



UNIVERSITY OF <sup>TM</sup>  
KWAZULU-NATAL  
INYUVESI  
YAKWAZULU-NATALI

# Presentation to Portfolio Committee on Higher Education, Science and Technology

2 March 2022



EDGEWOOD CAMPUS



HOWARD COLLEGE CAMPUS



NELSON R MANDELA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



PIETERMARITZBURG CAMPUS



WESTVILLE CAMPUS

INSPIRING GREATNESS

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# Background and efforts to resolve the unrest

## Management engagements with the SRCE

- The current SRC officially took office on 25 October 2021.
- Since then, the University's executive management committee (EMC) and the SRCE have had at least six formal meetings to discuss various matters including the 2022 university budgets, financial clearance concessions, student demands, and management responses.
- In addition to the above meetings, the relevant SRC representatives have had formal meetings with each executive portfolio holder to discuss specific matters relating to their portfolio.
- The outcomes of the most recent engagements between EMC and the SRCE have already been shared in writing with the Chair of portfolio committee and are attached as [Annexure A](#) for ease of reference.

## Summary of key student demands

1. *Free registration:* All unregistered students to be registered without making payments for registration fees and towards their student debt.
2. *Additional student accommodation:* University to provide additional beds by leasing buildings from various landlords in Durban and Pietermaritzburg.

## Summary University Response – Free Registration (continued)

- The University has put in place a comprehensive package of financial clearance concessions (as summarised on the next slide). The detailed financial clearance concessions are attached as [Annexure B](#) for ease of reference.
- These concessions essentially allow every full-time unemployed student to register without being required to settle their historic debt in full.
- The required payments are determined based on annual family income with a maximum cap on the historic debt amount payable to assist those students with very high levels of historic debt.
- Students who are fully funded for the 2022 academic year are not required to make any payments prior to registration.
- The financial clearance concessions already in place have a cash flow implication in excess of R1 billion and the financial clearance concessions demanded by students have a total cost of R2,3 billion.
- Any additional concessions would risk pushing the University into bankruptcy and would be self-defeating for all concerned.
- It is important to emphasise that the University cannot provide free enrolment to every unfunded student when even government policy on fully-subsidised higher education does not provide funding to all students.

## Summary of payment required prior to registration

Category	Payments required to obtain financial clearance (UKZN APPROVED CONCESSIONS)
Registration Fees	Local students registering for tuition only: R4,170 Local students registering for both tuition and residence: R7,350 International students: 100% of the total tuition and residence fees for 2022
Historic debt less than R10k	Registration fee (if self-funded)
Annual family income below R350k	Registration fee (if self-funded) <u>and</u> 15% of debt capped at R10k or R15k
Annual family income between R350k and R600k	Registration fee (if self-funded) <u>and</u> 30% of debt capped at R20k or R25k
Annual family income above R600k	Registration fee (if self-funded) <u>and</u> 50% of debt capped at R25k or R45k
International students from SADC Countries	50% of registration fee <u>and</u> 30% of debt
International students from non-SADC Countries	50% of registration fee <u>and</u> 50% of debt

## Summary University Response – Additional Student Accommodation

For 2022, the University has budgeted to provide 21,328 beds (7,913 owned and 13,415 leased). This equates to a student accommodation provisioning of 49% of the expected enrolment – one of the highest amongst all public Universities in South Africa.

This level of student accommodation provisioning comes with an annual deficit of R170,2 million which is cross subsidised from funds that are meant for Teaching and Learning.

As of 28 February 2022, which was the last day for residence registration, student residences registration amounted to 17,160 (80%). Therefore, it would be premature at this stage to confirm whether additional accommodation is required.

It is also worth noting that sourcing additional leased accommodation comes with significant unfunded financial implications ( $\pm$  R4k per bed per annum) for the University, as the residence fees paid by students do not cover all the costs associated with leased student accommodation.

The student leadership and management are continuing engagements in this regard and decisions will be taken in due time and in line with the best interests of the University.



# Impact of the unrest and current state

## Teaching and Learning

- Semester 1 (64 teaching days) started on Monday, 14 February 2022.
- The academic programme was suspended from 14 February 2022 until 18 February 2022 (5 teaching days lost).
- The academic programme resumed on 21 February 2022.
- Despite sporadic disruptions on various campuses, the academic programme has been progressing smoothly.
- To date, we have had 7 out of a possible 11 teaching days.

