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#### OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY SECRETARY

# RESOLUTIONS OF THE MEETING BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY MANAGEMENT AND MEMBERS OF THE GUILD CABINET

On 10<sup>th</sup> February 2022, the University Management met with the Guild President and members of the Guild Cabinet, where it was noted and resolved as follows:

## 1. Physical re-opening of the University for all the Students

#### The meeting noted that:

- a) Makerere University opened on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2022 for teaching and learning activities for semester one academic year (2021/2022) under the blended learning model as approved by the Senate and Council.
- b) The blended learning model includes physical classes and online learning. Students physical presence on campus is staggered over the different academic years in line with the calendar communicated by the Academic Registrar. The staggering of students physical presence on campus was a requirement to observe the SOPs for controlling the spread of COVID-19.
- c) The students' Guild leadership is not opposed to digitalisation and e-learning and support the University's digital transformation and blended learning initiatives. However, there are challenges accessing e-learning, such as the high cost of internet data and the lack of computers. Management was progressively addressing these challenges to enable all students to have an excellent e-learning experience.
- d) There was a need to improve the COVID-19 vaccination levels among students and staff. Management and the Students Guild needed to continue mobilising students for COVID-19 vaccination.

#### The meeting resolved:

- a) That Management prepares a proposal and roadmap for the on-campus physical reopening of the University for all students by 5<sup>th</sup> March 2022. Management shall present the proposal and roadmap to the Senate and Council for consideration, and this shall not affect traditional external or long-distance learning programmes.
- b) That the students Guild will continue to work with Management and the University Hospital to mobilise students to vaccinate against COVID-19.

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c) That Management continues to address the identified challenges in e-learning, including improving the infrastructure, internet access, and making e-learning accessible to learners with special needs.

## 2. The plight of Suspended Students

## The meeting noted that:

- a) The Vice Chancellor suspended 16 students due to their alleged involvement in various cases of indiscipline following the provisions of the Makerere University Students Regulations, 2015.
- b) Given that some of the suspended students could be innocent, Management needed to review the suspensions with the view to lifting them.
- c) Management was ready to review the suspensions based on the individual student responses.

## The meeting resolved:

- a) That the suspended students individually respond to the Vice Chancellor's letter of suspension.
- b) That Management reviews the suspensions based on the affected students responses.
- c) That Management shall respond to the students' responses in two working days of receipt of the individual students responses.

## 3. The situation of Mr. Richard Ssebuganda

## The meeting noted that:

- a) Mr. Richard Ssebuganda, a third-year Biomedical Sciences student, suffered a severe injury to his hand in the unfortunate incident, which is currently under investigation by the Police.
- b) Mr. Ssebuganda's injury was unfortunate.
- c) The University needed to provide Mr. Ssebuganda with medical, physical, psychosocial, and academic support to meet his educational aspirations in the face of the severe injury.
- d) Management was following up on Mr. Ssebuganda. The Director, Makerere University Health Services, was in the process of assessing the necessary support the University would provide to Mr. Ssebuganda.

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## The meeting agreed:

- a) That the University provides medical and psychosocial support to Mr. Richard Ssebuganda.
- b) Any implications of Mr. Ssebuganda's injury on his academic programme and any necessary support shall be handled directly with him.

## 4. Addressing the Special Needs of Students with Disabilities

## The meeting noted that:

- a) Since the assumption of blended learning during the COVID-19 lockdown, students with disabilities study physically on campus to enable them to receive the necessary support.
- b) Students with disabilities face challenges when teaching is entirely online and when lectures are not conducted physically on campus.

#### The meeting resolved:

- a) That all students with disabilities shall study physically on campus throughout the semester as per the existing policy.
- b) That all students with disabilities shall receive physical support for teaching and learning throughout the semester.

In light of the dialogue, the Guild leadership calls upon the students' community to stay calm and continue with their studies as the student leaders and the University Management continue to address their concerns.

Umar Kakumba (PhD)

Yusuf Kiranda **Deputy Vice Chancellor (AA)** Secretary

Chairperson

Shamim Nambassa

**Guild President**