



# RHODOS

STAFF NEWSLETTER

31 JULY 1998 VOL 10 No12

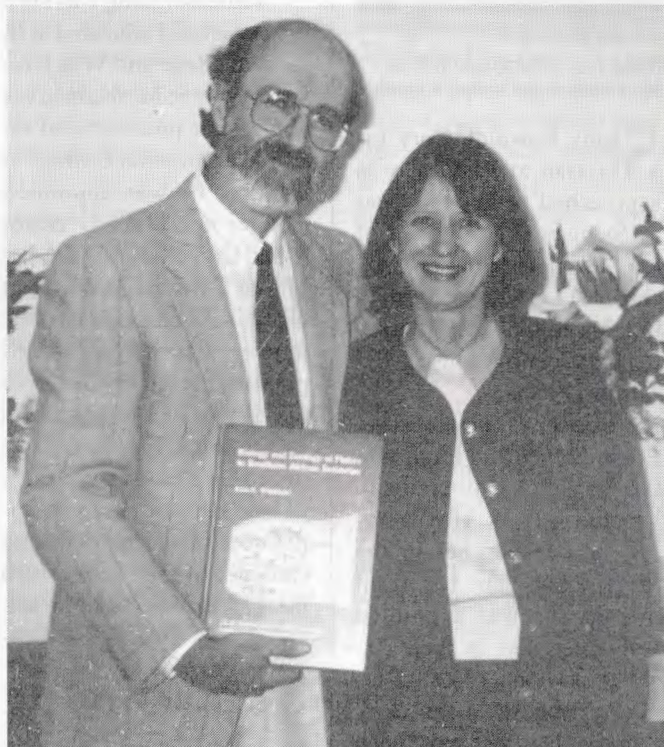
## First of its Kind for Africa

The book *Biology and Ecology of Fishes in Southern African Estuaries*, written by Dr Alan Whitfield of the JLB Smith Institute of Ichthyology, was recently launched at a cocktail party at the Institute.

In his book - the first of its kind for Africa - Dr Whitfield, one of South Africa's foremost estuarine ichthyologists, has detailed our present state of knowledge on the biology and ecology of estuarine fishes.

For Dr Whitfield, the publication of this book is a major milestone in his career. "I see this book as an attempt to synthesize and interpret all current information on the fishes from southern African estuaries, thereby contributing to the conservation and wise management of these valuable ecosystems. Previously the estuarine fish literature was only accessible by reading a wide variety of scientific papers, reports and theses. Although the book is aimed primarily at students, lecturers and specialists in ichthyology I have avoided scientific jargon wherever possible, thus making the information accessible to any interested individual."

According to Professor Paul Skelton, Director of the Institute: "Its publication is timeous as estuaries are undergoing unprecedented development and degradation from human activities. It will take all the skills and knowledge available to society to conserve these precious environments."



Dr Alan Whitfield, Deputy Director of JLB Smith Institute of Ichthyology and author of the book *Biology and Ecology of Fishes in Southern African Estuaries* with his wife, Elspeth, at the launch of his book.



## Alty Award

Jonathan Lancaster, Deputy Registrar, recently received an Alty Award for successfully passing the Qualifying Examination of the Public Accountants' and Auditors' Board in March. Alty Awards are given to staff members who obtain higher degrees.

Seen at the awards ceremony were Dr Steve Fourie, Registrar, Jonathan Lancaster, and the Vice-Chancellor.



## Cory Training



*Tiisetso Pitso, Documentalist from the Morija Museum and Archives in Lesotho.*

**S**andy Rowoldt, Cory Librarian at Rhodes, was approached earlier this year by Stephen Gill, Director of the Morija Museum and Archives in Lesotho, requesting training in the Cory Library for his Documentalist, Miss Tiisetso Pitso.

