RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS

Criteria for Selection that should be addressed, as appropriate, in a letter of recommendation:

*Literary and scholastic attainments*

*Energy to use one's talents to the full, as exemplified by fondness for and success in sports* [this need not be addressed as strictly as other criteria]

*Truth, courage, devotion to duty, sympathy for and protection of the weak, kindliness, unselfishness and fellowship*

*Moral force of character and instincts to lead, and to take an interest in one's fellow beings*

**Academic Merit**

1. **Evidence of Academic Background that is Strong and Relevant.** Does the transcript show evidence of high academic achievement? Does this coursework prepare the candidate for the planned field of study? Is there other evidence of high-level performance (e.g. merit scholarships, academic prizes, research results, artistic creations, publications)?

2. **Knowledge of Proposed Courses and Supervisors.** Has the candidate established the relevance of the proposed academic programme to his or her scholarly and career plans and, in the case of a research proposal, provided evidence of substantive engagement with the proposed supervisor(s)? Is there a compelling academic rationale for doing the work at the University of Oxford?

**Leadership Potential**

1. **Ability to Deliver Results.** Can the candidate demonstrate how he or she delivered results from a position of leadership - whether by organizing, mobilizing or inspiring others? This may have been through his/her intellectual or artistic contributions or in other ways. Is there evidence that the candidate initiated something and carried it through to an outcome? Is the candidate likely to attain a position of influence in his/her field of expertise?

2. **Strength of Purpose.** Has the applicant demonstrated courage of conviction, persistence, and determination in the pursuit of his or her goals? Do the candidate's extra-curricular activities indicate commitment?

3. **Creativity.** Is there evidence of creativity and innovation in the candidate's approach to answering questions or solving problems?

4. **Self-Awareness.** Is there evidence of a strong desire to contribute to society? Is the candidate aware of his or her role in particular activities and impact on other people? Can the candidate explain what changed as a result of his or her involvement in something?