This Memorandum cancels all previous issues

June 2009

THE RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS

Memorandum of Regulations

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 2009

GENERAL REGULATIONS:

Rhodes Scholarships are tenable at the University of Oxford, and are normally held for two years, the duration of most master’s degrees and bachelor’s degrees for those who already have another bachelor’s degree, or for three years, the duration of many doctorates. Scholars may do a single one-year degree only, or may do two one-year degrees, but may not in the latter instance receive a third year’s funding. At the discretion of the Rhodes Trustees, the scholarship may be renewed for a third year, for those pursuing a doctorate and whose progress is deemed satisfactory. The Trustees will not pay fourth-year fees in either the Division of the Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences or the Division of Medical Sciences as Scholars may enter directly to work for a doctorate in these divisions in three years. Scholars applying for a master’s degree in one of these two science divisions should not, therefore, expect to be able to use the scholarship to go on to a doctorate. For those for whom the University requires fees in a fourth year for the completion of a doctorate, and where no other external funding is available, the Trustees, at their discretion, will provide University and college fees for that year, but not a maintenance stipend. Scholars may not apply for the MBA or for the Master in Financial Economics (MFE) in their first year, but may apply for either of these one-year degrees in their second. The Rhodes Trustees reserve the right to make changes in degree eligibility, funding, and other aspects of the Scholarship program at any time.

Thirty-two Scholarships are assigned annually to the United States of America. States are grouped into sixteen districts for the purpose of making these appointments. Each District Committee selects not more than two candidates who will represent the state or states within each district as Rhodes Scholars at Oxford. The names of Scholarship winners are announced at the close of the District interviews. No alternates are selected.

Following the selection of successful candidates, the Warden of Rhodes House in Oxford seeks places for the Rhodes Scholars-elect in the departments and faculties and colleges of the University, following the candidates’ preferences insofar as possible. Because the departments and colleges make their own admissions, there is no guarantee of a place in a particular department or college. All decisions on places rest in the hands of the University and the colleges. The award of the Scholarship is not confirmed by the Rhodes Trustees until the Scholar-elect has been accepted for admission by a faculty or department and by a college. Rhodes Scholars elected in November 2009 will enter the University of Oxford in October 2010. Scholars are required to be full-time students at Oxford for the duration of their degree programs and are required to reside in Oxford during term time except where they obtain the permission of the Warden. Deferment of the Scholarship is not allowed, nor may Scholars go off stipend during their scholarship tenure and return to stipend at a later date.

The value of a Rhodes Scholarship consists of a direct payment to the Scholar’s college of all tuition fees (such as matriculation, tuition, and certain other set charges), plus a maintenance stipend (except for those receiving fourth-year fees) of not less than £11,500 per annum paid directly to the Scholar in installments during the term of the Scholarship. The sum provided should be sufficient to enable a Scholar to meet necessary expenses for term time and vacations, but those who can afford to supplement it to a modest extent from their own resources are advised to do so. For those receiving fourth-year fees for doctorates, Oxford living expenses are often available through University teaching positions. The Rhodes Trust will assist successful candidates with their traveling expenses to and from Oxford. Married candidates should bear in mind that the Scholarship stipend is sufficient only for one person, and that the Trust takes no financial responsibility for the support of a Scholar’s spouse.

The tenure of a Rhodes Scholarship is dependent upon the maintenance of a standard of work and conduct, which, in the opinion of the Trustees, justifies the Scholarship. Tenure of other awards in conjunction with a Rhodes Scholarship is not permitted without prior consultation with the Warden of Rhodes House.

CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY:

Applicants apply as a representative of one of the fifty states: either in the state in which they will have received at least two years of college training and a bachelor’s degree before October 1, 2010, or in the state where they were legally resident on April 15, 2009. (Applicants are warned that selection committees are instructed to verify legal residence.) Simultaneous application to more than one District Committee will disqualify an applicant. At the time of application:

1. An applicant must be a citizen of the United States; pending application for citizenship does not qualify a person to apply.

2. An applicant, by October 1, 2009, must be at least 18 but not yet 24 years of age. (Applicants will be eligible who were born after October 1, 1985 and on or before October 1, 1991.)

3. An applicant must have achieved academic standing sufficiently advanced to assure completion of a bachelor’s degree before October 1, 2010.
BASIS OF SELECTION:

In considering applications, Committees of Selection will have regard to those qualities which Cecil Rhodes expressly listed in order to define the type of Scholar he desired.

