelated. To this extent, any current or future actions in any sphere of the business must be considered in terms of viability studies conducted on the basis of food cost against predicted sales. The previous management was never concerned with this matter and this is clearly reflected in the substantial trading loss that was incurred for the University.

To place some clarity on the situation, my brief from the University was that prices should be market-related and that "the customers will vote with their feet". To say that Kaif resembles the inside of a Spoornet container is insidious at the least. At 09h00 on a cold Monday morning this week, there were no less than 50 people willingly subjecting themselves to the bleak grave yard that Kaif has become. Further, a snap poll was conducted amongst these poor souls which elicited comments such as 'well done, laddies', 'great improvement' and so on.

This survey is available for inspection.

On a more serious note, the final paragraph of this letter concerns me. This is no more than a veiled threat. What has motivated this puzzles me. I have had no comment from any of the signatories other than by means of this letter. Surely, if the situation is as dire as they make out, then they would have brought this to my attention in some other way? The writing of this letter would, if the 'reasonable person' test is applied, seem to be a last resort action. However, this is the first complaint of any nature that has been submitted. In fact, there has been nothing but praise from the students for this establishment, so much so that I have been informed that this has been mentioned in Council meetings.

Further, it concerns me that I have never seen any of the signatories in Kaif, yet they appear to comment on the state of the establishment with such authority. For their information, I can advise that our trading hours are as follows:

Kaif: 08h30 - 21h00

09h00 -19h00 (Sunday)

Day Kaif: 08h00 - 21h30 (Monday to

Saturday)

Perhaps they could find some time to inspect the object of their barbed assault, though they might have to fight their way through the throngs of miserable students unwillingly detained at this miserable place!

Mark Musson, Manager

# **Botanical artist honoured by Rhodes**

During the graduation ceremony held in East London earlier this month, the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (honoris causa) was awarded to Mrs Auriol Ursula Batten, "artist, botanist, ecologist and museologist", in the words of the Public Orator, Prof Malvern van wyk Smith.

She has served East London and its province for almost half a century in many ways. In 1947 she launched a pottery course at the East London Technical College, and, in 1952 she was drawn into the ambit of the East London

Born in Pietermaritzburg, Dr Batten spent her first quarter-century in Natal, where she also acquired and developed her early interests in botany and art. She was married in 1942 and moved to East London in 1945.

She is remarkably well known as a botanical artist. In what is perhaps her best known and most sumptuous book, *The Flowers of Southern Africa*, she ascribes her interest in art and botany to two inspiring teachers: "Painting flowers had always been my greatest delight since as far back as 1928, when I came under the influence of a dedicated art mistress, Miss Elsie Currie", she said. She adds, in her book, that "an equally dedicated botany mistress at

the Girls' High School in Pietermaritzburg introduced me to *The Flowering Plants* of South Africa. Completely enchanted by the wonderful combination of art and botany" in this work, she says, "I resolved to become a botanical artist".

Dr Batten's remarkable career and an international reputation followed. She studied Botany at the University of Natal, and Art at the Durban Technical College. She has always remained both scientist and artist. "What makes her Flowers of Southern Africa more than just a superb

collection of illustrations of our flora is that each of the book's one hundred plates is a perfect composition in its own right: the floral subject, in spectacular colour and accurate detail, is set against a minutely pencilled background evoking a favourite setting or a memorable sighting - for instance, 'a damp, grassy hillside near the margin of the Kubusi Forest in the Stutterheim District' or - my own favourite - the spiky Berkheya purpurea found 'flowering along the roadside on Naude's Nek Pass, between Maclear and Rhodes, in late February"said Prof van wyk Smith. "It cannot surprise anyone that, with such professional care and personal delight displayed throughout the lext, Flowers of Southern Africa is regarded as an outstanding work of floral Africana, or that, as Auriol Batten tells me, a friend of many years' standing offered to scrub floors in order to get the book published", he added.

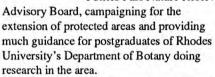
Dr Batten's international standing as a botanical artist has been confirmed by the award of the Gold Medal of the Royal Horticultural Society, and at least one species, the Albuca Batteniana, is named after her.

She has served East London and its province for almost half a century in many ways. In 1947 she launched a pottery course at the East London Technical College, and, in 1952 she was drawn into the ambit of the East London Museum, with which she has remained actively associated, not only as a hands-on assistant in contributing to its displays, but as a close associate of its former Director, Miss Marjorie Courtenay-Latimer, and a member of its Board of Trustees.

Last year the East London Museum honoured her with a retrospective exhibition that displayed her achievements in ceramics, water colours, oil paintings, and pen and pencil drawings. She has come to play a pivotal role in ecology and nature conservation, matters of personal concern as evidenced by her writing in *Flowers of Southern Africa*: ... 'spending a fair amount of time in the field, I had sadly watched the gradual and

inevitable destruction, due to industrialization and urban development as well as to agriculture, of the habitats of many of our spectacular wild flowers'.

"To the reversal of these processes she has devoted a great deal of time", says van wyk Smith. She was a founder member of the Border Wildflower Society which played a leading role in the proclamation of Potters Pass Nature Reserve, and she is still the Administrator of the Cape's representative on the Bridledrift Dam and Potters Pass Nature Reserve



For these and many other activities on behalf of the people of East London and the Border, she has been awarded the Citizens' Citation for Art and the Environment by the Mayor of East London.

"No one", said the Public Orator, "who has made his or her way through Auriol Batten's Flowers of Southern Africa will ever be able to look at our wild flowers in the same way again – from Plakkies and Vygies, the Wild Gardenia or Wildekatjiepiering, to Snake Lily and Satynblom, Douwurmbossie and Disa uniflora, indeed, everything from Aasblom and Blushing Bride to Bobbejaanuintje and Zantedeschia aethiopica, better known as Arum Lily or Varkblom. Her ability to open our eyes, inform our minds, delight our senses, and protect our heritage makes Rhodes's honouring of her today as much of a reward for her as a privilege for us".



Dr Auriol Batten

### Critical shortage of Psychiatrists

Psychiatry is in a state of transition and is moving rapidly to become more relevant, more humane, more transparent and more accessible, said Prof Aubrey Levin during the course of his inaugural lecture, Whither Psychiatry in our Changing Society?, delivered at Rhodes last week.