Miss Pitso completed her BA in French and English at the National University in Lesotho in 1995. After working as a researcher in the Morija Museum for eight months she was appointed Documentalist in their Archives in October 1997. During her month in the Cory Library Miss Pitso has gained hands-on experience in the processing of private archives and manuscripts and has been working on Cory's extensive and valuable Amy Jacot-Guillarmod Collection, which has a strong Lesotho content. She has been analysing the documents and has been learning basic conservation techniques under the watchful eye of Sandy Rowoldt and the Cory team.

"I believe it is of great significance that Mr Gill selected Cory for Tiisetso to continue her training. It represents an endorsement of the methods and policies in operation in the Cory Library and strengthens the existing links between Cory and the Morija Museum and Archives," Ms Rowoldt commented.

## Top Scientist visits RU

**A** recent visitor to the Chemistry Department was David A King, Professor of Physical Chemistry and Head of the Chemistry Department at Cambridge University.

Professor King was born in Durban and educated at St Johns College and Wits University where he obtained his PhD. After post-doctoral research at Imperial College in London, he was appointed lecturer at the newly established University of East Anglia at Norwich. While at Norwich he obtained the DSc degree and was then appointed Brunauer Professor of Physical Chemistry at Liverpool University. In 1988 he joined Cambridge University, where he was recently appointed Master of Downing College. In 1991 he received the highest accolade in sci-



*Dr Ron Cosser of the Chemistry Department (left) with Professor David King of Cambridge University, UK.*

ence - being elected a Fellow of the Royal Society.

As author of numerous publications and editor of a comprehensive series of books on heterogeneous catalysis he has established an international reputation for his research into surface chemistry, in particular the gas-solid interface.

Following his appearance as a 'Keynote Lecturer'

at the recent South African Chemical Institute Convention in Durban he made a lecture tour including UCT and WITS. While at Rhodes he presented a lecture entitled *Heterogeneous Catalysis: from a Black Art to a Hard Science*, and renewed contact with Professor Mike Brown and Dr Ron Cosser, both of whom know him from student days.

## Schools Research

**P**reliminary research conducted by Professors Vivian de Klerk and Barbara Bosch, which focuses on local English-medium schools, indicates that there is a fairly steady drift of Xhosa and Afrikaans speakers into English schools. Interviews with the parents of these children reveal a strong desire to provide them with access to English since they see English as the language of the future, and the language "for success". This trend has serious implications for the status and future viability of local indigenous languages.

Professors de Klerk and Bosch of the Department of Linguistics and English Language worked together on the



*Prof Vivian de Klerk, Head of the Department of Linguistics and English Language.*

research of *The Power of English in the Eastern Cape*, a paper that Prof de Klerk presented at a conference in Washington State, USA.

Prof de Klerk has recently been elected chairman of the Provincial Language council of the Eastern Cape, with the task of ensuring that South Africa's new language policy is effectively implemented in the Eastern Cape.

## GADRA AGM

The Grahamstown Area Distress Relief Association (GADRA) Annual General Meeting will be held at the Grahamstown Public Library Hall on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> August 1998 at 17:15. All welcome.

## Useless Information...

Did you know that the US interstate highway system requires that one mile in every five be straight? These straight sections function as airstrips in times of war and other emergencies.



# HMS Name Change

Changing from Human Movement Studies to Human Kinetics and Ergonomics - why?

Over the years, we at Rhodes University have aimed to offer something special in the exciting and challenging field of the analysis of human movement.

Humans move at work, at play and on the sports field all their lives. Indeed, movement is an integral part of everyone's life. In an attempt to understand the complex eclectic nature of *Homo sapiens* it is necessary to draw on a wide array of cognate disciplines such as anatomy, biomechanics, chemistry, physiology, psychology and computer science to name but a few. As *kinesis* is Greek for motion, the changed name of the department encapsulates the academic discipline which focuses on the scientific investigation of human movement.

In order to understand how and why people respond to different circumstances one must establish a rigorous knowledge base which can then be applied in various situations. Although there are many fields where this information is applicable, the three broad areas covered in the undergraduate programme at Rhodes are Ergonomics and Sports Science, together with General Health and Rehabilitation.