<b>14-Feb</b>	<b>15-Feb</b>	<b>16-Feb</b>	<b>17-Feb</b>	<b>18-Feb</b>
<b>21-Feb</b>	<b>22-Feb</b>	<b>23-Feb</b>	<b>24-Feb</b>	<b>25-Feb</b>
<b>28-Feb</b>	<b>1-Mar*</b>			
*Minor disruptions with no impact on academic programme				

## Registration and enrollments as at 28 February 2022

	Planned	Actual	%
Undergraduates – First time entry	8 761	7 995	91%
Undergraduates – Returning students	25 630	22 829	89%
<b>Undergraduates – Total</b>	<b>34 391</b>	<b>30 824</b>	<b>90%</b>
Postgraduates	12 102	7 389	61%
<b>All Students – Total</b>	<b>46 493</b>	<b>38 213</b>	<b>82%</b>

## Infrastructure Damages

- Not yet quantified.

## Return to campus

- Staff who have been working on campus are being intimidated and victimised and their cars being torched.
- The planned phased full return of staff to campus has been suspended due to safety and security related concerns.

# End

**UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL**  
**SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES OF ENGAGEMENTS BETWEEN THE**  
**EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (EMC) AND THE**  
**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL EXECUTIVE (SRCE)**  
**15 & 17 FEBRUARY 2022**

#	SRC Demands	Management Responses																											
1.	Extension of the registration period by 2 weeks to 11 March 2022.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Historical data on trends in registration shows that the 2022 registration rates are no different to previous years. As an example, the table below shows a four-year history of registration numbers as at the first day of the academic programme.</li> </ul> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>UG</th> <th>PG</th> <th>Year</th> <th>UG</th> <th>PG</th> <th>Year</th> <th>UG</th> <th>PG</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2018</td> <td>24 120</td> <td>5 073</td> <td>2020</td> <td>23 364</td> <td>3 877</td> <td>2022</td> <td>23 689</td> <td>4 282</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019</td> <td>23 136</td> <td>4 463</td> <td>2021</td> <td>21 412</td> <td>7 249</td> <td>17-Feb-22</td> <td>25 301</td> <td>4 821</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There has always been a 2-week lag between the start of the academic programme and the closing of registration, and this year is no different. However, management agrees to extend the registration period by 1 week to 4 March 2022.</li> <li>Students who are having challenges with finalising their registration are encouraged to finalise all other aspects of their registration and then park their registration whilst they sort out their issues.</li> <li>Students whose registration is parked on/or before 25 February 2022 will continue to be assisted to finalise their registration until 4 March 2022. Colleges will provide dedicated teams to process all parked registrations accordingly.</li> <li>These students will also be granted temporary access to Moodle to enable them to participate in the academic programme and where possible there will be no formal assessments until after 4 March 2022.</li> </ul>	Year	UG	PG	Year	UG	PG	Year	UG	PG	2018	24 120	5 073	2020	23 364	3 877	2022	23 689	4 282	2019	23 136	4 463	2021	21 412	7 249	17-Feb-22	25 301	4 821
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2.	Extension of residences registration date to be the same as the academic registration closing date.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The earlier closing date for residence registration was put in place to enable DSRA to allocate beds to registered students on the student accommodation waiting list and to avoid reserving beds for students that are placed but end up not registering for their residences.</li> <li>In 2021 alone, the practice of reserving beds for placed students who end up not registering for residences resulted in ±1200 unoccupied beds (which added R39 million to the student residences deficit).</li> <li>The residence registration deadline has already been extended by one week and management agrees to further extend it by another 2 weeks to close on 4 March 2022.</li> <li>However, the SRC needs to be reminded that this extension goes against what was agreed with the SRC in November 2021 (during the 2022 budget engagements) in that it significantly increases the risk of there being a high number of unoccupied beds. Most students currently on the student accommodation waiting list will start planning for private accommodation and this negatively impacts DSRA's ability to ensure that all available beds are occupied.</li> </ul>																											



