



## COMMUNIQUE ON STUDENT PROTEST ACTION

**DATE:** 26 July 2017

**TO:** UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

**FROM:** OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

**SUBJECT:** STUDENT PROTEST ACTION & SRC MEMORANDUM

Yesterday, Tuesday, 25 July 2017 a SRC-led students' protest action culminated in the Vice Chancellor, Professor Mthembu receiving a memorandum with a list of concerns. Successively, meetings between the Executive Management and the SRC resolved to address the concerns raised, in the following manner:

### **SUSPENSION OF LECTURES**

With the exception of Work-Integrated-Learning (WIL) programmes, the academic programme is suspended, from 26 to 28 July 2017. All administration and support services, including academic departments will be operational during these three days. Lectures will resume on Monday, 31 July 2017.

### **REGISTRATION**

Student registration processes on all campuses shall continue, with the late registration period now extended to 04 August 2017. Academic departments will ensure that all required documentation processes and approvals are timeously availed to assist students.

### **UNFUNDED STUDENTS**

Students that are unable to pay fees should follow a Finance Department critical path. Special arrangements related to final year students, instalment plans and new concessions with sureties should be arranged with Finance.

### **QUINTILE 1, 2 & 3 HIGH SCHOOLS STUDENTS AND SASSA BENEFICIARIES**

This category of students are eligible for NSFAS funding. All 2017 first year students from quintile 1-3 schools (non-fee paying) and those that are SASSA beneficiaries should present original documents bearing school names and/or their SASSA status to the Durban and Midlands Admissions Offices respectively, by **Wednesday, 02 August 2017**. SASSA Offices do issue out status letters.

### **SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS (AF17)**

Students that received NSFAS communication indicating that their 'funding is subject to availability of funds' have been unblocked for registration. Those that stayed in the residences in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester will be cleared for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester registration in the residences, provided that they have fulfilled NSFAS academic requirements. Special cases students should present counsellor letters to the Housing Department to facilitate their residences' registration.

## **NSFAS SPECIAL CASES**

This category of students would have submitted appeals to NSFAS for various reasons. Further engagements with NSFAS are ongoing as it relates to these students, including a DUT proposal to NSFAS that non-resident students should receive meal and transport allowances.

Since Monday, 24 July 2017, there is a NSFAS team on campus, trying to resolve a number of outstanding matters. As further engagements with NSFAS are ongoing, we are confident that the outstanding matters and areas of concern related to NSFAS will be resolved sooner than later.

## **NEW NSFAS FUNDED RESIDENT APPLICANTS**

This category of students would have recently received full funding from NSFAS, including funding for accommodation. Due to limited spaces in our residences, the Housing Department shall contact applicants as spaces avail. We encourage students to consider identifying private accommodation and inform Housing of their preferences accordingly. All applicants should report to Housing by **Wednesday, 02 August 2017**, to confirm their preferences and provide information where applicable.

## **TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION**

The Housing Department is only able to offer temporary accommodation to students that were accommodated in the residences in the first semester of 2017. Thus far, this provision is only limited to DUT-owned residences up to **02 August 2017**. Housing is engaging outsourced residences for possibilities related to temporary accommodation.

## **INSOURCING OF CLEANING AND SECURITY SERVICES**

At the 03 June 2017 meeting, Council made a pronouncement on *Insourcing*. As this matter is of concern to the SRC, the DVC: People & Operations, Professor Ndlovu is due to engage the SRC about the context and reasons related to the Council resolution on the matter.

Yours Sincerely,



**Professor Thenjiwe Meyiwa**  
**INSTITUTIONAL REGISTRAR**