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UCT to assist walk-in applicants

The University of Cape Town is currently engaging various internal stakeholders on how to handle walk-in applications. The university's commitment is to assist walk-ins as best as possible and processes are being put in place to enable this.

The announcement by President Jacob Zuma on free education was made in December 2017. However, the UCT closing date for applications was 30 September.

The university's processes during registration will allow for walk-in applicants to speak to an admissions counsellor and if eligible they will be assisted to register on the Department of Higher Education and Training's Central Applications Clearing House (CACH) system or at UCT provided there is still space in the programme they are interested in.

UCT has a good record over many years of accepting academically deserving students, including those not able to meet the fee requirements. The university has done this through the NSFAS, which has been supplemented substantially by UCT funding. For years the university's financial aid packages for the poor have been significantly higher. All of this has happened within enrolment planning parameters.

It must be noted that UCT is already fully subscribed in many programmes. The university received 29 500 applications and can enrol only 4200 first-year students. Due to capacity issues, the unfortunate reality is that there would be some applicants (traditional or walk-ins) who will not be accepted because the programmes might have reach full capacity.

The university is in full support of free education for the poor and has said so in our submission to the Heher Commission in September 2016.

ENDS

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