

UNIVERSITY STATEMENT

02 March 2022

Dear staff and students

UPDATE ON UNIVERSITY OPERATIONS

As you know, we wrote to you on 15 February 2022 informing you of our carefully considered decision to temporarily close the Steve Biko campus, Ritson campus and M.L Sultan campus, after a series of criminal and violent attacks.

<https://dut-cdn2.azureedge.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/DUT.Statement.15February2022.pdf>

However, during this time, the University was still operational. Staff members from the three affected campuses were working remotely, teaching and learning was continuing online, the other four campuses remained open and online student registrations for 2022 was taking place.

Whilst online registration for first year students is continuing until Friday, 11 March 2022, we are pleased to confirm that our student registration numbers are close to our enrolment target.

On 20 February 2022 we notified you that DUT was granted an interim interdict by the High Court, an order which offered the University protection against violent protest, damage to property and the intimidation of staff and students, amongst other stipulations. The interim court interdict remains firmly in place.

<https://dut-cdn2.azureedge.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/DUT.Statement.20Feb22.pdf>

Whilst the violent protests and criminal acts have since subsided, we recognise the need to commence with the Back to Campus Teaching & Learning Plan that was shared with you on 02 February 2022. Therefore, we will adopt a phased in approach, with our three affected campuses reopening to staff tomorrow, Thursday, 03 March 2022.

Please note, only staff may return to the Steve Biko campus, Ritson campus and the M.L Sultan campus on Thursday morning and access will be granted in line with the Policy Choices on Vaccination that was approved by the DUT Council on 04 December 2021.

Please remember that the use of a face mask is compulsory on all DUT campuses and residences.

On Friday, 04 March 2022, we will only allow those students who are writing supplementary/special examinations to be on campus. Access for this specific group of approximately 120 students, will also be in line with the Policy Choices on Vaccination that was approved by the DUT Council on 04 December 2021.

<https://dut-cdn2.azureedge.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/DUT.Statement.Council.091221-1.pdf>

Later this week, the University will convene a meeting to determine a way forward regarding the implementation of the Back to Campus Teaching & Learning Plan for 2022. We will keep you updated on further developments.

Remember to only access official University Statements via the DUT PinBoard (staff email system) or DUT4life (student email accounts). DUT statements are also published on the website www.dut.ac.za. Please be aware of “fake news” and false statements that some people may circulate on social media platforms. If in doubt, kindly liaise with your department for further clarity.

We thank you for your patience and understanding during this challenging start to the academic year. Have a safe and successful first semester.

Sincerely

DUT Management Team

