

UNIVERSITY STATEMENT

20 February 2022

Dear staff and students

UPDATE ON CAMPUS OPERATIONS

Last Friday, DUT was granted an interim interdict by the High Court, which offered the University protection against violent protest, damage to property, intimidation of staff and students amongst other stipulations. The interim interdict is now firmly in place and the relevant law enforcement authorities have all been notified about the court order.

Last week we notified you of the temporary closure of three Durban campuses, namely Steve Biko campus, M.L Sultan campus and Ritson campus, as per the published statement on 15 February 2022:

<https://dut-cdn2.azureedge.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/DUT.Statement.15February2022.pdf>

These three campuses remain closed until further notice. We will update you on further developments over the next few days. Please remember that we only publish official University Statements on the DUT PinBoard (staff email accounts), DUT4life (student email accounts) and the DUT website (www.dut.ac.za).

We are about to commence an important week in our academic calendar. All lectures at DUT will start on Monday, 21 February 2022. Take note that for now, all lectures will be taking place online. As soon as the safety situation has stabilized and we are confident that the protestors will not seek to compromise your wellbeing and disrupt classes, we will then inform you about the resumption of the previously published 2022 Back to Campus programme.

As soon as the on campus safety situation normalises and the threats diminish, permits to access campus will only be granted to first year students and then, to returning students who are enrolled for exit level modules, to attend mask-to-mask lectures on campus. Other permits will be issued to students who require access to the practical laboratories and to students whose conditions at home are not conducive for learning. However, we will notify you once this process commences. For now, as mentioned above, all lectures will be held online. In the interim, we remind you to familiarize yourself with the Policy Choices on Vaccination of Staff and Students. This policy was approved by the University Council on 04 December 2021 and has come into effect from 01 January 2022:

<https://dut-cdn2.azureedge.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/DUT.Statement.Council.091221-I.pdf>

We remind you that when you return to campus, the use of face masks remains compulsory on all university property. DUT encourages all students and staff to get fully vaccinated.

Finally, we reassure you that the University is engaging with the Students Representative Council (SRC), to help resolve their concerns. DUT, via the Department of Student Governance and Development, will continue to hold regular registration meetings with the SRC. The next standing monthly meeting between DUT and the SRC is scheduled for Thursday, 24 February 2022, to constructively engage on pertinent student governance related matters.

We wish all students and staff a safe and successful first semester.

Sincerely

DUT Management Team

