

#	QUESTION	UKZN RESPONSE
1.	<p>Stakeholder relations: structures of engagement between the SRC and management, and when was the last engagement.</p>	<p>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 formal engagements between EMC and the SRCE (15 and 17 February 2022) have already been shared in writing with the Chair of the Portfolio Committee on 17 February 2022 and the Portfolio Committee on 2 March 2022. Informal engagements between management and the different members of the SRC are continuing on a daily basis. The SRC has representatives on the following formal structures of the University:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council – 2 SRC representatives as members for the duration of their term of office • Finance Committee of Council – 1 SRC representative in attendance • Human Resources Committee of Council – 1 SRC representative in attendance • Senate – 6 SRC representatives • Return to Campus Task Team (a Senate sub-committee)– 2 SRC representatives • University Teaching and Learning Committee – 2 SRC representative • University Research and Ethics Committee – 2 SRC representatives • College Academic Affairs Boards (4 College Boards) – 2 SRC representatives per Board • School Boards (19 School Boards) – 2 SRC nominated representatives. Reps need to be registered in the School • Institutional Forum – 2 SRC representatives • Student Services Forum - 6 SRC representatives • Scholarships Committee -1 SRC representative • University Language Board – 1 SRC representative • Student Disciplinary Rules Committee – 2 SRC representatives • CEACOM – the College academic Exclusion Appeals Committees – 2 SRC reps per College • AEACOM – the University Academic Exclusion Appeals Committee – 2 SRC reps who are not CEACOM members.

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2.	<p>Student Accommodation: allegations that some of the University owned residences are not in a good state; allegations that students slept on pavements outside the University campuses; progress with the placement of students at residences; overview of the UKZN overall residence capacity compared to student enrolment; information infrastructure projects underway to expand student housing and costs involved.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Condition of University owned residences: Renovation and maintenance of student residences are dealt with by the University on an ongoing basis and are being ramped up to ensure that priority maintenance is carried out urgently. • Students sleeping on pavements: On 1 March 2022, a group of ± 100 students slept at the gates of the PMB campus as a way of protesting and demanding to be removed from the temporary accommodation they were placed at and to be placed in permanent accommodation. These students slept on the pavements not because the University had not assisted them with accommodation but because they were protesting and demanding permanent accommodation which at the time they could not be allocated to pending finalisation of residence registrations by returning students. Regrettably, this protest was followed by the burning of one of the University’s buildings on the PMB campus. • Placement of students: The process of allocating residences to students was slightly delayed due to returning students not taking up their allocated residences (through residence registration) within the required time and also the violence, intimidation, and threats levelled against University staff including student housing staff being held hostage while they were working in their offices to place students in residences. However, the placement process has now been finalised and all available beds have been allocated to students who were registered for residences by the deadline on 28 February 2022. Students still requiring accommodation have been advised to seek private accommodation as the University owned and leased residences are now full and the University is not in a position to procure additional beds. • Residence Capacity: 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. It is also worth noting that sourcing additional leased accommodation comes with significant unfunded financial implications (± 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. Therefore, any calls to source additional leased accommodation are simply not within the University’s financial ability. • Student Housing Construction Projects: Whilst the University desires to build additional student accommodation, this desire is severely limited by lack of funding. The current student accommodation developments (454 beds from 2022 to 2023) are mainly

