ALTY AND VC AWARDS

Awardees, family members of our awardees, colleagues, ladies and gentlemen

Good evening and a warm welcome to this very pleasant event organised to acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of our colleagues.

Two awards are being conferred this evening – namely the Alty Award and the Vice-Chancellor's Award.

The Alty Award recognises colleagues that have graduated with Doctoral, Masters Honours and Bachelors degrees and Advance certificates.

This evening we celebrate the achievements of doctorates by 4 colleagues; the completion of Masters degrees by 5 colleagues; the completion of an Honours degree, 3 bachelors degrees, and 2 Advance Certificates.

The VC's Award recognises colleagues who have completed the Post-Graduate Diploma in Higher Education, national diplomas, matric and certificates at levels 1 to 5.

9 colleagues in the past year achieved the Post-Graduate Diploma in Higher Education, 2 graduated with national diplomas, 2 colleagues completed matric, and 5 Certificates.

In total, this evening 15 Alty Awards and 18 Vice-Chancellor's Awards will be conferred on colleagues.

There are 2 observations that I wish to make.

First, the qualifications of personnel is one indicator of the quality of a university. All of those receiving awards this evening significantly contribute to ensuring that Rhodes University continues to be a place of quality.

In the academic arena, the proportion of staff with Doctorates and Masters is one important measure of academic quality. Those that have graduated with Doctorates and Masters all help to position Rhodes University to more effectively pursue its mission of the production and dissemination of knowledge and further enhance its contribution to our society.

I am aware that successfully completing a qualification while in employment entails sacrifice, commitment, tenacity and hard work. On behalf of Rhodes, thank you sincerely for your dedication in completing your further qualification and warm congratulations on achieving your various qualifications.