

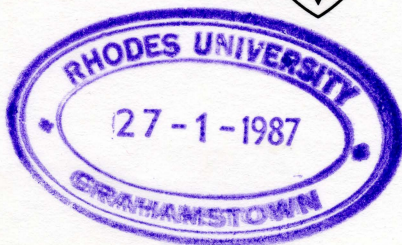
# Students' Representative Council

Rhodes University, Grahamstown

P.O. Box 94, Grahamstown 6140, South Africa  
Telephone (0461) 7122 Telegrams 'Rhodescol'



27 January 1987



The Vice Chancellor  
Rhodes University

Dear Dr Henderson

MESSAGE TO 1ST YEAR STUDENTS : ORIENTATION PRIMER

On behalf of the editors of the Orientation Primer Magazine I would like to request a message from yourself for inclusion in the above publication.

I enclose a copy of the 1986 Primer Magazine for your information.

The editors are presently busy with the production of the magazine which is included in the Primer Package for all 1st Year students.

Thank you in anticipation

Yours sincerely

Janet Knight  
SRC Secretary



Nowadays, the trends in language seem to change as often as the fashions in Paris and Milan. The popular jargon of philosophy or psychology is a body of expressions only slightly less shifting than the "buzz words" in commerce and industry. I should like to consider three currently popular phrases which are of importance to you, as you embark on your university career. These are "informed citizens", "time management" and "a happy medium".

We are exhorted from all sides to be "informed citizens" and to make "informed decisions". This is no less relevant to you as first year students, than it is to you as, say, members of the electorate. Orientation Week offers you a unique chance to become informed citizens of the Rhodes community, and to make informed decisions about your life in that community.

I would urge you to take full advantage of the opportunities available to you in Orientation Week to learn about the University. There are many people prepared to assist you, from the Student Adviser to the members of the academic staff and Students' Representative Council. It is only on the basis of the information you gather in this way that you will be able to make wise decisions.

"Time management" is a phrase which is often used these days, but seldom, I suspect, put into practice. Everyone, from business executives to clergymen, to students, is being encouraged to manage his or her time more efficiently in order to be more productive members of society. As you face a plethora of possibilities in the academic, social and sporting spheres of university life, you would be well advised to divide your time sensibly between the all too numerous demands made on it.

Another phrase often mentioned, but not often enough attained, is "a happy medium" in life. Such a balance between the different areas of our lives is difficult to find. You will be well on the way to striking it if you set out to combine the attributes of an informed citizens with those of time management.

Welcome to Rhodes University, I trust that you will manage your time here successfully, become informed members of the community and find your own "happy medium" between your academic commitments, and the social and sporting activities offered.