#	SRC Demands	Management Responses
3.	Do away with requiring students to have permits to access campuses and residences as the permit application system takes too long.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During this period of limited on-campus activities it is critical that the University has a system to ensure that people accessing campuses are registered students with legitimate reasons to be on-campus (e.g., laboratory practicals, in-person teaching, etc).</li> <li>• An invitation to return to campus is a precursor to applying, online, for an access permit and only the 2022 access permit is accepted for access.</li> <li>• The programme for inviting registered non-residence students to campus and granting access to apply for a permit is run daily and thus there are no lengthy delays for students registered for both academics and residence.</li> <li>• With effect from 17 February 2022, the permits for students returning to residences are generated automatically when a student registers for residence and the student receives their permit within 1 hour of registering for a residence.</li> </ul>
4.	In-person and on-campus registration assistance for unregistered FTENS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The University had already started the process of returning staff to campus in a phased approach that considers the operational requirements. However, this process was disrupted by the violent protests that have been experienced on all campuses since 14 February 2022. Staff have been intimidated, threatened, and harassed whilst on campus trying to ensure that students could be assisted.</li> <li>• The university is committed to returning to on-campus operations and the process of returning staff to campus can only resume once stability on campuses has been restored and staff are relatively assured of their safety and security.</li> <li>• All departments continue to be available to support students remotely and will come to campus once the university is able to assure them of their safety and security whilst on campus.</li> <li>• The registration for FTENS was open on 24-Jan and FTENS were able to register as soon as they accepted offers – about 231 FTENS registered before 7-Feb.</li> <li>• The first-year experience (FYE) programme commenced on 7-Feb and mentors have been assigned to assist FTENS with registration.</li> <li>• Colleges have been contacting FTENS who have been made offer and assisting them to accept their offers and register as appropriate.</li> <li>• FTENS whose registration is parked on/or before 25-Feb-22 and those who accept their offers on/or before 25-Feb-22 will continue to be assisted to finalise their registration until 4-Mar-22. These students will also be granted temporary access to Moodle to enable them to participate in the academic programme.</li> </ul>

#	SRC Demands	Management Responses
5.	Increase in the postgraduate intake.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total PG enrolments are currently at 43% of the 2021 enrolments which is still low and indicates a lower-than-expected demand for PG studies. However, new Masters and PhD students can enroll throughout the year which will increase the PG enrolments.</li> <li>• Colleges have conducted an analysis of the enrolment numbers (planned vs actual), per programme and have identified programmes that require specific and urgent interventions. Students who have holds (academic and financial) have also been identified and appropriate follow-up by School staff initiated. Supervisors have also been requested to encourage their students to register and to assist financially, where possible, in cases where returning students are close to thesis submission.</li> <li>• Colleges have been requested to enroll additional PG students in programmes where there are still spaces with the primary focus being on coursework PG studies whose timing is linked to the start of the academic programme.</li> </ul>
6.	Special examinations for under the M+ project to be scheduled in a manner that allows students to graduate in the first graduation of 2022.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As agreed in the previous EMC-SRCE engagement, all 19 schools have been consulted on the request by the SRC, for all qualifying students to be allowed to write both semester 1 and 2 special examinations under the M+ project, and the results have come in.</li> <li>• Based on these results, a submission identifier has been forwarded to the secretary of Senate, who will facilitate a Senate Round Robin as agreed.</li> <li>• Therefore, pending the said Senate Round Robin, the special examinations could be written as early as March 2022, and in time for those who pass and become degree complete to graduate in the first graduation of the year.</li> <li>• The round-robin resolution was sent out to Senate on 16-Feb-22 with a closing date of 18-Feb-2022.</li> </ul>
7.	Immediate payment of allowances to NSFAS funded students.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On 11-Feb-22, a Communique was sent out advising students that allowances for learning materials and living expenses would be paid on 21-Feb-22 even though the 2022 funding guidelines had not been received from NSFAS.</li> <li>• The payment date of 21-Feb-22 was informed by the fact that the University has not yet received any funds from NSFAS for 2022 and thus the allowance payments (± R65 million) need to be funded from a bank overdraft which requires a few working days for the bank to approve and process.</li> <li>• In addition, there are various internal control processes that need to be adhered to for good financial governance. In the context of UKZN's large volumes of NSFAS funded students the process inherently takes a lot of time.</li> <li>• The University has worked very hard to ensure that these payments are processed and released as soon as practically possible and not later than 21 February 2022.</li> </ul>

