

## Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae

**Derek Swemmer** (BA Hons, MA, D Litt et Phil, TTHD) is the Registrar at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg (Wits). He taught English at Christ's Hospital, a famous public school in England, for 1 year before spending 5 years on the academic staff of each of the departments of English at the University of Pretoria and Unisa. His administrative career at Wits commenced in 1985. He progressed through various positions and became the Registrar (head of administration) in 1995.

He has travelled widely in South Africa and in foreign countries and has made short study visits to over 90 universities in 18 countries since 1984.

He served as an external assessor in the academic administration review done at the University of Pretoria in the mid-nineties. In 2006 he served on the HEQC Quality Assurance Audit panel for the University of the Free State (UFS). He served as a consultant for UFS in 2007 on future restructuring of the role/s of Registrar and in 2009 on the needs of student administration.

He was a Council member and Honorary Secretary of the English Academy of Southern Africa for 7 years. He is the editor or co-author and co-editor of over 20 books and training manuals. As a parent, he served for 10 years on the Governing Bodies of both Bryneven Primary School and Bryanston High School, chairing both of them for all but 2 years, and served for 5 years on the Johannesburg North School Board.

In 1997 he helped found the International Education Association of South Africa and is its Honorary Treasurer. He played a cardinal role in creating the SA universities' Registrars Imbizo. He serves as a volunteer in the Scout Association and in 2010 completed 8 years on the national Finance Committee of SA's Girl Guide Association.

He has run over 200 strategic planning, leadership and cultural sensitivity courses for many organizations.

As Chapter Adviser of the Wits Golden Key Chapter since 2001, he was recognized as the South African Adviser of the year in 2006 and again in 2008. He was appointed to the Atlanta-based Board of Directors of Golden Key in 2006 and is currently serving a second three-year term. In 2009, he was awarded the International Leadership Council President's Award which recognizes one individual's contribution to Golden Key.

He is married to Rosemary and has two adult daughters.