

Motion 1

Brought forward by: Laurence Gawronsky

Seconded by: Melvin Rautenbach

Received: 19 October 2017

Motion: For this Convocation to ask the UCT Council appoint an Investigative Commission to review possibilities for the development of Student Housing for Undergraduate Students.

UCT as of 2016 had 29074 students of which 18421 are undergraduates. 42% Students are Black which approximates to 7730 undergraduate students. UCT also has 4542 students from other African Countries some of whom may also need accommodation.

Many of the Black students come from disadvantaged backgrounds, rural areas and urban “township” areas. The University has 3798 places for students “under 21 years of age” in the sixteen “Tier 1 Residences”. The current policy for first year students has “80% of 2240 places be assigned to redress categories” (1) by the Director of Student Housing. “Tier 1 Residences” are catered residences.

Students from previously disadvantaged backgrounds who live outside of residences have a significantly higher dropout rate, not caused by academic exclusion, than those who live in residences. Not having a place in a University Residence causes excessive hardship which includes long commutes.

This motion says that this situation is totally unacceptable and inadequate and that not having sufficient suitable accommodation for undergraduate students is an urgent matter to be addressed. UCT Student accommodation needs to be increased by at least 50% with an initial target of 1900 extra beds.

The motion proposes that the University set up three person Investigative Commission using the senior academic staff from:

- 1) i. The School of Architecture
- ii. The Department of Construction Management
- iii. The College of Accounting

to

- a) Seek submissions
- b) Investigate proposals and
- c) Consider financially viable alternatives

so as to develop a Proposal and Report to the University Council by June 2018.

- Department of Student Affairs UCT Student Housing Admissions Policy

Motion 2

Brought forward by: Laurence Gawronsky

Seconded by: Melvin Rautenbach

Received: 19 October 2017

Motion to request the UCT Council to hold the UCT Executive accountable to reduce Water Consumption at UCT

Cape Town is currently experiencing a water crisis. For a city that relies on historically wet winters, the low rainfall figures during the recent winter are daunting. The dam levels of major dams supplying Cape Town are less than half what they were last year. This has been well documented in the local media. With climate change a global concern there are indications that the future looks drier for Cape Town.

UCT needs to be playing its part to prevent the city's taps running dry. The Department of Water and Sanitation has told the City of Cape Town to reduce overall water consumption by 40% and that should become a target for the University.

This motion promotes the following:

- 1) That the water consumption of all the buildings on all campuses and residences be monitored with their own meter and the results be published and displayed on a prominent notice board and monitored on a monthly basis until the water crisis is over.
- 2) That the Senior Management Team, Executive Directors, Deans and Senior Professoriate and Departmental Management become actively involved in driving a program to save water.
- 3) Each Faculty, the administration buildings as well as each the 35 residence proprietaries be held accountable for reducing their water consumption and be responsible for the water consumption of buildings they occupy.
- 4) That any programs aiming to reduce water usage, such as converting bath units to showers in the residences, be implemented more rapidly.
- 5) That students, faculty and staff be made aware of the need to save water through an active campaign.
- 6) Alternative sources of water be explored.