

**AGREEMENTS REACHED IN A MEETING BETWEEN THE RECTOR, SRC AND #FEESMUSTFALL
REPRESENTATIVES**

TUESDAY, 3 NOVEMBER 2015

1. Free education:

The meeting agreed that:

- a. The University of the Western Cape and its Rector support the call for free education and remain committed to campaign Government for support to realise this.
- b. UWC will implement the 0% increase for 2016.
- c. A Task Team will be appointed with representatives from the University management, SRC, #feesmustfall, Finance department and a representative of the Registration committee to deal with a number of process issues relating to the commitments outlined below. It was agreed that the meeting will convene urgently to start with their deliberations. As part of their deliberations the Task Team must also define the concept of what financially "needy" means by Friday, 6 November 2015.
- d. The University will look at a process to support students who fall outside the NSFAS bracket, but are unable to afford studying without financial support.
- e. It was noted that the issue of the scrapping of debt will not be resolved immediately but the Task team has been mandated to urgently (within 14 days) identify strategies to fund the scrapping of student debt.
- f. Financially "needy" students, bursary holders and NSFAS recipients will not pay registration or upfront fees and will not be financially excluded.
- g. UWC will have to engage Government to assist the University with addressing historic debt. As a University that has always been committed to providing equitable and affordable access to students, the University will seek to find ways to address historic debt, but it is recognised that this is not a matter that the University can address without assistance from Government and others.

2. Graduation with outstanding debt

The University agreed that graduation is an important symbolic moment in a student's life and that all students completing their studies will be able to participate in graduation ceremonies. Students with debt will receive a letter indicating that a student has completed the academic requirements of a specific degree and that the degree certificate will issued once the students has settled their outstanding debt. Such students will also sign an agreement that once they find employment, they will negotiate with the University the terms of starting to settle their debt.

3. Students must be able to register for a full year and not just a semester

The University management agreed that students will be allowed to register for a full year, provided that the agreed financial processes will continue. The academic prerequisites will remain in place as per the current programme rules.



4. Academic intervention programme

The University management agreed to put in place a strategy to focus on students' retention and to put in place a comprehensive programme with appropriate measures in every faculty to support students. It was agreed that there will be a reference group with representatives from the SRC and #feesmustfall to discuss the matter. It was also agreed that there will be no academic exclusions without academic intervention processes in place.

5. Kovacs pricing and other arrangements

- a. **The meeting agreed that:** The Rector will meet with Kovacs about issues raised such as fencing, laundry, wifi, fines, fee increases and others. It was also agreed that:
- i. the SRC and #feesmustfall will nominate representatives to participate in the meeting with Kovacs;
 - ii. the University will continue engagements with the DHET about the acquisition of Kovacs. In this respect it was recognised that there are different options that can be considered (to buy them out or to go into partnership);
 - iii. the student leadership will write a letter to the DHET to support the University in its attempts to acquire Kovacs;
 - iv. The University will also engage the private sector about possible co-developments on campus that could impact the price of Kovacs.

6. Differently abled students

In addition to what has already been agreed with the SRC it was noted that the DVC: Academic will lead the Task Team that has been agreed to and report to the Student Development and Support Committee. The first meeting will be within a week.

7. Buying of houses in the area and develop them as communes for use by students

The University agreed to raise the issue with the DHET as part of the infrastructure expansion of the institution.

8. Accreditation of private providers

The University management agreed that all private providers registered with the University will be accredited according to agreed minimum criteria. Part of the accreditation could include a minimum period for which the accommodation must be available. As a result of this process, the University will have a list of accredited accommodation that it could provide to students. It was further agreed that only accredited private accommodation will be advertised on campus.

9. Shuttle services for students residing in private accommodation in Belhar

- a. The University agreed to extend the Hector Petersen shuttle service to include certain stops in Belhar in the morning and evening.