#	SRC Demands	Management Responses
8.	The UKZN PG bursary and NRF have not yet responded to students on their applications.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allocations for the UKZN PG bursary were completed in January 2022 and these funds have now been fully allocated.</li> <li>• Sponsors have their own timelines and processes for allocating bursaries and the financial aid officers are liaising with sponsors advising them of the need to respond prior to the closing of registration.</li> </ul>
9.	Financial clearance – for NSFAS Funded FTENS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All FTENS that have been made offers by the university and appear on the NSFAS funded lists have been coded as funded and granted financial clearance. This was done on 3 February 2022 and again on 11 February 2022 and is being done daily for any new offers made by colleges.</li> </ul>
10.	Financial clearance for students without confirmed NSFAS funding for 2022.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the beginning of the year, NSFAS advised Universities not to use the NSFAS portal to confirm funding decisions but to rely solely on the funded lists that are sent to Universities by NSFAS. University staff access to the NSFAS portal has been removed by NSFAS and thus University staff are unable to check any funding status on the NSFAS portal and have no option but to rely on NSFAS to send funded lists.</li> <li>• The University is liaising with NSFAS on a continuous basis and escalating individual cases of students as and when they are identified.</li> <li>• The list of all continuing students who do not appear on the funded lists even though the University expected their funding to be renewed has been escalated to NSFAS for urgent resolution.</li> <li>• The unrecovered funds arising from the practice of providing financial clearance to students without confirmed NSFAS funding decisions currently amounts to ± R526 million. The University is thus unable to continue taking the financial risks associated with financial clearance of students who do not have confirmed NSFAS funding decisions. NSFAS has made it abundantly clear that they will not pay for any students who never appeared on their funded lists.</li> <li>• The university remains committed to ensuring that all NSFAS funded lists are processed immediately when received and financial clearance granted within 24 hours. Therefore, these students will be granted financial clearance as soon as they appear on an NSFAS funded list received from NSFAS.</li> <li>• The list of all continuing students who do not appear on the funded lists even though the University expected their funding to be renewed have been escalated to NSFAS for urgent resolution.</li> <li>• Whilst this matter has been escalated to both NSFAS and DHET, these rejected students need to ensure that they submit appeals to NSFAS urgently as the appeals process already opened on 11 February 2022 and NSFAS is allowing students only 30 days to submit appeals.</li> </ul>

#	SRC Demands	Management Responses
11.	<p><b>Matters to refer to NSFAS</b></p> <p>Incorrect application on N+1 rule for extended and/or augmented curriculum programmes and other programmes.</p> <p>MyNSFAS Portal not showing the appeals button.</p> <p>2017 to 2020 close-out project.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The University is liaising with NSFAS on a continuous basis and escalating individual cases of students as and when identified.</li> <li>• The list of all continuing students who do not appear on the funded lists even though they meet the funding eligibility criteria have been escalated to NSFAS for urgent resolution.</li> <li>• Whilst this matter has been escalated to both NSFAS, the rejected students need to ensure that they submit appeals to NSFAS urgently as the appeals process already opened on 11 February 2022 and NSFAS is allowing students only 30 days to submit appeals.</li> <li>• On the morning of 15-Feb-22, the university was advised that NSFAS is experiencing technical challenges with their system and portal and that their ICT team were working tirelessly to resolve the issues.</li> <li>• On 16 February 2022 the spokesperson of NSFAS announced via Twitter that the appeal button had been refreshed on the MyNSFAS portal.</li> <li>• Students who are being somehow negatively impacted by the delay in the close-out process need to liaise with the CFO's office to get a better understanding of how they can be assisted. However, all queries raised with the CFO's office to date indicate that these students have other debt which they need to make payments for as this debt is not part of the close-out period and is the personal responsibility of the students.</li> </ul>
12.	<p>Confirmation of number of available beds.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total number of available beds is 20 182 excluding the RA beds.</li> <li>• Current residence registrations are 11 806 excluding RAs.</li> <li>• There are a few leases for Howard College that are in the process of being finalised. Students who were in Addington were moved to TAFTA. In addition, several leases that were expiring in 2021 have been extended.</li> <li>• The number of available beds aligns with the University's expected demand (based on applications and registrations) and what will be within the student residences funds budget for 2022.</li> <li>• The UKZN student accommodation provision (based on the 2022 budget) amounts to 47% of the total enrolment and is one of the highest in the HE sector.</li> <li>• The University is thus providing the maximum possible number of beds whilst also being mindful of the need to provide accommodation in a financially sustainable manner.</li> </ul>

