

EDUCATION - UNIVERSITY

1996

MAY - JULY

Splashing a little colour on a 'white' tale

A group of black academics and journalists may have been more than a little liberal with the truth when they attacked the 'white conservative liberal media' recently

By **ROBERT BRAND**

In recent weeks, a group of African intellectuals and journalists have been vigorously advancing the argument that what they term the "conservative white liberal media" is abusing press freedom to retard transformation of our society.

"The media have become a major obstacle to transformation and the African renaissance," Professor William Makgoba and four other prominent academics wrote in *The Star* last week. "The pursuit of negating African excellence in order to gain advantage for (an) endangered conservative liberal agenda is at the heart of the matter."

This argument has been taken up and elaborated in various forms by journalists Thami Mazwai and Jon Qwelane: "The competence and integrity of blacks is called into question, while those of whites are accepted as given ... such double standards suggest a definite pattern, a hidden agenda," Qwelane wrote in the *Saturday Star* last week.

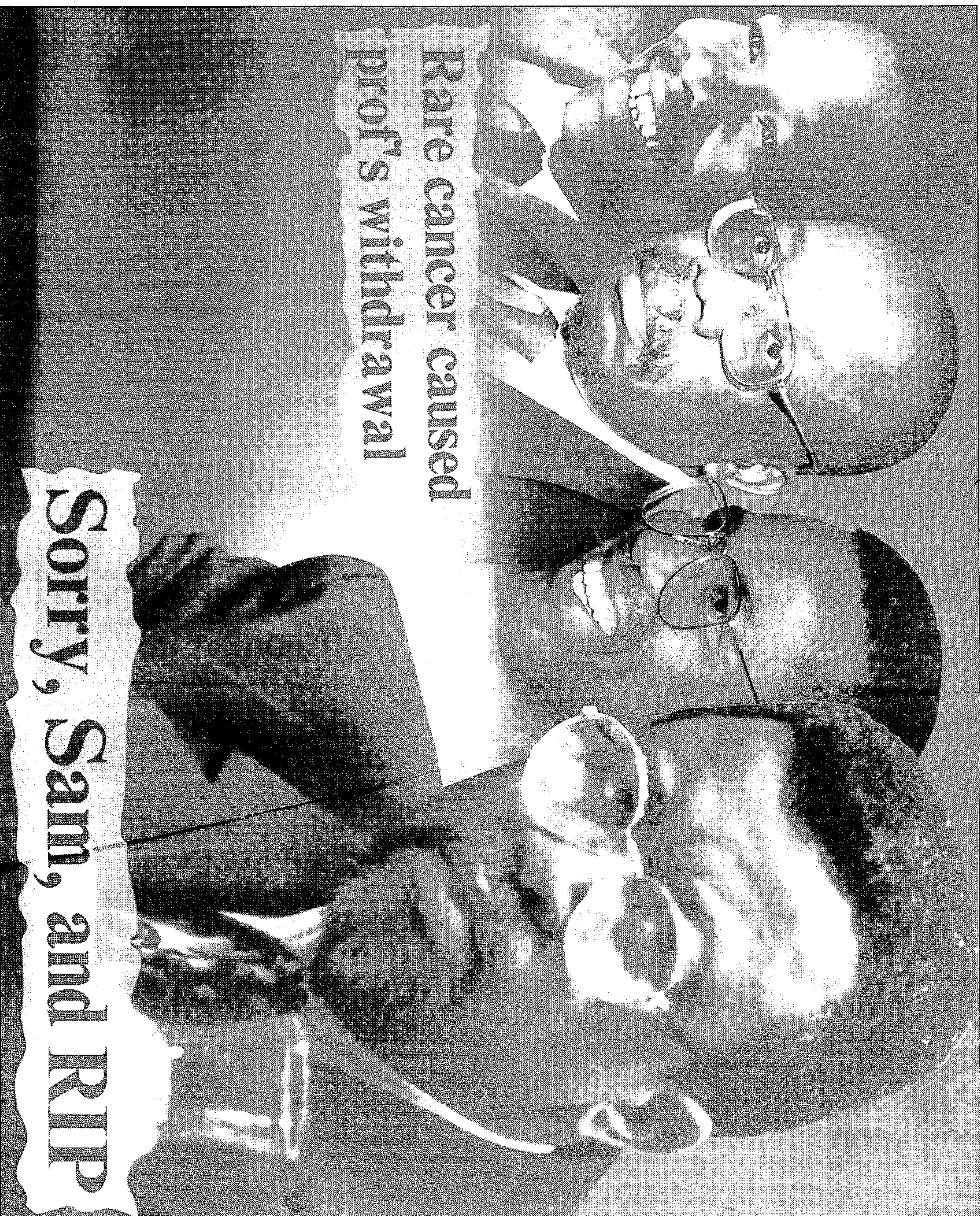
"Quite a number of our white colleagues do have a secret agenda," said Mazwai in his *Business Day* column.

To illustrate their point, these writers have seized on the example of Professor Sam Nolutshungu, the man who was appointed as vice-chancellor of Wits late last year.

A relatively unknown but highly respected academic from Rochester

(54) *Star* 3/9/97

VILAY GOVENDER



'Subliminal racism' ... (from left) Jon Qwelane, Thami Mazwai and William Makgoba contend that the 'liberal white media' ran a campaign to discredit the late Professor Sam Nolutshungu.

Qwelane himself criticised Nolutshungu

University in New York, Nolutshungu won the Wits appointment ahead of Professor June Sinclair and Professor Njabulo Ndebele. Within a month of his selection, however, he withdrew his candidacy, citing ill health.

This caused great consternation at Wits, and forced the troubled institution to start all over with the process of electing a leader. It was suggested from several quarters that Nolutshungu was not really ill; that it may have been a case of cold feet. In fact, Nolutshungu was suffering from a rare form of cancer; he died last month.

Makgoba, Qwelane and Mazwai contend that through a combination of half-truths, misrepresentation and downright lies, the media waged a campaign to discredit Nolutshungu, practising "subliminal racism" by casting doubt on his integrity and thus reinforcing racist perceptions about the abilities of blacks to run the country's major institutions.

The issues raised by these writers are important and warrant close scrutiny by those against which they are aimed. No one can deny that the mass media shape perceptions. And only the most naive could believe that the media have been able, in a few short years, to free themselves of biases ingrained by years of operation in a society totally skewed by apartheid.

What is the national interest? What are the limits of press freedom? These are matters which need

Claims of a 'campaign' were unfounded

"... I am very angry and disappointed with Nolutshungu, his illness notwithstanding, I am so angry that I am inclined to be uncharitable and ask why he is too ill to decline the Wits post but not too ill to continue his work in America. I am so angry as to say that perhaps we were simply not oppressed enough to hunger for change in the truest sense and at all costs. Otherwise, why are we frittering away such chances - it only sets true transformation back 10 years."

This was the one and only article in either The Star or The Saturday Star questioning Nolutshungu's integrity, and the writer was none other than Qwelane himself.

If anyone owes Nolutshungu an apology, it is Qwelane. And perhaps, following the tenets of journalism expressed in his own column, Qwelane and his friends owe The Star an apology too. But I will not press that point. We all make mistakes. It is time we stop the pettiness and the liberal-bashing and the stereotyping and the one-upmanship, and start an informed and constructive debate about an issue which is of great importance to the transformation of our country.

Most of the media institutions, with all their faults, are trying to be part of the transformation process. They are not the real enemies of democracy.

Let's rather acknowledge the positive where it exists, root out the real threats to democracy, and start building a better future for all.

Mazwai, in his Business Day column, reiterates this point: "Now that the truth is out, the least one expected was that these publications acknowledge their blunder - bias, in fact - and apologise. We dream, don't we?" Note that the publications are not singled out by title; Mazwai is referring to "the media" generally.

Well, Mr Mazwai, sometimes our dreams come true. Although the Star, as I have pointed out, had no reason to apologise to Sam Nolutshungu, it did, and in the clearest terms possible. On August 15, two days after Nolutshungu's death, The Star ran an editorial headlined "We owe you an apology, Prof Sam."

It said:
"(Nolutshungu) emerged overnight, the knight on a white horse who miraculously solved the Wits leadership crisis. Next minute, having pulled out citing 'ill health', he was the nation's punchbag. Howls of derision echoed from every corner. We thought he was having us on. "Six months later he is dead. We owe you an apology, Prof Sam, and with it comes sincere regret that we never got to know you better."

Earlier, I mentioned a Saturday Star article which cast an aspersion on the professor's integrity, and which suggested that there may be reasons other than ill health behind his withdrawal. Under the headline "Imagine if an 'ill' Mandela baled out after winning the election ...", a well-known columnist had this to say:

about the man and informing their readers.

Reports in The Star about his candidacy included his curriculum vitae, a long profile by Washington correspondent Rich Mkhondo, full reports on his speech to the university community, an interview by Edwin Naidu in which Nolutshungu set out his vision for the university, and another profile by education reporter Adam Cooke.

Far from treating him with disdain, these reports were all favourable. Naidu described Nolutshungu as "a breath of fresh air" and part of Wits' new "dream team". Cooke wrote that he brought to Wits "an expansive intellectual mind that can draw for inspiration on years of work at international universities". An editorial in The Star on October 30 called on the Wits senate to confirm Nolutshungu's selection; it described the choice as "the kind of miracle that Wits needed ... The committee made a fine choice ... well done, Wits".

In their article, Makgoba and his four co-writers suggested that the "conservative white liberal media" had never really accepted Nolutshungu's appointment and seized on his withdrawal to question his integrity. The writers did not name the guilty parties, but directed their broadside at the "white media" in general.

But it is one thing to debate constructively; quite another to distort the truth in order to fit your arguments.

In their article, Makgoba and his four co-writers suggested that the "conservative white liberal media" had never really accepted Nolutshungu's appointment and seized on his withdrawal to question his integrity. The writers did not name the guilty parties, but directed their broadside at the "white media" in general.

This view is, however, not borne out by the facts; the majority of newspapers never questioned Nolutshungu's bona fides and had nothing but praise for his appointment.

It is true that few journalists knew about Nolutshungu when his candidacy for the Wits post was first announced. But most "white" newspapers then set about doing their job, which was finding out more

Far from reluctantly accepting Nolutshungu, every newspaper praised his appointment and most, like The Star, made an effort to get to know the man and his views.

What happened when Nolutshungu suddenly withdrew from the post?

"The media went on the rampage ... (they) continued to cast doubts and aspersions about the authenticity and sincerity for his reasons for withdrawing from the position," wrote Makgoba et al. "The media were not reporting the truth but engaged in sensation and negative image creation."

"The conservative liberal mainstream newspapers launched a systematic assault on Nolutshungu's integrity ... showing scant regard for the basic rules of journalism," said Qwelane.

This is simply not true, at least not of the majority of the "white" media. I challenge Qwelane, Mazwai, Makgoba, or anyone else to go through the files of The Star and

show me one shred of evidence of a campaign to discredit Nolutshungu, or even just one disparaging remark about the man. They will find none (except for one article in The Saturday Star, to which I shall return later).

The Star never once suggested, implied or insinuated that the reason for Nolutshungu's withdrawal could be anything but his health. Out of all the mainstream media only three weekly publications did; but only one of them ran more than one story on the issue. This could hardly be described as a "rampage", a "systematic assault", the "campaign" that the media in general are being accused of.

Also of crucial importance is the fact that all the newspapers concerned made efforts to obtain comment from Nolutshungu. They followed the "basic rules of journalism". Nolutshungu consistently refused to provide any details of his illness. If he had mentioned at the time that he was suffering from

a fatal and incurable form of cancer, it would have removed the basis for any report casting doubt on his integrity.

When The Star, through its Washington correspondent Rich Mkhondo, finally did obtain an interview with Nolutshungu three months later, it became the first newspaper to publish the facts about his illness. Under the headline "Rare cancer caused prof's withdrawal", Mkhondo's lengthy report on May 1 leaves no doubt that Nolutshungu was seriously ill and had in fact acted with great integrity when he declined the Wits post.

This makes a nonsense of the statement, first made by Makgoba et al and repeated by Mazwai and Qwelane, that Nolutshungu "had to die to be believed by his society simply because of an ill-informed media campaign".

"When the truth finally emerges," they continued, "the same media ... makes no apology whatsoever. It simply ducks the issue by si-

Tutu to hold UWC talks

CT 1/5/96

(54)

EDUCATION WRITER

ARCHBISHOP Desmond Tutu arrives in the city today to meet University of the Western Cape students and the administration to resolve the food crisis at residences on the campus, his office confirmed last night.

Tutu, who is chancellor of the university, is conducting hearings for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in Johannesburg.

The talks today follow several days of negotiation — with mediators — between the parties to resolve whether the cost of food should be included in the students' overall residence bill.

University buildings were damaged and canteens looted last week during a "mass" action campaign to highlight students' demands.

Classes have been suspended

since late last week until the crisis is resolved.

SRC president Mr "JJ" Tabane, who is attending an Anglican youth congress in the US, sent a statement to the Cape Times saying the conflict at UWC showed that real change still had to take place on campus.

"At the centre of the present crisis is racism of the worst type."

He said a senior member of the university management had asked students why they came to UWC from around the country when they did not have resources.

This type of attitude was "patronising and humiliating", he said.

Last night the university's chief negotiator, Professor Edith Vries, was locked in talks with student leaders and is expected to comment on the crisis today.

Order against union

(54) ARG 1/5/96

STELLENBOSCH University has won a temporary interdict in the Cape Town Supreme Court restraining Nehawu members from occupying buildings or property belonging to the university in the Stellenbosch municipal area.

Union members blocked entrances at the administration building on Monday in protest against the university's policy of privatising the campus cleaning and food services. - Sapa.

Warning not to rush changes to tertiary education

(54) Star 1/5/96

OWN CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town – Far reaching changes to South Africa's tertiary education institutions could not be rushed to meet "unrealistic" deadlines imposed by Government, a national meeting of educationists, students, business and labour agreed yesterday.

The meeting, to discuss recent proposals by the National Commission on Higher Education to make post-school education more accessible to black students and more "business-friendly", took place in Johannesburg.

Despite tough criticisms of how the document was compiled, the chairman Dr Jairam Reddy, said the conference had been "invaluable" because he had learnt many of the concerns of different stakeholders, particularly the students.

He was confident the final draft, to be handed to Education Minister Dr Sibusiso Bengu at the end of July, would be "sound".

University gets interdict against union

Stellenbosch University has obtained a temporary interdict in the Cape Town Supreme Court restraining members of the National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union from occupying buildings or property belonging to the university in the Stellenbosch municipal area. This follows scuffles on Monday between administration staff and workers when Nehawu members blocked entrances at the administration building. The Nehawu members were protesting against the university's policy of privatising the cleaning and food supply services on campus. - Sapa.

64
STW 1/5/96

Tutu's plan to resolve UWC crisis (54)

DAN SIMON
STAFF WRITER

ET 2/5/96

ARCHBISHOP Desmond Tutu yesterday criticised the actions of UWC students who are angry about the food situation at campus residences, but indicated his willingness to raise funds overseas to break the impasse with the university administration.

Tutu, who arrived in the city yesterday, expressed his concerns during a meeting with students and the university administration at Bishopscourt yesterday, before returning to Johannesburg for Truth Commission hearings.

The talks followed several days of negotiations between students and the administration to resolve whether the cost of food should be included in the students' overall residence bill.

Classes at the university were suspended last Friday and Monday following clashes.

Special assistant to the rector, Professor Edith Vries, said yesterday students and the administration were "still deadlocked" on the issue of composite billing.

Vries said that Tutu had expressed his "sadness and concern" over recent looting and vandalising of kitchens at residences, saying it could not be "condoned".

Back to class as UWC settles food bill row

Students will be able to seek financial help, says rector (54)

ARL 3/5/96

ESANN de KOCK
Education Reporter

CLASSES at the University of the Western Cape resume today and each resident student will, with immediate effect, be billed on a single account for tuition, residence and food.

These are two of the agreements reached between the UWC executive and student leaders after lengthy negotiations this week to resolve the conflict over food credits at university residences.

The crisis led to vandalism and looting on the campus, the arrest of students and the closure of the university last week.

The UWC rector, Cecil Abrahams, said it had been agreed to implement a composite billing system with immediate effect.

"That is, all resident students will be billed for tuition, residence and food on an annual basis.

"Students will be billed an agreed-upon amount for the rest of the academic year, and all students will be encouraged to apply for financial aid to assist them with covering their

composite bill to the university."

Professor Abrahams said students who did not apply for financial aid, or who failed the means test, would be referred to and dealt with by the Broad Transformation Forum.

Sub-committees would consider such side-issues as cost reduction for residence and food costs, as well as observing minimum standards in residences in order to balance standards against costs.

It was agreed that joint appeals would be made to parents with regard to settlement of student debt.

Professor Abrahams said police had been withdrawn from the campus and outstanding matters, such as damages, student behaviour, criminal charges and security contracts at residences would be addressed in further negotiations next week.

He emphasised UWC's commitment to helping those truly unable to find financial assistance, and said the agreement ensured those who could afford and were able to find financial help would do so and thereby help the university

relieve its debt for student tuition, residence and food.

Professor Abrahams admitted it was "not easy" to collect fees from truly disadvantaged students, but said UWC had recovered substantial amounts in the past.

"Adding additional amounts to tuition and residence fees will assist those who are truly needy.

"We have a responsibility. We attract the most disadvantaged group in the country, and even if the nation is not addressing the problem, this university cannot shirk its responsibility to assist the disadvantaged.

"We don't see this as giving in to the students. Instead, we see it as a creative way of dealing with a very difficult issue."

Professor Abrahams said it was "most unfortunate" that UWC had to resolve issues in this way.

"Clearly, every time we have a stoppage, we are retarding that academic programme, and we are very sad that our university has once again been drawn into this position."

He said he hoped the Broad

Transformation Forum at UWC would encourage all those involved to take control of issues on the campus.

"Until we get into a situation where we begin to challenge each other, we will always have ... one group demanding, while the executive gives the resistance."

Referring to political power-play on campus between the South African Students' Congress (Sasco), the Pan Africanist Student Organisation (Paso) and the Azanian Student Congress (Azasco) which resulted in stand-offs with the administration, he said the university would never be able to stop student politics.

"We should keep on meeting not only with the largely Sasco-affiliated SRC on campus, but keep open lines with Azasco and Paso so they can know that whatever disagreements they have among themselves, it should not spill over to hold this campus to ransom."

Although UWC was pursuing overseas financial aid, Professor Abrahams said, financial help for disadvantaged students was a national problem.

UWC leaders celebrate food row resolution

STUDENT leaders at the University of the Western Cape were at a city jazz club last night, "celebrating" the capitulation of the university administration to their demands to include the cost of food in their overall residence bill.

Student leaders, central to the dispute which disrupted academic life last week, were all in noticeably high spirits.

This agreement brings to an end two weeks of bitter, sometimes violent, campus fighting.

In the agreement a new "composite billing system" will operate with immediate effect.

Rector Professor Cecil Abrahams said afterwards all students would be encouraged to apply for financial aid to help them cover their composite bill. (54)

"The normal university programme will resume today, the police have been withdrawn and outstanding matters ... will be addressed in further negotiations next week."

SRC president Mr "JJ" Tabane said the damage caused to the university property could have been avoided with "creative" management. — Staff Writers

CT 3/5/96

Average salary increase of 15,7% for teachers welcomed

By **LEE-ANN ALFREDS**
Education Reporter

Teachers are set to receive substantial salary increases of between 10 and 53,76% this year following the signing of a three-year improvement package in the Education Labour Relations Council.

The increases – part of a deal which also finalised right-sizing (redeployment of teachers), voluntary severance packages and amendments to pension benefits – were agreed upon by the state and the teacher unions on Tuesday.

The increases will be effective from July.

Education Department spokesman Roelf du Preez said that while some of the increases were very substantial, they would be

received only by educators earning the lowest salaries.

"This means that of the 360 000 educators in SA, only 74 will receive increases of 53,76% and 3 000 raises of 48,1%. On the other hand, educators in the top notches will receive increases of only 10%. On average, therefore, teachers will be receiving an increase of 15,7%," he said.

Du Preez said it had also been agreed that increases would in future be based on the performance of the teacher. The criteria for performance-related increases were still being negotiated.

The number of salary bands had also been reduced, he said.

"A lot of these agreements also apply to other sectors of the public service, but what makes it

unique is that it also relates to improvements for 1997 and 1998. It is the first time the state has negotiated a three-year package," Du Preez said.

In terms of the agreement on right-sizing, Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu assured the public no teachers would be retrenched.

In a statement, Bengu said teachers would be redeployed to bring about teacher/pupil ratios of 1:35 in high schools and 1:40 in primary schools, with redeployment being phased in from this year and completed by the year 2000 at the latest.

He said the voluntary severance packages would be offered to educators for a limited period this year, with the cut-off date depending on the response.

But Bengu said agreement had been reached to retain, for up to 18 months, educators in key posts who opted for the severance package.

Amendments to the pension benefits and other matters were still being negotiated.

The SA Democratic Teachers' Union yesterday welcomed the agreement, saying the system would reinvigorate the culture of learning and teaching.

National Professional Teachers' Organisation of SA president Leepile Taunyane welcomed the assurance that no teachers would be retrenched, but said achieving equity should not inconvenience teachers.

Agreement on new criteria for salary progression also needed to be reached, he said.

54 Star 3/5/96

Harbinger of hope for campuses

(54) MHC 3-9/5/96



Philippa Garson talks to an adviser who is determined to help turn South African universities into world-class institutions

THE drive by South African universities to become world-class institutions is endangered by the number of top administrators leaving their stressed jobs for greener pastures, according to a top American educator who has been advising these campuses.

Fred Hayward, consultant to the American Council on Education (ACE), lists 19 senior university administrators who have moved off South Africa's campuses in the space of a year.

In particular, he says, vice-chancellors have one of the "toughest jobs in the country", and unless they are given urgent financial and other assistance, they will be lost to higher education. They spend their time fighting the same old fires on campus instead of implementing plans to turn their universities into world-class institutions, he says.

He should know: he spends intensive periods in the offices of the vice-chancellors and rectors of 13 historically disadvantaged universities and technikons on an ACE project that is helping these leaders develop strategies to sort out their institutions.

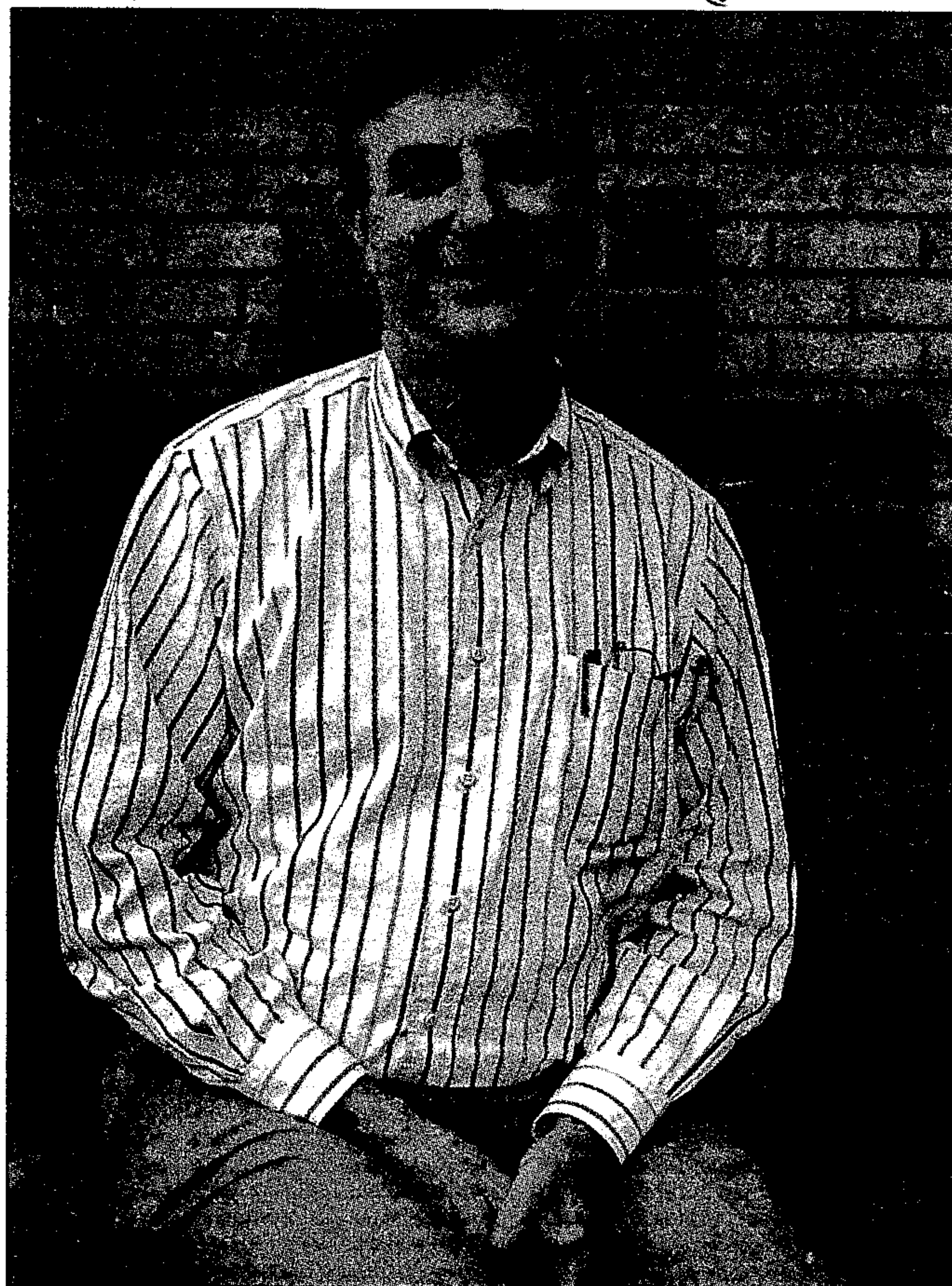
The high turnover, he says, has severely hampered the project, whose primary focus is to give technical, financial and other assistance to vice-chancellors and rectors, and to help them implement five-year strategic plans. Since the project got off the ground, dozens of senior administrators have left their jobs — amid soaring debts, student and worker strikes, and repeated closures at their institutions.

Once the leaders leave, their skills are often not passed on. Thus, the march forward to turn the institutions into top universities is sometimes an awkward shuffle, with a step backward for every two steps forward.

Hayward believes, nevertheless, that the goal is well within the realms of possibility: "There is no reason why South Africa, in terms of its higher education and education generally, should not be the next Japan."

Funded by the Ford Foundation and USAid, the project started in 1992 and winds up at the end of this year — a crucial year during which the policy of the National Commission on Higher Education will be etched into legislation. But already the ACE project is five months behind schedule.

A key pillar of the project is the secondment of 10 successful presidents or former presidents of American universities, who spend two fortnight sessions a year working alongside the South African vice-chancellors. They were amazed, says Hayward, at the working conditions vice-chancellors at historically black institutions face. When the project began, only one vice-chancellor had a



Fred Hayward: 'I've never worked on a project where my time was so worthwhile' PHOTO: RUTH MOTAU

computer in his office.

Hayward, a political scientist by training, speaks with a wealth of knowledge about higher education worldwide. He has been involved in electoral processes and higher-education institutions in Africa for the past 30 years, and played a key role in South Africa's policy debates preceding the new education system. He was also the United Nations' representative on the Independent Electoral Commission during the 1994 elections, and helped uncover large-scale computer fraud.

The ACE has assisted universities in post-Cold War Czechoslovakia and Poland to re-establish their autonomy and financial viability. But most requests for assistance are turned down, says Hayward, including one from universities in the former Soviet Union.

The organisation only gets involved when it believes it can do something, and in the former Soviet, they are "simply not ready yet".

In contrast, South Africa has had a phenomenal advantage over other societies undergoing rapid change: "Everybody agreed the system had to change. There has been an enormous amount of preparation in changing higher education already.

"I have never worked on a project where I thought my time was more worthwhile than this one ... I expected someone to say to me, 'you're a white American, you're on the wrong side. But no one ever has.'" Perhaps this is because Hayward undoubtedly knows what he's talking about; only fools would rebuff the overtures of a person with such expertise and intimate knowledge of the problems involved.

He says the National Commission on Higher Education's report was "excellent", primarily because it managed to embrace seemingly contradictory aims of equity on the one hand and quality on the other. Nigeria failed to confront "tough issues like these", and its once-impressive higher education system crashed when students flooded the universities. Budgetary cuts prevented them hiring more staff, which led to a brain drain of staff, bringing the universities to virtual collapse.

Hayward doesn't invoke the Nigerian example for nothing: he is worried about a similar scenario here. Over the past 30 years, expenditure on higher education in Africa has been whittled down from R24 000 a person to R4 000 a person, partly as a consequence of the World Bank's decision to invest instead in primary and secondary education on the continent. But this policy is turning around again.

Of course, money is the crunch issue in determining the success of South Africa's new higher education system. People have spent a lot of time devising grand policy; now is the time to work out viable budgets, says Hayward. But many heads of the historically black institutions have little financial experience, partly as a result of the whittling away of their responsibilities when they took over from "old guard" white bureaucrats. The ACE project is about "rethinking universities, from academic programmes to building new budgeting programmes."

The student loan scheme is "wonderfully designed" and a good starting point, he says, but "unless there is sufficient infusion of money from the government to level the playing fields, there is no way progress can be made".

He lauds the proposed higher education council to oversee the governance of the sector as a key feature in ensuring university autonomy. Although it doesn't wash well with those academics who fear a loss of institutional autonomy, and those in government who fear a reduction in their control of the sector, Hayward believes the structure is crucial. Not only will it help institutions deal with ongoing, repetitive problems like student and worker strikes and rising debt in a more coherent way, it will place necessary distance between the government and the sector.

The government and higher education are enjoying a "honeymoon" that won't last forever. The government has former university heads in strategic places — including the president's office — and they are "friends" of the sector. "But you need structures in place to protect you from friends who might one day be replaced by enemies. We have structures like these in the United States to protect our campuses from too much political intrusion."

A higher education council would also help "vice-chancellors to manage the turmoil on their campuses. Ways have to be found to deal with these issues in a non-confrontational manner. Food services in residences may be the burning issue today, but what about in five years' time?"

From factory sweeper to university graduate

JEAN LE MAY
Staff Reporter

AN innovative system of technological education for both adults and children has been proposed by Dereck Sparks, professor of civil engineering at the University of Cape Town.

"With this system, a person with the ability can start as a factory sweeper and end up after nine years as a university graduate," he said.

In schools the proposed system would start at primary school level and finish with matric. It could be easily imposed on existing facilities, said Professor Sparks.

It could also be extended to distance education, comparable with the external study system used at present by the University of South Africa.

"The introduction of such a system requires dramatic lateral thinking, breaking away from existing systems," he said.

In a paper delivered at a conference of the South African Institute of Civil Engineers (SAIEC) in Cape Town last week, Professor Sparks outlined the need for technological education if South Africa was to become a "winning" nation.

"We need a Ministry of Technological Education," he said. "It must not be cluttered with other portfolios and should be run by a technological educationist."

A special department which would offer opportunities to study technological subjects part-time or externally should be created within the ministry, he said.

Private colleges should be licensed to offer technological education, he added.

Winning countries such as West Germany, Japan, Taiwan as well as Hong Kong improved their world economic status because they enjoyed two nec-

■ An unskilled factory sweeper could get a university degree in nine years under an innovative technological education system suggested by UCT's engineering professor Dereck Sparks.

essary components - technological education which helped create jobs, and the productivity of the workers who filled those jobs.

"In general, factory workers should produce enough goods for sale to cover the overheads of the factory other than their own salaries," said the professor.

"These overheads include the rental of factory buildings, the cost of equipment, government taxes and local rates paid by the factory, salaries of administrative staff and other factors.

"The productivity of workers should be approximately equal to three times their individual salaries so that the factory can survive, replace its equipment and secure jobs."

For a country to become a "winning" nation, it should provide the technological education which created jobs and provided the skills needed to ensure productivity.

At present, technological education was restricted in South Africa because existing education departments were dominated by classical educationists or by politicians who did not understand technology, he said.

The costs of technological education were higher than those for conventional education because laboratories were needed.

However, it was short-sighted to avoid the extra expenditure because technological knowledge was needed to work in pro-

ductive factories created by engineers and accountants.

"If we can design an educational system which would suit either a child in an ordinary school or an adult who wishes to catch up on his or her education, then we will have reached a winning design."

A modular system would suit both categories. It could be used either in conventional schools or for distance learning.

This was how it would work, Professor Sparks said:

After four years of conventional schooling, students would spend a year learning basic business maths, woodwork, welding, languages, as well as building construction and some optional subjects.

This would be enough for them to start a small businesses.

They could then spend another two years studying elementary book-keeping, electricity, maths, science and languages.

This could give them skills to do part-time work or odd jobs while they were keeping on with their studies.

They could then go straight to trade schools. But if they wanted to go to university, it would need another two years study of maths, English literature and grammar, physics and chemistry, plus options including calculus, zoology, history, fine art or human biology.

Depending on the options taken, this could open the door to the medical profession.

If the system were followed by correspondence course with organised sessions for lab work, it should be possible to go to university after nine years of study although most students would take longer, especially if they were working part-time.

This was shorter than the conventional 12 years of schooling before university entry, said Professor Sparks.

ARG 4/5/96

(54)

Student input overlooked

54

By Russel Molefe

Rowe Jan
8/5/96

THE South African Students Congress has attacked the National Commission on Higher Education for overlooking the students' input in its report on the transformation of higher educational institutions.

Several student organisations have so far withdrawn from an education conference to be held in Austria later this month in protest against the exclusion of students' voice in the NCHE report.

Sasco chairman in Gauteng Mr Jacob Mamabolo said the students' submission to the NCHE never formed part of the report and "the report itself does not reflect the different views of stakeholders and it suggests that there is agreement around all issues".

"It was on this understanding that the National Policy Conference of Sasco held two weeks ago rejected this report and vowed to ensure that this report is not implemented as policy," Mamabolo said.

He said Sasco will have actions from May 10. A mass rally will be held at the Rand Afrikaans University and will be followed by a march to the Education Ministry offices on May 10.

The Education Ministry has undermined students' efforts to transform institutions of higher learning in line with the changes that are taking place in the country, Mamabolo said.

JCE students rampage over racism

54
EDUCATION REPORTER

Nov 9/5/96

About 200 disgruntled students disrupted classes and broke doors at the Johannesburg College of Education in Parktown yesterday to protest against racist remarks made by a lecturer.

No one was injured in the protests, but students who tried to attend classes were reported to have been threatened.

Another protest is being planned for today, but classes are expected to resume tomorrow.

The lecturer in question, John Harley, refused to comment on the accusations made against him. The college was not available for comment.

SA Students' Congress (Sasco) branch spokesman Sihle Nzoneli said the two-day action was to demand the resignation of drama lecturer Harley and his wife Stella for racist remarks they are reported to have made to several students.

He said the protest was a result of Harley supposedly telling three teaching students during a practical assessment last week that they did not deserve to be at JCE, but should attend a black college.

"Harley told them they were incompetent and should be in a place where they could be taught in their own language," Nzoneli said. He claimed Harley's wife was also known for making racist remarks.

Nzoneli said Sasco had broken doors and disrupted classes because they wanted to "get the college's attention". However, today's protest would be peaceful.

He added that students would meet the administration today to discuss their complaints.

Nzoneli's charges against Harley were backed up by an angry parent whose daughter is at JCE. The woman, who did not want to be named, said Harley repeatedly passed racist and sexist comments.

"He would also tell students during teaching practicals that they were useless and he would brag in lectures about how many students he had made cry. How can a lecturer try to break people down like that?" she said.

She also claimed the college had known the lecturer had been "causing trouble for the past couple of years", but had done nothing.

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

(54)

RAMPHELE'S EXCELLENCE BID

FM 10/5/96

The University of Cape Town's new mission statement makes excellence the benchmark against which all the university's future endeavours will be judged — at the insistence of black students.

It is an encouraging move that spurns the notion that academic standards must be sacrificed to improve the access of educationally disadvantaged students to the top universities.

UCT's first collectively produced mission statement is straightforward: "Our mission is to be an outstanding teaching and research university, educating for life and addressing the challenges facing our society."

Vice-chancellor-elect Dr Mamphela Ramphele says the key phrase is: "To equip people with lifelong skills, we must and will take excellence as the benchmark for all we do." She says by adopting the mission statement, UCT "is celebrating the legitimisation of excellence."

Ironically, members of the Senate had argued against an explicit reference to excellence because they feared the term was too tainted to be redeemable. Black students said it was wrong to think that they did not want to be judged by this criterion. They wanted their degrees to be recognised as excellent.

Addressing the university assembly last week, Ramphele said UCT's previous claims of excellence were open to question because until the early Eighties, apartheid discrimination had prevented it from tapping into the widest pool of talent and because it failed to train professionals to communicate effectively in the languages of the majority of the people they were to serve.

If she has her way, all UCT graduates will have to have some proficiency in Xhosa — especially in the fields of medicine, engineering and social services where they are likely to serve Xhosa-speaking communities.

Ramphele's motto for her term of office is: excellence with equity. "It is essential for the future of this country that UCT succeeds in building its status as a centre of excellence in which quality and equity are compatible."

As deputy vice-chancellor heading the equal opportunities portfolio and chairman of the Transformation Forum mission statement working group, Ramphele has been a key player in the

transformation process and says UCT is "light years ahead of any other SA institution" in this regard.

Last year, 23,6% of UCT students were black compared with 2,7% in 1984. This has been achieved in conjunction with a narrowing of the academic performance gap between black and white students. In 1985 first-time black undergraduates passed 64% of their courses compared with 72% last year. White students lifted their performance from 83% to 86% over the same period.

But Ramphele says: "There is no question of artificially inflating our output of graduates as some people seem to fear. We will continue to seek out students with the potential to attain our high exit standards and we will not compromise these standards."

In the Eighties, UCT pioneered an admission test to identify talented students by measuring their proficiency in English and ability to reason rather than accepting what they had learnt at school. UCT has since found a high correlation between students' test results and their academic success at university. About half of UCT's first-year black students enrolled last year were admitted based on this and the test is now used by the universities of Pretoria and Stellenbosch.

One of UCT's biggest departments is the academic development programme. With a staff of more than 40 and a 1995 operating budget of R5m, it aims to equip poorly prepared students (mostly Department of Education matriculants) with the skills required for an undergraduate degree. It allows students to extend their degrees over five years and offers a range of introductory courses and support schemes including bridging, tutorial, language and mentorship programmes.

UCT's experience in this field was recognised by the National Commission on Higher Education when it appointed the programme's director, associate professor Ian Scott, as an adviser last year.

The surge in expenditure on financial aid, from R3m in 1984 to R28m in 1995, and academic development, from R0,8m to R5m, has been achieved by shifting almost R10m to these programmes from the general operating budget and raising R20m in sponsorship.

Belt-tightening enabled UCT to turn a budgeted deficit of R3,8m into a R0,74m surplus last year.

UCT's experience testifies that a balance between equity and excellence can be achieved in higher education. ■

Bridge the Gap...



**OLD MUTUAL
UNIT TRUSTS**

*Helping you make the most
of the stock exchange*

UNION BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

Medical students: statistics

80. Sen W F MNISI asked the Minister of Education:

How many (a) Black and (b) White students were studying in each medical discipline at each medical school in South Africa as at the latest specified date for which information is available?
S134E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:
According to the 1993 statistics: (1994 statistics not available for all institutions)

University	Whites		Blacks	
		Total		Total
Cape Town	236	839	14	109
Durban-Westville	43	60	24	47
Fort Hare	—	—	12	84
Medunsa	6	104	242	979
Natal	47	138	71	229
The North	—	4	13	254
Orange-Free State	352	1 147	8	9
Port Elizabeth	62	84	21	3
Potchefstroom	42	280	2	1
Pretoria	445	1 937	22	10
Rand Afrikaans	139	235	14	1
Rhodes	—	65	—	31
South Africa	206	206	1 242	—
Stellenbosch	220	1 036	1	3
Western Cape	10	4	62	46
Witwatersrand	293	1 086	83	177
Zululand	—	—	197	—
Vista	—	—	—	—
Total	2 112	6 334	2 029	1 948
				3 977

Nursing, rehabilitation and therapy, emergency services, hospital and health care administration, public health

All other health care and health sciences

Health care and health sciences

University of Vista: State subsidy

81. Sen A J WILLIAMS asked the Minister of Education:†

(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?
S135E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

According to the 1994 statistics.

- (1) (a) What is the amount of the State subsidy to the University of Vista at present, (b) what percentage of the total income of the university does this amount constitute, (c) what percentage of the university's total budgeted income is derived from student fees and (d) what do student fees in arrears at the university amount to;
- (2) whether the State will assist the university by means of additional funding; if not, why not; if so, by what amount;
- (1) (a) R96 279 000
(b) 61,9%
(c) 27,4%
(d) 1993—R1 567 007
1994—R2 325 996
1995—R7 431 164
- (2) No—no funds are available.
(3) No.

Academic search for an African identity

M+G 10-16/5/96 (54)

Africanist academics have come together to mobilise for change on campuses — and they have the government's latest report on tertiary institutions in their sights. **Justin Pearce** reports

A GROUP of black academics is set to do battle with the National Commission on Higher Education (NCHE), a body appointed by Parliament to find a new framework for higher education.

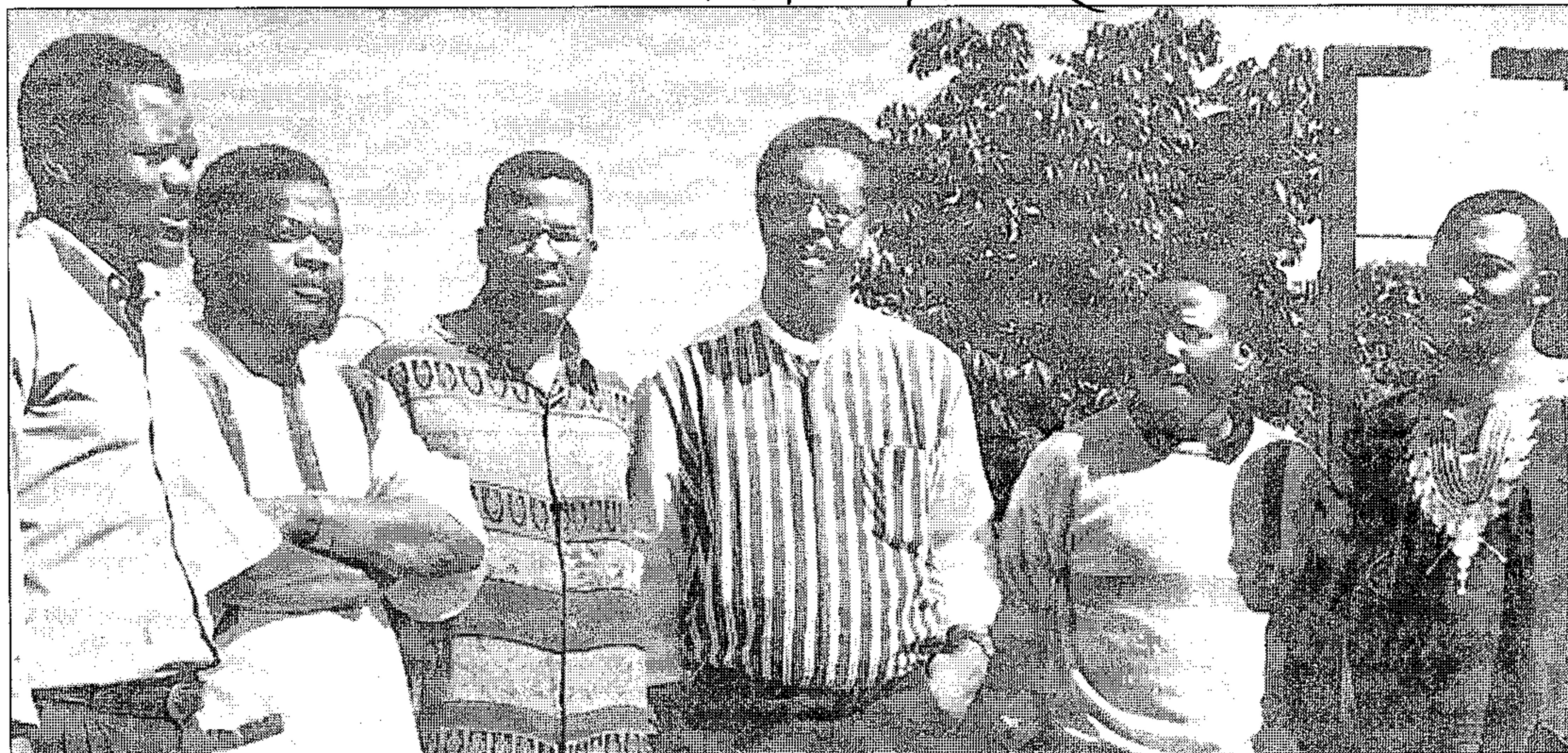
At a conference last weekend, an ad hoc committee was formed to lobby Parliament not to put into law the NCHE's recommendations, dealing largely with the "massification" of higher education, or ways to bring more people into the tertiary education system. The academics declared the report — released last month by the NCHE — would do nothing to transform South African tertiary education as it did not address the need for fundamental change.

It was a serious accusation, and a sign of how high passions are running in the debate around the Africanisation of South African universities and technikons.

"Black perspectives on tertiary institutional transformation" was the title of the conference at the University of Venda that presented the challenge to the NCHE. It was attended by about 100 black academics, most of them from historically black universities.

The conference marked the first time that academics, who have fought lonely battles to transform their universities, could pool their experiences and work towards a coherent philosophical grounding for the often ambiguous concept known as Africanisation.

Opposition to the NCHE's report was first voiced in the paper delivered by Venda University vice-chancellor Gessler Nkondo — a paper which transcended academic discourse to become a cry to battle: "If we — and now I mean



Doing battle: Professors Sipho Seepe, Gessler Nkondo, Malegapuru Makgoba, Herbert Vilakazi, Mashupye Kgaphola, Thandwa Mthembu PHOTO: JUSTIN PEARCE

conscious South Africans who must, like soldiers, insist on, or create, the consciousness of power — do not falter in our mission now, we may be able to end the nightmare of domination, and achieve our country, and contribute to the changing of the world."

Nkondo charged that the NCHE had failed to identify the need for "a coherent philosophy of education ... emerging organically from the national aspiration for liberation" and "an in-depth analysis of a curriculum based on the principle of liberation".

Implicit in Nkondo's accusation was the underlying theme of the conference: political power may be largely in the hands of the black majority, but cultural and educational resources will continue to be dominated by what whites brought with them from Europe.

Nkondo hinted that intervention by a "strong affirmative state" would be a necessary weapon against a conserva-

tive academic establishment. This idea was echoed by the enthusiasm for the idea that Parliament be asked to take a tougher line than the NCHE suggests.

But if the approach to Parliament is to be the first shot in the battle, no one was saying what future direction the battle would take.

Rather, the conference set out a philosophical basis for the need for Africanisation. Papers were based on an understanding that Africanisation is a necessity, not a luxury which can be indulged at a pace dictated by university authorities still dominated by white faces and perceptions. Africa must replace Europe in what is taught and studied, how it is taught and studied, and in what language it is taught and studied.

"The research that we do should reflect where we come from," said Professor Sipho Seepe of the University of Venda.

In the humanities, Professor Herbert Vilakazi of the University of Zululand spoke of the need to rediscover, record and teach the forgotten traditions of African scholarship and knowledge.

"Nobody knows about developmental psychology better than our grandmothers. We should send our researchers to ask why they say this or that. Our Freuds are there."

His address was a reminder of the vastness of the Africanisation project — far more than simply rewriting course syllabuses, it entails building up a new body of knowledge.

Vilakazi also suggested the possibility of changing methodologies. The Western academic tradition had bred a culture of experts, but "the African tradition is to set out a problem and everyone discusses it".

Other speakers contrasted the African tradition of oral learning with the Western obsession with referencing and footnoting. Others emphasised the need to develop all South African languages to the point where they would be suitable for academic scholarship.

If after the conference the future course of the Africanisation process did not seem clear, the uncertainty was matched by a realisation of the size of the gulf between the vision of the conference participants, and the reality of academia in South Africa today.

There was a poignant irony in the references to Aristotle, Shakespeare or Gramsci, which far outnumbered the allusions to Achebe or Biko.

Seepe set out the challenge as "how do we educate ourselves and redefine ourselves", the goal being that "everything that follows will have been guided by a philosophy based on African experience".

While there was no question at the conference that Africanisation was a necessity, some were worried about the lack of diversity in the opinions that were expressed.

"The conference was not representative in terms of who was invited," said Professor Joe Teffo, deputy dean of arts at the University of the North. "It was a group of individuals sharing

a common perspective."

Teffo was also concerned that the conference had gone beyond its mandate in pressing ahead with the challenge to the NCHE: "They don't have the legal standing to challenge or even replace a body elected by Parliament."

Another speaker pointed out: "Culture is a dynamic and changing thing — it is still not clear what we are referring to by an African culture in 1996." The intricacies of identifying what is African without being deluded by an impossible quest for a pre-colonial essence were left unexplored.

Another delegate complained about the lack of change at universities where blacks are in charge: "Make a black person a vice-chancellor, and all he does is complain there are problems in his own institution when he has the power to change them."

Vera said the issue is not that simple: "We have inherited a staff structure from the previous regime. When one attempts to transform, they can play games by delaying — they won't take orders from black leadership."

Delegates were under no illusions that change is about to happen spontaneously. While universities are an obvious area of interest to academics, the conference was about more than just universities — it was also the most eloquent challenge yet to today's prevailing ideology of reconciliation and rainbow nation-building.

If intellectuals are a vanguard, the message of the conference is that the practice of the new South Africa has yet to catch up with the theory of its liberation.

Vraelyversending
Literatuurstudie

b) Verwerking (van v

c) Opstelling van on

2. FASE 2

a) Veldwerk:

b) Verwerking:

c) Verslagskrywing:

d) Beoordeling:

Sasco students demand that RAU enrol more blacks

(54) Star 13/5/96

Rand Afrikaans University has been criticised for closing its campus on Friday when about 1 000 members of the SA Students Congress handed in a memorandum demanding the acceptance of more black students.

Sasco spokesman Jacob Mambolo criticised the closure, claiming the administration intended blaming the Sasco members for any incidents that might have occurred.

The students handed the memorandum to RAU vice-rector Prof Roux Botha.

The memorandum demanded the formation of a democratic admission committee at RAU and that the establishment accept more blacks. The students then marched to the Gauteng legislature building where they handed a memorandum to Gauteng education spokesman Dave Maseko.

They dispersed peacefully after Maseko undertook to send the memorandum to Education Minister Dr. Sibusiso Bengu. - Staff Reporter.

Varsity boycott called off

(54)

Lawet an
14/5/96

By Khathu Mamaila

A CLASS boycott at the University of the North near Pietersburg, which started more than a week ago, has been called off.

Lectures resumed yesterday and both the university management and the SRC confirmed that the situation had returned to normal.

The entire student body resolved to suspend classes on May 2 to put pressure on the university authorities to register 107 students who had been excluded from

the academic programme because they repeatedly failed their courses.

University spokeswoman Ms Chip Bowring said the students agreed to return to classes after an agreement was reached with management. In terms of the agreement, the issue of the 107 students would be dealt with by a new committee.

SRC treasurer Mr Isaac Ntila said the committee would be formed by deans, SRC members and representatives from the different student organisations on campus.

Commission to probe turmoil at Durban-Westville University

Farouk Chothia

DURBAN — A judicial commission of inquiry would be set up to probe the "turmoil" which had plagued the University of Durban-Westville in recent years, education ministry spokesman Lincoln Mali said yesterday.

Mali said the minister would also call an emergency meeting of student leaders from across the country to discuss problems at tertiary institutions.

The announcement came after the university closed indefinitely yesterday as a result of violent student protests. A university spokesman said about 200 students had marched into the administration building, smashing windows and doors and burning files.

Acting vice-principal Prof Ramesh Bharuthram said academic activity had been suspended because of a possible risk to life. Graduation ceremonies had been delayed indefinitely.

Student representative council deputy president Justice Mthimunye said about 2 000 students had held a meeting where they passed a vote of no confidence in acting rector Dr Marcus Balintulo and his management.

He said needy students who had ap-

plied for financial aid had not received their money, and hundreds of students had been deregistered.

Bharuthram said an emergency meeting of the university council would be called to discuss the crisis.

Observers said the university selection committee had interviewed candidates for the rectorship, a post which Balintulo had filled since an embattled Prof Jairam Reddy left to take a post in the education department.

Mthimunye said one of the candidates was education department higher education chief director Prof Itumeleng Mosala, for whom students had expressed support.

However, students also wanted a "strong management committee" to spearhead transformation.

Mali said minister Sibusiso Bengu had condemned the demonstration, and believed that while students should be concerned about the transformation process they should not lose sight of the objective of learning.

Mduduzi ka Harvey reports the Scottsville campus of the Natal Technikon is to close after students threatened staff and barricaded the premises yesterday, allowing no one to leave.

Election could cost business R60m

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The public holiday on local government election day, May 29, would cost business in the Cape metropole at least R60m, Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry president Geoff Ashmead said yesterday.

Ashmead said business had made repeated calls on government to hold the elections over

the weekend or on an existing public holiday, all to no avail.

The Western Cape had a public holiday on November 1 last year, and business had suffered a direct loss of more than R60m.

"It is neither necessary nor desirable to shut down the local economy to allow voters to go to the polls," he said.

Meanwhile, the ANC indicated yesterday it

would be opposing a final interdict being granted by the Electoral Court today against MP Tony Yengeni and other ANC supporters.

The NP brought an urgent application for an interdict last week alleging intimidation and harassment. Instead, the ANC accused the NP of attempting to make "cheap propaganda" out of "robust campaigning".

ANC spokesman Cameron Dugmore said yesterday a formal charge of fraud had been laid by the Klipfontein Community Upliftment Association against NP candidate Thelma Fischer, who had allegedly fraudulently acquired signatures for nomination forms.

A charge of fraud had also been laid against NP candidate Phillip Windvogel in Tafelsig for allegedly forging signatures on his nomination form. Windvogel denied the charge, claiming he had been framed by an ANC supporter.

HOUSING YOUR WORKERS

A Solution in the East Rand

Join Matthew Nell (vice-chair NHB) for a breakfast discussion about solutions to the problem of housing delivery. At the same time be introduced to an exciting project offering your workers truly affordable homes in a convenient location.

Time: 07h00

Date: 16 May 1996

For details and bookings
phone Laurice at (011) 803-5770

Belgium	15
Bulgaria	1
Channel Islands	3
The Czech Republic	7
Denmark	4
Finland	1
France	39
Germany	126
Greece	26
Hungary	2
Iceland	1
Ireland	17
Italy	10
Luxembourg	4
Malta	6
Monaco	1
The Netherlands	55
Norway	1
Poland	6
Portugal	13
Spain	11
Sweden	15
Switzerland	59
United Kingdom	788
Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	2
<i>Oceania</i>	1 926
Australia	1 190
Fiji	3
New Zealand	733
Unspecified	75
Total	5 672

Establishment of National Housing Financing Corporation

*35. Mr J A RABIE asked the Minister of Housing:†

- (1) Whether the National Housing Financing Corporation has been established; if not, why not, if so, (a) what are the objectives of the corporation and (b) who will be responsible for the financing thereof;
- (2) whether she will make a statement on the matter?

NS74

The MINISTER OF HOUSING:

- (1) Yes, the National Housing Finance Corporation (NHFC) has been established.

- (a) How many prisoners were released on parole in 1995 and (b) how many of these prisoners were rearrested during that year?

NS76E

The MINISTER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES:

- (a) 50 135

- (b) Although this information is available at the Community Corrections offices country-wide it can only be obtained nationally through a time-consuming and manpower intensive exercise. The current success rate for parole supervision is 77%.

CPA: housing project for impoverished areas

*38. Mr J A JORDAAN asked the Minister of Housing:

- (1) Whether a start has been made with the implementation of the R1,67 billion housing project for impoverished areas around Cape Town announced by the Cape Provincial Administration in October 1994; if not, why not; if so, what are the objectives of the project;
- (2) whether any delivery targets have been established; if not, why not; if so, what are these targets;
- (3) whether these targets have been met; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

NS93E

The MINISTER OF HOUSING:

- (1) Yes, the objective of the project is to upgrade the environment of the former black townships (Crossroads, Lower Crossroads, Browns Farm and informal settlements within Nyanga, Langa and Gugulethu) now known as the Serviced Land Project. This entails the provision of some 40 000 housing opportunities in an integrated manner which will include the provision of community facilities (schools, halls, etc), business development and the social upliftment of the said community.
- (2) Yes, to provide 40 000 housing opportunities on an integrated basis within a period of five years within the project budget of R1,2 billion.

- (3) No, there was a delay of nine months with the formation of acceptable community based structures but all structures are now in place. The first 4 000 serviced sites will be made available from June 1996. The delivery of schools and other community facilities are part of the programme.

National bursaries/loan scheme: allocation of funds

*39. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Education:

- (a) academic and (b) financial criteria are being used in the allocation to students of funds from the national bursaries and loan scheme?

NS95E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

- (a) Academic criteria
In their application forms, institutions ask all the relevant questions and solicit all the necessary documentation to determine whether applicants are eligible for financial assistance. To be eligible for a NSFAS award, the applicants needs to:
 - be a citizen of South Africa;
 - be accepted as a registered student at a University or Technikon in South Africa at the time the award is made;
 - be studying for a first tertiary educational qualification;
 - be studying for a second educational qualification as long as it is required to enable the student to practise in a chosen profession;
 - be judged to have the potential to succeed—not only through performance in the school-leaving examination;— be regarded as financially in need—
- (a) as a member of a family which cannot afford to pay for the course
- (b) not already awarded a bursary and/or scholarship covering the full cost of study
- (c) unable to provide acceptable guarantees to obtain a loan from a commercial bank

— be unable to finance his/her studies without a NSFAS award.

(b) Financial criteria

Great emphasis is placed on effective means testing of applications without being prescriptive:

In general there are five major types of means test:

Calculation of the gross annual family income: Some institutions use this as the sole indicator of relative wealth. Applicants qualify for aid if their income is below a certain predetermined maximum.

Per capita income: This type of test proceeds beyond simple calculation of gross annual family income by taking into account the differences in sizes of families.

Points system: This is a refinement of both the above in which the particular

circumstances of family members are taken into account as well e.g. whether a mother is divorced and/or working, whether the student is in institution-owned accommodations, whether other siblings are also at tertiary educational institutions, etc.

— Questionnaire and interview: In this method skilled interviewers explore the nuances of the family's circumstances and come to subjective conclusions within the parameters of predetermined objective guidelines.

— Notional disposable income: This system similarly goes beyond gross annual income by taking into account family size and composition and by determining notionally what each individual family needs to live reasonably. All or part of the notional balance of its income is considered to be available to be used to finance the applicant's studies.

Hansard

QUESTIONS

Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

Province of Eastern Cape: out-patient divisions

268. Mr G Q M DOIDGE asked the Minister for Health:

- (1) (a) At which hospitals will the out-patient divisions (OPDs) in the eastern region of the Province of Eastern Cape be built and (b) what are the time-frames involved;
- (2) whether the Mount Ayliff Hospital will be considered for upgrading out of the R25,06 million set aside by the Province; if not, why not; if so, what is the time-frame involved?

N469E

The MINISTER FOR HEALTH:

- (a) Holy Cross, Flagstaff St Patrick's, Bizana St Barnabas, Ngqeleni Bambisana, Lusikisiki Mt Ayliff, Mt Ayliff Canzibe, Ngqeleni Rietvei, Rietvei
- (b) Building work has started on all the projects and the projected completion dates are:

Holy Cross	13 November 1996
St Patrick's	1 November 1996
St Barnabas	1 October 1996
Bambisana	20 October 1996
Mt Ayliff	8 November 1996
Canzibe	28 October 1996
Rietvei	17 December 1996

Continuous assets registers

278. Mr M F CASSIM asked the Minister of Finance:

Whether he intends introducing legislation to amend the Exchequer Act, 1975 (Act No 66 of 1975), so as to make provision for all State Departments, functionaries and agencies to keep and maintain continuous assets registers; if not, why not; if so, when?

N480E

The MINISTER OF FINANCE:

No. Treasury Instructions already make provision for the maintaining of assets registers. The responsibilities are allocated as follows:

- (i) Movable State assets registers—government departments and their functionaries. For this purpose a computerised Provisioning Administration System has been developed.
- (ii) Computerised registers of immovable State properties—the Department of Public Works.

Awaiting-trial prisoners: periods in detention

308. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Correctional Services:

- (a) How many prisoners currently awaiting trial have been held for periods exceeding (i) one year and (ii)(aa) six, (bb) three and (cc) two months and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

N542E

The MINISTER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES:

The specific information as requested is not readily available. It can only be obtained through a time-consuming and manpower-intensive country-wide survey. The latest available information in this regard is as follows:

(a)	(i)	12 to 15 months	190
		15 to 18 months	130
		18 to 24 months	80
		Longer than 24 months	44
	(ii) (aa)	6 to 9 months	1 744
		9 to 12 months	559
	(bb)	3 to 6 months	7 598
	(cc)	exceeding two months available	not available

(b) 31 December 1995.

Total prison population

309. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Correctional Services:

- (a) What is currently the actual total population of all prisons in the Republic, (b) how many of

(Handwritten mark)

Students to march over alleged racism

(54) Aron 16/5/96
EDUCATION REPORTER

Disgruntled black students at the Johannesburg College of Education in Parktown will march on the Gauteng education department tomorrow to demand that a lecturer, who they claim made racist remarks, be suspended.

The SA Students' Congress (Sasco), which has called for the march, will also demand that "widespread racism on the campus" be probed and that the department intervene to bring about transformation at the college.

Tomorrow's march comes in the wake of a two-day class boycott last week to demand the dismissal of the head of the drama department, John Harley, who students claim made racist remarks to three black students.

In a letter to rector Prof Graham Hall, Harley has rejected as "completely unfounded" the charges of racism levelled against him, and called on Hall to institute an independent inquiry into the charges immediately.

In last week's action, about 200 disgruntled protesters prevented students from attending classes. The protests were suspended after the education department established a commission of inquiry to look into the claims.

But yesterday, Sasco - which agreed to co-operate and abide by the commission's decisions - said the commission needed to sit as quickly as possible. "The march is to make it clear to the department that it should speed up the process of the commission of inquiry and of transformation."

Durban university crisis

54

deepens

Lawrence 16/5/96

THE crisis at the University of Durban-Westville took a new turn yesterday when management decided to close the institution indefinitely and cancel the graduation ceremony set for next week.

This followed the invasion of the university's administration block by students on Tuesday when windows were broken and offices flooded.

Management's decision was, however, rejected by the students, lecturers and convocation at a mass meeting held on campus yesterday.

The meeting blamed the unrest on management's "exclusive nature of the decision-making" and its inability to "meet the real and the urgent personnel, student and institutional-related needs of the university".