"Locally, psychiatry has been a bit of a 'blind spot'", he said, "to health bureaucrats in the Eastern Province who have regarded the funding and erection of hospitals as being enough of an investment in mental health. This is an outdated concept", he claims. "The critical shortage of psychiatrists in the area, where there is currently one practitioner per 500 000 people, needs to be urgently addressed. The international norm, even for developing countries, is one to ten or twenty thousand people." There has been gross neglect in the field of psychiatric services in the Eastern Cape, he added.

#### Large percentage of sufferers

Psychiatric disorders are ubiquitous, said Prof Levin. "More than 20% of the population of the United States suffers from psychiatric disorders. Less than a quarter seek help. In South Africa the percentage of the population which suffers is greater; it is probably in excess of 30%".

"Unfortunately there remains doubt, fear and ignorance about the efficacy of modern psychiatry. Its public image is reminiscent of the mental asylums of the 1940s, offering no hope. But, since the 1950s, psychiatry has undergone a radical transfiguration with the development of the first new 'miracle drugs', that have opened the doors of the psychiatric hospitals to patients" This has resulted in the number of chronically ill patients dropping sharply, with their treatment shifting to outpatient clinics and general hospital care.

#### 'There must be more psychiatrists.'

The new emphasis on fundamental human rights of patients in South Africa must result in the present system of involuntary committal being replaced by voluntary care, he said. Treatment for all must become cost effective and be scientifically based, he added. "There must be more psychiatrists."

Prof Levin completed MB CHB and MD degrees at the University of Pretoria and specialised as a psychiatrist at Wits. He was a post-doctoral visiting fellow in psychopharmacology at St Bartholomew's Medical Hospital in London and one of four South African members of the International College for neuropsychopharmacology. He has worked as principal psychiatrist at Addington Hospital, clinical head of the Oranje Hospital in Bloemfontein and head of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of the Orange Free State.

# NI RUSA

Rhodos welcomes the new publication rusaforum, but whether as a sibling or a parent, we're not sure!

This because *Rhodos* grew out of an earlier publication distributed by RUSA, the Rhodes University Staff Association, which is responsible for the new quarterly.

It has been launched, says RUSA
Chairperson Dr Gina Buijs, to cater for a need identified in the response to RUSA's survey of members which was sent out earlier this year.
"More than 54% of those who responded agreed that RUSA should launch its own publication", she says, "and that it should be used to stimulate debate about key issues facing the membership."

Rhodos will continue to publish news and information from RUSA; we note that in excess of 78% of the members agreed with the statement 'I always read RUSA articles in Rhodos.' RUSA will continue to provide us with material for this purpose.

The new publication will be able to consider matters of importance to RUSA members in far more depth and detail than would otherwise be the case, however. With its editorial space able to be entirely dedicated to such matters, rusaforum will concentrate on bringing full details of issues of concern to its members; these are of necessity covered somewhat peripherally in Rhodos. The first edition, apart from reporting in depth on the results of the survey, explains thoroughly the procedures to be addressed when applying for a car loan, discusses collective bargaining and labour relations on campus and has some information from NEHAWU, the National Education, Health and Allied Workers Union. There is also a very readable article by Catherine Knox, of the Department of Journalism and Media Studies.

The first issue of the new publication was launched earlier this month at RUSA's office in the Drostdy Barracks.

As the RUSA executive has yet to determine policy the current practice is to publish in any official language that is accessible to RUSA members. The editorship of the newsletter will depend in part upon the topical focus of the issue to be published.

#### **Recognition agreements**

Two members of the RUSA executive committee recently attended a meeting at the UDUSA head office in Johannesburg at which a draft working policy and information document on recognition agreements were discussed and formulated to be forwarded to the National Committee.

The initiative arose from the need to strengthen local support through providing guidance and to create a national resource centre and advisory service based at the UDUSA headquarters.

The topics covered on the agenda were selling the idea of a recognition agreement to members; the essentials and negotiation of a recognition agreement and selling the idea to management.

It is hoped that these documents, which will be available to all branches affiliated to UDUSA, will provide some expertise and ground work for motivating and entering into recognition agreements for staff associations.

Another aim is to develop local recognition to the extent that UDUSA as a national body will gain *de facto* recognition with government and university managements so that collective bargaining can be conducted more directly with these sources of resource.

#### **UDUSA Subcommittee**

Following extensive discussion and consultation RUSA has decided to establish a subcommittee dealing exclusively with UDUSA matters in order to allow UDUSA to operate more effectively at Rhodes. This subcommittee has been established to enable more policy

discussions so that important policy matters that affect both UDUSA nationally and at Rhodes are not side-lined. Policy discussions form an important part of UDUSA's work; recently UDUSA has responded to the ANC's proposals on Higher Education in their draft policy on Education and Training. Some of the issues raised here were: the expansion of the post-secondary education sector, adapting admissions policies, extended academic support and the role of universities in a New South Africa. Staff members at Rhodes should consider how these policy proposals will affect the way in which we operate.

The work of the UDUSA subcommittee will also include discussion of matters raised by the different working groups established by the Rhodes Summit. This is an important part of ongoing policy discussion at Rhodes.

Much of UDUSA's work involves examining and discussing employment practices. This is of particular interest and concern at the moment, with rumours of impending rationalization and retrenchments. UDUSA members need to become integrally involved in debating these matters. The subcommittee will provide Rhodes UDUSA members with a forum in which to raise these debates. RUSA-UDUSA will also need help discussing and drafting a recognition agreement and

Anyone interested in participating in the UDUSA subcommittee should contact Jenny Roberts on ext 8105/6.

informing people about such an agreement.



Catherine Knox, of the Department of Journalism and Media Studies, a contributor to rusaforum, with joint editors Temba Masilela and John Landman at the launch.

#### **New Car Scheme Conditions**

In recent years, due to the rapidly escalating prices of cars, junior members of staff have been having increasing difficulty in meeting the requirements of the car scheme.

Recognising this problem, RUSA approached the University Council which has agreed to set aside a sum of money on a trial basis for budget priced cars. This is in addition to the existing scheme which will continue in the usual way. The new scheme allows staff

members to purchase vehicles of any age, if there is an assurance that the vehicle is in excellent condition (this is different to the old scheme under which the vehicle had to be paid off by the time it was twelve years old). This assurance may be provided by means of an AA certificate or by a thorough inspection by the Rhodes vehicle maintenance workshops. The maximum amount that may be loaned under these circumstances is R 10 000 (under the old

scheme the maximum is currently R 45 000), and the maximum repayment period is four years (under the old scheme the maximum period is seven years, but subject to the twelve year age rule). As always, the funds available are severely limited and applicants should be prepared for a delay between their application and the loan being granted.

