



AFRICAN
NATIONAL
CONGRESS
**Department of
Education**
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12th October, 1988

University of Natal Visit

Draft programme

TUESDAY 18 OCTOBER

15.25 Arrival at Airport
19.30 - 21.00 Formal Welcome

Proposed Agenda

Opening address
[List of Invitees]

WEDNESDAY 19 OCTOBER

09.00-11.00 1st Session
11.30-12.30 2nd Session
14.00-17.00 3rd Session

EVENING

THURSDAY 20 OCTOBER

09.00-11.00 I, A. Studies
11.30-12.30 Secretariat (Education)
14.00-17.00 4th Session

EVENING

FRIDAY 21 OCTOBER

09.00-11.00 Free Session
11.30-12.30 Min of Higher Education
14.00-15.00 UNIN
16.00-17.00 5th Session

SATURDAY 22ND OCTOBER

09.30-12.00 Open Session
12.00-12.30 Closing Session

PROPOSED MEETING BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NATAL AND
THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

OBJECTIVES

It is anticipated that the African National Congress and the University would inform each other of their respective roles in the years ahead, with emphasis on exploring areas of common interest. It would be hoped that the following would emerge from the discussions.

1. An understanding of each others political philosophy and the way in which we use it to interpret the past and inform our roles in the present and future South Africa.
2. The ANC's expectations for change in the post-apartheid society and in the intervening years in the following areas:
 - i) economic structures
 - ii) community development and housing
 - iii) agricultural systems
 - iv) the provision of health care
 - v) manpower needs
 - vi) the education system, at all levels
 - vii) relationships with other universities in Africa.
3. Review of relationships between the University and the various sectors of South Africa's presently divided society.
4. Shared perspectives of the role of the University in:
 - i) the recruitment and selection of students and staff.
 - ii) provision of an appropriate curriculum in each Faculty.
 - iii) structures and methods of management in the University.
 - iv) appointments to the University Council.
5. The most effective methods to deal with the educational disadvantages of "Bantu Education", both in the short-term and long-term. This to include
 - i) the re-education of both the privileged and the deprived and oppressed.
 - ii) discussion of methods to cater for the deficits.
6. The relationships with other Universities in South Africa.
7. An understanding of the problems related to University funding and government subsidy with consideration of approaches to South African and overseas donors.
8. Shared perspectives on sanctions and the academic boycott.
9. Proposals for future meetings between the University and the African National Congress to consider each of these matters in greater detail and to keep abreast of future developments.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
UNIVERSITY OF NATAL

P.DE.V.BOOYSEN, PRINCIPAL

CDE B. WEBB, VICE-PRINCIPAL

R.H. PHILPOTT, DIRECTOR, STUDENT SERVICES PROGRAMME

AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. S. CHOABI | DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION |
| 2. J. SIMONS | DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION |
| 3. I. MATSEPE | DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION |
| 4. R. MPONGO | DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION |
| 5. M. TIKLY | DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION |
| 6. M. MOSIA | DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION |
| 7. B. MASEKELA | DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND CULTURE |
| 8. T. MBEKI | DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY |
| 9. P. JORDAN | DEPARTMENT OF RESEARCH |
| 10. M. PILISO | DEPARTMENT OF MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT |
| 11. H. MAKGOTHI | ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL |
| 12. S. MFENYANA | NEC SECRETARIAT |
| 13. J. STUART | NEC SECRETARIAT |
| 14. | NATIONAL WOMEN'S SECRETARIAT |
| 15. | NATIONAL YOUTH SECRETARIAT. |



University of Natal

Vice Chancellor and Principal

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26 October 1988

TO: ALL STAFF
PRESIDENTS - SRC'S

VISIT TO ZIMBABWE AND ZAMBIA

You will have read in the Press that Professors Webb and Philpott and I visited in Zimbabwe and Zambia last week. On previous occasions when I have undertaken official visits outside of this country I have informed the University community by way of circular. I would have liked to have done so on this occasion too. However, on this occasion I decided not to do so in order not to prejudice the arrangements. I am happy now to report my reasons for the trip with brief comment on the discussions.

A University must continually evaluate its functions and goals and plan its future - indeed any organization must continually undertake these processes of analysis and planning if it is to remain effective. The University of Natal is currently involved in an intensive process of planning in which it is defining its role in society in the years ahead. Clearly the South African society is changing and facing even more rapid change in the future. How can the University of Natal best serve that future is the question with which we are grappling. Whatever ones view of the future of South Africa, there are, in my opinion, two inevitabilities which impact directly on University education.

The first is related to the fact that numbers of white school leavers will decline over the next 20 years and the number of black school leavers will increase dramatically over this period. The consequences of this for the University with an open, non-racial admissions policy is that the racial mix of our student population will continue to change.)

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*The University of Natal rejects apartheid.
It is an equal opportunities,
affirmative action University.*

The second circumstance forcing recognition is that the upliftment and development of the under-privileged and under-developed communities in South Africa is vital for the future wellbeing, indeed survival, of our country. The consequence of this for a University which has a policy of service to all communities is that we must develop programmes to contribute to that upliftment and development.

In determining how to address these and other inescapable elements of the future we need to discuss and share views with all other people and organizations which either have experienced similar changes or are concerned with a process of change in South Africa and have a role to play in determining the future of South Africa. It was toward this end that we undertook a visit to Zimbabwe and Zambia for discussions with educational agencies, including the universities in Zimbabwe and Zambia and with the ANC. It is simply not possible to have such discussions in South Africa, nor is it possible to read of the views of the ANC in South Africa.

Criticism for holding discussions with the ANC usually concern their use of violence in the pursuit of their cause for a democratic South Africa. Let me make it quite clear, I abhor violence in any form for whatever purpose. Indeed the code of conduct of the University of Natal prohibits the use of our platforms for the promotion of either racism or violence. Just as I abhor violence as a means to seize power so too do I abhor violence as a means to retain power and privilege and to oppress the less privileged. But the point is that it is not realistic to talk only to people who share ones views. Indeed it is essential to the development of views and policies that one discuss issues with all people of all shades of opinion on all relevant matters.

The discussions in Zimbabwe and Zambia were most successful and, I think mutually beneficial in that a frank exchange of views and perceptions on the future needs of society and the future role of University education took place. We will derive benefit from these discussions through the input they will provide in our debates on matters such as curriculum development, staff development, student support, mechanisms for community consultation, programmes for community development, academic boycott amongst others. However, I should point out that there are no agreements to be reported, as we did not go in order to enter into engagements but merely to exchange views. In those exchanges, we identified a number of matters of educational importance, which if successfully pursued, can only assist in the endeavour to find peaceful solutions to this country's problems.



P DE V BOOYSEN
VICE CHANCELLOR
AND PRINCIPAL