



RHODES UNIVERSITY

CORY LIBRARY
FOR HISTORICAL RESEARCH

STAFF NEWSLETTER

RHODOS

18 APRIL 1997
VOL 9 NO 6

The importance of professional development

The new quality assurance system proposed by the National Commission on Higher Education is highlighting the importance in higher educational institutions of ongoing professional development.

Changes in national policy and direction, as well as a changing student profile at Rhodes have prompted the initiation of a programme which offers academic staff the opportunity of improving their professional teaching practice through study, reflection and research.

Together with the Masibulele College of Education (Whittlesea) and Border Technikon, the Academic Development Centre (ADC) at Rhodes is engaged in a partnership with the



Mrs Nomathamsanqa Tisani and Mr Phil Collett (right) of the ADC with Ian Mitchell (left) and Peter Cronk (second from right) of the University of Southern Queensland.

Department of Further Education and Training at the University of Southern Queensland (USQ). The partnership aims at developing a programme of professional development activities to be used in these three Eastern Cape institutions and beyond.

While the ADC at Rhodes is already in the process of initiating a five module staff development programme, there is no established academic development structure at either of the other two institutions.

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FNB Vita and Rhodes University Drama

present the 1997

FNB Vita Dance Umdudo



Four Programmes of Contemporary Dance

**24th & 25th April at 7.30pm
26th April at 2pm and 7.30pm**

Rhodes Theatre, Grahamstown

Tickets: R10/R7.50 or R12/R9.50 (door price)
Telephone bookings (0461) 24931 9am-12pm

More than ever before

A record number of 16 PhD degrees will be awarded from the Science Faculty during the graduation ceremonies this weekend.

The average number of PhD's in Science over the last few years has been about 13, a number far greater than in any other Faculty, and the latest crop will help to boost that average.

Commenting on this, the Acting Dean, Professor Pat Terry, remarked that "this was only to be expected of the

Faculty which a national survey last year had shown to be the most productive in per capita research output in the country" The PhD's cover a wide range of subjects: Chemistry, Zoology, Computer Science, Botany, Entomology, Ichthyology and Biochemistry.

The number of MSc degrees to be awarded, 27 is also a marginal record, the average over the last few years being about 25 and the Faculty performance, even at

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New Trustee sought

The Director of Personnel, Mr B M H Smith, has called for nominations for the vacancy of Alternate Trustee (Employees') to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Rhodes University Pension Fund and the Rhodes University Provident Fund.

Nominations must be in writing and signed by at least two members of staff qualified to vote as well as by the nominee who must indicate acceptance of the nomination. A brief CV of the nominee must be included.

Nominations must reach Mr Smith by 12 noon on Monday, 21 April. If more than one nomination is received, an election will be held.

Thanks for the response

Through the columns of *Rhodos*, the Vice-Principal, Dr Michael Smout, wishes to thank all those members of the Rhodes Community who contributed towards the University's response to the Green Paper proposals on the transformation of higher education. Their timeous and appreciated input, he says, enabled the response to be filed before the 15 March deadline.

The nature of the Universe

My theology, briefly, is that the Universe was dictated but not signed.

Christopher Morley

The importance of professional development

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"The eventual aim of such a programme is to ensure a consistently high standard of teaching for an increasingly diverse and growing student population," says ADC Director, Mr Phillip Collett.

Mr Peter Cronk, of the University of Southern Queensland, has spent three weeks at Rhodes and its partner institutions participating in a needs analysis and detailed planning for further phases of the project.

"We've interviewed key people on the staff at all these institutions and have surveyed a broad range of staff and students. This has helped us to determine the present quality of teaching at these institutions as well as the professional development needs of these teachers," Cronk believes.

"We hope to develop workshops and courses which will eventually earn credit towards higher education teaching qualifications, as is happening in other parts of the world," added Collett.

A central part of the project will involve participants from each of the

three institutions travelling to the University of Southern Queensland where they will undergo training in materials development for distance education.

"In addition to face to face communication as a mode of teaching we will also explore other modes of delivery such as distance education via the Internet," explained Mr Ian Mitchell of the Distance Education Centre at USQ, who also visited Rhodes for a short while.

Funded by Australian Aid and managed by the International Development Programme (IDP), this project is one of only 10 in South Africa selected for funding, and one of two in the field of education. 97 projects were considered.