However, with a growing awareness of the demanding working conditions in South Africa there is a clear need for Ergonomics, the analysis of the human in the working environment, and therefore the main emphasis (but not exclusively) of the post graduate programmes offered in the Department of Human Kinetics and Ergonomics at Rhodes is Ergonomics.

# Khula Project Launched

Science teachers in Grahamstown will benefit from an ambitious teacher enrichment programme which was recently launched at Rhodes.

The Khula Project/Lucent Scholars Programme, which ran for four weeks, is aimed at improving the standard of science education in the Eastern Cape through the professional development of current science teachers.

Speaking at the opening of the project, Dr Woods said that a programme aimed at upgrading science education was exciting as this field was currently lacking in South Africa. Dr Woods said that the upgrading of the standard of maths and science education was one the challenges facing this country. He added that in most South African universities, the science faculties were under-used, mainly because students were not adequately prepared for

careers in science and technology.

Rhodes, as well as other education institutions in the Eastern Cape, will play a leading role in the implementation of the Khula Project/Lucent Scholars Programme.

The project uses the technological muscle of Lucent Technologies and the academic expertise of Rhodes, UPE, Fort Hare and Rutgers University, USA. It is the product of a two-year working relationship between Lucent Technologies of South Africa, the State of New Jersey and Rutgers University's Camden campus. The idea to establish the project was initiated by the Rutgers University-Camden Office of the Associate Provost for University Outreach, through the Council for Southern Africa.

In co-operation with the staff of Rhodes University, UPE and University of Fort Hare as well as the South Af-

# SAAG Conference

The Southern African Association of Geomorphologists (SAAG) held its biennial conference in Grahamstown at the end of June. The conference was organised by the SAAG council, with Prof Kate Rowntree and Evan Dollar of the Geography Department, as convener and conference secretary respectively.

The conference opened with a session on Environmental Change which looked at the geomorphological impacts of climatic change, particularly over the last 50 000 years or so. Keynote addresses were given by Prof Mike Meadows of UCT (formerly Rhodes) and Prof Geoff Petts of the Department of Geography, Birmingham University, UK.

The winners of the SAAG Certificates of Excellence, an award given to the students who produce the best Honours dissertation on a geomorphological topic, presented their works at the conference. Catherine Gray

of the University of Cape Town, the 1996 winner, presented a paper on *Characterising the Namaqualand mudbelt: chronological palynology and palaeoenvironments*. Alex Shaw, also of the University of Cape Town and the winner for 1997, presented a paper on *Palaeoenvironments in the headward vicinity of Dias beach, Cape Point, South Africa*. Current or recent post-graduate students presented ten of the thirty scheduled papers. Prof Rowntree commented that it was encouraging to see so many active young researchers.

The conference stressed the need for basic research into distributions of geomorphological phenomena and process mechanisms. Furthermore, the results of this research must be made accessible to environmental managers to guide environmental conservation and rehabilitation programmes.

rican Ministry of Education and about 20 high schools in the Eastern Cape, the Khula Project will augment the science and mathematics skills of scores of selected teachers in the Eastern Cape during a three-year period.

According to a newsletter issued by Rutgers University and Lucent technologies, teachers will be able to share their newly-acquired skills with their students through Lucent Labs which will be established in participating schools. "The laboratories will affect thousands of school children in the Eastern Cape Province by stimulating and sustaining their interest in science and maths throughout their academic years," the newsletter stated. Participating uni-

versities will also have their own Lucent Labs which will be used in the education of the next generation of teachers.

Dr JW Whitlow Jr, of Rutgers University said that he hoped that the "ground-breaking" project would be the basis for more interaction and communication between his institution and its South African counterparts. Dr Jaap Kuiper, Senior Lecturer in the Education Department, said that the project would enhance co-operation between the involved parties. He said that the exchange of ideas and equipment was important for the development of what he termed "a community of science teachers in Grahamstown".