#	SRC Demands	Management Responses
13.	Urgent improvements in process of placing FTENS in residences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DSRA staff are assisting FTENS that have funding for residences. College quotas are 2594 beds, but DSRA has committed to accommodate 4000 FTENS. Colleges are urged to utilise their quotas as they continue making offers to students.</li> <li>• Students who are registered academically and have funding are being assisted with residence placements even when they do not form part of the College quotas.</li> <li>• All students (returning and FTENS) who receive confirmation of residence funding are also being assisted regardless of whether they applied on time or not.</li> </ul>
14.	Temporary accommodation for unregistered FTENS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DSRA does not have temporary accommodation options. All residences are available to place students who are registered. If FTENS are registered academically and have funding they will be assisted with accommodation.</li> <li>• Colleges are requested that as they make the offers to students, they must use the beds they have as College quotas.</li> </ul>
15.	Student residences need to be renovated and improved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renovation and maintenance of student residences are dealt with by CMS on an ongoing basis and will be ramped up to ensure that priority maintenance is carried out urgently.</li> </ul>
16.	Continuous inspections of leased residences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is ongoing and inspections are being conducted and will continue in the future. The contracts expiring at the end of 2022 will be prioritised for inspection.</li> </ul>
17.	Do away with a curfew in student residences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This will be considered by DSRA as part of their normal operational matters.</li> </ul>
18.	Evening and weekend bus shuttle services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently in residences there are only 50% of the students who registered for residence. There is an interim shuttle for a week, changes will be made as time progresses as students are not attending lectures.</li> <li>• Transport for Health Science students started two weeks ago. When the situation in terms of students in residences improves the situation will change.</li> <li>• PMB is currently not providing transport as there are only 3 students in off-campus residences. If those students require transport to campus they will be assisted by DSRA.</li> </ul>

#	SRC Demands	Management Responses
19.	Do away with Covid-19 regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The request to abolish Covid-19 regulations is a request for the institution to violate the law, when the pandemic is not over, and a lot of people are not yet vaccinated. The only matter we considered valid at the Return to Campus Task Team was the increasing demand to hold in-person meetings and gatherings, for which the university does not a policy directive.</li> <li>The return to campus task team has recommended for this matter be handled through the office of the registrar, whereby a well-constituted occupational health and safety committee can assist with risk assessments, a policy directive on gatherings, and ensure compliance.</li> </ul>
20.	Hiring of additional temporary staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All colleges, schools, divisions, and departments have employed additional contract staff based on the increased operational demands associated with the registration period.</li> </ul>
21.	24 hour operation of LANS and UKZN Libraries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All ICS LANS are currently open and operating until 10pm. Based on observations from last semester, the demand for opening beyond 10pm is extremely low at this point in the year. ICS will consider extending their operating hours as we arrive closer to the examination period.</li> <li>Libraries will also operate until 10pm as the department has recently hired student assistants to increase operating capacity.</li> </ul>
22.	RMS landline to be a toll-free	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This will be explored with RMS and Telephones.</li> </ul>
23.	Use of university venues by external people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is the role and function of the timetable's office, and requests are managed in that office. They have a Covid-19 protocols in place and require venue bookers to agree with the conditions prior to allowing a booking. Every application is considered on a case-by-case basis, and the basic Covid-19 protocols of physical distancing, ventilation, mask-wearing, and provision of hand sanitizers still apply.</li> </ul>