National Education Minister Professor Sibusiso Bengu has decided to set a judicial commission of inquiry to probe ongoing problems at the institution.

"Students need to make a choice about how to utilise the educational opportunities available to them at the public's expense," Bengu said.

Students have been boycotting lectures since Monday demanding that the 15 percent increase in fees be reversed.

Technikon Natal's Maritzburg campus remained closed for about a week after students forced the deputy rector, Professor Sam Zondi, out of the campus. The technikon's rector Professor Ben Khaopa met a delegation of the students yesterday in another attempt to resolve the problems.

Meanwhile, lectures returned to normal at ML Sultan Technikon yesterday following a two-day closure. Students rioted on Monday over the killing of a student, Sithembiso Sibandze, at a weekend bash which went sour.

al
APO

llur
of
is:

3 hurt in racial clash at Pretoria

Technikon

(54) CT 16/5/96
OWN CORRESPONDENT

PRETORIA: At least three youths were injured in a racial clash at the Pretoria Technikon yesterday as black and white students assaulted each other with metal pipes, baseball bats and other makeshift weapons.

Police and ambulances were called as the battles erupted on campus after protesters tried to hijack a mass meeting addressed by the Student Representative Council (SRC).

Although most of the black students turned and ran when the fracas started, many of those present could not immediately find their way out of the sports ground.

Others allegedly broke chairs that had been set out for the meeting to use as weapons to defend themselves.

Technikon officials said the three injured students suffered head and arm injuries and were taken to hospital by ambulance.

They said that damage was caused to police and official vehicles as well as a boom gate, a door and sporting equipment during the incident.

According to a witness — journalism student Liam Lynch — the trouble started when a group of students wearing Pan Africanist Students Organisation and Azanian Students Congress T-shirts surged on to the podium and grabbed a microphone from one of the SRC speakers.

They read out a list of their grievances and reasons for being

dissatisfied with the technikon management.

They also criticised the SRC's "lame duck" role.

White students in the audience then attacked the group with an assortment of weapons, Lynch said.

He said the group had called for the resignation of black SRC members and one, Mr Ezekiel Raseleka, took off his SRC jacket and announced his resignation.

Lynch also accused members of the campus security force of taking the white students' side.

"When the whites initially attacked, there were some campus control guys egging them on," he said.

A spokesman for the technikon said the management had not been involved in the meeting.

● SAPA reports that classes resumed at Durban's M L Sultan Technikon yesterday after a two-day suspension of lectures following a shooting incident in which a student was killed.

Technikon spokesman Mr Donald Knight said a memorial service was being arranged for first-year electrical engineering student Sithembiso Sibandze who died on Sunday morning during clashes with police near Tongaat on the KwaZulu-Natal north coast.

Police said students stoned cars and tried to disarm a policeman after an all-night party which began on Saturday night.

A shot was fired during a scuffle, with police fatally wounding Sibandze.

Blacks and whites clash at Pretoria Technikon

(54) Nov 16/5/96

PRETORIA CORRESPONDENT.

At least three youths were injured in racial clashes at Pretoria Technikon yesterday as black and white students assaulted each other with metal pipes, baseball bats and other makeshift weapons.

Police and ambulances were called to the campus battle, which erupted after protesters tried to hijack a mass meeting addressed by the student representative council.

The technikon said the three injured students had suffered head and arm injuries, and had been taken to hospital by ambulance.

Damage was caused to police and official vehicles as well as a boom gate, a door and sporting equipment.

A witness, journalism student Liam Lynch, said: "The trouble started when a group of students wearing Pan Africanist Students' Organisation and Azanian Students' Congress t-shirts surged on to the podium and grabbed a microphone from one of the SRC speakers."

After the group gained the attention of the audience, they read out a list of their grievances. They also criticised the SRC's "lame duck role".

He said the group called for the resignation of black SRC

members and one, Ezekiel Raseleka, took off his SRC jacket and announced his resignation.

White students in the audience set upon the group with an assortment of weapons, Lynch said. Some black students ran away, others retaliated.

Lynch accused members of the campus security force of taking the side of the white students.

"When the whites initially attacked, there were some campus control guys egging them on," he said.

A spokesman for the technikon said management had not been involved in yesterday's meeting.

LIAM LYNCH



Racial battle ... white students lay into a black youth at Pretoria Technikon yesterday.

Metcalfe restores calm at Pretoria Technikon

Kevin O'Grady

GAUTENG education MEC Mary Metcalfe intervened to restore relative calm at Pretoria Technikon late yesterday at the end of a second relative day of racial clashes in which yesterday people were injured and yesterday vehicles damaged.

Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu lashed out at university and technikon students who had staged violent protests on campuses recently, saying their actions went "against the trans-

formation process".

At an ANC education briefing on the progress made in transforming higher education, Bengu said: "The task of transformation must not be derailed or distracted by disruptive or unlawful activities by those who are opposed to reasoned agreement, prefer coercion and were disrupted by students demanding a moratorium on the disqualification of students who had not paid their fees, and Natal Technikon's Maritzburg campus was closed indefinitely."

Lectures at the University of Zululand were disrupted by students demanding a moratorium on the disqualification of students who had not paid their fees, and Natal Technikon's Maritzburg campus was closed indefinitely.

ly after protests. Classes were also disrupted at Durban's ML Sultan Technikon earlier in the week following similar student demands.

Natal Technikon spokesman Kim Roderick said the closure of the campus was an attempt to "facilitate all constructive attempts to restore normality to the academic programme".

The protests which have erupted on campuses countrywide to restore normality to the academic programme have been on student demands in recent weeks — estimated at more than R100m — be written off and that they

debt should not be excluded for failing to pay their fees.

Bengu repeated yesterday that the government was holding talks with institutions, "especially those whose infrastructure was eroded by years of them from the pressure of debt".

However, government did not favour writing off debts each year, he said. "It is the policy of Masakhane that writing off debts each year, he said.

people must pay. "If it is decided that fees are to be paid, then students must pay."

Pretoria Technikon spokesman Willa de Ruyter said police were called to the campus yesterday and fired tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse war-ringing students. Running battles had been fought between white students and members of the Azanian Students Convention (Azasco) and Pan Africanist Students' Organisation (Paso), re-

Continued on Page 2

Colleges

Continued from Page 1/96

sulting in at least 10 injuries over several days.

Azasco and Paso members have accused the technikon's student representatives' council of siding with white students and doing little to find solutions to their demands, which include writing off student debt and the resignation of rector Denis van Rensburg.

A technikon spokesman said areas of agreement had been reached between concerned white students, the student representatives' council, Paso, Azasco and management after Metcalfe's intervention in a meeting that went on until late last night.

All parties committed themselves to negotiation and non-violence on campus; the carrying of weapons and white students' opposition to mass action which black students felt was a legitimate means of expression. It was agreed that talks would continue and that a report-back meeting for students would be held today.

Continued on Page 2

2 arrested, 6 hurt in racial clashes

By Josias Charle and Sapa

TWO students were arrested and six injured when violence erupted again at the Pretoria Technikon yesterday.

This followed running battles between black and white students, all heavily armed with stones, steel pipes, sjamboks, sticks and cricket bats.

Police fired teargas and rubber bullets to separate the warring factions.

Violence erupted when a group of white students approached the blacks who were chanting and toyi-toying next to the library. Stones were thrown from both sides and all hell broke loose.

As the black students fled towards the eastern side of the campus, they smashed about 30 cars belonging to white students.

Police spokesman Captain Morne van Wyk yesterday confirmed that two students were arrested.

The technikon has been tense this

(54) Sawetan 17/5/96
Running battles between white and black students started on Wednesday

week since members of the Azanian Students Convention demanded that the 40 percent minimum requirement for entrance to the June exams be scrapped. They also demanded that rector Dr Denis van Rensburg resign and want interest on outstanding fees scrapped.

Lectures disrupted

Technikon spokeswoman Ms Willa de Ruyter said yesterday there were no plans to suspend classes or close the institution. She confirmed that management and students leaders were in a meeting trying to resolve the crisis.

Meanwhile, lectures were yesterday disrupted at the University of Zululand in northern KwaZulu-Natal after students marched on the administration building to demand a moratorium on the deregis-

tration of students who have not paid their academic fees.

The students were also demanding an end to all financial exclusions, university spokesman Carl de Villiers said.

Lectures were also suspended at the University of Durban Westville and the Natal Technikon in Maritzburg.

Students at both campuses were protesting against alleged racism and financial and academic exclusions.

Lectures at the ML Sultan Technikon resumed on Wednesday after a two-day suspension following the death of a student at the weekend.

In another development, a class boycott by about 900 students at CN Phathudi College of Education, outside Tzaneen in the Northern Province, continued yesterday without any sign of ending.



CLASHES: Students at Pretoria Technikon flee as police fire teargas and rubber bullets to keep apart warring factions at the establishment.

ARG 17/5/96

Race violence continues at Pretoria technikon

The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA. - Racial violence continued for a second day running on the Pretoria Technikon campus as black and white students clashed.

At least seven people were injured, three were arrested and about 30 vehicles damaged.

At the height of yesterday's unrest police fired teargas and rubber bullets to separate the two factions after about 500 black students pelted their white counterparts with stones.

Police spokesman Adele Moodie said 80 police were sent to the campus to keep apart about 700 students.

Earlier in the week at least three students were injured and property damaged when youths clashed after a meeting called by the Students' Representative Council.

Gauteng MEC for Education Mary Metcalfe attended a lengthy meeting between the Azanian Students' Congress (Azasco), the Pan Africanist Students' Organisation (Paso), the SRC and technikon management yesterday.

She said issues such as allegations of misconduct by police would be referred to Gauteng MEC for Safety and Security Jessie Duarte, while internal issues should be discussed by

student organisations and management.

While the black student bodies and the SRC had major differences at the meeting, they did agree on the appointment of a neutral person to chair the transformation process.

The situation became tense yesterday morning as toyi-toying black students, carrying stones, kieres and sticks, chanted political slogans such as "Kill the Boer, kill the farmer" and "One settler one bullet".

Facing them, white students with sjamboks, baseball bats, cricket bats, hockey sticks and golf clubs shouted racial insults and chanted "AWB".

Police kept the two groups apart, until a group of black students stoned some white students near the library.

The black students scattered when police fired teargas and rubber bullets.

About 30 vehicles were damaged as students ran away.

Three were arrested and seven were treated for gunshot wounds and teargas inhalation.

The unrest was sparked by demands by black students that interest on outstanding fees be scrapped, the scrapping of the 40 percent mark to qualify for the June examinations, and the resignation of technikon rector Dennis van Rensburg.

(513) (54)

Student unrest flares in Pretoria, KwaZulu

(54)
CT 17/5/96

OWN CORRESPONDENT

PRETORIA: Violence flared at Technikon Pretoria and lectures were disrupted at the University of Zululand yesterday as unrest continued to plague tertiary institutions nationwide.

The technikon clashes, in which seven people were injured, followed clashes between white and black students on Wednesday.

Technikon spokeswoman Ms Willa de Ruyter said seven people were injured when Internal Stability Division members fired on protesting students after "an incident". Two students were arrested and 30 vehicles damaged.

Yesterday's clashes erupted when protesters alleging that the Student Representative Council was not democratically elected stormed an SRC mass meeting.

They demanded the resignation of three top management members and the SRC.

Technikon management met Azanian Students' Congress and Pan-African Students' Organisation leaders after the clashes, but no conciliation was reached because

the student organisations tabled new demands, said De Ruyter.

SA Students' Congress spokesman Mr Doctor Tshwale blamed the surge in disturbances at tertiary institutions on the slow pace of transformation.

"The pace of change in higher education is not matching the pace of change in other sectors. We want government intervention."

In other incidents yesterday:

● Lectures at the University of Zululand were disrupted when students marched on the administration building to demand a moratorium on the de-registration of students who hadn't paid their fees.

● Students at the Johannesburg College of Education marched on the Gauteng Department of Education to demand that a "racist lecturer" be suspended, after the disruption of classes last week.

● Yesterday's actions also follow the recent suspension of classes at three institutions in KwaZulu/Natal due to student unrest.

The University of the Western Cape was also forced to close recently because of student unrest.

P

Metcalfe cools tensions on campuses

Star 17/5/96

(54)

Measure of calm restored after talks with student leaders and authorities: Gauteng premier Sexwale in follow-up visit today

ADIL BRADLOW / AP

By Lee-Ann Aulruss and Shirley Woodcote

Technikon Pretoria was calm this morning after a hasty intervention by Gauteng Education and Culture MEC Mary Metcalfe led to a breakthrough in negotiations late last night.

The technikon has been racked by violence since Wednesday when black and white students fought running battles following the disruption of a student representative council meeting by members of the Azanian Students' Congress (Azasco) and the Pan African Students' Organisation (Paso).

The unrest at the technikon has also come at a time when disturbances are disrupting lectures at tertiary institutions around the country.

In an interview with The Star today Metcalfe said the breakthrough had come late last night during a meeting attended by the Azanian Front, the SRC, the administration and a group of white students.

Agreement had been reached on the carrying of weapons on campus, the role of the police, the right to protest and the need for on-going discussion.

The students who had been jailed for their involvement in the clashes had also been granted bail, Metcalfe said.

She would not return to the campus today, but would monitor the situation.

"I succeeded in getting all the parties to talk to each other and carry on talking. Whether there's calm now depends on the leadership," she said.

Gauteng Premier Tokyo

Sexwale was due to visit the campus today.

In yesterday's clashes at the technikon seven people were injured, followed running battles between white and black students on Wednesday.

Technikon spokesman Willa de Ruyter said the seven people were injured after internal stability unit police deployed on the campus had opened fire with rubber bullets on protesters following "an incident", on which she did not elaborate.

Two students were arrested and more than 30 vehicles damaged, she said.

Three youths were injured in Wednesday's clashes, which erupted after protesters, who claimed the student representative council (SRC) was not democratically elected, tried to disrupt an SRC mass meeting. The protesters are also demanding the resignation of three senior management members and the SRC. Paso and Azasco were unavailable for comment, but SA Students' Congress spokesman Doctor Tshwale blamed the surge in disturbances at tertiary institutions on the slow pace of transformation.

He said students were frustrated by institutions which either used the National Commission on Higher Education as an excuse to suspend transformation initiatives or delayed the pace of transformation.

"The pace of changes in higher education is not matching the pace of change in other sectors. We want the Government to intervene," Tshwale said.

In other incidents yesterday:

► To Page 2



Gone to ground ... police charge past an injured student at Technikon Pretoria yesterday after firing teargas and rubber bullets to keep warring factions apart.

P.T.O.

Former Azapo president to head UDW?

M+G 17-23/5/96 (54)

Philippa Garson

TUMELENG MOSALA, chief director of higher education, is set to take the helm at the troubled University of Durban-Westville in KwaZulu-Natal.

The university's selection committee nominated the former Azanian People's Organisation (Azapo) president to take the leadership position amid one crisis after another on the campus. However, the appointment must be ratified by a university council meeting next week.

Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu also announced this week that a judicial commission of inquiry will be appointed to investigate the ongoing problems on the campus. The ball is in President Nelson Mandela's court to appoint a judge or a retired judge to chair the commission, which will have the power to subpoena witnesses. A spokesman

in Mandela's office said he would probably make an announcement on the commission next week.

The university was closed this week after student protests against fee increases and proposed deregistration of non-paying students reached fever pitch. Property was damaged, graduation ceremonies were cancelled, and workers and students called for the resignation of management, including acting vice-chancellor Marcus Balintulu.

The announcement of the commission comes in the wake of power battles on campus and repeated calls for an inquiry. Several academics have left the campus after being intimidated, and some even believed their lives were endangered.

Former sociology head Ronaldo Munck, now based at Liverpool University in the United Kingdom, left last year because he feared for the safety of his partner and child.

He welcomed the inquiry as "long overdue". He accused intelligence agents answerable to the "old regime" of "driving out progressive intellectuals like (Ahmed) Bawa, (Mala) Sing and myself. The international credibility of higher education in South Africa hinges around the ability of the government to clean out UDW."

Reaction to the likely appointment of Mosala, formerly in the University of Cape Town's Religious Studies Department before he took up the government post last year, has been mixed.

The Combined Staff Association, a strong union body on campus uniting staff workers and some academics, backs the nomination.

But one union member said there were "ANC hack" elements on campus mobilising against his appointment because "he is not reachable by the ANC."

Students vent anger

(54)
UMTATA. - Security personnel and disgruntled students at the University of Transkei clashed when the students tried to force their way into a graduation ceremony.

The students were protesting a decision by vice-chancellor Prof Alfred Moleah to bar 128 students from the ceremony because they had not paid their tuition fees. ARG 18/5/96

Eventually arrangements were made for them to pay later. - Sapa

Tech students on rampage

(54) /raw 18/5/96

Students set fire to petrol and diesel they had spread in several places on the Technikon Pretoria campus yesterday, a college spokesman confirmed.

The spokesman said about 500 pupils had also damaged vehicles, tried (without success) to set fire to cars on the main campus and had broken windows.

"When we were trying to stop them from setting fire to the cars, they ran to one building, and when we tried stopping them from breaking things there, they were already on their way to another parking lot," the spokesman said.

Students later in the afternoon dispersed after being addressed by rector Prof Denis van Rensburg.

Police spokeswoman Sgt Adele Moodie said "about five" students had been arrested. — Sapa

SEE PAGE 3

Tokyo warns technikon heads to adapt or resign

STAFF REPORTER

As violence continued at the Technikon Pretoria for the third day running yesterday, Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale issued a strongly worded ultimatum to administrators at the country's technikons: adapt to a nonracial South Africa or resign.

Calling the racial clashes between black and white students at the Pretoria campus a shame, Sexwale said it was also a shame that certain administrators "wanted to be left behind in volkstaats".

Sexwale said he had picked up from students that there was an ambience of racism at the campus which was not stated but manifested itself quietly.

"We fought long and hard to reach the position where we are now, and will not see our students frustrated. We can never countenance some of the administrators behaving in such a way that they still leave us with some Verwoerdian structures in our own country," he said.

Sexwale, who was due to visit the Pretoria campus yesterday, said he had been advised by Education MEC Mary Metcalfe not to go, so as to allow students and the administration time to reach an amicable solution.

Referring to the student violence, Sexwale said it was a shame that, at an institution of higher learning, pangas, batons and guns were being wielded against other students, irrespective of whether they were black or white.

It was all the more shameful that it had happened in the capital city, he said.

Sexwale called on students to "act like true intellectuals" by finding solutions to their differences through discussion.

Concerning the conduct of the police, he said it had been

(54) Nov 18/5/96
necessary to call them to the campus to separate the two sides, which had been heavily armed.

However, there had been reports of bias in the exercise of their authority and these would be investigated without delay, Sexwale said.

Violence and class disruptions continued at the Pretoria campus yesterday when protesting students tried to set cars on fire and damaged others.

One student was arrested after the windows of four vehicles were broken and their tyres slashed, and a radio was stolen from another vehicle. Diesel fuel was poured over several cars in a parking area but police managed to prevent their being burnt. A soft-drink vending machine was looted.

A public order policing unit

spokesman said the rioting began at about 3.30pm as students dispersed after being addressed by the rector, Professor Denis van Rensburg.

He said students had also broken classroom windows, but did not succeed in their attempts to set fire to vehicles. The diesel had not ignited as it needed a lot more heat than petrol to burn, police said.

The crisis deepened at the technikon when black students vowed to continue with mass action on Monday and nearly 400 workers downed tools in support of the protesting students.

The continued mass action came despite an agreement reached with Metcalfe and representatives of the Students Representative Council (SRC) the Azanian Students' Congress

(Azasco), the Pan Africanist Students' Organisation (Paso) and an ad hoc committee of white students on Thursday.

At that meeting it was agreed that solutions to the difficulties could be found only by the participation of all the stakeholders.

Groups of students gathered next to the technikon's library yesterday while student leaders and management were locked in talks aimed at resolving the conflict.

Earlier in the day, about 50 policemen kept a close watch and the situation was tense as most of the white students attended classes.

About 400 general assistants, mostly National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union members, later assembled at the sports ground in solidarity with the students.

The workers and students had vowed not to participate in technikon activities until management had attended to the students' grievances.

Three students who were arrested earlier in the week were released yesterday after representatives from the Gauteng department of safety and security had mediated.

Students insisted that charges against those arrested should be withdrawn before further negotiations could be held on Monday.

The technikon's SRC yesterday distanced itself from the violence and intimidation of students, and said it felt that good progress had been made in addressing the demands made by Azasco and Paso.

All students would receive their exam timetables although their accounts were still in arrears, and discussions with management concerning their demands would continue, said SRC chairman Gert Goosen.



CAMPUS CHAOS: Police disarm a student at the trouble-torn Technikon Pretoria

PHOTOGRAPH: LEE WARREN

Tech students on rampage

(54) Arar 18/5/96

Students set fire to petrol and diesel they had spread in several places on the Technikon Pretoria campus yesterday, a college spokesman confirmed.

The spokesman said about 500 pupils had also damaged vehicles, tried (without success) to set fire to cars on the main campus and had broken windows.

"When we were trying to stop them from setting fire to the cars, they ran to one building, and when we tried stopping them from breaking things, there, they were already on their way to another parking lot," the spokesman said.

Students later in the afternoon dispersed after being addressed by rector Prof Denis van Rensburg.

Police spokeswoman Sgt Adele Moodie said "about five" students had been arrested. — Sapa

SEE PAGE 3

The R30 000-a-weekers

54

ST 19/5/96

THE R500-an-hour contracts of two consultants who have been running Vista University since 1994 have been cancelled after they were found to be paying themselves an average of R30 000 a week.

The chairman of the university council, Leon Bartel, and council member Alan Tonkin were hired as consultants after Vista's management structure left in September 1994.

The university council agreed to pay them consultancy fees of R500 an hour, in the belief that they would spend no more than one or two hours a month consulting with staff members who would actually run the university.

It was believed their services would be needed for a few months until new management could take over.

But the new structure never materialised and by the end of March this year university records show Mr Bartel had collected R1 674 350 in fees, plus R88 544 in expenses.

Mr Tonkin had been paid R2 064 250, plus R440 368 in VAT and expenses.

A former council member said this week: "The whole idea was not for them to spend eight or nine hours a day doing university work.

"The idea was that they would simply act as consultants for a bridging period until an acting rector or caretaker group could take over within three or, at the longest, four months.

"A new rector could have been in place in that time, but the feeling was that Mr Bartel and Mr Tonkin were dragging their feet because they were doing so well."

Even after a new vice-chancellor was finally appointed in January this year, the men continued making astronomical claims, which they authorised themselves.

A line was finally drawn when the new vice-chancellor, Professor Hugh Africa, and council members saw a full record of their claims.

At a council meeting on May 10, the special committee through which they had run the university was dissolved and their services were discontinued.

At the same time the services of a security company hired by Mr Bartel and Mr Tonkin were dis-

Reports by CHRIS BARRON

phone and R59,96 for "other" expenses. He received a cheque for R60 469,46.

He told the Sunday Times this had been an exception. "Then it dropped off and I was working 30 to 40 hours a week."

But at R500 an hour this was still "a hell of a lot of money", said a former council member Professor Brian Botha.

When Professor Botha

raised questions in November 1995 about the consultants' payments, he was offered early retirement and left the university the following month.

"I had had enough by then," he told the Sunday Times.

"Mr Tonkin involved himself in the day to day running of the university which I found unacceptable. He behaved very au-

tocratically.

Between October and December 1994, Mr Bartel was paid R310 642,36, including R2 397 for the telephone, R8 002 for air tickets between his home in Bloemfontein (he moved to Cape Town this year) and Vista's Pretoria head office, and an extra R6 721,50 in "travel" expenses.

Mr Tonkin told the Sunday Times his R500-an-hour consultancy fee was lower than he usually charged.

The Nats' black campus

VISTA University, which consists of seven campuses in townships throughout the country, was the brainchild of former Education Minister Dr Andries Treurnicht before he left the National Party government to set up the Conservative Party.

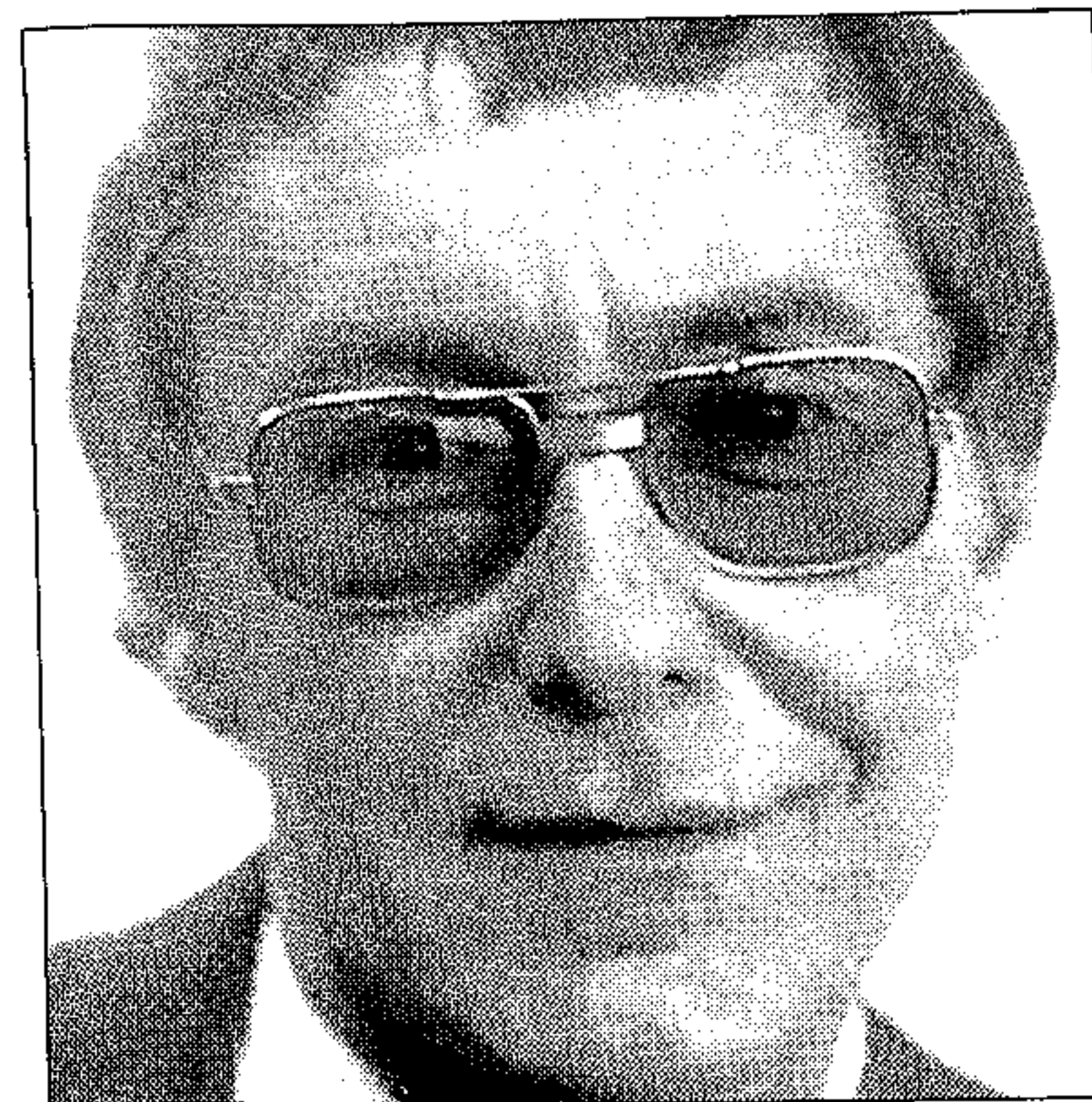
It was the National Party's answer to attempts by the University of the Witwatersrand to establish a satellite campus in Soweto.

When Vista opened its doors to students in 1983, most of the managers came from the Afrikaner establishment.

Students complained that although 99 percent of the approximately 32 000 students were black, about 80 percent of senior and managerial posts were occupied by white Afrikaners.



BIG-TIME EARNERS: Leon Bartel, left, and Alan Tonkin, whose exorbitant claims have led to the termination of their services at Vista University. Both men will remain on the university council for the time being



Drawn from the highest ranks

LEON BARTEL was a chairman of the Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut when he became a member of the Vista's council in 1982.

His Afrikaner credentials are impeccable. He is a former director of Armscor and Sanlam, and is still a director of Denel and the SABC.

He was fired as a council member and chairman of the Central Regional Training Centres in Bloemfontein in 1991 after allegations of irregularities over the payments he was claiming for his services.

He denied the allegations. "A colleague dropped me," he ex-

plained to the Sunday Times this week.

While Mr Bartel is a chartered accountant, Alan Tonkin's skills lie in the field of human resources.

He was with Middelburg Steel before joining Barlow Rand in 1986 as group human resources

executive. In January 1994 he was made redundant and later that year he joined the council of Vista University. It is believed he was brought on board by Mr Bartel.

Although he was nominated by university donors, Mr Bartel is believed to have organised his own nomination.

continued after it was found the company had been paid R6-million for about 18-months' work.

Professor Africa said: "Payments to the security company were exorbitantly high."

When asked about the 118 hours he claimed he had worked in his first week, Mr Bartel said he couldn't remember the details of what he did in those hours, but that it was "at the height of the issues at the university."

"I worked from 5am to 1am the following morning for weeks, including weekends," he said.

He ensured he was paid handsomely for it. He got R59 000 for that first week.

Plus R760 in daily allowance, R149,50 travel expenses, R500 for the tele-

Bengu moves against campuses

EDUCATION Minister Professor Sibusiso Bengu is convening a meeting of black and white student leaders to discuss racism and "misconduct during mass campaigns" following several incidents of campus violence across the country in recent weeks.

His spokesman, Lincoln Mali, said preparations for the meeting were already underway. All student organisations were being canvassed to establish a suitable date.

In the latest violence, heavily armed black and white students at Pretoria Technikon clashed, causing damage to vehicles and buildings on the campus following a protest by black students against alleged racism on the part of the technikon's administration.

Mr Mali said Professor Bengu talked to the technikon's rector, Professor Denis van Rensburg, by phone from Cape Town this weekend.

"We got an assurance from them that they are going to resolve the situation immediately," he said.

But, he added, Professor Bengu regarded the conflict as an internal matter for the technikon to deal with.

"At the end of the day, the students have to live on the campus together," he said.

"At this stage we don't think there is a need to intervene. We are not firefighters and the minister is not a firefighter," Mr Mali said.

Gauteng Education Minister Mary Metcalfe this weekend condemned the destruction of property on the campus.

"Students who engage in such actions are bringing discredit to their own cause and preventing the legitimate grievances of students from be-

By RAY HARTLEY
and CAROL PATON

Students who take part in the destruction of property are bringing discredit to their own cause, and preventing legitimate grievances from being addressed



ANGER AND HATRED . . . students convey a strong message during demonstrations at Pretoria Technikon

ing addressed," she said. She said she felt she had played her part in the conflict by getting the parties talking. "The important thing now is to keep on the table a genuine

commitment to talk. It's up to the management and the Azanian Students Front to behave in a way that shows they are committed to engage." She said that there was a

feeling among black students that they had not been heard. "The management now has the responsibility to gain their confidence." On Thursday, the manage-

ment held its first meeting ever with black students, departing from their policy which has been to talk to students only through the Students Representative Council.

Ms Metcalfe said parties had on Friday a their probe logue. Students

A sad week on campuses

(54) of 19/5/96

STUDENTS WERE injured and property damaged when on-campus violence flared up this week at several tertiary institutions in Gauteng, KwaZulu/Natal and the Eastern Cape.

In some cases clashes between students took on racial undertones, particularly at Pretoria Technikon, where white students intervened in black student protests.

About 500 Pretoria Technikon students went on the rampage on Friday, continuing the demonstrations of Wednesday and Thursday.

They tried to set cars alight, broke windows and doors, and damaged machinery in a campus building.

Police said one student had been arrested on Friday while trying to steal a car radio, while three Azanian Student Congress and Pan Africanist Student Organisation members had been arrested on Thursday for assault and damage to property.

At least 10 youths were injured in racial battles at the technikon since Wednesday.

Students and management on Friday evening discussed demands that charges against the arrested students be withdrawn.

Azasco and Paso have also demanded that all outstanding debts be written off and that the 18,5 percent interest being charged on outstanding fees be scrapped.

The students also want the scrapping of the minimum 40 percent requirement to qualify for exams.

Technikon director Leon de Bruin said management was "very upset" at Friday's events, especially as all the parties concerned had signed a memorandum on Thursday agreeing that no further violence would be tolerated.

A Gauteng government spokesman who visited the campus on Friday, Sylvester Rakgoadi, said black students claimed police had only acted forcefully against them and not against white students causing campus disruptions. Some claimed

mutual respect between students of different cultures as that was the cornerstone of democracy.

University of Zululand spokesman Dirk Rezelman said a group of Sasco members had attacked 15 female students on Thursday, seriously wounding one, after forcing students out of classes.

Rezelman said lectures had been disrupted on Thursday when students marched to protest against the deregistration of students who had not paid their academic fees within the contracted time.

Lectures at the University of Durban-Westville will resume on Monday following student demonstrations this week and the suspension of lectures on Wednesday.

A large group of students went on the rampage on Tuesday, damaging and looting university premises to protest against "unfair" financial policies after a one percent tuition fee was announced.

University spokesman Prof Humphrey Gowar said on Friday the situation appeared calmer and students had asked that the academic programme be resumed.

Gowar said a full university council meeting would be held on Thursday to address deadlocked issues. Independent mediators might be called upon to help.

He said the management sympathised with the students, but "unfortunate" financial realities underpinned the fee increase.

Sjambok-wielding security personnel at the University of Transkei on Friday clashed with students trying to force their way into a hall where a graduation ceremony was underway. The students were protesting against a decision by vice-chancellor Prof Alfred Moleah to bar 128 students from a graduation ceremony because they had not paid their tuition fees.

The student representative council said it had been agreed in talks with Moleah students who owed fees could arrange to pay later. - Sapa



THE LAW MOVES IN ... Students flee teargas and rubber bullets being fired by police on Pretoria Technikon's campus on Thursday to keep apart warring factions at the institution.

White students had incited white students. White students handed a memorandum to the rector, Prof Denis van Rensburg, demanding their studies should go on uninterrupted.

The Gauteng MEC for education, Mary Metcalfe, on Friday said although the grievances of black students were urgent, they

were bringing discredit to their cause by unlawful actions such as destroying property.

The SA Students' Congress on Friday called on Education Minister Sibusiso Bhengu to intervene in the crises at tertiary institutions.

Sasco spokesman Oupa Bodibe said higher education was in a

mess, characterised by racial and gender inequities.

Metcalfe on Friday addressed students at the Johannesburg College of Education, where about 200 Sasco members on Wednesday marched to demand the dismissal of drama department head John Harley, accusing him of racism.

Metcalfe said there should be

AP Pic

Leaders condemn campus brawls

Sowetan 20/5/96 (64)

By Josias Charle and Sapa

VIOLENCE and racial clashes at technikons were a national shame and had to be stopped, African National Congress general-secretary Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, who is also chancellor of Technikon Northern Transvaal, said at the weekend.

Ramaphosa said students should resolve problems through negotiation.

He was speaking at the technikon in Soshanguve, near Pretoria, where he awarded 300 diplomas to students during a graduation ceremony.

And Deputy President Thabo Mbeki said at the University of Transkei graduation ceremony on Saturday that because of the changes in the country student movements

... but black students warn that fighting will continue if whites attack

could no longer justify resorting to violence to resolve disputes.

He said student leaders had a responsibility to tell their followers that disputes could be resolved without resorting to methods used in the past.

List of demands

Meanwhile, the situation at Pretoria Technikon may return to normal this week if management accedes to a host of demands by the Azanian Front.

Comprising of members of the Pan Africanist Students Organisation and the Azanian Students Convention, the

front has tabled a list of demands for the technikon management.

The students have also called for mediation to resolve the crisis on the campus.

"We are prepared to suspend our mass action if our demands are met," the front's spokesman, Mr Sechaba Rathako, told *Sowetan* yesterday.

He said, however, that if the "Boerekommando" (white students) were still intent on threatening and attacking black students, normality would not return as "we will have to defend ourselves".

Police patrol closed Pretoria campus

Sowetan 20/5/96 (54)

Police patrolled the grounds of Technikon Pretoria this morning after a decision by management to close the institution today and tomorrow.

The campus was the scene of violent clashes between black and white students last week.

Spokesman Carina Rabie said tests had been postponed until Wednes-

day and Thursday and a meeting between all parties was scheduled for 11am today.

Issues on the agenda included violence and a management request for an agreement between the warring parties.

The technikon has been at the centre of racial controversy since Tuesday, when a student repre-

sentative council meeting was disrupted.

■ Students at Vista University's Mamelodi campus did not write scheduled exams on Friday. Exams were postponed after students complained they had not been given enough time for preparation. A new date will be set after negotiations today. - Staff Reporters.

Bomb threat:

Technikon

staff evacuated

ET 21/5/96
PRETORIA: The administrative staff at the Pretoria Technikon were evacuated from a building on the campus yesterday after receiving a bomb threat.

Police said they had searched the building, but found no explosive devices.

A planned march on the Pretoria West police station by black technikon students did not materialise after police prohibited the demonstration.

About 200 students gathered at the Pretoria West railway station for the march, but had to return to campus.

Black students walked out of a meeting between management, student leaders and other stakeholders yesterday to discuss and find solutions to problems which resulted in violence on the campus last week.

One of the students said they would no longer attend the meeting because students arrested last week had not been released.

Groups of black and white students were gathered on campus yesterday and were kept apart by a strong police contingent.

● About 150 Technikon SA students were unable to sit their mid-year personnel management exams yesterday because the technikon had sent only Afrikaans papers to the exam centre at the Pretoria Showgrounds. — Sapa, Own Correspondent

Campus mediation unit may be set up

HENRY LUDSKI
POLITICAL WRITER

ET 21/5/96
THE government is considering setting up an independent mediation unit to deal with serious problems on university and technikon campuses.

Professor Itumeleng Mosala, chief director of higher education, said yesterday that the idea had been mooted by principals who met in Pretoria last Friday to discuss the transformation on campuses.

The meeting of the Committee of Technikon Principals and Committee of University Principals took place not far from the Pretoria Technikon, the scene last week of racial clashes in which students assaulted each other with metal pipes, baseball bats and other makeshift weapons.

In the past two years, a succession of campuses has been plagued by unrest and racial clashes over issues related mainly to student financing and management.

Principals who attended Friday's meeting believed that a "deadlock-breaking mechanism" was needed urgently to resolve the many critical issues facing tertiary institutions, Mosala said.

Consideration would be given to setting up an independent department mediation unit or using a private mediation service.

ET 21/5/96
"It is something we are considering very seriously because it is what universities and technikons want," said Mosala.

The continuing turmoil on campuses is expected to come under the spotlight today when Minister of Education Dr Sibusiso Bengu's budget vote is debated in the national assembly.

The government has come under heavy fire for failing to intervene and effectively restore discipline and order on campuses.

Bengu has been criticised for his handling of the critical education portfolio.

He has since announced plans to call a special meeting of black and white students to discuss renewed racism and misconduct on campuses across the country.

During his vote, he is expected to deal with the question of teacher retrenchments.

Teachers, parents and students are planning to march on Parliament on Thursday to deliver a petition against the government's controversial plans to rationalise teaching staffs. In these measures hundreds of Western Cape teaching posts are to be cut.

The debate on the education vote is also expected to bring to light more details of the government's scheme to give financial aid to cash-strapped students.

Grant awarded for black law students

Deborah Fine

BD 21/5/96

THE US Agency for International Development signed an agreement yesterday awarding Pretoria University's Centre for Human Rights and the University of the North a grant of R1,2m to enable senior black law students to participate in internship programmes with well established SA law firms.

Part of the grant will go to supporting the universities' efforts to establish an education programme on human rights and constitutional law, as well as to assist black students to pursue masters degrees on fundamental rights and constitutional practice.

The signing of the agreement took place at Pretoria University. The signing ceremony was attended by SA Justice Minister Dullah Omar, Constitutional Court Judge Johan Kriegler,

(54) (42)
USAid/SA Mission director Leslie Dean, Pretoria University principal Prof Phillip Smit and University of the North's Prof Bongani Majola.

Pretoria's Prof Christof Heyns said the grant would enable the Centre for Human Rights' Integrated Bar Project to place senior black law students at various SA law firms for internships in July this year, after which the 20 best students would be awarded internships in the legal divisions of SA's major banks, the Appellate Division and the Constitutional Court.

Candidates for the programme would be selected next week. Dean said that one of the major priorities of USAid's SA programme was to support the justice ministry's efforts to make law more accessible to the majority population and to increase representation in the legal profession.

Pretoria Technikon talks on violence resume after forum decision agreed

BY EDUCATION REPORTER

Negotiations between students and management at Technikon Pretoria will resume today after yesterday's failure to reach agreement on contentious issues that led to clashes along racial lines on the campus last week.

The technikon's communications chief, Carina Rabie, says yesterday's meeting was chaired by a member of the technikon's broad transformation forum and was attended by the SRC, the Concerned Students Group, the Pan Africanist Student Organisation (Paso) and the Azanian Students Congress (Azasco).

It was convened to discuss demands related to bursaries, loans and marks, as well as the issues of violence and vandalism.

Management afterwards expressed disappointment at the lack of progress, but said several resolutions had been passed: namely, to create a forum for all student groups, to approach Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu's office to appoint the forum's con-

venor, and that two representatives of every student group be nominated to the forum.

The meeting will continue today, when the release of three students who were arrested will also be discussed. Management is adamant that charges against the students will not be withdrawn, while Paso and Azasco have threatened to pull out of talks if

Student arrests will be discussed

the trio is not released. The campus was calm yesterday, despite meetings by rival groups taking place at the same time, Rabie said.

She said three different groups – the concerned students, Paso and Azasco, and the National Education Health and Allied Workers Union (Nehawu) – had held meetings on the campus early in the day.

At their meeting with the ad-

ministration, the concerned students reiterated their demand that the technikon refuse to accede to demands by Paso and Azasco, and threatened to take the law into their own hands if the matter was not resolved.

After reporting back to their supporters, Azasco and Paso threatened to boycott the meeting with the technikon's management if their members were not released.

Two of the students in custody were released on free bail last night, the safety and security ministry reported last night.

The students are to appear in court on June 2. A third student was still in custody.

Following a slight delay, the organisations finally attended the meeting while their followers marched to the police station.

The outcome of the Nehawu meeting was not known.

The technikon will remain closed today in accordance with management's decision to suspend all lectures. Teaching will resume tomorrow.



Strong message ... the campus was quiet yesterday despite some protests and a strong police presence.

Pretoria students threaten to vandalise campus

22/5/96

PRETORIA — Black Pretoria Technikon students, under the banner of the Azanian Front, threatened yesterday to petrol-bomb and vandalise the campus today if management did not give in to their demands.

Spokesman Aslam-Mzolisani Tawana told reporters students would disrupt classes and tests starting today and would occupy examination halls, preventing other students from entering.

Demands included scrapping the 18% interest charged on outstanding fees, and the predicate system, where students have to earn a 40% term mark to write exams.

Front students have also demanded the retabing of the institution's language policy, a reduction of food prices at campus cafeterias and the dropping of charges against three students arrested last week.

Technikon director Leon de Bruin said he had not received any ultimatum from students by yesterday afternoon and that classes would continue as scheduled and the examinations would not be called off. Management would consider asking for

heightened police protection of the campus in view of the front's threats.

Azanian Student Congress national president Console Tleane said they had not delivered the ultimatum because front members left the campus when campus control was stepped up and "we feared for the worst". The ultimatum, however, remained valid, he said.

A meeting between interested parties yesterday morning, to discuss mediation aimed at ending the campus violence, ended in deadlock after front members and white students under the banner of "The Concerned Students" walked out.

The meeting was to have approved a proposed mediator for a meeting scheduled for midday to elect a negotiating committee of two representatives of each interested party for mediation talks. The midday meeting did not take place. Tawana said mediation would continue only when all student demands had been met and an investigation conducted into what he claimed were racist attacks on black students by whites, and

alleged racist police behaviour.

Sasco said it had called a meeting today of all students concerned about the violence on campus. Sasco criticised the front for its threat to vandalise the campus, saying it would not support the action. The purpose of the meeting would be to identify problems and seek solutions.

According to Sasco, the students' objectives had already been met when management agreed to let students who had not fully paid tuition fees write examinations. De Bruin welcomed Sasco's meeting.

The ANC condemned the violence and vandalism within student bodies, and the racial tension on campuses, education spokesman Blade Nzimande said yesterday. He said while the ANC acknowledged problems facing students, "they should not use violence to make their grievances heard, as this only deflects attention from their legitimate grievances". The ANC welcomed the initiative by Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu to meet student organisations about the crisis. — Sapa.

Exams in Jeopardy

BLACK students at Technikon Pretoria have threatened to litter the campus and disrupt next week's examinations if their demands are not met.

Their spokesman, Aslam-Mxolisi Tawana, said yesterday they would occupy examination halls and prevent other students from entering.

Tawana said the Azanian Students Congress (Azasco) and the Pan Africanist Students Organisation (Paso) would also litter the campus and smash computers and cars.

However, the SA Students Congress branch at the technikon said Sasco would not join this action.

Sasco has called for a meeting today of all students concerned about the violence on campus.

Sasco convenor Mandla Kababuza said students of all races would be welcome and weapons

would not be allowed.

He said the purpose of the meeting would be to identify problems and seek solutions. Sasco believed that students' demands had already been met when management agreed to let those who had not fully paid their tuition fees write examinations.

Deadlock in meeting

The Paso-Azasco threats were made after a meeting between interested parties at the technikon yesterday morning to discuss mediation to end on-campus violence. The meeting ended in a deadlock after white and black students walked out, according to Azasco president Console Tleane.

The meeting was called to approve a proposed mediator for another meeting later in the day, and to elect a negotiating committee comprising two representatives of each interested party on

campus for negotiations.

Tleane said the mediation meeting would no longer take place.

Black students walked out of the meeting because they claimed parties not involved in last week's racial conflict on campus had become involved in the mediation talks.

Tleane said the time was not yet ripe for mediation as all avenues of negotiation had not yet been exhausted. Azasco and Paso are demanding the scrapping of the 18 percent interest being charged on outstanding fees and the predicate system, under which students have to earn a 40 percent semester mark to qualify for exams.

They have also demanded the retabing of the institution's language policy and a reduction of food prices at campus cafeterias.

Tawana said black students further demanded a probe into what they

claim were racist attacks on black students by whites, and the racist behaviour of police.

Meanwhile, a staff union and the student representative council at the University of Durban Westville yesterday barred university management from returning to work. The lockout occurred despite a Supreme Court interdict preventing the SRC and Combined Staff Association from interfering with administration.

Restraining interdict

The interdict restrains the two parties from instigating, assisting or supporting a lockout of the management committee from the premises.

UDW spokesman Professor Humphrey Gowa said management was hoping to resolve the situation without police having to enforce the interdict obtained on Monday.

He said only "a trickle of students" had returned to class yesterday. Sasco spokesman Xolane Mlatha said their planned march through Durban on Friday would go ahead.

In another development, students at Indumiso College of Education in Maritzburg in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands yesterday embarked on a boycott of classes.

They were protesting against alleged negligence by management after regular burglaries on campus.

Calm returned to the University of the Orange Free State in Bloemfontein yesterday after incidents of racism and vandalism at the weekend.

Spokesman Mr Jerry Brynard said stepped-up action by the university's security division and the presence of police on campus had helped to defuse the situation. — Sapa.

Source 22/5/96 (54)

MPs blast campus violence

(54) ARG 22/5/96

TYRONE SEALE
Political Staff

PARLIAMENTARIANS have roundly condemned the emergence of racial tensions on tertiary education campuses and students' use of violence to state their case.

MPs from various parties used yesterday's national assembly debate on the education budget vote to warn students against violence and vandalism in what they described as an educational crisis.

Blade Nzimande, ANC MP and chairman of the national assembly portfolio committee on education, also decried the explosion of racial tension.

"While the ANC acknowl-

edges the genuine problems facing students, they should not use violence to make their grievances heard, as this only deflects attention from their legitimate grievances."

Dr Nzimande welcomed Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu's initiative to meet student bodies to address the crisis, and he called on all administrations in tertiary institutions to commit themselves to open consultation and negotiation.

Lionel Mtshali, of the Inkatha Freedom Party, condemned the emergence of racism, saying the tertiary education sector was ravaged by the scourge of violent, racial clashes among students. With wanton destruc-

tion of facilities and students' access to dangerous weapons, the situation was ghastly and deplorable.

"We cannot be spectators when national resources are destroyed," he said.

Participating in the debate for the last time as Deputy Education Minister, National Party MP Renier Schoeman said recent events at universities and technikons gave rise to grave concern, particularly about the racial dimension which had come to the fore.

"South Africa cannot afford the kind of totally unacceptable violence, vandalism and tension which we have witnessed on TV screens in recent days."

Govt cannot provide free higher education — Bengu

CT 22/5/96

(54)

THE government cannot afford to provide free higher education, Education Minister Dr Sibusiso Bengu told Parliament yesterday.

Speaking during his department's budget vote, Bengu said almost 95% of the national Department of Education's budget of R5,3 billion was being spent on transfer payments to the university and technikon sector.

"Taking into account rising university enrolments, the decline in the comparative value of university and technikon salaries and the serious decline in state funding levels to this sector over the past 10 years, we have decided to arrest the trend of under-funding this year.

"In addition, R300 million has been allocated to the National Student Financial Aid Scheme.

"I would be failing in my duty as Minister of Education if I did not say something about what seems to be propagated by some small groups in the higher education sector, that this government has resources to make higher education free. They parade as representatives of the disadvantaged communities and confuse the student movement in our country.

"In a country that sits with over 15 million adults who are illiterate and thousands of young people who have not had the opportunity to learn, the government cannot be expected to use its limited resources for free higher education.

"I therefore call on our students not to behave in a selfish manner because they happen to be a privileged group, having been able to get to the higher education level.

"This government does not intend making higher education free. Not now, or in the future."

Meanwhile, a spate of confrontations plagued tertiary education institutions countrywide.

Late last night, the Pretoria Technikon was granted an urgent interdict preventing students from disrupting the normal activities on campus.

The application was made after a second day of talks between management and opposing groups of white and black students, as well as other interested student groups, which ended unsatisfactorily.

Disgruntled black students have ruled out further mass action at the technikon even though talks — to resolve the unrest — dead-

locked yesterday when two stakeholders walked out.

And the biggest student organisation, the SA Students Congress, has entered the fray there, convening a meeting of students for today to resolve the problem.

Violent confrontations have taken place there recently over demands by the Azanian Students Congress and the Pan Africanist Students Organisation that political parties be recognised on the campus and that examination requirements and student debt be scrapped.

● In KwaZulu-Natal, lectures at the University of Durban-Westville resumed yesterday with the university's management locked out for a second day, but later in the day the university announced that it would close indefinitely to pupils and staff as from today to defuse the tension on the campus and seek a solution.

● Natal Technikon's Maritzburg campus was still closed yesterday with talks between management and students continuing.

The campus has been closed since last week following student unrest. — Own Correspondent

Technikon gets interdict to stop all disruptions

Order is granted after second day of
talks deadlocks with walkouts by
black and white student leaders

STAFF REPORTERS

Technikon Pretoria has been granted an urgent interdict preventing students from disrupting normal activities, which have been affected by racial violence since last week.

The order came last night after a deadlock on the second day of talks between management and opposing groups of white and black students as well as other interested student groups.

The interdict prohibits the disruption of classes, tests or examinations; any violence; damage to property; assault; threats of violence; intimidation of students or technikon staff; anyone from taking the law in their own hands and any other form of disruption of the technikon or its students.

Management announced yesterday that mid-year exams would start on Monday and any students who failed to write their exams without a valid reason would be penalised.

Talks yesterday were due to finalise the topics for independent mediation and the appointment of the mediators.

But the discussions ended in disarray when first the main white protagonists staged a walk-out, followed by the primary black protagonists, which forced management and independent groups to close the meeting.

Students from the Azanian Front later threatened to disrupt

classes and bring the technikon to a standstill today.

Spokesman Aslam Mxolisi Tawana said his organisation was prepared to "go to war" to make their voices heard.

The technikon suspended classes on Monday and yesterday following four days of racial clashes on the campus last week.

Yesterday police patrolled the campus as black and white student leaders met under the chairmanship of Professor Reginald Ngcobo, vice rector for student affairs, to compile an agenda for a later mediation meeting.

But after only 10 minutes, during which Tawana addressed the meeting, members of the white Concerned Students' Group walked out, followed by the Azanian Students' Congress and the Pan Africanist Students' Organisation (Paso), which make up the Azanian Front.

Addressing the meeting, Tawana demanded an independent commission of inquiry, with representatives from the PAC, to look into last week's clashes and investigate why only black students were arrested.

After the meeting Azanian Front students held a press conference at which they threatened to damage technikon property, burn officials' vehicles, litter the campus, disrupt classes and examinations, and bring the technikon to a standstill if the crisis was not resolved.

(54)

Star 22/5/96

Five injured as guards close Durban campus

Farouk Chothia
and Kevin O'Grady

DURBAN — Five people were injured when private security guards fired teargas and rubber bullets at University of Durban-Westville students yesterday in a bid to enforce the university authorities' decision to close the campus indefinitely.

Police said students among a crowd of about 500 threw stones at Combat Group Security guards and cars. The guards responded by firing rubber bullets. Tyres were burnt as students tried to set up barricades.

ANC national executive committee

BD 23/5/96 (54)
member Sibusiso Ndebele, who was at the campus yesterday in a bid to facilitate negotiations, condemned the decision to employ "unaccountable" private guards against students. He supported student demands that the security company be asked to leave as part of normalising the campus. Police were willing to play whatever role necessary to ensure stability, he said.

Acting vice-principal Prof Humphrey Gowar said Combat Security had been brought in to "protect persons and property". The campus was calm by last night.

Students have been demanding the removal of university management af-

ter claims that some students had been excluded and staff members fired. They are pushing for the speedy appointment of former Azapo president Prof Itumeleng Mosala as rector.

Student representatives' council secretary Bongani Ngqulunga accused campus management of giving guards instructions to shoot and said the guards had been provocative. The guards had "seized" control of the building occupied by campus security guards on Tuesday evening and injured five students yesterday, he said.

Gowar said he was aware of one in-

Continued on Page 2

Campus violence

(54)
Continued from Page 1

BD 23/5/96
jury. He denied that management had given instructions to shoot.

Negotiations were taking place last night in a bid to resolve tension before a council meeting scheduled for today.

Meanwhile students who disrupted lectures and vandalised property at Pretoria Technikon last week marched to their rector's office yesterday demanding mid-year exams be postponed because of the disruptions.

Members of the Azanian Front warned they would disrupt all examinations, scheduled to begin on Monday, if their demand was not met.

Technikon rector Denis van Rensburg held an unscheduled meeting with front members and the student representatives' council to discuss the demand.

Technikon spokesman Carina Rabie said management decided students' demands should be dealt with a meeting of stakeholders, chaired by an impartial facilitator, tomorrow. The march followed Azasco president Aslam Tawana's warning that students would petrol-bomb and vandalise the campus if their demands — that interest not be charged on outstanding fees and a 40% semester mark requirement for writing of examinations be scrapped — were not met.

A police spokesman said the campus was peaceful yesterday.

UDW students clash with security guards

(54) CT 23/5/96

DURBAN: Protesting students at the University of Durban-Westville dispersed yesterday afternoon after clashing with security guards on campus earlier in the day.

UDW management had hired a security firm on Tuesday night and closed the university indefinitely after members of the Student Representative Council and the Combined Staff Association defied a court interdict and refused to allow the institution's management

committee on campus. Yesterday morning heavily armed security guards fired rubber bullets after students pelted vehicles with stones and erected burning barricades on campus. Police spokesman Bala Naidoo said one live round was apparently fired in the fracas and a docket had been opened to investigate who had fired the shot.

According to SRC members, five students were hit by rubber bullets, but others on the scene claimed the students were injured in the scramble to flee. Naidoo said a facilitator had been appointed to negotiate with student representatives. Students and some staff members are demanding the resignation of the UDW management, citing incompetence and financial irregularities. Students living in campus residences have been given until Fri-

day to vacate the premises. All access to the campus by vehicle was prohibited and a ring of razor-wire cordoned the main entrance. The university entrance resembled a military barrack with armed guards and police milling around. Guards with shotguns and rifles manned the main entrance. Student leader Mr Heinrich Bohmke said the security company's actions were unnecessary and had provoked students. — Sapa

Tokyo talks to students leaders

54
Soewetan 23/5/96
GAUTENG premier Mr Tokyo Sexwale and education MEC Mrs Mary Metcalfe last night met Pretoria Technikon student leaders and management in an attempt to find solutions to the crisis on the campus.

Sexwale said he wanted to hear first-hand from the students what their grievances were and what had caused the violence.

"Something has gone wrong here and we must find out what it is," he said. He would report back to Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu.

Condemned violence

Addressing students earlier in the day, Sexwale condemned violence, the destruction of property and the carrying of weapons on campus and called on them to try and solve the conflict.

"People watched you and you came across as hooligans," he told about 500 black students and a handful of whites. "They saw it as a pure racial division."

The technikon yesterday declined to respond to students' demands for a two-week postponement of examinations, due to start on Monday. Management said the issue was much too complex for a rapid decision and proposed that it be referred as soon as possible to a meeting of all involved.

Meanwhile, the University of Durban-Westville in KwaZulu-Natal remained closed yesterday amid confrontation between demonstrating students and the heavily-armed personnel of a hired security company.

Four students were wounded in a clash with security guards who were called on to campus by university management on Tuesday night. Last night KwaZulu-Natal transport MEC Mr S'bu Ndebele met student representatives behind closed doors. — *Sapa*.

Confrontations continue at technikons and university as students disrupt campuses

(54) Star 23/5/96
BY LEE-ANN ALFREDS
AND TARYN LAMBERTI

Unrest continued to plague tertiary institutions around the country yesterday, with confrontations at Technikon Pretoria, Technikon SA and the University of Durban-Westville.

Top provincial politicians rushed to Technikon Pretoria for the second week running after a handful of disgruntled black students scorned offers to negotiate, insisting their demands be met or they would bring the campus to a "standstill".

Tempers also flared at Technikon SA in Florida, Roodepoort, when members of the students' representative council and the South African Students' Congress (Sasco) vented their anger in the administration block, demanding the resignation of two members of staff within an hour.

The students, who had been demonstrating peacefully all week, waited for more than an hour for a management response and then began vandalising the technikon's administration block.

Four people were injured when protesting students at the University of Durban-Westville clashed with security guards on the campus yesterday morning after university management had hired a security firm to keep the peace.

Heavily armed security guards fired rubber bullets after students pelted vehicles with stones and erected burning barricades on the campus. They later dispersed peacefully.

Tensions at Technikon Pretoria, which had largely abated, flared again yesterday, when members of the Azanian Front, made up of the Azanian Students' Congress and the Pan Africanist Students' Organisation, disrupted attempts by Sasco to address students on the problems at the technikon.

An ugly situation was eventually averted when members of the Azanian Front acceded to demands that they discuss the issue.

The negotiations did not reach a compromise and the handful of Azanian Front members marched to the offices of management

where they were met by a wall of policemen.

The standoff was broken when Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale and Education and Culture MEC Mary Metcalfe arrived unexpectedly late in the afternoon and met the rector before addressing students.

Taking a moderate line, Sexwale tried to find some common ground with the students while bringing them into negotiations. He told them that although he understood many of their concerns, their continued shifting of the goalposts would be their undoing.

Sexwale also said he had contacted Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu to inform him that he would be visiting the campus and that the minister had told him to report back on his progress.

He then met with the various

Four hurt in clash between students and guards

student organisations to try and hammer out some kind of compromise.

Technikon SA students went on the rampage yesterday, smashing windows and burning brochures in the administration block.

The students are demanding the resignation acting vice-principal of administration Prof Tony Links and acting director of student support services Terrance Phiri. SRC national convener Joseph Shembe said the two had failed to address student problems and had involved themselves in the running of the SRC.

Technikon SA spokesman Gerard Grobler told The Star the technikon had not obtained an interdict against the students because it wanted to keep the channels of communication open.

The University of Durban-Westville will remain closed until further notice. Sapa reports the reopening will be discussed at a council meeting today.

Varsity withdraws private security firm from campus

Farouk Chothia and
Kevin O'Grady

BD 24/5/96
DURBAN — The council of the University of Durban-Westville agreed yesterday to withdraw a private security firm which was hired earlier this week to enforce the indefinite closure of the campus.

At Pretoria Technikon, agreement was reached on a range of issues which sparked the recent violent campus protests, including the dropping of charges against students implicated in vandalism and the recognition of student bodies.

However, protests by the Azanian Front, which spearheaded the technikon unrest, spread to the University of Pretoria yesterday.

About 150 Azanian Front members, chanting "one settler, one bullet" and "shoot the settler, shoot the farmer", marched to university rector Flip Smit's office.

They were demanding the scrapping of the 17% interest charged on outstanding fees, the presentation of all courses in English, a probe into alleged racist attacks on black students, the suspension of the election of a new vice-rector and the establishment of a transformation forum.

Sapa reports they warned that the technikon violence was "child's play that cannot be compared to what we will do".

The university was given seven days to respond to the demands.

At Durban-Westville, students and staff had clamoured for the withdrawal of private security company Combat Force, and the issue dominated a council meeting yesterday.

A council resolution said Combat Force would be replaced by the SAPS, which would now be "entrusted to protect persons and property".

Five people were injured on Wednesday when Combat Force guards fired teargas and rubber bullets at students.

Yesterday the head of the university's staff association, Heinrich Bohmke, was arrested for trespassing on the campus.

Combat was also offering about 1 000 resident students at the University of Durban-Westville R250 each to go home.

Students were said to have been denied breakfast yesterday.

Combat Force security head Norman Reeves said the university man-

Continued on Page 2

Universities

Continued from Page 1

BD 24/5/96
agement had asked his company to pay out the R250 to each student so they had transport money to return home.

A Pretoria technikon spokesman said management had agreed to drop charges against students who allegedly lit fires and vandalised property on campus last week.

It was also agreed management would liaise with the student representatives' council to facilitate the interim recognition of the Azanian Students' Convention and Pan Africanist Students' Organisation, which had formed the Azanian Front alliance.

A meeting between management and students was still in progress late

last night to decide whether management should accede to students' demands for a postponement of mid-year examinations.

Meanwhile, national commission on higher education chairman Jairam Reddy said protesting students at education institutions across the country were exercising their right to freedom of expression.

"Students must carry on and express themselves," he said after addressing the launch of a transformation forum at the University of Natal in Durban.

Progress was made on student demands at the University of the Free State yesterday when management agreed to advance a 1995 decision to scrap minimum marks for examination entrance in 1997 and make it applicable from June 1996.

Pta students will know today

(54) Sowetan 24/5/96

By Josias Charle

STUDENTS at Pretoria Technikon will know today whether or not examinations will take place on Monday.

A meeting was held late yesterday where a decision was to be made on the issue.