# Cancer Research

Dr Cheryl Sacht of the Department of Chemistry recently spent five weeks study-leave in Australia. She spent the first few days in Brisbane visiting colleagues at Griffith University and the University of Queensland, where she was invited to present a research seminar. She then went to Sydney where she spent a month in the Chemistry Department at the University of Sydney working with Professor Trevor Hambley and his group. Funded by the Commonwealth Science Council and the Foundation for Research Development, the purpose of her stay was to gain practical experience in molecular biology techniques and computer modelling.

Molecular biology and computer modelling are techniques that are being used increasingly in the field of bioinorganic chemistry – Dr Sacht's area of research. Her group's research focuses on the design and synthesis of new compounds for potential use as chemotherapeutic agents.

"Our main focus to-date has been the preparation of platinum-containing compounds. This is not unique as one of the leading anticancer drugs used today contains platinum. This anticancer drug, known by its generic name *cisplatin*, does, however, have several drawbacks, such as severe toxic side-effects, the fact that many tumour cells develop a resistance to the drug and in that it cannot be used to treat tumours that are responsible for the major share of cancer mortality today, eg breast and colon cancers," said Dr Sacht.

Numerous studies are being carried out by scientists world-

wide to try to understand why and how *cisplatin* works in the body, while other researchers are designing and synthesising new platinum-containing chemotherapeutic drugs that will hopefully overcome the above-mentioned drawbacks of *cisplatin*. The latter forms the main objective of Dr Sacht's research.

"Apart from preparing new platinum-compounds we are also investigating how these compounds would behave in the biological cell. Since DNA is believed to be the major cellular target for anticancer drugs we need to investigate how these compounds will interact with DNA and the biological consequences of these interactions. Molecular biology provides useful methodologies for studying these drug-DNA interactions, while the computer modelling is used as a visualisation tool, to allow one to see how the drug may bind to DNA at the molecular level," she said.

"The time spent at the University of Sydney provided me with the opportunity to learn these new techniques and at the same time carry out experiments on our own compounds. The results of these experiments were most informative and exciting, as it was the first time we had studied the interaction between our compounds and DNA. These new techniques will be most useful to our work and I hope that it won't be too long before we can get the equipment so that we can continue to do the experiments here," said Dr Sacht.

Overall Dr Sacht felt that her short stay in Australia was extremely beneficial and worthwhile. "It also provided me with the opportunity to meet other researchers in my area, to discuss and exchange ideas and initiate collaborative research."

## Long Service Award

Mr Harry Mcuba has completed 25 years of service to the Chemistry Department. In commemorating this occasion, Professor Mike Brown spoke of Mr Mcuba's outstanding loyalty and reliability in his post of Technical Assistant in charge of the First-year Laboratory. Professor Brown recalled an incident, typical of Mr

Mcuba's dedication, that occurred before the additions to the Chemistry Building when a strong wind during the lunch-hour started to loosen roofing sheets and Mr Mcuba, on his own, did all that he could to stop further damage. The Vice-Chancellor presented Mr Mcuba with a cheque and illuminated certificate.



Pictured above are Harry Mcuba with Professor Mike Brown of the Chemistry Department, and the Vice-Chancellor.

## Cultural Studies Conference



Louise Green, Research Fellow at the Institute for Study of English in Africa (ISEA) recently attended the Crossroads in Cultural Studies second international conference in Tampere, Finland.

Ms Green presented a paper entitled *Filming the Invincible Body*. Looking at popular action heroes Van Damme and Swartzenegger, she discussed the place of the body in late twentieth century, seeing these swollen-musclled super-hero bodies as a symptom of the way in which the body is no longer able to find a place within the new technological universe. In an increas-

ingly global culture, which idolises technology and efficiency and even violence, the individual body has been transcended. The films articulate the curious uneasiness of bodies, which are machine enough to survive in this environment yet, contradictorily, still human enough to embody the viewers fantasies and desires.