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		reliant on the DHET grants for infrastructure and efficiency projects. Regrettably, the University currently does not have any financial means to construct additional accommodation as the University's borrowing capacity has already been exceeded.																																												
3.	Student enrolment: enrolment plan of the institution; details on 2022 enrolment including student demographics.	<p>The table below summarises enrolment progress on 9 March 2022 against planned enrolments for 2022. Data reflected in the tables/graphs excludes occasional, UG Diploma and non-subsidised enrolments. Overall, 41 939 students have enrolled thus far, which constitutes 91% of planned enrolments (45 835), 98% and 73% of undergraduate (UG) and postgraduate (PG) targets respectively. First time entering UG enrolment is 103% of target. Higher degree enrolments (masters and doctors) are 69% of target, masters 63% and doctors 82%. It is concerning that enrolments towards the masters' programmes are relatively low i.e. 63% of target. However, higher degree enrolments improve with the second semester enrolments and registration for first time entry PG enrolments are open throughout the year.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">TABLE 1: 2022 ENROLMENTS as at 09 March 2022</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>DEGREE LEVEL</th> <th>ACTUAL</th> <th>PLANNED</th> <th>ACTUAL AS % OF PLANNED</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>BACH</td> <td>18 123</td> <td>19 196</td> <td>94%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BACHP</td> <td>14 213</td> <td>13 562</td> <td>105%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PG CERT IN EDUC</td> <td>800</td> <td>900</td> <td>89%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>UG TOT</td> <td>33 136</td> <td>33 658</td> <td>98%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PDIP</td> <td>1 073</td> <td>1 364</td> <td>79%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HONS</td> <td>1 881</td> <td>2 297</td> <td>82%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MAST</td> <td>3 614</td> <td>5 702</td> <td>63%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DOC</td> <td>2 234</td> <td>2 739</td> <td>82%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PG TOT</td> <td>8 802</td> <td>12 102</td> <td>73%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grand Total</td> <td>41 938</td> <td>45 759</td> <td>92%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>There are also 2 869 parked registrations in the system. These are registrations that have been started but not finalised due to various admin holds, mainly financial clearance holds. As these holds are lifted, these registrations will be finalised. This will likely ensure that our UG targets are achieved.</p>	DEGREE LEVEL	ACTUAL	PLANNED	ACTUAL AS % OF PLANNED	BACH	18 123	19 196	94%	BACHP	14 213	13 562	105%	PG CERT IN EDUC	800	900	89%	UG TOT	33 136	33 658	98%	PDIP	1 073	1 364	79%	HONS	1 881	2 297	82%	MAST	3 614	5 702	63%	DOC	2 234	2 739	82%	PG TOT	8 802	12 102	73%	Grand Total	41 938	45 759	92%
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		<p>The figures below show that the proportion of African student enrolments have exceeded the planned target in 2022 while the proportion of Indian and White student enrolments have declined. The proportion of female enrolments have exceeded its planned target.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div data-bbox="658 389 1267 836"> <p>RACIAL PROPORTIONS AGAINST TARGET</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Race</th> <th>Actual Ratios</th> <th>Planned Ratios</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>African</td> <td>83%</td> <td>75%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coloured</td> <td>2%</td> <td>2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Indian</td> <td>14%</td> <td>19%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>White</td> <td>2%</td> <td>3%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div> <div data-bbox="1267 389 1906 836"> <p>GENDER PROPORTIONS AGAINST TARGET</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Gender</th> <th>Actual Ratios</th> <th>Planned Ratios</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td>61%</td> <td>58%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Male</td> <td>39%</td> <td>42%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div> </div>	Race	Actual Ratios	Planned Ratios	African	83%	75%	Coloured	2%	2%	Indian	14%	19%	White	2%	3%	Gender	Actual Ratios	Planned Ratios	Female	61%	58%	Male	39%	42%
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4.	<p>Mandatory vaccination policy: details of the consultation process.</p>	<p>The deliberations are being spearheaded by the Return to Campus Task Team, headed by Professor M Moshabela and Dr P Zulu, the ED:HR and the University Covid-19 Compliance Officer. Currently the matter has been discussed at various fora, including in the discussions between the Executive and SRC, the Exec and Leadership Forum and Senate. The University and SRC continue to promote voluntary vaccination, but no policy decision has been taken as yet on mandatory vaccination. The University continues to use a Covid-19 self-screen, and any staff or student at risk of Covid-19 following the self-screen, is assisted and supported by the SHE Nursing staff at the time. The result of the self-screening is required on access to campus, and staff/students with an at risk report (orange) are advised to stay home/in residence and seek help from the requisite University support structure before travelling/entering campus.</p>																								

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5.	<p>NSFAS related matters: update regarding the close-out projects; progress in assisting students that have not received their NSFAS allowances and related matters.</p>	<p>Close-out project: During October to December 2021, NSFAS and UKZN had a series of meetings on the close-out project. Following these engagements the University has submitted all the required data to NSFAS and now awaits feedback from NSFAS on the way forward.</p> <p>Allowances: All students whose NSFAS funding has been confirmed for 2022 have received their allowances. The first allowance payments were disbursed on 18 February 2022 and the second allowance payments were disbursed on 7 March 2022. These allowance payments have been funded through financial resources not meant for NSFAS funding as there have been no funds received from NSFAS to date. The allowance payment dates for the 2022 academic year have also been published and thus all students are aware of the allowance payment dates.</p>
6.	<p>External forces: details about the alleged external organised rogue elements that threatens stability at the institutions, and plans by the University act decisively against the acts of criminality thereof.</p>	<p>Over the last 2 years the University has received several anonymous allegations of fraud and corruption via the independent Tip-Offs line run by Deloitte. These involve allegations pertaining to collusion between staff, student leadership and various service providers to defraud the Institution. Some of the service providers include landlords who we contract with for leased accommodation, security service providers and transport service providers to name but a few. This collusion has over years prompted violent student protests with the ultimate aim of financially benefiting certain staff, students and service providers. This has led to various internal investigations which have since been handed over to the SAPS for further investigation. At the request of the Minister of Police, Crime Intelligence has been tasked with investigating the protests and the University has been co-operating with both SAPS and Crime Intelligence over the last year. Where there has been clear and strong evidence against staff and students we have acted decisively and used our internal disciplinary processes to suspend and dismiss staff and to exclude students. We are reliant on both SAPS and Crime Intelligence to assist with the criminal aspect of these matters. Unfortunately, the University is ill-equipped to deal with the nature and extent of the issues we are uncovering as they appear systemic and deeply entrenched over many years.</p>
7.	<p>NSFAS: Urgently meet with NSFAS to find amicable solutions to challenges raised by the SRC.</p>	<p>Since the start of 2022, UKZN and NSFAS have been engaging on a continuous basis to resolve matters related to 2022 funding decisions. The biggest challenge arose due to the delay in the release of the initial NSFAS funding list and the 2022 funding guidelines to Universities. Other matters are being escalated as and when they are identified and the COO has been intervening and assisting where required.</p>