Some students at the technikon have called for a two-week postponement of examinations to allow them time to prepare, following disruptions on campus this week.

Earlier in the day the technikon's

management and representatives of the Azanian Students Convention (Azasco) and the Pan Africanist Students Organisation (Paso) had reached consensus on several issues that have been responsible for the upheaval that has rocked the technikon in the past two weeks.

Sapa reports that about 150 Azanian Front (Azasco/Paso) students chanted "one settler, one bullet" and "shoot the settler, shoot the farmer" as they marched on the office of Pretoria University's rector Professor Flip

Smit yesterday to hand over a memorandum of grievances.

The students said failure to meet their demands would result in action more severe than the recent arson and vandalism at Technikon Pretoria.

Meanwhile, the University of Durban-Westville remained closed yesterday following violent clashes between students and security personnel on Wednesday. The tight security installed on Tuesday night with the introduction of a private security company was maintained.

Viljoen suspects 'third force' at Technikon

The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA. - Freedom Front leader Constand Viljoen has charged that a "third force" could be operating at Technikon Pretoria and other troubled tertiary institutions.

What was the purpose of the unrest at Technikon Pretoria and other tertiary institutions? General Viljoen asked at a meeting in Pretoria West last night.

Earlier yesterday the Technikon Pretoria management and the Azanian

(54) ARG 24/5/96
Front reached agreement, with management withdrawing all charges laid before noon yesterday against members of the student organisation.

General Viljoen told a meeting at the Lucas van der Berg Hall in Pretoria West that there was reason to believe that the people causing problems at the technikon were outsiders.

He said the individuals had not produced their student cards when asked to do so, and that the current situation at the tertiary institutions resembled a revolutionary force.

Technikon in Pretoria calm, but trouble spreads to city's university

(54)

Star 24/5/96

EDUCATION REPORTER

Technikon Pretoria and Technikon SA were calm yesterday, but trouble spread to Pretoria University where black students protested against the selection procedure for senior officials.

The protests at Pretoria University come in the wake of unrest at neighbouring Technikon Pretoria and Technikon SA.

Classes were temporarily suspended at Technikon Pretoria following clashes between white and black students last week, and students went on the rampage at Technikon SA on Wednesday, vandalising the administration's office block.

Pretoria University spokesman Mike Smuts said branches of the Azanian Students' Congress (Azasco), the Pan Africanist Students' Organisation (Paso) and the SA Students' Congress (Sasco) had marched to the administra-

tion to protest against the selection of a new vice-principal and to demand that a broad transformation forum be established.

No trouble accompanied the marches, and students dispersed after handing over their memorandum, he said.

Smuts said the university had been aware of, and had given permission for, the marches and that no follow-up action was expected.

He said the protests followed the organisations' withdrawal from negotiations on the selection procedure for senior officials earlier this month.

While Smuts indicated it was unlikely the university would review its selection procedure as the student organisations had been party to all discussions around the process, he said the management had agreed to look into the students' demands.

Technikon Pretoria spokesman Carina Rabie said the situa-

tion on the campus was quiet following an agreement between management and Azasco and Paso early yesterday. In terms of the agreement, Technikon Pretoria would drop all charges it had laid against members of the two organisations, and Azasco and Paso would in future be recognised on the campus.

Both parties also agreed to support a probe into harassment at the student residences.

Rabie said discussions were still under way to decide whether examinations, scheduled for next week, would go ahead.

Technikon SA spokesman Gerard Grobler said the campus was generally quiet with only a few incidents of littering being reported.

He said management had met with students over their demands and were awaiting their response.

A spokesman for the students, Mduduzi Ndabambi, said more mass action was planned for today.

4 SOUTH AFRICA

Tertiary education in South Africa this week ran into an ever-wc

Education institutions need a 'catch-up course'

Philippa Garson

UNIVERSITIES and technikons are years behind business and labour in managing crises on their "shop floors".

In recent weeks, more than 10 institutions around the country have been hit by campus upheavals, with students, and in some cases staff, pitched against management in unruly and undirected protest. Management's responses have generally been equally ad hoc and reactive and some in education circles believe South Africa's higher education institutions need a "catch-up course" on dealing with conflict resolution.

Wits University labour expert Eddie Webster said the public sector was dragging behind the private sector in managing organisational change. University and technikon managements "need to be more responsive to the changing social composition of the student body. There is a sharp gap between traditional management and the dramatically changed student body," said Webster.

Many of the technikons and some of the Afrikaans universities are experiencing the conflicts which began on historically black universities in the 1980s and swept to the liberal campuses in the early 1990s with the influx of disadvantaged students. Now, with more and more black students on conservative campuses like Pretoria Technikon and Rand Afrikaans University, the

very culture of these institutions is being challenged.

"Under no circumstances can management abdicate from their task, but they must do things in a more participatory way," said Webster. "The problem is they lack legitimacy. There needs to be a dramatic shift in the way they perceive students and the way students perceive them." Webster criticised lecturers and academics for not playing a more central role in the campus crises.

South African Students Congress education officer Stephanie Allais said the widespread disruptions were a result of "ongoing and deep-seated frustrations that are simply not being addressed". She slammed the National Commission on Higher Education, which Sasco has rejected, for failing to come up with policy "providing an alternative to the problems of division, fragmentation and inequality in our system". The commission, said Allais, was "arrogant and not consultative", despite pretending to be. Sasco has called on the commission to extend its deadline to December.

The spiralling conflict on the campuses led education minister Sibusiso Bengu to urge the commission to speed up its delivery. He is said to be sensitive to the "autonomy" issue and is reluctant to intervene in the campus conflict, but a "transformation summit" is being proposed to deal with the ongoing problems around fees, academic standards and institutional culture.

VANDALISME
STOP
HIER!



PHOTOGRAPH:
HENNER
FRANKENFELD

rising crisis as black and white students

It's back to

Clashes between racially divided groups of students and police storming onto the campus brought back memories of times that most thought had gone forever, writes **Philippa Garson**

PEOPLE say racism has gone but there are still so many hard feelings, mumbled Tech-nikon Pretoria student Stanley Becker, struggling to make sense of the repulsive scenes of racial violence on the campus in recent days.

Whether the campus is simply a late developer in the march into a new era or showing symptoms of an emerging politics of young radicalism is difficult to determine.

Certainly, a visitor to the technikon this week would be forgiven for leaving with a sick feeling of *deja vu*. Black and white students gathered in tense, separate groups and police thronged the campus. The campus was awash with racial tension in the aftermath of clashes between white students and black students "defending their right to learn" and to protest against fee increases, exclusion of students on academic grounds and the technikon's dual-

medium language policy.

Three Azanian Front students were arrested last week on charges of assault and damage to property, and one has since been released. None of the white students who then beat up protesting black students were charged.

While Gauteng premier Tokyo Sexwale and MEC for education Mary Metcalfe have no jurisdiction to intervene in higher education institutions, the seriousness of the crisis has brought them both onto campus.

Crammed together in a lecture hall for a crisis meeting that went nowhere this week, students glared and jeered at each other, the animosity rendering any attempt at communication between them a farce. White students frothed about black students damaging "our campus", while the latter refused to negotiate with "counter-revolutionaries".

"The youth are not simply out of step with the new South Africa, they have never heard of the dance. 'Fuck the new South Africa,' said one scowling student, sporting a crew-cut and military-style khaki jacket. 'They think in the new South Africa they can just have everything.' The throngs of white male students flexing their muscles and scowling at the press more closely resemble an AWP youth corps than a moderate group of 'concerned students' as they call themselves.

The Azanian Front, a group of students from the Azanian Students

clashed and police and security guards stormed the campuses

the bad old days in Pretoria

54 MAY 24-30/5/96

Congress and Pan Africanist Student Organisation, appear as alienated and immature as their white counterparts. They spout revolutionary jargon, have no desire to negotiate solutions to the problems and seem hell bent on destroying the campus unless their demands are met.

According to the South African Students Congress, which supports the demands but opposes the violence, the Azanian group has minimal student support. With no effective branches on campuses and an acrimonious relationship with the Pan Africanist Congress leadership, the Front is considered to be a group of "loose cannon" individuals, moving from one campus to another, intent on opposition politics.

However, the grievances of black students appear to be widespread. Many students blamed management for allowing the ugly racial war to erupt by refusing to deal timeously with real and legitimate problems expressed by students countrywide: they cannot pay their fees or meet the existing academic requirements. The Pretoria Technikon students also feel alienated by a conservative Afrikaner campus culture and authoritarian management style.

"This is an abnormal campus to us as African students. We are being dealt with in a certain way because of the colour of our skin. This was an Afrikaner institution. Now there are Africans here. No one has the right to disrupt our protest," said Azanian Front member Aslam-Mxolisi Tawana at Monday's meeting, his last comment drawing jeers from white students.

The technikon has an outdated policy of banning student politics on campus and is entirely unused to the "bread and butter" brand of student protest that has plagued South Africa's universities over the last decade.

"We are apolitical on campus. We don't allow political speakers here. The difference between ourselves and universities is we prepare people for the world of work," said rector Dennis van Rensburg. "Technikon Pretoria has always been the cherry on the top. We've always had stability and been renowned for our standards." But this stance appears to have fuelled rather



Familiar scene: A scene that was played out many times in the past is repeated as black students clash with police on the Technikon Pretoria campus

PHOTOGRAPH: ADL BRADLOW

than quelled tensions on the campus. Van Rensburg commented the South African Students Congress — which has condemned the violent and racist behaviour of both black and white students — for its maturity and lambasted the Azanian Front for breaking one agreement after another in the attempt to restore normality to the campus.

"We had to transform and become democratic leaders and consult as widely as possible. There is a sense that Sasco has transformed. You have got balanced leaders taking the student movement forward in their case (the Azanian Front), they haven't."

"Peter", a black student said the trouble on the campus was a "good thing. It shows that Pretoria Technikon has been lying to the public, saying

everything is normal. Nothing is normal here. They talk of affirmative action but we never see it happening. Why should white students have a problem with black students' demands? The white students have everything. They have cars, they live in Pretoria. Yet they stay in the residences."

White students counter with: "We have to pay for our studies. They must pay. If they can't pay they must go." They are also terrified of "standards dropping". Said Becker: "Blacks feel we're being racist towards them, but as soon as our standards start dropping, where will it end?"

One student said Pretoria Technikon was the only place he could study in Afrikaans. "If that changes, where must we go? Why do they want to take that away from us?"

Looming exams have only exacerbated the tensions, with many black students protesting their exclusion from writing exams on academic grounds and white students furious that classes have been disrupted.

The campus appears to be entirely unprepared for the sharp increase in black student enrolment recently. Of 16 100 students, black students now make up 45% of the student population.

SRC president Gert Goosen said student grievances were legitimate. "It's not a colour thing. It's not about shouting slogans. It's about things that really affect the students," he said. "There have been phone calls to the residences threatening to rape white females. This has frustrated the guys. They aren't educated. They feel threatened by toy-toying. They've been brought up to believe it's bad. The whites think it's their campus to protect. The blacks think it's theirs to demonstrate about."

Vice rector Reggie Ncobo said problems on campus turned racial "because of the ideological differences over the way people press their demands. Once students enforce the right to protest they are infringing against the rights of others to learn. They should have the freedom to protest, but this should not interfere with the rights of others to learn."

Ncobo said it was "disappointing that we ended up with whites on one side and blacks on the other. It is totally unacceptable in the South Africa of today where we prize reconciliation."

'Combat' closes the campus

(54) M+C 24-30/5/96

Ann Eveleth

ADMINISTRATORS at the University of Durban-Westville this week called in a notorious private security firm, "Combat Force Security", to enforce the closure of the campus. At least two students were injured and hundreds of others were teargassed as security guards wrested control of the university.

The owner of Combat, Norman Reeve, and several other members of the firm have in the past been accused of using excessive force in the course of their duties. At least two members have been convicted of murder in relation to these allegations, and the court heard evidence that Reeve offered his guards a R100 bonus for every black person they killed in the line of duty, according to a Network of Independent Monitors report on security companies released earlier this year.

The Westville campus was closed "indefinitely" on Tuesday by the university council at the request of the management committee after a student-staff alliance barred them from

the campus in defiance of a supreme court interdict.

A "stakeholders forum" including representatives from the Students' Representative Council, the Combined Staff Association, the Transport and General Workers' Union, senior academics, and Convocation installed a "transitional management committee" to reopen the university after it was first closed last week.

The campus was calm on Tuesday afternoon and most classes had resumed under the transitional committee when news of the renewed closure circulated. Students and staff attempting to enter the university were met by heavily armed members of Combat Security.

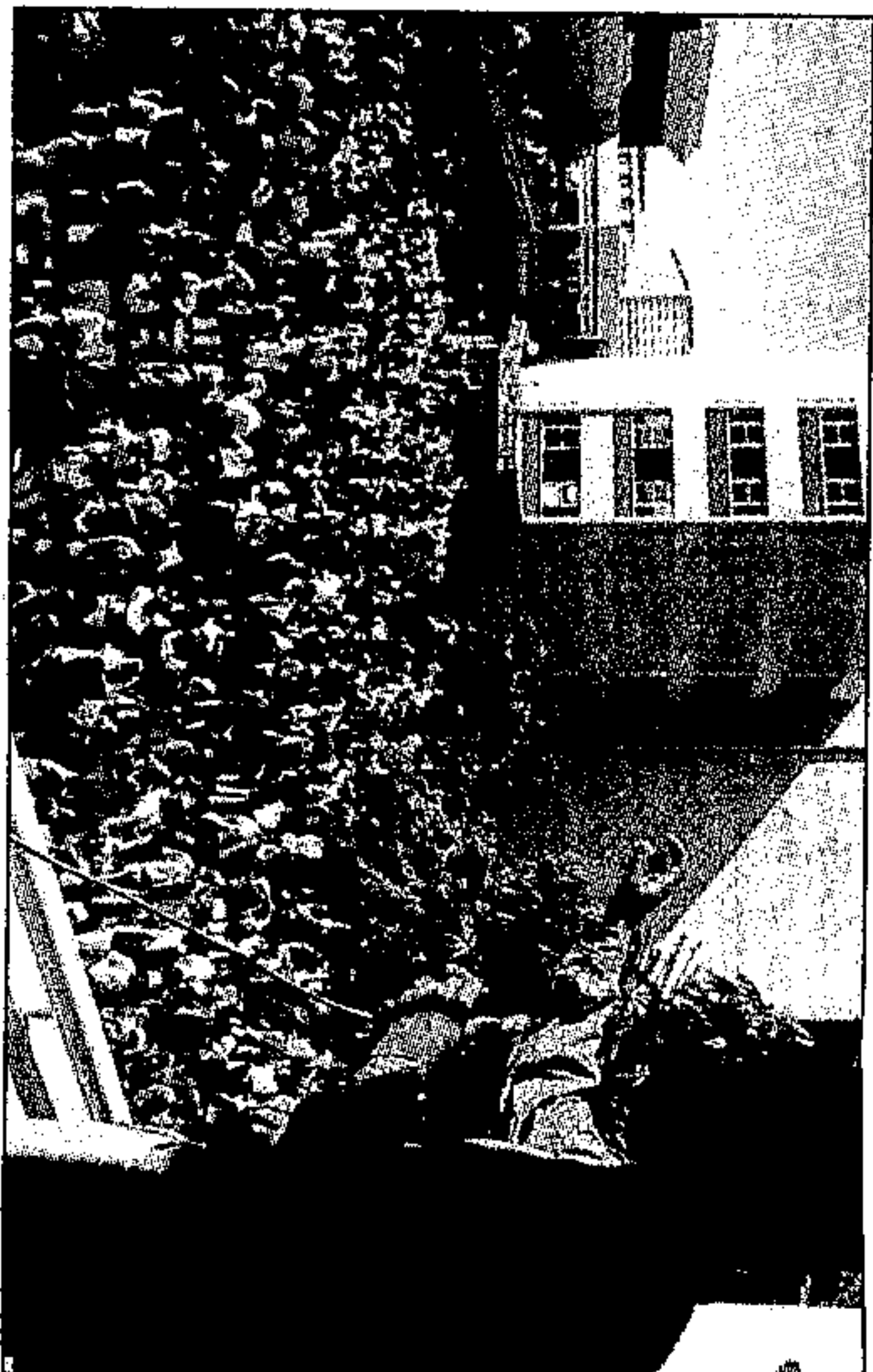
A spokesman for the transitional committee, Heinrich Bohmke, accused Reeves of "racist, brash and provocative" behaviour during the protracted confrontation between Combat and protesters. Reeves could not be reached for comment, but reportedly blamed clashes on students who began throwing stones. A spokesman for the management

committee, Professor Humphrey Gowar, said he could not explain why

Acting Vice-Chancellor Dr Marcus Balintulo had chosen Combat. But he said the decision to bring in outside security was "an obvious consequence of the closure of the university". Campus security was understaffed and the South African Police Services would only respond to a "definite" problem.

In a statement the chairman of the university council, Advocate Kenneth Mithyane, said the closure of the university was "necessary for the purpose of restoring legitimate order on campus and also to reorganise and restructure the academic year".

UDW has lurched from one management crisis to another since the appointment of former Vice-Chancellor Jairam Reddy to lead the university through post-apartheid transformation. Impatience among students and staff over the pace and direction of that reform, bitter power struggles between various factions on campus and interventions behind the scenes by outside political leaders led to calls for Reddy's resignation.



Mass meeting: Combined Staff Association member Ashwin Desai addresses UDW students after management was barred from the campus on Monday

PHOTO: NATAL NEWSPAPERS

When Reddy left last year to take up a post on the National Commission on Higher Education, his deputy, Balintulo, was appointed acting vice-chancellor until a permanent replacement could be found. Almost 18 months later, the post has not been filled.

Recent student protests over a 15% fee increase and an administration bungle over the allocation of bursaries coincided with labour protests over what the Combined Staff Association

termed the "unfair dismissal of long-serving contract workers timed to beat the application of the new labour legislation". This created unprecedented levels of unity between students and staff in opposition to the administration.

Education Minister Sibusiso Bhengu has announced plans to appoint a judicial commission of inquiry to investigate the causes underlying the university's problems.

POPULIST MAYHEM

FM 24/5/96

Tertiary education in SA is teetering on the brink of chaos as students at various campuses go on the rampage in support of demands for instant transformation.

The problems are compounded by the need for swift action by the authorities, limited funding and a leadership crisis within student bodies.

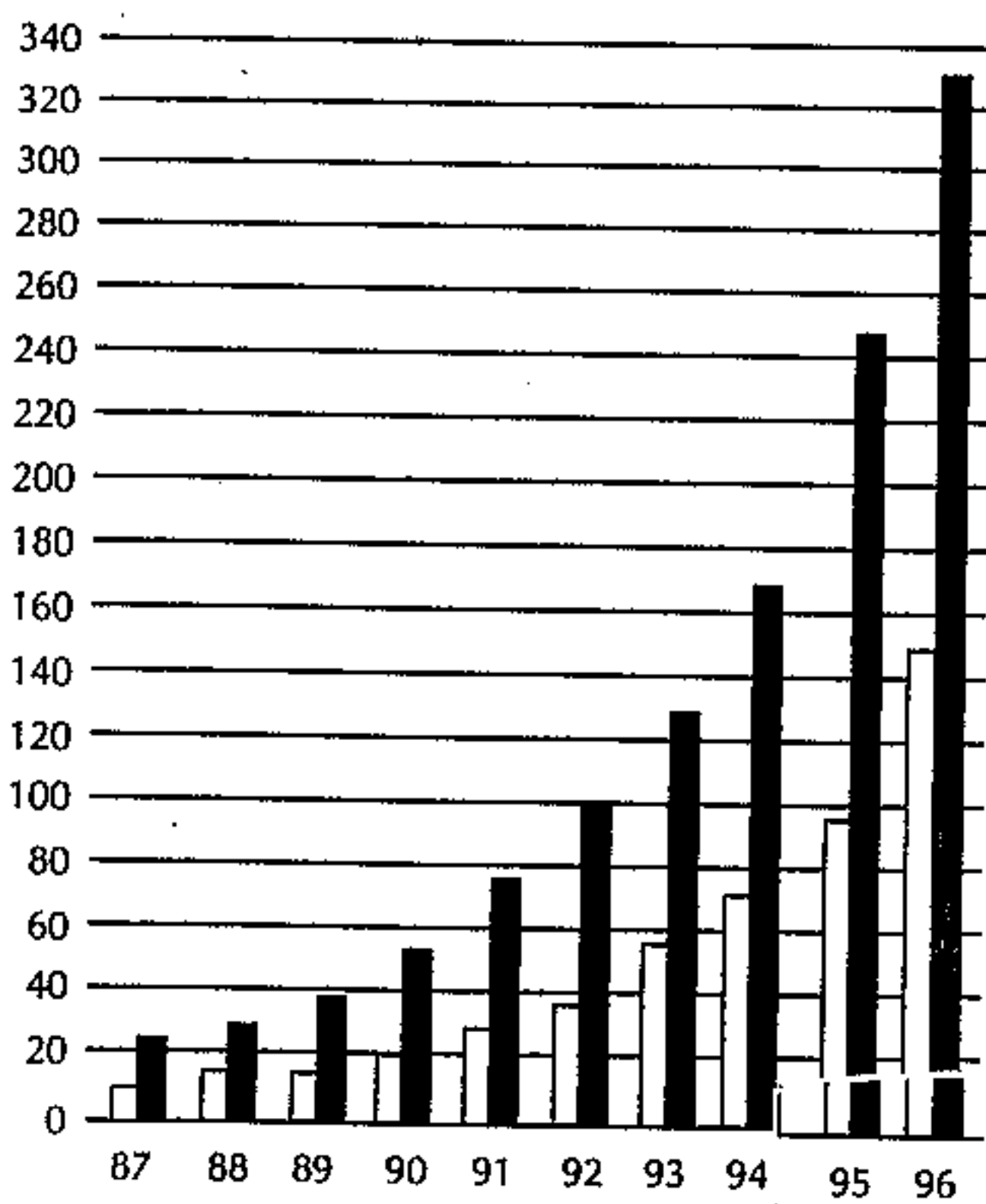
While the problems at Pretoria Technikon this week appeared to take on directly racial overtones, the targets in Durban, Maritzburg and Free State are generally the administrations, which are being called on to speed up changes aimed at making the universities more demographically representative.

But the overall effect is the same. The students are doing themselves few favours by running rampant through the institutions leaving a trail of damage behind them. The same applies to the authorities who are discovering that a lack of decisive action leads to an escalation in student demands. At worst, effective control could be surrendered to the students — that is what is now being demanded at Durban-Westville.

However, Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu is to institute a judicial inquiry into the problems at the university. He

Continued on page 65

Diluted earnings and dividends (cents per share)



□ Dividends per share
 ■ Earnings per share (fully diluted)

Ten year compound growth in dividends per share 36,7% per annum
 Ten year compound growth in diluted earnings per share 35,9% per annum

Comment

The results of Investec Holdings Limited (Inhold) reflect the continuing sound performance of the company's subsidiary Investec Bank Limited (Investec). Inhold shareholders are referred to Investec's announcement for further details regarding the group's results.

Earnings attributable to ordinary shareholders increased by 63,9% to R106,6 million, resulting in earnings per share of 358,4 cents, 39,5% higher than the previous financial year. Diluted earnings per share increased by 35,7% to 332,0 cents. Inhold has achieved a ten year compound growth rate per annum in diluted earnings per share and dividends per share of 35,9% and 36,7% respectively.

The directors expect Investec, and therefore Inhold, to continue achieving growth in earnings and dividends in line with historic results.

On behalf of the board

I R Kantor Chairman

B Kardol Deputy Chairman

Registered office:

Investec Holdings Limited
 Registration Number 85/05574/06
 55 Fox Street, Johannesburg 2001

Transfer secretaries:

Mercantile Registrars Limited, 6th Floor
 Mercantile Building, 94 President Street
 Johannesburg 2001
 P O Box 1053, Johannesburg 2000

Directors: I R Kantor (Chairman),
 B Kardol* (Deputy Chairman), A I Basserabie, G R Burger,
 G H Davin, H S Herman, B Kantor, S Koseff,
 D H Mitchell, P R S Thomas.

*Dutch

JONSSONS

CURRENT AFFAIRS 65

Natal University has announced plans to launch an all-inclusive transformation forum this week. "It will ensure that appropriate democratic governance structures and new or revised consultative mechanisms are established. The forum will address all inequities and imbalances within the university created by past policies and practices," it says.

While the institutions do not have unlimited time to ease themselves through the transformation process, students are using liberation struggle tactics to address a post-liberation problem. They would do their cause and education more good by swapping the toyi-toyi for seats at the negotiating table. ■ **End.**

Continued from page 60

also intends to hold a meeting of top officials and student leaders to discuss the nationwide campus disruption.

Bengu has condemned student action at Westville, pointing out that while concern about transformation is right and proper, students should not lose sight of the objective of learning.

Events at Westville took a dramatic turn this week when hundreds of students, backed by some staff, prevented management from returning to their desks a week after the university was closed because it had become ungovernable. University management had to obtain a Supreme Court order to get into their offices.

Westville is only one of several tertiary campuses where the situation has spun out of control recently.

At the beginning of the month violence erupted at Natal Technikon's Durban and Maritzburg campuses after a body calling itself "the concerned group" demanded the resignation of the SRC, subsidies for students unable to afford fees and protested against alleged racism in the appointment of staff.

Classes were also disrupted at the University of Zululand last week when police were called in after a group of students invaded lecture halls and seriously injured a female student. Signs are that classes will return to normal this week.

At Durban's M L Sultan Technikon lectures were suspended for a day after student protests over the death of a student following a confrontation with police.

The SA Students' Congress (Sasco) this week announced a mass action campaign in support of demands for transformation at all tertiary institutions. Sasco — which some believe has no answers to the problems and has lost control of student politics to militant populists — says the action is not intended to disrupt academic programmes.

"The whole education problem revolves around academic exclusion," claims Sasco's Unisa branch chairman Smiso Nkanyana. "Old policies still being applied mean many students are still being denied access to education."

Sasco intends to resist the unilateral management decision to close institutions and has called on government to ratify transformation forums to resolve deadlocks.

In a clear bid to avert similar problems

Agreement reached at Pretoria Tech

(54) Sapa 25/5/96

Mid-year examinations at the troubled Technikon Pretoria will go ahead next week, but students will also have the option of writing examinations later in the year, according to a decision taken yesterday.

Black students at the technikon earlier requested the postponement of examinations, due to start on Monday, saying recent unrest and racial conflict on campus had interfered with their studies.

At a meeting of all stakeholders, which continued until the early hours of yesterday, it was decided instead that students who did not write next week could do so during the supplementary examinations due to start on July 8.

The examination scheduled for July 8 will serve as the main examination for those who choose not to write the examination scheduled for May 27, and as re-examination for those who failed the main examination," meeting facilitated by Edwin Molahele of the Independent Mediation Service of SA told reporters.

During the July examination sessions, a date for further supplementary examinations would be scheduled to accommodate those who failed.

The predicate system, in terms of which students have to earn a 40% semester mark to qualify for writing exams, will remain in both cases, despite requests that it be scrapped, Molahele said.

Other agreements included the establishment of a technical committee to determine how many students could not afford tuition fees.

The committee, composed of one member each from the Azanian Front, the South African Students' Congress, management and the National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union, would report back on its findings to a technikon stakeholders' meeting on June 3.

It would also make recommendations to the Tertiary Education Fund of SA (Tefsa) on how to tackle the problem.

The parties involved also agreed that students who could not pay their tuition fees should approach the technikon for help in applying to Tefsa for loans.

"Management will be amenable to reconsidering the 18,5% interest charged on unpaid fees on receipt of application for the Tefsa loan," Molahele said.

Azanian Front chairman Aslam-Mxolisi Tawana said the front would call off all class and examination boycotts in view of the agreements. (The Azanian Front is composed of members from the Pan Africanist Students' Organisation and the Azanian Students' Congress.)

The progress was also welcomed by students' representative council member Werner Jacob and technikon director Leon de Bruin.

De Bruin said the court interdict obtained earlier this week prohibiting students from disrupting classes, tests and examinations would remain in effect until June 26.

Tawana said much of the violence and disruption of the past two weeks could have been averted if management had given in to students' demands.

De Bruin said ineffective communication channels had been one of the main problems. He said issues to do with transformation, such as the institution's language and admission policies, would be dealt with in subsequent stakeholder meetings.

This process would already start with the meeting scheduled for June 3, he said. — Sapa

March by students in Durban a damp squib

(54) Star 25/5/96

Durban - A planned mass student march through central Durban fizzled out yesterday afternoon when only a handful of protesters turned up outside the Durban City Hall.

Only about 150 SA Students' Congress supporters from the University of Durban-Westville (UDW) gathered briefly to toyi-toyi in front of a large contingent of security force personnel.

The university was closed after students defied a court interdict on Tuesday and prevented management from entering their offices.

The closure prompted a clash between students and private security company personnel protecting campus property. Four students were injured.

UDW spokesman Professor Humphrey Gowar said yesterday the campus would remain closed until the university council had met to resolve outstanding issues.

Dissatisfied

Students are dissatisfied with a 15% fee increase and policy on student financial aid.

The university council would meet as soon as possible to address outstanding issues and to decide on when to reopen, Gowar said. The council met on Thursday and resolved that acting UDW management members should retain their positions despite student calls for new appointments.

Earlier this week, management offered resident students a R250 travelling allowance to coax them off campus. SA Students' Congress supporters at yesterday's gathering said most students had accepted the offer and had gone shopping. "You'll probably find some of them in the pub," one student said.

- Sapa

Militant clique jumps on the bandwagon of student gripes

By IVOR POWELL

(54) ST 26/5/96

BEHIND the tensions at Gauteng tertiary institutions this week stands a tiny group of disaffected former Pan Africanist Congress student leaders, looking for a constituency. Marginalised by the PAC, they hitched a ride on mass protests initiated by the South African Students Congress.

This week the Azanian Front, which has been cobbled together from student supporters of the PAC and Azapo, came close to derailing negotiations between students and management at Pretoria Technikon.

Nevertheless, after 10 hours of negotiations, initiated by Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale, an agreement was reached.

The technikon agreed to give students the choice of writing exams in May or July, and to allow student organisations with political affiliations to operate freely on the campus.

For their part the students committed themselves to peaceful methods.

However, the major issues around alleged racism in the fee payment and examination admission criteria were deferred to a transformation forum. Representing students and management it is scheduled to be set up on June 3.

Earlier in the week, the Azanian Front had looked set to scupper the negotiations with threats of violence and disruption of examinations.

When the authorities secured a court interdict against them on Wednesday, they disrupted a mass meeting, of mainly black students, called by the ANC-aligned Sasco.

With the meeting in tatters, the front tried to work out what to do next, but the more they tried to clarify the way forward, the more murky it became.

For most students, the militants — who have threatened firebombing and “wetting” of the library and the rector’s office — are little more than a comedy routine. And it is a travelling circus at that.

On Wednesday, they were at Pretoria Technikon. On Thursday they mustered about 120 supporters at a “student protest” on the University of Pretoria campus; at least half of them arrived in a Technikon Northern Transvaal bus and many others were from Unisa.

Of the seven front members who were arrested after destroying property at Pretoria Technikon last week, only three were students there.

Likewise, few of the front’s leaders are registered at the technikon. Among the key players are two former Pan Africanist Student Organisation stalwarts, Ignatius Molapo, a student at Vista University in Mamelodi, and Clarence Radebe, who is from the University of Natal in Durban.

They are believed to be trying to mobilise a new support base, having left the PAC after being part of a student delegation which was manhandled for criticising the organisation’s leadership at a conference earlier this year.

Last week, in response to attacks by conservative white students, the militants went on the rampage, smashing windows and damaging parked cars.

One of their leaders, Aslam-Mxolisi Tawana, threatened further violence.

But most black students appear to favour the more moderate Sasco, which initiated the protests at 10 tertiary institutions in recent weeks.

They perceive continuing discrimination against blacks by these institutions’ administrations. Among the most important of their demands are: the scrapping of the 18 percent interest which is charged on fees not paid in advance; the dropping of the prerequisite that students achieve a

40 percent year mark in order to be allowed to write exams; and the amendment of the institution’s residence policy.

Sasco’s education officer, Stephanie Allais, explained: “The existing structures unfairly favour white students.

“For example, if you do not have enough money to pay your fees in advance, if you need to pay them in instalments, you have to pay more. Few black students are affluent enough to fork out all their fees beforehand.”

The 40 percent year mark was another disadvantage, especially to first-year black students, many of whom entered tertiary institutions with inferior qualifications from the former Department of Education and Training.

On Wednesday Mr Sexwale and Gauteng’s Education Minister, Mary Metcalfe, intervened.

In a protracted address to the student body, Mr Sexwale berated the police, for siding with white students in last week’s confrontations; the administration, for refusing to allow student organisations to operate on campus and for refusing to meet student representatives; and the students themselves for behaving like hooligans. He acknowledged students’ concerns and told the administration to negotiate with student leaders, as “equals”.

And the Azanian Front was there, despite its threats that the “war will continue”.

RE 2-10

COPI

di

ST

ST

ST

Advert fuels

Vista storm (54)

ST 26/5/96

By CHRIS BARRON

A ROW is brewing between Vista University's new vice-chancellor and its council following a Sunday Times report last week about the R500-an-hour payments made over 18 months to the chairman of the council and a member.

The Sunday Times reported that chairman Leon Bartel had received R1 674 350 in consultancy fees from October 1994 to the end of March this year, while council member Alan Tonkin was paid R2 064 250, plus R440 368 in VAT and expenses. Hired to facilitate the setting up of a new management structure after the old guard resigned in September 1994, the two men authorised their own payments.

After an extraordinary meeting on Wednesday night, the Vista council drew up a statement which it has placed as an advertisement in today's Sunday Times.

But vice-chancellor Professor Hugh Africa said on Friday he had not authorised payment of the R49 875 advertisement, which failed anyway to deal with the major issues, such as justification of the exorbitant payments to Mr Bartel and Mr Tonkin.

Payment for the advertisement as well as the sums paid to Mr Bartel and Mr Tonkin would be investigated after consultation with university stakeholders, he said.

Their payments had "unduly depleted" Vista's budget.

"The Vista community feels affronted that there were these types of disbursement from university funds."

Exams to go ahead at strife-torn technikon

By Victor Mecoamere

MID-YEAR examinations at trouble-torn Technikon Pretoria will take place from today, Independent Mediation Service of South Africa official Mr Edwin Molahlehi announced at the weekend.

However, students will have the option of writing examinations later in the year according to a decision taken at a meeting of all the stakeholders on Saturday.

Students who could not write examinations this week can do so during the supplementary examinations, which are due to start on July 8.

Black students at the technikon,

had earlier asked for a postponement of the examinations. They claimed that the recent unrest and racial conflict on campus had interfered with their studies.

Molahlehi said: "The examination scheduled for July 8 will serve as the main examination for those who choose not to write the examination scheduled for May 27. It will also serve as the re-examination for those who failed the main examination."

Other agreements reached included the establishment of a technical committee to determine how many students could not afford tuition fees.

This committee, comprising members of the Azanian Front (including

(64) Sowetan 27/5/96
members of the Pan Africanist Students Organisation and the Azanian Students Convention), the SA Students Congress and the National Education and Health Workers Union is expected to report back its findings to a meeting next Monday.

The committee will also make recommendations to the Tertiary Education Fund of South Africa.

The Azanian Front would call off all class and examination boycotts in view of the agreements, said its chairman, Mr Aslam-Mxolisi Tawana.

The Students Representative Council welcomed developments, said SRC member Mr Werner Jacob.

(54)
**Bengu sets up
university inquiry**

Star 27/5/96
Deploing the actions that led to the closure of the University of Durban-Westville, Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu yesterday named a commission of inquiry into events at the university.

Headed by advocate Johann Gautschi, with Linda Zama and Professor Jerry Coovadia as members, it is to advise on the source and nature of recurring discontent at the university, how it could be addressed and how the university's dignity could be restored.

The university was closed after some students and staff members forced management to leave the campus.

"It is deeply disturbing that members of that university community could see fit to ignore all legal and constitutional provisions, and simply take it upon themselves to uproot the management of the institution and replace them with their own group of people," Bengu said. - Sapa.

Students call for mass action on campuses

Kevin O'Grady

BD 29/5/96 (54)

THE SA Students' Congress (Sasco) has called a day of mass action on July 31 at campuses countrywide to press government into extending the national commission on higher education's deadline by six months.

Sasco secretary-general Oupa Bodibe said in Johannesburg yesterday there was wide agreement at a recent consultative conference held by the commission that its deadline should be extended to December, but this had not been done.

Labour, business and student representatives at the conference protested that the commission, which is to make recommendations on revamping SA's higher education system by July, had not consulted widely enough in drawing up a recently released discussion document.

"Our mass action will also aim to highlight the crisis in higher education and force administrations to expedite the process of transformation," Bodibe said.

He criticised "very small" student organisations — such as Azasco and Paso which instigated violent protests at Technikon Pretoria last week — for trying to turn the crisis on campuses into "racial war".

Sasco also called on the ANC to "come up with a clear economic policy" as the financial crisis on campuses was linked to a broader economic crisis.

NP slams 'tragic economic circus'

Wyndham Hartley

BD 29/5/96

CAPE TOWN — The NP has lashed out at President Nelson Mandela and Cosatu for what it describes as a "tragic economic circus" which is seriously undermining investor confidence.

NP finance spokesman Theo Alant yesterday referred to the contradiction between Cosatu's challenge to commercial banks and Mandela's declaration that privatisation was fundamental ANC policy.

He said Cosatu secretary-general Sam Shilowa's attack on commercial banks for increasing interest rates, in which he threatened to "nationalise monetary policy", was a claim for state intervention in the banking sector — which the NP opposed.

Alant said the NP was shocked that Shilowa should "threaten a boycott against Old Mutual" simply because it was a member of the SA Foundation which expressed views with which Cosatu disagreed.

"The NP believes ... Cosatu's bullyboy tactics are at loggerheads with the democratic principles in the constitution."

Alant said his party was convinced "the economic circus staged by the ANC and its alliance partners" was detrimental to economic growth, job creation and the ability to address socioeconomic backlogs.

"Mr Mandela's 'capers' on these issues only worsens the situation," he said.

He charged that Mandela had said in Germany last week that "privatisation was policy" and that the ANC would convince Cosatu to change its view — while this week Shilowa flatly rejected privatisation.

The NP also charged that Mandela was "undermining his stature as a statesman" when he accused the NP of being "racist in its support" for the death penalty. Party spokesman Johan Steenkamp said vast numbers of South Africans wanted the death penalty. He said most victims of murder and rape were black and therefore greater penalties for these crimes would benefit blacks in particular.

Students take part in the liberalisation struggle

Heinrich Bohmke

THE University of Durban-Westville (UDW) has experienced, at once, a torrid and a sublime week.

It has seen student and staff demands around fees and firings escalate into mass action. Its windows and cupboards have been subjected to isolated cases of vandalism and theft. Its acting management, beleaguered and faced with charges of incompetence, has closed the university down and cancelled the graduation ceremony.

The closure resulted in the Combined Staff Association, the university convocation and its Students' Representative Council declaring the university "open", barring management from entering the campus and continuing with lectures as normal for two days.

A transitional management committee was appointed, effecting a brief seizure of the educational resources of the institution by students and staff.

The success and audacity of this bid for "normality" could have been behind the management committee's decision to call in the Combat Group security company, with its armoured vehicles and automatic weapons and headed by an ex-Selous Scout, to shut down learning once again — until June 10.

These proceedings have not been only negative. Levels of debate on campus about "Africanisation" are worthy and nuanced, and a unity that has been forged between the largely African stu-

dent demonstrators and Indian workers and administrators has signalled a break with past animosities that have plagued the university.

Unfortunately for management, it was an insistence that it resign that seemed, until a group of "concerned academics" entered the fray, fearful of the strident questioning of university hierarchies and claiming to be marginalised by the way more radical staff members in the staff body and African student protesters were acting.

However, to date no alternative staff organisation has been formed.

Political machinations

A subtext to the situation, which highlights the dangers to university autonomy other institutions might yet have to face, are allegations of political machinations by senior political leaders following the choice by a selection committee of Prof Itumeleng Mosala vice-chancellor. Mosala does not run with "the ANC stable".

A final decision on the position is on the agenda for the university's next council meeting. Mosala, a popular figure on campus since his public lecture on "the African university", is reportedly not favoured by the university council owing to his Azapo past.

SA universities, generally, have never been immune to the political developments of the country.

Whether they were the breeding grounds for Broederbond race-theory, a sanctuary for the great unwashed liberals in the National Union of SA Students or a place of apology for bantustan freeloaders, universities were always close to the political pulse of SA.

Similarly, the explanations for conflict remain the same. Substitute Nusas for Sasco and agents provocateur for groups like Azasco and the past slips right into the future like a glove onto a hand.

Government bureaucrats are as defensive as ever and the minister as terse. The interventions of senior political figures are, by all reports, as cloak and dagger as in the days of total onslaught. Education Minister Sibiso Bengu's statement that campus unrest is the work of a small radical minority or a group of agents provocateur is reminiscent of what former prime minister John Vorster had to say in 1976. As in those days, the analysis of the ruling bloc was trite and proceeded a clear signal to dissenters that repression was not far off.

Certainly, as in the case of Pretoria Technikon, there are cross-alliances between student political formations on the UDW campus that are struggling to emerge. But these have more to do with the pull and loyalty of the locale than a new ideological stitching.

At UDW the staff and student support for ex-Azapo president Mosala signals more a hope that his presence will

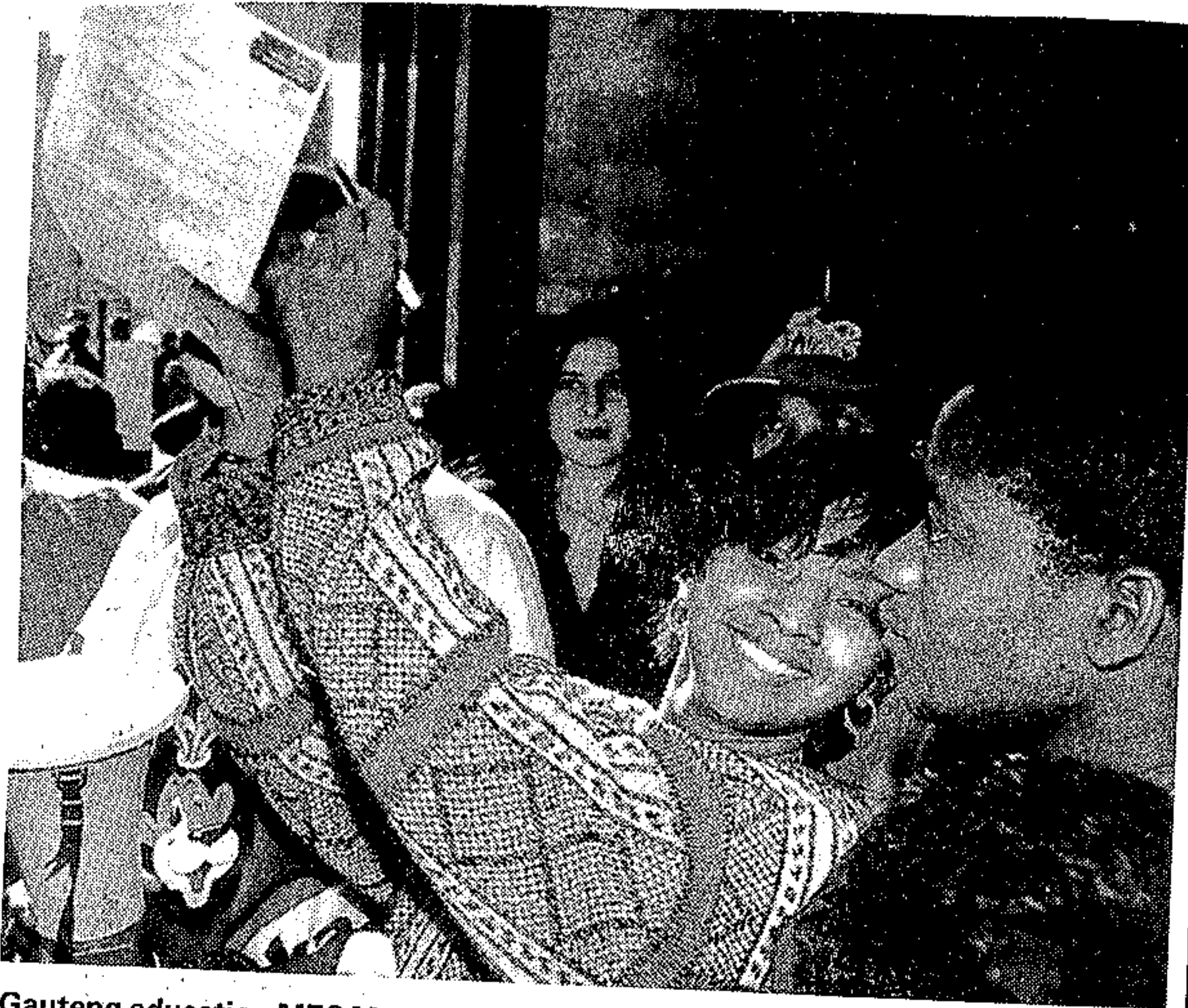
allow ANC-aligned thinkers — on what remains a fiercely loyalist ANC campus — to mount a challenge from within on the perceived "rightward drift" of the ANC party as a whole.

It does not seem to suggest that there has been a wholesale conversion of staff and students to Mosala's black consciousness stance per se. In fact, Mosala is applauded by Students Representative Council general secretary Dumisani Ngocobo for his "inclusive approach to the African university which nevertheless places social redress top on its agenda."

The long wait for government to deliver on promises made to students, coupled with a reading of the recently released national commission on higher education report, suggests that the promises can never be met and has alerted student leaders that they will have to mobilise in highly visible ways if the student sector is to remain a viable and independent one.

Whatever the individual personalities, the commission of inquiry to probe the unrest on the campus will have to become fluent in the new language of student struggle that pays homage to the democratic gains made by the liberation movements precisely by continuing to expand its critique of existing societal relations and not by clamping down on it.

Bohmke is spokesman for the UDW Combined Staff Association.



Gauteng education MEC Mary Metcalfe's media secretary Subethri Naidoo accepts a list of demands from university students who marched yesterday from Johannesburg's Library Gardens to the Gauteng government's offices. Picture: SELWYN TAIT

Student groups put on united front for march

Kevin O'Grady

RIVAL student organisations displayed a united front yesterday when about 100 members of their Wits University leadership marched to the Gauteng government's central Johannesburg offices to hand over a memorandum of grievances and demands.

Their attempt to deliver the memorandum to finance MEC Mary Metcalfe was dealt an initial blow by the fact that Metcalfe's offices are in Commissioner Street, about four blocks away from the marchers' Simmonds Street target.

After the protesters had been toying for more than 30 minutes, Metcalfe's spokesman Subethri Naidoo arrived to accept the memorandum — signed by seven organisations represented at 35 tertiary institutions — on Metcalfe's behalf.

Chief among the demands was a call for management of all institutions to denounce recent actions taken by the University of Durban-Westville's management committee.

The students also called on the education department to "take a decisive stand against undemocratic practices of managements at institutions".

Organisations which signed the document were the SA University's Student Representative Council, Pan Africanist Students' Organisation, SA

BD 30/5/96 (54)

Students' Congress, SA Liberal Students' Association, SA Technikon Students' Union and a group of students from colleges of education.

Meanwhile, the PAC called yesterday for government to set up a commission of inquiry into the transformation and Africanisation process at tertiary institutions and rejected the national commission on higher education which is investigating the issues.

The party's education director Vusi Nkumane also demanded the scrapping of 18% interest charged on students' outstanding fees and demanded that government raise funds to enable institutions to write off more than R100m in student debt.

Meanwhile, dates have been set for the reopening of two KwaZulu-Natal campuses closed recently because of violent student protests.

A University of Durban-Westville spokesman said staff members returned to work on Tuesday following a meeting between the university council, convocation and students' representative council. It was decided lectures would resume on June 10.

Technikon Natal spokesman Kim Roderick said lectures would begin on Monday. It was agreed further meetings would be held to resolve problems that led to the campus's closure.

See Page 15

Two hold up bank on UCT campus

Crime Reporter

(54)

ARG 30/5/96

ROBBERS held up a bank agency on the University of Cape Town campus and got away with about R7 000 after grabbing bundles of notes from a drawer. Police said two men walked up to an agency in the busy Leslie Building early on Tuesday, produced guns and jumped over the counter. The robbers grabbed the cash, jumped over the counter again and disappeared in the crowd of students on campus.

Sasco denounces action

(54) Sowetan 31/5/96

By Victor Mecoamere

THE South African Students' Congress yesterday distanced itself from the incidents of vandalism and intimidation this week by a small group of students at the Johannesburg College of Education.

And Gauteng MEC for education Mrs Mary Metcalfe has appointed Advocate B Jammy to conduct an inquiry into the events. It has been scheduled for Monday June 10.

Metcalfe yesterday also described the incidents as as "deplorable".

Another inquiry into the alleged racism of a lecturer will be held on Monday. According to reports, about 25 members of Sasco trashed school property and intimidated other students from attending lectures.

Preparing for exams

Angry students who are preparing to write examinations in June said yesterday the incidents were apparently a continuation of "Operation

Makahambe" - to hound out the allegedly racist lecturer.

Sasco general-secretary Mr Oupa Bodibe said: "We (Sasco) are not in line with (acts of) vandalism and the thrashing of school property." He said they were awaiting a full report from the JCE branch executive on the matter.

Metcalfe, in a statement distributed on campus yesterday, said the students were partly correct to protest. But this did not give them the right to behave in a "morally and legally unacceptable way".

ty
n-
al
to
ty
to
ty
of
h

Inquiry into events on campus

~~54~~
Kevin O'Grady
BD 31/5/96

GAUTENG education MEC Mary Metcalfe set up an inquiry yesterday into Wednesday's events at Johannesburg College of Education in which a small group of students trashed the campus, disrupted lectures and sprayed water at staff.

A college spokesman said lectures at the campus resumed undisturbed yesterday. They were cancelled the day before because of protests by students demanding the firing of an allegedly racist lecturer.

Metcalfe said she had appointed advocate B Jammy to conduct the inquiry, which would take place at the college on June 10. Jammy had the legal authority to order people to appear before him and answer questions.

She said the behaviour of the students was deplorable and, while she recognised the right to unarmed and peaceful protest, destruction of property and intimidation of staff and students could not "be defended in our society".

Metcalfe commended college rector Graham Hall for displaying "extreme restraint in preventing the intervention of police". However, students must accept the consequences of their actions.

Meanwhile, Sapa reports calm returned to Edgewood College of Education in Pinetown, near Durban, yesterday after protesting students set fire to two residences this week.

'Abused' police legal aid placed under review

~~54~~
Stephané Bothma
BD 31/5/96

PRETORIA — The safety and security department will not consider completely withdrawing government payments for legal services for policemen accused of crimes, but will review the existing policy which has been "considerably abused" over the years.

Safety and security secretary Azhar Cachalia said the nature of their work made police officers very vulnerable to false accusations and therefore stopping all forms of legal assistance would not be considered.

"We have however undertaken a general review of the existing policy including the Treasury Instructions which entitles public servants to legal assistance when charged with a crime allegedly committed in their line of duty," Cachalia said.

He said the system had been open to considerable abuse over the years and it had not always been possible to implement the regulations of the state attorney where legal aid was given to policemen.

In many cases "counsel of choice" had been appointed by policeman at extremely high costs to the state.

"In cases where convicted policemen had misled the police and had lied about their crimes, it is almost impos-

sible to recover funds spent on litigation," Cachalia said.

Although the review of the department's policy was at a very early stage, Cachalia said interest was being showed by the department in the US system whereby policemen contribute to a legal assistance fund administered by their union.

He said the issue of legal funding around the truth commission was still being considered at this stage, but added that the commission's workings were based on a spirit of reconciliation.

"In this spirit, the department would facilitate police officers rather than make it more difficult for them to co-operate with the commission," Cachalia said.

Meanwhile Sapa reports MPs have expressed concern over the ability of the SAPS to retrieve funds spent on litigation against police eventually found guilty.

The National Assembly Safety and Security Committee said in a report on the police budget tabled yesterday that these were "substantial amounts of money" that could go a long way in addressing many of the police's problems.

The report also said the system of offering rewards for information on crime was understandable, but flew in the face of community policing.

NP 'has not fully embraced equality'

~~54~~
Wyndham Hartley
BD 31/5/96

CAPE TOWN — The NP had not fully embraced the principle of equality, Deputy Speaker Bhadra Ranchod said yesterday when announcing his resignation from the party.

Ranchod, who is to leave politics to take up the post of high commissioner to Australia within days, said that while membership of any party was not appropriate for his new post, he had not been forced to quit the NP before taking up a diplomatic post.

He said he had been drawn to the

reconciliation and new patriotism policies of President Nelson Mandela and had given thought to leaving the NP for some time.

"I have regrettably found that the NP has had difficulty throwing off outdated attitudes and fully embracing the principle of equality. I appreciate the steps that Deputy President (FW) de Klerk and some of his colleagues have taken to change the party's thinking, but the fact is that in its structures it is still substantially under the influence of people whose thinking is rooted in the past."

Probe into college trashing

Advocate to lead inquiry into disruption of classes at JCE, which has been deplored by Education MEC Metcalfe

BY SUSAN MILLER

A Johannesburg advocate has been appointed to head an inquiry into events at the Johannesburg College of Education on Wednesday which forced the rector to shut it down for the day.

Prof Graham Hall closed the campus after a small group of students went on the rampage, overturning rubbish bins, hosing down fellow students and staff members and forcing students out of classrooms.

Advocate B Jammy will hold the inquiry at JCE on June 10 following his appointment by Gauteng MEC for Education and Culture Mary Metcalfe.

Metcalfe said yesterday her department would not tolerate a repetition of the events which led to the closure. She said she deplored the behaviour of the small group of students and that they would have to accept the consequences of behaving in a morally and legally unaccept-

able way.

Metcalfe said students who took part in the destruction of property, the forced disruption of classes and the intimidation of staff and students had "discredited their cause".

A group of between 20 and 30 students were involved in Wednesday's rampage and claimed they were acting on behalf of the South African Students' Congress (Sasco).

They were apparently unhappy at the pace of transformation at the college and had wanted a lecturer, accused of racism, suspended from his duties.

The vast majority of the 1 020 students were not involved in the actions, which also took place without the blessings of the students' representative council.

Jammy has been appointed, with written terms of reference, to conduct the inquiry and will have the legal authority to order people to appear before him and answer questions.

Metcalfe said any person who

(54) Stav 31/5/96
hindered or obstructed Jammy's inquiry or failed to appear before him would be guilty of a legal offence.

She called on all students to proceed with their classes and preparation for the June examinations and said legitimate grievances should be debated "rationally".

Metcalfe said the commission of inquiry formed to investigate both specific and broader allegations of racism would go ahead on Monday and people wishing to address it should approach its officers.

However, according to students at the college, the commission has already been rejected by Sasco, which claimed the organisation would not receive a fair hearing.

Members of the commission, also appointed by Metcalfe, were told on Wednesday that the small group of students had suspended talks with everyone including the college management.

Staff members said the college was quiet yesterday.

Disruptions feared as Wits talks hit deadlock

(54)
BD 4/16/96
Kevin O'Grady

FEARS of protests and disruption of mid-year exams at Wits University are running high after students and management deadlocked in talks on the composition of a committee that will select a new vice-chancellor for the institution.

Student representative council president Tyani Mohlaba said yesterday he hoped a compromise would be reached on the balance between academic and non-academic representatives on the committee to "avoid a crisis".

However, university spokesmen David Williams said the university would "stand firm" on the principle that academics should outweigh non-academic staff on the committee as the vice-chancellorship was an academic appointment.

The procedure for a replacement for vice-chancellor Robert Charlton, who retires at the end of next year, is drawing to a close, with most elections to the committee having been completed last week.

University sources said the dispute over the committee had raised fears that Wits would now be a target of student dissatisfaction. In terms of university committee members of the senate and academic staff, with the remainder coming from the university council, support staff, students, convocation and representatives of the historically disadvantaged.

Students and unions are demanding the committee be reduced to 19 members, with the reduction involving a reduction in senate representatives from 10 to three elected by academic constituencies. They also want the committee to have one member from outside Wits who is not currently represented on the council and two from government.

Mohlaba said the SRC understood the importance of academic influence in the selection process but was intent on reducing the number of senate representatives. Sources said there was concern students were "looking for an issue on which to cause trouble" as the causes of protests at other institutions had not been major issues at Wits.

Academic tackles govt over university funding

LINDIZ VAN ZILLA

THE government was not adequately addressing the problem of under-resourcing of black universities, a candidate for the position of Vice-Rector of Student Affairs and Administration at the University of the Western Cape said yesterday.

Professor Ikey Van de Rheede, UWC's dean of the arts faculty, said during a public lecture on campus that every possible avenue should be explored to financially assist needy students.

"There is no moral justification for refusing academically eligible students who are genuinely unable to afford tuition fees," he said.

Van de Rheede is one of five candidates who is up for the post.

(54) CT4/6/96
Each candidate will deliver a public lecture this week.

Referring to the earmarked funding in the report of the National Commission on Higher Education, Van de Rheede said the problems of under-resourcing were still not being adequately addressed within the discussion document.

Although the National Student Financial Aid Scheme was a "correct response" to the issue of resource-strained universities, "pressure should be exerted on the government to ensure that the funds from the scheme are channelled to the correct sources", he said.

Candidate Prof Banqilizwe Mqoke, who is the Registrar Academic at the University of Transkei, will deliver his public lecture in UWC's Senate Hall at 10am today.

Higher education given funds warning

Kevin O'Grady

HIGHER education institutions that failed to transform themselves could lose their funding, in terms of a likely proposal by the national commission on higher education.

At a consultative forum for stakeholders at the Soweto College of Education yesterday, commissioner John File said this was one method the commission was considering to ensure institutions complied with "national goals".

As already proposed by the commission in its discussion document released in April, all institutions would have to submit a three-year plan and a request for funds for approval by the proposed education council.

"They would probably

find a less than sympathetic reaction to their plan and could have their funding withdrawn" if they refused to adjust their structures and policies to reflect SA society, File said.

The commission is conducting a final round of consultations before it releases its final recommendations on the future of higher education to Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu next month. It also gave an indication of the future awaiting students at nursing colleges.

It has already proposed that most of these colleges — and agricultural and teacher training colleges — become part of the higher education system and merge with existing technikons and universities.

Commission chair-

(54) BA 5/6/96
man Jairam Reddy said yesterday this was "clearly a point of worry" for students at nursing colleges which would now fall under national government, instead of provincial governments, which traditionally funded nurses' training and paid them a salary while they studied.

Reddy said the commission would recommend that a financial aid scheme currently available only to university and technikon students be extended to the college sector and this could be used by trainee nurses to fund their studies.

"If they are working in provincial hospitals (as part of their studies) it is not unreasonable to expect the hospitals to give them remuneration, and that is being negotiated," Reddy said.

The commission was criticised yesterday for failing to consult adequately and for not heeding an earlier call for its deadline to be extended by six months.

Reddy said the commission had "forcefully" asked Bengu to extend the life of the commission but he had refused.

INVITATION CIVIC

The Eastern MSS in
lishment of a contro
ing area at the Ci
Road, Sandton to s

EASTERN MSS

WITNESSES TELL OF FIGHT

Two UCT students shot

CT 5/6/96

(54)

On campus after party

IN THE LATEST violent incident on UCT campus, two students were shot outside the sports centre at the weekend, apparently after a fight. This follows a similar incident earlier this year. Staff Writer **LINDIZ VAN ZILLA** reports.

TWO UCT students were shot on the university campus at the weekend, one seriously. This follows a similar incident in February when three students were wounded after a fellow student opened fire in a student residence, and has once again focused attention on the increase in violent crime on the campus.

In the latest incident, Mr Mandeze Manula and Mr Gift Radebe were wounded when an unidentified gunman opened fire outside the university's sports centre early on Saturday morning.

Both were rushed to Groote Schuur Hospital. Manula with wounds to the chest, stomach and

thigh, and Radebe with a wound in the leg.

Manula underwent an operation to remove a bullet from his chest.

Both live in student residences.

Yesterday police and campus authorities were still trying to find out why the shooting took place.

Witnesses told the Cape Times the shootings had occurred in the early hours of Saturday morning after a fight. The fight started at the bottom of Jameson steps, and spread to the Sports Centre.

UCT spokeswoman Ms Helen Zille confirmed that there had been a party on Friday night, but said it was impossible to say whether this

was linked to the shooting.

She did not rule out the possibility of a fight, saying: "It makes sense that there was some difference of opinion which led to the shooting."

Yesterday police spokesman Inspector Etienne Terblanche said they knew of no motive. They had a "possible suspect" and thought the weapon was a 9mm pistol.

Zille said the gunman was not a UCT student.

She expressed concern at the shooting and said the university was regarding the incident in a "very serious light".

Zille asked people not to suddenly view UCT as "a haven of crime", saying the incidents of crime weren't nearly as high as the crime in the surrounding areas.

She said UCT was campaigning for a gun-free campus, and that no staff or students were allowed to

carry firearms on the campus.

UCT had liaised with the Gun-Free Society to help implement the policy of a gun-free zone, she said.

"We have a clear policy.

"This is officially a gun-free zone and any person found in possession of a firearm will immediately appear before a disciplinary hearing. Anyone caught pointing or threatening to use a firearm will be summarily expelled from the university," she said.

In February three students were wounded when a 34-year-old post-graduate student at UCT burst into a flat at Forest Hill residence and opened fire with a pistol.

The student responsible for the shooting, Mr Msingathi Fatyela, was expelled.

Security measures on campus included campus control, who were helped by the students, and police patrols, Zille said.



Diana, Princess of Wales, greets the crowd on a walking tour of the Northwestern University campus in Evanston, Illinois. Lady Diana will be in Chicago in the next five days for a symposium on breast cancer. PIC: AFP

Report a big let-down

Sowetan 6/6/96 (54)

The report on the transformation of tertiary education in South Africa has come in for a great deal of criticism from black intellectuals. **Sipho Seepe** explains why it fails to satisfy black aspirations...

DESPITE THE FANFARE that followed the release of the report of the National Commission on Higher Education, the commission has been dogged by controversy.

The expectation that the report will fundamentally transform the size and shape of higher education is a mere rumour. A careful reading of it reveals a potpourri of contradictions and non-statements.

For a document purporting to be a "framework for transformation", it is scandalous that it fails to advance a philosophy of education to underpin this transformation.

Such a philosophy is necessary to guide the aspirations of higher education and should be based on the imperatives of liberation and social justice. The absence of a philosophy has led to a lack of analysis of the relationship between power and knowledge, particularly in the production, dissemination and evaluation of knowledge.

The silence on these key issues can only serve to legitimise domination.

The political economy of self-interest has divided the intellectual community in racial terms. It is no longer news that white intellectuals have welcomed the report while black intellectuals, with the exception of a few obsessed with finding an accommodation within white circles, have rejected it outright.

In fact, the Committee of University Principals (CUP) was divided into black and white camps when it came to some key proposals. In a sense, this division exposes the inadequacy of our conceptualisation of reconciliation.