Sociologists, historians, anthropologists, political scientists, literary theorists, journalists, film and media studies specialists and educationalists from 38 countries gathered to discuss a wide range of topics all crucial to understanding late twentieth century culture: the effects and uses of the internet, the effects of global politics and global culture on local experience, nationalisms and identity politics.

"There were so many sessions that it was almost impossible to decide which ones to go to," Ms Green commented. "I loosely followed the series of sessions on Constructing Indigeneity since this seemed to me a crucial question for South Africa to come to terms with."



## Digital Imaging Workshop



A digital imaging workshop was recently hosted by the Electron-Microscopy Unit.

Fifteen people, mainly from commerce, attended the workshop presented by Andy Yarwood, Applications Specialist at JEOL UK Ltd. JEOL are the suppliers and manufacturers of electron-microscopes of which the Rhodes Unit has 3. According to Robin Cross, Director of the Unit, "Last year's workshop was such a success that we had to run another one as a result of demand!"

## Volcanological Congress

The International Volcanological Congress was recently held at UCT and was attended by four members of the Department of Geology: Dr Ian Skilling, Professor Goonie Marsh, Dr Jeff Wilson and Dr Alan Rice. This is the premier international conference for volcanologists.

Dr Ian Skilling, whose main research interest is the volcanological aspects of magma-water interaction, chaired a symposium on peperites (mixed magma-wet sediment rocks) and presented a paper on peperites in the Eastern Cape. He was elected as co-leader (with Dr James White of the University of Otago) for the next four years of the Commission on Volcanogenic Sediments of the International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earths Inte-

rior (IAVCEI). He also co-lead a pre-conference field trip to the Lesotho border area with Professor Marsh. Dr Skilling will present some of his recent volcanological research at a Royal Society of South Africa lecture (at Rhodes) on the 26th August, entitled *Mixing with Volcanoes*.

Professor Marsh, a member of the organising committee, presented an opening address on Karoo Volcanism and co-lead two field trips. Dr Wilson presented a joint paper with Drs Ferre and Sheets of the Department of Geology, on the emplacement and mineralisation of the Bushveld Granites. Dr Rice gave a talk entitled *Explosive Volcanism: Can the Industrial Experience with Exploding Melts Lend Understanding?*

Obie Oberholzer's display "Now and Then - pictures from the 70's and 90's" is open until the end of August. Rhodes Alumni Gallery, Albany Museum.

## Amsterdam Conference



Marius Vermaak in Amsterdam where he attended the 4th International Conference on Argumentation in June.

Marius Vermaak, Head of the Department of Philosophy, attended the Fourth International Conference on Argumentation at the University of Amsterdam in June. 250 papers were presented by various linguists, philosophers, logicians and lawyers.

Mr Vermaak presented a paper entitled *On Conversational Constraint* which considers whether rational argument is possible under circumstances of deep disagreement. Very relevant to a deeply divided society like

South Africa.

"The conference was invaluable to get an up-to-date view of the state of the discipline and to establish contacts," Mr Vermaak said. "Solid contacts were made with Canadians who are leaders in this particular field."

Amsterdam has a long history of tolerance for rational and critical argument. In the 17th Century Descartes, Spinoza and Locke published their works, which were unthinkable elsewhere. Good use was made of the city, keynote speeches were given in the Old Lutheran Church, sessions were held in the Oudemans-huis-poort, the oldest part of the university. Receptions and cocktail parties took place in the Amsterdam Historical museum and the Doelenzaal (closely connected with Rembrandt's famous 'Nightwatch' painting). The conference will be held again in Amsterdam in 2003.

The Rhodes Philosophy Department has played a leading role in the development of the study of argumentation in South Africa.

### VC's Distinguished Teaching Award

Shortlisted for the above award for 1998 are:

*Professor T Hecht of the Department of Ichthyology and Fisheries Science*

and

*Mr W Snowball of the School of Languages (both of the Grahamstown campus).*

In terms of the procedures governing this award, all interested parties are encouraged to attend the third term lectures of the abovenamed. It is suggested that you liaise directly with the candidates to ascertain lecturing timetables.

