



Higher Education in context

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TODAY **THAN** YOU WERE YESTERDAY!

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Linda du Plessis
March 2022

18 February 2022

University of Cape Town (UCT) students have continued their demonstration to try and halt all campus activities **over registration and outstanding fee debt issues.**

A heavy police presence was present at UCT as students protested on the upper campus.

UCT students continue protest action amid registration, fee issues

news24 Marvin Charles

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15 March 2022

- Students from the University of KwaZulu-Natal's (UKZN) Pietermaritzburg campus, who slept outside the main gate while awaiting residences, are still concerned about their accommodation issues.
- *The Witness* reported earlier this month that hundreds of students were sleeping outside the university's main gate. Students from as far as Cape Town and Limpopo were part of the group, who said they had been stranded for almost a month without accommodation.

UKZN students in Pietermaritzburg campus still facing issues with accommodation

The Witness Londiwe Xulu

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15 March 2022

About 1 000 students from Zamukulungisa WSU Campus in Mthatha were left stranded after their landlords allegedly evicted them from their place of residences yesterday, March 14.

The landlords were demanding money for rent as the students owed rent for three months.

“Students that had not paid for accommodation were given ample warning to vacate residences by March 7, 2022 to make space for students who are funded (by the state, private companies or self-funded) who had applied for accommodation to take up those spaces,” said Tukwayo.

She added that bursary funding that WSU has received from various funders have set criteria, which the University must adhere to.

WSU students strike after being evicted for outstanding rental


Express Babalwa Ndlanya

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15 March 2022

The UFS' Vice-Chancellor and Rector, Prof. Francis Petersen, said on Tuesday that the institution will be opposing bail for two of its students who were arrested by police following violence that broke out at the Eastern Free State campus on Monday. The violence centred on the payment of allowances from the **NSFAS**. Petersen is quite concerned at the culture of violence that appears to be in existence at South Africa's institutions of higher learning.

UFS opposes bail after Qwaqwa campus violence - VIDEO

— OLEBOGENG MOTSE 12:44 Tue, 15 Mar 2022



17 March 2022

DURBAN - THE University of Zululand has announced the suspension of all academic activities at the KwaDlangezwa campus after violent protests that rocked the institution yesterday.

University of Zululand suspends operations after violent protests erupt



17 March 2022

Classes, as well as graduation ceremonies, have been disrupted at the University of South Africa (Unisa) in Pretoria on Wednesday following a protest by the support staff.

Unisa graduation ceremonies postponed after staff protest disruptions



NWU Vanderbijlpark Campus

3 February: 'Meet and greet' Acting DVC and SCC

8 February campus walkabout with campus management

9 February: Vanderbijlpark Campus Management Committee Meeting with SCC

Issues: Academic matters, Vaccinations, Registrations: Slow pace of registration of NSFAS students and the academic programme was starting therefore many would be left out, *Facilities:* electricity: loadshedding. Broken generator, Residences- operational matters

9 March- SCC came DVC's office unannounced. They arrive at around 11h00 and we adjourned the discussions at around 17h00.

11 March: Engagement of UMC with students Dr Chalufu collated all student issues, arranged a hybrid feedback at Mahikeng Campus on the 11th March 2022 – meeting collapsed

13 March (Sunday) SCC visited DVCC's residential house to discuss concerns: loadshedding and no provision of power at their residences : demanded postponement of assignments and tests

14 March, students engaged on an illegal strike. They refused to engage -dispersed by the Police..

15 March it was quiet. Staff could work and the gates were open. Dr Sibusiso Chalufu. DVC and Director Student Life to meet SCC at 15h30 - they did not come to the meeting place.

16 March: protesting students closed the gates again, demanded to give a Memorandum to the Acting VC. Dr Chalufu is engaging them.

08 March Tuesday

Some student formations at the Mahikeng Campus blocked entry to the campus. Staff and students could not enter campus. Informal discussions with students, it sounded promising and then they received the vaccination sms.

09 March Wednesday

Student Engagement: Time: Meeting 11:00

Attendance: Campus management, Executive Mayor: Mr Tshepiso Mphehlo (with his team)

SCC, EFF, SASCO, NEHAWU, The Progressive Youth Alliance and Fraternal Movements (YCLSA, SASCO, DENOSA SM, SADTU SC and ANCWYD). Virtual: UMC members logged in but could not attend as a result of sound problems

Resolutions: The Mayor indicated that arrested students will be released and not prosecuted, requested urgent UMC meeting

10 March Thursday

Student Engagement: 17:00 – Scheduled as a Hybrid meeting.

