

## UNIVERSITY STATEMENT

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15 September 2019

Dear students and staff

Last week, one of our students Mr Sandile Ndlovu was violently attacked on Steve Biko campus. Sandile remains in a critical condition in hospital and we continue to pray for Sandile and his family. Our University was also saddened to learn that one of our students sadly passed on in one of our residences last Wednesday afternoon. Both of these incidents are being investigated. This has been an incredibly sad time for our University. There is a need for DUT to reflect deeply on these events.

The reality is that we need a conducive environment for the completion of the academic project, especially when exams are imminent. Having engaged with views from a number of stakeholders of the University, the Executive Committee of Senate (SENEX) and the Executive Management Committee of the Durban University of Technology have decided to suspend lectures and any scheduled tests and assessments, on all campuses on Monday 16 September 2019 and Tuesday 17 September 2019. This will help us secure an environment that will be beneficial for the resumption of classes.

With respect to the rest of the University's activities, the University remains open and staff will be at their work stations. The libraries will be open and all other University operations will continue.

The academic programme will resume on Wednesday 18 September 2019.

The Management team will continue to engage with the SRC in order to seek a collective solution to the concerns that they have raised.

We apologise to all students and staff for the disruption to our academic programme.

The University will send you an update on further developments on Tuesday afternoon.

Sincerely

DUT Management team

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