Serious trouble

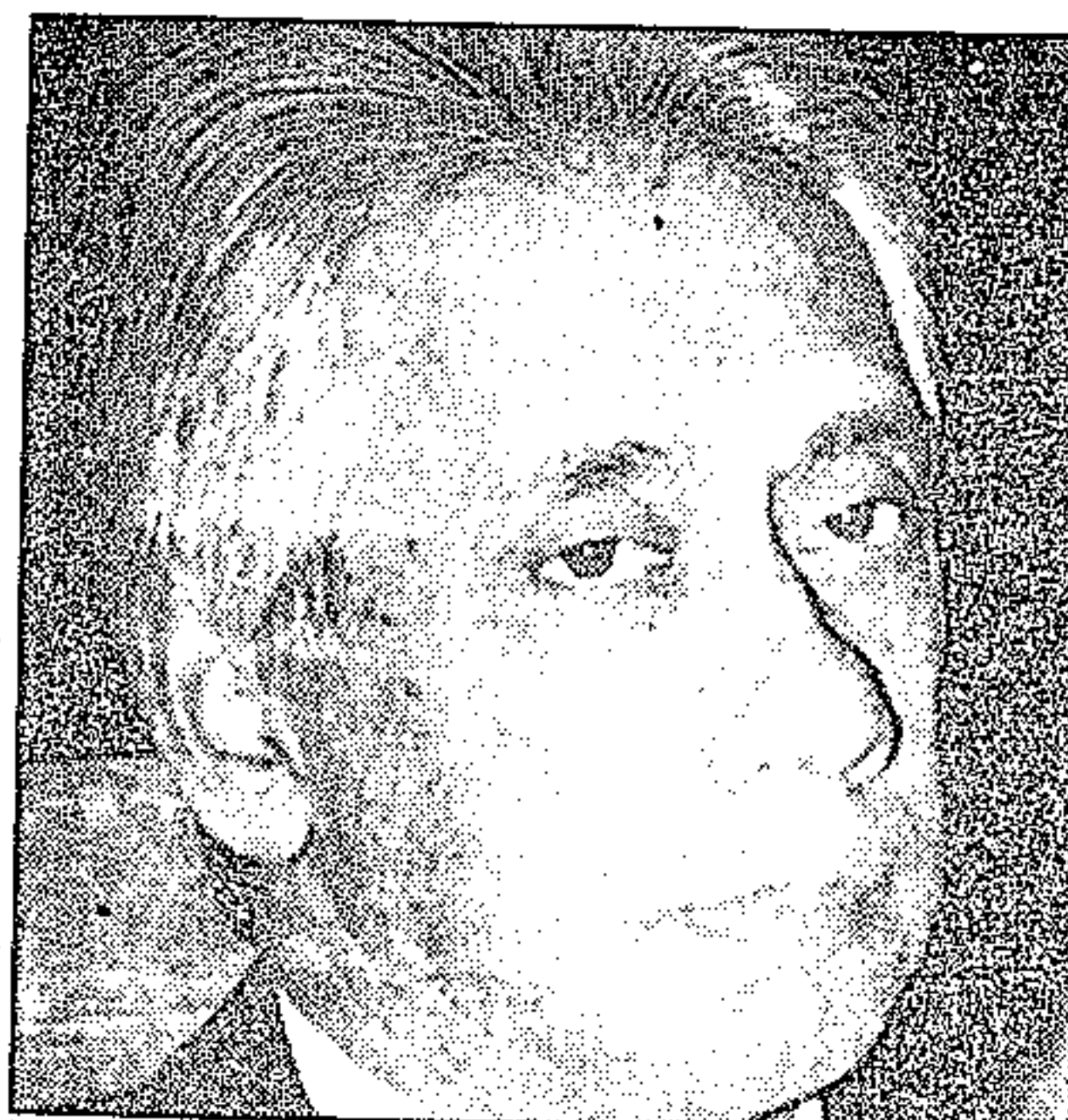
If reconciliation has to be nursed at the expense of our demands for social justice, then we are in serious trouble. It appears that whites have no problem in reconciling as long as this implies placating their fears.

They are willing to reconcile emotionally and on the sporting field. It is in their interest to do so, but when it comes to economic imbalances and education disparities, reconciliation becomes an anathema.

For example, Historically Disadvantaged Institutions (HDIs) - black universities and technikons - opted for a functionally segmented allocation of responsibility for career education, while the significantly white element in the CUP opted for "flexible differentiation".

The HDI felt the latter's position could only be supported once greater equality was brought among institutions. Given the history of university management, the CUP's positions will have to be transformed into the private sector if it is not to be a risky to take.

The CUP's position is to opt for "flexible



NCHE chairman Professor Joram Reddy ... his commission's report has come under fire from various quarters.

PIC: MOFFAT ZUNGU

differentiation", as it is most likely to give its apparent reliance on white opinion, this would amount to betrayal of the democratic process and a denial of justice.

For starters, the Historically Black University Forum within the CUP, HDIs and the Committee of Technikon Principals have opted for "functional differentiation": these far outnumber the white element in the CUP.

Also, the notion of "limiting public expenditure" calls into question the commission's conception of "the agents of transformation". The pertinent question is: where should the down-trodden, homeless, unemployed and their children place their faith?

In the democratically elected government or the whims of private capital, which they do not control? Relying on the private sector will only perpetuate and exacerbate inequalities. For the disadvantaged community, the Government is and should be the major agent for transformation.

In another proposal, the commission correctly points to the need for an overhaul of the higher education sector. Without providing mechanisms on how this will be achieved, it indicates that mass higher education will be a long and arduous task.

This is all very nice. But what about the

The mere notion of negotiating massification is problematic, especially considering the participation rate of Africans in higher education is only six percent, compared to 54 percent by whites.

If we are to make a fundamental change, we cannot allow ourselves to be hoodwinked by pious-sounding but vague statements which aim to be everything to all people.

The commission also proposes "cooperative governance". This notion is based on false assumptions that variables - like sharing powers and responsibilities - will remain constant.

These assumptions are all sensitive to public demands and political temperatures. The battle within Nedlac between business and labour and the NP's withdrawal from the GNU attest to this.

In addition, the notion of cooperative governance is betrayed by a proliferation of bureaucratic organisations built into the proposals. This forms a new bureaucracy that will reduce the universities to the "governed".

The report does not even provide details of who will constitute these structures, and what their terms of reference are. Since part of the crisis experienced by the HDIs is linked to funding, the omission of redress funding is also cause for concern. It is not enough for this to be implied.

Redress funding should be central if disadvantaged institutions are to achieve equality. The funding formula advanced in the document would further disadvantage HDIs and delay societal transformation.

Agents of transformation

Another serious flaw in the report's failure to clearly identify the agents of transformation.

On one hand, we are encouraged to be suspicious of the state government (used interchangeably), while at the same time expected to submit to the new god of "market forces". This is dangerous.

Lastly, the proposal in the document - and from which most of the higher education systems depend on how student financial aid is received - has a most important aspect has not been fully explored.

The commission has asserted that the state should be the major agent for transformation. This is all very nice. But what about the

Government inquiry into UDW crisis

(54) M+C 31/5 - 6/6/96

A commission of inquiry has been appointed to look into the crisis that brought the University of Durban-Westville to a standstill.

Ann Eveleth and Philippa Garson report

A COUNCIL meeting failed to resolve the crisis at the closed University of Durban-Westville last week and now the appointment of higher education chief director Itumeleng Mosala as vice-chancellor of the troubled university is on hold.

Key government players are said to be blocking the appointment of the former Azanian People's Organisation (Azapo) president to the job and the post is likely to be re-advertised.

The university was brought to a standstill last week when an alliance of students and administrative staff brought to a halt the acting management. The management has now announced that it is considering a new management structure, including the appointment of a new vice-chancellor, to resolve the crisis.

Students and staff, previously divided by a conflict of interests, are now united in their opposition to an "acting" management and worker demands.

UDW exists as a sad example of an institution which has, so far, dismally failed to manage its own transition. At the heart of the conflict lies a jockeying for power among various groupings within the African National Congress broad church.

The university has Africanised extremely rapidly with its student body changing from 80% Indian to 80% African in five years. Weak leadership has led to unchecked power struggles and the institution's progressive unravelling.

In the recent history of UDW, comrades have crossed swords with comrades. Death threats have been alleged, mysterious assaults have taken place in the dead of night, personal files have disappeared, opposing academics have come close to blows, and intelligence agencies have entered the fray.

An ANC stronghold, UDW has historically been at the forefront of student challenges to the social order.

Today, the mainstream ANC questions the motives of sociologist Ashwin Desai — a Combined Staff Association (Comsa) member alleged to be one of the ringleaders behind the protests — whose political roots lie in the Natal Indian Congress and United Democratic Front. According to some, Desai is playing out his frustrated political ambitions by spear-

heading mass mobilisation, opposition-style politics on the campus.

It is alleged that Desai told Indian students, opposed to the protests, to find their "own homelands in Verulam and Tongaat" if they didn't want to participate. Such statements, denied by Desai, would be anathema to other forces at the university — especially on the eve of KwaZulu-Natal's local government elections in which minority votes hold the balance of power.

Such contradictions show a trend of shifting alliances in the campus community. Sometimes these shifts are rooted in expediency, at others they are founded on issues.

Although more than 200 academics signed a petition voicing their opposition to the unseating of management, others criticised management's handling of the situation.

Issues have drawn students and staff together this year. At UDW, this united front has rallied behind calls for the appointment of Mosala as vice-chancellor. His "African university" speech to students, delivered as part of the selection process, appealed to a growing political interpretation of the failures of transition, while his promise to "shake the foundations of past reactionary practices at all levels of our academic life" appealed to similar yearnings among frustrated students and

staff. The leftists in Comsa back him because he is not an ANC "hack".

Some ANC leaders are, however, reluctant to see an Azapo person heading the UDW. Universities worldwide play an influential role in their societies and such an appointment could mark the growth of a vocal opposition.

While ANC national leaders argue Mosala's Azapo links did not prevent his high-profile position in the education department, his role as a university vice-chancellor would entail far greater autonomy.

The ensuing debate over the legitimacy of the selection process draws on expedient arguments: last year the campus "left" was accused of xenophobia when it opposed the appointment of Britain-based academic Ronaldo Munck — who was virtually hounded off campus — to head the sociology department. Now the arguments have shifted, with Mosala's critics calling for the post to be re-advertised as three out of the four applicants were foreigners.

While influential ANC leaders are said to be attempting to block Mosala's appointment, Azapo leaders have intervened to bolster his chances.

As matters came to a head last week, the campus "left" — students and staff — resorted to its only weapon — mass action. The "right" — management and council — resorted to its institutional

power to crush the dissent. An example of this was the deployment of Combat Security to close the university.

Ironically, the move stripped the "left" of its one powerful weapon just as the process of tough bargaining over two key issues — Mosala's appointment and the composition and terms of reference for the commission of inquiry — was due to start.

UDW's management had found itself in a similar position to its predecessors: weak and embattled by a strong union and militant student body opposed to its positions. It reacted in a similar fashion.

Jairam Reddy — UDW's first black rector — took office with strong support, but proved unable to manage the transition. Insufficient steps were taken to ensure that African students succeeded academically and financial aid resources proved inadequate to meet the needs of a poorer student body.

Staff pushing for promotions grew frustrated over the perceived failure to transform labour relations on the campus and Reddy left under enormous pressure.

In the ensuing 18 months, the acting management has suffered from an authority vacuum. In the absence of permanent appointments, man-

agement lacked the clout to move the transformation forward.

While Comsa's support among academics has been questioned, it clearly holds sway among other staff and thus its role as a major stakeholder cannot be discounted.

Neither can the Students Representative Council (SRC) be dismissed as a small clique of Africanists — its ANC-aligned president and deputy president also backed the recent actions.

The unprecedented transitional management committee which briefly took control of the university last Monday and Tuesday was a typical display of people's power which the liberation movements elevated to an art-form in the pre-1990 era.

While some have criticised their use of outdated struggle tactics, those who formed it believe they still need to struggle — and are likely to continue doing so until they are satisfied that real transformation is on the agenda.

The commission of inquiry, mooted by President Nelson Mandela, offers a glimmer of hope for UDW, but its success will depend on whether its terms of reference — to be thrashed out at a meeting on Friday — emphasise a Truth and Reconciliation-style healing of wounds or a Nuremberg-styled witch-hunt aimed at driving out one of the factions.



Left versus right: Students and staff come face-to-face with security forces deployed by UDW management

PHOTOGRAPH: NATAL NEWSPAPERS

University body stalls

Farouk Chothia

BD 10/6/96

DURBAN — The University of Durban-Westville council failed to appoint a vice-chancellor at a meeting late last week, even though the university was reopening today after student-staff disruptions last month.

Council chairman Adv Kenneth Mthiyane SC said the majority on the university selection committee had proposed that commission on higher education chief director Prof Itumeleng Mosala be appointed vice-chancellor, but a minority felt an appointment should not be made until the commission of inquiry into the conflict completed its work.

The council decided that it should first meet Mosala, before deciding whether he should be appointed. Such a meeting would take place soon, Mthiyane said.

He said there were reservations about appointing Mosala because he was the only South African to have applied for the job. There was a feeling that the post should be readvertised.

School legislation talks hit by protests

Kevin O'Grady

TALKS between the education department and 27 000 public school governing bodies on draft legislation that would change the bodies' powers have been hit by walkouts and protests because copies of the legislation failed to reach governing bodies on time.

In an attempt to rectify administrative errors that brought negotiations in the Cape Town area to a halt last week, the department yesterday took the unusual step of publishing the draft SA Schools Bill and Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu's document on public school governance in two mass circulation Sunday newspapers.

Department deputy director-general Trevor Coombe said another set of meetings had been scheduled to ensure negotiations — mandatory in terms of the interim constitution — would proceed. Included in the legislation is provision for government to expropriate land and property given to Model C schools by the previous government.

Three of four meetings held in Cape Town last week — those at Mitchell's Plain, Belville and Rondebosch — ended in protests and walkouts.

Coombe said that while the department appreciated governing bodies' indignation at the late or non-arrival of documents and the late notice of meet-

ings, "whether their interests were best served by some persons' disruptive behaviour is another matter".

"We regret that, despite our best efforts, the physical arrangements for the Cape Town meetings were concluded late, resulting in late advertising of the venues and (the provision of) telephonic information to schools."

He said the department was "absolutely determined" to fulfil government's obligation in terms of the constitution "to reach agreement through bona fide negotiation with public school governing bodies about proposed alterations to any existing rights, powers and functions".

If agreement was not reached, the constitution empowers Bengu and the department to proceed with changes and gives aggrieved parties the right to legal recourse.

"Governing body representatives who suggest the minister and his officials are taking this process lightly should reconsider," Coombe said. "It is unthinkable that a state department would recklessly lay government open to a charge of negotiating in bad faith."

Errors were not errors of bad faith, but were due to "the unprecedented nature of what is required in order to undertake a process of negotiation on complex matters with more than 27 000 public schools".

(54)

BD 10/6/96

(55)

THE reasons behind student protests that have spread like a rash, infecting dozens of campuses across the country in recent months are, at a glance, difficult to comprehend.

Much of the anger has been directed at individual institutions and their management structures' failure to resolve local problems but, at the same time, there is an almost inalienable link between the sometimes violent demonstrations.

Less than a month ago, the normally tranquil Technikon Pretoria campus was transformed into a scene reminiscent of student protests in the 1980s and earlier. Black and white students who had gathered to discuss their grievances suddenly attacked each other and technician property. Police were summoned and fired teargas and rubber bullets to disperse the warring students.

Technikon Natal, University of Zululand, M L Sultan Technikon, Technikon SA, University of Pretoria, Mangosuthu Technikon, Johannesburg College of Education, Edgewood College of Education, University of Durban-Westville (UDW), Free State University... the list of campuses where students gathered — violently and threateningly — pressing demands from the removal of "racist" lecturers to improved refectory food and the appointment of particular people to senior positions — grew daily.

But as dissimilar as the reasons of the protesters seemed, there were always two things in common at the top of the lists of demands presented to campus administrators. The first related to the question of fees and students' inability to pay them, resulting in accumulated debt of more than R100m.

The second, more abstract, item involved the "transformation" of institutions. The protests must be an irritation to government which, much as it would like to, has neither the money nor the power to make sure students' chief demands are met.

Also disconcerting is the fact that it is provincial education MECs who bear the brunt of student protests in their provinces and come under pressure from their premiers to react in a way that would indicate something is being done, even though tertiary education is expressly a national competence. In deciding how to handle such disturbances, MECs must

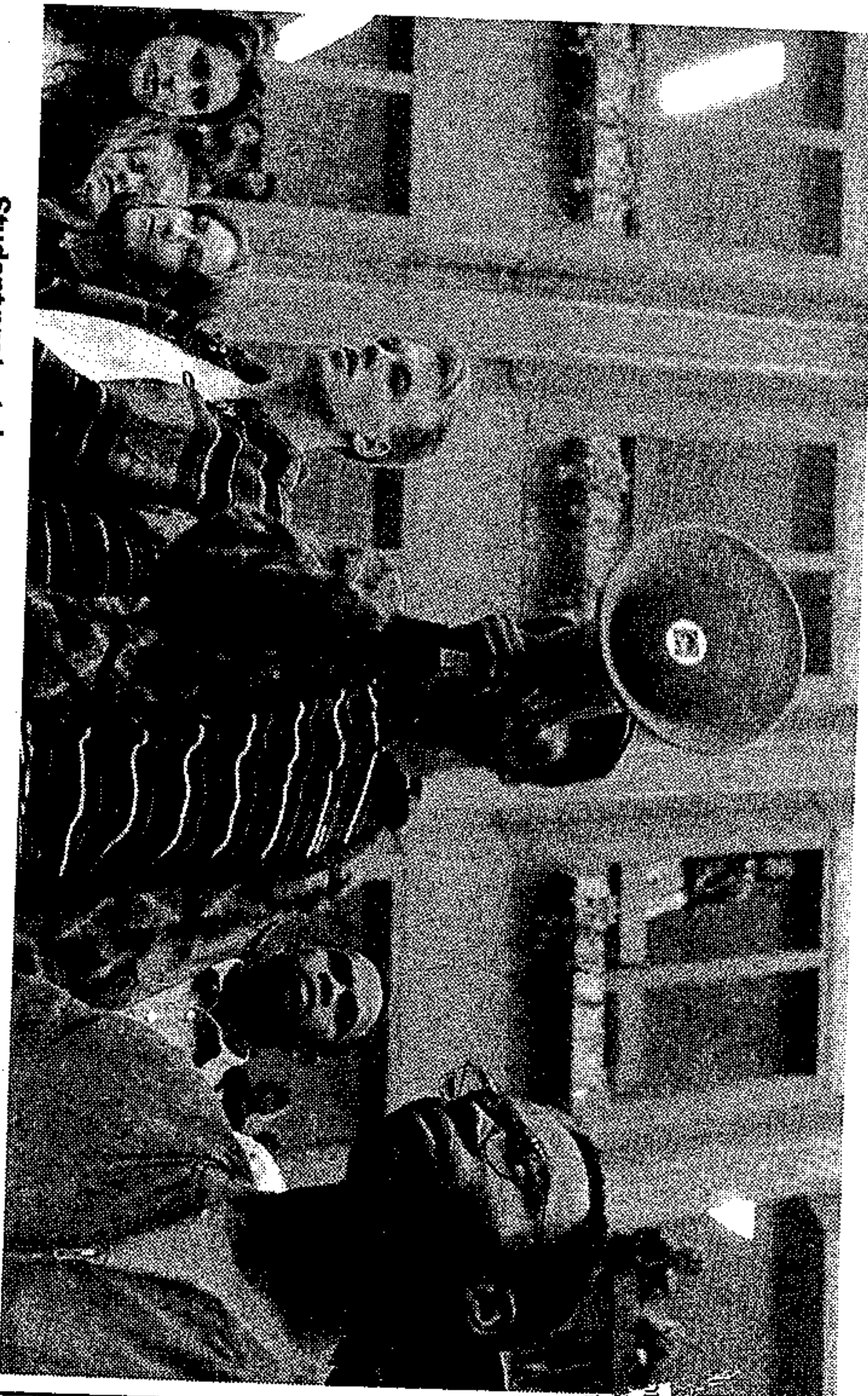
Campus protests blemish the face of education

(574) 80 11/6/96

first assess whether the students' grievances are sufficiently serious to warrant ignoring the ban on provincial government intervention in tertiary education matters. They must then decide if it is worth facing the ire of Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu who reportedly prefers MECs to respect the line dividing national and provincial competencies and who himself has a policy of not "frightening" when trouble breaks out. Bengu has repeatedly stated

The fact that there appears to be little common ground on the issue begs the question: are we struck with protests until such time as today's students have left the system and the government fund, which cannot be used to pay off existing debt, is large enough to prevent the problem from recurring? Government's usual method of taking action (based on principles that author P J O'Rourke terms "felicitic calculus" — that which will bring the greatest

that firm policy stance and, thus far, the PAC and its student wing Paso have been the only organisations to suggest a way in which it would be even remotely feasible for government to alter this. "Why, if President Nelson Mandela can go cap in hand to foreign countries to raise the R600m needed to fund voluntary severance packages for surplus teachers, can the same not be done to at least write off existing student debt, if not to



Student protests have swept SA's tertiary educational institutions this year.

that government cannot and will not assist institutions in writing off student debt. In his budget speech to Parliament, he reiterated that government does not have a policy of providing free higher education.

"If it is decided fees must be paid, then students must pay," he said recently. "The setting up of a R300m (and growing) aid scheme for students — recommended by the national commission on higher education which must still decide on the funding and transformation issues — is all government is able to do to alleviate students' debt burden, Bengu says.

The Committee of University Principals is equally adamant that there is only one solution to the fees problem: pay up, seek financial assistance or get out.

benefit to the largest number of people) has clearly not been employed here. If it had, Bengu would rethink his policy on free, or subsidised, higher education, a notion not completely out of step with practices in other parts of the world which, admittedly, have stronger and more viable economies than our own.

If it is accepted that tertiary education is vital to providing the human resources so necessary to developing our economy, and that, for historical reasons, there is no way most aspirant students or their parents can come up with the vast sums of money needed for three years or more at university or technikon, perhaps a reconsideration of government's strong stance on the matter is in order. But government has taken

generally fund peoples' studies?" asked PAC education director Vusi Nkumane.

In typical homegrown-is-best PAC fashion, Nkumane also suggests money used to import foreign doctors and engineers would be better spent enabling students, who would otherwise be excluded for financial reasons, to study those much needed disciplines.

Former Azapo president, current education department chief director and aspirant UDW vice-chancellor Imungeng Mosala said in a recent speech to the university's selection committee there needed to be more opportunities for higher education. "I share the view of radical educators who criticise and indeed reject the notion the primary purpose of public

education is economic efficiency. Universities are not public companies and I certainly do not intend to allow UDW to be run like one or reduced to one.

"This is a public institution intended to play a more radical role of educating the citizens of our country and not simply the sons and daughters of the ruling classes and of the emergent petit bourgeoisie," he said. There are, of course, those whose views differ from those of Nkumane and Mosala on how protests around the fees issue would best be resolved.

SA Federation of State-Aid-Schools chairman Hennie van Deventer's comment that

"the time has come for tertiary education to be reserved for bona fide students who are willing to work and study hard for their qualifications and their future careers" is an example.

Van Deventer's position would seem to strike at the heart of the second big issue — transformation and Africanisation — that students are thrusting in institutions' faces, just as Mosala's would highlight its relevance and importance.

Although transformation has, by some student groups, been translated to mean the appointment of black people to senior management positions and an abolition of racism on cam-

pus, it goes deeper than that. At stake is the notion, so succinctly expounded by Wits University academic William Makgoba, that establishing African universities, without their historic Eurocentricism, is a worthwhile ideal, a realisable objective and, in Mosala's words, "not a contradiction in terms".

At stake is transforming institutions' curriculums, management structures, academic planning, financing and industrial relations and their very souls into relevant, vibrant, committed, quality institutions in the context of a new competitive and challenging context", says Mosala.

Here too, government has found itself powerless, and unwilling, to intervene and force institutions to hasten what many agree is a flagging transformation process. While most institutions are either paying lip service to transformation or actively taking the process forward, the temptation is there for them to wait and see what the commission recommends on the matter when it reports to Bengu in two months time.

But unless action is taken soon — and it could come in the form of the commission's report — to contain the spreading rash of protests, rather than simply scratching at and aggravating the blemishes on the face of the higher education system, the further education of hundreds of thousands of people, this year and possibly even for years to come, will have been wasted.

Vaal Triangle Technikon gets first black rector

Star 12/6/96 (54)

By Bobby Brown

The newly appointed rector of the Vaal Triangle Technikon, Aubrey Tshe-diso Mokadi, cites being a bank documentation clerk and a television soundman as some of his less flattering jobs in the past.

He worked in the jobs during a three-year period of interruptions of his lectures while studying at the University of Fort Hare in the Eastern Cape.

With Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale as the technikon's first chancellor, Mokadi (36), a father of three, was on Monday evening voted in as the technikon's first black rector in the institution's list of five to hold the post in the past.

His appointment, from the shortlisted seven candidates was opposed by only one person from the 20 Technikon council



Breaking new ground ... Aubrey Mokadi, appointed rector from shortlist of seven candidates.

members, said Shirley Tsepetsi, who will be acting in Mokadi's former position as council chairman, which he held since July.

Mokadi will take up his appointment, which automatically also places him in the seat of vice-chancellor at the traditionally Afrikaans Vanderbijlpark campus, on July 10,

the start of the new term.

"Naturally I am very happy about this. I'm aware the position holds many challenges, but I'm looking forward to it and living up to the expectations of the council and the community," said Mokadi, adding he considered it an honour to be working with Sexwale at his side.

The Evaton-born graduate said he considered the possibility of disappointing the community and the technikon as the most daunting aspect of being the first black rector.

"But I intend to put the institution at the forefront of transformation country-wide."

Mokadi takes over the technikon from Piet Swane-poel, who had been acting rector for 13 months after former rector Pieter du Plessis was suspended amid an investigation into financial mismanagement.

Mokadi joined the technikon as chairman of the council during last year's campus conflicts, when 13 students were injured in clashes.

He obtained his masters degree in English at Unisa in 1993 and is working on his Ph D at Wits, where he obtained his BA honours degree in 1987.

Police may enter campuses to weed out those causing violence

Star 13/6/96

(54)

No management permission will be needed in crackdown on criminal elements

By **JOVIAL RANTAO**
Political Correspondent

Police are to be allowed to enter the campuses of tertiary institutions without seeking permission from management to crack down on criminal elements responsible for campus violence, as part of the partnership between students, administration and the Government to eliminate crime.

The role of the police in eradicating the violence that has accompanied most demonstrations at SA universities and technikons will be outlined today when Police Commissioner George Fivaz unveils the police plan before Parliament.

The Star understands that police have information that there were elements on university and technikon campuses who deliber-

ately stirred violence.

President Nelson Mandela secured the support of the principals of universities and technikons on a partnership approach to crime when he met them at the Union Buildings in Pretoria yesterday.

Mandela gets support of principals

After the meeting, Mandela refused to elaborate and said he did not want to pre-empt today's presentation by Fivaz. He said the Government understood the concerns raised by students but issued a stern warning that criminal actions would not be tolerated.

"Black students have genuine

demands because of the culture of exclusion and alienation that has characterised our education system. We sympathise with the struggle and concerns. They're the best people to decide the method of struggle in the form of protests or demonstrations. What is of concern is the question of criminal action in the course of these demonstrations.

"I find it unacceptable that there should be violence and illegality at our institutions of learning. The littering of universities, the damage to property, preventing students opposed to protests from going on with their classes, sit-ins, the taking of hostages ... all of this is unacceptable. Ways must be found to put an end to lawlessness," Mandela said.

He said the Government would not prescribe to the educa-

tion institutions as to what steps should be taken.

The Star understands that some principals expressed concern that they were losing donors because of the violence.

On transformation, Mandela

Sympathy and stern warning

said serious complaints had been raised by some of the delegates about the rate at which the process was taking place at certain tertiary institutions.

The president is due to meet student and youth bodies to discuss and seek their support for the plans.

Wits dissent over body selecting vice-chancellor

BY LEE-ANN ALFREDA
Education Reporter

Star 13/6/96

With the deadline for applications past, Wits University is now racing to resolve a simmering controversy over the selection procedure which will be used to appoint a new vice-chancellor.

The deadline for applications closed on Friday and preparations are under way to constitute a senior appointments selection committee which will select a vice-chancellor-designate to take over from Prof Robert Charlton at the end of 1997.

This committee will be responsible for shortlisting no more than three candidates - a step expected to take place in the next few weeks.

But ongoing talks about the constitution of the selection committee is threatening to delay the process, which both the university and student bodies have admitted is urgent.

At present, academics hold 16 seats on the university's 29-member senior appointments selection

committee - a number which has raised the ire of student and worker bodies on the campus.

The student bodies are claiming the procedure was not agreed upon, but the proposal for the constitution of the committee was pushed through by the senate after parties deadlocked on the issue last year.

The students representative council is, instead, calling for a smaller, "yet proportionally representative" selection committee to be established. SRC president Tiyani Mohlaba has also vowed that his organisation will not take part in the process, which was not "legitimate and democratic".

The university, on the other hand, has indicated repeatedly that the process is urgent because the new vice-chancellor has to be appointed before the end of the year.

Wits has also indicated it is unlikely it will reduce the votes of academics because the "paramount quality of a vice-chancellor must be a capacity for academic leadership".

Police plan to end (54) campus violence

CT 13/6/96

OWN CORRESPONDENT

JOHANNESBURG: Police are to be allowed to enter the campuses of tertiary institutions, without seeking the permission of management, to crack down on criminal elements responsible for the violence.

The role of the police in eradicating the violence that has accompanied many demonstrations at South African universities and technikons will be outlined today when Police Commissioner George Fivaz unveils the police plan before Parliament.

President Nelson Mandela secured the support of the principals of universities and technikons on a partnership approach to crime when he met them at the Union Buildings in Pretoria yesterday.

He said the government understood the concerns raised by students, but issued a stern warning that criminal actions would not be tolerated.

"I find it unacceptable that there should be violence and illegality at our institutions of learning. The littering of universities, the damage to property, sit-ins, the taking of hostages ... all of this is unacceptable. Ways must be found to put an end to lawlessness," Mandela said.

● See Page 5

Mandela slates student lawlessness

CT 13/6/96

54

PRETORIA: President Nelson Mandela yesterday sharply criticised criminal actions by demonstrating students, saying ways had to be found to put an end to lawlessness on South African campuses.

A police plan to be unveiled today would play an important role in this, he told reporters here.

He added that the transformation of tertiary institutions had to be speeded up as there were serious complaints about the tempo of change.

University and technikon councils should become more representative to expedite the process.

Mandela earlier met the heads of universities and technikons at the Union Buildings to discuss campus unrest.

He said black students had genuine grievances because of what he

called the culture of exclusion and alienation in the country's education system over decades. The government had sympathy with the concerns of students.

They were also entitled to highlight these through protest action.

"But what is of concern ... is the question of criminal actions in the course of those demonstrations," he said.

"I find it absolutely unacceptable that in institutions of learning there should be the amount of violence and illegality which has characterised these demonstrations."

He condemned the littering of campuses, preventing non-protesting students from continuing classes, damage to property, sit-ins and the taking of hostages.

Mandela said he and the heads of tertiary institutions had agreed

that a strategy had to be devised to pre-empt campus unrest.

The government would not prescribe to individual institutions what steps they should take. He said the role of the new police plan in this process would become clear today.

"I am acting on the basis of urgency that all stakeholders should co-operate with the police to create an environment whereby the plan that is going to unfold will succeed," he said.

"I do hope the process of consultation will be completed in a couple of weeks."

He said he had been fully briefed on the police plan, adding that he was convinced it would go a long way to reduce and even eliminate crime.

On transformation, he said an understanding had been reached on ways to speed up change at ter-

tiary institutions.

"One point which I made was that the administrations in these institutions must first accurately reflect the population of the country," Mandela said.

"It would be better for the process of transformation to take place at a faster pace when you have all the population groups, especially the majority, also represented in the administration of institutions," he said.

The Committee of University Principals chairwoman, Professor Brenda Gourley, said the committee appreciated Mandela's leadership on the issue.

"It is difficult for us at individual campuses, as there are students who hijack the process," she said.

"Getting such an unequivocal message from the president is very helpful to the leadership of universities and technikons." — Sapa

Mandela 'has aided Afrikaans'

CP REPORTER

(54)
CP 16/6/96

THE UNIVERSITY of Stellenbosch is going to confer an honorary doctorate upon President Nelson Mandela for his "openness towards and appreciation of Afrikaans and the way in which he supports the language in public".

The degree will be presented to Mandela at a special graduation ceremony on a date to be announced later, the university said.

In its motivation for the honour the university said that President Mandela had known much pain and trauma during his lifetime.

"However, his life story is also that of a man who with his vision has undoubtedly become one of the most remarkable people of our century.

"He is a true symbol of the ideal of empowerment through education and training, and he never relinquished this ideal - not even during his imprisonment on Robben Island," the university said.

Mandela's political career had also shown him to be a dignified person who "can look back on this part of his life without bitterness, as he has become a champion of reconciliation", the university said.

The university said the presentation of the degree, which was also received by Deputy President F W de Klerk in 1990, was also being made for Mandela's "outspoken appreciation of the contribution and rights of the various cultural, language, religious and other groups to the process of democratisation in South Africa".

Mandela gets tough on campus unrest

(54) M+G 14-20/6/96

President Mandela has intervened in the campus crisis, but the commission looking into tertiary education also needs some help, writes **Philippa Garson**

THE destabilisation of higher education campuses has triggered the personal intervention of President Nelson Mandela, who is known to be extremely concerned about the ongoing crisis and the negative impact on international fundraising efforts for the sector.

Mandela met the ANC Youth League and the Committee of Technikon and University Principals this week, and intends meeting other student groups.

At the meeting with technikon and university principals, the university leaders expressed concern that foreign donors — put off by the conflict on campuses — were starting to withdraw their funds. They expect further conflict later this year and have requested R400-million from the government to tide them over and stall possible strife over financial exclusions.

In turn, Mandela has requested a co-operative stance from the institutional managements in allowing police onto campuses to quell conflict. Traditionally universities have closely guarded their autonomy by trying to keep police off their campuses unless their presence is requested.

Mandela has also asked the ANC Youth League to come out against the trashing of campuses.

Meanwhile, the heat is on to find lasting ways of addressing ongoing problems in the tertiary sector. After weeks of consultation, criticism and outright rejection in some quarters, the National Commission on Higher Education shuffled back to the drawing board this week to rework its document before handing the final draft to Minister of Education Sibusiso Bengu at the end of July. For the commission, it's a case of God is in the principles and the devil's in the detail, as one Chinese philosopher put it.

The commission has been plagued from the outset by the contradictory imperatives of coming up with new policy as quickly as possible on the one hand, and making sure everyone



On the march: Students on campuses around the country have demonstrated their unhappiness

PHOTOGRAPH HENNER FRANKENFELD

— particularly those at the centre of the crisis — are happy with the results on the other.

In this second goal, the commission has failed. While most groups appear to endorse the commission's fundamental principle of "co-operative governance" for the higher education sector, student organisations and other groups — including the college sector and a significant group of black intellectuals speaking for many historically black universities — are unhappy with many of the proposals.

Student organisations, particularly the South African Students' Congress, accuse the commission of paying lip service to the notion of consultation. They also reject the idea of a governing higher education council staffed by experts and believe the commission failed to come up with solutions to redress the imbalances in the system.

Last week they passed a "motion of no confidence in the commission" and called on all stakeholders to reject it as a "dismal failure".

However they have mistakenly looked to the commission to come up

with miraculous solutions and reflect all their concerns. They have misunderstood the commission's primary role in coming up with a discussion document compiled by experts rather than a report reflecting stakeholder concerns, says executive director Teboho Moja.

"At the end of the day the report is our report and not an aggregation of what everyone has said. We come together to consult once we have something to consult over," said Moja. Intense government-led consultation is expected to take place in the next few months leading up to the drafting of a White Paper at the end of the year.

Major concerns have been expressed over the governance system proposed by the commission, particularly the Higher Education Council.

There is agreement on the need for a co-ordinated governing body separate from the Education Department; however whether it should be made up of stakeholders (including student and staff bodies) or experts and how much power it should have is being

hotly contested.

The issue of redress is also the subject of heated debate. The commission punted the notion of "earmarked" funding, so that institutions be rewarded with funding for producing the necessary graduates for the country's human resource development. However the historically black universities and student groups believe this does not go far enough in restoring the current imbalances.

While the commission is adamant that redress money cannot be taken from existing budgets if the sector is to expand and fulfil students' demands for greater access to higher education, there is now an acknowledgement among commissioners that some kind of redress fund — or overt way of levelling the playing fields — will have to be worked into new policy.

Another hotly contested issue is that of divisions between institutions. Increasingly, technikons and universities are taking on each other's functions but some in the sector believe the boundaries should be put back in place. The commission favours flexi-

bility in this instance, allowing institutions to define their own role, but many of the technikons, historically black universities and technical colleges favour keeping the functions distinct. The technical colleges fear losing their identity by falling under the umbrella of higher education.

The ANC has yet to formulate its policy position and will do so after a workshop next month. Blade Nzimande, head of the parliamentary portfolio committee on education, said the commission was faced with the dilemma of coming up with long-term solutions as a matter of urgency. Piecemeal changes would only bring short-term rewards, he said.

"The report was neither an exclusively expert report nor one that simply reflected the views of the stakeholders," said Nzimande, adding that it was not inconceivable that a Green Paper could differ significantly from the commission's report.

Nzimande said students were at the cutting edge of educational transformation and their concerns must be looked at.

Department losing capacity to change policy

(54) M+G 14-20/6/96

Philippa Garson

FEARS are mounting in higher education that the Education Department lacks the capacity to fine-tune and implement the proposed policy changes in the sector.

The only new senior appointment in higher education since the change in government has been chief director Itumeleng Mosala — and he may leave to take up the position of vice-chancellor of the University of Durban-Westville (UDW) in KwaZulu-Natal. Mosala said he was awaiting "confirmation or otherwise" of his appointment by UDW's council next week.

Other prominent players in the department may be leaving. Deputy director general John Samuel has been applying for other posts outside the department. National Commission of Higher Education executive director Teboho Moja has been offered the job of heading the SABC's educational television. Whether she will take the post is unclear.

Sheila Sisulu, adviser to Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu, has been shortlisted for the Youth Commission

in Deputy President Thabo Mbeki's office.

Below Mosala in the higher education division are a host of "old guard" technocrats from the former Education Department, whose major function in the previous era was to shift funds from the government to the universities and technikons, and who insiders say are incapable of implementing fundamental changes to higher education.

Mosala said three task teams, made up of people inside the department, the commission and elsewhere, were being set up to take the process further.

The level of university autonomy in the past meant higher education was never given much priority in terms of departmental resources. However, despite the major restructuring facing the sector (if the commission's proposals are to see the light of day), this section of the Education Department has yet to expand. It exists as a sub-section under one of the department's three tiers and will not, in its current form, be able to bring the process to

fruition.

Lincoln Mali, spokesman for Bengu, said it had long been known that the department doesn't yet have capacity to implement new higher education policy. It was currently looking at ways of changing this, he said.

Mali had no knowledge of Bengu's reported intention of bringing in two Australian experts to help take the policy process to its legislative conclusion.

The commission, which finished its round of talks with various stakeholders this month, will make its report available to Bengu by the end of July. Bengu hopes to give Cabinet a White Paper on higher education by the end of the year.

This may be preceded by a Green Paper but, according to Mosala, given the urgency of the matter, the commission's report may form the basis of a Green Paper. Mosala said it was hoped that legislation would be put before Parliament early next year.

According to Blade Nzimande, head of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education, public hearings may take place after the proposed

Green Paper, "given the kinds of controversies and heated debate around the higher education issue".

Although the commission has been criticised extensively for not consulting enough in drawing up its discussion document, Mali said there would be extensive consultation with all stakeholders in the months leading up to the drafting of a White Paper.

One higher education source said fears of the government's lack of capacity were a "red herring. Clearly-task teams will be brought in, as has happened in other departments."

But another source pointed out that departmental planning to gear the government towards the implementation of new policy should have happened in parallel to the commission's work, but that in fact nothing significant had happened.

Mosala, who took office last year, has received widespread criticism for being ineffectual. He is also on record as stating at a debate on higher education at the University of Cape Town in April that whether South Africa needed universities at all was open to question.



John Samuel: Applying for other posts



Sheila Sisulu: On the shortlist

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

Illegal nuclear source trafficking/thefts from Pelindaba

191. Sen A BALIE asked the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs:

- (1) How many (a) cases of illegal nuclear source trafficking and (b) thefts from the Atomic Energy Corporation's Pelindaba plant near Pretoria were reported in South Africa (i) in 1994, (ii) in 1995 and (iii) during the period 1 January 1996 up to the latest specified date for which information is available;
- (2) whether any (a) suspects have been arrested and/or (b) charges have been laid against any suspects; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

S322E

The MINISTER OF MINERAL AND ENERGY AFFAIRS:

- (1) (a) The AEC is not aware of any trafficking in radioactive sources of AEC origin from 1994 up to 4 June 1996.
- (b) Four thefts or attempted thefts occurred between January 1994 and 4 June 1996.
- (i) • A drum containing contaminated scrap filters was detected while on its way off site on board an empty bus (26 May 1994).
- A labourer attempted to remove a few items of contaminated scrap metal on 1 June 1994.
- In August 1994, 204 plastic drums used for storage of contaminated low-level scrap were stolen from a fenced-off stor-

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

Teachers employed/posts vacant at primary secondary schools

20. Sen A J WILLIAMS asked the Minister of Education:†

- (1) (a) How many teachers who qualified in 1995 have been appointed at (i) primary and (ii) secondary schools in each of the provinces since 1 January 1996 and (b) how many teaching posts were vacant in each of the provinces at (i) primary and (ii) secondary schools as at 31 January 1996 or the latest specified date for which information is available;
- (2) whether minimum qualifications have been determined for the appointment of teachers at (a) primary and (b) secondary schools; if so, (i) what are these qualifications and (ii) how many of the teachers who were appointed at each of the specified school categories do not have the required qualifications?

S31E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

(1)(a)	(i) Primary	(ii) Secondary
Provinces	Not yet available	
Mpumalanga	50 (total primary and secondary combined)	
Free State	262	180
Western Cape	1 995	1 479
KwaZulu-Natal	73	40
Northern Cape		
(1)(b)		
Mpumalanga	24	125
Free State	591	323
Western Cape	1 840	934
KwaZulu-Natal	3 465	2 277
Northern Cape	493	264

- (2) (i) Three years post Senior Certificate (Std 10), plus m + 3, Category C, professionally qualified, for both primary and secondary teachers.

- (ii) This question cannot be answered at this stage because the Gazette has not been finalised.

The information regarding the following provinces is not readily available because these provinces have not responded yet:

Eastern Cape
North West
Gauteng
Northern Province

National Commission on Higher Education: Amount spent/still to be spent

168. Sen W F MNISI asked the Minister of Education:

- (1) (a) What amount (i) has been spent and (ii) is still to be spent on the National Commission on Higher Education, (b) how many (i) commissioners and (ii) other specified staff members of the Commission are employed by the Commission, (c) what annual salary is being paid to each of the (i) commissioners and (ii) staff members of the Commission and (d) from which premises is the Commission currently conducting its operations;
- (2) whether the Commissioners and/or staff members of the Commission are entitled to any (a) car, (b) travel, (c) subsistence and/or (d) other specified allowances; if so, what allowances in each case;
- (3) whether the Commission has purchased any premises from which to conduct its operations; if so, (a) which premises, (b) at what cost and (c) what other expenses were incurred or are being incurred as a result of this purchase; if not,
- (4) whether the Commission is renting any premises; if so, what is the annual rental?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

- (1) (a) (i) R179 081 in the 1994/95 financial year.
R3 198 810 in the 1995/96 financial year.

Hansard

R572 800 in the 1996/97 financial year to date.

(ii) An estimated amount of R1 620 000.

(b) (i) 13.

(ii) 3.

(c) (i) 11 Commissioners = R567 per day

1 Commissioner = R148 599 p.a.
1 Chairperson = R283 197 p.a.

(ii) Research co-ordinator = R142 800 p.a.

Financial Officer = R112 386 p.a.
Administrative Officer = R54 780 p.a.

(d) Human Sciences Research Council Building, 134 Pretorius Street, Pretoria.

(2) (a) Yes.

Chairperson R78 428 p.a.
Executive Director R69 071 p.a.
Research Co-ordinator R9 504 p.a.

(b) Yes.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT:

Yes, up to 16 May 1996.

S355E

(a)	(b)(i)	(b)(ii)	(c)
Arabian Minister of Transport	Silver plate	R3 000	Courtesy gift (reciprocal)
Chinese Businessman	Wooden plate	R300	Courtesy gift (reciprocal)
Norwegian Minister of Transport	Jersey	R300	Courtesy gift (reciprocal)
Prince of Belgium	Crystal paper weight	R300	Courtesy gift (reciprocal)
Shell (Aviation Wing)	Leather jacket	R900	Courtesy gift (reciprocal)
Austrian Minister of Transport	Vase	R100	Courtesy gift (reciprocal)
SA Bus Operator's Association	Briefcase	R1 500	Gift: Opening SABOA Conf. '95
Sikorsky Aircraft Corp.	Crystal paper weight	R300	Courtesy gift (reciprocal)
Sun International	Free accommodation	R3 000	Promotional gift
Unitrans	Painting	R300	Courtesy gift (reciprocal)
Jai Kundu	Toy truck	R300	Courtesy gift (reciprocal)
Australian Minister of Transport	Cigar Box	R200	Courtesy gift (reciprocal)
SA Bus Operator's Association	Bronze Sculpture	R400	Gift: Opening SABOA Conf. '96
German Minister of Transport	Desk clock	R200	Courtesy gift (reciprocal)
Ambassador of Iran	Jewelry box	R150	Courtesy gift (reciprocal)
KLM Airlines	Ceramic Plate	R200	Courtesy gift (reciprocal)

QUESTIONS

Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

Advisers/consultants employed

179. Sen E K MOORCROFT asked the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism:

(1) Whether he or his Department employs any (a) advisers and/or (b) consultants; if so, (i) what (aa) is the name and (bb) are the qualifications of each such adviser and/or consultant, (ii) for what (aa) purpose and (bb) period was each appointed and (iii) what remuneration package and/or other fee is being paid in respect of each;

(2) whether any provision is made for (a) housing allowances, (b) business class travel, (c) home telephones, (d) overseas (i) travel and (ii) accommodation, (e) car allowances, (f) entertainment allowances and/or (g) any other specified fringe benefits for such advisers and/or consultants; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details in each case;

(3) whether any (a) organisations, (b) bodies and/or (c) persons are paying the costs of any advisers and/or consultants; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are their names?

S285E

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM:

Chief Directorate: Administration

(1) (a) None.

(b) Two

(i) (aa) J D MacKay

(bb) Dip. (Social Sciences) (Social Work)

(ii) (aa) Render assistance with the organising of conferences, workshops functions and international remembrance days.

(bb) 1 February 1996 to 31 May 1996.

(iii) R7 500 p.m.

(2) (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) No.

(d) (i) No.

(ii) No.

(e) No.

(f) No.

(g) No.

The consultant is being paid a flat fee with no extra remunerations, allowances or fringe benefits.

(3) (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) No.

This consultant is paid a monthly fee from funds allocated by this department for this specific purpose.

(1) (i) (aa) B A D Egan

(bb) Dip. (State Administration)

(ii) (aa) Attend to matters pertaining to co-ordinating, liaising and services regarding international relations on environmental affairs.

(bb) 1 January 1996 to 30 June 1996.

(iii) R6 590,50 p.m.

(2) (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) No.

(d) (i) No.

(ii) No.

(e) No.

(f) No.

(g) No.

Government transport will be provided in

Warning on lack of funds for university education

BD 19/6/96 (54)

FAILURE to resolve problems over financial aid for needy students could irreparably damage the higher education system, the committee of university principals has warned.

Sapa reports that in a submission to the national commission for higher education released yesterday, it said this issue should receive "highest priority".

It said student financial aid was "of such vital importance that the future of the higher education sector may be jeopardised if it is not handled correctly".

Linda Ensor reports from Cape Town that government would have to provide an additional R50m this year to support the studies of poor university students whose ranks were likely to increase by year-end, University of Cape Town vice-chancellor Dr Stuart Saunders said yesterday.

Saunders told the parliamentary portfolio committee on education it was becoming increasingly difficult to raise funds for poor students from foreign or domestic donors who were prepared to give funds only for infrastructural development.

Donors regarded financial support to students as a state responsibility and could not be relied on after 1997, Saunders said.

He estimated that R400m would be needed from government next year to defuse the "potentially explosive" situation on campuses. So far government had committed R300m for the national student aid scheme for 1996.

Saunders was part of a Council of University Principals delegation at the committee meeting which expressed deep concern at the lack of adequate funding as the single most important factor contributing to the destabilisation of tertiary education.

He called for capital to be built up to sustain a financial aid scheme, or alternatively an annual Budget injection of funds.

The council's chairman and University of Natal vice-chancellor Prof Brenda Gourley said the lack of financial aid to students was a source of "enormous worry" to the national fundraising committee which did not believe it would have adequate funding either this year or next.

She also emphasised the need for research and a multidisciplinary approach to learning if universities were to cater for a developing society. Short courses and certificates rather than full degrees might be more appropriate for meeting the needs of the informal, small business and

NGO sectors, Gourley suggested.

In its comment on the commission's discussion document on a framework for transformation, the council criticised the cursory treatment given to the student financial aid scheme.

The council's findings on the document were made available yesterday, but were not formally presented to the committee.

"If financial aid is insufficient, it is wasted as students will be unsuccessful. It follows that the amount available for student financial aid should determine how many students who require financial aid can be admitted.

"If the same financial package is given to each student, irrespective of the cost of tuition and other fees at different institutions, the problem is not solved. Institutions cannot be expected to make up the balance," the council said.

It expressed support for the proposal that the college sector should be managed and funded at central, rather than provincial level. It also supported a new further education sector and for new universities/technikons, possibly satellite campuses.

The council also felt it a "regrettable deficiency" that the proposals on policy were not linked to proposals on implementation.

Dam during the past week, have considerably boosted the levels of the dams. The graphic above shows the latest statistics on dam levels, the percentages at which major dams are full, and a comparison to this time last year.

Student funding ⁽⁵⁴⁾ ‘should be priority’

AR 19/6/96

FAILURE to resolve problems over financial aid for needy students could irreparably damage the higher education system, the Committee of University Principals has warned.

In a submission to the National Commission for Higher Education released yesterday, it said this issue should receive “highest priority”.

The submission was a response to NCHHE draft proposals for a new policy on higher education, a final version of which will go to Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu.

Student financial aid was dealt with “very cursorily” in the document, the principals said. There was little evidence of further development since the NCHHE’s initial reports.

“This aspect is of such vital importance that the future of the higher education sector may be jeopardised if it is not handled correctly.”

It supported the proposal for a new funding framework for higher education but warned that existing “levels of quality” should not be undermined.

Setting of tuition fees should not be done nationally because of the “variability in the historical base of fees”.

Addressing the national assembly’s education committee yesterday morning, executive member Stuart Saunders said student finance was a “potentially explosive” matter.

The way universities were funded assumed the state would meet 80 percent of their general operating budget. This year, however, state funding covered only about 62 percent of that cost.

Universities were able to contribute up to five percent of their operating budget, at least a third of which had to come from student fees.

This was feasible when most students were wealthy or middle-class, but clearly not sustainable when increasing numbers of poor students were going to university.

“Unless that gap is met, we cannot have a stable higher education system or a stable society in South Africa.”

It was becoming increasingly difficult to get South African or foreign donors to give money for student financial aid. They tended to see this as the responsibility of government.

Mr Saunders said either a capital fund would have to be built up to sustain a student aid scheme, or there would have to be an injection of funds from the exchequer. - Sapa.

WEDNESDAY
JUNE 19, 1996

Explain suppression, universities urged

(54) ct 19/6/96

ROGER FRIEDMAN

UMTATA: The Truth and Reconciliation Commission plans to contact university vice-chancellors who served between 1960 and 1993 to discuss the role universities played in suppressing student anti-apartheid activity.

Commissioner the Rev Bon-gani Finca expressed the commission's interest in university authorities after hearing the testimony of Ms Lulamo Sidumo, whose son Batandwa Nondo was suspended from the University of the Transkei shortly before his apparent execution by the security forces.

Sidumo, from Cala, was the first witness to testify to the commission's Human Rights Violations Committee sitting in a former bantustan. Hearings began here yesterday, and continue today and tomorrow.

Following Sidumo on the stand was 72-year-old ANC veteran Mr James Kati, of Luhewini, who told of his part in the struggle since joining the ANC in Cape Town in 1949.

Kati, who served eight years on Robben Island, spoke of his detention, torture and imprisonment from his first arrest in 1952 until his final release from Wellington Prison in 1988. He also told how police pulled him by his testicles "until they tore the right one off".

Later, testifying about the murder of Mr Aga Khan Tiya, Umtata herbalist Mr Mhlupheki Ntshinga described having a

rifle barrel inserted in his anus and being told by police they were going to blow his head off.

He named Butterworth police commanding officer, a Mr Mathafeni, as one of his tormentors.

Tiya fled the Transkei in 1980 to join the ANC. On his return he was arrested and landed up in hospital with his throat slit "in the manner normally used when slaughtering sheep", his father, Bishop Tiya, said.

He survived, but upon his discharge was charged under the Terrorism Act. Tiya was never convicted. His bullet-riddled body was found in a car outside the Catholic Church here.

The last witness yesterday was Mrs Nogqili Lupondwana, whose lawyer husband an ex-Robben Island prisoner Mr Rex Lupondwana died in mysterious circumstances in 1984.

She was told he had crashed his car into a bus. Every bone in his body was broken, but his clothes were unbloodied. His car was smashed on the left side, not the driver's side. She believed he had been murdered.

Later, while following the reopened Goniwe inquest, she learnt of the shadowy military "Hammer Unit", trained by former Rhodesian Selous Scouts and active in Umtata in 1984.

Her husband had been a friend and colleague of Mr Matthew Goniwe — and an outspoken critic of the ex-Rhodesian magistrates who flooded the Transkei.

MERGERS, CLOSURES POSSIBLE

Teacher colleges face increasing cutbacks

Oct 19/6/96 (54)

CURBS ON ENROLMENTS, the scrapping of bursaries and national rationalisation mean graduates and colleges face highly uncertain futures. **DAN SIMON** reports.



THE scrapping of state bursaries for first-year student teachers in the Western Cape — combined with other austerity measures — has heightened the uncertainty of students and colleges about their prospects.

The state bursaries will not be reintroduced before 2000 or when a need for teachers arises.

The seven teacher-training colleges also face an uncertain future. There is a possibility that two of them could be closed next year unless they diversify or amalgamate with others.

The MEC for Education, Ms Martha Olckers, said yesterday that there was a need to rationalise colleges of education by January.

She also cast doubt, in the light of other pressing priorities, on the continued need for teacher-training bursaries.

Colleges of education have been told to cut their lecturing staff from a present ratio of 1:12 to 1:18 by 2000 and to investigate the possibility of amalgamating to secure their futures.

With a large drop in college enrolments this year, the "short-term" scrapping of state bursaries for first-year students, and rationalisation to achieve equity in educa-

tion at a national level, a rector and two vice-rectors have expressed concern about the futures of their colleges.

Mr D Scheepers, the vice-rector of Hewat College of Education, said yesterday that colleges had been told last year that there would be no financial assistance for first-year students this year.

The annual intake quota had been reduced this year to 60 students, all of whom had to pay their own way or apply for alternative bursaries.

In 1991/2, the intake had been 280.

Scheepers said the scrapping of state bursaries could cause problems for the new intake of students as they would not be "guaranteed jobs" once they qualified.

"If one enters as a cash student, one must finish training as a cash student, with no guarantee of a job," he said. "If you have a state bursary, it is easier to get a job as one repays the bursary by doing service for the same number of years as one studied."

However, the vice-rector of the Cape Town College of Education, Ms Sally Michell, said there was still some uncertainty over bursaries. Although colleges had been

led to believe that none would be given to any first-years in the country, bursaries had been granted in KwaZulu-Natal, Michell said.

Scheepers said Hewat College had an uncertain future and had already held exploratory talks about amalgamating next year with the Cape Town College of Education.

However, negotiations had been suspended pending the education authorities' addressing salary discrepancies between the colleges' staffs this year.

"I don't know what is going to happen. We don't know whether we'll be in existence much longer, considering the possibility of our amalgamating or being absorbed by universities," Scheepers said, referring to the alternatives that are being examined by the National Commission on Higher Education.

Michell, however, said that despite the suspension of discussions between Cape Town and Hewat colleges, she was confident they would be amalgamated.

Mr Johan Slabbert, rector of the Boland College of Education and head of the Committee of Colleges of Education Rectors of SA, said the future of colleges was uncertain.

He said there had been suggestions that some colleges would have to be closed or function in other capacities.

"All the figures say that one or two will have to close," Slabbert said. "The financial position in the Western Cape is so dreary that I cannot see the authorities finding funds to hold on to these luxuries just to train teachers."

Vaal Tech's new rector ready to 'roll up sleeves'

(54) Star 20/6/96

Mokadi knows he is taking on a major challenge but has valuable experience of negotiations and consensus politics

By SUSAN MILLER

Aubrey Mokadi is getting used to navigating uncharted territory. At 36, not only is he the youngest rector and vice-chancellor of the conservative Vaal Triangle Technikon, he is also the first black at the helm of the predominantly Afrikaans institution.

"And I was the first black to use the managerial toilets at Iscor," he recalls, laughing.

Mokadi knows he is taking on a major challenge as the Technikon was one of those hit by racial clashes between students last year, in which students attacked each other verbally and physically.

However he was the popular candidate for the widely advertised position and has valuable experience of negotiations and consensus politics, having been first president of the Vaal Civic.

He has also been involved in many educational bodies, was chairman of the executive trustees of the Vaal Career College and deputy chairman of the Black Management Forum, Vaal region.

Mokadi is Vaal Triangle born and bred. He has always been determined and as a schoolboy spent every Saturday working as a gardener to pay for his busfare to school each week.

It is hard to imagine the Evaton-born man failing at anything he sets his heart on.

Mokadi, who has two brothers and four sisters, went to Fort Hare University on a bursary after finishing school and completed a BA in English and music.

During his years of study at Fort Hare he put in a stint as a sound man at the SABC and as a schoolteacher when his studies were interrupted by the violence which ravaged the campus during the 1980s.

After graduating in 1987 he went on to Wits to study for his honours in English.

"I quite literally used to study by candlelight until the university gave me a bursary which enabled me to move into residence. I think perhaps I got the bursary because I was the first black student to do English honours there," he says.

After his year at Wits, Mokadi taught at the University of Bophuthatswana for a year and then went on to Vista University, while studying for his MA through Unisa.

Mokadi is currently completing his PhD through Wits, concentrating on the period between the late 1980s and 1990s, which was still a time of *kragdadigheid*.

Mokadi, who was married in 1982,

was hit by racial conflict in 1993 and 1994 and has played the role of "troubleshooter" on other campuses, including Potchefstroom and Vista universities.

While he feels the racial tension between white and black students is "regrettable", he feels it is natural at institutions which were previously dominated by a specific racial group.

"This campus especially was conservative and is surrounded by a traditionally conservative area like Vanderbijlpark. As the numbers of black students grew, the management and even students felt threatened and swamped, and the new students felt alienated and started trying to assert their voices in a manner which the white staff was not used to."

Mokadi feels both sides have come to their senses.

"We have to accept the technikon is a microcosm of South African society and people from different racial backgrounds still choose to socialise and sit with people of their own background," he says.

Mokadi took over a very difficult situation because a commission of inquiry headed by advocate Johann Gautchi had been appointed by

large and scattered administrative staff.

At the moment about 90% of academics and top level administrative staff are white, with lower positions being filled by blacks.

"This is an historically white institution but I think I get on relatively well with the senior administration staff because I was chairman of council and interacted with them," says Mokadi.

He remarked that the campus had not experienced any strikes or boycotts since the new council had taken over.

At a time when most campuses are experiencing demands for transformation, Mokadi has a clear idea of what is needed at the Vaal Technikon.

"The council must be seen to be legitimate and fully representative of all stakeholders. Institutions experiencing difficulties and worried about making key appointments should make sure that this is the position and that all decisions are reached by consensus," he believes.

While the selection process for rector was going on, student political organisations, cultural groups and workers were allowed to sit in on the process and listen to candidates answering questions.

Mokadi is hoping for a close relationship with other tertiary institutions and is fully behind the idea of "horizontal and vertical articulation", which basically means institutions accepting credits from other institutions and people being able to move freely between them.

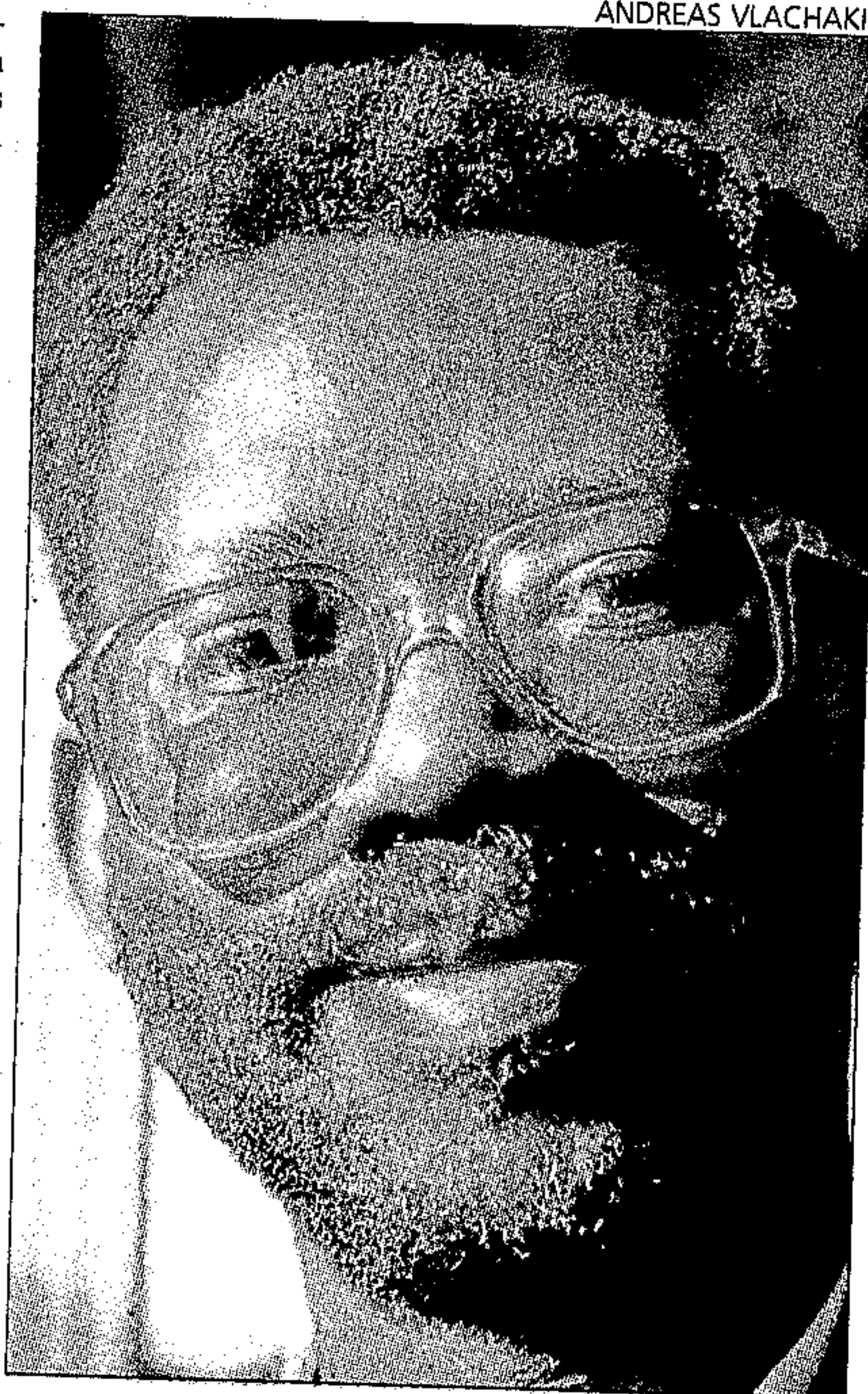
Technikons can now confer degrees up to PhD level, thanks to an upgrading under the Technikons Act.

