

UNIVERSITY STATEMENT

21 July 2021

Dear staff and students

The Durban University of Technology would like to convey its most sincere condolences to the family and friends of the three students who tragically passed on over the last week.

A total of 215 people in KZN and Gauteng sadly lost their lives during the recent unrest. Two of those who unfortunately passed on were our students. The tragic passing of Textile Technology first year student, Mpilwenhle Khethokuhle Mchunu and first year Industrial Engineering student, Andile Dlamini and another first year Textile Technology student Nondumiso Ngwenya. The loss of life is always tough to accept and our thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends of the deceased. May the souls of the dearly departed rest in eternal peace.

We are shocked and deeply saddened by these tragedies. If any of our students and staff would like to speak to one of our professionally trained counsellors, please contact:

DUT counselling services for students	Counsbookingdbn@dut.ac.za (Durban) Counsellingpmb@dut.ac.za (Midlands)	During office hours.
DUT counselling services for staff	ewp@dut.ac.za	During office hours.

Please find details for the 24-hour mental health support services:

Higher Health National Hotline	0800 36 36 36 or SMS 43336
South African Depression & Anxiety Group (SADAG)	0800 12 13 14
Lifeline	0861 322 322
South African National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (SANCA) for alcohol or drug dependence problems.	0861 173 422

As South Africa continues to recover from the unrest that we witnessed last week, we also take time to reflect on the lives lost, the people and livelihoods affected and the healing that is required. Many of our staff and students have also been involved in mopping up operations and assisting in the areas affected by the unrest - and we are truly grateful for their community spirit.

Please remember that we are still experiencing a third wave of the coronavirus pandemic, so please continue to follow the public health protocols. Wear your mask, wash your hands regularly, observe physical and social distancing, avoid large gatherings and when you are invited, please register for the COVID-19 vaccine and then, take the vaccine when it is offered to you.



Sincerely
DUT Management