



VERSATILE ACHIEVER BECOMES CHANCELLOR

Dr Johann Rupert
Chancellor

A LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS GIANT

The new Chancellor of the University, Dr Johann Rupert, is a leader in many fields and achiever of many successes – as local and international business giant, critical thinker, wine entrepreneur, conservation enthusiast, sport lover and champion of the less privileged.

As the fourteenth holder of this ceremonial office, which was instituted when Stellenbosch University gained status as a university in 1918, he succeeds Dr Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, who resigned from the chancellorship in 2009.

Johann Rupert, son of the Stellenbosch industrialist Dr Anton Rupert, is a versatile achiever who interrupted his studies at Stellenbosch to hone his business acumen in New York – which led to a remarkable journey as a business leader and pioneer that started in 1979.

His unique mark was soon made on both the local and international business world. He established the Rand Merchant Bank (RMB) in 1979 and served as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Bank. Five years later, RMB and Rand Consolidated Investments merged under his watchful eye, after which he joined the Rembrandt Group, of which he later became Chairman.

With his intuitive feeling for market trends and tendencies, he restructured Rembrandt's European interests in 1988 and established the Swiss luxury-goods company Richemont. He later was appointed executive chairperson of Richemont SA Luxembourg, as well as Managing Director of Richemont. Rembrandt Group Limited was restructured in 2000 and the venture capital company VenFin was established under Dr Rupert's leadership.

His excellent management skills have ensured him places on many a board – from the board of the SA Akademie vir Wetenskap en Kuns to the Daimler Chrysler International Advisory Board. He was the non-executive chairperson of Gold Fields South Africa and a council member of the South Africa Foundation (*now Business Leadership South Africa*).

Despite his status and success as a highly esteemed international businessman, his roots are planted firmly in South Africa – and in Stellenbosch. He invests a great deal of his time and energy in the country of his birth. Through the establishment of the Small Business Development Corporation (*now Business Partners*), for example, he has already helped to create about 500 000 jobs in South Africa, and he serves, among others, as management trustee on the investment committee of the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund.

He promotes the meaningful creation and distribution of prosperity in South Africa. His conviction that the country's future prosperity does not lie in the export of raw materials, but rather in knowledge and ideas, is a particular reflection of his open-mindedness.

Dr Rupert has also made a name for himself as a wine entrepreneur. He took over the wine estate L'Ormarins after the death of his brother, Anthonij, and developed and expanded the estate in his brother's memory. Rupert was recently named International Wine Entrepreneur of the Year in Germany.

His illustrious business success has never, however, kept Dr Rupert from following in his father's footsteps in cherishing nature and our heritage. He is chairperson of the board of directors of the Peace Parks Foundation and formerly was a trustee of the Southern African Nature Foundation (*now the World Wide Fund for Nature*).

In his youth he was an able cricketer and his interest in sport inspired him to assist in the establishment of the Sport Science Institute at the University of Cape Town and of the international Laureus Sport for Good Foundation. The latter foundation supports 65 projects all over the world, particularly ones that benefit less-privileged children. He is also chairperson of the South African PGA Tour and Honorary President of the South African Golf Development Board.

His successes and achievements in a wide variety of spheres have earned Dr Rupert numerous accolades – such as honorary doctorates from Stellenbosch University and the Nelson Mandela

Metropolitan University, and the Wits Business School's sought-after Management Excellence Award.

Dr Rupert also receives regular acknowledgement from outside the academic world for his contributions to and achievements in the business world. The top 100 listed companies in South Africa have already named him the Most Influential Leader in South Africa three times, and he has also been voted Business Leader of the year by the *Sunday Times*, *Die Burger* and the Cape Town Chamber of Commerce.

During the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, Dr Rupert was honoured as one of the 200 international leaders of the future. He was awarded France's highest tribute, the Legion of Honour, in 2009 in recognition of his close business and cultural ties with that country. Dr Rupert is married to Gaynor and they have three children.

MANAGEMENT TEAM OF THE RECTOR (2010) FROM LEFT



Rector and Vice-Chancellor: Prof Russel Botman
Vice-Rector (Teaching): Prof Magda Fourie
Vice-Rector (Research): Prof Arnold van Zyl

Vice-Rector (Community Interaction and Personnel): Prof Julian Smith
Executive Director: Operations and Finance:
Prof Leopoldt van Huyssteen



SUPPORT STAFF (from left)

Chief Director: Strategic Initiatives and Human Resources:
Prof Tobie de Coning

Senior Director: Communication and Liaison: Mr Mohamed Shaikh

Manager: Projects: Dr Barbara Pool

Registrar: Mr Johann Aspeling

Dean of Students: Mr Llewellyn MacMaster