"We must assess what skills people have before they come to our institutions. Even if someone does not have many formalised skills, whatever they do have must be taken into account and we should be able to transfer people between institutions," he says.

Mokadi said managements were traditionally scared of students, who were often thought of as radical, but that he thought part of the solution was to keep them fully informed about the need for certain procedures

and about the needs of industry and commerce in relation to their qualifications.

"If you empower them to a certain degree, then they can become your allies. What people must understand is that consultation does not mean students always have to agree with management but that at least they are informed about decisions



Voice of reason ... Mokadi believes in keeping students aware of the need for certain procedures.

Bengu to investigate allegations of mismanagement and corruption in technikon affairs.

Mokadi said he was happy the former senior staff members implicated by the commission accepted a settlement and were not paid out exorbitant "golden handshakes".

He is also happy about the composition of the technikon's council, the first to be directly affected by

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For written reply:

Universities: subsidies

418. Mr T C NTSIZI asked the Minister of Education:†

What amounts were paid out in subsidies in (a) 1994 and (b) 1995 to the (i) University of Stellenbosch, (ii) University of the Orange Free State, (iii) University of the Witwatersrand, (v) University of Cape Town, (vi) University of Pretoria, (vii) University of the North, (viii) Rhodes University, (ix) University of Durban-Westville and (x) Potchefstroomse Universiteit vir Christelike Hoër Onderwys?

N729E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

University	1994	1995
Stellenbosch	177 491 000	179 580 000
Western Cape	97 038 000	104 142 000
Orange Free State	112 800 000	118 810 000
Witwatersrand	215 224 000	245 522 000
Cape Town	175 051 000	195 976 000
Pretoria	294 719 000	289 898 000
The North	128 668 000	126 662 000
Rhodes	49 557 000	54 218 000
Durban-Westville	96 712 000	102 118 000
Potchefstroom	92 882 000	98 457 000

Universities: male/female students

459. Mrs K W NOWEMESHA asked the Minister of Education:

How many (a) male and (b) female students were enrolled at each specified university in March 1996?

N774E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

Universities	Male	Female
Cape Town	8 352	6 320
Durban-Westville	5 041	5 585

54

Fort Hare	2 334	2 866
Medunsa	2 097	1 400
Natal	7 486	6 607
The North	9 235	9 777
Orange Free State	4 743	4 703
Port Elizabeth	2 781	2 819
University for CHE	5 199	5 209
Pretoria	12 893	11 542
Rand Afrikaans Univ	9 204	10 941
Rhodes	2 190	2 404
South Africa	59 868	70 482
Stellenbosch	8 198	6 410
Western Cape	6 853	7 797
Witwatersrand	9 959	7 469
Zululand	3 184	4 813
Vista	12 861	21 153
Transkei	3 157	4 168
North West	2 076	2 842
Venda	3 778	3 388

Universities: student bursaries/grants-in-aid/loans

464. Dr F J VAN HEERDEN asked the Minister of Education:

(a) How many students at each specified university received (i) bursaries, (ii) grants-in-aid and (iii) loans from (aa) the State, (bb) the university concerned and (cc) other institutions and private persons in March 1996 and (b) what was the average amount per student of such (i) bursaries, (ii) grants-in-aid and (iii) loans?

N779E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

According to the Universities Act, 1955 (Act No 61 of 1955) universities are autonomous higher education institutions. The allocations of (i) bursaries, (ii) grants-in-aid and (iii) loans to students is an internal affair of a university regardless of what the source of the allocations are.

However, regarding the National Student Financial Aid Scheme for 1996, the following remarks may be made. The question can only be answered in the context of a financial year.

rather than in the context of one month of such a year. Once an institution has been informed of its overall allocation for the year, the institution might choose to draw the funds by making any number of claims during the 12 month period. It might make its first claim as early as April or as late as November. It is highly unlikely that a claim will have been received from every institution in the country in March 1996 which could lead to an assumption that students at certain institutions are not receiving assistance.

Allocations from the Government's R300 million injection into the National Student Financial Aid Scheme for 1996 have been made to institutions. However, the State's financial year runs from 1 April to 31 March, so none of the R300 million was available to the National Student Financial Aid Scheme before 1 April 1996. March 1996 was the final month of both the State and the National Student Financial Aid Scheme's 1995/96 financial year. The total of all funds utilised by institutions to assist 34 061 needy students with academic potential as at 31 March 1996 was R131 272 194,03. Up to 40% of the award for each student was converted into a bursary at the end of the academic year and was dependent upon academic success. A breakdown of awards per institution in 1995 is presented in the following table. The funds disbursed was received from various donors, one of which was the State.

Table 3: Utilisation of the money available in 1995

Institution	Number of Awards	Total Utilised
Bophuthatswana, Univ of	979	2 026 480,00
Cape Town, Univ of	1 279	8 581 827,00
Durban-Westville, Univ of	2 455	8 491 396,00
Fort Hare, Univ of	439	2 582 684,00
Medical Univ of South Africa	516	3 936 648,20
Natal, Univ of	1 261	8 813 374,00
North-Turkopp, Univ of	3 885	24 854 156,62
North Qwaqwa, Univ of	504	2 096 914,20

Orange Free State, Univ of	166	803 694,00
Port Elizabeth, Univ of	261	967 687,00
Potchefstroom, Univ of	45	278 458,76
Pretoria, Univ of	102	580 000,00
Rand Afrikaans Univ	130	654 795,80
Rhodes, Univ of	289	2 399 337,00
South Africa, Univ of	777	1 078 800,72
Stellenbosch, Univ of	57	316 145,00
Transkei, Univ of	2 166	6 230 829,13
Venda, Univ of	2 027	4 295 555,49
Vista, Univ of	3 996	7 878 256,31
Western Cape, Univ of	2 563	11 957 753,44
Witwatersrand, Univ of	1 446	6 573 770,00
Zululand, Univ of	842	5 061 938,00
Border Technikon	443	432 429,00
Cape Technikon	29	81 300,00
Mangosuthu Technikon	849	2 771 596,52
M L Sultan Technikon	830	2 405 007,00
Natal Technikon	426	1 017 164,26
Technikon Northern Transvaal	1 327	2 807 497,98
Orange Free State Technikon	143	767 545,85
Peninsula Technikon	1 255	4 003 932,93
PE Technikon	576	2 093 990,00
Pretoria Technikon	355	822 370,02
Setlogelo Technikon	232	548 289,50
South Africa Tech (RSA)	255	397 617,00
Transkei Technikon	400	573 864,85
Vaal Triangle Technikon	250	663 972,00
Witwatersrand Technikon	334	975 455,58
CEAP Technikon	32	139 155,87
TCOE	140	310 505,00
	34 061	131 272 194,03

Universities: first-year students

(b) how many of these students were (i) Black, (ii) Coloured, (iii) Indian and (iv) White?

465. Mrs A VAN WYK asked the Minister of Education:

N780E

(a) How many first-year students were enrolled at each specified university in March 1996 and

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

Student enrolment for the year 1993 (this is the latest available information):

Universities	Total	Black	Coloured	Indian	White
Cape Town	4 956	1 125	791	247	2 793
Durban-Westville	5 392	2 596	96	2 573	127
Fort Hare	3 501	3 493	1	—	7
Medunsa	717	687	2	28	—
Natal	6 920	1 413	186	1 530	3 791
The North	11 801	11 767	20	3	11
Orange Free State	3 235	92	189	5	2 949
Port Elizabeth	2 876	183	347	65	2 281
Univ for CHE	4 020	463	97	3	3 457
Pretoria	7 370	193	80	15	7 082
Rand Afrikaans	4 540	18	160	5	4 357
Rhodes	2 262	392	79	111	1 680
Unisa	79 155	41 768	2 923	6 222	28 242
Stellenbosch	5 494	34	437	9	5 014
Western Cape	7 257	3 217	3 635	372	33
Witwatersrand	6 173	1 168	121	710	4 174
Zululand	2 548	2 512	4	25	7
Vista	6 704	6 273	303	38	90
Transkei	not available				
North West	not available				
Venda	not available				

Black students in science disciplines

497. Mr M F CASSIM asked the Minister of Education:

(2) whether the Government will consider setting the overall number of subsidised places in each discipline and then allowing each institution to negotiate its share of the number of such places through a new higher education council; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

(1) Whether, in view of the recent findings of the National Commission for Higher Education, a policy is now in place to permit a larger intake of Black students to science disciplines at the tertiary level; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;

N859E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

(1) The recent publication of the National Commission for Higher Education is only a discussion document. As a result of the feedback obtained by means of this document, the Commission will publish its final report to the Minister of Education at the end of July 1996. At that stage, the Minister will consider the report and its findings and develop appropriate policies, legislation, etc.

(2) Not applicable in the light of the answer to (1).

Student protests on university/technikon campuses

498. Mr M F CASSIM asked the Minister of Education:

(1) Whether he or his Department has assessed the total cost of the destruction of and damage to property caused at university and technikon campuses as a result of student protest; if not, why not; if so, (a) what was the cost in respect of each specified institution and (b) in respect of what period or date is this information furnished:

University of Pretoria	R50 000
Rhodes University	R5 500
Unisa	R32 538
University of Natal	R2 500
University of the Western Cape	R520 000
Potchefstroom University for CHE	R80 000
University of Durban-Westville	R20 000
Mangosuthu Technikon	R367 665
Technikon Pretoria	R27 000
Vaal Triangle Technikon	R44 375
Border Technikon	R643 355
Technikon Northern Transvaal	R334 000
Technikon Free State	R850 744
Technikon SA	R70 915
Setogelo Technikon	R1 600 000
M L Sultan Technikon	R100 000
Technikon Natal	R109 012

(b) Past 18 months (previous to June 1996).

(2) The Minister of Education has sent a letter to the management of every institution regarding the transformation of higher education institutions. Departmental workshops have been arranged with groups of stakeholders in higher education. Both the Director-General and the Minister have made public statements in the media.

(3) Whether these mechanisms have proved to be effective; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

N860E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

(1) Yes, by means of a questionnaire sent to institutions.

(a) Vista University R50 000
University of the Free State R50 000

(3) The mechanisms have proved to be effective to the extent that the guidelines provided have been implemented at institutions. According to the various higher education acts, higher education institutions are autonomous corporate bodies. The Department will only intervene if specifically requested to do so by the management of an institution, or when irretrievable breakdown seems imminent.

Students' riot damage totals R5-m

(54)
CLIVE SAWYER

Political Correspondent

ARG 21/6/96

THE bill for damage caused by student protests at universities and technikons in the past 18 months is nearly R5 million.

This was disclosed by Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu in a written reply to a question by Farouk Cassim (IFP).

Among those hardest hit were the University of the Western Cape (R520 000), Mangosuthu Technikon (R367 665), Border Technikon (R643 355), Technikon Free State (R850 744) and Setlogelo Technikon (R1,6 million).

Damage totalled R50 000 each at Pretoria University, Vista University and Free State University. Figures were not given for the University of Cape Town or Witwatersrand University.

Asked by Mr Cassim what had been done to detect and deal with problems at an early stage, Mr Bengu said he had sent a letter to the management of every institution about the transformation of higher education institutions.

Departmental workshops had been arranged with groups of "stakeholders" in higher education.

Mechanisms had proved to be effective to the extent that the guidelines provided had been implemented at institutions.

In terms of the various higher education Acts, these institutions were autonomous corporate bodies, Mr Bengu said.

The Department of Education would intervene if specifically asked to do so by the management of an institution or when an irretrievable breakdown seemed imminent.

Academics too tired and poor to keep up

By CHRIS BARRON

AN INTERNATIONAL survey last year showed that scientific research at South African universities was in a parlous state. Now a survey conducted by the Pretoria-based Federation for Research Development shows why.

Academics at 21 universities say that funding for research is inadequate and that the incentives for producing quality research are not good enough.

They say they are so bogged down teaching incompetent students basics they should already have grasped by the time they get to university that they don't have time for quality research.

And the research they do manage to do is hampered by outdated lab-

oratory facilities and technical equipment.

Those in charge of South Africa's top research universities, Cape Town and Wits, last year refused to accept that figures from the US Institute for Scientific Information showing they were publishing fewer research articles in the world's top science journals than before meant that they were losing their grip on quality research.

The figures showed that the number of research articles from UCT published and cited in 3 000 international journals had dropped from 837 to 527 between 1988 and 1993. At Wits they had fallen from 840 to 452.

It was this reluctance to acknowledge the facts that inspired the Federation for Research Develop-

ment survey. It was "necessary and relevant", said the federation's former president, Dr Reinhard Arndt, because universities "dispute the fact that research in South Africa is in decline".

Academics throughout South Africa called for more research funding by the private sector and complained that the burgeoning number of students who needed individual tuition because of poor schooling was making research impossible.

"The number of students in some courses is so high that the lecturers have no energy, time nor desire to do research," said one academic. "They are burnt out."

A constant refrain was that students' abilities in maths, science and English were "very poor".

The point was reinforced recently by an international survey on competitiveness which put South Africa last out of 46 countries in terms of standards in maths and science education.

Academics also complained that research was being inhibited by a growing practice on the part of department heads to demand acknowledgement in research papers in return for funding.

(54) ST 23/6/96

Turmoil on campus has cost SA R4,4m

BD 24/6/96
Wyndham Hartley

(54)

CAPE TOWN — Protesting students at SA's universities and technikons have caused more than R4m in damage in the past 18 months.

In reply to a parliamentary question on Friday, Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu said R4 437 604 damage was caused on 19 campuses.

Replying to IFP MP Farouk Cassim, Bengu said the hardest hit was Setlogelo Technikon where R1,6m damage had resulted from student protests.

Free State Technikon at R850 000, Border Technikon at R643 355 and the University of the Western Cape at R520 000 were the next worst affected. Protests were least destructive at Natal University, which suffered damage of R2 500, and Rhodes (R5 500).

Bengu said guidelines sent to managements at universities and technikons on how to deal with unrest appeared to have been effective. These involved the holding of workshops.

Tertiary institutions have, over the past year, been hit by student protests over the payment of fees.

Universities get R50m more

BARRY STREEK
POLITICAL WRITER

THE three universities in the Western Cape were given government subsidies of R479,3 million last year, R49,7m more than in 1994, Education Minister Dr Sibusiso Bengu has said.

Bengu said that R131,3m had been paid to 34 061 students under the National Student Financial Aid Scheme by April 1 this year.

The University of the Western Cape, where 2 563 students were granted assistance totalling R11,9m, was second, after the University of North-West where R24,9m was allocated to 3 885 students.

Replying to a question tabled in

the National Assembly by Mr Tembile Ntsizi (NP), Bengu said that the University of Cape Town received R195,9m in subsidies in 1995, compared to R175,1m in 1994.

Stellenbosch University was granted R179,6m, up from R177,5m the previous year, while the University of the Western Cape was given R104,1 m, compared to R97 m in 1994.

Pretoria University, which received R289,9m in 1995, received the largest subsidy.

Bengu gave details of the payouts from the National Student Financial Aid scheme when he replied to a question, which was tabled in the National Assembly by Dr Frik van Heerden (NP).

"Up to 40% of the award for

CT 24/6/96 (54)
each student was converted into a bursary at the end of the academic year and was dependent on success."

He said R8,6m was granted to 1 279 students at the University of Cape Town, R316 145 to 57 students at Stellenbosch University, R81 300 to 29 students at the Cape Technikon and R4m to 1 255 students at the Peninsula Technikon.

Replying to a question tabled in the National Assembly by Mr Farouk Cassim (IFP), Bengu said damage of R520 000 was done at the UWC campus in student protests.

No damage to property had occurred at other Western Cape tertiary institutions.

Students agree to code of conduct for campuses

PRETORIA CORRESPONDENT

Student leaders have agreed to formulate a code of conduct to govern campus protests following a warning from President Nelson Mandela that he will take firm action to end criminal behaviour at universities and technikons.

Speaking after meeting leaders of the SA Students' Congress (Sasco) at the Union Buildings, Mandela said he had hesitated to act since coming into office because he appreciated the problems the students were facing.

He wanted to refrain from using the security forces to bring about peace and order at universities because he wanted to avoid the high-handed action of the apartheid regime in dealing with genuine problems. "But the time has come for us now to take firm action," Mandela said.

He said the the private sector, which funded tertiary institutions,

Star 26/6/96
would become very reluctant to help universities and technikons where students damaged property. "I have appealed to Sasco to lead the process of getting students to use legitimate ways of protest - that is their democratic right - but to refrain from breaking the law. I can no longer tolerate that. If they continue to do that I will then be forced to take firm action," Mandela said.

Sasco president David Makhura said the organisation was looking forward to the education summit being convened by Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu next month as a means of accelerating transformation at campuses.

He expressed concern about the racial conflict and destruction of property at Pretoria Technikon that resulted from the hijacking of legitimate student grievances. "We have started a process where, at campus level, there will be agreed codes of conduct so that protest action is

(54)
within the framework of the law," Makhura said.

Forms of sanction against those who violated the code of conduct would also be agreed upon. However, crime on campuses was not only the result of student protest.

"Criminals have used campuses throughout the country as safe havens. They commit crime outside, they run into campuses, they stay in there, they bring in stolen cars," Makhura said. He did not want to elaborate on who was hijacking campus protests but said groups had been identified who refused to co-operate in solving student grievances.

Regarding the role of the police, Makhura said it was important that the SAPS should not be perceived to be playing a political role.

Earlier this month, after meeting university and technikon principals, Mandela hinted at giving the police greater access to campuses to deal with lawlessness.

Mandela issues a warning to students

Stephané Bothma

PRETORIA — President Nelson Mandela has warned that the private sector could withdraw its financial support for tertiary learning institutions if demonstrating students continued with the destruction of property.

Although he understood student grievances, Mandela said, he would no longer tolerate criminal action such as damage to property, assaults, the taking of hostages and the littering of campuses.

Addressing the media after a meeting with the Congress of SA Students at the Union Buildings yesterday, Mandela said if students continued with their unlawful actions, he would be forced to take firm action.

Students, he said, had the right to demonstrate and had genuine grievances, such as the pace of change at tertiary institutions. Because of his appreciation of these problems, he had in the past two years hesitated to take strong action.

He said strong action was not to be taken in cases of demonstrations in general, but only against transgressions of the law.

Mandela told Cosas that business played an important role in financing tertiary institutions.

"For students to damage that property means that the private sector is

going to be very reluctant to help institutions in future," Mandela said.

He had appealed to students to use legitimate ways of protest but to refrain from breaking the law.

Cosas leader David Makhura said his organisation shared Mandela's concerns about criminal action on campus and that Mandela's warning of firm action would be heeded.

Legitimate student demonstrations had often in the past been hijacked by perpetrators of racial conflict and people intent on damaging property.

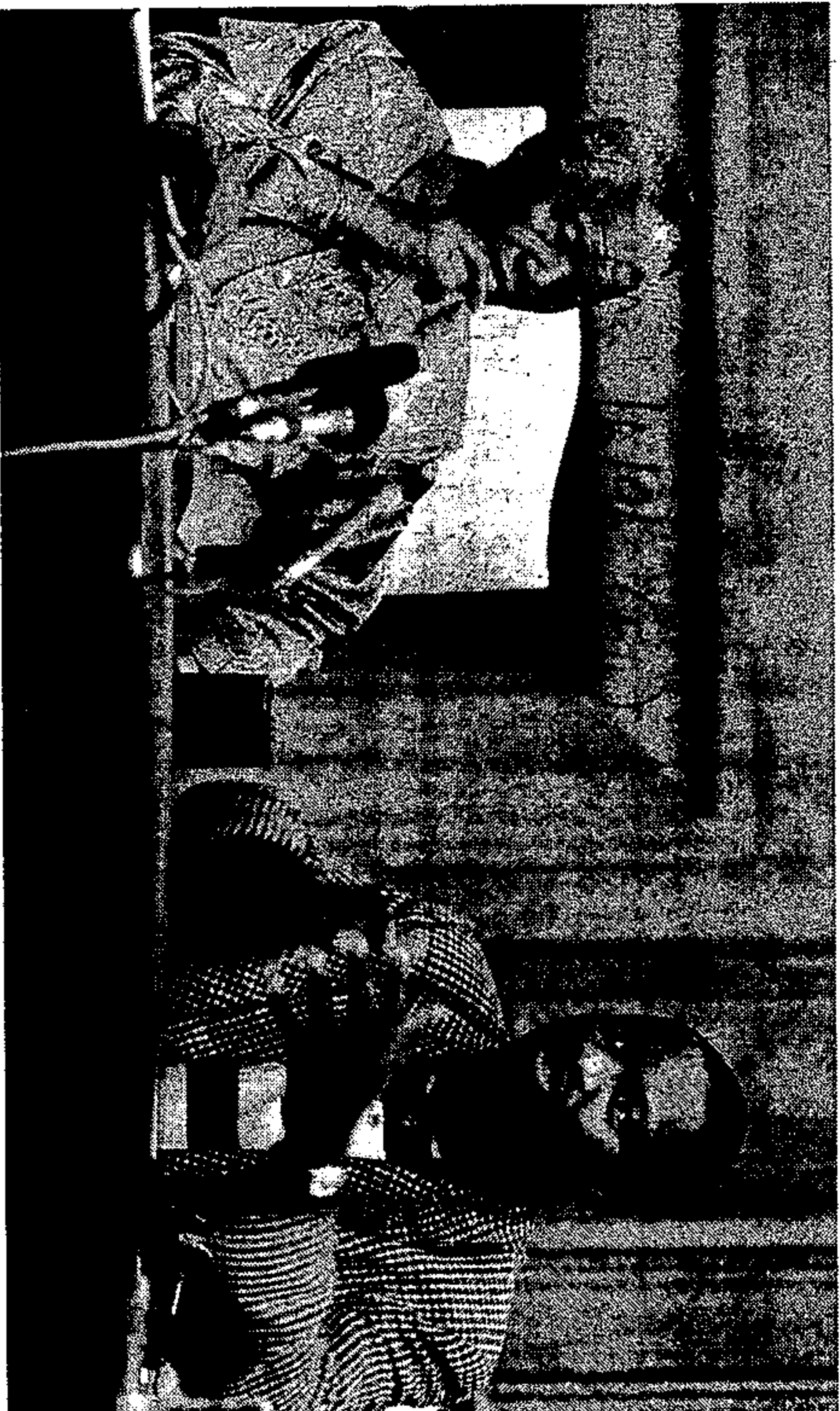
"We are going to lead the process of making sure that legitimate actions taken by students to express their frustrations are within the framework of the law," Makhura said.

For example, he said, student bodies were working on codes of conduct.

□ Sapa reports that the SA Students' Congress (Sasco) and Pan African Students' Congress had displayed responsible leadership on the Orange Free State University campus, dean of students Prof Teuns Verschoor told the campus newspaper Blitsnuus.

Their activities had differed markedly from what these organisations had demanded and done on other campuses, he said.

Threats by radical elements to make campuses that refused to transform ungovernable have not appeared on the Free State campus.



President Nelson Mandela and Congress of SA Students president David Makhura at a news conference Johannesburg yesterday on unrest on campuses.

Picture: GARTH LU

Kwazulu's constitution opposed by govt, ANC

Susan Russell

PD 26/6/96

THE ANC and the government of national unity have opposed certification of the Kwazulu-Natal constitution on the basis that many of its provisions are inconsistent with the interim con-

stitution. The province's government in turn recognises that its own constitution may not be inconsistent with the national constitution or the agreed constitutional principles.

Banks

Continued from Page

He said foreign exchange improved dramatically decided on May 17 to There was also co would happen to t shortage once Stand paid about R3bn in fo Standard Bank John Lloyd, also sp Bank's announcement

Makgoba still in the running for top post

BN 26/6/96 (54)

Ingrid Salgado

CONTRVERSIAL former Wits University deputy vice-chancellor William Makgoba says he would consider running for vice-chancellor should he have been nominated, and he believes the time is right for Wits to appoint its first black vice-chancellor.

Makgoba said yesterday he did not know whether he had been nominated. However, he would stand for the position which becomes vacant at the end of next year when vice-chancellor Robert Charlton retires — after taking advice from “the community”, should he have been nominated.

Makgoba, University of the North vice-chancellor Njabulo Ndebele and Wits deputy vice-chancellor June Sinclair are said to be candidates.

Makgoba had not applied for the position himself. “The last time I applied for a job was in 1976.”

He said Wits could not afford to wait a further five or 10 years before appointing a black candidate as vice-chancellor, one of the most lucrative academic positions in SA. Circumstances demanded a “fundamental change” at the institution. For 75 years, Wits had not been headed by anyone but a white.

If nominated, Makgoba looks likely to face stiff opposition from senior Wits academics, who accused him last year of embellishing his CV, bringing the university into disrepute due to his stance on transformation and failing to carry out his administrative duties. Some of the academics are expected to

form part of the selection committee.

The matter was resolved when Makgoba reached a settlement with most of his accusers. He resigned as deputy vice-chancellor to take up a senior research position at Wits, while the academics agreed he had not lied in his CV.

Of the settlement, Makgoba said: “I closed no options for myself. I ensured that my academic credentials were never questioned.”

However, the agreement resulted in Makgoba losing the support of students and workers, who felt he had sold them out on the transformation issue.

Makgoba believed his credentials were stronger than many other candidates. “Despite what happened, I know I’ve proved myself as a leader at some of the best institutions in the world.”

He said the selection process — beset with difficulties after management and students deadlocked on the composition of a selection committee — should take into account that overrepresentation by any party would instil fear and discomfort in other parties.

“One must realise that Wits is riddled with power and ideological struggles at this juncture ... I have no clear-cut answers except to say that in academic institutions, one would expect an academic voice to prevail and students and workers should accept that.”

University sources said yesterday that management and the Wits Transformation Front were engaged in discussions to resolve the stalemate. Shortlisted candidates would be chosen by the selection committee.

C
n
t
o
D
B
J
G
D
A
J

Students agree to rules for campus demos

Code of conduct to follow talks with Mandela
(54) ARG 26/6/96

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Student leaders have agreed to formulate a code of conduct to govern campus protests following a warning from President Mandela that he will take firm action to end criminal behaviour at universities and technikons.

Speaking after meeting leaders of the South African Students' Congress (Sasco) at the Union Buildings yesterday, Mr Mandela said he had hesitated to act since coming into office because he appreciated the problems facing students.

He wanted to refrain from using the security forces to bring about peace and order at universities because he wanted to avoid the high-handed action of the apartheid regime in dealing with genuine problems.

"But the time had come for us now to take firm action," he said.

Mr Mandela said the private sector, which funded tertiary institutions, would become

very reluctant to help universities and technikons where students damaged property.

"I have appealed to Sasco to lead the process of getting students to use legitimate ways of protest, that is their democratic right, but to refrain from breaking the law. I can no longer now tolerate that. If they continue to do that I will then be forced to take firm action," he said.

Sasco president David Makhura said the organisation was looking forward to the summit being convened by Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu next month as a means of accelerating transformation at campuses.

He expressed concern about the racial conflict and the destruction of property at the Pretoria Technikon which resulted from the hijacking of legitimate student grievances.

"We have started a process where at campus level there will be agreed codes of conduct so that protest action is within the framework of the law", Mr

Makhura said. Forms of sanction against those who violated the code of conduct would also be agreed upon.

However, crime on campuses was not only the result of student protest. "Criminals have used campuses throughout the country as safe havens. They commit crime outside, they run onto campuses, they stay in there, they bring in stolen cars", Mr Makhura said.

He did not want to elaborate on who was hijacking campus protests but said groups had been identified who refused to cooperate in solving student grievances.

Regarding the role of the police, Mr Makhura said it was important that police should not be perceived to be playing a political role.

Earlier this month, after meeting university and technikon principals, Mr Mandela hinted at giving the police greater access to campuses to deal with lawlessness at tertiary institutions.

Unisa panned as 'too white'

PRETORIA — The National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union and an academic body calling itself the Black Forum yesterday withdrew from Unisa's transformation steering committee (SLL) "there is a lack of commitment on the part of the management to engage in genuine transformation," the bodies said in a joint statement with the student representative council.

They criticised the committee for having too many white members "with a small and insignificant island of subdued and powerless black people".

Nehawu, Black Forum and the SRC undertook to set up a steering committee to oversee the transformation process. The SRC also demanded Unisa set up a broader transformation forum, and threatened mass action. **Sapa 27/6/96**

Lekota's 'authoritarian' style may bring dismissal

David Greybe

CAPE TOWN — Free State premier Patrick Lekota, embroiled in a power struggle with senior ANC provincial officials, could be axed because of his "authoritarian" leadership style, national ANC sources said yesterday.

A top-level ANC national delegation is scheduled to visit the Free State at the weekend and will discuss the matter with the full ANC provincial executive committee, ANC spokesman Ronnie Mannoepa said yesterday.

The delegation would consist of ANC treasurer-general Arnold Stoffie and fellow national working committee members Steve Tshwete and Joe Nhlamla, Mannoepa said. They were expected to report back to Deputy President Thabo Mbeki.

Mannoepa said it was an internal ANC matter, and he was not prepared to comment further.

According to ANC sources, the ANC at national level still hoped to, in the words of one, "get the two factions to work together". Lekota needed the support and backing of the provincial ANC to govern effectively, and the ANC needed the premier to implement its policies.

The sources said Lekota faced the sack as premier if he did not agree to consult the ANC provincial leadership on all future major pronouncements instead of acting unilaterally, as he had recently.

The latest twist in the political feud came last week when Lekota axed his MEC for transport, Ace Magashule, who is also ANC provincial deputy chairman.

Lekota said at the time Magashule had indicated he was not prepared to work under the premier's authority. According to media reports, Magashule and ANC provincial chairman Pat Matosa led an ANC provincial campaign to oust Lekota.

ANC national sources described the political rift between the two groups as serious. While Lekota was constitutionally and technically entitled to shuffle his cabinet without consultation, it was "ANC principle" to consult party structures.

Pat Matosa's 1994 victory over Lekota in the ANC provincial election was, some believed, behind the power struggle. According to New Nation, the Free State power struggle was said to be a build-up ahead of the ANC provincial congress in November.

So serious was the situation, the newspaper said, that Mbeki and Tshwete met Lekota after Matosa and Magashule presented their case against the premier to Mbeki in Cape Town this month.

Lekota was not at his desk yesterday and a spokesman said he was under orders not to comment until the matter had been resolved by the ANC national leadership.

Mandela urges speedier campus transformation

(54)

By Jovial Rantao

Political Correspondent

Nov 27/6/96

President Nelson Mandela expressed his concern yesterday about the slow pace of transformation at some tertiary institutions when he met principals from training colleges at the Union Buildings in Pretoria.

Mandela met the principals as part of a process to consult with all stakeholders in the education sector to raise the Government's concern regarding the level of violence on campuses as well as the snail's pace of the transformation of institutions.

At the meeting, the president called for the process of transformation to be speeded up and said the administration of institutions of higher learning needed to reflect South African society.

"The president reiterated that there cannot be proper learning until there is transformation and also emphasised that tough action will be taken against law breakers," presidential spokesman Parks Mankahlana said.

Mandela had already met with principals of universities and technikons, and representatives of student and youth organisations.

After a meeting with Mandela on Tuesday, leaders of the SA Students' Congress (Sasco) agreed to formulate a code of conduct to govern campus protests and end criminal behaviour.

Mandela said he wanted to refrain from using the security forces to bring about peace and order at universities in order to avoid the high-handed action of the apartheid regime in dealing with genuine problems.

The president warned that the private sector, which funded tertiary institutions, was becoming very reluctant to help universities and technikons.

Sasco president David Makhura assured Mandela that his organisation had started a process where there would be agreed codes of conduct.

Mandela's consultations with other youth and student organisations are expected to continue next week.

Ten arrested after tech vandalised

Nov 28/6/96

Ten students were arrested after the administration block at Technikon RSA in Roodepoort was vandalised during a demonstration yesterday, police said.

They said charges of malicious damage to property were being investigated. Damage to the building occurred during a demonstration by about 70 students.

Technikon spokesman Gerhard Grobler said they had been demanding the immediate resignation of a technikon staff member. - Sapa.

(54) (8)

Higher tuition should change

(54)

Sowetan 28/6/96

By Oupa Ngwenya

THAT tertiary education should be "transformed" no one in the tertiary sector seriously disputes. But what such an assertion commits tertiary institutions to is far from clear.

As a step towards finding clarity, Education Minister Mr Sibusiso Bhengu appointed a National Commission on Higher Education (NCHE). The thirteen commissioners appointed included Dr Jairam Reddy who serves in the capacity of chairperson and Dr Teboho Moja as executive director.

Having considered its terms of reference, submissions it received and the viewpoints that have been expressed in consultations, NCHE made a set of proposals for a future educational system.

Transformation

And to guide its thinking on the transformation of the system of higher education NCHE relied on six principles.

The first principle enunciated is about equity. This principle concerns the distribution of benefits which include education opportunities and privileges. The demands here are that such distribution should be impartial and fair.

This means that everyone qualifying on relevant grounds for the benefits in question should be treated equally. There should be no unjust differentiation or discrimination, in the sense of a disqualification of some people on irrelevant grounds such as race, colour or creed.

Measured against the yardstick of equity, the NCHE found the inherited system of higher education to be characterised by unjust inequalities, that is, imbalances in the distribution of opportunities and privileges resulting from racial and gender-biased policies, structures and practices.

Commission

For the principle of equity to apply, the commission considered two implications. One required a critical identification of the inequalities. The other necessitates development of a programme of transformation for purposes of providing redress.

The second principle regards democratisation. The motivation expressed here is that the ideal of democracy should not be confined to the realm of state politics, but is also "intended to permeate civil society and become



Executive director of NCHE Dr Teboho Moja

the hallmark of the way in which authority and power are exercised in every organisation or social spheres where the interests of citizens and the common good are at stake".

While the prime focus of the principle on development is the "mobilisation of the potential of all the resources of the country for the common good", the one on quality emphasises "the maintenance and application of academic standards, both in the sense of minimum expectations and requirements that should be complied with, and in the sense of ideas of excellence that should be striven for".

Retirement centre sold to university

(54) ARG 28/6/96
The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA. - The Nimmersat Retirement Centre, which was at the centre of drawn-out legal battles as the pensioner residents battled to keep their homes, has been bought by the University of Pretoria for hostel accommodation.

The centre, in Union Street, Riviera, was sold for R16 million.

The university said the centre would alleviate students' need for accommodation - especially those in the faculties of

medicine and dentistry.

Nimmersat has been at the centre of a battle between its residents - who invested their life savings in the project - and Boland Bank.

The more than 140 residents have been facing eviction since 1993 when developer Adolf Samuel Bosman was sequestered after his company, Erf 237 Riviera (Pty) Ltd, failed to meet payments on loans it owed Boland Bank.

Mr Bosman took out three loans, totalling R5,85-million, from Boland Bank between

1988 and 1992, but repaid only R4,2-million.

The 143 elderly people were given until October to find alternative accommodation.

It's up to the curator of the centre to give them a deadline to move out, said the spokesman.

He said the university made an offer to buy only after it had become clear that the alienation of Nimmersat was, in any case, an accomplished fact.

The university was highly sensitive on this issue, he said.

The spokesman said there

had been a pressing need for student accommodation for several years.

The university had built a hostel on the medical campus, but this could accommodate only 150 students and was insufficient.

"We considered building a second medical hostel on the campus or accommodating the students elsewhere.

"We want to renovate the centre and hope to move in the students in January next year," said the university spokesman.

Do away with Eurocentric traditions, says new UCT boss

MXOLISI MGXASHE
Staff Reporter

(54)
ARG 29/6/96

SOME of the recent upheavals at tertiary institutions had been caused by maladministration and a Eurocentric academic environment, said Daniel Ngcayiyana, one of the two new deputy vice chancellors-of the University of Cape Town.

Professor Ngcayiyana, 56, formerly editor of the South African Medical Journal, and John Martin, formerly the dean of engineering at UCT, replaced Mamphela Ramphele and David Woods as deputy vice-chancellors of the university.

This followed Dr Ramphele's appointment as vice-chancellor of UCT and Professor Woods' appointment as vice-chancellor of Rhodes University.

In an interview with SATURDAY Argus this week, Professor Ngcayiyana, who is also chairman of the University of Durban Westville council, said it was important that tertiary institutions did away with Eurocentric traditions.

They should accommodate the diverse cultures in the country so that the process of transformation could be completed successfully.

He was not certain which responsibilities would be assigned to him. If he could choose he would prefer working in human resources development, students affairs or with the medical faculty.

Professor Ngcayiyana's directorship of the Anglo American Corporation could help in obtaining funds for needy students.

He is also a member of the National Commission on Higher Education.

He is an expert in conflict resolution and mediation, a skill he is using to help solve the current crisis on the campus of the University of Durban Westville.

Professor Ngcayiyana is married and has six children and five grandchildren.



Picture: JACK LESTRADE.

ISFORMATION: Daniel Ngcayiyana, who was appointed recently as one of deputy vice-chancellors of the University of Cape Town, believes UCT is other universities in the process of transformation in the new South Africa.

NCHE working on education system

(54) Sowetan 1/7/96

By Victor Mecoamere

THE National Commission on Higher Education has started to work on the final report on the best proposals for a transformed education system.

The commission is expected to submit the report to Minister of Education Professor Sibusiso Bengu in August. President Nelson Mandela appointed the commission in January last year to advise the Government on issues that concerned the restructuring of higher education.

The commission, which was originally expected to submit the report in July, is also holding a series of meetings in July to go through the various comments and critiques that it has received since it started a range of feedback meetings with various stakeholders in April.

These include student and teacher organisations in South Africa and abroad and local provincial education departments, most of whom had a problem with the time given to analyse and respond to

the NCHE's discussion document and its limited consultations with stakeholders.

Ignored calls

It (commission) has ignored calls for an extension of the consultation process and the postponement of the submission date.

NCHE publicist Mr Dries van Heerden said: "The commission was originally given two years to complete its final report."

But Bengu had requested that the submission date be brought forward due to pressing government needs for a speedy conclusion of various strategic policy matters.

A spokesman for the NCHE has said that the commission was happy with the outcome of the consultation process.

"We met with all the important stakeholders and held meetings in a number of major regional centres," he said. "I believe we have reached a degree of consensus and understanding of the concerns of stakeholders."

Unisa steering committee ready to form transformation forum

Star 2/7/96
By SUSAN MILLER

Staff representatives on an executive steering committee at the University of South Africa (Unisa) have stressed their readiness to immediately proceed with the formation of a transformation forum at that institution.

The representatives, from all faculties and organisations at Unisa, expressed their commitment to meeting a new group comprised of the National Education and Health Allied Workers Union (Nehawu), the

Black Forum and the universities' National Students Representative Council (NSRC).

The staff representatives said they would be available for a meeting with the new group during the first week of July.

All three organisations pulled out of a transformation steering committee because they alleged it was white-dominated and lacked commitment from management for genuine transformation.

Negotiations on transformation at Unisa have been continuing over a

(54)
number of months with the latest delay being caused by the three organisation's withdrawal.

The staff representative welcomed the formation of a new group but said much of the delay in progress had been caused by the refusal of organised student groupings to enter into discussions about transformation.

They stressed they as staff representatives had been identified and elected through a "transparent and democratic process" endorsed by Nehawu and the Black Forum.

UCT online,
a first for SA

(54)
Prospective students wishing to study at the University of Cape Town can obtain application forms at UCT via the World Wide Web. The system will provide access to the relevant forms and supporting material, and at the same time cut administration times and costs. Students can download the forms and complete them on a home computer. Forms can be found at <http://www.uct.ac.za/admin/admissions/uctapply.html>. UCT is believed to be the first South African university to provide this facility. - Sapa.

Stan 2/9/96

Maimela hits out at Unisa

(54) Sowetan 3/7/96

By Josias Charle

VICE-PRINCIPAL of the University of South Africa Professor Simon Maimela has criticised the institution for failing to implement a transformation process.

"A lot of times I feel torn between my loyalty to the institution I love and the concerns of my black colleagues.

"Yet being alone in top management I feel powerless because there is absolutely nothing I can do to single-handedly expedite transformation at Unisa," Maimela told *Sowetan* yesterday.

He said his frustrations stemmed from the slow process of transforming the university.

This was in spite of the fact that the university council had, 18 months ago, resolved to set in

motion a transformation process.

"The situation of being in a minority and often sidelined by colleagues in management has led me to reconsider seriously my position at Unisa.

"Indeed, three times during the last 18 months I decided to resign my position but was advised by close colleagues not to throw in the towel yet.

Feel helpless

"I do not know how long I can hold on because being a single person I feel totally helpless to turn the institution around and therefore feel compromised because mine is now seen as a token appointment."

He said that even though Unisa had introduced an affirmative action process two years ago, there was little strategic planning regarding appointments.

Row over selection delays choice of Wits University chief

By SUSAN MILLER

Academics and management at the University of the Witwatersrand are no closer to choosing a new vice-chancellor because they cannot agree with workers and students on who should sit on the selection panel.

Time is running out for the committee to shortlist three candi-

dates. The new vice-chancellor is supposed to be appointed by the end of next year. The appointee is intended to spend at least a year working with the present incumbent, Professor Robert Charlton.

SRC president Tiyani Mohlaba said yesterday that students and workers wanted academics to make up only 50% of the selection committee.

(54) Stan 4/7/96
The groups met late yesterday afternoon but no decision was taken, said Mohlaba. He said talks were to continue next week.

Senior university staff have pointed out that the vice-chancellor must be a respected academic with a proven track record.

"A large part of the successful candidate's role will be linked to academia and it is imperative that

academics therefore have the most say in who is appointed," staff members said.

Currently, academics hold 16 seats on the 29-member senior appointments selection committee.

The deadline for applications for the position closed weeks ago and the university management has stressed the importance of appointing a successor speedily.

University's iron lady has a vision for Wits ⁽⁵⁴⁾

I do not believe this job is about popularity as much as it is about respect and integrity, says vice-chancellor candidate

Star 5/7/96

LYNSAY YOUNG



By SUSAN MILLER

The most commonly held television image of Prof June Sinclair, currently Wits deputy vice-chancellor and confederate for the position of vice-chancellor, is of her standing alone and facing a raging group of students and workers who had just petrol-bombed and trashed the campus in 1993.

Sinclair, in her capacity as acting vice-chancellor, suffered extreme verbal abuse, but gained respect by single-handedly calming the crowd.

She gained media attention when she got a Supreme Court in-

terdict and called the police on to campus and had some of the alleged perpetrators arrested.

Sinclair stressed at a breakfast organised by the Wits Business School yesterday that she believed she had acted with integrity and in line with President Mandela's recent recommendations.

Openly declaring her candidacy for the job of vice-chancellor, she said she had to "hold the fort" for Prof Robert Charlton who is retiring at the end of next year.

Sinclair's commitment to the University of the Witwatersrand which she joined as a law lecturer in 1970, is clear.

She served as dean of the fac-

ulty of law from 1986 to 1990, was made deputy vice-chancellor in 1991 and vice-principal in 1993.

Sinclair emphasised at the breakfast that she was not speaking as Charlton's deputy but as a candidate for his job.

She said she had not always agreed with the compromises made by the administration over the past few years, because "you cannot let rampant violence happen on campus".

"I am not a populist and do not believe this job is about popularity as much as it is about respect and integrity".

Addressing the question of affirmative action, Sinclair said she

hoped the institution would choose the vice-chancellor on merit as the job was not about "political correctness".

She stressed that she wanted the institution to "transform", but said she had a much broader interpretation of "transformation" than the current political interpretation of this word and she set out her ideas for transformation.

"I agreed with the re-constitution of the council. However, Senate, which is made up of full professors, cannot be changed so quickly because apartheid's legacy has left us with not enough black senior academics. That is why we have to concentrate on

developing our black post-graduates so they can take their rightful place on Senate," she said.

"The job is not about politics but about leadership and a vision to transform Wits into a modern city campus," she said. "We have failed to take advantage of our location in the city and have not exploited our position in the industrial heart of SA.

"We must become a world-class university located in SA and make major changes towards identifying our market", she said. ■ The Wits Council agreed at its meeting on June 21 that the selection of the vice-chancellor would have to proceed after July 19.

Candidate ... Prof June Sinclair!

Nelson Mandela calls unruly campuses to order, but can the ANC recreate its 'organic link' with the student movement?

Students choke on their own anger

MTG 5-11/7/96

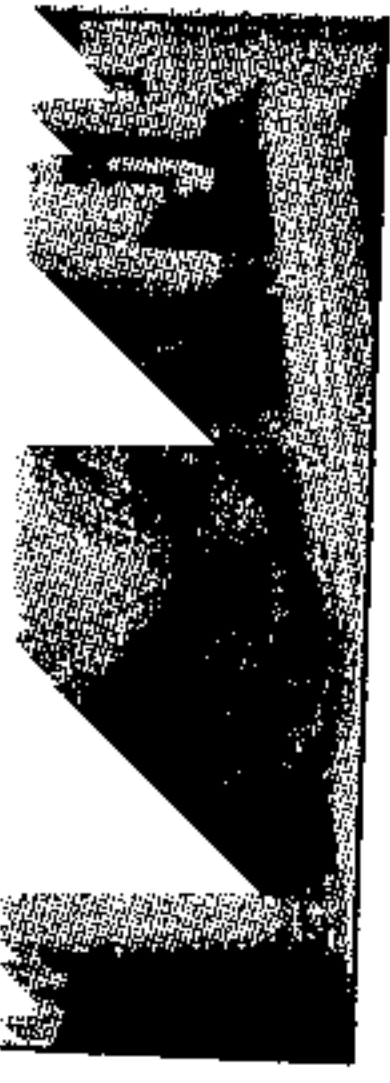
(54)

What students themselves say

"During the apartheid era there was no channel for negotiation. Now that there is such a channel, students don't have to protest immediately, when something is wrong" — Benedict Radebe, 19, BSc first year



"A lot of the protesting isn't justified. Here at Wits, it hasn't been about genuine student grievances, but more about a power struggle between students and authorities. A lot of protesters are concerned with replacing top management at the university. The protesting is more racially polarised now than before 1990." — James Hamilton, 26, member of staff and student



PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela's gentle but persistent finger-wagging at student organisations has met with reluctant nods in some quarters and outright rejection of the "Madiba magic" in others.

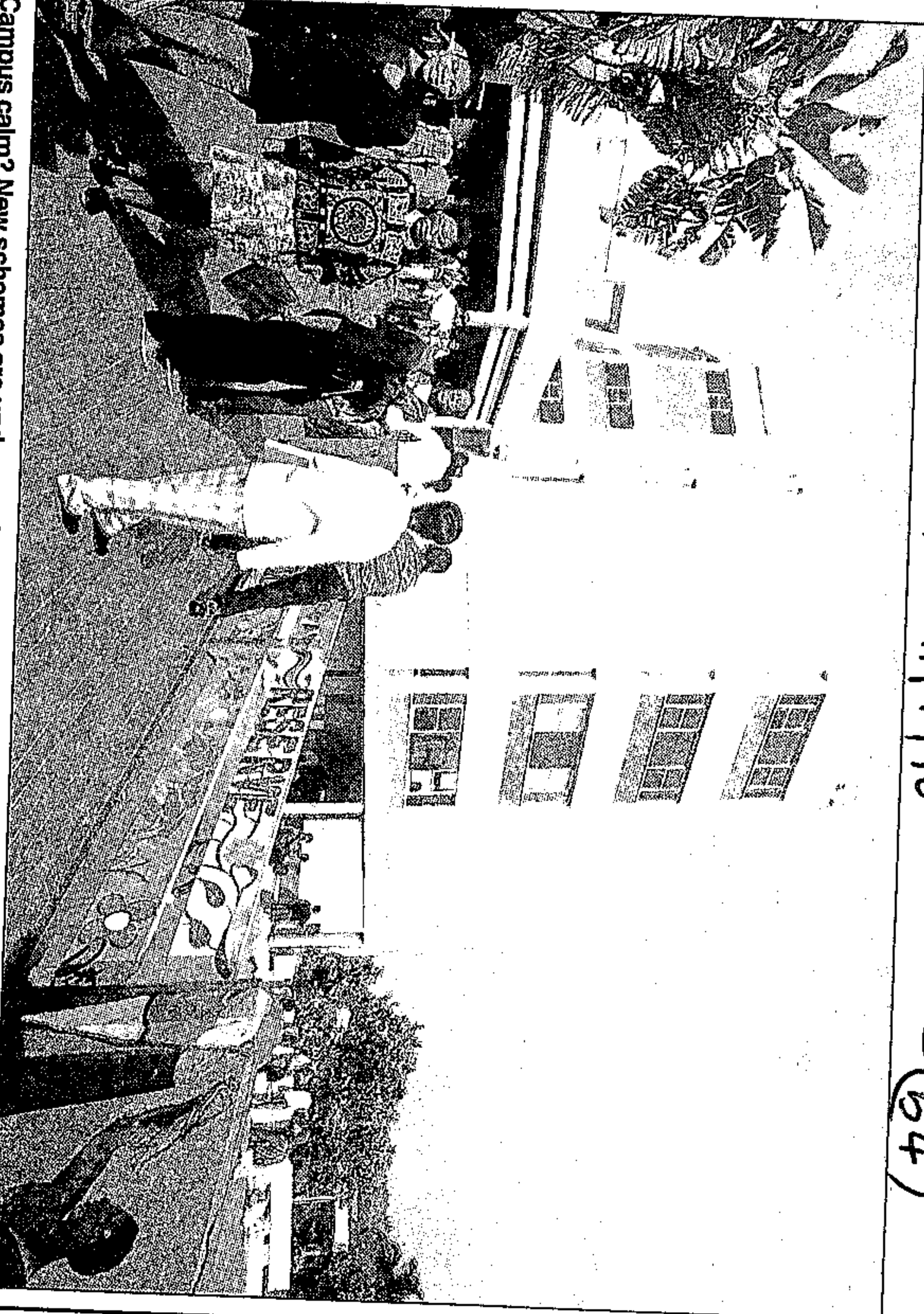
But his moves have clearly signalled that the romantic liaison between the African National Congress and its campus foot soldiers is coming to an end. The ANC, as the governing party, now reacts to civil disobedience with veiled panic rather than warm applause.

Student organisations, in growing confusion and disorganisation at having to fight a smaller foe in institutional managements and not "the enemy state", have turned inward, choking on their anger at a government which, though supported by them, has yet to reward them.

Worried about the potential flight of capital from our traumatised institutions of higher learning, Mandela has called students to order, warning that the destruction of property will be met with police action, while acknowledging with trademark diplomacy the seriousness of their problems.

But he is not "calling to order" a disciplined mass of loyal students sleept in organisational politics.

Today's students mobilise in swift protest around their own "bread and butter" issues of fees and exams but remain disorganised and dislocated from wider social goals. And their



Campus calm? New schemes are under way to attempt to raise funds for students

PHOTOGRAPH: DAVE BUZZARD

Donors not put off by protests

Philippa Garson

VERSAS donors are still investing in higher education. But the high-profile group of businessmen and academics — headed by Dr Nthato Motlana — demand for student loans and business financing, was also out of the country during the launch.

But acting director general John Samuel said the groundwork had already been done in convincing

VERSAS donors are still investing in higher education. But the high-profile group of businessmen and academics — headed by Dr Nthato Motlana —



"I haven't really been affected by it. But education is where things happen, so you expect these kinds of results. Most students here want to study, and the group who is protesting is a small one. The issue of financial exclusion isn't valid — everyone has to pay to come here, and it's hard for a lot of people to find jobs, but there's no way around it." — **Bridget Madison, student**

"The new government justifies protesting, but only if you protest the way they want you to." — **Joshua Mushi, 22, BA Hons**

"I think Mandela is trying to satisfy white South Africans." — **Sam Matimela, 21, Mechanical Engineering 3rd year**



"During the Eighties students could hope for very little, but now students feel that if they partake in protest action, it could have a bad influence on their careers. There is an individualistic approach now. Students want to get on with their studies, get a degree, and join the commercial world. Student politics are on the decline, and from what I've seen, things won't change." — **Lawrence Khoza, 24, Hons Political Science**

protest has turned uglier. The gentle banner-waving marches of multihued students have been replaced by unco-ordinated action and campus trashing by black students, sometimes pitted against whites.

The rest are a "careerist" bunch, as one student leader put it. Those who can afford to, get on with their studies without much regard for the community around them. Many of them, graduates of Model C schools are the "Pepsi generation" — individualists at home in traditionally white institutions. And white students — except the rightwingers — have all but vanished from the political scene.

But the first group is the thorn in the side of government and the ANC clearly perceives the danger in the growing distance between itself and those in the charging lines of today's messy form of student protest.

While they may be laughed off as the "Azanian Fraternity", as some students refer to the increasingly vocal, if numerically small, Azanian Students Congress and Pan Africanist Student Organisation, the government is keenly aware that in the mass of disillusioned students these organisations may find a potential support base.

ANC Youth League national president Malusi Gigaba alludes to this concern, saying his organisation "has committed errors in not taking effective leadership of students to ensure that students demands don't get hijacked by people shouting high-sounding revolutionary slogans."

Steps are being taken, he says, "to recreate the organic link between the ANC and the student movement". This won't be easy in today's climate where the student profile has radically changed. "The large majority of them have not been involved in community struggle before," he says.

"In the past, the struggles were also about bread-and-butter issues but there was a sense of connection with the broader community strug-

escalation of violent protest and crime on campuses would scare them off.

The executive director of the Tertiary Education Fund of South Africa, Roy Jackson, said he would be "very surprised" if the campus turmoil "didn't cause a great deal of reservation and trepidation with those giving that kind of money" but said he was not aware of any withdrawal of money so far.

Swiss, American and British donors have injected close to R20-million this year into student loans to top up the R300-million raised by government. But an estimated R650-million or more is needed in total, to meet the

gives. I hardly think the students are making this connection at the moment. If they did, they would know that to achieve their demands they have to struggle in a way that mobilises the sympathy of the public as a whole," says Gigaba, slating the campus trashing.

"We were part of the struggles against apartheid. But at no stage in our protest action did we vandalise those ivory towers. Violence did not become a substitute for struggle."

Meanwhile, Paso president Ignatius Molapo emerged from a meeting with Mandela this week unimpressed with "Madiba magic". Students, he says, have been "co-opted by the neo-liberal system of negotiation and dialogue" but the government has not helped them develop the tools for this new terrain.

"We are sick of being told things are in the pipeline. People are talking big, employing consultants, making money, but nothing has changed for the ordinary people."

He cites the "beginning of a phase of government clampdown on student activism" and his response to the likelihood of more police activity on campus is fierce. "We will fight the police. We have fought them

founded last year to raise funds for students by lobbying the private sector and devise policy to make student financing sustainable — has yet to deliver.

The committee, previously called the Eminent Persons Group, has not raised any money yet or come up with a financially viable way of running the scheme. The initial response of Motlana, who was out of the country during the official launch of the student financing scheme last week, was "What's that?" when asked about the group and its progress.

Education director-general Chabane Manganyi, head of the government's advisory committee on

many times. This is not a new terrain for students," he says, adding that "it is very difficult" to stop students from trashing campuses when they don't feel a part of them.

It may be left to the radical left in Paso and Azasco to voice outright opposition to the government's "failure to deliver higher education" and Mandela's threat to bring police on campus.

But Sasco, while aligned to the ANC, appears increasingly uncomfortable with its "yes, Mr President" role.

And this is not surprising, since it risks losing support from an increasingly disaffected section of the population who is not in the mood to stand up and sing praise songs to the government.

"We won't toe the government line. Our duty as the student movement is to be critical of the government, including a government we have elected. But we will continue to support social and political movements which voice the same concerns we have," says Sasco president David Makhuru.

But Sasco, the largest student organisation, is impatient at the perceived lack of support from govern-

With a new financing scheme. While discussions had been held with the banking sector, no policy options were on the table yet, he said.

Jackson said significant steps had already been taken in making the financing scheme more sustainable, including the introduction of a one percent interest rate on loans, a faster pay-back system and a new incentive scheme that converts 40% of student loans into bursaries for those students that pass.

"Now there's a carrot. It's dangling there, saying, do well and we'll knock off a percentage of your loan," said Jackson.

ment over its financial woes and fights with conservative university and technician administrations. "We've been fighting these battles on our own. The ministry has been standing far away from this," says Makhuru.

He admits to problems in the student movement, but pleads for mercy. "If we are to be judged as a weak student movement, we must be judged by different criteria." Today's times demand negotiation and leadership skills from students, not the rather easier skills of protest. "In the past it was fine to shout slogans," he says.

Does the **lord** of disharmony struck between government and student groups signal the start of a government clampdown on student protest and withering of student activism as has happened in many other African and Latin American countries after independence?

"This might happen in South Africa," says Makhuru. "But we are optimistic that the democratic movement is strong enough to resist it." Makhuru does not discount a future scenario where the "imperatives of economic growth force the government to clamp down on labour and student movements."

Students blamed for Unisa delays

(54) Sowetan 5/7/96

By Josias Charle

THE University of South Africa has blamed student organisations for causing the delay in establishing a transformation forum at the institution.

The university's principal, Professor Marinus Wiechers, said yesterday that unpreparedness on the part of students had caused the delay.

Reacting to a stinging statement by his deputy, Professor Simon Maimela, earlier this week in which he criticised the university for failing to transform itself, Wiechers said the university had in 1995 established a steering committee in 1995 to constitute its own transformation forum.

"It is true that up to now the university has not succeeded in establishing a transformation forum. But it must be stated that the absence of such a forum is not due to a lack of commitment or enthusiasm on the part of the university.

"After the most arduous efforts,

mainly by Professor Maimela himself, to mobilise Unisa's more than 130 000 students to organise themselves into active representation, the elected student bodies, for reasons never clearly expressed, remained recalcitrant," Wiechers said.

He also said his response to Maimela was not aimed at refuting his argument or contradicting his personal views. "As a respected colleague who has contributed immeasurably to the changes and reforms which have taken place at Unisa, he is entitled to his own views."

Wiechers said his response was also not aimed at defending Unisa or its management.

"Through its engagement in affirmative action programmes of equity and excellence, the university has since 1994 appointed more meritorious people from the identified disadvantaged groups than has ever occurred in its previous years of existence."

was fair — Sinclair

Ingrid Salgado BDe 7/96 (54)

WITS University deputy vice-chancellor June Sinclair believed that her disciplinary actions at the height of student tensions at the university in 1993 had been "scrupulously fair" but she wanted, however, to dilute the public's image of her as simply the person who had "called in police" when students demonstrated.

Sinclair, who has been nominated to replace outgoing vice-chancellor Robert Charlton, was speaking at a Wits Business School seminar yesterday. Referring to a 1993 Supreme Court interdict she obtained prohibiting students from staging protests on campus, Sinclair said: "It was a hard thing to do and it saddened me."

Students called for Sinclair's resignation as a result of the interdict. She realised she was unpopular among students she had disciplined, but "popularity is not necessarily crucial for the vice-chancellorship". Even President Mandela had taken a hard line against students who damaged property and resorted to violence.

Sinclair said she had not always agreed with the compromises that the university struck with students, such as when the administration relented in its decision to expel certain students and dismiss workers. "Protest action degenerated into unacceptable behaviour... We must either condone that kind of behaviour or not," she said.

Her vision of a transformed institution would see Wits becoming a modern city university that ensured "multiple interactions" with its students. It should discharge its responsibilities as a publicly funded institution in order to make a contribution to reconstruction and development through quality education.

Sinclair said government's financial aid allocations to students was crippling tertiary education. Research and instruction budgets had dropped substantially, with good academics leaving the sector due to poor salaries. Yet these problems did not suggest that Wits should not do "whatever it can" to undo the ravages of apartheid.

'Powers of traditional leaders being eroded'

Susan Russell BDe 5/7/96

Winnie Madikizela Mandela, submitted that the new constitution failed to comply with the constitutional principles because it provided no role for traditional leaders in government at any level.

"The constitutional principles are very clear and unambiguous," Nonkonyana said. "I could have been fooled," Judge Ishmael Mohamed retorted.

Nonkonyana told the court Contralesa also objected to the provision for the horizontal application of the Bill of Rights instead of restricting its application to relationships between the state and citizens. Horizontal application would have a negative effect on traditional values and norms, he said.

He submitted that while the constitutional principles entrenched the role of traditional leaders in all tiers of government, the constitution provided absolutely no role for them in this respect.

Nonkonyana said this was an attempt to render traditional structures irrelevant, so that they died a natural death.

Holomisa said that while the new constitution recognised the authority of other courts in the country, including the Supreme Court and magistrate's courts, the same recognition was not afforded to those presided over by traditional leaders. The traditional courts should have been expressly mentioned, he said.

He said the constitution made it permissible and not obligatory for future governments to provide a role for traditional leaders in government.

In reply, Marumo Moerane for the Constitutional Assembly said the assembly had attempted to solve the problem by formulating the provisions contained in the constitution, which he submitted complied with the required constitutional principles.

THE role of traditional leaders should not only be recognised but also explicitly protected in the new constitution, counsel for the IFP David Unterhalter told the Constitutional Court yesterday.

He said the new text contained no entrenched protection of the role of traditional leaders in local government at all. Failure to do so amounted to non-compliance with the constitutional principles agreed on during the Kempton Park negotiations, he said, since these had provided for both recognition and protection of the institution, status and role of traditional leadership.

The IFP was one of a number of groups, including the CP, Volkstaat Council and the Congress of Traditional Leaders of SA (Contralesa) which submitted objections to what they contend is the new constitution's non-compliance with principles providing for self-determination and the role of traditional leaders.

