



28 February 2018

Dear students and staff

I would like to thank you for your continued patience and understanding whilst our University has been experiencing the staff strike over the last seven weeks.

Following the meeting with the Deputy Minister of Higher Education and Training, Mr Buti Manamela, the DUT Council EXCO, Union leaders from NEHAWU (represented at national level), NTEU and TENUSA (represented at national level by FEDUSA) and with members of the DUT Management yesterday, a signed framework for the mediation process regarding the salary *impasse* was agreed upon. I have attached that document to this communique.

In the spirit of that agreement and in good faith, on the basis of the discussions and resolutions that were accepted by all stakeholders at the meeting with the Deputy Minister yesterday, I hereby confirm:

1. The lockout will be suspended as at 17H00 today, including all that is associated with it, like signing for the acceptance of the offer, given that the negotiations have now resumed.
2. Normal operations will, thus, commence and all departments at DUT will start functioning on Thursday, 1 March 2018.
3. All lectures will resume on Monday, 5 March 2018.

The individual faculties will liaise with students regarding the new academic calendar for the first semester.

We urge all members of the University community to work collaboratively to save this semester. Having lost almost 4 weeks of academic work, our unwavering focus should be on how best we could make amends for this. We owe this to ourselves, the community at large and to our country.

Sincerely

Prof. Thandwa Mthembu
Vice-Chancellor & Principal