- b. It was also agreed to use this opportunity to jointly put pressure on the City of Cape Town to also consider students safety around the campus and to expedite the MyCiti bus service provision in this area.
- c. The University also agreed to engage the Belhar community through their ward representatives as well as with the Bellville SAPS, to raise issues of safety of students in the area. It was noted that engagement with the Belhar neighbourhood watch has already taken place.

10. Salary increases of the university executive

The Rector supports the demand that the executive should not accept salary increases and will put this to Council who takes final decisions on salary increases of the executive management

11. Outsourcing of essential services

The University management indicated that they share the moral obligation around the issue of outsourcing and that outsourcing will be considered with a firm commitment to pursue implementation after a feasibility study has been done and the implications of such a decision are clearly understood by all. It was further noted that this will have to be mediated within the scope of existing contracts.

12. Wasteful expenditure by the University

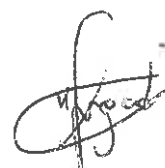
- a. The University management agreed that if an incident of wasteful expenditure is identified and brought to the Rector's attention, it will be investigated in full. It was further agreed that the KPMG hotline can be used to lodge such complaints.
- b. The University management further indicated that, given all of the matters that we are agreeing to now, a prudent approach to expenditure will be required to manage the financial implications of these decisions.

13. The scrapping of the Picketing Policy

The University management indicated that they cannot undo a Council decision, but it was agreed that the SRC will take the matter to the Council with a request for review. The University management will make the Policy available to students and as part of the review process also provide student leaders with professional expertise to assist.

14. The halting of the IOP process

The University management indicated that the IOP process has been a very consultative process to date, but that mechanisms will be put in place to further engage specifically with students about the substance of the IOP before it is tabled with the governance structures for final adoption. As part of the communication about the consultation process, the meaning and purpose of the IOP will also be explained.



15. Provision of space on campus for students to operate their own businesses

The University management indicated that in principle they agree with the proposal, but that the Procurement Policy would have to be revisited to see how the request could be accommodated. Students are invited to comment on the Policy and the University management commits to promote student entrepreneurship.

16. Programme to appoint and develop black academics

The University management indicated that there is a range of initiatives in place to develop, attract and retain black academics, with a specific focus on black African academics. These matters are dealt with in the Employment Equity Plan, the new generation of academics programme (NGAP), the accelerated development programme as well as the special appointments programme which was introduced this year. The University management agreed to workshop these initiatives with students and to share the initiatives through more effective communication in future.

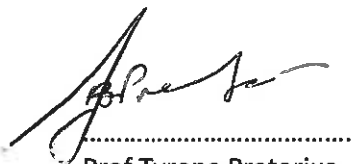
17. The immediate dissolution of the SRC and Amnesty

- a. It was agreed not to pursue the dissolution of the SRC but that in general the framework for the SRC election process would be reviewed and the idea of a Student Parliament would be considered.
- b. In addition the #feesmustfall movement, SRC and University management commits to a debriefing process during which there would be a reconciliation process.
- c. The University management agreed to amnesty, provided that:
 - i. The leadership of #feesmustfall, the SRC and management commit to a debriefing process during which a genuine reconciliation process will be undertaken by two mutually acceptable facilitators.

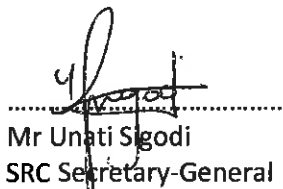
The University commits to providing counselling to any student that participated in the protest as well as those affected by the protest. Such students are invited to contact CSSS.

Upon signing of the agreement the #feesmustfall movement commits to ending the protest action and to the normal resumption of the University's academic activities.

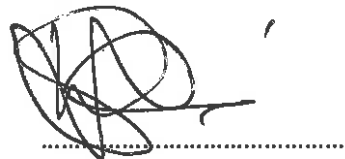
Signed on 3 November 2015.



Prof Tyrone Pretorius
Rector and Vice-Chancellor



Mr Unati Sigodi
SRC Secretary-General



Mr Lindokuhle Mandyoli
#feesmustfall