

# R1 MILLION DONATION FOR NEW RESIDENCE COMPLEX

**T**he Gold Fields Foundation has donated one million rand to the University of Stellenbosch — the largest single donation the University has ever received. It will be used to build a new residence complex for 96 student men of all races.

Construction work began in early March, within a month after Mr Robin Plumbridge, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Gold Fields, had presented the Foundation's million rand cheque to the Rector and Vice-Chancellor, Prof Mike de Vries, at a function at the University.

The completion date for the new complex has been set for early December. Students will move in at the beginning of the 1987 academic year.

According to Prof De Vries, the University experiences a constant growth in student numbers. Despite limited financial resources, every effort has been made to match residential facilities to the growing student numbers.

In style and appearance the new accommodation complex will be somewhat different to what the Maties have been used to. In the design of the complex preference was given to a modular housing concept.

The complex will consist of eight double-storied modules, linked together into a quadrangle. A module will comprise two units, one on every floor. Each unit will have its own lounge, kitchen and bathroom facilities for six students, accommodated in two single and two double bedrooms.

There will be no dining room facilities. The kitchen in each unit can be used to prepare breakfast or light meals, while other meals can be taken at the students cafeteria in the Langenhoven Centre.

The individual modules will be named after the gold mines in the Gold Fields Group: Kloof, Doornfontein, Venterspost, Libanon, Deelkraal, Oos-Driefontein, Wes-Driefontein and Leeu-doorn.

Because the central campus offers no further possibilities for student accommodation, the University's Planning Department recommended some years ago that residences should in future be built at the northern end of the campus,

and consist of modular complexes rather than large multi-storied buildings.

Three new residences, designed partly in accordance with this modular concept, were completed late last year and have been in use since the beginning of this year. These can accommodate 80 senior women students, 70 senior men and another 12 men. All three, as well as the new Gold Fields complex, are in Hammanshand Road or its extension, Jan Celliers Street.

campus to Coloured and Black students, have become inadequate.

Prof De Vries said that in order to meet this pressing need Coloured, Black and Indian students would, for the time being, receive preference when accommodation in the new Gold Fields complex is allocated.

It will also afford the University greater scope for broadening its educational spectrum and extending equal opportunities for study and participation in



Mr Plumbridge and Prof De Vries, with a scale model of the new complex.

Prof De Vries pointed out that the number of coloured students at Stellenbosch had increased constantly since 1978 — the year in which the University opened its doors conditionally to students of other race groups for study at undergraduate level. (Postgraduate study at Stellenbosch has been accessible to members of all race groups for many years.)

Because of further revisions of the University's rules for enrolment, the number of coloured undergraduates have virtually doubled this year. Consequently the few houses in Hammanshand Road, where the University is allowed to offer accommodation on

University activities to all students irrespective of race.

"Participation in all activities of the student community will undoubtedly be stimulated if students are able to live on campus near the academic buildings, the Langenhoven Student Centre and the library. We are deeply grateful to Gold Fields for what has now become a reality," Prof De Vries said.

This generous donation to Stellenbosch is also the largest single one Goldfields has made to any university. The company celebrates its centenary this year. □