Early Closure of the University for the Easter Break and Updated Sessional Dates

The student accommodation matter is receiving high priority. As management is not satisfied that the proposed new accommodation will be ready by tomorrow, a decision has been made that the University will close early for the Easter holidays.

The University management sincerely regrets the unfortunate and unacceptable situation that the students have endured over the past week and we wish to apologise unequivocally to all parents and students for any inconvenience. We also wish to thank the students who were affected for their patience and understanding.

The University will assist the 560 students displaced from Renaissance residence to return home for the holidays so that their new accommodation can be finalised and prepared for when they return to campus. The University will therefore close for the Easter break from Friday, 22 March 2013 and will reopen for academic lectures on Monday, 8 April 2013.

In order to make up the lost time, an additional week of lectures will be added at the end of the semester and lectures will now end on Wednesday, 28 May. Examinations will commence on Tuesday, 4 June, supplementary exams on Wednesday, 26 June and the first semester ends on Wednesday, 3 July.

The second semester will commence as scheduled on Wednesday, 24 July 2013.

The following arrangements are being finalised for the 560 students that were moved from Renaissance residence.
1. The affected students that are currently housed at The Pavilion Hotel, The Impala Holiday Flats and the Seaside Hotel will receive compensation for travel expenses to return home for the holidays. Once the logistical arrangements are finalised, the cashiers at Howard College will make the funds available to the students. Students are requested to bring their student card to collect and sign for the funds received. Students will be informed via sms when they can go and collect the money today.

2. In the course of the next week, the students will be informed where they will be accommodated on their return to campus;

3. Their personal belongings that they do not require during the holidays will be kept in secure storage. The process of storing their belongings will begin later today and they will be informed of the process via sms.

Issued by:

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Executive Director: Corporate Relations

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