



6 July 2018

START OF THE SECOND SEMESTER, 2018

Dear Staff and Students

On the 6 July I issued a notice clarifying the state of affairs at the University following the disruption of operations by the striking workers. I am aware that the disruptions have left many members of the University community upset and traumatized. The students are anxious to complete the remaining mid-year examinations and to prepare for the new semester. For many students, the examinations are the only remaining step so that they can graduate in September.

On behalf of management, I wish to apologise to all students, staff members, parents, donors and other stakeholders who were inconvenienced and whose rights were violated by perpetrators of violence and intimidation.

Monday, 9 July 2018, marks the start of the second semester of the 2018 academic year. All staff are expected to return to their work stations and students will return to begin the study week as agreed with the SRC. All mid-year examinations which were postponed will be written from the 17 July. However, some departments and programmes have made special arrangements for the writing of examinations (**please contact your department to confirm exam arrangements for your courses**).

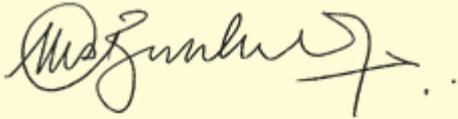
All divisions of the University have prepared plans for the smooth execution of the examinations programme and the smooth start of the semester. The plans cover logistical and other issues as well as the finance-related issues that the SRC has raised with management.

In addition to these plans, the University has been granted a court order preventing all forms of violent disruption and intimidation of University operations. All persons and collectives cited in the interdict will be held liable for any disruption, violence and intimidation.

A special Management-SRC meeting has been scheduled for Monday, 9 July, to iron out any issues that require immediate attention.

Finally, we are aware that employees of the University, including those who went on strike on the 12 June, are anxious to return to work as soon as possible. I wish to assure them and the rest of the University community that the management bargaining team is ready to meet with representatives of Nehawu to conclude the negotiations without further delay.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Buhlungu', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Professor S Buhlungu
Vice-Chancellor