



Bridging the gap

At Rhodes, that's what we do.

We bridge the gaps in the backgrounds we bring with us, seeking to fill and enrich those spaces with the shared knowledge of one another's cultures, beliefs, experiences.

How do we do it?

Students, working together through various organizations and with the Office of Multicultural Affairs, make it happen.

And it works because we're totally open with each other. For instance, anybody can belong to any group:

The Black Student Association is not just for African-American students; people from other backgrounds can—and do—belong to BSA. It's the same with All Students Interested in Asia (ASIA), the Rhodes Indian Cultural Exchange (RICE), the Muslim Students Association (MSA), National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI), Valuing Our Impact on the Cultural Experiences of Students (VOICES) and the Rhodes College Gay/Straight Alliance (RCGSA). In

Cover:

Sporting the red shoes that symbolize the spirit of service at Rhodes (never tiptoe through life!), recent graduates and where they have headed include (left to right): Christine Coy, mission work abroad for the Presbyterian Church (USA); Sunita Arora, Teach for America; Stanley Vance, Harvard Medical School; and Stephen Ogden, mission work abroad for the Presbyterian Church (USA).

addition, there is the Safe Zone Program for GLBT students, and membership in all fraternities and sororities, including historically black Greek organizations, is open to all students. For more information, visit student organizations at rhodes.edu.

We also help students bridge the gap with SOS—Serving Our Students. Upperclass students of color are paired with first-years, allowing first-years to find meaningful networks by connecting with the campus community.

We bridge the tuition gap, too

Rhodes is more affordable than you may think. Financial aid records from 2006-07 show that:

- The average financial aid package of students with demonstrated need was \$26,000.
- The average financial aid package of students without demonstrated need was \$14,350.
- Rhodes met or exceeded the total demonstrated need of 80% of the students in the first-year class.

Come bridge the gap with us at Rhodes, where it's a way of life, not just an expression.