Contact Angela Jevons on extension 8144, (mornings only) for further information.

# Applied climatology an exciting new field

7irst and second-year Geography students, and some postgraduates through their attendance at seminars, have recently benefitted from lectures by a visiting professor from the University College of Swansea,

He is Dr Allen Perry, a senior lecturer in the Department of Geography

at Swansea, who specialises in climatology, and who is Chairman of the Association of British Climatologists.

He is particularly interested and involved in the phenomena of global warming and has been researching its effects for the past 25 years.

His five-week stay in South Africa represents Dr Perry's first visit to our country, but is a continuation of the close relationship which Rhodes and Swansea Universities have enjoyed since the 1960s. A former Swansea Principal,



Dr Allen Perry

Prof Robert Steele, and other staff members have visited Rhodes previously; the current Principal, Dr Brian Clarkson, as recently as February this year.

Rhodes' own resident Welsh professor, Colin Lewis, and Dr Perry were previously colleagues when both taught at Dublin University College, some years ago.

Dr Perry's lectures have concentrated on applied climatology. This is an exciting field and represents the identification of climatological influences which have effect on our daily lives. He has been particularly involved, in both Britain and the wider European Community, with road transportation. An example of the application of his science to the every day needs of modern man has been in the salting of roads, during conditions of icing. Data received by telemetry is transmitted by sensors built into roads - the so-called 'Night watch' system; trends in climatic circumstances are recorded and interpreted; an expected sequence of roads which will ice in freezing weather is drawn up and many other factors are all taken into account. Individual roads are subjected to thermal mapping. The evaluated results allow for more accurate forecasting and, says Dr Perry, considerable savings in manpower and materials can be achieved. "When one considers that it costs in the region of £ 30 000 to salt the roads in a single county on any one night, there are obvious benefits in knowing when one does not have to do this,

Another area which, in Europe, is benefitting from the research work with which he has been involved, is that of the whole field of recreation. So much of this occurs outdoors, and when one considers the huge monetary investments at stake, all information about climatic trends and expectations is invaluable, he says. Skiing is a good example. Would you invest millions in the infrastructure required by a modern ski-resort if you thought that some 20, or even 50 years later snow would be a scarce resource? he asks.

An exciting new development, which has significant potential for South Africa, is the application of climatic knowledge to the retailing industry's needs.

for a retailer to display for sale a whole range of products ideally suited to two or three days of balmy, sunny weather only to have the customers' demands totally unsatisfied because the weather has dictated different foods. Because retailers are increasingly reducing stocks, dressing shelves to the JIT (just in time) principal, they, too, need

all the early warning

which they can get."

Dr Perry says that the global warming effects are creating a need for an entirely new look at traditional data when scenario building, to which he likens his work. The years of recording climatic data are not relevant today, unless and until they are allowed to be influenced by the

changing base line. "Global warming has created this type of change", says Dr Perry," and the goal posts have moved." This is particularly true when one looks at climatic extremes. Tornadoes, hail storms and drought frequencies and intensities are good examples, he says. It can be expected that a hail storm such as was experienced in Grahamstown last November will occur again, he says. "But the fact that it may have been the first of such severity for a number of years does not mean that we can necessarily rely on an equal period of grace before the next one. This because a number of climatic influences which we may assume are constant, are such no longer. Global warming has changed the bases from which we work."

This has already proved its worth in Europe, says Dr Perry. "Retailing

is intensely competitive and it is an international norm that margins are

extremely small. Accurate stocking of supermarkets and their shelves, especially in the context of perishable foodstuffs, is critical. It is no use

A concern being more and more frequently voiced, that of the rising ocean levels internationally, is well founded, he says. And South Africa is not exempt. In Cape Town measurements have shown that the sea level has risen by a centimetre over the last 20 years. This is significant; "we are not looking at a fraction of a millimetre over half a century", he points out. There is some research, which was published in 1992 which looks at expected rates of rise in sea level along the Southern Cape coast. It makes interesting reading and suggests that retirement would be a little less stressful a few metres further away from the beach than current popular trends dictate!

Dr Perry has written four books and had some 70 or 80 papers published since he completed his PhD at the University of Southampton, where he had earlier gained a BA. His most recent book, published about two years ago is entitled Highway Meteorology.

He is enjoying his stay at Rhodes and looks forward to continuing the relationship between our Geography Department and his at Swansea. There are opportunities to be explored, he believes, in identifying joint projects for research, and occasions for reciprocal visits, in this very exciting and practical field of applied climatology.

Professor Colin Lewis concurs!

Rhodos, 31 May, 1994

<sup>\*</sup> S A Journal of Science 1992; An index to assess South Africa's vulnerability to sea-level rise.



On behalf of their colleagues, *Rhodos* is happy to welcome the following new members of staff to the Rhodes community. May your stay be long and happy.