The current programme of professional development at Rhodes covers topics including teaching methods, curriculum development, evaluation and assessment, student learning and information technology.

"There is a growing awareness about the need for this sort of professional training," says Collett. "It happens on a wide scale in industry and commerce; why not at universities too?"

Welcome to Rhodes



Mr Marvin Randall, who has been appointed to the Electron Microscopy Unit as Technical Assistant.

Heads of Departments (and Directors of Institutes and Divisions) are invited to forward details of new staff members to *Rhodos*, with a picture if possible, for use in our regular editions.

This will enable us to bring such appointments to the attention of their colleagues.

Staff promotions which occur from time to time are also of interest to readers and notification of these would be appreciated. Information should be forwarded to the Editor, in the Marketing and Communications Division.

Record number of doctorates

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lower levels, is equally impressive. "The number of Honours degrees awarded is consistently about 80% of the number of ordinary degrees awarded in the previous year," Terry adds. This year some 69 students will receive Honours degrees, 16 of them with distinction.

"Admittedly, not all of the Honours degrees are

awarded to students whose first degree comes from Rhodes," said Prof Terry. "We attract quite a number of students from other universities to do Honours, which probably more than compensates for the few BSc students from here who go elsewhere for post-graduate study. It is becoming very much the norm for scientists to regard a four year degree as the minimal acceptable qualification, and the international standing of our degree speaks for itself."

Staff pub closed tonight!

Dave's Den will not be open tonight (April 18th) due to the Graduation ceremonies being held today.



Many answers for CompSci students

A new text book on *Compilers and Compiler Generators — An introduction with C++*, written by Acting Dean of the Faculty of Science, Prof Pat Terry, has been published in Britain.

It aims to support a practically orientated course in programming language translation and combines theory, practical applications and the use of compiler writing tools to give students a solid introduction to the subject.

It comes with a comprehensive set of exercises and a diskette loaded with the necessary software.

Senior level undergraduates at Rhodes may expect to use the work, as will many of their peers throughout the world. It

should also be of use to honours students, says Terry.

The book is already familiar to many students, in an earlier edition. It has been used for three years. The new (February 1997) edition has, however, been extensively updated — "completely overhauled and practically orientated," Terry adds. "The content is highly accessible, providing a sufficient level of theory without overwhelming the reader with too much mathematical details," he believes.

The book has been published by International Thomson Computer Press and was handsomely printed in England.

Prof Pat Terry (right) with an early copy of his new text book.



Turbulent years' archives donated to Cory Library

Grahamstown-based East Cape News Agencies (ECNA) has presented "25 boxes of history" to the Cory Library for Historical Research.

The boxes contain the thousands of news stories produced by ECNA journalists over the last decade and represent a record of the turbulent years from the close of the eighties to the beginning of the 1990's.

Journalists like Frans Kruger, now national news editor of the SABC, and winner of the Ruth First Award for Courageous Journalism, Louise Flanagan, have all contributed to this historical record during their time at the agency. Amongst their writings are such investigative coups as those surrounding the Matthew Goniwe killings and the detention of Arnold Stofile.



ECNA News Editor, Mr Mike Loewe, described the collection as "history on the front-line" whilst Cory Librarian, Ms Sandy Rowoldt, welcomed the donation, saying: "this collection covers an extremely important period of our history, from 1985 to

1994, and we are very glad to receive such a significant and meaningful contribution. This collection is important both in terms of its subject matter and in terms of the type of journalism that emerged during the State of Emergency."

Pictured above are ECNA Editor Mike Loewe (left) and Cory librarian Sandy Rowoldt with one of the many clippings in the archive.

A 'life-changing' visit

Professor Felicity Edwards, of the Department of Religion and Theology, has returned from Egypt after a ten-day visit. She was a member of a delegation of theologians and lay people from the church in South Africa who had been invited by Pope Shenoda III, of the Coptic Orthodox Church, to meet with Coptic Orthodox clergy, monks and lay people.

Prof Edwards commented that the generous invitation again marks the fact that many former barriers are down and South Africa is part of Africa again.

The visit was organised by Professor John de Gruchy from UCT's Department of Religious Studies, together

with Dr George Malik of the Ecumenical Pastoral Institute.

The first half of the visit was spent at the Monastery of St Bishoi, in the Wadi al Natrun (the Western Desert) where a conference focusing on healing and monasticism was held.

