

UNIVERSITY STATEMENT

06 November 2022

Dear staff and students

Phishing scam uncovered

We have uncovered a phishing scam that is being conducted via the email system, after a hacker attempted to contact members of the DUT community, pretending to be the Vice-Chancellor. The hacker is illegally and fraudulently using Professor Thandwa Mthembu's name. The email address being used in the phishing scam is a generic Gmail address and you must not reply to it.

Once the offending email is located on our system, Information & Communications Technologies Services (ICTS) at DUT blocks the identified Gmail address however, the hacker then creates another email address which subsequently gets blocked and the process repeats itself.

Please note that the Vice-Chancellor and members of the Executive would never use a personal email address to communicate with members of the university community.

You are strongly advised to ignore the phishing scam messages and if you receive an email from the hacker, you must delete it immediately. **Do not send your details to the sender and do not contact them via WhatsApp**, as this will give the hacker access to your device and to your content and database.

ICTS inserts a warning on all emails that originate from outside the university and you are strongly advised to take heed of this alert. We must work together to ensure the cybersecurity and safety of our network and system.

Sincerely

DUT Management team