to Khodes!		
Mrs T Barkhuizen	Secretary	Information Systems
Mrs M L Furlong	Admissions Assistant	Admissions Section, Registrar's Division
Mrs L Glass	Secretary	Students' Representative Council
Mrs D Junkin	Secretary	Music and Musicology
Mrs P Kruger	Admissions Assistant	Admissions Section, Registrar's Division
Mr J L Nel	Assistant Accountant	Finance Division
Mrs A Schultz	Assistant Bursaries Administrator	Centre for Social Development
Miss K L Wise	Admissions Assistant	Admissions Section, Registrar's Division
Mrs R L Anderson	Part-time Lecturer	Education
Mr M Aukett	Part-time Lecturer	Psychology (East London)
Mr A Barret	Part-time Lecturer	Accounting (East London)
Mr A Barnard	Part-time Lecturer	Education (Last London)
Mr C Bezuidenhout	Biology Tutor	GRATEP
Mr D Boucher	Part-time Lecturer	Psychology (East London)
Mr P Breetzke	Part-time Lecturer	Education
Mr P Capel	Part-time Lecturer	Psychology (East London)
Mr J Erasmus	History Tutor	GRATEP
Mr A Fielding	Part-time Lecturer	Psychology (East London)
	English Tutor	GRATEP
Ms N Hayes		Institute of Social and Economic Research
Dr K Higginbottom	Research Officer Part-time Lecturer	Education
Mrs H Holleman Dr S G Hosking	Assistant	Economics (East London)
	and the second s	Education
Mrs S Hummel Ms R E Johnston	Part-time Lecturer Junior Lecturer (English	Academic Development Programme
	Language Development)	OD 1 MINO
Ms R Judd	Biology Tutor	GRATEP
Mrs E Judge	Part-time Lecturer	Education
Mrs B Koekemoer	Part-time Lecturer	Education
Mrs L Kruger	Part-time Lecturer	Education
Mr G le Seuer	Part-time Lecturer	Psychology (East London)
Mrs G Lewis	Biology Tutor	GRATEP
Ms C McKinney	English Tutor	GRATEP
Mrs J Miles	Part-time Lecturer	Psychology (East London)
Mr M Mills	Part-time Lecturer	Psychology (East London)
Mr P Moller	Part-time Lecturer	Psychology (East London)
Mrs M Moore	Part-time Lecturer	Education
Ms P Ntutela	Research Assistant	RU Health Informatics Project
Adv T Paterson	Part-time Lecturer	Law
Mr N Perold	Part-time Lecturer	Education
Mrs L Pinchuck	Part-time Lecturer	Education
Mrs S Pyle	Part-time Lecturer	Education
Mrs M Quirk	Part-time Lecturer	Education
Miss G Raubenheimer	Junior Lecturer	Accounting (East London)
Mr J Rich	Part-time Lecturer	Psychology (East London)
Mrs L Rivett	Part-time Lecturer	Education
Mr A Rogers	Part-time Lecturer	Psychology (East London)
Mrs S H Roodt	Part-time Lecturer	Education
Mrs A Sandison	Part-time Lecturer	Psychology (East London)
Mr M Schafer	Part-time Lecturer	Education
Mrs B D Scott	Part-time Lecturer	Education
Mr P Silva	Part-time Lecturer	Education
Ms A Smith	Part-time Lecturer	Psychology (East London)
Mr L Victor	Part-time Lecturer	Education
Mrs D Wilmot	Part-time Lecturer	Education
Mrs M Woodstra	Part-time Lecturer	Psychology (East London)
Ms C Young	History Tutor	GRATEP
Mrs M D Battle	Academic Support	ISIDA (East London)
Ms T Bramsen	Library Assistant	Education
Mr M Fotoyi	Rugby Coaching Coordinator	ISIDA (East London)
Ms M Goodwin	Library Assistant	Education
Mrs S Joubert	Library Assistant	Education
Ms K Meistre	Library Assistant	Education
Mr C Michael	Part-time Assistant Sports Officer	Sports Administration
Ms N Miki	Secretary	East London Division
Mr C Rutanhira	Library Assistant	Education
Mr P J Wallis	Part-time Assistant Sports Officer	Sports Administration
M.C.A.W.L.	D. L. C. Li. C. III	ICIDA

Rugby Coaching Coordinator

Hermmann Olthaver Institute for Aeronomy.

Part-time Data Clerk

# Psychology now 20 years on

The Rhodes Psychology Clinic celebrates 12 years of service this year and has recently moved into its own building. However, the training of clinical psychologists and the associated consultative work, under the direction of the Department of Psychology, began almost 20 years ago when Prof Dreyer Kruger accepted the first postgraduate student in Clinical Psychology.

The Clinic, open to staff, students and the wider community, offers professional and confidential counselling. Most of this occurs on its own premises, but the clinical psychologists on the staff also consult with clients elsewhere, should circumstances so demand.

#### Valuable asset

While it is a separate unit functioning with a high degree of autonomy under Mrs Ann Jordan, its new Director, the Clinic is largely funded by, and remains an integral part of, the Psychology Department at Rhodes. "It is an extremely valuable asset", says Prof Chris Stones, Head of the Department. "Through being directly involved in the practice of Clinical Psychology our students gain exposure to the realities with which they will be presented in later professional life".

The Clinic and its work, together with its long standing relationship with the Fort England Psychiatric Hospital, are significant attractions for undergraduate, Honours and postgraduate students in the Department.

Master's students themselves consult with clients, although always under the close supervision of one of the SAMDC (S A Medical and Dental Council) registered practitioners on the staff.

#### **New initiatives**

The Psychology Clinic is one of five initiatives of Prof Stones' Department which have been identified in order that Psychology at Rhodes may enhance and entrench its reputation of high teaching standards and research. Others (which we hope to discuss in later issues of *Rhodos*) include a programme designed to explore the role of Psychology in the development of rural communities, the establishment of a PhD course in Psychotherapy for practising clinical psychologists, the creation of a separate unit for Industrial and Organisational Psychology and a thorough evaluation of all the existing programmes and courses. The Industrial Psychology route is a particularly exciting one to be explored, says Prof Stones. "It will bring us valuable and continuing contact with the private sector. There is opportunity here for the development of training courses for corporate practitioners; their implementation would raise funds for a stand-alone unit such as is envisaged".

Mr G A Weber

Miss L Williscroft

# New and original perspective on the Ciskei Xhosa

A new book written by a former Head of the Department of Journalism and Media Studies, Prof Les Switzer, was launched on May 20th in the Cory Library.

Entitled Power and Resistance in an African Society, it offers an original perspective on the Ciskei Xhosa and their significance in the making of South Africa.

Introducing Prof Switzer to guests at the launch ceremony, Prof Paul Maylam said that he believed that it represented the first historical work of its kind to have been written by an author alone, without collaboration.

Prof Switzer said that he had effectively worked on the book for some 14 years, ten of which were spent in this country. He is today a professor in the School of Communications and adjunct professor in the Department of History at the University of Houston. Two earlier works of his have been published, Black Press in South Africa and Lesotho, 1836 - 1976 and Media and Dependency in South Africa: A case study of the Press and the Ciskei "Homeland." He is working on a new book concerning the Alternative Press in South Africa.



Prof Paul Maylam (left) with Prof Les Switzer at the launch of the latter's new book.

# Vita nomination for Rhodes choreographer

A mixing of performing art forms, a healthy dose of inspiration and a large measure of sheer enjoyment have all combined to enhance the public profile of the Rhodes Drama Department. In the process, Head of Department Prof Gary Gordon was nominated for a Vita Award.

This nomination was for choreography in respect of two works done during the course of 1993.

To win a Vita Award is a prestigious honour and to be nominated for one, only slightly less so. Prof Gordon was one of eight nominees in this section, which was eventually won by Neville Campbell, of Zimbabwe.