"I gave a paper on Spirituality and Healing in South Africa and this generated a lot of interest because there are many similarities between African and Coptic spirituality," said Prof Edwards. "Visits were made to the other ancient desert monasteries in the area dating back to the 4th century, which were profoundly awe-inspiring."

After a day in Alexandria, which used to be a major learning centre for both Jews

and Christians, the delegation headed for Cairo where they were hosted by various church communities. They visited many historical sites and places of interest including the Sphinx and the Great Pyramids, the great Cathedral of St Mark and other historical churches, the Cairo Museum of Antiquities which houses the Tutankhamen relics, the Coptic Museum and a Coptic Orthodox project caring for homeless children in Cairo.

"We met amazing people and some parts of the visit were really life-changing," Prof Edwards recalls, "and the visit was a vastly enriching experience."

Phumeza Mgqashe



A rooftop view of the one of the monasteries visited by Prof Felicity Edwards in Egypt.

The Umdudo returns

The Eastern Cape's second annual festival of contemporary dance will take place later this month in the same venue where it was successfully presented last year.

This year's Umdudo includes work from Gary Gordon's *The First Physical Theatre Company*, Di Ruddick's *M Plosion Dance Company*, Xolani Sibuta's *Border Youth Dance Theatre*, *The President's Award Gumboot Dancers*, and the Rhodes University Drama Department, amongst the four programmes of dance from more than thirty-five Eastern Cape choreographers.

Sponsored by First National Bank, the Umdudo will be run at the Rhodes Theatre, from Thursday 24 April to Saturday 26 April in three programmes at 19:30 with a fourth on Saturday at 14:00.

It is open to all choreographers, whether established or new, who wish to present new work on a professional stage, exploring and developing emergent dance idioms.

The venue for the Umdudo, and all publicity, posters and programmes are provided free, at no cost to participating choreographers.

Performances are at 19:30 daily with a matinee at 14:00 on Saturday at the Rhodes Theatre.

New courage invited to identify itself

The annual Courageous Journalism Award, for which nominations are now being sought, has been boosted by an additional R 7 000 in prize money, this year.

It is to be presented in August, timed to coincide with the fifteenth anniversary of the assassination of

anti-apartheid activist Ruth First, and encourages journalists to write bold, investigative and politically courageous articles which explore social questions, says an announcement from the Department of Journalism and Media Studies.

Entry is open to journalists writing in any language for

work published since August 1996, when the last award was presented to recently appointed *Mail and Guardian* editor Philip van Niekerk.

Other winners include *Daily Dispatch* reporter Louise Flanagan, who won in 1995, and former *New Nation* reporter Enoch Sithole, who won in 1992.

The deadline for entries or nominations is July 1. Material can be submitted to: Courageous Journalism Award, Department of Journalism and Media Studies, Rhodes University, P O Box 94, Grahamstown, 6140.

New curriculum favours initiative

Dr Jaap Kuiper, of the Education department at Rhodes, can claim a high degree of personal responsibility for setting standards for

Science Education at primary and secondary level in the new school system that will start operating from next year. This is as a result of his appointment by the Minister of Education, Prof Sibusiso Bengu, to the Technical Committee involved in the curriculum development for the new education system for South Africa.

Dr Kuiper has been involved in a host of committees developing the curriculum. He chairs the Eastern Cape Learning Area Committee for the Natural Sciences and is a Member of both the National LAC for Natural Science and the National Coordinating Committee. These are in addition to his Technical Committee membership.

The exciting aspect to the new curriculum for Dr Kuiper is that it is based on the concept of 'Outcomes Education'. This system concentrates on the development of practical skills, and, while new to South Africa, is practised in several other countries, including Australia, New Zealand, the

United States, Canada, England, Scotland and Holland.

It is widely used as a base for development, says Kuiper, and represents a new approach to learning in that it identifies the type of learning which is most useful to pupils.

The end result for South Africa has been the launch of *Curriculum 2005* last month. It is a broad-based programme emphasising lifelong learning. "Previously, primary educators were prepared for something which was not going to change," says Kuiper.

"Outcomes-based education applies skills to knowledge and concentrates on the correct practical application of knowledge."

Teachers of the new curriculum, due for compulsory implementation in Grades 1 to 7 from next year, will have to adapt to a fundamental change of perspective — a challenge to both themselves and those institutions which qualify them. "Both the practice of teaching and the role of the learner will have to adapt significantly," Kuiper observes. He believes that the critical outcomes identified by SAQA — the South African Qualification Authority — are catered for by the concept.