Constructive input is then encouraged and any comments may be lodged with Mr Patrick Phillips in the Personnel Division (email adpd@giraffe) by the end of the third term.

The final selection for the recipient of the Award will be made early in the fourth term.



# At War with Words

Stuart Theobald

The III South African National Debating Championships was recently held on the Rhodes campus, running concurrently with Schools Festival. With 28 teams competing in both English First Language and English Second Language sections, a total of 9 tertiary institutions from four countries, locked horns in a battle of critical thinking, charisma, humour and argument.

The III edition has been the biggest yet and included, for the first time, institutions from beyond South Africa's borders. The Championships were sponsored by Deloitte & Touche whose generous contribution allowed participation of far more teams.

For the first time ever, a Rhodes team, consisting of Donna Kipps (who will be representing Rhodes at the World Championships in Manila at the end of the year) and Eusibius McKaiser reached the finals of the Championships. They were joined by two teams from Stellenbosch University and one from the University of the Witwatersrand before an audience of 600 school children and National Championship participants in the Monument Theatre. The honours were taken by Conrad Kemp.

In addition, Stuart Theobald (tournament director) and Angela Bull (president - Stellenbosch Debating Society) held vibrant work-



The Rhodes team of Philip Sigsworth (Chairman), Donna Kipps and Stuart Theobald

shops with school children in the techniques of critical thinking and "baloney detection". The response has been overwhelming and it seems that a number of school debaters are heading to Rhodes just so that they can join Rhodes Debating!

The organisers would

like to thank all of the staff of Rhodes University for their extensive help with the Championships. You can be sure that almost 100 participants have left Rhodes with a glowing impression of the campus and the people who make it work.

## AES Convention

Dr Richard Foss, Senior Lecturer in the Computer Science Department, recently attended the Audio Engineering Society (AES) Convention held in Amsterdam.

The AES Convention is a twice-yearly event that is held in a European capital in May, and in a North American city in September/October each year. It is a large event, usually attracting 14000 visitors, and serves as a platform for the presentation of research and development in the field of audio engineering.

Dr Foss presented a paper entitled *From Sequencer to IP - routing MIDI over Longer Distances* which formed part of the Broadcast and Multimedia session. He said that, as with all AES conventions, there was a huge exhibition area with about 300 manufacturers displaying their wares. "Many of the re-

search personnel in these companies present papers, and it was really useful to see and hear their final products in the exhibition area," he said.

Of particular interest was the Fraunhofer Institute from Germany who displayed their latest MPEG audio compression software. "Two of my students are currently using this software in web-based audio applications - one to send African Music from the ILAM archives to people around the world, the other to transmit readings of books to visually impaired people at remote sites," said Dr Foss.

In general, multi-channel sound as well as the transmission of this sound over networks were the main focuses of the convention. A panel-based workshop was held with some of the world's most famous classical and popular studio engineers.

The AudioEngineering Society plays an important role in setting up international standards for the transmission of audio and audio control information. Protocols created here have application in sound systems for airports, stadiums, exhibition areas, theme parks, etc.

"Following the AES convention and standards meetings I paid a visit to the Amsterdam Library for the Blind. The South African equivalent to this library is housed in Grahamstown. All the blind libraries currently distribute books and study material in the form of audio cassette tapes, and all are faced with the imminent extinction of this medium. A consortium, known as DAISY, has created a computer program for the reading and storage of books onto CD-ROM. I was shown this process in Amsterdam, and on return created a CD-ROM 'talking book' together with the staff at the South

African Blind Library. I have started a project to extend this talking book concept to the internet. I have a student who is creating talking books on a server which can be 'read' via any computer linked to the internet," said Dr Foss.

The Music Department is currently installing a small studio and computer-based training laboratory. With their needs in mind, Dr Foss visited two training studios in Amsterdam and Vienna. Both were part of a large international training consortium known as SAE. The head of this consortium suggested that Rhodes might work with them, create a South African training facility technology course-work.