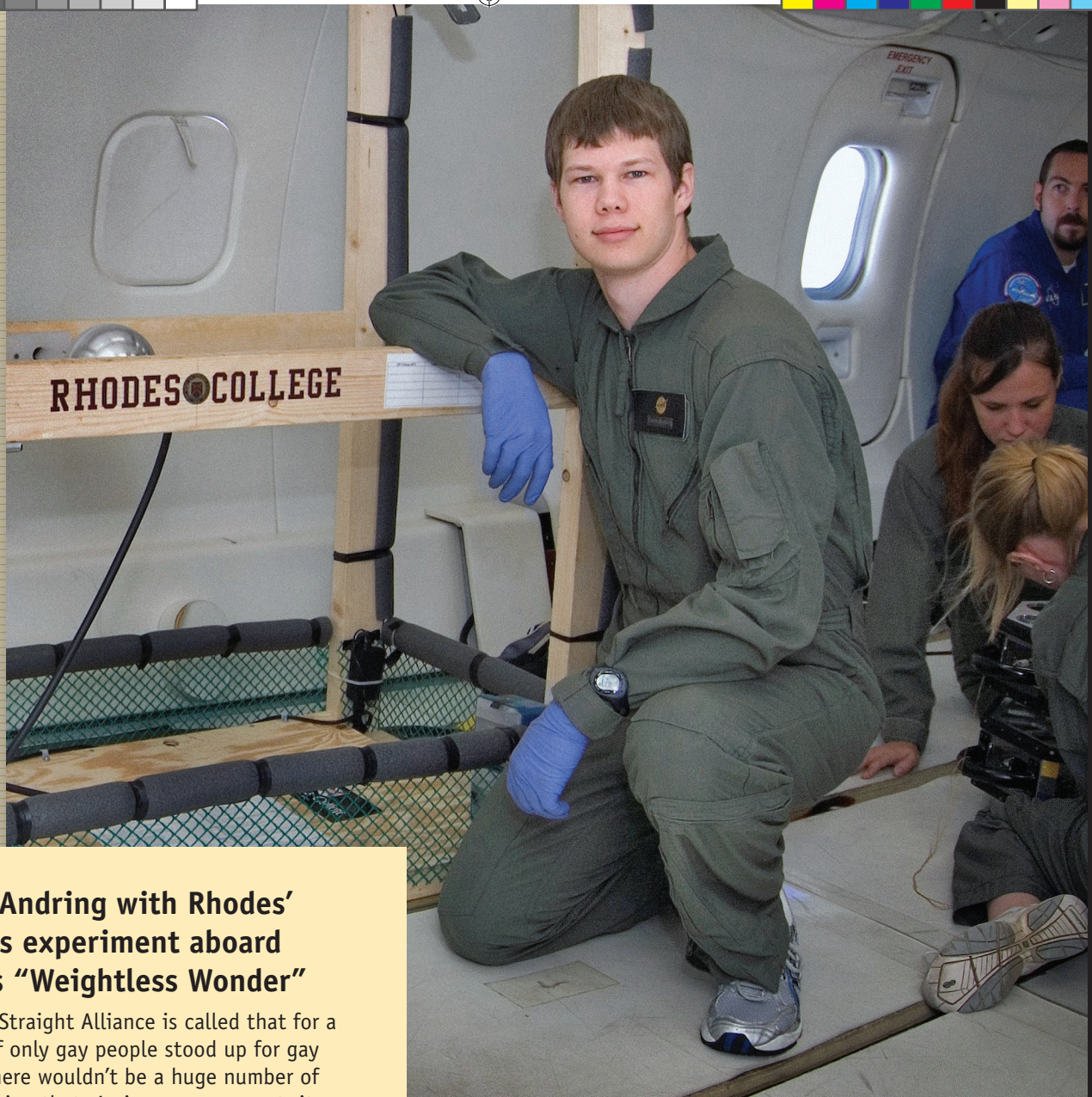
Josh Jeffries

(left front) "I've seen a marked difference in the college's commitment to diversity. The challenge now is retention—keeping students here. Rhodes is a different environment from what a lot of people are used to. It's important for students to connect with campus early on, which the Office Multicultural Affairs provides with the SOS program. It's really helpful to a lot of people in bridging that gap."




Shruti Acharya in the music building, Hassell Hall

“When I told my high school friends that I was going to Rhodes, they said, ‘But that’s primarily a white students’ school.’ I said, ‘If I don’t go there, how is it going to change?’ In my four years here, I’ve noticed a much more diverse student body. Students ask questions all the time and come to the Rhodes Indian Cultural Exchange programs like the Dewali, Garba and Holi festivals as well as the films we show. With the different multicultural groups, students realize there’s more to other cultures, there’s more out there.”



Kevin Andring with Rhodes' physics experiment aboard NASA's "Weightless Wonder"

"The Gay/Straight Alliance is called that for a reason. If only gay people stood up for gay rights, there wouldn't be a huge number of people doing that. As in any movement, it takes people working together to make something happen. GSA is an outlet that wasn't provided in my secondary school career. At Rhodes, everyone is welcome to participate."

A woman with dark curly hair is standing in a stone archway. She is wearing a long, flowing green dress with intricate gold and brown embroidery. Over the dress, she wears a sheer, light green shawl with a gold border and scattered floral patterns. She is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The archway is made of dark stone and opens up to a bright outdoor area with a building and greenery in the background. The floor is made of large, dark stone tiles. The image is framed by a yellow border on the left and right sides.

Hazami Barmada by the library's Southern Literary Garden

“Not every member of the Muslim Student Association is Muslim. We don’t ask what religion people are. Our non-Muslim members come not knowing much about it and want to learn. We had a breakfast for Ramadan in October. One hundred thirty people from many backgrounds came. We had seating for 120, and people were standing. We try to create understanding. It is not political. It’s cultural, it’s about acceptance.”

Jay Jordan in the library

"In my opinion, race matters at Rhodes as much as one feels that it matters. For multicultural students, I think that there is often a tendency to shut ourselves off in our own little corner of Rhodes, which I think does a huge disservice not only as far as enriching the Rhodes community through the diversity we have to offer, but also to ourselves, as it takes away our chance at learning and growing as students by reaching out beyond our own comfort zones. Rhodes is a place of immense opportunity as far as forging connections with others both alike and different from ourselves, and I would tell future students to take full advantage of that opportunity as much as possible."



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Student Organizations

All Students Interested in Asia (A.S.I.A.)

Black Student Association (BSA)

Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA)

Hispanic Organization for Language and Activities (HOLA)

Rhodes Indian Cultural Exchange (R.I.C.E.)

Programs and Services

Campus Diversity Programming

Leadership programming

Support Groups

Multicultural Graduation

Personal Counseling and Advising

Serving Our Students Mentoring Program



Rhodes College
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