

## **School of Social Work**

### **Silver Jubilee**

### **1964-1989**

The School of Social Work, an associate college of the University of Zimbabwe, will be celebrating its silver jubilee this year. The School of Social Work was founded by the Jesuit Fathers in 1964 as a result of investigations by Fr Ted Rogers on the need for social work training in the country. Fr Rogers played a key role as the School's first Principal.

The School of Social Work started by offering a one year course leading to the award of a Certificate in Groupwork, until 1966 when the Certificate course was abandoned in favour of a three-year Diploma in Social Work course. The need to train higher level manpower became apparent, and culminated in the introduction of a Bachelor of Social Work degree offered jointly by the School of Social Work and the then University of Rhodesia in 1975. The full range of programmes now on offer include the Certificate in Social Work, the Diploma in Social Work, the Bachelor of Social Work (General), the Bachelor of Social Work (Honours) and the Master of Social Work.

Because of its wide ranging programmes the School of Social Work is now serving as a regional social work training institution with students coming from such countries as Ethiopia, Lesotho, Malawi, South Africa, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania and Swaziland. It is therefore with great pride that we look back at the achievements of the School since its humble beginnings in 1964, achievements made possible by the support of the Jesuit Fathers, the University of Zimbabwe, the Government of Zimbabwe, the resourcefulness of the School's past Principals, Frs Ted Rogers and Joe Hampson, and the dedication of staff and students past and present. The achievements were also made possible with financial assistance from such organisations as the Beit Trust, the Sisters of Charity of Rome, Cebemo of Holland, Misereor of West Germany, the Konrad Adenauer Foundation of West Germany, the Harare City Council, and many other organisations.

As we celebrate our first 25 years of dedicated service in the field of social work training in Zimbabwe, we take cognisance of the challenge to provide a relevant social work education, and thus enable the School and the social work profession to play a meaningful role in the socioeconomic advancement of our people. Our silver jubilee is not merely a joyous occasion but an occasion to reflect on the relevance of our curricula and the appropriateness of our programme, and so chart a new direction and orientation. The launching of the **Journal of Social Development in Africa**, and the establishment of the Research Unit, present our resolve to promote social development issues and to contribute towards the formulation of appropriate social policies.

Please join us in commemorating the School of Social Work's first 25 years of existence.

Edwin Kaseke  
Principal