The two works which provoked the nomination were On the Light Side of the Moon, and Surround her with Water. Both were performed before the judges in Johannesburg but On the Light Side of the Moon has been seen by theatre goers in Cape Town and at last year's National Festival of the Arts, in Grahamstown. On the Light Side of the Moon was performed by the First Physical Theatre Company the 'brand name' of the Rhodes Drama department. Surround her with Water represented a collaboration between Prof Gordon and Clare Baker, with whom he has worked in Britain, at the Laban Centre for Movement and Dance, in London.

The combination of this 'branding' of the performers with the distinctive nature of their current work — "a blend of Drama, Dance and Design", says Gordon, "has resulted in a most pleasing acceptance of the company by its audiences. This has extended to

a gratifying level of anticipation on the part of theatre goers who now look forward to productions in the knowledge of the quality and entertainment which they will witness."

Prof Gordon feels that there is a huge depth and extent of talent, in the performing arts, ready to bloom, in South Africa. With international links being re-established (Senegal and Mozambique will both be represented at this year's Festival) and a new mood of exploration and

discovery strong amongst producers, writers, choreographers, actors, musicians and dancers, he is excited about the future. A work which he choreographed last year for NAPAC, called *Travellers* was so well received that NAPAC are taking it to this year's festival in Basle.

All this impacts on the department, says Gordon. "We have to adopt and adapt", he says. "Tastes change and new theatrical experiences are sought by audiences. A mix of art forms; use of classical and contemporary music; new techniques: all these must be evaluated and brought into the mix. The department must keep abreast of all the factors

and remain capable of teaching, applying and researching them."

The work extends outside the immediate environs of the University. Prof Gordon has recently returned from a successful series of workshops presented to Eastern Cape schools in Port Elizabeth. His colleagues and their work provoked much interest in teachers and pupils alike. The First Physical Theatre Company was able to demonstrate and share its techniques. Andrew Buckland was on hand to explain his interpretations as performed in *The Tempest*. Poetry, acting, drama, dance and song were all there as ingredients.

Prof Gordon mentions with excitement the return to Rhodes of Lulu Khumalo, who will be seen during this year's Festival. During this period Andrew Buckland will perform for the company. David Alcock will be in evidence and so will the 'new voice' of P J Sabbagh, a 1993 Honours student. Gordon is working, as well, on a

1993 Honours student. Gordon is working, as well, on trilogy for the Festival at which the Department will present two programmes. We may expect some work previously performed as well as much that is new.

All this is, of course, a great opportunity for students to be exposed to the performing arts in the 'real world'. It enables them to balance artistry and its integrity with commercialism and its reality. Their laboratory is life itself.



Prof Gary Gordon

Rhodos, 31 May, 1994

# Vice-Chancellor's office exposed!

ake two redheads and one blonde", read the schedule on a desk in the Public Relations Division, "and install them in the Vice-Chancellor's office".

Worth further investigation, you will agree, and Rhodos' intrepid Pulitzer aspirant was despatched with alacrity to explore the potential of such a circumstance. With thoughts of putting the back page of the Sunday Times to shame, he proceeded.

It turned out that there was nothing sinister at all; the gender discriminatory and sexist terminology was no more than technical parlance concerning the setting up of lighting

by a television crew, prior to filming an interview with Dr Derek Henderson.

Staff and students on campus here and in East London, as well as the wider Grahamstown community, have seen the film crew hard at work during the course of this month, and have wondered why.

The crew are from Chroma Productions in Johannesburg and have been commissioned by the University to produce a documentary film

about Rhodes, its people, constituencies and environment. It is to be used primarily as a marketing tool in a major fund raising drive. The so-called Centenary Fund Appeal, which is to be launched on our 90th birthday, in September this year, will allow for ten years of marketing the University, locally and abroad while seeking donations for the establishment of a new library complex, in the Eden Grove

Rob Purdy, who is directing the production, is himself an Old Rhodian.

When complete, the video material will be edited and two or three programmes produced, each addressing their subject in different ways, according to the intended audiences.

Copies will be made for a variety of uses over the next few years. Some will be sent overseas, where Old Rhodian coordinators will screen them at functions and get-togethers. It is anticipated that one will be broadcast on television early in September; Grahamstown will only see it, however, if the NNTV channel's signal has reached us by then. It is likely, though, that Public Relations and Development will arrange screenings on both the Grahamstown and East London campuses.

Filming has provided a valuable opportunity for Graham Hayman's students from Journalism and Media Studies. Some have been seconded to the crew for the duration of its visit. They have learned a great deal, says Graham, and have enjoyed the experience immensely. There is a measurable degree of reciprocity, for the students have earned their keep as members of the production crew; setting up redheads and blondes, among other

Other students, from the Department of Drama, have been involved as actors.



Rob Purdy (left), director of the documentary being produced for Rhodes with colleagues Tim Chevallier (lighting cameraman) and Dave Cohoe (sound technician). Theye are seen here while filming in the Electron Microscope Unit.



Penn A Line is away from Grahamstown. On Occasion will be published again next month, after his or her return.

# **Reward Offered**

#### For the use of your spare bedrooms during Festival

Festival Bed and Breakfast is the leading organisation marketing accommodation in private homes during Festival. Its bookings come through the Festival Booking Kit and the many Festival guests who have been well looked after in the past.

Hosting Festival guests is fun and well remunerated; you have the opportunity of making friends and profit

If you have spare accommodation available, turn it into profit.

Call now! Merrill Baxter - 2 4603 or Tony Johnson - 2 2589 (office hours)

FESTIVAL BED AND BREAKFAST

### **Any Questions?**

The Sasol National Schools Science Convention will again be held at Rhodes this year, during July.

One of the items again on the programme is a science quiz, for which between 80 and 100 questions are needed. If anyone would like to submit questions (with answers!), these will be gratefully received by the convenor of the quiz, Dr Sirion Robertson, at the School of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

#### RHODOS STAFF

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RHODOS is produced monthly by the Public Relations and Development Division of Rhodes University, Grahamstown. The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor, Rhodos staff, or the University. The Editor welcomes all contributions but reserves the right to edit these.

# New approach to Contextual Theology

Traditional healers and theologians would not, to the general public, seem to have much in common, but this is not the case in the Department of Divinity.

The Revd Larry Kaufmann has recently joined the Department in the field of contextual theology.

