

DUT TO STAGE PLAY ABOUT STUDENT STRIKES

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THE Durban University of Technology (DUT) will today stage a theatre production and a discussion about this year's chaotic student strike.

The event, organised by the International Centre of Nonviolence, will focus on the causes of the strike and the ways in which staff, students, management and the police responded.

Said the centre's spokesperson, Crispin Hemson, "There has been a great deal of unhappiness amongst staff and many students about the damage and disruption of the student strike.

"The feeling is that this is an inevitable DUT event that harms the good name of the institution.

"We want to bring a greater understanding of the underlying issues, as well as stimulate debate on issues where there has been almost no communication."

In July, the university suspended its academic programmes as students went on a violent protest over financial aid and other issues.

On Friday the high court in Durban finalised an order that states that protests can only take place from a distance of 100 metres away from the university's five campuses.

The student representative council's education and transformation officer, Tholinhlanhla Ngubane, said that there is still more to be done.

"The discussion will help in resolving the issues we have and work towards a solution. A strike is not a nice thing and has a bad effect.

"We would like to get a chance to have our views on the issues the students are facing in parliament.

"We believe this will bring an end to strikes as the nation will be aware of the challenges that students are faced with," said Ngubane.

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