George Bizos said on behalf of the Constitutional Assembly that the constitutional principle setting out the conditions for self-determination did not place a strong obligation on the CA to give effect to it. The principle contained conditions for self-determination which might be met in the future and was kept alive as part of the "solemn pact" between the negotiating parties at Kempton Park.

Hercules Booysen for the Volkstaat Raad said that to comply with the constitutional principles, some form of self-determination for Afrikaners had to be written into the new constitution. Self-determination did not mean secession.

Traditional leaders Chiefs Mwelo Nonkonyana and Phathekile Holomisa, accompanied to court by Contralesa treasurer

Whither higher education in SA?

(54) Sowetan 10/7/96

By Tag William

Black students claim Government is not redressing racial imbalances

HIGHER EDUCATION in South Africa is in a crisis as students at universities and technical colleges angrily call for radical reform.

So far the University of Durban-Westville has had to be closed and mid-year examinations at several institutions postponed. Violent clashes also erupted between black and white students at Pretoria Technikon in May.

The Government appears confused. Bureaucrats have condemned the students, while politicians are terse and cautious. Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu has appointed commissions of inquiry into broader allegations of racism and delays in reform.

"We need proper managers who are serious about change, otherwise student unrest will take us into the next century," Bengu told heads of 15 colleges recently. "We need leadership that places emphasis on facilitation, negotiation and conflict management skills."

Racial imbalances

The students claim that the principals of most institutions are not keen to redress racial imbalances. But the main issues go beyond increased numbers of black students and the appointment of progressive principals.

The Government allocates R300 million for loans and bursaries, but student leaders believe this is too little to meet demands.

The South African Students Congress says the financial predicament of blacks threatens their future, as colleges refuse to allow them into examination rooms until they pay.

"Black students have no money and this is why many are refusing to give up the fight for transformation," says Sasco president David Makhura.

He says administrators at formerly white universities are still trapped in their racist past, and claims rectors at several Afrikaans universities and colleges "favour white rightwing student



Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu ... he is investigating allegations of racism and delays in reform at tertiary institutions.

groups and sometimes initiate racial confrontation".

Whenever there are problems, he says, these administrators call the police. "Sasco believes higher education issues are too complex for the police and they should not interfere in campus conflict." He says the vandalism that is taking place is political.

South African universities have never been removed from politics, says Heinrich Bohmke of the University of Durban-Westville's staff association.

"Whether they were breeding grounds for the Broederbond race theory, a sanctuary for the great unwashed liberals or a place of apology for ban-tustan freeloaders, universities were always close to the political pulse of South Africa," he says.

Colleges admit there is a problem but differ with students on how to solve it. They say they understand that the system is uneven, riddled with inequalities and inefficiencies.

"But we can't change it overnight," says Mervin Kobus, a lecturer at the

Johannesburg College of Education. This sentiment is echoed by another formerly white institution, the Pretoria Technikon.

"We agree that the composition of students is still severely skewed. But we have seen vast changes in our structures, admission policies and race relations," says a spokesman.

An opposite, angry view is taken by Aslam-Mxolisi Tawana, chairman of the Azanian Front, a student organisation made up of black consciousness and Pan Africanist Congress supporters.

"Their main fear is that standards will drop if they admit more black people on campus. That is rubbish."

South Africa has 21 universities, 15 technical schools and 140 colleges. The ratio of blacks to whites at these institutions has not changed significantly during the past two years.

Eliminate disparities

A Government study into higher education, published in April, recommends the establishment of a council to draft a policy to eliminate the disparities.

Student organisations say that 67 whites are enrolled for each black in the sciences at college. Without intervention, they believe, these imbalances will continue.

The National Commission on Education has warned that the current crisis will continue unless the state intervenes.

The biased college system has been further compounded by entrance requirements which disqualify blacks, says the commission, because "their matric results in many instances bear little relation to their ability to cope with higher education".

Because of the complexities of the current crisis, the Government is unlikely to take a tough stance. The crisis is yet another of the problems facing South Africa. - *Africa Information Afrique.*

Educor raises presence in private tertiary education

(54) ET (PR) 11/7/96

By Marc Hasenfuss

CAPE EDITOR

Cape Town — Education Investment Corporation (Educor) has strengthened its grip on the high-growth private tertiary education sector by snapping up 60 percent of the Graduate Institute of Management and Technology for R21 million.

Educor will settle the deal by issuing 7 million shares at R3 a share. The institute will renounce 4,4 million of the shares in favour of various institutions.

Andy Andrews, a former dean of the Wits Business School, founded the institute in 1989 to meet the demand for a worldwide business school offering internationally accepted qualifications. Andrews will be appointed to Educor's board.

The institute has 700 MBA students and 2 000 students registered in its corporate training programmes, making it the second-largest business school in South Africa.

It boasts a blue-chip corporate client base that includes Investec, Tiger Oats, LTA, Nampak, Nestlé, Metro Cash & Carry and Mercedes-Benz.

The institute offers courses on site or at its training facilities at Midrand. It is affiliated to the Henley Management College, which is based in Britain. Henley operates in 22 countries.

Johann Brummer, the chairman of Educor, said the deal added

another established brand name to its stable. The company, which has attracted considerable investor interest since being recently listed separately from its parent Housewares, also operates Damelin, Midrand Campus, Eden and Allenby Campus.

"The demand for adult education is clearly evidenced by the commercial world's subscription to the philosophy of lifelong learning," he said.

Brummer said the deal was not expected to have a significant effect on Educor's earnings a share in the year to December 31, but would contribute to earnings in ensuing years.

Assuming the deal were effective at the beginning of the current financial year and that the majority of the institute's income accrued in the first half, Brummer estimated that Educor's forecast earnings would have been lifted 10 percent to 7,2c a share. Educor closed at R3,45 on the JSE yesterday, sharply up from the listing price of R2,60.

Nielen Brummer, the chief executive of Educor, said the company would continue looking at further acquisitions, especially in high-quality companies.

He said though Educor was talking to one or two companies, no deals were pending and the company's main thrust this year would still be through organic growth.

He said all Educor's operations were performing to expectations. The company will report its interim results to June shortly.

MEC acts on illegal colleges

Ingrid Salgado

THE Gauteng health department is taking steps to close down fly-by-night nursing colleges in the province after it was discovered that at least two unregistered, illegal institutions had taken more than R100 000 from unsuspecting nursing students.

The Nurses League of Southern Africa had been running training operations under the names of the Charles Hurwitz TB Hospital and the Contemporary Nursing Academy in central Johannesburg, health MEC Amos Masondo disclosed yesterday.

Charles Hurwitz had ignored warnings not to commence training after the SA Nursing Council rejected its accreditation while the council was "not even aware" that the academy existed. The league had taken between R400 and R800 from each of more than 200 enrolled students.

Legal action was being taken against the league, Masondo said.



Gauteng health MEC Amos Masondo at a news conference in Johannesburg yesterday where he announced that he is to take action against a number of fly-by-night nursing colleges in Gauteng.

Picture: GARTH LUMLEY

54
BD 11/7/96

4 SOUTH AFRICA

(54)

MTG 12-18/7/96

Ndebele not in the race for Wits job

Philippa Garson

PROFESSOR Njabulo Ndebele appears to be out of the race for one of the country's top academic jobs — the post of Wits University vice-chancellor.

Ndebele, a keen favourite among a broad spectrum of academics and students, has neither applied for the job nor accepted any nomination.

If Ndebele remains out of the competition, Wits University may see a familiar fight revisited between opposing factions in the university, with the more conservative academics backing candidate deputy vice-chancellor June Sinclair and students and workers pushing for political scientist Sam Nolutshungu.

The two appear to be the only other hopefuls for what many describe as "one of the most difficult jobs" — steering institutions where transition is proving to be particularly stressful.

Ndebele's assistant John Wiltshire said if Ndebele "has been nominated, it is without his official sanction. Although there have been approaches from the Wits office there has been no official contact with the university." Ndebele has also told friends he is happy with the progress he is making at the University of the North, which he currently heads.

But some interpret his continued silence as a sign that he has left the door open for potential head hunters. He has not publicly stated his refusal to run for the job.

Nothing can happen until agreement on the selection procedures has been found among the university's



June Sinclair: Vigorous campaign

different groups. Council chairman Justice Fikile Bham said negotiations were still in progress but he hoped a new agreement over selection procedures would be put to council at a specially convened meeting next week.

Sinclair has meanwhile embarked on a vigorous campaign which some academics have criticised as "jumping the gun" since candidates have not yet been short-listed. At a breakfast at Wits Business School last week Sinclair sketched her vision for the university as a modern city campus.

She told the *Mail & Guardian* this week she did this in her capacity as a candidate for the position of vice-chancellor. "As a deputy vice-chancellor it would not have been appropriate but as a candidate it was expected of me."

Nolutshungu has a long history of association with liberation politics. He currently heads the political science department at Rochester University in the United States and although he is considered to be a fine academic, he lacks the administrative experience of Sinclair.

Former deputy vice-chancellor William Malegapuru Makgoba is also in the running for the post, but without the backing of many academics, students and workers, is unlikely to be a serious contender.

'Scholarship should seek out

African realities'

ART 13/7/96

(54)

MXOLISMGXASHE
Staff Reporter

THE popular, but erroneous, view that African languages are not capable of including scientific terms has to be buried once and for all if headway is to be made in African education and development, says University of the Western Cape sociology and anthropology lecturer Kwesi Prah.

The statement formed part of his keynote presentation during a three-day conference on "Harmonising and Standardising African Languages for Education and Development" which was held at the University of Cape Town this week.

The conference, sponsored by the German Foundation for International Development, was attended by more than 40 scholars and linguists from all over the world.

Professor Prah, who has spent more than a decade researching the use of African languages for educational, cultural and scientific development in Africa, said the problem faced by Africans in general was a "syndrome of inferiority acquired through their colonial encounter."

"The language problem and the dependency on colonial languages is reflective of this."

"So also is the tendency for African scholarship to want, too easily, to adopt intellectual and scholastic fashions created in the west."

He said African intellectual enterprise should be "Africa-centred", in the sense that it should deal with African realities informed by African history, language and culture.

"Only then can we make a meaningful and worthwhile contribution to a truly universal fund of culture; otherwise we remain mere scholastic appendages of the west," said Professor Prah.

He warned, however, that "empty statements of intent" would not lead to

any progress and what was needed were "well-conceived policies", constructed within an overall approach towards educational reforms.

Sipho Seepe, from Venda University, spoke of teaching mathematics and the natural sciences in African languages, arguing there were few studies which examined issues relevant to language instruction and communication in science and mathematics.

Professor Seepe said there appeared to be no disagreement that South Africa's entire educational system required transformation because decades of racial, class and gender domination in the country had constructed a particular human nature, with its own South African biology of institutions, impulses and emotions.

A nagging question still had to be addressed in relation to the deficiencies in African languages - particularly the vocabulary of science.

The invention of appropriate scientific words should be a collective project that needed close collaboration between scientists and linguists, Professor Seepe said.

Speaking on attitudes towards the use of African languages as a medium of instruction in secondary schools in Zimbabwe and Tanzania, Dr Z M Roy-Campbell from the University of Zimbabwe said that in spite of the wide use of Kiswahili throughout Tanzanian society, English remained a co-official language and the essential language of education.

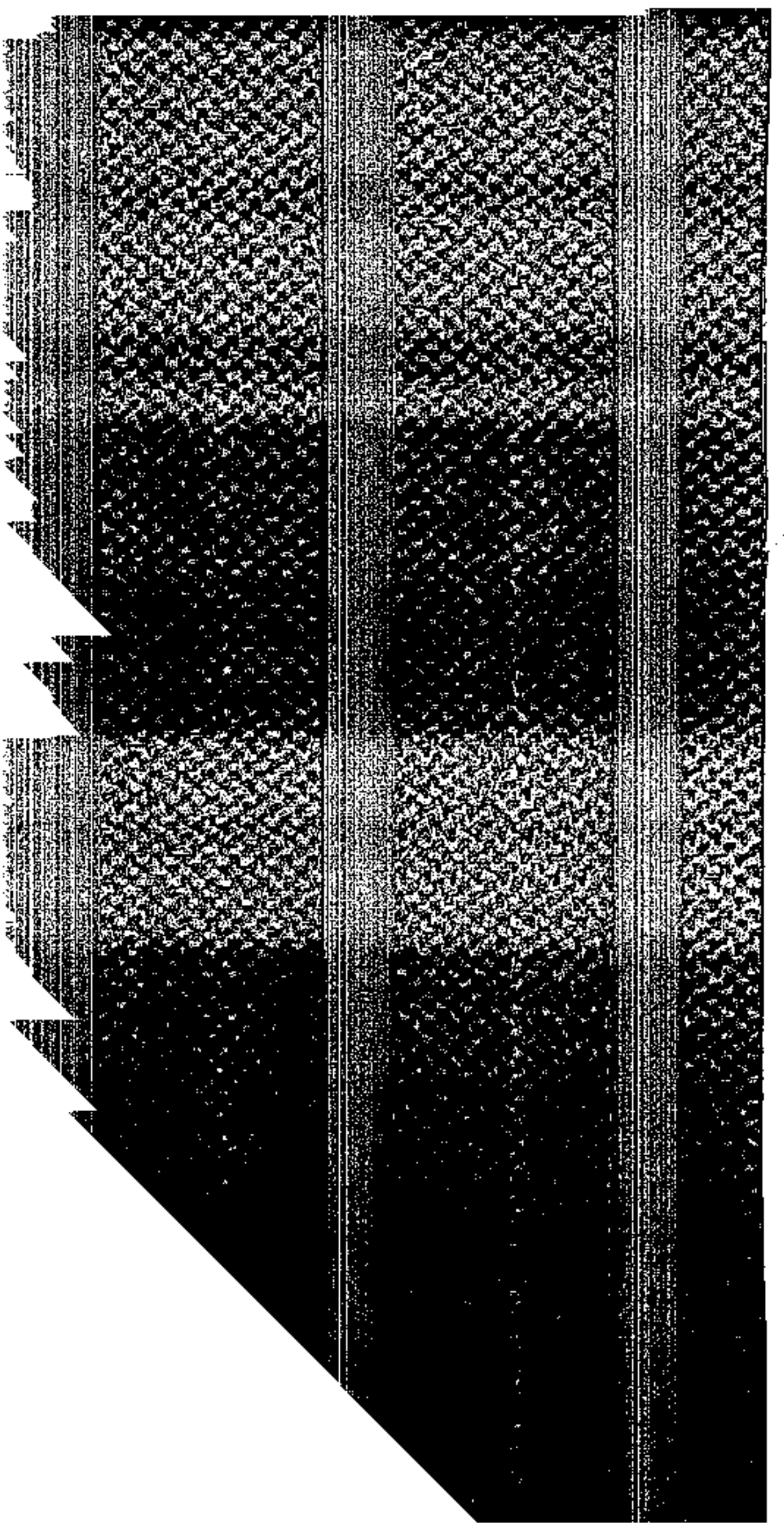
She said many secondary school teachers used Kiswahili in classrooms so that students could understand what they were teaching, but students were still examined through the English medium.

Since English had been the language of power with the imposition of British rule in Zimbabwe, the break with English in Zimbabwe was more problematic than in Tanzania, she said.



Picture: BRENTON GEACH, Staff Photographer.

TALKING LANGUAGES: Participants at the Harmonisation and Standardisation of African languages for Education and Development colloquium at UCT, were from left, Professor Kwesi Prah, Dr Neville Alexander, Dr ZM Roy-Campbell (presenting her paper on the Tanzanian and Zimbabwean experiences), Professor Sintfee Makoni from the University of Zimbabwe and the vice chancellor of the University of Cameroon, Professor Beban Chumbow.



Student loans yielded a 71% dividend

CAROL CAMPBELL

STUDENTS awarded loans under the national bursary and loan scheme in 1995 passed 71% of their subjects — a statistic that was "very encouraging" for South Africa, the director of the Tertiary Education Fund (Tefsa), Mr Roy Jackson, said yesterday.

The national student aid scheme was launched by the government and private donors last year on the advice of the National Commission on Higher Education.

"Students who did well had up to 40% of their loans converted

into bursaries — a perk that seemed to encourage them to work hard and pass their exams," Jackson said.

The government has promised that R300 million will be made available for the next three years to get the bursary and loan scheme up and running.

President Nelson Mandela has also appointed "eminent persons" as a committee to use their influence to raise funds here and abroad for tertiary education. A large sum has been raised already for student aid.

This year 60 000 students at tertiary institutions throughout the

(54) CT 15/7/96
country are expected to benefit from the money.

It is too early to say if the scheme will be able to support itself as most students who have been awarded loans have not graduated.

Most loans are not more than R5 000 a year, but students can apply for as much as R10 000.

Universities and technikons apply a "means" test to students and their families before submitting claims for money to Tefsa on their behalf.

"Last year it was difficult for universities and technikons to plan for student aid because money from the government and donors

came in bursts — often when it was least expected," Jackson said.

"This year the R300m was a committed sum and institutions were able to draw money much earlier in the year."

During 1995 the University of the North (Turfloop) claimed the lion's share of money set aside for financial aid and R25m helped 3 885 students.

Turfloop was followed by the University of the Western Cape, where R12m was allocated to 2 563 students.

In all, 34 061 students were given loans that added up to more than R131m during 1995.

'Breakthrough' in student conflict

(54)
Kevin O'Grady

BD 17/7/96

PRETORIA — Student leaders and the heads of tertiary institutions met for five hours at Vista University in Pretoria yesterday in a meeting described as a "breakthrough" and "the beginning of co-operative management".

It followed months of tension in which students vandalised campuses, demanding that transformation be speeded up, student debt be written off and the exclusion of students on financial grounds be ended.

Moemedi Kepadisa of the National Centre for Student Development and Student Leadership, which convened the meeting, said the way had been paved for sources of conflict to be taken up at a meeting later this year.

Delegates said the talks had cleared channels of communication between student organisations and management and, while it would not end protests, it would help resolve conflict.

Technikon SA rector Attie Buitendach said more than 80% of student grievances were legitimate and "I'm sure we can find solutions to them".

OLCKERS ANNOUNCES FINAL DECISION

Four West Cape teacher training colleges to close

(54) 19/7/96

THE FATE of the Western Cape's teacher training colleges has finally been decided after months of discussion and uncertainty involving the staffs of the eight institutions and the provincial Education Department, **CAROL CAMPBELL** reports.

FOUR of the eight education colleges in the Western Cape are to close, in a move that will immediately save the Western Cape Education Department R26 million.

The Western Cape MEC for Education, Mrs Martha Olckers, said yesterday the colleges to close were:

Hewat College in Athlone, Good Hope College in Khayelitsha, South Cape College in Oudtshoorn and the distance college Roggebaai in Cape Town.

Last night the provincial chairman of the Committee of College of Education Rectors of South Africa, Mr Johan Slabbert, said the announcement was greeted "maturely" by the eight college rectors when they were told of the decision at a meeting with the Education Department yesterday.

"Talk that some colleges would be closed has gone on for so long that I think all the rectors were relieved it had come to an end."

He said rectors were asked to come up with their own rationalisation plan, but in June they appealed to the department to make the final decision.

"I think Mrs Olckers and her staff based much of their decision on the outcome of talks between the colleges."

Staff and students from the four that

are to close will move to the remaining campuses, which will be relaunched as "new" teacher training centres, possibly with different names.

Hewat College will merge with the Cape Town College in Mowbray, Good Hope and Roggebaai will move to the Bellville campus and the Boland College in Wellington will be retained.

The Sonjge College in Worcester is to amalgamate with the Worcester Technical College and the Worcester Teachers' Centre to form a new-style "community college" based on an idea put forward by the National Commission of Higher Education.

Olckers said none of the facilities would stand empty but would continue to be used for education in the Western Cape.

"There were several things which were considered when we made the decision — most importantly we had to look at the education needs of the whole Western Cape beyond the year 2000."

The Athlone Technical College would take over the Hewat campus, and the South Cape and Roggebaai campuses would be converted into schools.

The Roggebaai campus still needed extensive renovations and would probably not be ready for use next year, she

said.

The Good Hope College would become one of the first government-run "youth" colleges in the country and would be used to teach marketable skills.

"The decision to merge the colleges has been in the pipeline for the past 18 months. It was inevitable as student numbers declined and the lecturer/student ratio dropped," Olckers said.

The average ratio of staff to students was currently 1:8 and had to be raised eventually to 1:18 to meet national guidelines. The merger of the eight campuses was expected to raise the ratio to 1:14.

The department was at present spending R21 465 to educate one student teacher every year when its budget allowed only R14 000. After the merger the outlay per student would be R15 000.

"If we keep training teachers at this rate we will have an oversupply until 2004 — that is 36% too many primary school teachers and 24% too many high school teachers."

Olckers said academic staff at all eight colleges would be offered voluntary severance packages.

However, they could choose to stay on in new jobs created on their old campuses, provided there was a use for their skills.

Although there would be some rationalisation of hostel and ground staff, most would keep their jobs because all the buildings would continue to be used, said Olckers.

Four teacher colleges to go by next year in shake-up

(54)

AKG 19/7/96

ESANN de KOCK
Education Reporter

THE Western Cape's eight teacher training colleges are to be amalgamated into four colleges by next year to rationalise them in line with national education guidelines.

The amalgamation is set to cause some disruption, but it holds great promise for making empty buildings available to start up community colleges and schools, say educationists.

Announcing the rationalisation plan in Cape Town yesterday, Western Cape Education Minister Martha Olckers said it had been approved by cabinet this week after the department last month got the go-ahead from the rectors of the various colleges to come up with a plan of action.

Mrs Olckers announced that:

- Bellville and Good Hope Colleges of Education and the Roggebaai College for Further Training would amalgamate on the Bellville campus;
- Good Hope College of Education would be transformed into a community or youth college - probably in collaboration with the Sivyule Technical College;
- The Cape Town and Hewat colleges of education would amalgamate on the Cape Town campus;
- The Athlone Technical College would be transferred to the Hewat College campus;
- The South Cape College of

Education in Oudtshoorn would close at the end of the year and the remaining students would be transferred to one of the other colleges of their choice.

Members of staff who did not wish to be considered for severance packages would be transferred to one of the other colleges in the Western Cape if vacancies existed and it had been recommended that the South Cape campus be used as a school facility.

She said the amalgamation of the Söhngé College of Education, the Worcester Technical College and the Worcester Teachers' Centre, and the transformation of the new institution into a community college, would be pursued.

But the Boland College of Education would be retained as this was the most heavily utilised in the Western Cape.

All the "new" colleges would be considered new institutions, Mrs Olckers said, and would be able to choose new names for themselves.

Mrs Olckers said the total yearly budget for teacher colleges and residences was more than R65 million - which meant a unit cost of more than R21 000 a student. In many cases, these colleges were not even half full. This was no longer affordable.

● Rectors of the colleges gathered at the department yesterday, where they were fully informed of the plans, but they did not want to comment before meeting their staffs.

Selection of new Wits vice-chancellor on the way

By SUSAN MILLER

The selection of a new vice-chancellor for Wits is scheduled to start this week after agreement was reached on the composition of the senior appointments selection committee.

The entire process stalled after students and workers could not reach agreement with academics, university administration and management on how much representation academic staff should get.

After weeks of negotiations the whole issue was handed over to the Forum for Further Acceleration and Comprehensive Transformation (FACT) which finally reached agreement on Friday.

The decision has been by the Wits

council.

Academics still hold a majority on the 29-member selection committee.

SRC president Tiyani Mohlaba said the members of FACT had agreed that academics would have 54% representation on the selection committee and the rest would be made up of students, workers, support staff members and members of council.

"We are very happy about this conclusion as the discussions became very tedious," he said.

The senior appointments selection committee is expected to shortlist three candidates as the new vice-chancellor should be appointed by the end of next

(54) Star 22/7/96

Wits spokesman David Williams said applications and nominations for the position had closed at the end of May and these would now be considered.

He said this would be followed by interviews with the short-listed candidates.

The person eventually selected is expected to spend at least one year with retiring vice-chancellor Prof Robert Charlton.

Mohlaba said students and workers had previously wanted academics to only make up 50% of the selection committee.

However, many senior academics

had bitterly opposed any change to the status quo as they argued that the vice-chancellor should be a respected academic with a proven track-record who would have to be heavily involved in the everyday running of academia at the university.

In the past academics held 16 seats on the 29-member senior appointments selection committee.

Wits deputy vice-chancellor Prof June Sinclair has made it clear she wants the job but no other rumoured candidates have confirmed their interest in the position.

"Candidates" named in speculative circles include Prof William Makgoba, University of the North vice-chancellor Njabulo Ndebele and Prof Sam Nolutshungu.

Agreement was finally reached on Friday

Free State (54) varsity clash

Bloemfontein - Several police officers were injured and windows were damaged when black and white students at the University of the Free State clashed yesterday, police said in a statement.

Police spokesman Capt. Solly Lesia said fighting broke out at about 1am between about 50 black students and about 120 white students. The rival groups were armed with stones, sticks and other dangerous objects. *How 22/7/96*

It is believed that the groups were under the influence of liquor.

Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu's special adviser Thami Mseleku said the ministry regretted the incident of racial conflict. - Sapa.

'Sale of degrees' probed at Unizul

(54) Star 22/7/96

Durban - The University of Zululand is investigating allegations of fraud and conspiracy regarding the "selling" of degrees and diplomas at the institution.

The administration has called on academic staff to supply whatever information it had. A Unizul spokesman confirmed that certain files and documents appear to have been mislaid or lost.

Unizul's protection services department is involved in the probe. A spokesman pointed out that the innocent would suffer with the guilty, as all qualifications granted by the university immediately became suspect.

"It is therefore in the interests of all university stakeholders to be as candid and fearless as possible in exposing such alleged practices, as the entire system is demeaned," he said. - Own Correspondent.

Hewat closure a CT 22/7/96 (54) 'racist decision'

CAROL CAMPBELL

THE announcement of the closure of Hewat Teachers' Training College in Athlone at the end of the year has outraged students and staff, who say the reputation of the campus as a centre of the anti-apartheid struggle was overlooked by the Western Cape Education Department in its drive to save money.

Hewat is one of four teachers training colleges in the Western Cape that will shut its doors for good in December, in a programme to cut the number of teachers in the province. The other colleges to close are Good Hope in Khayelitsha, South Cape in Oudtshoorn and the Roggebaai distance college in Cape Town.

The move is expected to save the department R26 million.

On Friday, immediately after students and staff at Hewat were told of the decision to close, they held emergency meetings to decide how to pressure the department to reverse its decision.

The chairman of the Student Representative Council, Ms Winnie Marthinussen, said a pro-

gramme of mass action would probably follow this week.

"The mood among students was total devastation and disbelief.

"We never for a moment thought Hewat would be closed — especially because of its historical value and excellent facilities."

It was to Hewat College that schoolchildren ran for cover when they were chased by police during the Trojan Horse killings in 1985.

The college was also a centre of the Free Mandela campaign during the 1970s and '80s, she said.

"I cannot help wondering why all the white colleges are to stay open — the decision looks racist to me."

Mr Shaun Viljoen, the chairman of the Hewat staff association, said the decision was a direct consequence of the National Party victory in the local government election.

"The education department's proposals leave the two old white colleges intact while Hewat, which made a significant contribution to bringing about equity in education, is closed.

"We support our students in their claim that the decision was racist," he said.

Cape planning 'lost generation' colleges

Linda Ensor

(54)

BD 22/7/96

CAPE TOWN — The Western Cape provincial government planned to set up youth colleges to educate the "lost generation", with the first two set to become operational in January next year, education MEC Martha Olckers said at the weekend.

The colleges would be housed in the buildings left vacant by the closure of four teacher training colleges, announced last week.

Olckers believed there were about a million people aged between 18 and 40 in the Western Cape who were illiterate in terms of the official definition —

they did not have an education beyond Std 4. The youth colleges would train such people to matriculation standard in practical subjects such as plumbing and electrical work so that they would be employable on graduating.

The closure of the four teacher training colleges — Hewat College in Athlone, Good Hope College in Khayelitsha, South Cape College in Oudtshoorn and the distance college in Cape Town — would result in an immediate saving of R25m, Olckers said. The cost of training a student teacher was far too high at R21 600 a year. This would fall to R15 000 as a result of the college closures.

The closures would take lecturer-to-student ratios from the current 1:8 to about 1:15 — slightly under the 1:18 ratio targeted for 2000.

The intake of new students at teacher training colleges — slashed by more than 40% last year as there were too many teachers — would be cut further, Olckers said. The extent of the cuts would be decided on by provincial MECs, who would meet in about six weeks. Without these cuts, the oversupply of primary and secondary school teachers would have grown to 36% and 24% respectively by 2002.

Continued on Page 2

Education

(54)

Continued from Page 1

BD 22/7/96

Olckers said the national department would be approached for additional funds to cover the costs of "excess" teachers' salaries. The provincial education budget for the year starting April 1 was calculated on the assumption that the 6 000 posts which still had to be abolished no longer existed,

but due to delays in negotiating severance packages and redeployment schemes, these teachers were still on the payroll. Olckers said the salary bill for these teachers was R111m a month.

"We will be approaching national government about this," Olckers said. Other provinces would do the same.

"Morally we have a strong case as we were ready to proceed with the programme to abolish the posts from April 1, but were delayed by the prolonged negotiation process."

Policemen injured in Free State varsity student clash

(54) BD 22/7/96
BLOEMFONTEIN — Several police officers were injured and windows were damaged when black and white students at the University of the Free State clashed early yesterday, Free State police said.

Police spokesman Capt Solly Lesia said fighting broke out at about 1am between about 50 black students and about 120 white students.

The rival groups were armed with stones, sticks and other dangerous objects.

It is believed that the groups were under the influence of liquor, according to Lesia.

Police arrived at the scene and tried to stop the fighting, he said.

Police officer Capt Willie Coertzen of Park Road police station was hit on the knee by a stone and had to be treated at the Hydromed hospital before being discharged.

Several other police personnel were slightly injured, but no injuries from the students were reported. The extent of damage to property was not known, Coertzen said.

Lesia said police eventually managed to stop the violence and were still monitoring the situation yesterday afternoon.

The education minister's special adviser, Thami Mseleku, said the ministry regretted this incident of "racial conflict in our institutions".

"We are going to ask the university administration to give us the full details so that the minister (Sibusiso Bengu) can be briefed," he said.

"However, we hope to address the issue of continued racial conflict (at education institutions) at a summit to be held on July 29 and 30," he said.

The ministry would release a statement as soon as it had received full details on the incident, Mseleku said. — Sapa.

Campus clash to be probed

Kevin O'Grady (54)

AN INVESTIGATION would be held to establish who was responsible for damage caused during racial clashes that left several policemen injured at Free State University at the weekend, a university spokesman said yesterday.

Spokesman Elsa Swart said the campus was peaceful yesterday.

It appeared that the violence was an isolated incident and was not the result of student grievances, she said.

"It seems the two groups involved in the incident were at parties which got out of hand when insults were traded," she said.

The fighting broke out between about 50 black students and 120 white students armed with stones, sticks and other weapons at about 1am on Sunday.

Several windows were broken during the fighting.

The investigation would attempt to establish who was responsible so that action could be taken against the culprits, Swart said.

BD 23/7/96

Hewat premises 'to be better utilised'

EDUCATION WRITER

(54)

CT 23/7/96

THE closure of Hewat College of Education in Athlone did not mean the premises would be lost to the community but rather that they would be better utilised by thousands more students, the rector of the Athlone Technical College Mr Leon Beech said yesterday.

Beech was responding to comments by students and staff at Hewat that the "historical value" of the college had been overlooked by the Western Cape Education Department when it decided the institution should be closed to save money.

Next year the Athlone Technical College is to take over the Hewat College premises. Hewat's students and lecturers will move to the Cape Town Teachers' Training College in Mowbray.

"We at Athlone offer our sincere sympathy to our colleagues and students at Hewat but we will continue to portray the historical importance and political significance of the institution."

Beech described how for years his colleagues had been promised better facilities — possibly even a new R40 million campus on a new site — but nothing had come of it.

Academic held over degrees-for-sale scandal

Star 24/7/96 (54)
Durban - A senior faculty member at the University of Zululand was suspended yesterday pending investigations into allegations that some university officials had sold degrees to students.

Spokesman Carl de Villiers said more suspensions were expected.

He said the university had been swamped with queries from concerned employers near the university's Eshowe campus on the north coast, asking whether their employees had genuine degrees.

Estimates suggested only about 20 fraudulent degrees had been obtained, De Villiers said.

"We were tipped off about a month ago by a

student who was involved with someone who received a false credit. She set the ball rolling."

He said a university investigator had been appointed and computer records seized.

Fifteen fraudulent degrees had then been detected shortly before the university's June graduation ceremony, but some had probably "slipped the net", he added.

"It's not on a large scale. After the investigation we will identify the people involved and inform their employers."

He said many past graduates had already expressed their concern, as had many university donors. - Sapa.

African reality validated

AFRICANISATION (or the Afrocentric perspective) has caused as much anguish and anger as it has enthusiasm. Those opposed to it see it as an insolent provocation, while for its proponents it is a flag around which to rally.

Despite a flurry of articles on Africanisation, the term and notion seem to have generated more confusion, anxiety and irritation in some quarters. This confusion, we are told, is derived from a lack of clarity, coherence and detail on the definition and implications of Africanisation.

As a result the advocates of Africanisation have fallen into the trap of allowing themselves to be bogged down by the obsession with a proper unanimous definition.

It is this obsession that has prevented the debate from advancing beyond mere rhetoric.

At the same time it is intellectual mischief to expect a new and evolving concept to assume the same meaning to all people and intellectual dishonesty to expect it to immediately provide detail on how it is going to be acted out.

What is required is not a definition *per se* but elements and meanings that can be attached to the concept. For instance, even though terms such as democracy, science, technology, university autonomy and academic freedom are used, it is unlikely scholars will come up with the same definition for each of these.

Technological literacy

As a matter of fact, in a study commissioned by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation in 1993, the phrase "technological literacy" had no less than 300 definitions.

However, this does not detract from an understanding of elements and meanings that could be associated with the terms or concepts. Why should Africanisation be regarded differently?

Is it because its proponents happen to be largely African or black that standards of procedure have to be different?

Africans have been consumers of European production for so long that the notion of them suggesting that things can be viewed differently is seen as heretical.

By Africanisation of higher education, one starts from the premise that the majority of the people in this country are Africans. It refers to a process of placing the African world view at the centre of analysis.

Asante, one of the foremost proponents of Afrocentricity, puts it as a perspective which allows Africans to be the subjects of historical

Africanisation has been relegated to the intellectual bog by the fierce battle between its opponents and proponents. **Professor Sipho Seepe** provides an instructive alternative.. (54) *sowetan* 24/7/96



Professor Siphosiso Seepe ... Africanisation places the African world view at the centre of analysis.

experiences rather than objects on the fringes of the European experiences.

It is not a matter of colour but an orientation to data. Apart from the fact that one can be pro-African and not necessarily anti-white, the concept of Afrocentricity is pre-eminently about how one views data or information.

In suggesting there are other ways in which to examine phenomena, rather than viewing them from a Eurocentric vantage point, Asante correctly argues that the intention is not to question Eurocentricism's validity within its context, but rather to indicate that "such a view must not seek an ungrounded aggrandisement by claiming a universal hegemony".

Thus, instead of saying that Christopher Columbus "discovered" America, first nation Americans might prefer to say Columbus "invaded" America.

And instead of saying David Livingstone discovered Lake Victoria, it might be closer to the truth to indicate that Livingstone was led to the lake by the indigenous people.

An Afrocentric perspective would also challenge the notion that European classical music is the only classical music in the world.

Seen from this angle, Africanisation is therefore not about having enough black faces in institutions. It is about the grounds for knowledge, about epistemology and about the objects of our intellectual inspiration.

It is interesting to note how similar our research agendas are to those of the United States. One visiting scholar expressed his surprise that there is little research on solar energy in this country.

Given the fact that Europe has longer winters than South Africa he could understand the minimal excitement attached to solar energy in Europe.

Since our intellectual inspirations are Eurocentric in character this lack of interest comes as no surprise.

This tight umbilical cord is also reflected in the preference of whites to learn other European languages rather than the African languages of this country.

Definitive agenda

Recognising that educational institutions are primarily vehicles for the production, dissemination and evaluation of knowledge, Africanisation and transformation are more than mere change in structures of management or change of the racial composition of staff and students.

It of necessity entails an interrogation of the curricula and language of instruction, and its relevance and appropriateness in addressing itself to national objectives and societal demands.

In conclusion, in the same way that one can refer to European and Eurocentric traditions, it should be conceptually plausible to discuss, articulate and advocate African and Afrocentric traditions.

It is this view of Africanisation that is daunting to those trained in European traditions and especially those of European extraction - that, with their "know-all" superiority, they may have to learn something from Africans.

It is about time African scholars untangle themselves from the obsession with the vicious circle of infinite definitions, and get on with the task of working towards the realisation of the Africanisation agenda.

(Professor Siphosiso Seepe is based at the University of the North, Thohoyandou.)

Safe with a target of at least
the workers who gathered at the Union take

University suspends staff member

DURBAN — A senior faculty member at the University of Zululand was suspended yesterday pending investigations into allegations that some university officials had sold fraudulent degrees to students.

University spokesman Carl de Villiers said more suspensions were expected. He said the university had been swamped with queries from concerned employers asking whether their employees had genuine degrees.

Official estimates suggested only about 20 fraudulent degrees had been obtained, De Villiers said.

"We were tipped off about a month ago by a student who was involved with someone who received a false credit. She set the ball rolling".

He said a university investigator had been appointed and computer

records seized. (54)

Fifteen fraudulent degrees had been detected shortly before the university's June graduation ceremony, but some had probably "slipped through the net", he said.

Many past graduates had already expressed their concern, as had many university donors, De Villiers said.

"Of course the people who suffer the most are those students who have studied legally and who might now come under suspicion."

SA Democratic Teachers' Union spokesman Ndaba Gcwabaza called for an independent investigation. "It's a very serious scandal indeed and it needs thorough investigation. It affects us in the sense that some of our members could be discredited academically." — Sapa.

Derrick Mdluli was due to meet the striking prisoners and prison management later yesterday.

Anderson said that the awaiting trial prisoners had on July 18 asked to speak to the chief magistrate to register their complaints.

"However, when the magistrate (duly) visited the prison... the prisoners refused to speak to him and started to boo him, whereafter he left."

The organisation said prisoners had embarked on a hunger strike as a protest against their delayed court hearings due to the prosecutors' work-to-rule action.

The situation at the prison was reported to be calm yesterday. — Sapa.

Cape Town stays firm on Parliament

Linda Erlor

CAPE TOWN — The Free State attempted to force a cabinet meeting yesterday to solidify the Western Cape's support for its efforts to get the seat of Parliament relocated to Bloemfontein.

The bid was doomed to failure given the enormous economic and prestige value Cape Town derived from being home to the seat of government, and the two governments agreed to disagree.

However, the meeting had positive spinoffs in terms of strengthening interprovincial co-operation

on matters of mutual concern such as provincial and economic relations and it was agreed that further meetings be held.

Western Cape Premier Pieter Kriel said the province was committed to retaining Parliament in Cape Town.

Free State premier Patrick Lekota argued there were sound historical reasons for supporting Bloemfontein's case, major political parties — the ANC and NP — as well as the trade union movement were all founded in the city.

However, there was agreement that provincial governments

needed effective powers to govern.

Western Cape local government MEC Peter Marais said that he and his Free State counterpart agreed to meet regularly and exchange ideas and information.

Provincial powers were insufficient, especially in the spheres of safety and security, local government, economic affairs, and education. Powers existed more on paper than in reality, Marais said.

The disturbing depopulation trend of the Free State platteland and urbanisation of the Cape metropole would be addressed, a media statement reported.

... country, RIRIR WORK PER

Bengu to host a broad-ranging summit on

(64) Star 24/7/96

Top stakeholders from across the country will take part in the talks, which are aimed at reaching consensus on the

BY SUSAN MILLER

A broad-ranging summit on higher education will be hosted by the Minister of Education and the Department at the end of this month, and it is hoped national consensus on transformation will be reached.

All the top stakeholders from across South Africa will be repre-

sented, including a principal or rector (or a designate) from each university, technician and college of education; top management representatives; the chairman of each institution's council; student representatives; labour representatives and staff associations.

Deputy director-general from the Department of Education, Dr Iron Rensburg, said on Monday

that the summit would follow a range of meetings between the department and various organisations.

He said the second quarter of the academic year for tertiary education had been "quite eventful" and the Minister of Education, Professor Sibusiso Bengu, and President Mandela had intervened in various situations.

"This summit will enable all participants to debate and define transformation on campuses and also to clarify which situations should be dealt with at a local level and which need the intervention of government," he said.

Dr Rensburg said, for example, the racial conflict which erupted this weekend on the Free State University campus should

be dealt with immediately at the local level. It should not be allowed to fester for weeks, while waiting for a conference on tertiary education.

He said a national framework agreement on transformation would be signed at the end of the summit and it was hoped that all stakeholders would "buy" into it.

While Dr Rensburg acknowl-

edged that funding of students was one of the major issues they raised, he said it was both a national and local issue.

"We have made R300-million available for students' financial aid and have raised an additional R45-million from overseas funders. This financing scheme is being administered by the Tertiary Education Fund of South

Africa (Tefsa) for this year. But, what we have found really amazing is that less than 50% of students have applied to Tefsa for funding," he said.

"What has emerged is a request by students, workers and staff associations for training in negotiations and procedures. The clear procedures laid down in labour relations have not carried

through to the higher education sector, where bargaining processes are often not understood," he said.

The final report of the National Commission on Higher Education is expected to be handed to the Minister of Education during the week of August 19-22. Its deadline was extended from the end of this month.

higher education

transformation process

'Degrees for sale' scam intensifies

(54)

Sowetan 25/7/96

By Victor Mecoamere

A BACHELOR of Commerce graduate at QwaQwa University obtained his degree despite registering a low mark in and refusing to sit for a supplementary examination.

The student graduated in May in the latest alleged "degrees for sale" scam which earlier this week led to the suspension of an academic at the University of Zululand.

The QwaQwa student had obtained a low mark and apparently forged a pass mark.

But this was after the student had already been conferred with the BCom degree.

Professor Thandwa Mthembu, who heads the mathematics department at the university, told *Sowetan* yesterday

Some students are believed to get degrees in return for sexual favours

that an investigation was currently taking place in many instances of corruption at the university.

"One of these involves the promise of degrees in exchange for sexual favours," said Mthembu. The university's deputy registrar Thabo Masihleho, assistant registrar Norman Mosia and the vice principal Professor Werner Medinger were not available for comment.

Meanwhile, a senior faculty member at the University of Zululand was suspended yesterday pending investigations into a "degrees for sale" scam at the university.

A university spokesman said more suspensions were expected.

He said about 20 degrees had been obtained fraudulently and that concerned employers had been inundating the university with queries about the validity of the qualifications of prospective employees who had graduated at the university.

● The University Council at the University of Cape Town has dismissed a senior lecturer who was found guilty of sexual harassment by a university committee of inquiry, according to an article in UCT's *Monday Paper*.

Vice-chancellor Dr Stuart Saunders said yesterday the action was a reflection of the extreme seriousness with which the university regarded the issue.

Students: charges dropped

(54)

Sowetan 25/7/96

By Mpikeleli Duma

The senior prosecutor in Free State has decided to withdraw charges of contempt of court against more than 150 Technikon Free State students.

Advocate Andre Becker told *Sowetan* he had decided to drop the charges following protracted meetings between the Attorney General's office and Technikon's council.

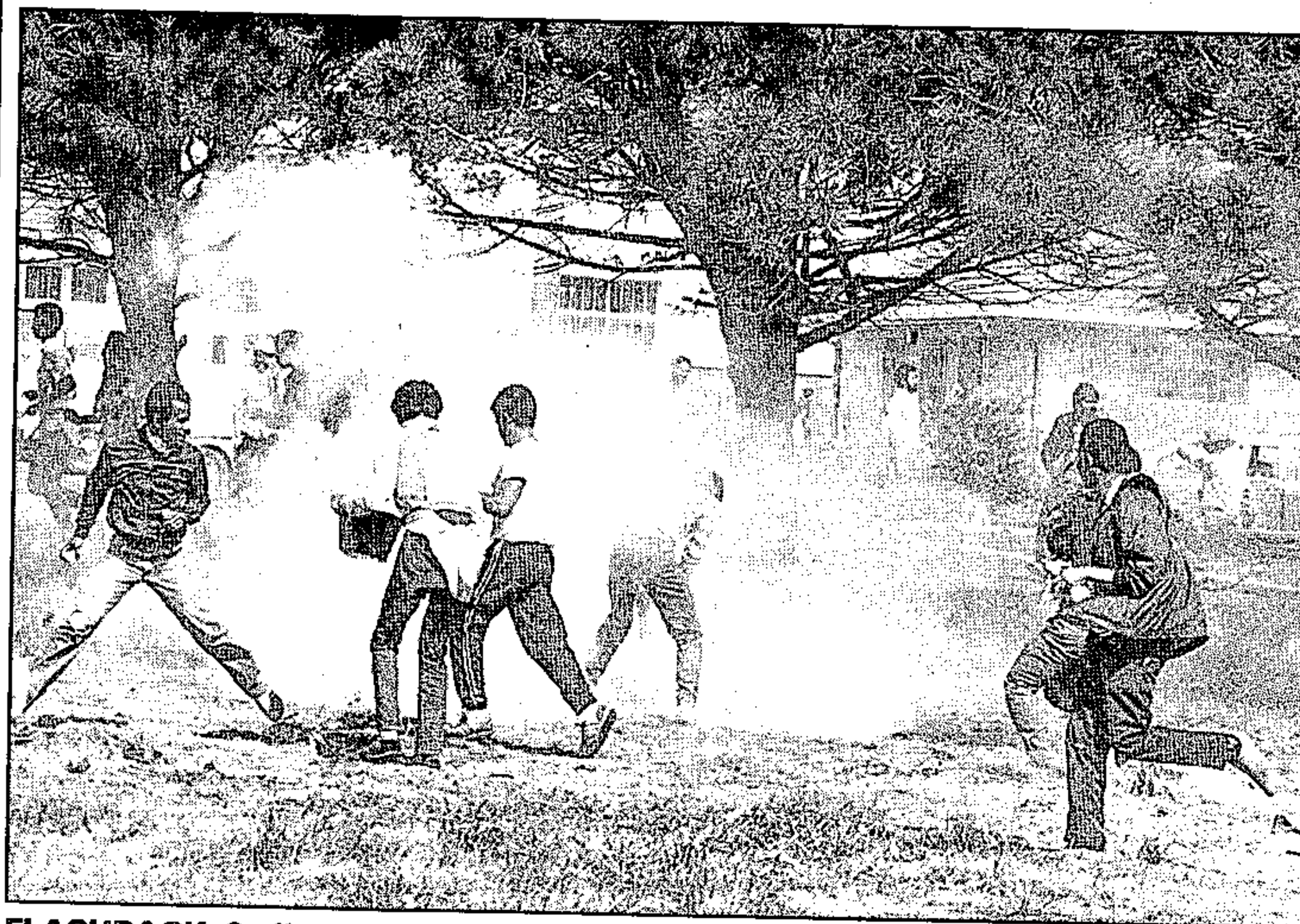
The students were due to appear in a Bloemfontein magistrates' court tomorrow on counts of defying a court order in February this year.

Technikon Free State public relations officer Mr Cas Vorster responding to the decision, said the campus council realised that the students' continuous appearance in court had a negative influence on their academic performance.

According to Vorster, the technikon obtained two Supreme Court interdicts in an effort to contain "unruly and mostly illegal protest actions" on campus.

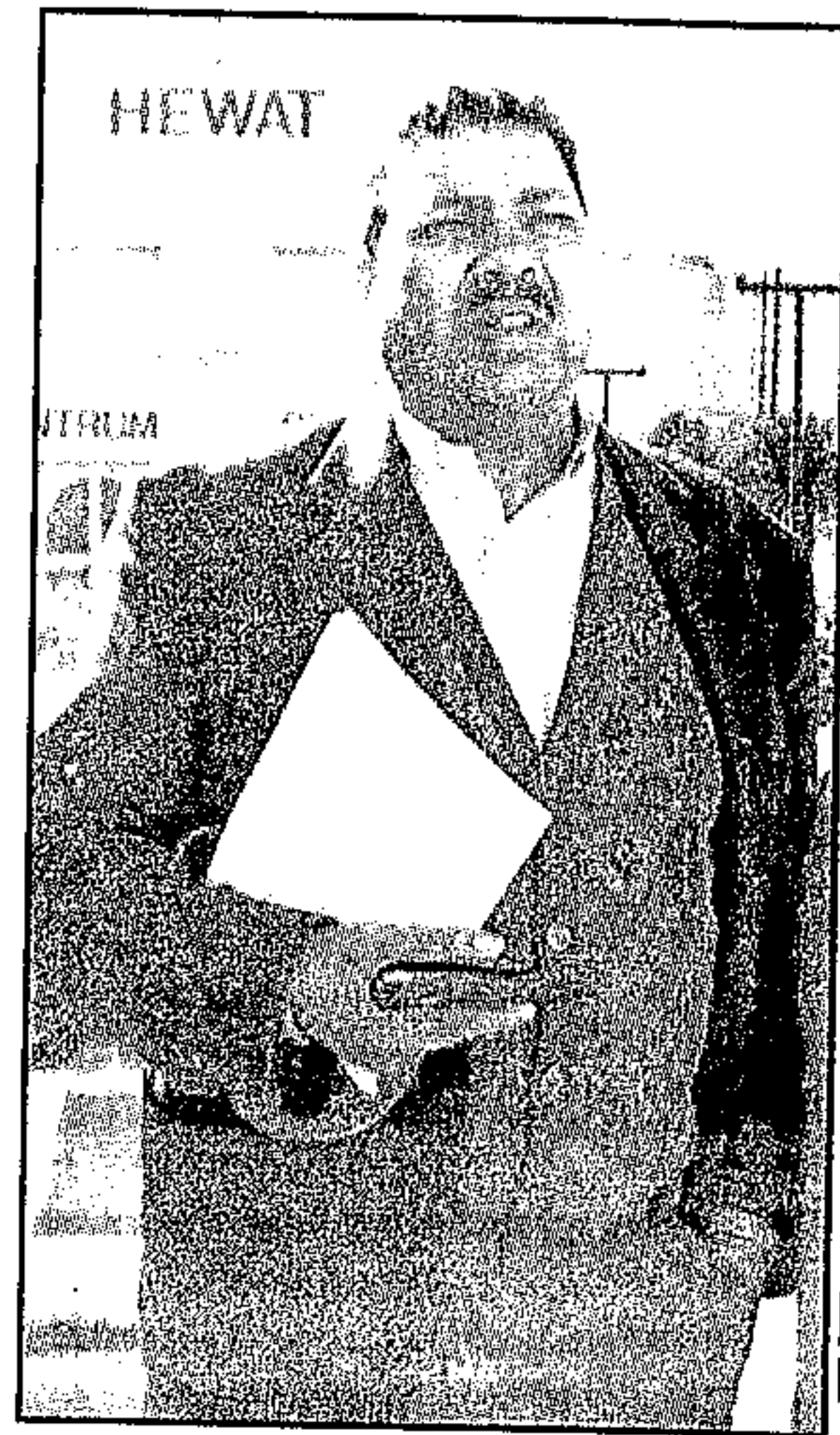
The first court order was against certain student leaders and the second was for all students, added Vorster.

The students were arrested while protesting against financial exclusions while the court orders were in place.



FLASHBACK: Staff and students flee from teargas during anti-apartheid battles in 1985.

WHEN Hewat Teachers' Training College in Athlone closes its doors at the end of the year, it will mean the end of an era. But the memories of the role this college played in the history of education and the anti-apartheid struggle will live in the hearts and minds of thousands. **ESANN DE KOCK** spoke to Jeff Manuel – a teacher at the college for the past 16 years.



FAITHFUL: Lecturer Jeff Manuel.

Struggle college 'closes'

ARL 25/7/96 (54)

Hewat, renowned home of teacher training, 'rationalised'

IT was a centre where pupils from Cape Flats' schools came to plan their struggle against apartheid education, where university and college students gathered to protest against a racist government and "gutter education", where political minds were formed and where teacher training of the highest standards took place.

At the end of the year Hewat College will merge with the Cape Town College of Education in a bid to rationalise teacher training in the province and to conform to new national norms.

The college, its students and staff, are not against rationalisation, says Jeff Manuel, History of Education teacher at Hewat for the past 16 years.

However, he and others find it ironic and sad that Hewat, a centre of the struggle for a fair, democratic and non-racial education system, is now "the victim" of a racist rationalisation plan by the Western Cape education authorities.

At least, this is how they perceive it.

They ask "why have the students and staff of this historically significant college not been consulted in the process"? And "why does their college, with its excellent facilities and proud history, have to play second fiddle in the rationalisation plan"?

Mr Manuel says people are upset by the fact that the status quo will remain when previously advantaged communities and their institutions stay intact after rationalisation, whilst disadvantaged institutions are being eroded yet again.

He explains Hewat has a long, proud history in education and in the apartheid struggle.

It is respect for this legacy that the students and staff are demanding.

Hewat is 55 years old this year, having been established in 1941 for "coloured" students.

"But we never saw ourselves as that," Mr Manuel says. "It was a notion which was imposed on us by design."

Hewat has always been in the forefront of educating people towards notions of non-racialism and non-sexism, he says.

Today it boasts former students in pivotal positions in society – locally and internationally.

Educational and polit-



LET US STAY: Hewat students, above, protest against the impending move.



SPORTING PAST: Student Representative Council member Melvin Edwards, left, at the Hewat sportsfields.

Pictures: LEON MULLER, The Argus

ical figures such as Franklin Sonn, Jakes Gerwel, Richard van der Ross and Ikey van der Rhee taught there.

Apart from its status on the Cape Flats, Hewat College had always been a "national college" in that its student population reflected people from all over South Africa, Mr Manuel says.

This was the result of the fact that Hewat offered excellent quality of teaching and prided itself in the calibre of students it sent out into the world.

"Way back from the 1940s, and especially since 1976, Hewat has aligned itself with the idea that education should be for all – that it should be non-racial, accountable and democratic."

Mr Manuel recalls the 1970s and 1980s as particularly important years in the history of Hewat College. He points out the irony in that Hewat is the college that now has to close its doors, yet it was Hewat that led a massive march to Pollsmoor prison in 1985 to demand the release of Nelson Mandela.

Hewat also featured strongly as a political haven for school children from the Cape Flats. It was a venue for organising mass action against the education authorities. Mr Manuel recalls the college

closed twice in the years of political turmoil – in 1980 and 1985.

"It was seen by the government as a centre of subversion and the education authorities wanted it closed to the extent that student and staff were not allowed on campus."

In 1985 Hewat College was closed during uprisings on the Cape Flats and, as students and pupils took part in protests, armoured vehicles stormed the campus as police teargassed demonstrators. The Trojan horse incident on October 15 in 1985 happened "on Hewat's doorstep" – another major historical event which sticks in the mind of Mr Manuel and many of his colleagues and former students.

It has the capacity for 1 000 students, but current student numbers stand at 400. Hewat staff and students appreciate the need for rationalisation, Mr Manuel says.

But, the decision to close Hewat College was an "orchestration on the part of a political grouping".

"It was a decision made by a political head who had an interest in protecting her own constituency," he says, referring to provincial Education Minister Martha Olickers.

UCT loses its political fervour

(54) M+G 26/7-1/8/96

Thandi Lewin

FOR the first time in decades, the University of Cape Town is without an elected students representative council (SRC).

Less than 25% of students turned out to vote at the last poll, which, according to the Constitution, is not enough to form an SRC, and now new elections must be held next month.

The short-term response to the crisis caused by the lack of an elected SRC has been the formation of a Transitional Students' Council (TSC),

made up of SRC candidates, a former SRC member and a member of the Student Parliament (which was formed in 1994 to broaden student involvement in decision-making processes).

The composition of the TSC now stands, after several resignations, at only six members. This is less than half the number of people required for an SRC.

Low polls are not a new phenomenon at UCT, or at other institutions, where a crisis in student governance is one of the manifestations of the problems accompanying change in the tertiary sector.

But UCT's 1995 poll propelled both student and administrative bodies to review the student governance system. A Commission on Student Governance has been appointed to find solutions to the crisis and make "recommendations regarding the way in which a future system of student governance should be developed at UCT".

For several years it has been difficult to rally students around ideologi-

cal issues and to get large numbers of students to vote in SRC elections.

Lerato Modise, chair of the TSC said: "Political change has shifted the base on which student activists have always campaigned."

Members of the TSC also point to racial undercurrents influencing the poll. Black students at UCT have been hard-hit by the financial realities of attending an expensive university and the difficulties of adapting to the UCT academic and social environment.

For these students, the SRC is an

'Political change has shifted the base on which student activists have always campaigned'

important channel through which to pursue change. But for many white students these concerns are less immediate, and their interest in the SRC has declined as the body focuses more on issues affecting black students.

Emphasis on the racial undercurrents has, however, clouded other issues. High costs of education, the government's demands for technical skills and the post-university struggle for jobs have all contributed to a prevailing perception of higher education as a mere chain in the production line.

In this context, SRCs are perceived to be no more than service providers, and student politics are a "luxury" belonging to bygone days.

According to William Rex, a member of UCT's administration providing support to the transformation process, the new SRC will need to fulfil the normal functions of all SRCs, but will also have to play a role in managing long-term change of student politics.

Tensions simmer at Free State varsity

MTG 26/7-1/8/96 (54)

Joshua Amupadhi

THE University of the Orange Free State (UOFS) has at last admitted there may be racial tensions on its campus and has agreed to investigate the causes of campus violence last week — which university authorities earlier dismissed as the result of drunkenness.

UOFS Dean of Students Professor Teuns Verschoor said both black and white students had criticised the university's earlier stand, claiming authorities were trying to play down growing racial tensions which came to a head last weekend when about 170 students armed with bottles, knives and stones clashed for the second time in less than two months. One student, Stanley Harmse, is reported to be in

hospital with a fractured skull.

The South African Student Congress (Sasco) on Monday walked out of negotiations because the "wrong problem" — drinking alcohol on campus — was being addressed.

Verschoor said the university has now instituted an investigation into the causes of the clashes.

Sasco branch chair Pule Mohloli has threatened mass action from next week if an independent commission of inquiry to look into racial problems is not set up by the university and the provincial government.

Mohloli said the racial tension has been brewing for a long time partly because whites and blacks were mostly separated in the hostels. He blamed the weekend violence on white students at Ollenhout hostel who at the beginning of the year

assaulted blacks and hoisted Nazi flags. The students were subsequently moved to the predominantly white HF Verwoerd hostel.

The supervisor at HF Verwoerd hostel, Marnius Oosthuysen, had a completely different explanation for the tension. He said the problem was exacerbated by putting black and white students in the same residences.

"This is a racial conflict, not alcohol ... If you have two dogs fighting the only way to stop them is by separation," he said.

But Verschoor said that the university did not have a policy of separation in the hostels. He said first-year students could request to stay in the hostel of their choice, although their choice was not guaranteed.

(54) BD 26/7/96
**Degree fraud
shocks ANC**

THE ANC yesterday said it was shocked by reports of fraudulent degrees awarded at the University of Zululand.

A senior faculty member was suspended on Tuesday pending the outcome of investigations into about 20 bogus degrees allegedly issued by corrupt staff officials over the past few years. "Such practices stand condemned as scandalous and must be stamped out as speedily as possible," the ANC said.

"Such practices will not only damage the image of the University of Zululand, but they can lead to the discrediting of the entire higher education sector in SA."

The ANC said it was deeply concerned about the effects such practices would have on the integrity of all past students of the university, as well as students currently studying there, whose hard work may be negatively affected.

University spokesman Carl de Villiers said preliminary investigations suggested only about 20 bogus degrees had been issued. Others had been intercepted shortly before the June graduation. — Sapa.

Bengu calls special meeting on education

(54) Star 27/7/96
OWN CORRESPONDENT

Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu is to convene a special national education summit meeting at which he will make proposals on transforming higher education.

Education and training programmes deputy director Ihron Rensburg said yesterday the minister would meet education stakeholders at the summit meeting in Fourways on Monday and Tuesday.

A meeting in February had failed because of logistics problems. "We are confident that this summit will achieve its intentions and objectives," Rensburg said.

Bengu would table a draft national framework agreement on the transformation of higher education for discussion at the meeting.

Basis

Also to be discussed, he said, was the question of conflict and violence at universities, technikons and colleges.

"We need to lay a basis for a negotiated resolution to crises, how to resolve them, and to act so as to pave the way for a transformation process.

"The department believes there is enough goodwill to build maximum consensus."

The minister had invited university and technikon principals, students' representative councils, governing councils and business representatives to the meeting.

Shakeel Ori, president of the National Union of Technikon Employees of South Africa, said "transformation" should not be used as a buzzword or abused by other sectors.

Guidelines for transformation should be respected and observed.

Few people knew how to transform their institutions, and most needed advice, Ori said.

Rensburg said a preparatory committee headed by Professor Itumeleng Mosala would finalise the agenda and other arrangements for the meeting.

10 SOUTH AFRICA

Makgoba dumped by Wits mates

The skirmish for Wits University's top job continues, writes **Philippa**

THE students and academics who rallied behind Professor William Malegapuru Makgoba in his recent skirmish in Wits University's corridors of power have turned against him and don't want him to lead the institution.

As speculation around contenders for the university's top job grows, it has emerged that the Wits Transformation Front (WTF) did not nominate Makgoba. The WTF had supported Makgoba in his clash with 13 academics who wanted to unseat him from his position as deputy vice-chancellor.

He lost favour with them after "capitulating" in the struggle against the group of academics, said Students' Representative Council president Tiyani Mohlaba. Makgoba has been criticised by them for saving his own reputation at the expense of their mission to "transform" the university.

He left his position on the university's 11th floor to take up a research post at the faculty of Health Sciences after lengthy mediation between the warring parties, but managed to keep



William Makgoba: Lost favour

his disputed academic reputation intact.

Makgoba, who appears to be more excited about research breakthroughs he has made in the field of human sperm behaviour than a possible future as head of Wits, has however been nominated from an unknown quarter for the post.

He said he had not applied — "I don't apply for jobs" — and that he had read in the press that he had been nominated. He would "need to reflect and take advice and counsel from many trusted people" before he decided whether to go for the job.

The WTF instead nominated University of the North Vice-Chancellor Njabulo Ndebele and respected political scientist Professor Sam Nolutshungu.

Nolutshungu is the only outsider known by the *Mail & Guardian* to have applied for the job and appears to be a strong contender. A Fort Hare University graduate, Nolutshungu left the country in the 1960s and continued his academic studies in the United



Van Zyl Slabbert: 'Not that crazy'

Kingdom. He is currently based at Rochester University in the UK and authored a book called *Changing South Africa*, published in 1982.

Ndebele is the first choice of a range of academics and students, but he has made it clear he won't apply and it is not known whether he has accepted the nomination.

June Sinclair, deputy vice-chancellor and vice-principal, has been nominated by several people both inside and outside the university. She told the *M&G* she would certainly take the job if offered it.

