



Communication and Marketing Department
Isebe loThungelwano neNtengiso
Kommunikasie en Bemerkingsdepartement

Private Bag X3, Rondebosch 7701, South Africa
Welgelegen House, Chapel Road Extension, Rosebank, Cape Town
Tel: +27 (0) 21 650 5427/5428/5674 Fax: +27 (0) 21 650 5628

www.uct.ac.za

23 June 2017

UCT statement on students served with notice to vacate residences

The University of Cape Town states that no student has been requested to vacate their residences as a result of non-payment of fees. The Student Housing and Residence Life office has sent notices to 12 students who are academically ineligible to continue in 2017 and are therefore not registered for this academic year. These students will be provided with the necessary transport assistance to return to their homes.

There are currently 13 students who have made financial arrangements to pay their outstanding debt and have therefore received access to lectures and online facilities (through the grace period), but will only be registered once their fees are settled.

UCT has put in measures in place to assist students with debt, particularly in 2017 and last year.

For 2017, a total of 1 398 appeals by students with debt were considered by the Student Financial Aid Office. From these appeals, 1 305 students were successful, with 935 students being able to continue with their studies at UCT and 370 graduates receiving assistance to graduate.

There were 93 unsuccessful appeals. The 93 applicants were not successful for a number of reasons including:

- 28 unsuccessful appeals for financial aid by students who are not in first year or final year but did not get the 50% pass requirement set by NSFAS.
- 37 unsuccessful appeals were financially ineligible – the family income is above the UCT financial aid and GAP funding threshold of R600 000.
- The other appeals included students with post-graduate-debt; SADC and international students; and students with previous qualifications.

A further 152 appeals received were not processed, as the students fees were paid directly – their sponsors paid or they received assistance from the SRC Assistance Fund at the time the appeal was considered.

The UCT commitment to funding students who are academically and financially eligible continues. In 2016, a total of 3 707 students were assisted with financial aid through NSFAS and UCT's own funding and a further 3 218 through external bursaries (corporate sponsors).

At undergraduate level, the total financial assistance provided was R626 million. In summary, 40% of students at undergraduate level were either assisted by NSFAS, UCT, corporate or other funders.

A further R351 million was provided for students at post-graduate level from a variety of funders. Preliminary indications for 2017 show that over R650 million will be required for financial assistance at undergraduate level, mainly owing to the increase of students requiring NSFAS and UCT GAP Funding.

The UCT executive remains committed to, within the context of available resources, assisting all academically and financially eligible students.

ENDS

Issued by: UCT Communication and Marketing Department

Elijah Moholola

Manager: Media Liaison and Social Media
Communication and Marketing Department
University of Cape Town
Rondebosch
Tel: (021) 650 5674
Fax: (021) 650 3780
Cell: (083) 981 7770
Email: elijah.moholola@uct.ac.za
Website: www.uct.ac.za