

From: Handwerker_Margaret **On Behalf Of** Borst_Charlotte
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2008 10:11 AM
To: FACSTAFF; All_Students
Subject: This Week at Rhodes

•Today begins one of the most important weeks in the life of our college. Two events on Thursday and two on Friday symbolize much of what we stand for as a community.

•On Thursday evening, President and Mrs. Troutt will host a reception to celebrate the work of the faculty and staff that contributes so significantly to our students' accomplishments. I am told that there will be delicious food and the conversation is always stimulating when we gather as a community. Best of all, we will hear from five exceptional students who will share with us their excitement about the impact their URCAS projects have had on their experience at Rhodes.

•Immediately following our Thursday celebration approximately 250 Memphians of all backgrounds and perspectives will gather in Hardie auditorium at 6 pm to kick off [Common Ground](#), an exciting effort to have dialogue that leads to action concerning racial issues in our city. The ultimate goal is to involve 100,000 people over the next three years in structured conversations. I am very proud that Rhodes has been present from the very beginning of this initiative and is hosting the kick off and subsequent conversations over the next six weeks. This program is a natural continuation of our commitment, as we [announced on April 4](#), to commemorate the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., by being a part of the solutions to our city's concerns and challenges.

•Friday is dedicated to the accomplishments of our students, first at Honors Convocation at 9 o'clock in Hardie Auditorium. In the afternoon, as part of our annual [Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Symposium](#) students will share with us the details of their exciting projects.

•I am delighted to announce that Drs. Natalie Person and Betsy Williams have received, along with two colleagues at the University of Memphis, a grant from the Institute for Education Sciences grant. The request for *Guru: A Computer Tutor that Models Expert Human Tutors* was in excess of two million dollars. We are waiting to learn if the amount has been adjusted.

Charlotte G. Borst, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Rhodes College
2000 North Parkway
Memphis, TN 38112
Phone: 901-843-3795
Fax: 901-843-3291
email: BorstC@rhodes.edu