Dr Jaap Kuiper, photographed during the recent Science Festival in Grahamstown.

Bursary support could win you R 500!

Rhodes staff members are reminded, whether they studied at Rhodes or not, that they may join the Old Rhodian Union, and specifically the ORU's 150 Club.

The funds raised through 150 Club subscriptions are used for Old Rhodian Bursaries. This year a record sum of almost R 50 000 was awarded to students.

Subscriptions cost R 10,00 per month, which can be paid either in one lump sum of R 120,00 for the year or can be deducted each month (R 10,00) by arrangement with the Salaries Officer.

Application forms, including authorization for the deduction from your salary, are available from Lisl Griffioen-Paterson in the Alumni Office of the Marketing and Communications Division. There are about 300 members of the 150 Club at present. Two monthly prizes of R 500,00 each are drawn.



Photographed with the President of the Old Rhodian Union, Prof Desmond Eve (centre) are ORU bursary recipients, from left, Jennifer Verner (BPhm3), Deborah Krueger (BFA4), Kirsten Williams (BHMS) and Megan Cowie (BSc3).

RU a contributor to SciFest success

Rhodes University was a significant contributor to the success of the first Science Festival held during the last two weeks.

Many Departments, amongst them Ichthyology and Fisheries Science, Human Movement Studies, Journalism and Media Studies, Information Systems, Drama, Biochemistry and Microbiology, Physics, Chemistry and Education

presented programme items and Divisions such as Information Technology and Marketing and Communications were also actively involved.

In addition to this, dozens of Rhodes staff and students spent time assisting in many ways.

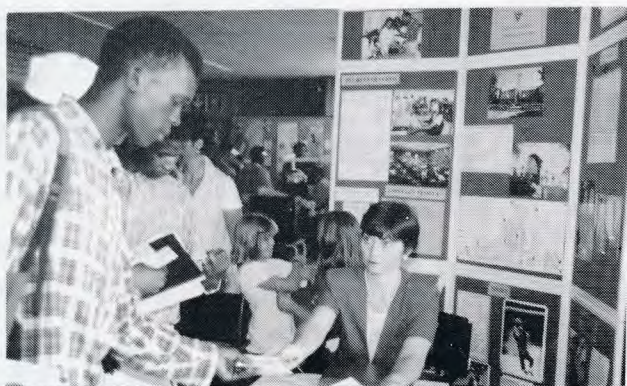
As *Rhodos* went to print, it was announced that the Science Festival will be repeated next year.



Mr Anton Erasmus, from S A Breweries' Port Elizabeth brewery conducts a beer-tasting session at the Yeast exhibition during the Festival.



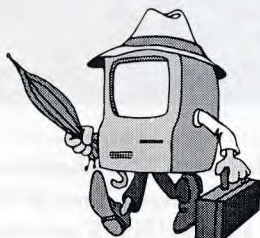
James 'The Amazing' Randi was one of the most popular speakers at the Science Festival with his tales of debunking charlatans including self-styled psychics and faith healers. He spent an hour participating in one of Rhodes Music Radio's live chat shows where he was photographed addressing a telephonic questioner, with presenter Jonathan Hall.



Linda de Klerk (at left), of the Capital Development Office in the Marketing and Communications Division, on duty at Rhodes' stand which was continually staffed during SciFest '97. Several enquiries from potential students were processed during the Festival.

Campus Autoplus machine to be removed

In a letter addressed to the University, the Manager of the Standard Bank of South Africa in Grahamstown, Mr Michael Bilsbury, has advised, with regret, that the Autoplus machine situated outside Kaif is to be moved



elsewhere in the Eastern Cape as it is not cost-effective in its current position.

The Autobank ATM will, however, remain where it is.

Date advanced

Suffering from circumstances known only too well to us at Rhodes, the Human Sciences Research Council's Centre for Science Development (CSD) has been subjected to a cut in its funding, with, it says, "severe consequences for the management of its budget."

One way in which it is attempting to combat the negative effects is to do away with the January 15 closing date for applications for CSD Postgraduate scholarships, so that all relevant applications can be considered at the same time.

