

**Student Representative Council (DUT)**

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DUT SRC STATEMENT FOLLOWING THE JOINT EMC-SENEX DECISION

Tuesday, 24 March 2026.

The Durban University of Technology Student Representative Council (DUT SRC) conveys its deferential greetings to all stakeholders of the university; university statutory bodies and members, staff members, alumni and most importantly, the students at the university who are at the centre of the core business of the university.

The Student Representative Council (SRC) pens this statement following the protest actions on Monday and the decision of the Joint EMC-SENEX to transition to online Teaching and Learning, in protection of the safety of students, staff and property. At the outset, as communicated in the last statement, the SRC condemns violent nature of protest actions witnessed on Monday and the previous week.

Demonstrations should be backed by facts and evidence, reason and debate. If we espouse the lens of facts and evidence, the protest actions on Monday at the Durban campuses had no basis. The university, after necessary consultations, communicated that it will process a batch of allowances today, 24 March 2026. The question that follows for itself is one: What then becomes the basis for a protest action? Protest is a democratic right; it should however not exceed bounds and become violent in nature, worse when there is no justifiable basis.

The SRC notes the perceptions of some students after the release of the university statement yesterday – on the 24th of March 2026 - particularly referencing criminality. The SRC continues to defend the right of students to peacefully demonstrate. Demonstration remains a key tenet of democratic expression. However, it loses its essence when wanton acts of violence are introduced in the democratic expression of students. The SRC wishes to extend an open invitation to all to use established channels and protocols to deal with whatever challenges they encounter.

NSFAS ALLOWANCES

The SRC over the past weekend, convened a meeting with all students who, hitherto, had not indicated their allowance type- being a residence, NSFAS accredited private accommodation or transport allowance. As stated in the meeting with students, this severely impacts the completion of the templates and was equally a factor for the non-payment of the learning material allowance. The meeting assisted with curtailing the numbers as some students were able to indicate on the link that was previously shared with the affected students by the Financial Aid Unit.

The Student Representative Council (SRC) convened an urgent meeting today with Finance and Financial Aid Units to follow up on the disbursement of allowances. The SRC can confirm that Finance Unit is presently processing a payment file of over 3 200 students for disbursement, the file encapsulates the learning material, meal and transport allowance.

The SRC is particularly concerned that there are still 288 students that have not submitted their banking details at all, whilst we have 88 students who failed the AVS. The Student Representative Council (SRC) has received a report and will be initiating a meeting with the 370 affected students to ensure that they are not further excluded from the disbursement of allowances.

The SRC urges all students to, at all material times, have confidence in the leadership they elected. Our resolve is always to advocate for your interests and to ensure that your immediate needs are always catered.



Mr Sihle NKOSI

SRC President



Mr Samkelo NGUBO

SRC Secretary