#	SRC Demands	Management Responses
24.	Improve campus clinic services, hire more staff and clinics to operate for 24 hours.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two Campus Health Services Reviews have been completed, namely review of campus health services provision and review of the structure. Recommendations called for the establishment of a Campus-level services and an appointment of a Director of Campus Health Services – the process of establishing a Director post is underway. The new Campus health service will bring together the following services under one roof which are currently stand -alone services: (1) Health promotion, inclusion, and wellness, (2) Psychosocial services, (3) Clinical services, (4) Occupational health, and (5) Emergency services.</li> <li>Five posts were advertised and three PHC nurses have accepted offers and started work on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February, the remaining two should hopefully accept and start soon.</li> <li>Job profiles for all staff have been redesigned according to the proposed structure to enable market competitiveness and attraction of best talent. The minimum staffing establishment has been proposed and job profiles compiled.</li> <li>The request for on-site ambulances has been actioned and competed. A minimum basket of equipment and supplies was compiled and submitted to the ambulance services company to make sure that they carry all the necessary equipment when called out.</li> <li>The request for 24-hour clinic has significant financial implications. Even Government has not been able to open PHC clinics for 24 hours due to costs. Currently, not possible based on budgets, however there is a 24- hour ambulance on site to attend to emergencies after hours.</li> <li>Inclusion of SRC in campus health planning: Students have always been included but tend not to attend meetings. Students included and attended meetings in the latter part of 2021. A campus health governance board as recommended by the review will hold its inaugural meeting for the year in March 2022 and students will be invited.</li> <li>Operational issues relating to campus clinics should be discussed with relevant manager and portfolio holder (Mr Mark Bashe).</li> </ul>
25.	Vaccination sites in all campuses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vaccination sites were operational in 2021 with disappointingly low attendance from students despite extensive campaigns in residences and across campuses. Eventually these sites had to be closed as the utilization was simply too low to keep them open. The SRC was also involved in the campaign to garner students' support for vaccination, and this also failed to yield higher numbers.</li> <li>At this stage the plan is to re-open vaccination sites in March 2022 when majority of students are registered and back on campus and monitor vaccine uptake. It is not possible to keep vaccination sites open without people coming in to vaccinate since UKZN partners with the Department of Health whose staff are needed for other functions if unoccupied.</li> </ul>

#	SRC Demands	Management Responses
26.	<p>The UKZN SRC demands the university management to source more funds to assist our post-graduate with funding.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refer detailed response below "Financial support to students".</li> <li>• In addition, for the past 2 years the executive management has raised more than R6 million for the UKZN SRC Bursary Fund.</li> <li>• The University will continue to seek external funds to support unfunded students to complete their qualifications.</li> </ul>



**Financial support to students**

Across the entire Higher Education sector there is an acknowledgement that there is a shortage of funding for students in general and those who wish to pursue PG studies in particular. However, there are already significant amounts of funding being provided to PG students by both public and private organisations including the National Research Foundation (NRF), the National Skills Fund (NSF), and the National Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences.

The University itself has provided more than R250 million annually in student funding in the form of fee remission, scholarship merit awards, and UKZN bursaries. This is funding provided from the University's own financial resources and represents a very significant contribution towards enabling students to pursue further studies. As can be seen in Table 4 below, during 2020 a total of 37 399 UKZN students received funding to the tune of R2,9 billion.

*Table 4: Student funding for 2020 by source of funding*

<b>FUNDING SOURCE</b>	<b>Headcount</b>	<b>R'000</b>
NSFAS Funding	27 192	2 466 055
External bursaries & scholarships	3 245	198 848
<b>EXTERNAL FUNDS</b>	<b>30 437</b>	<b>2 664 903</b>
UKZN Bursaries	3 173	163 062
UKZN Fee Remission	2 663	60 429
UKZN Scholarships	1 126	33 276
<b>UKZN FUNDS</b>	<b>6 962</b>	<b>256 767</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>37 399</b>	<b>2 921 670</b>

As can be seen in Table 5 below, a total of 30 605 undergraduates received funding to the value of R2,6 billion (89%) whilst 6 794 postgraduates received funding to the value of R307,3 million (11%).

*Table 5: Student funding for 2020 by level of study*

<b>LEVEL OF STUDY</b>		<b>CAES</b>	<b>CHS</b>	<b>CHUM</b>	<b>CLMS</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>
<b>Undergraduates</b>	R'000	509 490	321 813	1 397 202	385 779	<b>2 614 283</b>
	Headcount	5 886	4 431	15 593	4 695	<b>30 605</b>
<b>Postgraduates</b>	R'000	127 505	52 215	79 530	48 137	<b>307 387</b>
	Headcount	2 487	1 171	2 075	1 061	<b>6 794</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>R'000</b>	<b>636 995</b>	<b>374 028</b>	<b>1 476 731</b>	<b>433 916</b>	<b>2 921 670</b>
	<b>Headcount</b>	<b>8 373</b>	<b>5 602</b>	<b>17 668</b>	<b>5 756</b>	<b>37 399</b>

In the 2022 budget, an amount of R157 million (which is equivalent to 6% of the DHET subsidy) has been allocated for bursaries, scholarships, and fee remission. This is before any additional allocations ordinarily made by colleges from their annual budget allocations.