Applications for scholarships in the following categories will now be entertained if received before or on 30 June 1997:

- Local doctoral studies, part- and full-time
- Prestige doctoral studies, registration abroad
- Scholarships for doctoral research abroad, registration in South Africa
- Self-initiated research, local and abroad
- Supervisor allocations
- Research Units

The CSD has advised that no late applications will be considered.

RU of great economic significance

Rhodes University is already a major local and regional institution and one which is held in high regard abroad, and it is a personal goal to entrench and enhance this status internationally.

Dr David Woods shared these sentiments with members of the Grahamstown Chamber of Business at a recent luncheon meeting at which he was the guest speaker.

Dr Woods told the GCOB members that the University is a "precious resource", a circumstance in which the existence of its second campus, in East London, played no small part.

He referred to a recent study in which Rhodes was found to directly and indirectly contribute about R 173 million to the local economy, some 48% of local GDP.

The study, conducted by Mr Dinty Mather of the Department of Economics and Economic History, indicates that the University is a vital part of the local economy and given the lack of any real industry in the town, any real growth of the University has a multiplier effect on the local economy — through staff and student spending, direct spending by the University, the housing market and formal employment.

"Without Rhodes University, the Grahamstown economy would be about half its present size," commented Mr Mather.

The study shows that the University contributes 38,5% to infrastructure, a large portion of which comes indirectly through the role that staff and students play in the housing market.

In addition, it seems that the University is responsible for approximately 15% of total formal employment in Grahamstown.

A population of some 100 000 is seemingly almost entirely dependent, either directly or indirectly, on the continuing stability of the university. Rhodes therefore contributes far more than quality graduates and research work to the province and the country, it is vital in terms of the local economy, too.

"The University has much to offer to businesses in many other ways," Dr Woods told the GCOB members. "Many practical academic and research projects have direct relevance to business initiatives across a broad front and entrepreneurs are able to draw on this expertise and even commission work from departments and institutes at Rhodes".

In response to a question after his address, Dr Woods was able to allay fears that Rhodes' urban campus would erode the University's stature in Grahamstown. He believes that growth in East London is critical to the future of Rhodes in Grahamstown and referred to the Green Paper on Higher Education which favours the multiple campus approach to tertiary education.

Dr Woods is especially keen to attract "as many as 500 more postgraduate students" to Grahamstown and told his audience that the capacity already existed to cater for their study and research needs.

"Rhodes is here to stay", he assured the businessmen and women present. "Let's grow Grahamstown."

International support

More than a dozen students from eight countries in Africa have 'checked in' at Rhodes at the commencement of the second *Rhodes University — World Wide Fund International Certificate in Environmental Education* course.

The course was last presented in 1995 and is an offshoot of one which has been run since the early 1990s, by the World Wide Fund (WWF) in Scotland. While that course was both valuable and popular, the WWF realised that it would be more practical to establish courses in, to date, India and South Africa, than to "run it for 3rd World students in a 1st World country," says Dr Eureta Janse van Rensburg, of the Murray and Roberts Chair for Environmental Education at Rhodes. "The basic course has been adapted to become more appropriate to

environmental issues in Southern and Central Africa," she adds.

The course is of two months duration and the students will spend the first half of that period here before going on to the Goldfields Environmental Education centre at the Wild Life Society's Umgeni Valley Project in Natal. They hail from South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Lesotho, Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi and Swaziland.

Present at the opening of the course were representatives from sponsoring companies, the WWF, the Wild Life Society, the Goldfields Environmental Education Centre, whose Director, Dr Heila Lotz is a joint coordinator of the course, and Rhodes.

The new students (below), photographed at the Department of Education, with Rhodes Vice-Chancellor, Dr David Woods (centre).



Bursary for Taryn

Taryn Dinkelman, an Honours student in the Department of

Her success was announced at a function in Cape Town recently by the Minister of

Economics, has won the undergraduate category of the Nedbank/Old Mutual Budget Competition.

She will be awarded a bursary enabling her to pursue her Honours Degree — at a South African University of her choice.



Finance, Trevor Manuel at which she received her prize from the MEC for Finance for the Eastern

Cape, Mr Shepherd Mayatula.

She was photographed (above) with Mr Mayatula and Dinty Mather (left), a Lecturer in the Department.