"This was a multi-faceted trip, and although the main purpose was to share my current research, I returned with a wealth of information applicable to a number of on-going projects," said Dr Foss.



# FROM RUSA TO NTESU

Roger Southall, Chairperson,  
NTESU (Rhodes) Executive  
Committee

Some few weeks ago the NTESU Exec sent out two forms to all members of the Academic and "Non-Academic" staff, whether or not they were members of RUSA and /or UDUSA. These were first, a membership form for the National Tertiary Education Staff Union; and second, a Payroll Deduction Authority. As there seems to be some remaining confusion concerning what this is all about, it is probably worth going over some old ground.

RUSA, during the latter years of its existence, became affiliated to the Union of Democratic University Staff Associations. However, for a number of reasons, UDUSA opted to transform itself into the National Tertiary Education Staff Union. Amongst other things, this would mean that - as a union - this would enable academic and support staff to take full advantage of the benefits and rights now extended by the Labour Relations Act of 1995 and by the very changed labour relations environment.

At its last meeting, RUSA decided to transform itself into a branch of NTESU. In making this decision, the Executive was instructed to ensure that in managing the transition, full care be made to protect RUSA's financial assets from being taken over by NTESU national. It must be said that NTESU national has never suggested that it wants to get its hands on our money! But we are in the process of establishing a Trust anyway!

One advantage of the Act is that it requires employers to enter negotiations concerning recognition. This was particularly appealing to RUSA, as about some two years previously the RUSA Exec had presented a draft recognition agreement to the University. This, inter alia, sought to formalise what rights of representation RUSA should have, and likewise sought to establish and formalise disciplinary

# Economic Equality?

Should people be concerned about economic equality or just sufficient economic resources for their own needs?

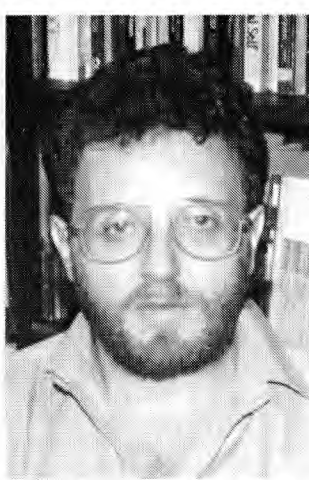
This was the question tackled by a senior lecturer at Rhodes University's Political Studies Department, Dr Tony Fluxman, during a British Political Studies Association conference held at Keele University, Britain, earlier this year.

In his paper, entitled *A Critique of the Doctrine of Sufficiency*, Dr Fluxman evaluated the doctrine of sufficiency as proposed by philosophers such as Harry Frankfurt and Alexander Rosenberg, who are against the egalitarianism of contemporary liberal philosophers such as Rawls, Nagel, and

nary and retrenchment procedures and so on. Unfortunately, the University had failed to come back to RUSA, and it seemed to RUSA that it was in the position of being consulted only when the University found it convenient to do so. However, by becoming a branch of NTESU, the former staff association now assumed a bundle of rights granted by the LRA. These included the right to insist that the University negotiate with it about a recognition agreement.

NTESU is now in the process of negotiation with the University's Labour Relations Committee, and we hope that at the end of the day, increased rights of staff representation will have been recognised, and that the University will be required to consult and negotiate with staff over matters that concern them in a way that it has not had to do before.

One comment I have had is that "NTESU is now trying to run the University". Far from it, and 'No thank you'! What sort of things are we talking about? Well, mostly they are



Dr Tony Fluxman of the Political Studies Department

Dworkin. According to the doctrine of sufficiency, what should matter to an individual is not how much he/she has relative to others, but whether he/she has enough for herself.