Frederik van Zyl Slabbert scotched rumours that he was a candidate: "I'm not that crazy," he laughed, adding that he had neither applied for nor been approached to take the job.

A new vice-chancellor must be appointed well before the end of the year, given that three deputy vice-chancellorship positions become vacant at the end of the year and the new vice-chancellor must have a say in the new appointments.

M+G 28/6-4/7/96 (54)

OFS students occupy hall (54)

BLOEMFONTEIN: Students yesterday occupied a hall in the administration building at the University of the Free State, saying black students did not believe university authorities were serious about their complaints and needs.

The occupation follows clashes between black and white students on campus during the weekend of July 21, when several police officers were injured.

Rector Professor Francois Retief assured the students their grievances were receiving attention. He was also considering appointing a commission of inquiry.

CT 30/7/96

Students threaten action as Bengu 'drags feet'

Star 31/7/96

(54)

By SUSAN MILLER

Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu believes good progress has been made on major issues affecting higher education, but student organisations accused him of dragging his feet and have threatened protest action.

Following a two-day summit on higher education, Bengu said yesterday that he was impressed that all except two delegations had accepted his department's document on transformation.

He admitted that no agreement had been reached about a number of issues including financial aid to

students, the need for a government-financed moratorium on financial exclusions, conflict resolution mechanisms, law enforcement on campuses and privatisation.

The broad agreements in the document included a vision of transformation, educational principles, a general definition of how transformation should be effected and an agreement on the structures which should be set up on the various campuses.

"There soon will be a situation where every institution is guided by principles enshrined in the constitution," he said, adding: "I got a clear message to push ahead

with issues from the stakeholders at the conference".

Student leaders said they were not satisfied with the progress made.

"We expected the minister to take decisions on various issues including student funding, a moratorium on exclusions because of non-payments and the establishment of statutory broad transformation forums," said one student leader.

Students added they were planning a national day of student mass action on August 7 to protest against the processes used by the National Commission on

Higher Education, saying the summit had merely strengthened their resolve.

They said they would plan action at all institutions, premiers' offices, the education ministry's offices and the offices of the president.

"We are tired of attending summits and conferences where we are in a position of weakness compared to other stakeholders. We, the so-called hooligans, came prepared to discuss all types of issues but they just did not proceed because of conservative elements in the education ministry and among white leaders of institutions," said one.

Cape Times students fare well

EDUCATION WRITER

SINCE the Cape Times bursary fund was established in 1983 it has increased the amount of money it sets aside to help cash-strapped students by 1 400%, the chair of the bursary committee, Mrs Esther Wides, said yesterday.

Around 90 students were awarded bursaries this year, most of them technikon students.

"Finding the money to pay for a university degree or a technikon diploma is becoming increasingly difficult for students because of the increase in fees," Wides said. "To keep pace with inflation, the Cape Times bursary fund has increased its bursaries year by year."

(54) CT 31/7/96
In 1983 about R20 000 was made available to help a handful of students but this year R300 000 was set aside for bursaries.

In its report on the performance of students who benefited from the fund in 1995, the South African Institute of Race Relations listed the average pass rate for the past 13 years at 78%.

"This is a commendable achievement given the poor educational background of most bursars and the ongoing turbulence on tertiary campuses across the country."

The report said nine students had finished their studies last year, bringing the total number of those who graduated with the assistance of the bursary fund to 154.

The qualifications achieved by these students cover a wide spread, from degrees in library science and law to diplomas in building surveying and clothing design.

When he retired as chairman of the fund recently, Mr Dennis Hennessey said the investment of fund capital in appreciating assets had to some extent offset the inflation in fees.

"The price of books needed by our students has soared and in this regard we were helped by a substantial donation from the Natal Building Society."

This R50 000 donation has made possible the granting of 65 book awards this year, valued at about R385 each.

Hewat students join forces with forum

CAROL CAMPBELL

CT 31/7/96

(54)

HEWAT teachers' training college students, under threat of losing their college, have joined forces with angry parents, teachers and pupils to fight the slashing of government education funds in the Western Cape.

A mass meeting on the Hewat campus yesterday attracted hundreds of people from the local community, who fear the loss of their college will be another blow to teachers. More than 6 000 teachers will lose their jobs in the province's schools by the end of the year.

Hewat students' representatives council president Ms Winnie Marthinussen said the Western Cape Parent, Teacher, Student Forum supported the Hewat campus community in its fight to keep the college open and they, in turn, supported the forum's fight to stop the loss of the teachers.

"On Monday we had a very unsatisfactory meeting with Western Cape Education MEC Mrs Martha Olckers, who refused to reverse her decision to close the college. We do not accept this and we will fight to keep our college open."

Forum chief Mr Des Barthus said schools which tried to set up "right-sizing" committees to abolish posts would be targeted by the forum. "We appeal to parents not to allow the committees to be set up. This way the blame will not fall on the principal, who has to report to the department."

Students plan countrywide protests to put pressure on government

Kevin O'Grady

(54) M 31
STUDENT groups plan to hold countrywide protests next week, claiming a government-sponsored conference on transformation in tertiary education held in Johannesburg yesterday failed to address several "burning" issues affecting students.

The Democratic Students' Alliance — representing four student organisations at universities and technikons — said protests would be held on Wednesday on certain campuses, at the edu-

7/96
cation department in Pretoria and at President Nelson Mandela's offices.

SA Students' Congress spokesman Nale Mashapa said the mass action reflected the organisations' dissatisfaction with the conference's failure to resolve issues tabled by students, including financial aid, admission policy and curriculum review. It was also part of the organisations' efforts to put pressure on government before legislation on restructuring higher education was tabled in Parliament this year.

Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu

said the two-day conference which ended yesterday was a success as it had resulted in stakeholders committing themselves to negotiated transformation at institutions. He had been impressed by delegates' "willingness to put forward for debate and discussion all the burning issues that continue to disfigure most of our campuses".

However, government sources said they were frustrated by student attempts to use the conference as a platform to present their point of view on issues being investigated by the Na-

tional Commission on Higher Education which is to make recommendations to government next month.

Government realised the futility of trying to please everybody and was now likely to "take a leadership position", a source said. "We must decide what we as government are going to achieve before the next conference on transformation and certain groups can continue to disagree if they want to."

No agreement was reached on a draft framework for transformation prepared by the education department

for discussion at the conference. It was agreed that a document prepared during the conference would be used as a "guiding document" until a future conference. The document said all institutions must form transformations with forums that include all formations with a "representative base and a legitimate stake in the institution".

Forums' decisions had to be considered by university councils. Disagreements had to be discussed by councils and forums and if agreement was still not reached, mediation should occur.

Classes continue in the face of boycott

(54) 80 31/7/96
EMPANGENI — Classes had not been suspended at the University of Zululand following a student boycott, public affairs manager Dirk Rezelman said.

Rezelman said students were attending lectures yesterday and the situation on campus was "business as usual". He was responding to news reports that the academic programme had been suspended after students boycotted classes on Monday to protest against the selling of degrees by certain university officials.

Rezelman said the student representative council had encouraged some students not to attend classes, but only a "trickle" heeded the call.

Students who boycotted classes demanded the appointment of a commission of inquiry into a scam involving the sale of degrees.

Last week a senior official of the university was suspended pending an internal investigation into the scam.

It was alleged that employees in the student affairs section had tampered with the marks of 20 students, and some disgruntled students had leaked the matter two weeks ago after they were denied their "supposed degrees".

Rezelman said the matter had resulted in innocent graduates being "tarred with the same brush".

University rector Prof Charles Dlamini yesterday said graduates implicated in the scam would be given a chance to defend themselves. He said the university would not withdraw the degrees until those suspected had presented their case.

He said an internal inquiry into the matter was expected to be completed within a week and its findings would be published after being discussed by the university management.

The student representative council was not available to comment yesterday. — Sapa.

EDUCATION - UNIVERSITY

1996 - 1997 - MAY

At last a show of unity at Wits

(54) MTG 1-7/10/96



The process of electing a new vice-chancellor has been steeped in irony, but finally students and staff have a spring in their step, writes **Philippa Garson**

In the space of a few months the University of the Witwatersrand has, against all expectation, picked up its scattered pieces and moulded a fragile new unity for itself. Last Sunday the selection committee picked Sam Nolutshungu to lead the institution into the 20th century. Exactly a year ago — also the last Sunday in October — Sunday newspapers revealed how 13 academics had moved to unseat then heir-apparent William Makgoba.

Their action set off the rapid unravelling of one of South Africa's premier universities. A seemingly endless cycle of witch hunts, threatened resignations, student protests and stormy midnight meetings polarised Wits into an increasingly miserable example of "transitional disaster".

One academic embroiled in the "Makgoba sag," committed suicide, two suffered severe heart problems and two others resigned. Whether the vicious fights triggered these events is unknown, but clearly the stress took its toll on the entire institution.

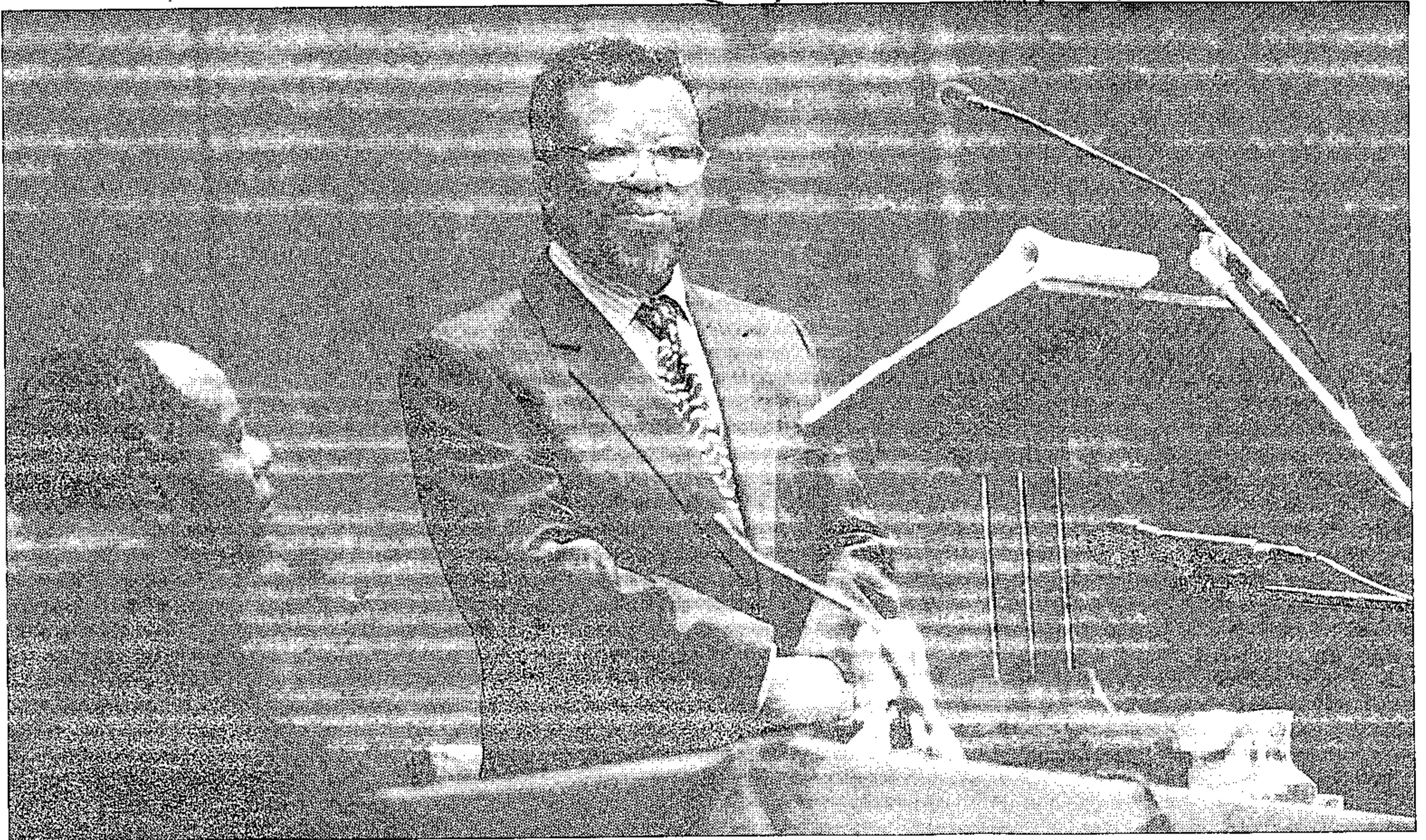
Now, for the first time in a long period, academics, students and staff are walking with a new spring in their step, singing the same praise song for the man who will most likely be the university's new leader.

The Senate and Council must still ratify the selection committee's 61% majority decision for Nolutshungu to take the helm: of 28 votes, 17 went to him, 10 to Deputy Vice-Chancellor June Sinclair and one to University of the North Vice-Chancellor Njabulo Ndebele. But his appointment appears to be a near-*fait accompli*, with a vote against this unprecedented celebration of unity between staff and students looking unlikely.

The whole process has been steeped in irony: six of the academics who moved to oust Makgoba last year were on this week's selection committee; the "progressive alliance" who had wooed a reluctant Ndebele to enter the race then overlooked him; and a rank outsider with slightly Africanist leanings won the day — despite the disastrous consequences of the appointment of another politically threatening "outsider" (in Makgoba) still fresh in the minds of most.

What looked set to be a clear fight between the other two candidates, Sinclair and Ndebele, turned out to be nothing of the sort. With his outstanding public address and solid handling of the questions pitched at him, Nolutshungu literally stole the show.

"He shone; he lit up the room," said an academic close to the selection process. "People were excited and exuberant and moti-



Sam Nolutshungu: 'He shone. He lit up the room'

PHOTOGRAPH: SIDDIQUE DAVIDS

vated for the first time — they bounced in the corridors after hearing him speak.

"With his conventional concept of academic freedom, his political independence and clear sense of how a university should operate and his obvious commitment to transparency and inclusivity, he managed to unify all the sectors."

Nolutshungu, who studied at Fort Hare and then spent his academic career in the United States, Canada, Britain and Nigeria, was labelled an "outsider" from the start and did not get much attention. But he is a respected political scientist who has made significant contributions to understanding South Africa's apartheid-era foreign policy and is involved in a key think-tank of African intellectuals, the Council for Development of Economic and Social Research in Africa, examining the continent's problematic transition to democracy.

His "suss" became apparent to all who listened to him. He is steeped in the politics of the place yet his hands are free from the baggage of parochial in-fighting. This, and his respect for academic autonomy and commitment to ensuring Wits as a centre of excellence, won over the "middle ground" academics alienated by Ndebele's discourse on higher education transformation which tended to subjugate the interests of Wits to the broader goals.

When the "progressive alliance" of academics, students and workers on the commit-

tee who intended voting for Ndebele saw this, they changed tack and decided to put their weight behind Nolutshungu rather than cause a split vote between Nolutshungu and Ndebele and risk a victory for Sinclair. Those who had wooed Ndebele buried their political inclinations and opted for pragmatism.

What Nolutshungu lacks in administrative experience he makes up for in charisma and leadership abilities — qualities perhaps more crucial in navigating a path through the choppy waters of transition. "Nolutshungu is clearly a man who can learn things very quickly. He is sharp and shrewd," said another source.

An academic close to Anne Letsebi, a member of the selection committee and of Thabo Mbeki's kitchen cabinet, scotched a report that she had orchestrated the Nolutshungu lobby and in the end pushed an African National Congress agenda. "She worked as a team-worker with others in the progressive alliance," said the source.

Ndebele's downfall, it seems, was his beholden stance to the ANC's vision for higher education, despite his reputation for political independence. Clearly, he was the ANC's choice and had the backing of President Nelson Mandela.

But the "middle ground" academics saw this as a possible threat to academic autonomy. And his transformation talk, albeit sincere, "was solid but fundamentally threaten-

ing to Wits".

Furthermore, Ndebele is not a man who plays to an audience. In a highly transparent process where public performance counted a great deal, he was "naked", as one academic put it; his performance was lacklustre. Those who backed him for his leadership calibre and his ideas, chose Nolutshungu instead to save the institution from Sinclair. "It was about keeping Sinclair out," said another academic.

Sinclair, who has impressive administrative experience, is regarded, however, as having an adversarial management style. "There would have been trouble if she was appointed and the academics knew it," commented a senior academic.

Others were not impressed with her "trendy management theory of re-engineering the university and gearing it towards the market", said sociologist Glen Adler. One member of the public asked if she planned to turn the university into a "spaza shop".

If Nolutshungu gets the job, Sinclair's future is uncertain. Her term of office expires at the end of the year and rumours abound that she is tipped to lead Crawford College's proposed university venture. She was not available for comment.

Outgoing vice-chancellor Robert Charlton, who retires at the end of next year, described the process so far as "taking transparency and democracy all the way — a great plus for the university".

Wits choice: 'Prof Who?' in the US

(54) M+G 1-7/11/96

Mungo Soggot

THE selection of Professor Sam Nolutshungu as the University of the Witwatersrand's new vice-chancellor may have grabbed the headlines in South Africa, but it passed by the United States university town of Rochester.

The local newspaper had not heard of Nolutshungu, a political science professor at Rochester, never mind his sensational victory before the 28-member selection committee which has almost certainly landed him the top job at South Africa's most famous university. The only entry in its archives connected with the academic was that a child of his had been nominated a black scholar by the Urban League of Rochester, a town 400km from New York City with about 250 000 mostly white inhabitants.

Rochester University's public relations office had not heard the news when approached. After Nolutshungu informed them he had not officially been appointed, the office decided it was inappropriate to arrange comment from students or colleagues.

Nolutshungu said he felt the selection process for the post had been "long, cumbersome and tiresome". He said such an excessive commitment to transparency was unlikely to have succeeded anywhere else. However, after having been through it, he supposed it was the correct approach to have taken. "It gave everyone a chance to be heard, and convinced all concerned that the selection process was done fairly." Nolutshungu and his two competitors delivered a speech in the university's great hall, and were then interviewed on closed-circuit television by the large selection committee.

Nolutshungu, who was born in King William's Town and lived abroad for 31 years, said he had been surprised that so many South African commentators and newspapers had been so certain of the outcome of the selection considering the strength of all three candidates and the thorough selection process.

He said he was an admirer and supporter of the ANC, but that he would not necessarily toe the party's line on education policy. "I will not be a representative of its politics." Asked about his political leanings in the United States, he said if he could vote there — he is a British citizen and recently regained his South African passport — he would "probably not vote Republican".

He said he was well aware of the difficulties facing Wits, which put it worlds apart from the quieter campus of Rochester. "Maybe the task is beyond me, maybe I'll manage it." The two universities, Wits and Rochester differ vastly in size. The American college has just 6 800 students to Wits's 20 000. He said it was crucial the university and commentators on its "transformation" stopped thinking permanently in "crisis mode".

Nolutshungu said he had been an active anti-apartheid campaigner while in exile and had written copiously on apartheid.

At last a show of unity at Wits, PAGE 26

WITS UNIVERSITY

NOLUTSHUNGU'S STUNNING WIN

(54) FM 1/11/96

The nomination of Sam Nolutshungu by a special selection committee as next vice-chancellor of Wits University represents a spectacular triumph for a man who was given little or no chance of defeating rival candidates Njabulo Ndebele and June Sinclair.

Nolutshungu's success is doubly astounding because of the wide margin of his victory over Ndebele, whose candidature had the blessing of Nelson Mandela and the unofficial but undoubted backing of the ANC when the selection process started. The extent of Nolutshungu's victory is reflected in the votes cast by the 28-member selection committee: Nolutshungu — 17; Ndebele — 1; Sinclair — 10.

Nolutshungu's selection still has to be approved by the university's senate, transformation forum and council.

But, barring some unforeseen development, that is a formality and he will take over from the present vice-chancellor, Robert Charlton, at the end of next year after serving as Charlton's understudy for a year.

The decisive final surge by Nolutshungu, who has studied and lived in the UK, Nigeria, Canada and the US since he went into exile in 1965, can be interpreted as a triumph for transparency or as a demonstration of the flexibility and power of the ANC political machine — or more plausibly, a combination of both.

Those who subscribe to the first theory note that the selection process was designed to be as open as possible: after delivering addresses and fielding questions at the university's great hall, the three candidates were interviewed on closed circuit television by a selection committee, representative — in the modern idiom — of all stakeholders at the university.

The explanation is that Nolutshungu came across as a person of high intellectual calibre, fine-tuned by a philosophical wisdom and a sense of humour. Ndebele — who is vice-chancellor at the University of the North — is said to have performed much less impressively, with the result that there was a transfer of

loyalty from Ndebele to Nolutshungu.

There is another dimension: those who started out in favour of Ndebele were motivated in part by strong antipathy to Sinclair, a deputy vice-chancellor at Wits. Her "forensic" style of arguing aside, dislike of Sinclair is prompted by her tough approach to dissent which degenerates into vandalism and memories of her 1993 decision to call in the police to stem the destruction of property and disruption of lectures by student protesters.

Taking account of hostility towards Sinclair by university "progressives," the explanation posits that Ndebele's original backers, sensing that a decline in his support might open the door for her by splitting the antivote, decided to vote for Nolutshungu instead.

As a member of the selection committee observes, Nolutshungu had another attraction: as an outsider who had lived abroad and who had not been embroiled in the initial skirmishes over the succession struggle, he was a relatively neutral figure, one with appeal to liberals on the committee as well as "progressives" inclined to favour the ANC — a vital consideration because the successful candidate had to secure endorsement by at least 60% of the 28-member selection committee.

Department of political studies' Sheila Meintjes, gives a sense of Nolutshungu's positive impact. She describes him as a "breath of fresh air," as a person with a "collegial vision" for the university rather than "corporate management" approach of the present university administration of which Sinclair is an important component.

But, while not quarrelling with this explanation, some participants in the selection process believe it fails to take account of a critical factor in Nolutshungu's

surprise win: the role of the ANC.

Faced with the unthinkable — a Sinclair victory over its unofficial candidate — it is believed that the ANC acted resolutely, through its members on campus, to switch its support from Ndebele to Nolutshungu. A woman who is thought to have played a role in the tactical shift is Anne Letsebe, a member of the selection committee and, critically, of Thabo Mbeki's think tank. Letsebe, however, refuses to comment on her role, if any, in the lobbying which saw Nolutshungu come from behind to win.

Nolutshungu, who has little administrative experience, faces a formidable task. As Sinclair pointed out in her address, Wits is dependent on State subsidies but these have declined by about 25% in real terms during the past decade and may result in a further deduction of R14m next year. The expedient

of further increases in student fees is not feasible since, as Sinclair puts it, "a point has been reached where more and more students require financial aid and cannot pay the fees."

These problems, plus the turbulence generated by the challenges of post-apartheid transformation, will tax Nolutshungu's unquestionable abilities to the full. To succeed he will need all the collegial co-operation he seems equipped to inspire.

The contribution of "corporate managers" will be indispensable if he is not to flounder in his new role. ■

RECONCILIATION CONTROVERSY

ASMAL'S SAINTLY CADRES

A war of words has broken out between liberal academic Hermann Giliomee and the authors — including Water Affairs & Forestry Minister Kader Asmal — of a



Sam Nolutshungu

'Black' varsities facing closure

(514)

MFG 1-7 1996

Joshua Amupadhi

THE 17 universities and technikons created for blacks are struggling to survive in the post-apartheid era. Some face closure unless drastic rescue efforts are put in train.

About 100 000 students are at the universities with more than 30 000 at the technikons.

The warning about their plight comes from Professor Cecil Abrahams, vice-chancellor of the University of the Western Cape (UWC) and a committee member of the Historically Disadvantaged Tertiary Education Institutions (HDIs).

Abrahams declined in an interview with the *Mail & Guardian* to name any particular institution, but said: "You could just look at the amount of debt and the lack of academic and support services infrastructure some of them are faced with ... to realise they will not survive, but others are better placed."

One of the institutions he has in mind seems to be the University of Zululand developing of (Unizulu) which is carrying a debt of R20-million incurred by former students. Unizulu representative Carl de Villiers said there was little chance of recovering a large part of this. Some of it was owed by students who had completed their courses but would not get their degrees until they paid. But the biggest portion was owed by drop-outs.

De Villiers said the outlook for Unizulu was bleak because, unlike former white universities, the HDIs did not have cash reserves on which to fall back. Professor Abrahams said there was a growing perception that historically black campuses were second-class institutions, despite having been the

pride of the majority in the past.

He said the HDIs, which have made it their mission to serve the disadvantaged, remained critically underfunded.

"We have not yet received the attention to make us compete [with former white counterparts]. Sometimes we feel that racial problems [on former white campuses] are getting more attention while substantial issues at HDIs are ignored."

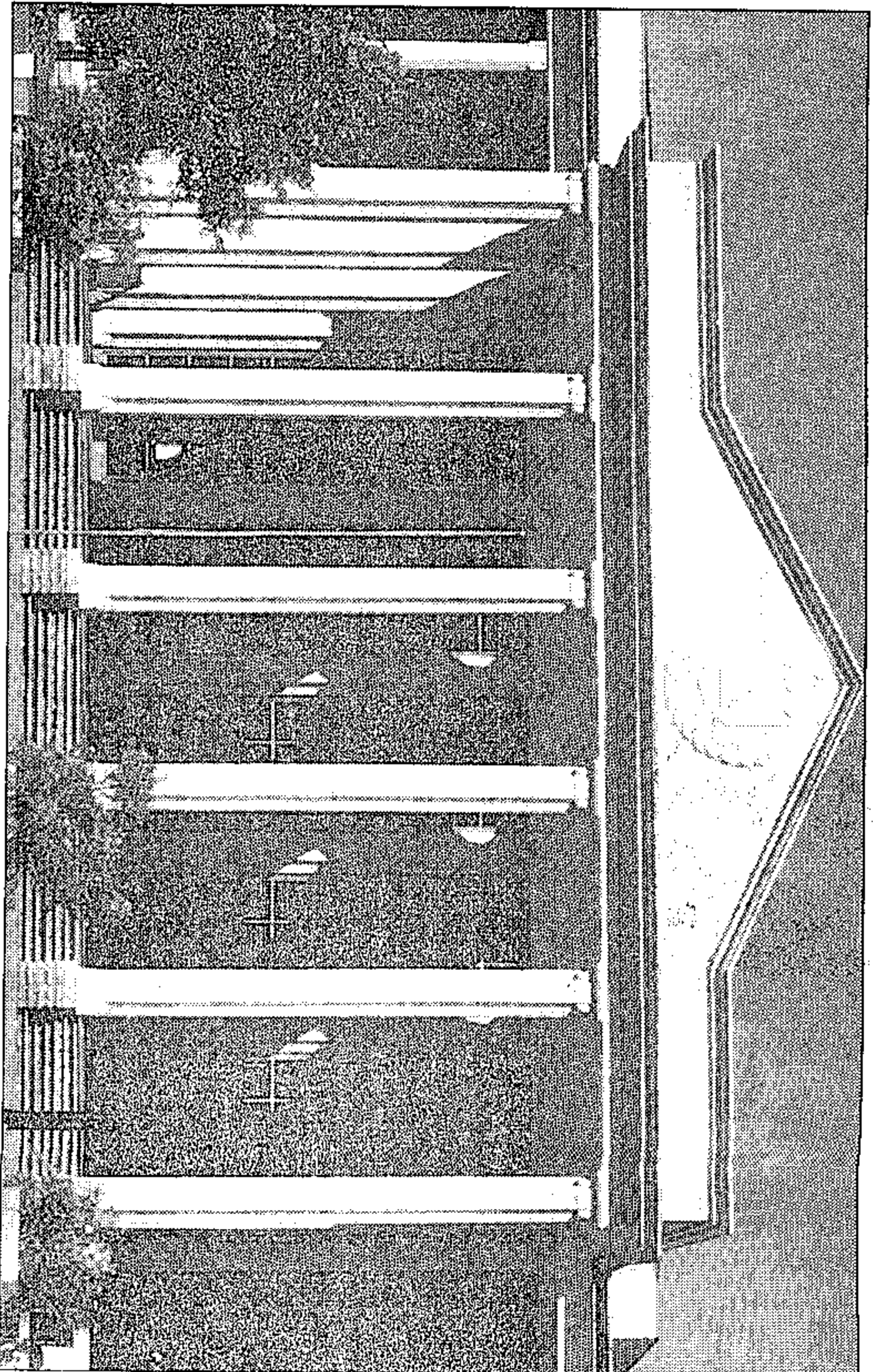
Apart from the funding problem the number of students at HDIs was growing faster than could be accommodated, he noted. For example, UWC had an average student-lecturer ratio of 31:1 compared with 14:1 at its neighbours — the University of Cape Town, the Cape Technikon and Stellenbosch University. Getting students from poor high school backgrounds, he said, meant more resources needed to be spent on bridging programmes.

"The problem is not one of attracting students to our institution, but we are drawing students with the weakest matriculation results."

Because of better resources and facilities, former white universities and technikons were "drawing students from the cream of the crop".

According to Abrahams, many of the institutions expected conditions to improve in the new political order, and instead have found themselves pushed to the verge of complete marginalisation.

Echoing this, the vice-chancellor of the University of Port Hare, Professor Mbulelo Mzamane, told the *M&G*: "As we emerged from the past as a historically disadvantaged institution, we had hoped to get a post-apartheid dividend, from the new democratic government, as a reward for our heroic



Hard times: UWC takes two years to recover 70% of money owed by students

PHOTOGRAPH: RODGER BOSCH

struggle against apartheid over the years. We are still waiting for this — two years into independence."

The University of the Western Cape's registrar for finance Andre de Wet said it took at least two years to recover 70% of money owed by students.

In a bid to deal with these problems black universities and technikons met in Mmabatho last month and agreed that isolation and inadequate funding were key obstacles faced by the HDIs in competing with former white counterparts. They decided to strengthen links with each other and discussed ways to "enhance academic excellence". They plan to co-ordinate research and to campaign for funds.

Professor Phineas Mabetoa, dean of the faculty of health and social sciences at the University of the North West, told the *M&G*: "Our aim is to get all the country's tertiary education institutions together, especially our white counterparts who are well-endowed with facilities and human resources." However, the Mmabatho meeting

was weakened by the fact that only five of the country's 17 HDIs attended.

Organisers said this was due to poor communication and late invitations.

In other interviews with the *M&G*, Professor Joe Teffo, executive assistant to the vice-chancellor at the University of the North, said HDIs had to design "innovative" methods and create a culture of learning to attract the best students and staff.

"There has been a discrepancy in funding and developing of infrastructure but we should make the best out of the worst conditions," he said. Academics moving to the former white universities, "to beef up already advanced institutions", were perpetuating the imbalances.

The national president of the South African Students' Congress (Sasco), David Makhura, said the curricula at some of the HDIs were "shameful" as they still reflected the past educational system.

"The HDIs should be given adequate resources because the competition for students remained unfairly in favour of the former white campuses," Makhura added. "We want every institution to be developed into a truly South African institution. What the former white institutions have is resources and infrastructure. But their values, academic research and so on should be directed to the people of South Africa."

A representative of the University of Venda, Rufus Khariidzha, said the government had to develop a special funding system for the HDIs. The current system whereby natural sciences received higher government subsidies was unfair because the majority of black students studied non-science subjects. The University of Venda, he said, had 7 000 students — more than double its planned 3 000.

Ministry of Education representative Lincoln Mah said it would be of little use to dish out money without having a proper policy in place. A green paper on high education, to be issued soon, will deal with funding and other matters aimed at redressing past imbalances.

Row over prayers sets off Maties fracas

M&G 1-7/1/96

(54)

A student's refusal to pray has highlighted religious and racial discrimination at Stellenbosch, writes **Marion Edmunds**

A PETITE 21-year-old Stellenbosch University student says she has been repeatedly heckled, abused and intimidated by fellow residence students because she refuses to pray after meals.

Lawyers' letters are flying between the student, Yvonne Malan, and student leaders of the Harmonie residence after a botched attempt to outlaw her from the dining-room.

Malan, now in her third year, told the *Mail & Guardian* this week that the intimidation was part of a history of conflict which dated back to her first year when she resisted the *doop* (initiation) activities, and also presented different viewpoints from the norm.

"Apart from Wilgenhof, this is the oldest residence in Stellenbosch and it is very strong on tradition. Nobody speaks against it, and it's mostly filled with third-generation students, people whose grandmothers were at the res.

"In first year, they hung up the National Party flag and I objected and I got hammered ... the day before the general elections they made everybody sing *Die Stem*. I refused and by the time I got to my room, the mob was already there waiting ... they also try and keep me awake at night by banging on my door at 3am ... it's mostly a psychological thing."

Malan, who is majoring in philosophy and politics, has a coloured boyfriend and she says this causes her further problems.

"A girl came to me and said I must remember that '*mossies word met mossies en spreek word by spreek*' (birds of a feather flock together)," she said.

Malan said the residence was unofficially separated into white and coloured students, with the race groups sitting at different tables in the dining-room, and engaging in different activities. She said the white students referred to coloured people as "*daardie mense* (those people)" and that their rights counted for nothing.

Malan said that she often ended up eating in the dining-room on her own

because she was considered *persona non grata* by her white counterparts.

She said she left the dining-room after meals without waiting for prayers to be completed. The row concerning this has been simmering since September when students at a house meeting, which she was did not attend, discussed her behaviour and reportedly passed a motion to outlaw her from the dining-room.

She could not find documentary evidence about this, but wrote to the house committee asking for an explanation of her rights. She received a letter from a lawyer which said that her rights as an individual were subject to the rights of the majority, which were Christian, and asserting that the residence was private property.

She took legal advice and responded that there were no grounds for this argument. She also objected to the tone in which the letter had been written. Another lawyer's letter followed, from the house committee, apologising for the tone, but saying that there would be no further trouble if she behaved herself. Her lawyer is drafting a response.

The *primaria* (head student) of the residence, Jorisna Bonthuys, said that the matter was an internal one, and that it had been dealt with. She said there were no grounds for the allegations of intimidation, and referred the M&G to the dean for Student Affairs.

A representative for Student Affairs,

'... they also try and keep me awake at night by banging on my door at 3am ... it's mostly a psychological thing'

Danie Roux, said: "The whole matter sounds very funny, and it is strange that we have not heard anything about it. I am afraid we cannot comment without knowing the specifics of the case, so perhaps you could encourage the student to come to us and we could help."

Roux denied that there were such problems on campus, or that racism in residences was an issue.

Malan said she had not gone to the authorities to complain because everybody would close ranks and deny any wrongdoing, and because the authorities' first loyalties were

always to the residences.

"They will say that I am throwing the Afrikaner tradition down the drain," she said. "Those with problems are too frightened to speak when it comes to the crunch, because you are not just fighting the administration, but also the National Party in the Western Cape, the Studentekerk and a faction of the Broederbond."

The chairman of the Students' Representative Council (SRC), Nadine Fourie, said she had not heard of the matter but intended to follow it up.

"We would strongly condemn and take strong steps against discrimination because we support the principle of religious freedom. I have heard that the rule of obligatory prayer has recently been scrapped by the house committee, but it's clear that not all parties are happy, so we will definitely follow this up and try for an amicable solution. There seem to be a lot of communication gaps at the moment."

Fourie said that intimidation of the sort described by the student was unacceptable, but was cautious about commenting without knowing the full details.

"We have to understand that we are moving to a situation where different people of different cultures and beliefs will be living together on campus. Our res tradition is important, it is an integral part of Stellenbosch culture, but that culture must be one of tolerance and there must be an exchange of cultures.

"The disproportionately small number of black students to white students makes it very difficult to integrate on a social level, and this will have to be addressed by the SRC and the university."

The minister of education's special advisor, Thami Mseleku, said the house committee's stance on prayer was unconstitutional.

"All these matters are of great concern to the minister and the Commission for Higher Education and we are reviewing similar reports from Potchefstroom University where Muslim students are being expected to do certain actions and take certain courses which are contrary to their religion."

Mseleku said Stellenbosch students had raised the issue of racism in residences and on campus with him when he visited the campus last year.

1.8 2.5 3.0

LEAD

EDGE

5

1.8 2.5 3.0

HORIZ

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Homecoming overwhelms 'future'

Wits rector

CP 3/11/96
CP CORRESPONDENT

TO RETURN to his country of birth after 30 years to become the rector of one of South Africa's foremost universities is an overwhelming experience, Professor Sam Nolutshungu told City Press.

He is very excited about this new step in his life.

Nolutshungu was recommended for the post of rector by the selection committee of the University of the Witwatersrand last Sunday.

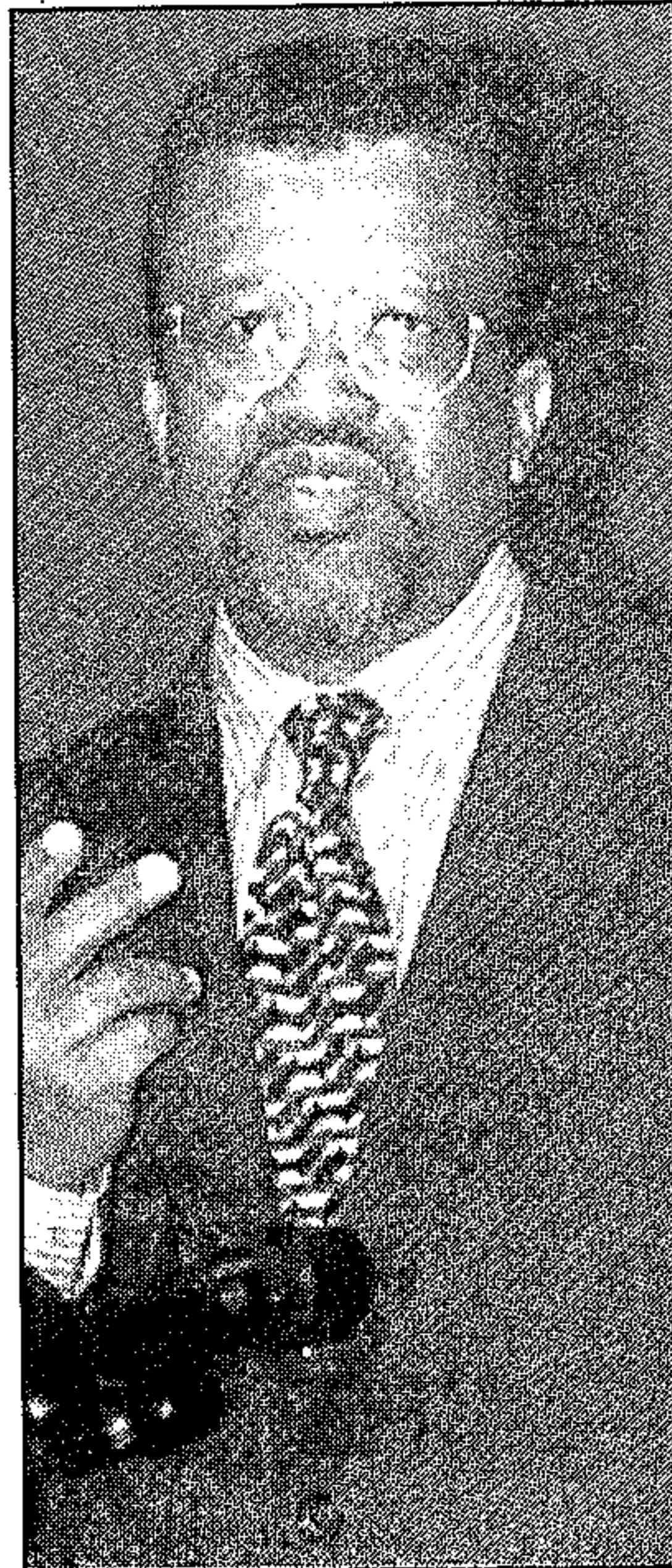
"I am delighted by the selection committee's decision – but I am tensely awaiting the decisions of the senate, the university council and the transformation forum. So far the result has been a pleasant surprise after a very exhausting week," he said.

At this stage it seems unlikely that the recommendation will be rejected by the university council or the senate.

Prof Nolutshungu and the two other candidates for the post, Professors June Sinclair and Njabulo Ndebele, last week spelt out their vision for Wits to students and lecturers at public hearings.

"The purpose of the public hearings was not to make election promises to students, but to lay an intellectual foundation for the direction in which I would take the university," Nolutshungu said. "If the selection committee wanted to know more about what I was planning for Wits, they would have asked me."

He feels a bit nervous about his return to his country of birth after



NERVOUS . . . Prof Nolutshungu tensely awaits decision of the senate, the university council and the transformation forum to confirm him as Wits' first black vice chancellor.

thirty years – should the senate and the university council confirm the recommendation.

"I always kept contact with South Africa – especially during the past six years. I will only be able to take up the post at Wits in the middle of next year, because the academic year here (at the University of Rochester, New York) will only end then.

"But the possible move is both exciting and terrifying at the same time. That's probably always the case when one has to move," he said.

Quest for equality threatening excellence

54 25/5/11/96

SOUTH AFRICA'S universities must change, argues Democratic Party leader TONY LEON. This is an extract from a recent address he made to Stellenbosch University on Transformation, Race and our current positions.

PLINY the Elder, in the first century AD, wrote: "There is always something new out of Africa." I am glad every day for this, for life's constant challenge and fresh winds. You face the challenge of transforming your university. You have the opportunity to create, not just something new out of Africa, but something better.

The Democratic Party, in trying to create something new and something better here in SA, has often been accused of being the party of big business and a home only for white English-speakers. Today we see that 70% of the faces in our youth group are black and more often than not the editorials in the Afrikaans newspapers praise our activities.

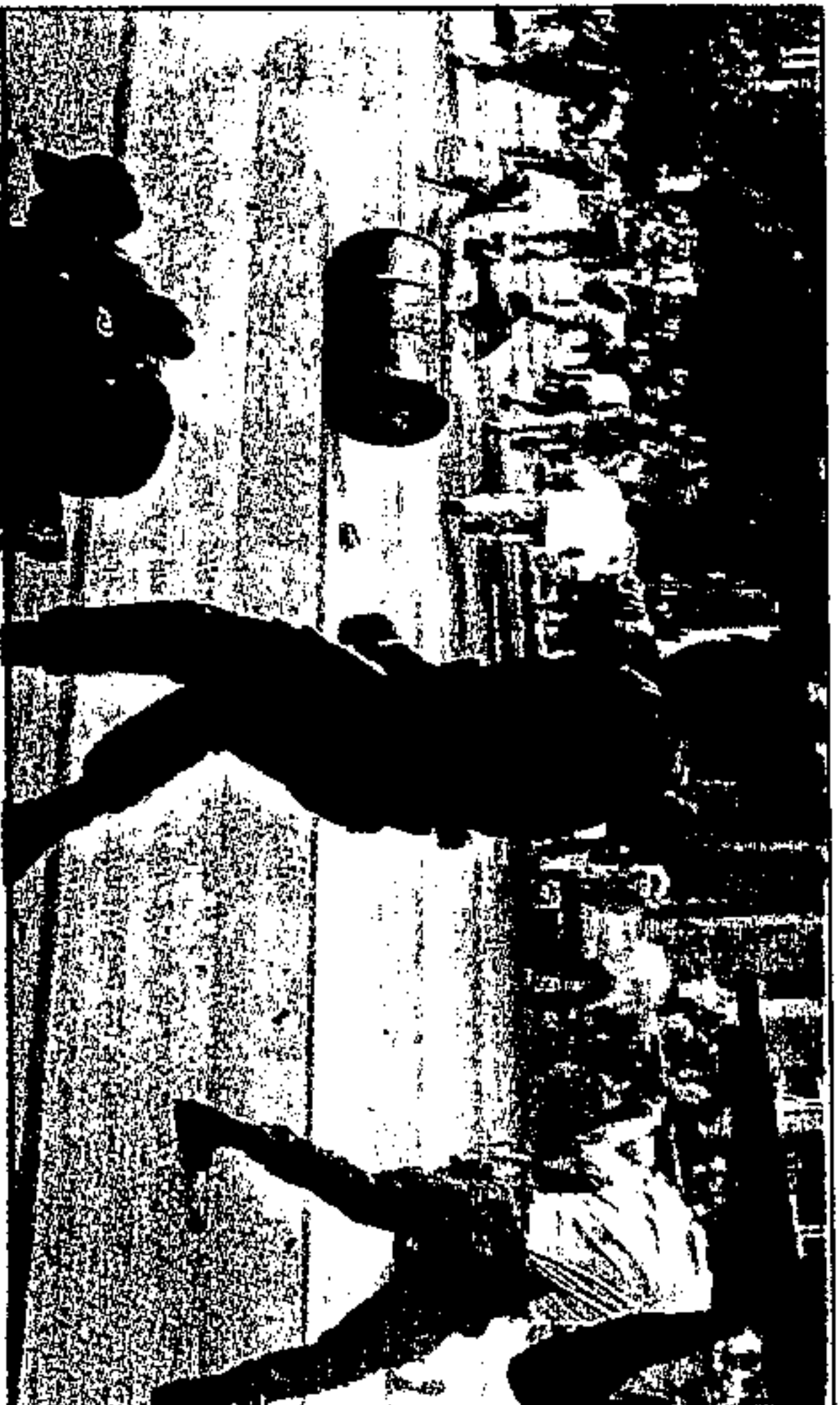
The late Etienne Murelhik wrote prophetically about the William Makgoba affair at Wits University that even the Minister of Education was blinded by questions of race. The real topic about quality in universities was subsumed to that of targets and quotas.

He wrote: "The question now is whether South Africans want quality universities — universities in which transformation means quality teaching and research for the benefit of all our communities, not crude ethnic cleansing."

Change for change's sake — for the appearance of change without the underlying reality or hard work needed to effect it — is almost as dangerous as standing still. No doubt we are, in a sense, in revolutionary times.

But remember how easily revolution can change to disillusion. On the revolution in France, Edmund Burke warned: "You choose to act as if you had never been moulded into civil society and had to begin everything anew. You began ill, because you began by despising everything that belonged to you. You set up your trade without capital."

There are two things we must bear in mind when we discuss transformation. One must be the phrase that was uttered recently on *The Tuesday Night Debate*: Transformation is a process; it is not an event. And the other is the aim of the process: social



empowerment and economic upliftment of the historically oppressed.

Instead, transformation is beginning to mean little more than an immediate transference of racial powers regardless of ability, competence or qualifications. If we are not careful, SA could end up sacrificing excellence for equality. Instead, it is imperative that we strive for both.

Further, the discussion of transformation must take place against the backdrop of the historical failure of the South African school system. Access to primary and secondary educational opportunities based on the brutal racial qualifications of apartheid has left South Africans with a legacy of inequality.

It is manifested in all spheres of society — particularly in the job market and in the rarefied world of tertiary and post-graduate education. It has also created an inherently unjust racial imbalance among people qualified for positions of leadership and responsibility. Without entry into the halls of knowledge, the halls leading to the boardroom will always be blocked.

There is no question that we must strive to eliminate these structured imbalances as rapidly as possible, because they underlie and exacerbate the racial tensions that continue to hound our society. For this reason, the DP enthusiastically endorses the process of transformation.

There are many issues linked to transformation — more financial aid to disadvantaged students, the

PLACES OF LEARNING?

Universities face students who are devoting as much effort to disrupting their campuses as they do to their studies.

language of instruction, broadening admission requirements and an Africanisation of the curricula. All of these topics are push buttons for heated debate.

But we must have, and we must resolve, this debate in an intellectual way, not by using the mobilisation of street violence and trashing, which has become the hallmark of campus dissent (as evidenced recently at the University of Pretoria).

There are students on most of SA's university campuses who think it should be the government's duty to pay for bursaries (or the university's duty to waive fees). The Minister of Education, Sibusiso Bengu, makes the point that "in a country with more than 15 million adults who are illiterate and thousands of young people who have not had the opportunity to learn, government can't use its limited resources to make higher education".

The DP agrees. SA's education budget is 22% of the country's budget and 6.8% of its GDP. This is above the world average of 5.1%. Rather than simply funding bursaries we must instead address the skewed nature of the department's budget — 80% of it is consumed by personnel costs.

We should devote more of education's budget to adult basic education and training, laying the foundation for better earning power for our citizens and thereby improving the nation's ability to pay for higher education; and early childhood education, so

that school leavers interested in continuing their education are academically better equipped to compete for the chairs in this lecture hall.

Universities which might choose to fund bursaries or lower fees for all students face students devoting as much effort to disrupting their campuses as they do to their studies. As of June 1996, it was estimated that protesting students at SA's universities and technikons had caused more than R4 437 604 in damages in the previous 18 months.

About one-third of the government's R3 billion funding to universities nationally is spent on students who fail. Lowering standards for admission may help reverse this grim statistic, but it will do nothing to prepare SA's students to compete in the international market place. Only a rigorous course of study will produce the ideas to make it possible to bring schooling and justice within the reach of all South Africans.

Writer and critic Robert Hughes makes the point that "universities are institutions of higher learning, not of social therapy". He goes on to ask: "Do they have the right to lower admission standards and teaching levels so that the disadvantaged can catch up, at the expense of the educational rights of more able students?"

The answer for SA can only be a resounding no. If the causes of poor performance lie too far back in the school system to be corrected at the university door, then lowering the qualifications for students would be a grave mistake. It could only result in the perpetuation of the initial levels of equality.

The chairman of the steering committee of the Broad Transformation Forum, Moffat Dyasi, says: "Transformation should be a process that ensures that each institution excels in its core mission — learning."

The country's resources must be geared toward filling the requirements of the nation, especially in the fields of scientific and technological training. Admission standards must support this. If the business world emphasises the quality of products and services, the university cannot afford to concern itself only with quantity.

The commitment to equality which we will need as a passport to the new SA should never imply a leveling down. It must be an upward impulse. We must preserve the centres of educational excellence so that SA's reconstruction and development will evolve from a plan to a reality.

Degrees scam probe continues

(54)
Sametam 6/11/96

By Sipho Khumalo

THE commission of inquiry into the alleged degrees scam at the University of Zululand entered its second day yesterday with 600 students set to give evidence.

The inquiry, headed by public protector Mr. Sebyi Baqwa, follows a request by students at the university that an independent inquiry should be conducted into the degrees scam.

It is estimated that about 40 people have "bought" degrees at the university and some officials have already been suspended.

Among those who "bought" degrees are two SABC announcers, police officers, a magistrate and an advocate.

University spokesman Mr Carl de Villiers said yesterday that they were not in a position to provide fuller details on the commission's proceedings.

De Villiers said all media enquiries were being handled by Baqwa, who was expected to finish his work on Friday.

● The University of the Western Cape is investigating allegations that security guards were using electric shock devices to keep control of students on campus.

Probe into use of electric shock stick on UWC student

(54) ARG 6/11/96
SABATA NGCAI
EDUCATION REPORTER

The University of the Western Cape has appointed a commission of inquiry to investigate allegations that security personnel at the university used electric shock sticks to control people who were applying for admission for next year.

University rector Cecil Abrahams today confirmed the appointment of the commission.

Professor Abrahams said the commission, which would be headed by a law professor, was expected to report next week.

Joan Muller, who works for Cape Town's Trauma Centre for Victims of Violence and Torture, said she witnessed the incident.

"I went to the university to apply for

next year and I saw a security guard using an electric shock device on one of the students," Ms Muller said.

"I can even go to the university and identify the security guard."

Professor Abrahams took exception to what he called the "bad handling" of the matter by the trauma centre.

He accused the media of "printing statements without getting the university's side of the story".

Professor Abrahams said the trauma centre was supposed to have written a letter to the university about the problem instead of informing the media at the same time.

"If you have a complaint you should direct it to the person concerned," he said.

The trauma centre said its response that it was not prepared "to stand by and turn a blind eye while people are tortured".

Guard 'did have shock baton'

UWC professor to probe use of electric clubs

ADIELE BALETIA
STAFF REPORTER

The University of the Western Cape has confirmed that a security guard had an electric shock device which was allegedly used on students, but has denied that such instruments are standard issue to campus staff.

Rector's office spokesman Alwyn van Gensen said the alleged use of a handheld electric shock device by a security guard on Thursday last week to control students who were applying for admission to the university for 1997, was being investigated.

John Murphy of the Law Faculty will head the investigation and the findings will be released next week.

"The question of whether the device was used or not and in what manner, will be looked into," Professor Murphy said.

Mr Van Gensen stressed that security staff were not issued with electric shock devices.

Allegations by the Trauma Centre for Victims of Violence that an electric shock instrument was used against students during a scuffle outside the cashiers' office in the administration block were reported by Saturday Argus last week.

Trauma Centre spokesman Thomas Winslow said in a letter to UWC Rector Cecil Abraham that "high-voltage devices were used as instruments of torture and were used by police around world as tools of repression in human rights abuses".

'The university never sanctioned the use of electric shock devices for crowd control'

He asked the university to prohibit electric shock devices and "other dangerous security technologies".

Trauma Centre staff member and UWC graduate Joan Muller, who witnessed the incident, said two security guards were controlling access to a single cashier.

Ms Muller alleged that one of the guards had a shock device which he had used on students.

(54) ARG 9/10/97

an electrical short circuit and the student fell back into the crowd screaming."

Ms Muller said other students told her the security guard had shocked the student.

The same tactics were allegedly used at a later stage.

UWC Development and Public Affairs Director Stanley Ridge said the university had never "sanctioned the use of electric shock devices for crowd control".

He said the allegations were being taken seriously and, if proven, the university would take appropriate action.

Mr Winslow said this week he had asked the Human Rights Commission to investigate the matter.

He said he was not satisfied that the university would investigate the matter and had asked Professor Abraham to appoint an independent panel of human rights experts to consider the allegations and recommend security measures.

Mr Winslow said Professor Abraham had accused him of aggravating the situation by approaching the commission.

'We repeatedly warned of the dangers arising from the spread of shock weapons'

"We never approached them. They phoned us after reading an article. I have now formalised the matter and asked the commission as an independent body to investigate."

Mr Winslow has also asked the university to introduce a human rights education programme focusing on torture by campus security personnel and to issue an apology to students and staff affected by Thursday's alleged incident.

Earlier this year the use of electric batons by Transnet security personnel was found to be a contributing factor in the Tembisa railway station stampede.

Amnesty International said: "We have repeatedly warned of the dangers to human rights arising from the rapid spread of electro-shock weapons as well as the dangers arising from inadequate training of law enforcement officials and security personnel."

The organisation said it supported calls for a ban on electric shock devices in South Africa.



Prof under investigation

54 MTG 15-21/11/96

Ann Eveleth

PUBLIC Protector Selby Baqwa confirmed this week that he is investigating allegations — uncovered during a probe into the beleaguered University of Zululand's fake degree scandal — against a senior academic at the institution.

Associate professor of history, Jabulani Maphalala, is the vice-dean of the arts faculty and a member of the University Council. Baqwa confirmed he is investigating allegations that Maphalala irregularly altered a course grade for a student in terms of an unauthorised re-examination which allowed the student to graduate.

Baqwa said the alleged irregularity was uncovered when it emerged that the student — now employed in the admissions, registration and records section of the university — had allegedly also received two other irregular course grade changes. These other changes fell into the probe's broader focus of course grades allegedly purchased illegally from corrupt officials.

A former Inkatha Freedom Party central committee member, Maphalala applied unsuccessfully for the

post of truth and reconciliation commissioner. His rejection was widely believed to result from his alleged involvement in the events surrounding the 1983 Ongoye Massacre in which several students were killed on the campus by an attacking impi after a student boycott opposed an invitation to IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi to address graduation ceremonies.

Maphalala could not be reached for comment at the time of going to press, but the documents in the possession of the *Mail & Guardian* suggest he was aware of the transgression.

University of Zululand's head of protection services, Ken MacKay, confirmed his receipt in June of a letter from Maphalala, dated June 28 1996, which explained that he had given an oral special re-examination to the student without authorisation from his head of department.

"I unfortunately forgot to tell Professor Johan de Villiers about this oral examination because of other commitments which needed my attention. I have apologised to Professor de Villiers about not informing him about this student," Maphalala said in the letter.

UWC seizes stun guns

ADELE BALETA

STAFF REPORTER

ARG 16/11/96

Eight stun guns have been confiscated from campus security personnel by the University of the Western Cape (UWC) after allegations surfaced that an electric-shock device was used to control a crowd there two weeks ago.

UWC rector Cecil Abrahams said the stun guns were found and immediately seized, but added that the university's executive was unaware of their existence.

He was commenting on the initial findings of an independent investigation into the allegations conducted by Human Rights Commissioner of the Western Cape Rhoda Kadali.

The university has conducted its own investigation into the alleged incident and law professor John Murphy will present his findings to the university's executive. A press conference will be held on Monday.

Last week the university confirmed the existence of one hand-held electric shock

To page 2

magistrates face music in bogus degree probe

HUGE Huge fake!

Professors, advocates,

What a

EXCLUSIVE

and
using
data

By CHRIS
HLONGWA



(54) CP 17/11/96

TOP ACADEMICS and even senior members of the legal profession are among the long list of prominent South Africans alleged to have obtained fake degrees from the University of Zululand.

Among the 598 people being investigated in the scandal is the Esikhawini chief magistrate, Thambi Mnyandu, City Press can reveal.

Mnyandu is alleged to have received credits for senior law courses in which he never wrote exams. He has appeared before public protector Selby Baqwa, who is heading a commission probing the scandal.

According to documents submitted to the commission, Mnyandu's name appears more than four times in connection with fake credits.

He was allegedly given a passing mark of 50 percent for one exam he apparently did not write.

In another exam he apparently did write he allegedly got 20 percent at first - but it was changed to 50 percent, a

passing mark.

Mnyandu's alleged bogus degree is also under investigation by a commission made up of magistrates.

Also implicated in the scandal are several professors, senior lecturers, advocates and other senior academics countrywide.

In all, 598 people are being investigated - and many more could have received fake degrees from the university over a period of several years.

A document in the possession of City Press lists many academics who have appeared before the commission.

Some of the people allegedly did not write subjects at all, but were later credited with a pass mark of 50 percent - mostly by Alson Ngubane, then the chief faculty officer, who has since been fired by the varsity.

The regulated passing mark is 50 percent - but those who wanted to further their education by gaining an honours degree had to get at least 60 percent.

Documents in the possession of City Press indicate that some students obtained a mark of 54 percent - but that the marks were altered to 64 percent so that the students could pursue an honours degree.

Some of the administrators who allegedly worked in tandem with Ngubane to increase students' marks are BA Buthelezi, BJ Vorster, BM van der Westhuizen, BM Zulu, DG Sibisi, JD

TO PAGE 2

P.T.O.

Professors, magistrates face music in bogus degree probe

□ FROM PAGE 1

Adams, M Malan, NJ Xulu, PF Lembede, V Baxter and A Chin.

□ New evidence has also strengthened the allegation that in the initial investigation the university had presented Ngubane as the main culprit while some higher ranking officials were involved.

Due to appear soon before the independent commission headed by Baqwa, Ngubane is to allege that he was instructed by senior staff to alter marks so students would pass.

Ngubane also illegally credited himself with a number of courses, according to the documents.

Some alterations to marks have been found to be valid by the investigations – but many are irregular and Baqwa has recommended that some implicated students be stripped of their credits, while others would not graduate this year.

□ It also emerged this week that associate professor of history Jabulani Maphalala – a vice-dean of the faculty of arts and member of the Uni-

versity council – was being investigated by the public protector in connection with an irregularly altered course grade for a student.

It is alleged that this led to an unauthorised re-examination which allowed the student to graduate.

Yesterday Maphalala's daughter Sibusisile said the professor was not at home.

□ Meanwhile, former KwaZulu cabinet minister Samuel Jamile – who was at the Baqwa hearing – has denied he was there in connection with fake degrees, even though documents indicate at least two of his children are on the list of those whose credits are under scrutiny.

□ Baqwa has ruled that his inquiry – which involves current and former students and officials of the university – be held in camera to protect the identity of those under scrutiny. However, he has confirmed the names of Ngubane and Maphalala as people under investigation.

City Press has also learnt from Baqwa's office that a certain Dhudla, – an official in the admission, regis-

tration and records department who is also a student – is facing disciplinary action from the university for involvement in the scam.

Another employee in the same department, a Miss Gumede – who is also a student – is among the 15 people whose cases were finalised by Friday and who will face disciplinary action.

□ Ngubane – the man at the centre of the scandal – has already been dismissed, but is challenging the dismissal in court.

□ "In some of the cases money did change hands," Baqwa said in a statement. He recommended that 72 courses be withdrawn immediately by the University Council.

"Some students will not be able to graduate as a result."

□ Four people have already been charged with fraud – including policemen who allegedly bought their degrees – and will appear in court on November 22.

About 598 case are being investigated in respect of irregularities by auditors Deloitte & Touche – and

deans of the six faculties have been told to check the academic performance of the students against their results and make sworn statements to the public protector about their findings.

Some students were concerned that the inquiry would be based on information provided by the univer-

sity's officials only.

Baqwa is assisted by Professor K S Hunt, a former registrar at Rhodes University, and Advocate Tobie Barnard.

The inquiry will resume on November 25, and adjournment is expected in December, to continue again in the new year.



THESE COMES A TIME OF RECKONING... The University of Zululand's vice-rector, Professor Colin Boshoff, with a list of the names of students who have false credits, during the hearing of the degrees scam inquiry at Ngye.

National financial aid to relieve poor students

(54) CT 18/11/96

UNIVERSITY and technikon fees are expected to rise by between seven and 10% next year — but the government is to set aside funding for a National Student Financial Aid Scheme for poor students.

The unofficial amount "hoped for" from government is R350 million — R50m more than in 1996 — the executive director of the Tertiary Education Fund of South Africa (Tefsa) Mr Roy Jackson said.

Financial aid — which converts 40% of a student's loan into a bursary if they pass all their subjects — will be made available to students through Tefsa.

University of the Western Cape (UWC) spokesperson Ms Carina McIntosh said the university was holding ongoing talks with the Student Representative Council and other "role-players" to ensure it is prepared for the large numbers of students who will need financial help next year.

Tuition fees at UWC will go up by 10% next year — BA degrees will cost R5 240 a year and BSc and B Comm degrees R5 700. It will cost a first year student R7 500 a year to stay in residence without food and an extra R4 000 with food.

Cape Technikon fees will rise by 7%, the director of public relations Mr Henry Visser confirmed.

It will cost R12 000 to complete a marketing diploma and R11 500 for a computer diploma. Full board and lodging will cost about R7 900.

Besides the Tefsa loans for cash-strapped students, the Technikon also offers merit bursaries for first year students who had excelled at school.

Stellenbosch University spokesperson Mr Douglas Davis said the university administration was currently deciding on the fee increase for next year.

So far the university had not

been officially informed about the government's financial aid scheme for next year.

He said the university would make a special effort to help cash-strapped students but students were expected to make some contribution towards the costs of their study.

Spokespeople from Peninsula Technikon and the University of Cape Town (UCT) said their fee increases are still under discussion.

UCT spokesperson Ms Helen Zille said the university had not heard of specific government plans for a national student aid scheme and this was causing "great concern and uncertainty" because it was difficult to plan for the future.

"The government has been repeatedly warned about the financial aid crisis and of the likely serious consequences if there is no swift action," she said.

Unisa suspensions condemned

(54) CT 21/11/96

PRETORIA: The University of South Africa's national student council has condemned the university's suspension of eight students.

