



Central University of
Technology, Free State

■ COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

26 September 2016

Developments at CUT

All academic activities for Central University of Technology, Free State (CUT) students have been suspended at both Bloemfontein and Welkom Campuses with effect from 12:00 today until 10 October due to security concerns on campus at this stage. The decision to suspend the academic activities was after a meeting between student leaders and management which failed to effectively address the current challenges and implications of the statement by the Minister of Higher Education and Training for the universities in 2017. The meeting served as a continuation of previous meetings which were held with student leaders to find solutions to the current fees-must fall debacle, most importantly, our commitment to constructive engagements with our students.

The current period has been characterized by demonstrations, which in our view have huge potential to hamper normal academic activities to continue. The tests are already postponed until 10 October 2016. The university believes that the academic programmes will return to normalcy after this extended recess of students which was due to begin on 29 September. Management remains committed to continue to negotiate with students and staff; particularly our students to ensure a speedy resolution to this impasse.

A special University Council is due to meet to make informed decisions that will ensure a smooth running of the University and media updates will be shared with you in order to make sure that you are effectively informed about latest events.

More about CUT

CUT is a leader in many technology fields ranging from learning programmes in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) a broad field in which CUT has about 48.3% of its enrolments, much higher than many other South African universities. Further, CUT's research and innovation leadership in many areas, more especially in rapid prototyping and manufacturing is world class. The latter has been honoured by both the Medical Research Council (MRC) as part of its National Medical Device Platform and the National Research Foundation (NRF), with the latter having granted CUT a Chair in this area. Through its social and technological innovations CUT aims to contribute towards the social-economic development in the region as well as in the rest of South Africa and internationally.

For more information about CUT visit www.cut.ac.za

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