**UKZN Fundraising Initiatives**

The UKZN Foundation is tasked with all the strategic fundraising for UKZN. To this end, the UKZN Foundation team works tirelessly to secure new donations to the university and maintain existing relations with our generous donors.

Their mission is to:

- Consistently increase funding and donations to UKZN from corporates, foundations, trusts, bequests, and individuals, nationally and internationally.
- Build a strong, supportive, engaged, and generous community of friends, nationally and globally.
- Develop strong partnerships and relationships with donors, funders and alumni and provide exemplary stewardship to them.

Table 6 below shows a breakdown of the funds raised based on the main categories that the UKZN Foundation strives towards seeking funding. You will notice that a key area is that of securing bursary funding. This has been a major focus for the UKZN Foundation for the past few years, particularly to support deserving students who cannot finance their own education. This amount has increased significantly from R45 277 323 in 2020 to R55 637 669 in 2021.

*Table 6: Funds raised by UKZN Foundation*

<b>Cause</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
Bursaries	R 45 277 323	R 55 637 669
Research Support	R 19 813 060	R 16 986 022
Endowment	R 2 073 929	R 15 376 584
Teaching Support	R 1 830 392	R 2 262 981
Student Services	R 486 333	R 2 092 570
Community Engagement	R 293 338	R 565 267
Infrastructure	R 100 000	R 131 250
Other	R 42 768	R 618
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>R 69 917 143</b>	<b>R 93 052 960</b>

A real challenge for the UKZN Foundation in its fundraising initiative is reputational damage to the UKZN Brand. This is particularly so when student unrest leads to on-campus damage and destruction. This features in mainstream and social media. Unfortunately, this negatively impacts current funders who discontinue future funding and scares off potential new funders who don't want to be associated with UKZN and students damaging university property.

For example, when students are seen throwing burning mattresses out of their res windows on the front page of local daily newspapers, this will not attract new donors, nor will it make current donors happy that they are supporting a university with a good reputation. Don't forget that there are 26 universities across the country – often, donors take their funding and move it to support a less volatile university.

The UKZN brand image is paramount to building credibility and loyalty among current and potential new donors. The more UKZN can deliver on its brand promise (to be the premier university of African Scholarship) with a strong brand image, the easier it will be for donors to remember the UKZN brand and what it stands for.

In November 2021, the Office of the Vice-Chancellor wrote to more than 100 UKZN suppliers requesting that they donate towards supporting students with funds they require for registration. Unfortunately, this has been unsuccessful, and the suppliers have raised a range of issues some of which have been made available to the President and SG. EMC has been successful at raising international funds, but these come with significant conditions which will have been discussed with the President and SG by the Vice-Chancellor.

Brand image is vital for UKZN. When donors support a university, they aren't just supporting any university; they have chosen UKZN for a specific reason; they're buying into what the UKZN brand stands for. *"It takes many good deeds to build a good reputation and only one bad one to lose it."*—Benjamin Franklin

**FINANCIAL CLEARANCE CONCESSIONS 2022**

1. There are two requirements that must be complied with to obtain financial clearance in 2022:
  - 1.1 Payment of the required 2022 registration fees, and
  - 1.2 Payment of outstanding debt from previous academic years.
  
2. The required 2022 registration fees are as follows:
  - 2.1 Local students registering for tuition only: R4,170.
  - 2.2 Local students registering for both tuition and residence: R7,350.
  - 2.3 International students: 100% of the total tuition and residence fees for 2022.
  
3. The following categories of students will not be required to pay 2022 registration fees:
  - 3.1 Students whose full cost of study is funded for the 2022 academic year.
  - 3.2 Students who are funded by NSFAS for the 2022 academic year.
  - 3.3 Students who are funded for tuition only will not be required to pay tuition registration fees but will be required to pay residence registration fees.
  
