04 April 2017

Occupation of UCT's Bremner Building ended

The occupation of the Bremner Building at the University of Cape Town has been ended on Monday, 03 April 2017 following an arrangement between the university's executive and student representatives.

There was a shared acknowledgement of the need to continue to focus on the significant work already done in addressing the financial, academic and accommodation issues raised. Subsequent demands raised on 31 March 2017 entitled "Current demands to UCT Management" were regarded as separate issues and as such did not form part of the mediations.

The application for an interdict was withdrawn and staff were able to return to work at Bremner Building.

Please see the below Campus Announcement for more.

Campus Announcement

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD

4 April 2017

Dear students and colleagues

The University executive and the SRC Candidates / Shackville TRC met throughout 2 April 2017 for various consultative sessions, of which some were formally mediated. The mediated processes are in keeping with **the agreement** and deemed an essential step for parties to follow to resolve differences should there be a perception that the agreement has been breached. Subsequent demands raised on 31 March 2017 entitled "**Current demands to UCT Management**" were regarded as separate issues and as such did not form part

of the mediations. However, there was recognition that some of the issues raised would be dealt with in further engagements.

The sessions proved helpful in that students agreed on 2 April 2017 to vacate Bremner building by 08:00 on 3 April 2017. The application for an interdict was withdrawn and staff were able to return to work.

Student representatives articulated points which will require ongoing attention. The issues related in the main to the Readmission Appeals Committee (RAC) decisions. The approval of Senate for RAC decisions to be reviewed permitted the mediations to be initiated and proceed. Much of the focus of the sessions was on how the needs of this category of students are to be dealt with. Issues of accommodation, financial assistance and academic support were also on the agenda. This will thus continue to be a priority concern for the Rapid Response Task Team, which reconvened on 3 April 2017.

Another key element of the consultations revolved around resolving support for the missing band. This refers to National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) and GAP (UCT-funded) students who are neither first- nor final-year students but are deemed to be in need of financial support. These are students whose funding has lapsed, but who, if supported will become eligible for NSFAS and GAP in 2018.

There was a shared acknowledgement between all parties that they should work collaboratively to achieve optimal conditions with the provision of the necessary financial, academic and accommodation resources for students in need.

The following resolutions were reached:

- A progress report on the RAC review will be tabled on 3 April.

- Students readmitted through the RAC review process will be counselled via their faculties with regards to academic reintegration.

- The so-called missing-band students (see above) will be assisted through the Student Financial Aid Office with funding for the academic year 2017, if on the assessment of their academic record they will qualify for NSFAS funding in 2018.

- Students readmitted will be assisted by student housing for on- or off-campus accommodation.

Communication and Marketing Department

ENDS

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