Contextual theology operates on the principle that all theologies are contextually different from one another. We interpret the scriptures within the context of the environment in which we live.

"Since social analysis is an important component of contextual theology, I shall be drawing on the expertise particularly of the social science departments of the university. Another aspect of contextual theology is the fact that it is a community effort and for this reason I need to be involved in local churches, youth groups and so on. The idea is to feed into the Divinity Department insights gained from the theological reflection of ordinary Christians and thus create a theological dialogue", said Revd Kaufmann.

"The old missionary approach of converting people and simply replacing their old values with a new Christian system has been rejected. A contextual theological approach today respects and tries to develop gospel values already present in a culture. Instead of being 'pearl merchants' – selling their product – ministers of the gospel need to see themselves as 'treasure hunters' - finding ways that God is already at work in societies', he said.

Revd Kaufmann was born in Pretoria. He studied for the priesthood at John Vianney Seminary and at the University of Kent at Canterbury. He completed his post-graduate degree in systematic theology at the Catholic University of America, Washington DC, in 1983.

He was a lecturer in systematic theology at St Joseph's Theological Institute, Cedara, from 1984 to 1989 and then joined the Institute for Contextual Theology where he worked part-time until 1992. He is at present completing a



doctorate in contextual theology at the Lateran University in Rome.

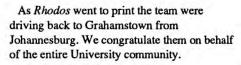
#### Rhodes rowers excel

The Rhodes coxless four have enjoyed an excellent European tour, representing South Africa with distinction in three events.

Andrew McLachlan, Jeremy Ashton and Luke and Grant Hartley make up the South African team. They have, during the course of May, competed in international events in Belgium and Germany, collecting a gold and a bronze medal in the process.

The team won in Belgium, at the Ghent International Regatta, beating Belgium, the Netherlands and Great Britain and recording a time, well within the Olympic qualifying standard, of 6 minutes and eight seconds.

They moved on to Duisberg, in Germany, where they picked up a bronze medal, finishing after the United States and Russia. Their final outing was at the Duisberg Regatta, in Germany, where there were 21 entries, dictating heats prior to the final. Our South African team found themselves drawn against current world champions France and last year's silver medallist, Poland. The heat was won by Great Britain in 6 minutes and four seconds. Poland came second, France third, a second team from Great Britain fourth and Germany fifth. South Africa in sixth place (but only 4 seconds behind the winners and in the same time - 6'8" - which they had achieved in the first regatta) did not therefore make it



#### ISER studies gender relationships

An interdisciplinary study undertaken by the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER) has shown that water shortages and the migration of able-bodied workers to the cities has led to the virtual cessation of agricultural activity in some areas of the Ciskei.

The ISER is researching gender relationships in the rural areas of the former Ciskei. The project is titled Gender, Household and the Environment in Rural Ciskei and will run for six months. It is part of a multinational interdisciplinary project coordinated by the Institute of Southern African Studies at the University of Lesotho which is funded by the McArthur Foundation in the United States.

It investigates the implications of "betterment" schemes on the environment in the former bantustan. These schemes involved the re-organisation of rural land-use practices and the centralisation of formerly scattered residences. "The ISER believes that there is an urgent need to document the nature of household activity more fully, and to communicate these findings to planners and decision makers so that the mistakes of the past can be avoided and future planning for rural development facilitated", said the project leader, Dr Robin Palmer.

#### CSD receives large donation

The Centre for Social Development (CSD) at Rhodes University, Grahamstown has received a R 25 000 donation from the ABSA Foundation in support of the self-help and development programmes mounted by the CSD for the disadvantaged people of the Grahamstown area.

In addition, ABSA have made the services of its training department available, through its branches in Grahamstown, to assist with the development of individuals at the CSD.

The Director of the CSD, Mrs Thelma Henderson, said that she hoped that promising students could be assisted with employment opportunities and business experience during university vacations.

Mrs Thelma Henderson (3rd from right),
Director of the CSD, receives the large
cheque from ABSA's Regional General
manager of the Eastern Cape region, Mr M F
Capazorio. Members of her staff are also in
the photograph, as are some of Mr
Capazorio's colleagues, Messrs I J Hovey,
Regional Manager of the Border sub-region,
J D van den Heever, Manager of the Allied
Bank in Grahamstown and J D van Reenen,
Regional Manager for Business development
of ABSA in Port Elizabeth.



# from computing services.



Welcome to what will hopefully become a regular contribution from Computing Services. For those who still don't know, Computing Services has been formed by combining the existing Computing Centre with Electronic Services, but excluding Administration Computing. Cyber operations and systems, networking, user support (including PC support), Unix and NOVELL system administration and electronic services all fall within the ambit of Computing Services.

The major aim of this restructuring has been to improve service to the University community. This column will go some way towards meeting that aim by providing information which may be difficult to find by any other means. We will be using it to keep you abreast of what is happening in computing at Rhodes, in particular by providing regular updates on new or improved facilities and/or services. We hope you will also find it useful when requiring help by providing the latest contact information for the services we provide.

Finally, we would like to welcome queries or suggestions from you, responses to which will be published in future editions.

#### Academic and Research Computing Facilities

Many users are probably unaware of the range of computing facilities available, where to obtain help, or who to approach for advice on hardware and software purchases, to name just a few examples. This is a subject too big to do justice to in a column of this nature. Users should refer to the document Academic and Research Computing Facilities at Rhodes University, obtainable from the Computing Services secretary in room 105 of the Struben Building. The following topics are covered:

- \* microcomputer facilities courses offered
- PC software multiuser system facilities
- obtaining access to our facilities
- supported packages: how to obtain help
   Other documents available include:
- Basic computer literacy and DOS
- \* WordPerfect 5.1 introduction
- \* WordPerfect 5.1 advanced features
- \* Quattro Pro introduction
- \* Pegasus
- email (electronic mail) An introduction to the Kermit communications program
- \* Unix on the SUNSparc introduction
- Beginners guide to elm (electronic mail) and nn (news)

#### Supported Packages

While Computing Services will endeavour to assist users with their preferred choice of software, the sheer volume and diversity of packages available makes it impossible to provide comprehensive support for them all. For this reason, we have identified the most popular and suitable packages for various requirements, and have undertaken to concentrate our support efforts on them. The major advantage of this to you is that there will usually be someone capable of helping when the need arises.

Users considering the purchase of software packages should contact Academic Support for advice before a purchase is made.