Attendance: In person: Profs du Plessis, Balia, Swanepoel, Mr J Molautsi, Mr Nkoana (SALA). Me Sekopane (Finance), Mr Gwele (BED)

SCC, EFF, SASCO, NEHAWU, The Progressive Youth Alliance and Fraternal Movements (YCLSA, SASCO, DENOSA SM, SADTU SC and ANCWYD), Virtual: UMC members

11 March Friday

Student Engagement: Time:10:30 – Scheduled Hybrid meeting

Attendance: In person: Dr Chalufu, Prof Swanepoel, Mr J Molautsi, Mr Nkoana (SALA). Me Sekopane (Finance), Mr Gwele (BED)

Virtual: UMC members, SRC members, SCC: VDB, SCC:PC

SCC, EFF, SASCO, SCC, NEHAWU, The Progressive Youth Alliance and Fraternal Movements (YCLSA, SASCO, DENOSA SM, SADTU SC and ANCWYD). The students walked out before any discussion as they demanded the Ag VC to attend in person. The UMC met at 16:00 to respond to all the concerns as received from different student groups.

14 March Monday

Student Engagement: TB Time: Mar 11, 09:00 – Scheduled Hybrid meeting

SCC indicated that they are engaging with the responses and indicated that they did not call for the shutdown.

15 March Tuesday All gates were open.

16 March Wednesday Small group at MC attempted to close the main gate and they were dispersed we continue and are open.



First Time Entering Undergraduate Students

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First Time Entrants	2019	2020	2021	2022
Contact	9939	10330	9026	11679
*Unknown	37	9	9	33
African	6310	6908	6227	8967
Coloured	374	411	344	410
Indian/Asian	82	119	85	78
White	3136	2883	2361	2191
Distance	2338	1956	742	1002
*Unknown	12	1	6	5
African	1751	1513	442	695
Coloured	166	108	53	80
Indian/Asian	44	30	12	12
White	365	304	229	210
Grand Total	12 277	12 286	9 768	12571

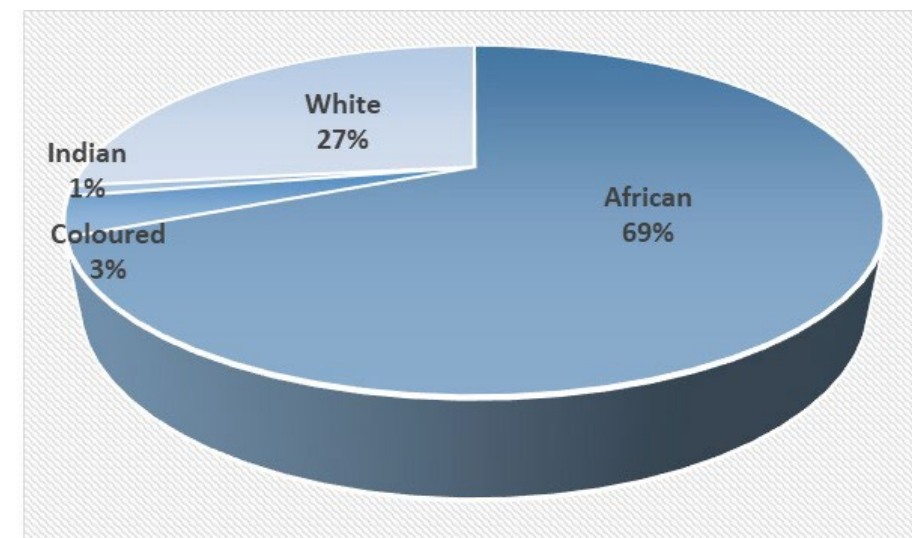
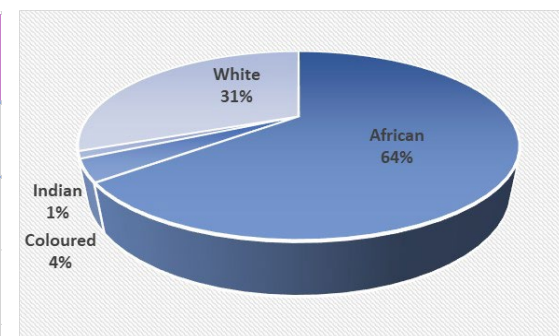
	2022	Target	%
Contact	11679	10891	107%
Distance	1002	1354	74%
Total FTEN	12681	12 245	104%

