



Motions for the Annual General Meeting of Convocation

Thursday, 13 December 2018

Motion 1

Brought forward by: Keith Gottschalk

Seconded by: Prof Lungisile Ntsebeza

Received: 3 November 2018

Proposal: EMS's Summer Schools & other outreach events recognised as an integral and indispensable part of UCT as a higher education institution

NOTES WITH APPRECIATION that for seven decades Extra-Mural Studies' Department and its flagship programme, Summer School, has:

- strengthened the bonds between UCT and its alumni;
- strengthened the links between UCT and the broader public;
- showcased leading UCT academics to a broader public;
- popularized the intellectual project amongst a wider community of thinkers;
- offered a value which lies in intangibles, such as raising UCT's standing in Cape Town;

NOTES WITH CONCERN that EMS has already been forced to abolish six out of twelve staff posts, and is scheduled to be terminated entirely in two years' time unless it covers its costs, notwithstanding that globally, such outreach programmes virtually never cover their costs;

POINTS OUT that Summer School already charges admission fees far above cinema fees, on a par with theatre and pop concerts, and has little leeway to further raise its fees without losing many participants;

POINTS OUT that the demand to terminate EMS uses arguments such as that Summer School "appeals to the wrong demographic" of seventy and eighty year old alumni, is simultaneous with UCT's DAD escalating its outreach to seventy and eighty year old alumni, now staging concerts and other special events for them as loss-leaders;

THEREFORE CALLS UPON the UCT Executive to recognize EMS, its Summer Schools, & other outreach events, as an integral and indispensable part of UCT as a higher education institution, and to continue

to resource it as a permanent, valued participator in the UCT family, fulfilling the social responsiveness goal 5, bringing immense, indisputable, intangible benefits to UCT and its marketing and outreach components.

Motion 2

Brought forward by: Laurence Gawronsky

Seconded by: Susanna Yang - B. Com (Hons)

Received: 6 November 2018

Proposal: The Convocation recommends that the UCT Council provide guidelines for quicker appointments, and implement a process of identifying Academic Staff interested in, and suitable for Administrative Positions. Furthermore guidelines need to be established and implemented to provide suitable Career Paths with Career Planning and Training for Academics with an interest in University Administration, taking into account the University's Academic Standing, Strategic and Transformation goals.

At of the 29 October 2018, of the 23 members of the Senior Management Team also known as the UCT Leadership Lekgotla, only 16 positions are filled by permanent employees. The remaining seven posts are filled on an Acting or Interim basis. This is the case even though since 1 July the following five positions have been filled, namely Chief Operating Officer, Executive Director IT and Communication Technology, Executive Director Libraries, Executive Director Property and Services and Dean of Commerce.

Vacant positions filled on an Acting or Interim basis include, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research and Internationalisation, Deans of Health Sciences, Humanities, Law, The Centre for Higher Education Development as well as the Director: Graduate School of Business.

Motion 3

Brought forward by: Laurence Gawronsky

Seconded by: Susanna Yang - B. Com (Hons)

Received: 6 November 2018

Proposal: The Convocation recommends that the UCT Council devise a Strategic Plan to remedy this situation with timelines to increase Residential Accommodation to provide places for a minimum of 50% of the Student Body. That this Strategic Plan in increasing accommodation be published and finance be obtained to implement such a plan.

There continues to be a critical shortage of Student Accommodation with only 6900 places available for the 28703 students.

Motion 4

Brought forward by: Laurence Gawronsky

Seconded by: Susanna Yang - B. Com (Hons)

Received: 6 November 2018

Proposal: This Convocation congratulates the UCT Debating Union on hosting this prestigious event.

University of Cape Town Debating Union is hosting the 2019 World University Debating Championship (WUDC) over the New Year period. The WUDC gathers some of the world's greatest minds from tertiary institutions across the globe. Universities and their respective Debating Unions will be sending teams of speakers and adjudicators to battle against one another. Over 630 competitors and 200 adjudicators as well as support staff from the leading Universities around the world, will attend.

Motion 5

Brought forwarded by: Chris Wiid

Seconded by: Keitumetsi Nare

Received: 7 November 2018

Proposal: Motion to ask the Registrar to provide regular feedback on how adopted motions are being dealt with.

Several motions are generally adopted at Convocation AGM's. Unfortunately, there appears to be no information sent to Convocation members with regard to how the motions are being dealt with. In order for the process of the submission and adoption of motions to be taken seriously, clear statements on results and/or findings, must be distributed.

Motion 6

Brought forwarded by: Peter van Heusden

Seconded by: Karen Lorraine Daniels

Received: 7 November 2018

Proposal: It is hereby resolved that the University of Cape Town establishes a dedicated fund to support research into

1. The varied relationships between the University of Cape Town and the segregationist and racial ideologies of the Colonial and Apartheid eras.

2. The experiences - documented, archived or oral - of previously disenfranchised students and staff members at the University of Cape Town since its establishment in 1916.
3. Acts of exclusion, those of commission and omission, including, but not limited to the University of Cape Town's allocation of resources, access to facilities and curriculum design and content during the Colonial and Apartheid eras.

This fund should also support dissemination of the results of this research in print and electronic form. This fund should be established by June 2019 and it should be administered by the Centre for African Studies or another similarly suitable department with unobstructed and open access to all archival holdings, collections and like resources.

Furthermore, the President of Convocation shall report to Convocation within 6 (six) months of the adoption of this resolution on the progress in implementation of the resolution.

Context: I, Peter van Heusden, am a former student of UCT, with student numbers VHSPET001. I graduated with a BSc. in Computer Science in 1993.

The recent news of Raymond Suttner being awarded a LL.M. by UCT, nearly 50 years after initial submission illustrates once again that the legacy of UCT is intimately intertwined with that of colonialism and Apartheid. (<https://www.timeslive.co.za/news/south-africa/2018-11-05-nearly-half-a-century-later-raymond-suttner-to-finally-graduate-with-llm-from-uct/>)

The examples abound: Philip Kgosana, memorialised at UCT after his passing last year, was informed on registering at the University that "only selected places on campus" were accessible to him. These did not include boarding facilities and he spent his student days lodging in the hostels of Langa. (<http://www.sadet.co.za/docs/RTD/stories/Stories%20-%20Philip%20Kgosana.pdf>).

The recent discovery of unethically acquired human remains in UCT's collection illustrates another sordid side of UCT's history: its participation in racist Colonial era science. (<https://vernacnews.co.za/2018/10/18/uct-skeletons-in-the-cupboard-not-a-mistake-but-evidence-of-a-colonial-crime-against-humanity/>)

And then the Mafeje and Mamdani "affairs" are common knowledge.

(<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/00020180802505061?journalCode=cast20>)

(<http://www.africanstudies.uct.ac.za/cas/news/mamdani>)

UCT's official history (as, for example, represented on its website), reflects little of what I have written about above. Rather it states:

"Apart from establishing itself as a leading research and teaching university in the decades that followed, UCT earned itself the nickname "Moscow on the Hill" during the period 1960 to 1990 for its sustained opposition to apartheid, particularly in higher education."

(A formulation which has remained unchanged since at least Ruth Jonathan's 2006 report for the Council on Higher Education).