Sports Results

Hockey

5 April

RU Men 2nd XI vs Pirates

RU won 3-1

RU Men 3rd XI vs Pirates

Match drawn 1-1

6 April

Addo Tournament

RU Men 3rd XI 2nd

RU Men 2nd XI 4th

RU Women 1st XI 2nd

Rugby

5 April

RU 1st XV vs Swifts

Rhodes won 8-3

RU 2nd XV vs Swifts

Rhodes won 35-5

9 April

RU U21A vs Port Alfred

Rhodes won 34-0

RU U21B vs Buffs

Rhodes lost 3-13

Soccer

9 April

RU 1st XI vs Correctional Services

Rhodes won 3-2

Graduates in for a treat

New graduates from the Faculty of Arts were anticipating a graduation address with a difference as this edition of *Rhodos* was being distributed, with one of South Africa's finest dramatists and Rhodes honorary graduand for 1997, Pieter-Dirk Uys, due to deliver the Graduation Address at the 1820 Settlers National Monument this morning.

Uys, who was to be awarded an honorary DLitt degree from Rhodes at the first of this year's ceremonies, is to address over 300 students graduating from the Faculty of Arts and their parents.

The second of the three graduation ceremonies takes place tonight at 20:15. During this ceremony, some 320 graduands from the Faculties of Social Science, Science and Pharmacy will receive their degrees and former Vice-Chancellor of Rhodes, Dr Derek Henderson and the Archbishop of Cape Town,

Njongonkulu Winston Ndungane will receive honorary Doctor of Laws and Doctor of Divinity degrees respectively.

The final ceremony, for Law, Education and Commerce graduands, of which there are 312 this year, takes place at 10:30 tomorrow. An honorary Doctor of Laws degree will be conferred upon the Minister of Water Affairs, Dr Kader Asmal, whilst financial guru, Conrad Strauss will receive an Honorary Doctor of Economics degree. Minister Asmal will give the graduation address at this ceremony.

The formal ceremonies will be followed by a garden party for graduates and their guests on St Peters Lawns at 15:30 and the celebrations will close with the annual Graduation Ball, at the 1820 Settlers National Monument, tomorrow evening.

Smalls

BABYSITTING

Rhodes Babysitting club: All parents wishing to join a babysitting club, either for the purposes of swapping babysitting services on a credit basis with other parents, or via access to a list of approved student babysitters on a cash basis please contact Ronwyn Coulson at ext 8134 or e-mail adac@giraffe.

ACCOMMODATION

2 bedroom house, fully furnished available from July to the end of December. Perfect for visiting academics or researchers. Contact Graham (ext 8338) or Graham/Kathy at home 2 3900 (email hayman@thoth.ru.ac.za).

HATHA YOGA CLASSES

When: Mon, Wed, Thurs from 17:30 - 18:45. Where: Albany Museum, Rennie Wing. Enquiries: Kathy 2 3900 or Jane 2 7642

CONGRATULATIONS

Their friends and colleagues in the Department of Accounting wish to congratulate Kevin and Kerry Maree on the birth of their son, Matthew, on 13 March 1997.

BED and BREAKFAST

Self-contained flatlet, pool, private entrance. R55,00 p.p. Contact Sheryl-Anne Drennan at ext 8298/9 (a.m.), 2 7189 (h) or cell 082 657 0359.

Situation vacant

Applications are invited from members of staff, irrespective of race, gender or creed, for the post of **Anti-Harassment Officer** from as early a date as possible.

The successful candidate will assist with the planning, coordination and execution of the activities of the Anti-Harassment Panel which exists on the campus to deal with all matters of harassment. The Panel's major objectives include educating the University community and dealing with incidents of harassment, which include those based on issues of gender, race, religion or sexual orientation.

Candidates should have a real interest in harassment issues and be committed to the goals of Panel. Administrative and organisational ability,

together with excellent interpersonal skills, are required as is the ability to deal with crises. Counselling experience and a knowledge of the work of the Panel would be a recommendation.

Secretarial assistance is provided and members of the Panel will be available to assist the Anti-Harassment Officer with specific projects

Members of staff interested in applying for this part-time position are invited to obtain a job description from the Personnel Division to whom a letter of motivation should be submitted by 30 April 1997. Coordinating the work of the Panel will be in addition to a staff member's regular duties. An honorarium of R 368,00 per month will be paid.

ADVERTISING RATES

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

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

RHODOS DEADLINE DATES

Copy date: 24 April

Publication date: 2 May

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RHODOS is produced fortnightly by the Marketing and Communications 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.