

## UNIVERSITY STATEMENT

08 November 2021

Dear staff and students

### CLOSURE OF STEVE BIKO, RITSON AND M.L SULTAN CAMPUSES IN DURBAN

Earlier this morning, a group of protestors from a student political organisation turned extremely violent and damaged DUT property, thereby threatening and compromising the safety and security of our university community. The violent protest action affected the Steve Biko, Ritson and M.L Sultan campuses in Durban.

Therefore, we have decided to close the Steve Biko, Ritson and M.L Sultan campuses with immediate effect. All staff and students should vacate the Steve Biko, Ritson and M.L Sultan campuses in a safe and orderly manner. The remaining four campuses remain open. Essential services staff will continue to operate on all DUT campuses.

The three affected campuses will reopen on Wednesday morning, 10 November 2021. We will continue to closely monitor the situation before implementing any further steps to protect the lives and wellbeing of our staff and students and to secure university property. Campus Protection, in conjunction with the South African Police Services, have already started apprehending suspects and they will continue to gather evidence and take appropriate action against those who broke the law and/or violated university rules/policies.

Teaching and learning for all students and staff will continue online during Adjusted Alert Level 1 in the “National State of Disaster.”

Sincerely

DUT Management team