Users who experience difficulties with support should contact the Director, by mail or on extension 8279, or via email to director@ru.ac.za. Without your feedback, whether positive or negative, it is very difficult to see where improvements can be made.

#### Help available on Novell and Unix

We have recently installed an online help system with a limited set of help files, which will be expanded as time permits. To access this facility, enter 'help' at the Unix system prompt, or select the help item from the giraffe or warthog menu.

#### World Wide Web

The World Wide Web (or 'web') is a distributed hypermedia system, first started by CERN (the European Laboratory for Particle Physics). An enormous amount of information on every subject is available on the web, which is accessed by running a 'browser' program. The browser reads documents, and can fetch documents from other sources on the network. In addition to normal text, images, sounds and animations are also supported. Computing Services has set up such a server, the first in Africa. In addition to the local information provided, hypermedia links exist to all other servers world-wide. The web provides a basic graphical user interface (like MS-Windows) to the internet, giving point- and-click access to almost all internet services.

Currently accessible through the web:

- \* anything served through gopher
- \* anything served through WAIS
- \* anything on an FTP site
- \* anything on Usenet
- \* anything accessible through telnet
- anything in hytelnet
- \* anything in hyper-g
- \* anything in techinfo
- \* anything in texinfo
- \* anything in the form of manual pages
- \* sundry hypertext documents.

The following browsers are available locally:

- lynx (for plain ASCII text users on hippo and kudu)
- xmosaic (for X-Window users on hippo and kudu)
- \* cello and mosaic (for MS-Windows users)
  For help on running an appropriate browser,
  contact Academic Support.

To find out more, use the web!

#### International Link News

The speed of our line to the USA was recently upgraded to 128K bits per second (approximately 13000 characters per second). As the South African end-point of this link is still here at Rhodes, we are lucky enough to be in a position to take full advantage of this increase in bandwidth. UNINET-ZA internal link speeds are still operating at a maximum of 64K, so this remains as an upper limit at all other sites. Plans are underway to also upgrade these internal links.

#### Weekly Mail

The Weekly Mail is now available on the net. Each edition is emailed to subscribers every Friday morning. If you have a credit card, you can subscribe immediately also by using email. For more information, retrieve the subscription information file using:

FTP: connect to: wmail.misanet.org

username: anonymous

password: your-email-address (eg.

ccdw@kudu.ru.ac.za)

filename: /pub/wmail/subs or email your enquiry to:

wmail-info@wmail.misanet.org

Don't forget, submit your queries via email to director@ru.ac.za.

Contact information: director@ru.ac.za or tel: extension 8279

support@ru.ac.za or tel: extensions 8280, 8286, 8233, 8288

systems@ru.ac.za or tel: extension 8284

An online version of this column is available on our WWW server.

The URL is: http://www.ru.ac.za/rhodos.html

#### WordPerfect site licence

The University has re-negotiated the site licence with WordPerfect which allows users to buy new copies of WordPerfect products for around R 75,00.

Present users with legal copies of WordPerfect products can upgrade them to the latest version for around R 40,00.

There is a widespread misconception about the way in which the site-license scheme works. It does NOT entitle anyone to install WordPerfect on all the computers in your department. Each copy on each computer has to have been ordered via the Rhodes buying office. It also does NOT entitle you to install a copy on any computer bought privately by you. The copyright is explicit in this regard.

In future, PC Support will only hand out copies of the distribution disks if we get a copy of the IDO used to pay for the site license copy. The distribution disks are the property of Computing Services but may be copied for backup purposes. The distribution disks are in high demand and can therefore only be loaned out for a few hours at a time.

Departments wishing to purchase manuals can do so through the Buying Office. A full set of manuals costs approximately R 280,00. There are also useful books available at local book shops. If you have any queries, please contact Tracey Chambers or Janet Carr at Ext. 8288.

# Delegation from Libreville

Three senior officials from the International Centre for the Bantu Civilisations (CICIBA), based in Libreville, Gabon, recently spent some time at Rhodes during a visit to South Africa.

While here their visit was coordinated by Penny Silva, Director of the Dictionary Unit for South African English. Accompanied by Mr Mike du Toit from the cultural section of the Department of National Education, the visitors were led by the Director General, Dr Vatomene Kukanda, who is from Angola. The other members were Dr Mukumbuta Lisimba, from Zambia, and Dr Pierre Dandjinou who hails from Benin. All three work at CICIBA's headquarters in Libreville.

CICIBA is a Pan African centre of research, documentation, communication and cultural activities. It was founded in 1983 to conserve, promote and preserve the real values of the Bantu civilisations and the common cultural heritage of the languages and culture of the Bantu people. Different sections deal with archaeology, linguistics, oral traditions, ethnomusicology, culture, museums, traditional medicine and other areas. The organisation enjoys support from both the Organisation of African Unity and UNESCO.

While at Rhodes the group visited the History

department, where Dr Lisimba gave a seminar. They also saw the INSET teacher training project at the 1820 Settlers' Monument. Andrew Tracey's International Library of African Music was on their agenda, as was the Dictionary Unit, whose database provoked a high level of interest and Penny Silva was able to give them electronic and printed data to take away with them. They were particularly excited by the extent to which Bantu languages have influenced South African English. Dr Pierre Dandjinou is CICIBA's computer expert and was most interested, not only by the computer usage at the Dictionary Unit, but also by Rhodes' Computer Services Division. Francois Jacot-Guillarmod was able to show

inkup when he returns to Libreville.

He and his colleagues also visited an ostrich farm, spent a night at Hogsback, and visited the Xhosa Dictionary Project at the University of Fort Hare before returning home via Pretoria.

much of the potential of the Internet and e-mail

services to which Rhodes has access and Dr

Dandjinou is determined to explore a similar

The trio has found South Africa an exciting country and are enthusiastic about the dynamism which they experienced. People in Gabon were excited when they heard of their pending visit, they say. There is much to explore, they feel, particularly in the context of a possible African economic community. They are determined to maintain the contacts which they have made on this visit and are negotiating with the Department of National Education to get South Africa to become a CICIBA signatory. Currently, the organisation has ten member countries.



Seen with Andrew Tracey during their visit to ILAM are, from left, Dr Vatomene Kukanda, Mr Pierre Dandjinou and Dr Mukumuta Lisimba

## Grahamstown's best, says music licentiate

Totally addicted to Grahamstown ranks high if you ask Kay Isted to describe her feelings.