Proven intellectual and academic achievement of a high standard is the first quality required of applicants, but applicants will also be required to show integrity of character, interest in and respect for their fellow beings, the ability to lead, and the energy to use their talents to the full.

Mr. Rhodes believed that the last of these qualities was best tested through participation and success in sports. Participation in organized sports is not essential if applicants are able to demonstrate in other ways the physical vigor which will enable Rhodes Scholars to make an effective contribution to the world around them. Mr. Rhodes clearly expected such a contribution when he expressed the hope that Rhodes Scholars would come to “esteem the performance of public duties as [their] highest aim.” From this statement one may infer that he expected his Scholars to play an influential part in the betterment of society, wherever their careers might take them. It does not necessarily presuppose a career in the public sector. Mr. Rhodes desired that his Scholars be intellectually, morally, and physically capable of leadership in any field.

Much of the distinctiveness of the Rhodes Scholarship arises from this comprehensive set of criteria. Intellectual excellence is obviously required, but not in isolation from other qualities. Mr. Rhodes sought Scholars who were more than “mere bookworms,” he wanted their intellectual talents to be combined with concern for others. Thus the Committees of Selection assign the highest importance to this blend of character with intellect.

Financial need gives no special claim to a Rhodes Scholarship. Moreover, the Will lays down that “no student shall be qualified or disqualified for election to a Scholarship on account of race or religious opinions.”

The Rhodes Trust and Oxford University require that selection for a Scholarship and admission to the University will be without regard to marital status, race, ethnic origin, colour, religion, sexual orientation, social background, or disability.

METHOD OF APPLYING:

An online application, guided by this Memorandum of Regulations and Notes of Guidance, and furnishing the material specified, should be made to the Secretary of the appropriate District Committee of Selection as early as possible, and in no case will an application be accepted later than October 5, 2009. A list of Secretaries of District Committees of Selection is contained within this Memorandum.

A preliminary elimination will be made in all Districts on the basis of credentials. Committees of Selection will then invite selected applicants to a personal interview; no Scholar will be selected without such interview. Committees of Selection will meet on November 20 and 21, 2009.

PLEASE NOTE: Applicants must pay their own expenses in appearing before Committees of Selection.

The grouping of States into Districts is as follows:

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*see page M-4

STANDING AT OXFORD:

A degree from an approved American college or university normally entitles an American Rhodes Scholar on arrival in Oxford to “Senior Status.” Senior Status carries with it exemption from all examinations at Oxford prior to the “Final Honour Schools” (for the degree of B.A.) which may be taken with such status, and for most but not all B.A. degrees, after two years’ residence. An appropriate undergraduate major is required for admission to a higher degree (beyond that of B.A.). Rhodes Scholars-elect wishing to pursue either a postgraduate degree or a second B.A. degree must communicate with the Warden of Rhodes House who will seek on their behalf acceptance by a faculty or department and by a college. The substantial majority of United States Rhodes Scholars now undertake graduate work at Oxford, usually pursuing masters’ degrees.

Two samples of recent written work, approximately 2,000 words each, are required for admission to read for any degree in any subject other than a mathematical or scientific subject. These samples are only required of those elected to a Rhodes Scholarship.
COURSES OPEN TO RHODES SCHOLARS:

Subject to the consent of their colleges and as long as it may be completed within two years with "Senior Status" (normally conferred to Americans with a bachelor's degree already), Scholars may read for the Oxford Bachelor of Arts in any of the Final Honour Schools. See the online University of Oxford Undergraduate Prospectus, available at www.admin.ox.ac.uk/up. With the consent of the relevant departments or faculties and their colleges, Scholars may be admitted, if qualified by previous training, to read for higher degrees offered by the University, including the Bachelor of Philosophy, Master of Philosophy, and Doctor of Philosophy. These graduate degrees are the choice of most Rhodes Scholars. With the consent of the relevant faculty and their colleges, they may also read for one-year Master of Science by Coursework or Master of Studies degrees, or other one-year degrees that are offered by the University. The MBA and the Master in Financial Economics may only be applied for in a Scholar's second year. The most complete and current listing of graduate degrees is in the University of Oxford Graduate Studies Prospectus, available at www.admin.ox.ac.uk/gsp. Instructions will be given to applicants who are elected to Rhodes Scholarships about the two samples of recent written work which are required for admission to these programs.