Although reducing economic inequality might be an important mechanism for raising everyone up to the level of sufficiency, it has no moral significance of its own

rather mundane; in recent weeks we have made representations to the University about such matters as: maternity leave, the manner in which contracts should be terminated, staff involvement in the academic and non-academic review procedures, the need for some peer review of promotion applications, and so on. We have also suggested to the University that there is a need for some regularisation of contracts (which at present vary immensely). And of course, we are presently particularly concerned to ensure that, if any retrenchments take place, that the University implements retrenchments fairly and according to the due processes laid out in the LRA. And yes, we do think it is appropriate that the University begin to spell out the principles upon which it determines how much retrenchment pay will be paid to the unfortunates who lose their jobs.

All in all, there are immense advantages to our becoming a branch of NTESU, and we believe that it will prove to the advantage of the University also.

right.  
Dr Fluxman raised certain problems with this view. Firstly, he argued that what we desire is often a reflection of what others have. "We become aware of the possibilities through comparison with what others have, and this affects our self-esteem as well as our level of satisfaction. Secondly, the doctrine of sufficiency seems to cut against intuitive ideas about justice. It tends to legitimise the subsidisation of people with expensive tastes by those who have moderate desires. So it is correct to say that concerns about economic inequality have no moral importance in their own right.  
Dr Fluxman also attended interesting sessions which covered topics such as Liberalism and Civil Society; Utilitarianism and Rights; and Marxism and the Environment.

In times when the University is facing much tighter financial circumstances, staff being asked to tighten belts and make more efforts and sacrifices will feel happier if they feel they have adequate rights of representation.

However, the process of transition does require that even existing members of RUSA fill in BOTH those forms. And the higher the membership we can obtain, the more rights we will be accorded under a recognition agreement, and the more ability we will have to protect staff interests. So please, if you haven't yet filled in those forms, please obtain one from Amber Wicks in the NTESU office (phone 8144; email rsaw@giraffe) or ask any member of the Executive.

And just to remind you, the Executive for this year is:  
Mary Allen, Trevor Amos, Glyn Armstrong, Gary Baines, John Landman, Paul Maylam in Grahamstown, and:  
Ruan van der Walt, Sandy Sparrius, Sean Coughlan in East London.



## Classifieds

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Invites YOU to a

Water Celebration Day of **Fun and Games**

**Date** 10th August 1998

**Time** -10:00 am

J.D.Dhlepu Stadium -soccer and netball matches

**Time** -2:00pm

Nombulelo High School - a variety concert

Bands !! Choirs!! Stories !! Dancers!!

Singers!! Speakers! Soccer Netball



### Advertising Rates

Advertising rates for Rhodos are:

SMALLS: 30c per word; DISPLAY ADS R3-50 per column centimetre

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## Visitor to Economics

The Deputy Governor of the South African Reserve Bank, Timothy Thahane, will visit Rhodes as a guest of the Department of Economics on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August.

*All interested persons are invited to attend his address on Monetary Policy and related issues.*

*The presentation will cover the role of the Reserve Bank in the current environment of volatile capital flow and flexible exchange rates.*

*This presentation will take place in the Council Chamber at 18:30 for 19:00. For seating purposes, please RSVP to Brenda Erasmus on ext 8301 or email [ecosec@sable](mailto:ecosec@sable).*

## DCS Oosthuizen Memorial Lecture

### Professor Denis Davis

Professor of Law at the University of Cape Town (and presenter of the television programme *Future Imperfect*) will deliver the annual

### DCS Oosthuizen Memorial Lecture

on Thursday 13 August 1998

at 19:30 in the

Arts Major Lecture Theatre

***"The New Nationalism: is there a future for South African universities?"***

All who are interested are invited to attend  
Tea will be served in the Senior Common Room after the lecture

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## Founders Day Ball



Date: 12 September

Time: 19:00 for 19:30

Venue: Hugh Chapman  
Memorial Dining Hall

**Live Band!**

**Spot prizes to be won!**

Tickets: R50-00 per person,  
available from Shelly Samuel  
in the Marketing &  
Communications Division  
603 8520 or email  
[ados@warthog.ru.ac.za](mailto:ados@warthog.ru.ac.za)