4. The following **concessions** are available to enable students with outstanding debt from previous years to obtain financial clearance in 2022 without fully settling their debt.
  - 4.1 Students whose full cost of study is funded for the 2022 academic year will be provided with financial clearance upon:
    - 4.1.1 Completion of the UKZN acknowledgement of debt (AoD), and a repayment plan that reduces the historic debt by 50% by 30 November 2022.
  
  - 4.2 Students whose historic debt is less than R10,000 as at 1 January 2022 will be provided with financial clearance upon:
    - 4.2.1 Payment of the required registration fees as set out in 2.1 or 2.2 or 2.3 above.
    - 4.2.2 Completion of the UKZN acknowledgement of debt (AoD), and a repayment plan that reduces the historic debt by 50% by 30 November 2022.
  
  - 4.3 Local students from families whose annual income is below R350 000 will be provided with financial clearance upon:
    - 4.3.1 Providing proof of annual family income.
    - 4.3.2 Payment of the required registration fees as set out in 2.1 or 2.2 above.
    - 4.3.3 Payment of at least 15% of their outstanding debt limited to a maximum amount of R10,000 if registering for tuition only or R15,000 if registering for tuition and residence.
    - 4.3.4 Payment of all amounts committed to in the most recent repayment plan.
    - 4.3.5 Completion of the UKZN acknowledgement of debt (AoD), and a repayment plan that reduces the remaining historic debt by at least 50% by 30 November 2022.

- 4.4 Local students from families whose annual income is between R350 000 and R600 000 will be provided with financial clearance upon:
  - 4.4.1 Providing proof of annual family income.
  - 4.4.2 Payment of the required registration fees as set out in 2.1 or 2.2 above.
  - 4.4.3 Payment of at least 30% of their outstanding debt limited to a maximum amount of R20,000 if registering for tuition only or R25,000 if registering for tuition and residence.
  - 4.4.4 Payment of all amounts committed to in the most recent repayment plan.
  - 4.4.5 Completion of the UKZN acknowledgement of debt (AoD), and a repayment plan that reduces the remaining historic debt by at least 50% by 30 November 2022.
- 4.5 Local students from families whose annual income is above R600 000 will be provided with financial clearance upon:
  - 4.5.1 Payment of the required registration fees as set out in 2.1 or 2.2 above.
  - 4.5.2 Payment of at least 50% of their outstanding debt limited to a maximum amount of R25,000 if registering for tuition only or R45,000 if registering for tuition and residence.
  - 4.5.3 Payment of all amounts committed to in the most recent repayment plan.
  - 4.5.4 Completion of the UKZN acknowledgement of debt (AoD), and a repayment plan that reduces the remaining historic debt by at least 50% by 30 November 2022.
- 4.6 International students from SADC countries will be provided with financial clearance upon:
  - 4.6.1 Payment of at least 50% of the required registration fees as set out in 2.3 above.
  - 4.6.2 Payment of at least 30% of their outstanding debt.
  - 4.6.3 Payment of all amounts committed to in the most recent repayment plan.
  - 4.6.4 Completion of the UKZN acknowledgement of debt (AoD), and a repayment plan that settles their debt in full by 30 November 2022.
- 4.7 International students from non-SADC countries will be provided with financial clearance upon:
  - 4.7.1 Payment of at least 50% of the required registration fees as set out in 2.3 above.
  - 4.7.2 Payment of at least 50% of their outstanding debt.
  - 4.7.3 Payment of all amounts committed to in the most recent repayment plan.
  - 4.7.4 Completion of the UKZN acknowledgement of debt (AoD), and a repayment plan that settles their debt in full by 30 November 2022.
5. Students are advised that obtaining financial clearance does not automatically qualify the student for academic admission and/or readmission. Each College has set out academic admission and/or re-admission requirements that must be fulfilled by students. Conversely, obtaining academic admission and/or readmission does not automatically qualify the student for financial clearance.

6. These concessions are not available to:
  - 6.1 Any student who is employed on a full-time basis.
  - 6.2 Any student who is registering for a post-graduate professional qualification (e.g. MBA).
  - 6.3 Any student who is registering for a self-funding programme.
  - 6.4 Any student who is registering for non-degree purposes.

**Issued by**

**N Mbhele**

**Chief Finance Officer**