Enrolment per faculty

Faculty	Enrolled	Planned	FTEN Off Target	% Off target
FNAS	2 072	1 560	512	32,8%
HEALTH	1 545	1 504	41	2,7%
ENG	308	312	-4	-1,3%
HUM	2 146	1 685	461	27,4%
EDU	1 973	2 032	-59	-2,9%
FEMS	2 744	3 045	-301	-9,9%
THEOL	213	103	110	106,8%
LAW	678	650	28	4,3%

Total NWU student enrolment

Enrolments	2019	2020	2021	2022
Contact	44 647	44 785	43 571	42 362
African	26 802	27 791	27 968	29 015
Coloured	1 568	1 626	1 601	1 525
Indian	522	573	517	420
White	15 651	14 776	13 444	11 331
Distance	19 024	11 640	10 322	7 624
African	15 948	8 554	7 201	4 891
Coloured	1 078	785	760	592
Indian/Asian	159	192	186	132
White	1 805	2 108	2 160	1 989
Grand Total	63 671	56 425	53 893	49 986



Teaching Output

Graduates	2019	2020	2021
Advanced Diploma	787	1110	868
Doctor's degree	314	251	247
Master's degree	798	722	653
Postgraduate bachelor's degree	2206	1835	1544
Postgraduate diploma	685	673	507
Undergraduate degree	7430	8204	8330
Undergraduate diploma	2741	2659	2137
Grand Total	14 961	15 454	14 286

Contact Pass Rates	2019	2020	2021
Undergraduate	84,6%	92,5%	89,8%
Postgraduate to Masters	78,0%	95,6%	92,2%
Higher Degrees	50,3%	48,8%	46,4%
Total	83,7%	92,0%	89,3%

Percentage of staff with Doctorates

	2019	2020	2021
% Staff with PhD	51%	49%	54%



Top Ikateleng learners receive laptops

With the world still facing the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic, the NWU and its loyal donors came together to make life a little easier for a group of talented, hard-working students.

To assist our students with their studies, PPS handed over laptops to the value of R200 000 to last year's top Ikateleng-learners who are now registered across the NWU's three campuses.



Maximising educational success with Tiger Brands' Plates4Days

NWU in conjunction with Tiger Brands' Plates4Days, launched the 2022 Meal-a-Day programme at its Mahikeng Campus on 22 February.

Tiger Brands' Plates4Days offers nutritional support for students who do not have access to proper meals.

More than 500 first-year students on the campus were introduced to the programme during the NWU's Registration and Orientation week.

Graduate attributes

NWU nursing students to take part in national WorldSkills competition:



Two nursing students from the NWU's Mahikeng Campus, Sakhile Ngcobo and Tshiamo Mokgoetsi, have been selected to take part in the Health and Social Care skill category of the WorldSkills South Africa national competition on 28 March 2022.

They will be competing for the chance to represent South Africa at the 46th International WorldSkills Competition which will be held from 12-17 October 2022 in Shanghai, China.

During the provincial competition, 20 contestants were tested on their knowledge and grasp of their respective talents in simulated hospital and clinic scenarios.

WorldSkills and the Health and Welfare Sector Education and Training Authority (HWSETA) – co-hosts of the WorldSkills South Africa competition – awarded each of the 20 competitors postgraduate bursaries to further their studies.

The national winner will receive a post-qualification bursary for further development as nursing educator or lecturer.



International Collaboration

NWU Researchers from North-West University and Universität Duisburg-Essen in Germany have developed an early warning tool for metal pollution in freshwater systems worldwide.

This research achievement is an **international collaboration** between the Water Research Group, the NWU led by Prof Nico Smit and Prof Victor Wepener and the Universität Duisburg-Essen's Aquatische Ökologie (Aquatic Ecology) Group, led by Prof Bernd Sures and Dr Sonja Zimmerman.

The project is **funded by the National Research Foundation and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research.**

NWU's TRADE publishes book on Africa's digital future

The World Trade Organization (WTO) Chairs Programme in the TRADE research entity (Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences) at the North-West University (NWU) has published a new book on Africa's digital future.

The book, titled ***Africa's digital future: From theory to action***, makes an important and timely contribution to the literature on Africa, exploring the many opportunities and challenges that the continent faces in a world characterised by accelerating technological change.



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NWU master's student's passion leads to book about wetlands

Kirsty Kyle, a master's student at the NWU(NWU), has recently published an educational children's book and, after receiving sponsorship for the printing, donated the books to under-privileged schools.

The book, *Discovering Wetlands with Piffy, Zenzi and Lucky*, is published in isiZulu and English, and is aimed at primary school learners. It tells the story of her dogs visiting a farm and learning more about wetlands, wise agriculture, water use and more.



Congrats
to our
Graduates!