

## SCAM ALERT

27 January 2025

**To: All DUT Staff and Students**

**Subject: URGENT WARNING: FRAUDULENT ACTIVITY USING FAKE PROFILES**

Dear Colleagues and Students,

We wish to bring to your immediate attention the occurrence of fraudulent activities involving fake profiles impersonating Durban University of Technology (DUT) staff members. These scammers are attempting to deceive individuals into making payments for spaces or services at DUT through unauthorized and illegitimate channels.

**Key Details of the Scam:**

- Fraudsters have created fake profiles using the names and pictures of DUT staff members to appear legitimate. Below is an example of the image being circulated:



- Prospective students and members of the public are being asked to make payments directly to these individuals, which is not sanctioned by the university.
- One of the fake WhatsApp profiles being circulated uses the following number: **+27 81 858 3752**

Please note that the staff member whose identity has been misused is in no way connected to these fraudulent activities.

**Important Reminder:**

DUT does not request or accept payments for spaces, services, or any offerings through unofficial or individual channels. All payments should be made **directly to on-campus cashiers or the university's official bank account**, as outlined below:

**DUT Bank Account Details**

- Bank:** Standard Bank
- Account Number:** 05050 5416
- Branch Code:** 040126
- Reference:** Your DUT student number



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### **Protect Yourself from Scams:**

1. Be vigilant and verify the authenticity of any profile or individual contacting you.
2. Refer to official DUT directories or resources for confirmation of legitimate university representatives.
3. Report any suspicious activities or potential scams immediately to DUT for investigation and support.

### **What You Should Know:**

- DUT will never send representatives to request or collect money from prospective students.
- All official communication from the university will come through authorized channels.

We encourage all students, staff, and members of the public to remain alert and cautious to prevent falling victim to such fraudulent activities. If you have any doubts or suspect fraudulent behaviour, please contact the university for assistance without delay.

Let us all work together to combat these scams and protect the integrity of our university community.

**Sincerely,**  
**Faculty of Management Sciences**  
**Durban University of Technology**



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