This former music teacher who is still, at the age of 70 something, appearing as an accompanist on regular occasions, has the distinction of being the first student to ever obtain a licentiate in music from Rhodes.

Born in Prieska, NW Cape, where she underwent her early schooling, she remembers well her days on our campus as a student and later, a teacher of music.

"But when it first came my time to study", she remembers, "I couldn't enrol at Rhodes. You see, I knew that I wanted to study music, and Rhodes had no music department at that time".

Thus it was, as Miss Kay de Villiers, that she enrolled at the Grahamstown Training College, which institution did offer the subject. This was as an extra subject for in the same year, 1938, she commenced her degree course at Rhodes, as a first-year BA student.

The very next year, however, Rhodes established its Department of Music, under the direction of Dr 'Fritz' Hartmann. He was an Austrian, as were both his successor and the current incumbent, Prof Norbert Nowotny.

Mrs Isted added to her BA curriculum, which she completed in 1940, continuing her study of music through UNISA.

Marriage and military service took her away from Grahamstown to Cape Town, where she remained for 12 years, the wife of a naval officer. She was subsequently divorced and joined her family in Hermanus, teaching at a local school.

In 1957, at her mother's urging, she tried to enrol for her UED diploma through Stellenbosch, because she had become determined to teach music. This fell through and so she returned to Grahamstown and Rhodes which had offered her admission to the diploma course and, importantly, residential accommodation. "I was in Milner House", she

remembers, "which was an 'open' residence. This meant that there was a mix of residents; some students, some townsfolk; some post graduates. We ate in St Mary Hall".

Her UED behind her, and still determined to teach music, Kay Isted contacted the Education Department for a position. She was offered but two; as a teacher of Latin by one school and of English by another. It was with some pleasure, therefore, that she finally received and accepted a position with the Training College to teach, if not music to aspirant instrumentalists, then music to prospective teachers.

She spent 16 very happy years there and is remembered by many teachers who qualified in Grahamstown but taught in places far removed; throughout the continent and overseas. A year before the Training College closed, in 1975, she left and joined the staff of Victoria Girls' School. Insofar as the teaching of music was concerned, VG at that time did not staff the senior and junior schools separately and so she taught her subject to all age groups.

In 1980, she retired - formally that is!
Since then she has taught at almost every school in Grahamstown; she spent 18 months at Rhodes as well and has appeared as an accompanist on many occasions. She is familiar with most of the church and school organs in town and remains in popular demand on 'high days and holidays', playing at weddings and other occasions.

She has a flatlet in New Street and, if you pass by at the right time, you may well tarry with other townsfolk and listen to her piano. It's not that far removed from one of her memories; the occasions when both she and a piano were installed on the Great Field before rugby matches. She played and the crowd sang. Perhaps she should return; the rugby teams would enjoy more vociferous support than has been their lot recently!

Rhodos, 31 May, 1994



#### Tuesday 31 May

Joe Parker. Comedian and singer in a new show. Tickets available from Paul Davies, Sports Administration Old City Paint Discounters, 18h30

#### Sunday 5 June

Sportsman's Steak evening, Bring your family and friends for the best steak in town. Sports bar, from 18h00

#### Monday 6 June

Film Premiere: Schindler's List. In aid of Child and Family Welfare. His Majesty's Theatre, 18h30

#### Friday 10 June

Research seminar.
Department of
Biochemistry and
Microbiology. Guest
lecturers: M Logie and

Zoo lecture room 01.16h00

#### Saturday 11 June

C Nxomani

Rugby: Rhodes 1st XV, Ist reserves, 2nd XV, U21A vs Crusaders/ Tech. U21B vs Despatch Great Field, from 12h50

#### Tuesday 14 June

Royal Society of South Africa, East Cape Branch. Shellfish for Africa? Exploitation and management of intertidal resources on the Wild Coast. Public lecture by Arthur Dye, Professor and Head of the Department of Zoology at the University of Transkei. 19h30, Biological Sciences Building.

#### Friday 17 June

Rugby: Rhodes 1st XV, 1st reserves, 2nd XV vs Uitenhage Great Field, evening

#### RHODOS DEADLINES

Copy Date 20 June Publication Date 27 June

#### PROTHEUS CONSULTANCY

Offers POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS assistance with proofreading and presentation of theses / dissertations at very moderate rates. Tel: 31 1515 all hours or call at 133 High Street.

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#### HOME OFFERED

Family home offered to a male puppy who is going to grow up into a medium to large sized watchdog. Phone Michael at ext 8457 or 32 0372 (a/h)

#### FOR SALE

Immaculate 1988 Golf II (white). One owner; only 77 000 kms; factory fitted air conditioner; full service history. R 21 000. Tel 8232 or 2 3129 (a/h).

#### FOR SALE

Defy Twinmaid washing machine. As new. Received as a gift. R 950,00 onco. Phone Mike on ext 8204

#### VGS POTJIE DAY

Come and join us for a day of fun and games at Victoria Girls High School on 31 May 1994 beginning at 10.00 am. Enter your secret recipe - super prizes! If you're working, join us for lunch! TV's will be available to ensure that you don't miss the Comrades Marathon.

#### TO LET

Town house. Mosdene Close (convenient for Kingswood or Graeme). Unfurnished; three to four bedrooms; two bathrooms; bics. From end July. R 1 200,00 per month. Tel 8232 or 2 3129 (a/h).

#### FILM PREMIERE

SCHINDLER'S LIST. Premiere in aid of Child and Family Welfare on 6 June at His Majesty's at 19h30. Includes cheese and wine from 18h30. R 10,00 per ticket available from Brian Peckham, Law Dept. Tel 8427.



#### FOR SALE - PROPERTY

Private Sale, Grahamstown; Somerset Heigh Attractive facade, lovely view - 3 B/R, large main-en-suite, study with recess for BIC., 2n bathroom and shower, sep toilet. Lovely lour with knotty pine ceilings and Jetmaster fireplace, large dining room, fitted kitchen a scullery. D/Garage, servant's quarters, laundry. Armed response alarm. Price R 195 000. Tel 2 2542

#### CALLANETICS

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#### YOGA

GRAHAMSTOWN SCHOOL OF YOGA Classes are held on Mondays, Wednesdays a Thursdays at our new venue, the Albany Museum. Further enquiries: Kathy at 2 390 Jane at 2 7842

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