PLEASE NOTE: It is very difficult, and may be impossible, to change degree courses after admission to Oxford. Course selection requires careful consideration.

INFORMATION ABOUT OXFORD:

Applicants should study the academic system of the University of Oxford in order to determine if their plan of study is one which is feasible at Oxford. The best sources of information are the current issues of the University of Oxford Undergraduate Prospectus and Graduate Studies Prospectus. In addition, the Oxford University Examination Decrees is available for a charge from the Oxford University Press, 116 High Street, Oxford OX1 4BZ, England.

Copies of this Memorandum of Regulations and the Notes of Guidance for U.S. applicants may be downloaded and printed for use in the competition in the United States. Additional information, including copies of a brochure, Oxford and the Rhodes Scholarships, giving information about the Scholarships and life and study at Oxford, and a document containing frequently asked questions, may also be downloaded and printed. Applicants will also find other useful information at the United States Rhodes Scholarship web site, www.americanrhydes.org, where there are also links to both the Rhodes Trust and Oxford University websites.

For specific questions and details not covered by these materials, please direct inquiries to the American Secretary at amsec@rhodescholar.org.

ELLiot F. GERSON, AMERICAN SECRETARY
8229 BOone BOULEVARD, SUITE 240
VIENNA, VIRGINIA 22182
USA

ON BEHALF OF THE RHODES TRUST,
RHODES HOUSE, OXFORD OX1 3RG, ENGLAND
UNITED KINGDOM
2009 UNITED STATES RHODES DISTRICT SECRETARIES

District 1........ GERALD J. CARDINALE, Goldman Sachs & Company, 85 Broad Street, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10004
(Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Vermont)

District 2........ BRUNS H. GRAYSON, ABS Ventures, 890 Winter Street, Suite 225, Waltham, MA 02451
(Connecticut, Massachusetts)

District 3........ PAUL M. DODYK, Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP, Worldwide Plaza, 40th Floor, 825 8th Avenue,
New York, NY 10019-7475
(New York)

District 4........ BRUCE PARTRIDGE, Department of Astronomy, Haverford College, 370 Lancaster Avenue,
Haverford, PA 19041-1392
(Delaware, Pennsylvania, West Virginia)

District 5........ NICHOLAS W. ALLARD, Patton Boggs LLP, 2550 M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037-1350
(Maryland/DC, North Carolina)

District 6........ DANIEL PROMISLOW, Department of Genetics, University of Georgia, 120 East Green Street,
Athens, GA 30602-7223
(Georgia, Virginia)

District 7........ RALPH H. SMITH, Office of Counsel, University of Alabama System, 401 Queen City Avenue,
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401-1551
(Alabama, Florida, Tennessee)

District 8........ KEITH P. ELLISON, United States Courthouse, 515 Rusk Street, Houston, TX 77002-2600
(Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas)

District 9........ DAVID L. JOHNSON, BioCrossroads, 300 North Meridian Street, Suite 950, Indianapolis, IN 46204
(Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio)

District 10....... GARY T. JOHNSON, Chicago History Museum, 1601 North Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60614-6038
(Illinois, Michigan)

District 11....... WILLIAM T. KERR, Meredith Corporation, 1716 Locust Street, Des Moines, IA 50309
(Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin)

District 12....... NICHOLAS J. SPAETH, c/o Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines, 801 Walnut Street, Suite 200,
Des Moines, IA 50309-3513
(Arkansas, Kansas, Mississippi, Missouri, South Carolina)

District 13....... SUSAN D. CAMPBELL, Holme Roberts & Owen LLP, 90 South Cascade Avenue, Suite 1300,
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
(Colorado, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah)

District 14....... ROBERT B. MITCHELL, K&L Gates LLP, 925 Fourth Avenue, Suite 2900, Seattle, WA 98104-1158

District 15....... ELIZABETH J. MURPHY, Office of the Dean, University of California-San Francisco,
513 Parnassus Avenue, Room S224, Campus Box 0410, San Francisco, CA 94143-0410
(California-North [including the counties of Monterey, Kings, Tulare, and Inyo and those counties to the North] H[awaii], Nevada)

District 16....... KAREN L. STEVENSON, Buchalter Nemer, 1000 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1500, Los Angeles, CA 90017
(California-South [including the counties of San Luis Obispo, Kern, and San Bernardino and those counties to the South], Arizona)

NOTE: In compelling circumstances, Rhodes District Secretaries may be reached via email as follows:
first name.last name@rhodesscholar.org