The students were suspended yesterday pending an internal hearing into incidents of violence and disruption at the university, during which staff were allegedly assaulted and sworn at.

Six of the students were arrested for refusing to hand back a car the university had hired for them.

Unisa spokeswoman Ms Doreen Gough said the move to suspend the students followed a request by their lawyer that their hearing be postponed.

The university believed this was a delaying tactic and had decided that it was in the best interests of all parties to suspend the eight, Gough said.

They would be allowed to write examinations in January and could register for next year, if they qualified to do so. — Sapa

Students call on Bengu to intervene at Unisa

BD 2/11/96 (54)
Kevin O'Grady

THE Azanian Students Congress (Azasco) at the University of SA (Unisa) called for ministerial intervention yesterday after nine students, including student representative council (SRC) leaders, were suspended pending a disciplinary hearing.

Azasco president Console Tleane said the students were suspended after a successful application on Monday for a postponement of the hearings — in which the students face charges including assaulting and insulting staff members.

Sapa reports Tleane said Azasco had appealed to Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu's office for intervention and would also organise protests and sit-ins by workers and students on campus unless Unisa's management resigned.

Tleane accused the university's management of intimidation ahead of a meeting of the university's broad transformation forum scheduled for today and tomorrow. "It's a ploy to weaken the voice of the students at that meeting," Tleane said.

However, Unisa spokesman Ronel Rensburg said the university saw the postponement of the hearings as a delaying tactic and believed it was in the interest of all parties for the accused to be suspended until their case was heard.

Rensburg denied the suspension was tantamount to intimidation, saying that although the suspension prevented the affected students from entering the campus, they would still be allowed to attend the forum meeting to air their views.

SRC spokesman Enoch Nango said Unisa principal Marinus Wiechers was trying to frustrate and sabotage the transformation process.

Students lose in funding crisis

An increase in poorer students and a decrease in government funding has left universities battling to resolve a cash crisis, writes **Andy Duffy**

Mail 22-28/11/96

(54)

But deputy director general John Samuels says the new national education budget is expected at best to lift expenditure on tertiary education in line with inflation.

"There's no doubt the sector is under serious financial constraints," Samuel says. "We can't really talk about the system without putting more resources in. If the trend continues either students will have to be cut back or fees will increase dramatically."

Wits says it is drawing up a "strategic" reshaping plan, which includes adjusting staff levels, focussing on science and technology courses, and reviewing the more general elements of its bursary system.

"Universities until now have been able through bursaries and scholarships to support any student who passes," representative David Williams says.

"I don't think any of the universities are in a position to continue

doing this. We will come to a point where there will be a student who can't pay his fees and so can't continue."

Stellenbosch has started a four-year programme to cut nearly one-fifth of its 1 800 academic staff. Costs are also being pruned by farming out services such as building and catering.

The University of Pretoria is planning to cut courses and staff. Orange Free State is rationalising costs, and Fort Hare says it is streamlining to focus on courses such as agriculture and science (which attract higher government funding).

"We expected a post-apartheid dividend of substantially more funding," a Fort Hare representative says. "To our dismay, anticipated resources are unavailable."

Universities and technikons draw the bulk of their funding from government subsidies, with fees, outside donations and investment income

providing the remainder.

Government funding for each institution is adjusted each year, depending on a variety of criteria. The theme over the past 10 years, however, has been cutting the subsidies — a trend only halted last year — while student fees climb higher.

The subsidy to the University of Cape Town (UCT) fell 37% in real terms between 1985 and 1995 (when it was R195.7-million), cutting its contribution to the university's net revenue to 57% in 1995 from 75.3% in 1985.

Samuels says the department is aiming to lift the subsidies' contribution to the universities' funding back to 70% of their total revenue needs, with real increases pushed through last year. Subsidies accounted for 69.5% of Port Elizabeth Technikon's funding in 1996, from 60.4% in 1995 (though its overall revenues dropped to R66-million from R94.2-million in 1995, despite an increase in stu-

dents).

But even if subsidies do rise in the next year, it is thought unlikely the increase will be anywhere near to meeting the higher costs linked to enrolling more disadvantaged students. The proportion of fee-paying students is also not expected to rise.

Asked about possible cutbacks, UCT identified its financial aid and academic development programmes — which costs it R30-million a year — as a potential target.

It says the government funding formula takes no account of the financial background of a university's students. "We are very concerned about the extent of the budget cuts that may arise and that may be impossible for us to accommodate," a representative says.

The universities' finances are also being hampered by rising student debt, either from unpaid fees or loans. Stellenbosch is currently owed R11.3-million, Orange Free State R10-million, UCT R16-million and Fort Hare R18-million.

Several technikons were contacted for details of their funding, but failed to respond before the *Mail & Guardian* went to press.

THOUSANDS of students could be refused entry to universities next year amid an escalating funding crisis which is forcing institutions to axe staff and courses.

Wits, Cape Town, Stellenbosch, Pretoria, Fort Hare and Orange Free State universities are all drawing up rationalisation plans, as they struggle to balance lower government funding with an expected increase in numbers of poorer students.

The Department of Education says attempts to widen student enrolment will be scuppered unless more government money is pumped into the sector.

The existence of stun batons and their alleged use against would-be students at the University of the Western Cape who were attempting to register for 1997 led to an outcry. There has been an investigation into the incident on October 31 and this week the UWC released the findings of its internal investigation. The Centre for Victims of Violence and Torture's Thomas Winslow has responded to the report.

UWC inquiry completed

Use of shock baton on campus an 'isolated incident'

(54) ARL 23/11/96

ADELE BALETA
STAFF REPORTER

University of the Western Cape law faculty member John Murphy has released preliminary findings on allegations by the Centre for Victims of Violence and Torture that electric shock devices were used on campus last month.

UWC's rector Cecil Abrahams has released a statement on the report.

Professor Murphy said the 11-page document was a preliminary one and that time constraints and other commitments had prompted him to focus on the main issues only.

He was asked to investigate the case by Professor Abrahams after Thomas Winslow, of the Centre for Victims of Violence and Torture, sent a letter to the university alleging that stun guns were used on the campus.

The allegations were based on an account by a Trauma Centre staff member Ms Joan Muller, who is also a graduate of the university.

Professor Murphy interviewed Ms Muller, the security officials who were alleged to have used the equipment, and the head of Campus security personnel.

Professor Murphy said he had found that, at the time, the university was in possession of stun batons and that one security officer had brandished an activated stun baton as a "deterrent" in a situation where a group of prospective students, seeking access to the cashier's office, "were proving difficult to control".

He said that "students' unruliness and their disorderly and unco-operative behaviour contributed in a large measure to the problem".

In response to the allegation by the Trauma Centre that the use of the instruments "caused widespread panic and dismay", Professor Murphy said this was found to be unsubstantiated.

He said Ms Muller did not make this allegation, but rather Mr Winslow had. He said the comment amounted to "something of a distortion".

Regarding the allegation that Ms Muller saw one security guard use the device to



Deeply regretted: rector Cecil Abrahams said UWC had apologised for the shock baton incident

shock a female student and later saw the guard do the same to other students, Professor Murphy found that Ms Muller did not see this and did not claim to have done so.

He said she inferred from a student's reaction and from what someone else standing next to her told her, that a student had been shocked.

The cause of the incident was attributed to the inefficient manner in which admissions were dealt with.

While the process left much to be desired Professor Murphy said that delays were also due to students attempting to submit incomplete forms.

Professor Abrahams said the process of establishing the facts of the matter had been "befogged" by Mr Winslow who had released his letter to the media "as though the allegations were established fact".

Mr Winslow "did this without any reason

to assume that the university would not take the allegations seriously".

Professor Abrahams said this "had given currency to half truths and falsehoods".

Professor Murphy said in Mr Winslow's "precipitous burst of outrage" he had to some extent misstated the true facts and had misconstrued the event.

He said Mr Winslow's comments about the general use of shock devices in torture and human rights abuses around the world together with his unsubstantiated assertion that there was "widespread panic and dismay" and his mistaken claim that the device was physically applied more than once, had created the impression that torture was general practice at UWC.

This was not true - what happened was an isolated incident involving one security official, he said.

"Unquestionably what has happened can

be classified as inhumane and degrading treatment.

"Torture is an activity more extreme in kind," Professor Murphy said.

"The consequence of making reports to the press on the basis of untested evidence is that the picture is distorted," he said.

As a consequence the university had been cast in a worse light than it deserved, he said.

Professor Abrahams said the university "deeply regretted" the incident and apologised to those who were effected by it.

The use of electric shock devices for crowd control was not university practice and it was questionable whether it should be, he said.

"To our knowledge this is the first incident involving such a device."

Professor Abrahams said that the stun batons, purchased by a previous head of security earlier this year without the knowledge of the university, had been withdrawn from campus protection services.

He said this move pre-empted a recommendation by Professor Murphy that the use of stun guns by campus protection services be suspended "until the government provides a regulatory framework permitting the use of such instruments in a manner consistent with the right not to be subject to cruel, inhumane and degrading treatment".

Professor Abrahams said that as a result of Professor Murphy's recommendations two task teams would be established.

The first would formulate policies and guidelines on crowd control on the university premises and the provision and use of non-lethal weapons to deal with crimes on campus.

Professor Murphy suggested that Mr Winslow, the Trauma Centre and other relevant NGO's be invited to comment and offer advice to one of the task teams on how to deal with violent and unruly behaviour on campus in a manner consistent with a human rights culture.

Professor Abrahams said a second task team would be set up to investigate and recommend measures to effectively order and streamline the processing of admission applications, as well as the financial aspects of registration and bursary pay outs.

Real issue is pervasive use of stun guns in security industry

Thomas Winslow of The Centre for Victims of Violence and Torture believes the report and statement by senior officials of the University of the Western Cape is sharply critical of his organisation by suggesting that the centre had spread "false allegations", "obscured truth", "exaggerated" and "hyperbolised" about the use of electric-shock batons by campus security. Here is Mr Winslow's reply.

A UWC graduate registering for admissions at the university complained that two campus security guards used an electric shock device against other students as a crowd control measure on 31 October 1996.

The complainant is a staff member at the Trauma Centre for Victims of Violence and Torture and she asked the organisation for its assistance in dealing with this case.

On 1 November, the Trauma Centre wrote to the university's rector, Professor Cecil Abrahams, asking him to appoint an independent panel to investigate the allegations and to make recommendations for future security measures; to implement a programme of human rights education for campus security; to prohibit the possession of electric shock devices at UWC; and to apologise to those who may have been affected.

While we never ever suggested that UWC tortured its students, the Trauma Centre pointed out to the rector that non-lethal technologies like electric shock devices have been used in South African and other countries around the world as instruments of torture.

UWC appointed one of its own faculty members, John Murphy, to investigate this complaint. Professor Murphy proved the following points:

■ The former head of Campus Protection Services authorised the purchase of 10 electric shock devices in February, 1996.

■ UWC security personnel used one of these devices in crowd control measures against young people seeking admission to the university on 31 October.

■ The university had no official policy governing the use of these devices on campus.

We are satisfied that the original allegations contained in the complaint have been proven incontrovertibly. Did the shock baton actually touch the students?

Professor Murphy could not determine whether the electric shock device actually touched any of the students involved in the incident.

Professor Murphy interviewed the security officials, but not the students for their side of the story. Therefore, he could not make any finding on this question in his preliminary report.

We believe that whether the device actually touched a student or whether it was merely brandished and activated is beside the point.

What is crucial for us is that Campus Protection Services authorised the purchase of 10 stun batons without issuing clear guidelines for their usage and as a result, one of them was used in crowd control measures.

Does this action constitute torture? For the record, it is important to note that

Electric-shock devices have been used in SA as instruments of torture

security officials "tortured" UWC students. We did draw attention, however, to the provision in the constitution which prohibits torture and other forms of cruel, inhumane, and degrading treatment or punishment. We were concerned that the use of electric shock devices might infringe upon the constitutional rights of UWC students.

The Murphy report confirmed that the use of electric shock devices is a dangerous practice, "morally unacceptable", and constitutes "inhumane and degrading treatment".

What steps have been taken since the report was released?

The Trauma Centre welcomes moves on the part of the university to redress a very serious wrong in its security practices.

We believe that UWC is a model of corporate social responsibility in building a culture of human rights in South Africa, and hope that others follow their lead.

Was it necessary to inform the media about this complaint?

We are sorry that UWC has adopted a defensive approach on this issue, but believe that our organisation had a number of moral responsibilities in handling this case.

■ We believe that it was in the public interest to report this complaint because UWC is a state-funded institution and the alleged incident took place on public property. We did not state the allegations as facts, but informed the media about the nature of the complaint and cited the sources of the information. This is a common journalistic practice, provided that the identities of the

■ We are concerned that if we did not draw public attention to the complaint, then there might have been occasion for a repeat of this incident before the university had addressed the matter or completed its investigation. We wanted to prevent a repeat of the Tembisa train massacre tragedy. We felt that informing the media would help safeguard the health and safety of UWC students. We hoped that public scrutiny would ensure an independent and careful investigation.

■ The complainant requested us to contact the media on her behalf.

■ If we had remained silent about this complaint, we could have been accused of bias towards the university, covering up the incident, and therefore, complicity in the use of electric shock devices.

We stand by our decision to go public immediately after this incident.

We hope that we acted in the interests of the public in drawing attention to the potential health risks to students at a publicly-funded institution and highlighted the possible infringement of their constitutional rights.

The real issues at stake here are not about UWC, but the pervasive use of non-lethal technologies like electric shock devices throughout the security industry in South Africa.

Remember the deaths resulting from the use of electric shock batons that occurred at the Tembisa train station earlier this year.

Remember the stories of electric shock torture told to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

If our memory serves us well, and if we are committed to implementing the provisions of our new constitution, then we must prohibit

Battling reduced budgets, several universities are now also embroiled in rows over staff selection and pay

Venda rejects salary increase recommendation

(54) M+G 29/11-5/12/96

Andy Duffy

THE University of Venda has quashed a report by independent consultants which recommends hefty salary increases for staff. The university's council, which commissioned the report from respected Pretoria human resources consultant FSA-Contact, refused last week to accept the findings until FSA reworked the report and explained its conclusions. Staff had received an 18% salary increase before the report was handed in.

Deputy vice-chancellor Ndoro Vera says Venda is also withholding its R100 000 payment for the report

pending the rework, and even then payment may be a "contentious issue".

FSA, which has undertaken similar work for other universities, declined to be drawn on Venda's reaction to the report.

But the consultant responsible, Johann Naude, says he employed the same methodology at Venda that FSA uses for other clients. "This is between us and the university," he adds.

The report has been kept under wraps, but council sources say it runs to 12 pages, naming various staff members, their job specifications and their salary packages.

It concludes that many employees' responsibilities are below those specified by their job titles but also recommends large salary increases.

It suggests vice-chancellor Geesler Nkondo should receive a basic salary of about R630 000 — more than 30% above his current total package. The report says his salary range should be between R480 000 and R780 000. The latter figure is significantly above salary levels at other universities, according to council sources.

The report, commissioned by the council, forms part of a staff evaluation and reorganisation planned at Venda. The administration's refusal to release FSA's findings helped

prompt industrial action among non-academic staff earlier this month.

"Some consultants produce good reports and some do not, and if you are not careful you can accept a report which can put an institution in jeopardy," Vera says.

"We could not accept the report ... it creates false hopes in terms of salaries. This university is not heavily endowed."

Vera says FSA spoke to less than 50 staff in compiling the report, and senior management were not contacted. Staff have been brought into the reworking process — a decision which helped end the industrial action. The report is due to be con-

sidered by a special council meeting on December 10.

Meanwhile, the education ministry said this week it was still seeking Nkondo's response to mismanagement allegations made by staff associations last week. A ministry representative said the issue had been handed to education director general Dr Chabani Manganyi for further investigation.

In a paid advertisement in this week's *Mail & Guardian*, however, the university says the staff associations' allegations had been withdrawn.

The university says it is also co-operating with the public protector's investigations into other allegations. These centre on a credit card issued to Nkondo, with a credit limit of R150 000.

Rules changed to give staff huge payouts

M+G 29/11/96

(54)

Not taking their sabbatical leave proved highly profitable for four Stellenbosch University staff members, writes Marion Edmunds

THE Christmas mood at Stellenbosch University has been soured by revelations that four top administrative staff have been paid cheques of up to R200 000 each — after the university council changed the rules to make the payments possible.

The payments were made to them in lieu of extended sabbatical leave.

Student leaders, lecturers and council members say they are shocked at what is seen by many as irregular payouts at a time when the university faces major cutbacks which will lead to staff retrenchments, lower salaries for academics and fewer resources.

Sources close to the rector's office said four cheques were issued in about March this year. The two vice-rectors, Professor Christo Viljoen and Professor Walter Claassen, are said to have received R200 000 each. The dean of student affairs, Flip de Wet, and the director of finances and services, Nico Basson, are said to have received R150 000 each.

The rector, Professor Andreas van Wyk, authorised the cheques after administrative staff raised objections to issuing them.

Questions directed to the rector were answered by new university council chairman Gys Steyn of Rupert International, who said council rules had been changed to ensure "the most effective management of the university. In terms of established policy and personnel rules, academic staff and senior management are entitled to compensation for accumulated unused sabbatical as at date of retirement at the rate of remuneration applicable at time of retirement. Members of senior management are no longer active in their fields of study, but had to take long leave as the only way they could take advantage of this benefit.

The remuneration committee of the university council consequently earlier this year resolved that senior management be offered the option of being paid out the value of accumulated unused

leave at current salary levels. Senior management is now no longer compelled to take untimely extended leave at times when their services may be most needed for the effective management of the university," he said.

Steyn refused to confirm who had received how much, saying the number of people who had benefited from the scheme was confidential. He also denied the payments were bonuses.

It is not known whether academic staff, particularly those close to retirement, are able to benefit from the new rules, particularly as an early payout would save tax for recipients.

The *Mail & Guardian* has learnt that efforts to put the payments on the senate's agenda were foiled by the administration. The issue was not appropriate for discussion by the senate, said Steyn. The dean of law, Professor James Fourie, is said to have tried to persuade the rector to reverse the payments, but to no avail. Fourie refused to comment this week.

Administrative staff at the University of Cape Town, by way of contrast, do not get study leave save for the university's three chief executive officers. According to director of public affairs Helen Zille, the chief executives can accumulate up to 16 months' sabbatical, but can only be paid out for four-and-a-half months and only after retirement. Zille said sabbatical could only be used for study and travel relevant to the university and their portfolios or to their discipline. It could not be used for any other purpose.

Viljoen is one of South Africa's more prosperous academics and has had several well-placed and paid public posts outside the university. He is a former chairman of the SABC and did the job while operating out of Stellenbosch. He was appointed as a councillor to the Independent Broadcasting Authority but his handsome salary was stopped after he repeatedly failed to attend meetings.

A Stellenbosch University lecturer, who did not want to be named, said this week: "It's absolutely disgusting. Sabbatical or study leave is meant to be an opportunity for an academic to go to an institution or do research to better him or herself academically. One questions whether the administrative staff have the same justification for study leave.



Christo Viljoen: R200 000



Walter Claassen: R200 000



Flip de Wet: R150 000



Nico Basson: R150 000

"In terms of the new performance-driven salary package which is being introduced, they have just reduced the average salary in the Arts Faculty by 10% because they did not have enough money."

No interview for Nigerian

(54) M+G 29/11/96

Ann Eveleth

THE "mysterious" exclusion of a prominent Nigerian from the search for a new English department head has divided academic staff at the University of Zululand.

African literature specialist Professor Ramanas Egudu is lauded by his supporters at Unizulu as a "world-renowned scholar and expert on African poetry and oral traditions".

He was one of three candidates shortlisted for the post but was not interviewed by the selection panel this month amid conflicting reports that he was either unable to attend on the interview dates or could not be contacted at his current post at the University of Benin in Nigeria.

The selection committee rejected a bid by some of its members to delay the proceedings to accommodate Egudu and "voted that it was able to make a decision based on the available candidates and the information from Egudu's CV," said university spokesman Carl de Villiers.

The *Mail & Guardian* has established that the other candidates were acting department head Professor Myrtle Hooper and a Swaziland academic. The selection committee, it is expected, will recommend Hooper for the post at a university council meeting on Friday, despite growing pressure to delay making the appointment.

Art faculty dean Professor Herbert Vilikazi said he was disappointed that his arguments in favour of interviewing Egudu "did not win". "Our English department needs to incorporate the literary works and colours of the African continent. We don't need an Oxford English department, but an African one and I think the leading posts should be occupied by highly qualified Africans. Egudu is one," he said.

Earlier this week a group of concerned English academics petitioned rector Charles Dlamini to reconsider the decision of the committee he headed, warning that Egudu's exclusion from the process could foster the impression that academic posts are filled "in accordance with merely parochial or xenophobic considerations".

Dlamini could not be reached for comment but academic affairs vice-rector Alex Thembela said the committee would make its recommendation based on the two candidates interviewed, adding the committee would "mention the appeal made by

members of the English department".

"The matter is actually closed, but we are told Egudu is such an outstanding academic he should be interviewed. Unfortunately he missed the interview. Our personnel department reported he could not be contacted in time. You will understand how difficult it is to contact Nigeria these days," he said.

Human Resources manager Anna-Marie Olivier denied Egudu had not been contacted: "He was definitely contacted. He informed us at a late stage of the process that he couldn't make it on the dates provided," she said. De Villiers confirmed this view and said it was "Egudu's problem, not ours".

Some academics disagree. Vilikazi said efforts to attract high-quality academics should not be "bound" by the same local preferences as other posts and "we should make every effort to interview high-quality people even if we have to go there to interview them".

English lecturer Colin Jackson, who signed this week's petition, said he had contacted Egudu in Nigeria via a common acquaintance in Lagos and was informed that "the university did not contact him, although he is available and willing to be interviewed".

Jackson and other arts faculty academics say they fear Egudu's exclusion has "not only robbed the university of a great opportunity, but does not bode well for attempts to integrate South African students with a wider world and particularly a wider continental perspective".

Fellow English lecturer Bergard Roberts — described by colleagues as the only academic in the department with a grounding in African literature — said the fracas surrounding Egudu's exclusion pointed to "a new tribalist xenophobia rearing its head in South Africa".

Roberts said an arts festival held on the campus earlier this year had forbidden the use of English "even though there were guests from Nigeria. African literature can provide a bulwark against this kind of tribalism and isolationism and Egudu can help us do that. He is known for his unhesitating appropriation of English as a *lingua franca* of Africa, yet he is also an Africanist."

Egudu's recent publications include *Modern African Poetry and the African Predicament* and several articles in the leading African literary journal *African Literature Today*.

I think the leading posts should be occupied by highly qualified Africans. Egudu is one!

Fort Hare takes a bold step

(54)
Sowetan 2/12/96

Universities' limited resources must ensure quality education for all

THE greatest challenge facing universities was to design curricula that would equip them to meet the needs of the country, President Nelson Mandela said at the weekend.

He said universities needed to define their research tasks in line with the country's priorities.

Mandela was addressing more than a thousand people at a home-coming event for former students of Fort Hare University in Alice, Eastern Cape. The event was the culmination of year-long cultural and academic activities to mark Fort Hare's 80th anniversary.

It was attended by Zimbabwean president Robert Mugabe, Home Affairs Minister Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, New Africa Investments Limited head Dr Nthato Motlana, Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Alfred Nzo and Education Minister Professor Sibusiso Bengu. All are former Fort Hare students.

Mandela called on universities to explore ways of alleviating the shortage

of graduates with the skills and knowledge needed to sustain economic growth. Institutions of higher learning should use limited resources effectively to ensure access to quality education for all South Africans. He praised Fort Hare for holding the event which he described as a bold step towards restoring the historically renowned university to its rightful place among leading educational institutions in Africa.

"This home-coming of alumni is itself a demonstration of the commitment with which the challenge is being met," Mandela said. "In seeking to mobilise former students as partners in the funding of the university, Fort Hare is being true to the traditions which helped make the institution what it is and helped make its alumni the people they are."

Fort Hare in its four decades saw some of Africa's greatest scholars pass through its doors, and is the intellectual home of generations of leaders in the struggle for freedom on the sub-continent. - Sapa.

Hewat a casualty of rationalisation

EUNICE RIDER
STAFF WRITER

(54) ET 2/12/96

THE first tertiary institution for coloured people, Hewat College, founded in 1941, yesterday closed its doors for the last time — a casualty of rationalisation in education.

Hundreds of past and present students and teachers at the college attended the emotional closing ceremony, which ended with the lighting of a special candle in remembrance of keeping alive the college's motto: Post Tenebras Lux (out of the darkness the light shall shine).

Hewat College first opened its doors in Roeland Street and moved to Athlone in 1962.

It is to be amalgamated with the Cape Town College of Education in Mowbray as part of the rationalisation programme for education.

Speaking at the ceremony yesterday, a former rector, the Rev G Oosthuizen, said Hewat had seen periods of darkness in its history but had always managed to turn back into the light.

He had joined Hewat in 1962 and become the rector in 1969, but had left the teacher training college before it was engulfed in "terrible political pressures which turned it into a battlefield between the police and students".

He said the years of struggle and conflict with the police and the lack of moral support from the then education departments had "left deep wounds" that could not be forgotten.

But, he said, the then rector, Mr E Pratt, had managed to steer the college through stormy political seas and back into the light with the support of his students.

Oosthuizen predicted that Hewat, incorporated into Mowbray, would retain its irrepressible spirit.

Hewat's flame of struggle is finally extinguished

SABATA NGCAI
EDUCATION REPORTER

(54)

ARC 2/12/96

Hundreds of people have bade farewell to Hewat College of Education in Athlone, which survived apartheid only to be closed under the rationalised education policy of the new South Africa.

The teachers' training college, founded in 1941, closed its doors yesterday after a ceremony attended by about 500 people.

The emotional occasion signalled the end of an institution which fought tooth and nail against apartheid policies that sought to restrict it solely to the coloured community.

Sadness among the audience and the solemn feeling created by hymns contributed towards the atmosphere of a funeral service.

In January the college will merge with the Cape Town College of Education in Mowbray as part of the Government's programme to rationalise the education system.

Academics, education officials, present and past students and staff sat dejected, many with tears in their eyes.

Speaker after speaker paid tribute to the college for "keeping the flame of struggle shining".

They recalled that during the anti-apartheid uprising in the early 1960s the army and police had transformed the area around Hewat into a battlefield.

Staff said the closure of the college was something they had never dreamed would happen.

"Our thoughts and emotions are indescribable at this moment," said one, adding that the college had succeeded in producing teachers "on whose lips there is eloquence and in whose hearts there is devotion".

The college was originally established by the Cape Education Department as a separate institution for training coloured students as teachers.

Amid mounting resistance by students and teachers to racism, the college had opened its doors to other race groups during the past few years.

Concern over cost of studies at SA varsities

(54)

Many institutions will have little money for needy students and may have to decrease the number of bursaries

BY ADAM COOKE

The hope that tertiary institutions will boost the economy by turning out more skilled graduates is in danger of becoming a pipe-dream as they brace themselves for further subsidy cuts, some educationists have warned.

They predict that the cuts, together with inflation, will put university studies out of reach of most South Africans.

However, some argue that the unfortunate reality of having to increase fees, caused by inflation and subsidy cuts to these institutions, is not peculiar to South Africa, and should spark these traditionally well-resourced centres of learning into action.

It is expected that the national education department will make an announcement on subsidies

early this month. It has been rumoured that subsidies will be cut by up to 8%.

In Gauteng, some institutions that have budgeted ahead of the department's decision will raise their fees from between 8 and 12%

'Massification' could become no more than a pipe-dream

A source at the University of the Witwatersrand said tertiary institutions across the country would have to tighten their belts.

David Williams, a spokesman at Wits, added: "We can't go on asking parents for more money. They are at the limit of what they

can pay ... and for universities there is no fat left to trim," he said.

The source said there would come a time when tertiary institutions would battle to lend money to needy students and would be forced to cut back on the number of bursaries available to those students.

Williams said, as a result, "massification" - one of the cornerstones laid out in the report of the National Commission for Higher Education that seeks to increase enrolment - could become a pipe-dream.

Dr Roy Marcus, the chairman of Technikon Witwatersrand's council, said tertiary institutions were having to "remould" themselves because of cutbacks.

He said this was a worldwide trend and institutions should look to tailoring courses to suit the needs of industry.

From 2/12/96

Assessor to probe university funds scandals

CT 5/12/96

54

CAROL CAMPBELL
EDUCATION WRITER

PRETORIA: Scandals at universities and technikons involving stolen and abused funds, which have cost the taxpayer a fortune, will be investigated by a government-appointed "assessor" if a recommendation by Education Minister Dr Sibusiso Bengu becomes law.

The acting director-general of education, Mr John Samuel, said

the suggestion to appoint an assessor is contained in the green paper, a discussion document on higher education approved by the cabinet yesterday.

After public scrutiny, the green paper will become a white paper in April and thereafter the Higher Education Act in October.

The assessor will not be a "watchdog", but will be someone who can move in quickly to investigate irregularities, such as the alleged faking of degrees at

the University of Zululand.

Samuel assured universities and technikons the assessor would neither restrict their autonomy nor interfere with their academic freedom.

It is understood institutions were very "interested about discussing the issue" of an assessor.

He said the assessor would be sent to an institution at the request of Bengu to find out what the problem was and then advise him on the best way to solve it.

"Dr Bengu has to explain to Parliament how money from the education budget is spent. If half the money spent is unaccounted for, it is his problem."

To continuously set up "commissions of inquiry" was expensive when one person could sort out the problem quickly.

The assessor would have the legal authority to go into an institution under special circumstances when the interests of the government were under threat.

Senior education department official Mr Roelf du Preez said ongoing problems at Vaal Technikon were sorted out when a similar approach was used.

On the education budget for next year, Bengu said it had been cut, but he would not say how much money was available.

Bengu said yesterday once the new Higher Education law was in place, SA would have an education system which would address its historical imbalances.

Bengu seeks 'independent assessor' for campus crises

Kevin O'Grady

PRETORIA — Tertiary education institutions could soon be subject to quicker and easier state intervention in campus crises in terms of draft government policy on higher education approved by the cabinet yesterday.

The green paper, which will form the basis for a Higher Education Bill to be tabled in Parliament next year, provides for an "independent assessor" who can be deployed to campuses by Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu.

Releasing details of the document yesterday, deputy director-general John Samuel said Bengu would be able to deploy the assessor "under exceptional circumstances, particularly when the interests of government are under serious threat".

The proposal is likely to attract opposition from tertiary institutions, which could view it as undermining their autonomy.

Deputy director-general Ihron Rensburg said the appointment of the assessor would be a major departure from the current situation, in which Bengu's main tools of intervention were the public protector and the time-consuming and costly commissions of inquiry. The assessor would be a "rapid reaction instrument" who would assess serious situations — including those involving corruption, violence and vandalism — and advise Bengu on an appropriate course of action.

Director-general Chabani Manganyi said: "Autonomy has meant it's not always possible for the minister to intervene, even in instances of corruption. This would mean the minister can act very quickly."

Samuel said government had consulted the Association of Universities and Technikons on the document "and there were queries about the concept (of the assessor)". The proposal was open to further discussion.

The green paper follows the final report of the national commission on higher education, tabled in Parliament in October. The independent assessor proposal is one of few deviations from the commission's recommendations.

Others include a more cautious approach to more than doubling the number of tertiary students within 10 years as recommended by the commission.

"We see more effective use of distance education, open learning and information technology," Samuel said.

The document sticks closely to the commission's funding proposals, moving away from the current funding formulae which, he said, funded institutions "after the fact and makes it difficult for them to plan ahead".

The new system would involve institutions submitting details of their levels and fields of study and student numbers for negotiation.

(54)

Picture: Page 3
See Page 5

BD 5/12/96

Bengu seeks 'independent assessor' for campus crises

(54)
Kevin O'Grady
BD 5/12/96

PRETORIA — Tertiary education institutions could soon be subject to quicker and easier state intervention in campus crises in terms of draft government policy on higher education approved by the cabinet yesterday.

The green paper, which will form the basis for a Higher Education Bill to be tabled in Parliament next year, provides for an "independent assessor" who can be deployed to campuses by Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu.

Releasing details of the document yesterday, deputy director-general John Samuel said Bengu would be able to deploy the assessor "under exceptional circumstances, particularly when the interests of government are under serious threat".

The proposal is likely to attract opposition from tertiary institutions, which could view it as undermining their autonomy.

Deputy director-general Ihron Rensburg said the appointment of the assessor would be a major departure from the current situation, in which Bengu's main tools of intervention were the public protector and the time-consuming and costly commissions of inquiry. The assessor would be a "rapid reaction instrument" who would assess serious situations — including those involving corruption, violence and vandalism — and advise Bengu on an appropriate course of action.

Director-general Chabani Manganyi said: "Autonomy has meant it's not always possible for the minister to intervene, even in instances of corruption. This would mean the minister can act very quickly."

Samuel said government had consulted the Association of Universities and Technikons on the document "and there were queries about the concept (of the assessor)". The proposal was open to further discussion.

The green paper follows the final report of the national commission on higher education, tabled in Parliament in October. The independent assessor proposal is one of few deviations from the commission's recommendations.

Others include a more cautious approach to more than doubling the number of tertiary students within 10 years as recommended by the commission.

"We see more effective use of distance education, open learning and information technology," Samuel said.

The document sticks closely to the commission's funding proposals, moving away from the current funding formulae which, he said, funded institutions "after the fact and makes it difficult for them to plan ahead".

The new system would involve institutions submitting details of their levels and fields of study and student numbers for negotiation.

Picture: Page 3
See Page 5

Bengu's campus proposal rejected

(54) MTG 6-12/12/96

Vusi Mona and
Joshua Amupadhi

GOVERNMENT proposals to give itself swifter powers to intervene on crisis-hit campuses are likely to face a rough ride from universities and technikons.

The plans — part of the Ministry of Education's Green Paper approved by Cabinet on Wednesday — follow a spate of campus upheavals, in which state intervention has been largely confined to commissions of inquiry.

Minister of Education Sibusiso Bengu is calling for an independent assessor who would be his "rapid reaction instrument", officials say, in cases involving corruption and violence.

The proposal was not among the recommendations of the National Commission on Higher Education — the basis for the Green Paper.

The tertiary education sector, which jealously guards its autonomy, says the plan has been sprung on it, the rules are unclear and ministerial intervention could be a recipe for disaster.

Committee of University Principals acting chief executive Dr Johan Brink says the sector does not welcome the ministry's proposals. "If it is argued that universities cannot

solve their problems and so need an independent assessor, such a person would need to be a superman."

Dr Nasima Badsha, personal assistant to University of Cape Town vice-chancellor and principal Dr Mamphele Ramphele, says UCT would prefer exhausting its internal mechanisms, rather than using an outsider.

Rhodes University vice-chancellor David Woods says the proposal would ultimately leave South African higher education no better than its peers across Africa "where presidents appoint the vice-chancellor".

The Green Paper will go through a consultation period until next March. The ministry plans to present a higher education Bill to Parliament later next year.

● The Commission of Inquiry appointed in June to probe the ongoing conflict at the University of Durban-Westville has cost taxpayers nearly R1,4-million to date, with more than 80% of costs accounting for payments to two commissioners, the Department of Education said this week.

President Nelson Mandela appointed the commission following a clash between supporters and opponents of former Azapo president Itumeleng Mosala's application for the rectorship.

Outrage over cash-for-leave payouts to top Matie officials

(54)

PIETER MALAN
STAFF REPORTER

ARG 7/12/96

The University of Stellenbosch has been rocked by disclosures that five of its top administration officers have been paid more than R800 000 in lieu of long leave owed to them, without the direct knowledge of the university council.

The powerful council has the ultimate responsibility over the institution's finances, but apparently knew little, if anything, about the huge payouts.

University staff members are in an uproar over the extraordinary payments, which, they say, not only demonstrate a slackness by university authorities when dealing with public money, but smack of a gravy train mentality.

It is estimated that more than half of the university's operating expenses are financed from state coffers.

Furious staff members say the payments constitute a fundamental change to the rules governing the cash payout of leave owed to individuals.

The five officials, including the two vice rectors, received their cheques in March and April for accumulated long leave they had not been able to take, reportedly because of work commitments.

According to university rules such accumulated leave can only be paid out on the date of retirement, to a maximum of 10,5 months.

But in a shock disclosure, university spokesman Douglas Davis has now admitted that although the five officials had received cash payouts for leave, they could still qualify for a payout of accumulated leave when they (finally) retire, depending on "their position regarding unused leave at retirement".

Saturday Argus has learned that the actual amounts paid out to the five senior executives are as follows: Christo Viljoen, vice rector operations, received R200 000; Walter Claassen, vice rector academic, R180 000; finance director Nico Basson R157 933,30; chief personnel director Cobus van Wyk R142 500; and student dean Flip de Wet R127 874,97.

It is not certain whether the five men have already paid tax on the amounts they received, although South African tax laws force employees to deduct all taxes owed by employees before making any payments.

Judging from the amounts received, however, university sources believe the amounts may not have been taxed.

If this happened it would be possible for the five men to invest the tax portion of that money to "win back" some of the money owed to the tax man.

A tax expert said that on an amount of R200 000, taxed at 45 percent, it was possible to "win back" at least R7 000 of the money that would otherwise have gone straight into the receiver's pocket.

Although Mr Davis refused to comment on the actual amounts paid out, as these were "confidential matters", he denied that the amounts paid out were not taxed.

University staff are also extremely unhappy about the lack of proper procedures followed in awarding the cash bonuses.

Earlier this year the university's "remuneration committee" decided to

To page 3

Outrage over cash-for-leave payouts

ARG 7/12/96

(54)

From page 1

offer senior management the option of being paid out accumulated leave before retirement.

Board chairman Gys Steyn said: "From a financial point of view this arrangement is neutral ... as payment is made earlier, but at current remuneration levels instead of the higher levels at the date of retirement."

"This is merely a sensible arrangement to ensure the most effective management of the university and has no financial disadvantages for the university."

He said the payments were authorised by the university council's "remuneration committee", a committee on which the council chairman, deputy chairman and another council member serve.

At the time this decision was taken the committee members were David de Villiers, Marius de Waal and Mr Steyn.

Mr Davis said the committee was a sub-committee of the council and responsible to the council.

"As with most institutions the remuneration committee is authorised to make decisions on behalf of the council."

"If a member of the council wants to discuss any decision by the committee he can discuss it with the chairman or he can place it on the council agenda," he said.

Mr Davis said after "unfounded rumours" that efforts to place the issue on the council agenda were thwarted, the council chairman himself placed the issue on the agenda of the next council meeting.

Although the payments had been made almost nine months ago, the controversy has not died down since information about the payments was leaked to academics by university bookkeepers - in the belief that the professors would have a better chance of getting to the bottom of things.

Well-placed sources told Saturday Argus that at least one senior official with signing powers refused to sign the cheques, apparently because he smelt a rat.

When approached for comment on the extraordinary payment he received, Professor Viljoen said he had nothing to add to the statement released by Mr Steyn.

Professor Cobus van Wyk referred all queries to Mr Davis. Professor Claassen and Mr Basson did not return messages left with their secretaries, and Professor De Wet was not available for comment.

Russian pulls plug on

By CHARL DE VILLIERS

(54)

ST (CM)

UCT

8/12/96

A RUSSIAN businessman at the centre of a storm over illicit arms deals with South Africa is also implicated in a major funding crisis that has hit a prestigious University of Cape Town research institute.

Russian aeronautics' suppliers are demanding back billions of rands worth of military aviation equipment which Dr Mark Valoshin sold to Armscor as part of a sanctions-busting deal in the early 1990s.

And in an unexpected blow to UCT's Centre for Russian Studies, he recently indicated that he would not be able to uphold his R300 000 annual commitment to the centre next year.

This week, UCT public affairs and development director Helen Zille confirmed that Valoshin's Marvol Foundation would not be able to fund the centre in 1998 because of "cash flow problems".

Headed by Professor Appolin Davidson, the centre was set up in 1994 following Valoshin's undertaking to donate R300 000 a year for 10 years.

"He hoped to be fully on stream in 1998," Zille said. "UCT is trying to raise funds, but it's difficult to say if the centre is in jeopardy."

UCT's Professor Wieland Gevers, who headed the university delegation at its meeting with Valoshin, said he was not aware of Valoshin's role in the row over the Russian arms deal with Armscor.

"The Centre for Russian Studies is a very valuable institution and Prof Davidson is a much-honoured and valued scholar. It is, however, always a problem to be so heavily dependent on one financing source.

"We had absolutely no reason to doubt Valoshin's enterprises in South Africa, some of which are listed on the JSE.

"Valoshin has always been at pains to support the Russian centre and meet his obligations," Gevers added.

Valoshin, a Russian who heads the Luxembourg-based Marvol group, has extensive JSE-listed interests in the South African travel industry and hotels.

According to McGregor's *Who owns Whom*, Valoshin's hotel interests include Relais Hotels of the Cape — which has been awarded the management contract for the controversial White House hotel at Oudekraal — and he is a major shareholder in Karos Hotels.

In 1993, Marvol's South African projects included the development of new aircraft, a joint venture with Aerosud and RusJet and the supply of Antonov cargo aircraft.

He allegedly lives on a wine farm in the Boland.

Neither Valoshin nor any of Marvol's South African businesses could be reached for comment.

He has recently figured as a key player in a multi-billion rand arms deal between Armscor and Russian suppliers after he allegedly failed to pay the Russians for aeronautical equipment sold to Armscor for evaluation in 1991.

Armscor confirmed that Valoshin's company was the main contractor for all dealings relating to its procurement of 33 Klimov RD-33 jet engines for re-engineering into South African Mirage F1s.

International aviation sources claim Valoshin featured in a joint venture to adapt Russian-built missiles for SA aircraft. While Russian suppliers claimed the equipment was to have been returned, Marvol sold it for about R300-million profit.

(54)
Varsity funds savaged

MTG 13-19/12/96

Joshua Amupadhi and
Jacquie Golding-Duffy

UNIVERSITIES and technikons discovered this week just how harshly the government has slashed their funding for 1997, with a string of institutions facing severe and damaging cutbacks.

Universities including Wits, Pretoria, Natal, Transkei, Rhodes and the Orange Free State complained their government funding has been cut to "even much lower levels" than they had anticipated.

The Education Department has been attempting to reverse the long-term decline in government subsidies to underpin efforts to widen enrolment. But it has already warned that its 1997 budget — devoted almost entirely to tertiary education — is under pressure, which could stymie the transformation programme.

Department officials said this week the government's final decision on the budget would be made next month, when the "provisional allocations will be adjusted".

Wits is facing a R36-million cut, down 9% to 12% on its subsidy for 1996, while Pretoria's subsidy is to fall R43-million, a 7% drop against the 4% cut it had expected. Representatives at both universities said funds allocated for bursaries and loans would be worst hit.

Wits representative David Williams said: "The cutbacks came at such short notice. A university this size spends the whole year preparing the budget, and such financial cutbacks make it difficult to find the money from other sources."

Pretoria University representative Mike Smuts said it would be left with no money for maintenance and replacement costs.

Rhodes University will suffer a R8.9-million cutback from last year's subsidy. "This is a huge drop in government support at a time when tertiary institutions are under pressure to produce more and better graduates," said Dr David Woods, vice-chancellor.

University of Transkei suffered a 50% cutback, which amounts to at least R9-million. "We may be a small university, but such a drastic cutback will cause irreparable damage," a representative said.

Orange Free State had expected a cut of R8-million, but was told it would have to cope with a R24-million drop.

University of Natal faces a R28-million cut — a 10% drop. "These cuts are absurd as they will force us to rationalise and jeopardise the quality of students," vice-chancellor Professor David Maughan-Brown said.

The South African Students' Congress (Sasco) warned the subsidy cuts would lead to crisis on campuses and "make confrontation inevitable".

Bengu 'fighting for adequate budgets'

EDUCATION Minister Dr Sibusiso Bengu will continue fighting for adequate government subsidies to universities and technicians, the Department of Education said yesterday.

Acting director-general Mr Ihron van Rensburg said in Pretoria that this was being done in the hope that there would be some relief when the final allocations were determined in January.

He also confirmed that higher education institutions had been informed of the provisional government subsidies they will receive from next year.

The allocations were sharply criticised by some rectors, who said drastic cuts in subsidies to historically white universities were shortsighted.

Rhodes University's rector said historically white universities were due to receive only 59% of their

present subsidy, while some predominantly black institutions would get 142%.

Van Rensburg declined to give details of the provisional allocations, saying this information was still confidential.

"It would be a breach of government protocol to release such figures," he said. "Government budgets are not finalised until these have been announced by the Minister of Finance."

He said institutions had been told that a substantial redress fund would be set up next year once the most urgent needs of those institutions had been determined through a proposed audit.

"Such an audit," he said, "will deal with items such as buildings and equipment, academic development, human resource development, information technology and library collections." — Sapa

The new national student financial aid scheme, which is only now getting off the ground, will also have its cash allocation slashed by R50m to R250m. Figaji has called for a national meeting of stakeholders to discuss the crisis. He believes the government should be made to reconsider what they have done. UCT has also called on the government to listen to institutional representations on the issue.

Universities shocked by govt

UNIVERSITIES have expressed deep concern about the cuts in subsidies, reports Education writer CAROL CAMPBELL.



UNIVERSITIES will have to take a hard look at themselves and reassess their priorities after the severe subsidy cuts announced by the government this week, the head of the Committee of University Principals, Professor Brenda Gouley, said yesterday.

Tinkering here and there to save money would not help them balance the books this time and pushing students to pay higher fees was impractical because "they have no money."

Universities and technicians were told this week that the national education department intended slashing millions off their

expected subsidies for next year.

"These cuts are just too big and too sudden," Gouley said.

A suggestion by the National Commission on Higher Education that the size of the tertiary sector be almost doubled made the subsidy cuts seem all the more ridiculous.

Gouley warned that student unrest on campuses around the country was inevitable because institutions would not be able to offer financial assistance to everyone — even those who passed.

National education department deputy director-general Mr Trevor Coombe said it was no secret that

government spending in 1997 and 1998 would reflect the government's macro-economic strategy, putting all its departments' budgets under pressure.

Most universities and technicians have already announced their fee increases for next year, which range between seven and 10 percent.

Yesterday Rhodes University in Grahamstown announced that it had frozen all annual bonuses and no vacant posts would be filled in the near future.

Ms Helen Zille, spokesman for the University of Cape Town, said that had the university been given the same percentage subsidy it received last year it would have R30 million more in its coffers for 1997.

"We are particularly concerned about the impact the subsidy cuts will have on student financial aid and academic salaries.

"It is also vitally important that universities are able to recruit and retain outstanding staff to undertake the teaching, training and research South Africa needs for future development." Stellenbosch University was losing R24,6m compared to last year and deputy vice-chancellor Professor Christo Viljoen warned that fees would rise. The University of the Western Cape would be R22,9m down on last year. The Cape Technikon was losing R5,242m compared to last year. The rector of the Peninsula Technikon, Mr Brian Figaji, was staggered when he heard his institution would receive R1m less than it did last year. "For the state to respond to election promises around improved education then unilaterally reduce subsidies is disastrous." The move undermined everything in the green paper and the work done by the National Commission on Higher Education which called for "greater access" and "greater flexibility". "It undermines higher education. I would like to know where this money is going." "What are the priorities of this country?" Figaji said all the planning his institution had done for 1997 had been a "waste of time". "We will have to do it all over again — with the start of the new academic year only a few days away." Rhodes University vice-chancellor Dr David Woods said the cuts were "madness". (His university is losing about R8,9m). "This is foolishly destructive

subsidy cuts (54) 13/12/96

Bengu 'fighting for adequate budgets'

EDUCATION Minister Dr Sibusiso Bengu will continue fighting for adequate government subsidies to universities and technikon, the Department of Education said yesterday.

Acting director-general Mr Ithron van Rensburg said in Pretoria that this was being done in the hope that there would be some relief when the final allocations were determined in January.

He also confirmed that higher education institutions had been informed of the provisional government subsidies they will receive from next year.

The allocations were sharply criticised by some rectors, who said drastic cuts in subsidies to historically white universities were short-sighted.

Rhodes University's rector said historically white universities were due to receive only 59% of their

present subsidy, while some predominantly black institutions would get 142%.

Van Rensburg declined to give details of the provisional allocations, saying this information was still confidential.

"It would be a breach of government protocol to release such figures," he said. "Government budgets are not finalised until these have been announced by the Minister of Finance."

He said institutions had been told that a substantial redress fund would be set up next year once the most urgent needs of those institutions had been determined through a proposed audit.

"Such an audit," he said, "will deal with items such as buildings and equipment, academic development, human resource development, information technology and library collections." — Sapa

UNIVERSITIES have expressed deep concern about the cuts in subsidies, reports Education Writer **CAROL CAMPBELL**.



UNIVERSITIES will have to take a hard look at themselves and reassess their priorities after the severe subsidy cuts announced by the government this week, the head of the Committee of University Principals, Professor Brenda Gourley, said yesterday.

Tinkering here and there to save money would not help them balance the books this time and pushing students to pay higher fees was impractical because: "they have no money."

Universities and technikon were told this week that the national education department intended slashing millions off their

expected subsidies for next year. "These cuts are just too big and too sudden," Gourley said.

A suggestion by the National Commission on Higher Education that the size of the tertiary sector be almost doubled made the subsidy cuts seem all the more ridiculous.

Gourley warned that student unrest on campuses around the country was inevitable because institutions would not be able to offer financial assistance to everyone — even those who passed.

National education department deputy director-general Mr Trevor Coombe said it was no secret that

Universities shocked by govt

(54)

ET 13/12/96

government spending in 1997 and 1998 would reflect the government's macro-economic strategy, putting all its departments' budgets under pressure.

Most universities and technikon have already announced their fee increases for next year, which range between seven and 10 percent.

Yesterday Rhodes University in Grahamstown announced that it had frozen all annual bonuses and no vacant posts would be filled in the near future.

Ms Helen Zille, spokesman for the University of Cape Town, said that had the university been given the same percentage subsidy it received last year it would have R30 million more in its coffers for 1997.

"We are particularly concerned about the impact the subsidy cuts will have on student financial aid and academic salaries.

"Adequate provision for financial aid is essential if we are to broaden access to university education."

"It is also vitally important that universities are able to recruit and retain outstanding staff to undertake the teaching, training and research South Africa needs for future development."

Stellenbosch University was losing R24,6m compared to last year and deputy vice-chancellor Professor Christo Viljoen warned that fees would rise.

The University of the Western Cape would be R22,9m down on last year.

The Cape Technikon was losing R5,242m compared to last year.

The rector of the Peninsula Technikon, Mr Brian Figaji, was staggered when he heard his institution would receive R11m less than it did last year.

"For the state to respond to

Subsidy cuts

election promises around improved education then unilaterally reduce subsidies is disastrous."

The move undermined everything in the green paper and the work done by the National Commission on Higher Education which called for "greater access" and "greater flexibility".

"It undermines higher education. I would like to know where this money is going.

"What are the priorities of this country?"

Figaji said all the planning his institution had done for 1997 had been a "waste of time".

"We will have to do it all over again — with the start of the new academic year only a few days away."

Rhodes University vice-chancellor Dr David Woods said the cuts were "madness". (His university is losing about R8,9m).

"This is foolishly destructive

and striking at the very heart of excellent university education in South Africa," he said.

At Pretoria University (which is facing a cut of R17m) spokesman Mr Mike Smuts said the cuts would reduce funds available for bursaries and loans, mostly affecting disadvantaged students.

The institution this year received a 66% government subsidy which would drop to 59% in 1997.

The new national student financial aid scheme, which is only now getting off the ground, will also have its cash allocation slashed by R50m to R250m.

Figaji has called for a national meeting of stakeholders to discuss the crisis. He believes the government should be made to reconsider what they have done.

UCT has also called on the government to listen to institutional representations on the issue.

'Cheats will not find a place at Wits'

BY PRISCILLA SIMON

Wits University will accept the 1996 matric examination results subject to a screening process — a move that is sure to take a load off the matriculants' shoulders and ease post-exam stress.

The university will accept the results as a major indicator of who should be admitted to its degree courses, as it has done in previous years, but will employ special measures to identify any potential student who cheated in the matric exams.

Wits spokesman David Williams said yesterday that the university was aware of the concern caused by reports of leaked question papers and had consulted the Gauteng Department of Education when the first leaks were reported.

Potential students and their parents were understandably worried that deserving candidates for university places

might be kept out by others who had cheated, and that genuine high achievement in the exams would be devalued, Williams said.

So far, more than 12 000 matriculants have applied to Wits and only about 4 000 will be accepted. However, late applications could push the number of applicants to nearly

'The harm done by leaks was limited'

15 000.

"The university is taking the issue very seriously in view of these shortcomings during the 1996 matric exam.

"Wits always subjects the results of matric examinations to scrutiny and this year we will take additional precau-

tions," he said.

This will involve comparative analysis with previous years' matric results and the investigation of any glaring anomalies within an individual's set of marks.

Furthermore, Williams said that in faculties such as Health Sciences, admission also depended on other procedures, such as an aptitude test, and personal interviews.

Wits had consulted the relevant education authorities, and was informed that the leaks affected a limited number of question papers in some areas, Williams said. The education departments also indicated that the integrity of the examination as a whole had been preserved.

"We have been assured that the harm done by leaks was limited by prompt action and increased security."

He said Wits always took great care to ensure that admission procedures were fair.

Star 13/12/96

Varsity cutbacks: 'no need to panic'

(54)
STAFF REPORTERS

Star 13/12/96

Formerly white universities face significant subsidy cuts next year, which they say will throw financial planning into disarray, strangle student aid programmes and risk forcing further student protests.

Most of these universities now have large black student bodies, and the South African Students' Congress has warned that such cuts would prompt serious confrontation.

Universities have reacted angrily to the cuts, but Education Minister Professor Sibusiso Bengu said yesterday the institutions were panicking unnecessarily and misinforming the public, adding

the figures had not been confirmed by Cabinet.

Wits University said it expected its budget for next year to be cut by around R33-million, comprising a R29-million subsidy cut and R4-million cut in the allocation for student aid.

Vice-chancellor Professor Robert Charlton said this would leave the university hard pressed to continue supporting even the present number of disadvantaged students.

"The cuts are destructive, short-sighted and counter-productive," he said.

Earlier this week, the University of Pretoria said its subsidy would be cut by R43-million, the University of Orange Free State

(R24-million), Rhodes University (about R9-million), University of Natal (R28-million) and the University of Durban-Westville by about R18-million. The University of South Africa expects its subsidy to be cut by R39-million.

The cuts appear to apply to all universities except those in the former TBVC states, and evidently go against plans to bring the formerly overfunded TBVC-state universities into line with the subsidies of other universities.

Sources said that while the former white universities faced the prospect of surviving under severe financial constraints, traditionally black institutions would be the major beneficiaries of the proposed new budget.

Wits to weed out matric cheats

Kevin O'Grady

(54) (E)
13/12/96

WITS University has taken special measures to weed out matric exam cheats from those applying for courses at the institution next year.

Wits spokesman David Williams said the measures would enable the university to continue to accept the matric exam results as the major indicator of who should be admitted to the institution.

The university was taking the issue of leaked exam question papers "very seriously indeed" as potential students and their parents were "understandably worried" that deserving candidates for university places might be kept out by others who had cheated.

While Wits always submitted matric exam results to scrutiny, it would take additional precautions this year, such as comparative analysis with previous years' results and the investigation of glaring anomalies within an individual's marks, Williams said.

The examining authorities would also use various statistical methods to detect abnormal results from a particular school or region. "In addition, in some subjects dishonest candidates usually reveal themselves immediately in the way they present their answers," Williams said.

Wits had always taken care to ensure that admission procedures were fair "and this year will be no different", Williams said.

Universities angered by subsidy cuts

Kevin O'Grady

FORMERLY white universities have been told by government to expect multimillion-rand subsidy cuts next year, throwing their budgets into disarray and raising the spectre of increased student protests as they are forced to trim student aid programmes.

Heads of the affected universities reacted to the cuts with outrage yesterday, questioning the reasoning behind slashing funding to historically white institutions, most of which now had 50% or higher black enrolment.

They said the cuts would result in a freeze on capital expenditure and the curtailment of essential library and computer resource purchases, with serious long term repercussions on teaching and research capabilities.

They also said it was now likely that universities would face increased student protests against cuts in financial aid next year.

The move is likely to enrage the SA Students' Congress, which warned this week that such cuts would prompt "serious crisis and confrontation".

The education ministry declined to confirm the cuts yesterday and criticised institutions for breaching confidentiality by releasing details which had been provided to assist their budget planning. Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu's spokesman Lincoln Mali said the figures given to universities were provisional and had still to be debated by the cabinet next year.

The cuts, apparently to all except universities in the former TBVC states, follow significant increases this year for the first time in almost a

(54) 80 12/12/96
decade. They range from a R43m cut for the University of Pretoria to R29m for Wits, R24m for Free State University and R9m for Rhodes.

They also appear to go against government's draft policy, contained in a recently released green paper, to increase funding to the higher education sector and against government's plan, initiated in this year's budget, to bring the formerly overfunded TBVC-state universities' subsidies in line with their counterparts.

Figures released by some formerly white institutions yesterday indicate that their "A-values" — the percentage of the formula-driven subsidies they receive — had dropped from 68% of the full subsidy this year to 59% next year.

Former homeland state institutions' A-values appear to have remained static — at 142% for the University of the North West (formerly Bophuthatswana) and 100% for the University of the Transkei.

About R220m has also been "top-sliced" from the 1997/98 education budget as a redress fund for universities and technikons.

Wits University vice-chancellor Robert Charlton said the cuts to historically white universities were "destructive, short-sighted and counter-productive. Rather than achieve the productive transformation of the university sector, the subsidy cuts will at best stunt the capacity of the country's leading universities and at worst cripple them. SA simply cannot afford either outcome."

On top of Wits's R29m cut, its al-

Continued on Page 2

Subsidies (54)

Continued from Page 1

(54) 80 12/12/96
location for student aid had been slashed by R4m — or 30% — compared to this year's allocation. This would make it "impossible" for Wits to increase its intake of black students, most of whom needed financial aid and extra tuition to compensate for their inferior education.

"In fact, the cuts will make it difficult to continue supporting even the present number of disadvantaged students," Charlton said. Wits has about 7 000 black students.

Rhodes vice-chancellor David Woods said: "This is nothing short of madness." The cuts were "foolishly destructive and strike at the very heart of excellent university education in SA. I am shocked that the minister has seen fit to weaken that part of the system that already works well, in what can best be described as a revenge attack."

Rhodes supported strengthening historically black institutions but "to do so by severely weakening those universities which are acknowledged centres of excellence and which educate so many black students can only be described as foolish and tragic", he said.

"It is highly likely that universities will once again bear the brunt of student dissatisfaction next year because (financial aid) will be delayed and, in some cases, halted through financial

pressure," Woods said.

University spokesmen said they had taken subsidy cuts into account when preparing their budgets for next year but had not expected the cuts to be so drastic or to be informed about them so late in the year.

Free State University finance general manager Arrie Schoonwinkel said the university was not in a position to absorb such a subsidy reduction in the short term. The lack of clarity about the direction of future subsidies made it very difficult to do long-term financial planning.

University of Pretoria spokesman Mike Smuts said the move would probably reduce funds available for bursaries and loans, affecting mostly disadvantaged students.

The university prepared its budget on an estimated 62% A-value. The 59% allocation meant the university would have to cut back R17m on its already conservative budget, "which will have serious consequences", Smuts said.

Woods said institutions would "not take this lying down" and were "already taking every step they can to persuade government of the shortsightedness of its decision".

Sapa reports acting director-general of education Ihron van Rensburg said Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu would continue fighting for adequate government subsidies to universities and technikons in the hope there might be some relief when final allocations were determined in January.

Retrenchments, course closures to follow drastic education cuts

ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

(54)

ARG 14/12/96

Pretoria - Tertiary institutions here are facing a financial crisis after a provisional announcement from the Education Department heralded huge cutbacks in its subsidies to universities and technikons for next year.

Some are considering staff retrenchments and the closure of certain courses, while most are in agreement that students from disadvantaged communities will be hardest hit by the cutbacks.

The Department of Education is expected to announce its final budget early next year, but institutions were given their provisional guidelines this week.

Although a cutback in funding was expected, many of the institutions have been taken by surprise by the extent of it.

Technikon Pretoria could be forced to close down some of its courses and retrench staff members after the Government cut its subsidy by R15-million - a drop from 68 percent to 53 percent of its

total income.

Most technikons are only 10 to 15 years old. Losing so much of their funding will seriously damage their effectiveness as they have no long term investments which can be used in times of crises.

Unisa's budget has been cut by R39-million spokesman Christo Celliers said.

"We have no choice but to absorb costs and this will probably affect our tutoring services and learning centres which are aimed at disadvantaged students."

Mr Celliers said that no staff retrenchments were planned at this stage.

The University of Pretoria has had its budget slashed by R43-million - leaving the university without funds for maintenance and replacement costs and less money for bursaries and loans.

This is a drop in its total funding from 66 percent to 59 percent - R17-million less than the university had hoped for in its conservative budget.

The Ministry of Education has reacted angrily to the leaking of the subsidy cuts to the press, saying they are provisional and

were given to the universities in confidence.

"It is unfortunate that universities saw fit to leak figures to the media," said deputy director general Dr Ihron Rensburg.

"We believe we can still twist the arm of some of our colleagues to deliver as much money we believe they should."

Minister of Education Sibusiso Bengu admitted the Education Department should have shared the information about the cutbacks a bit earlier than it had done.

"These amounts are provisional," he said. "Those who have announced them to the media have done so prematurely."

He also pointed out that a redress fund for disadvantaged students had been launched earlier this year which would provide additional funding for these students.

The National Commission on Higher Education envisaged that the number of students at tertiary institutions would double within the next few years, making the task of universities and technikons even more difficult.

Bigger grant for black university

54

Sowetan 16/12/96
Traditionally Afrikaans institutions to suffer the lowest money allocations

By Josias Charle

THE University of the North is to get the biggest slice of the money set aside by the Government to aid needy university students next year.

The universities that will suffer lowest allocations are those that have been "traditionally Afrikaans institutions".

Of these, three have been allocated more funds because they are now admitting a significant number of black students.

These are the University of Pretoria and RAU, that will each receive R5 million, and Vrystaat R3,6 million.

The Government has dramatically slashed grants to universities and technikons, raising fears of widespread campus unrest once the academic year gets underway early next year.

Department of Education Mr Ihron Rensburg said in a statement at the weekend, that allocations to institutions of higher learning were "still confidential and provisional" and were only released to universities and technikons to allow them to finalise their own budgets for next year.

Budgets not finalised

He said Government budgets were not finalised until they have been announced by the Minister of Finance.

He also said the Minister of Education, Professor Sibusiso Bengu, was concerned about the limits placed on the amounts.

"When the subsidy levels were

increased in the 1996 to 1997 budget, he was of the view that the levels would be maintained until a new financing system has been introduced," Rensburg said.

This year the Government made available R300 million to assist poor university and technikon students and this money will be cut by about R50 million in the next financial year, thus forcing these institutions to seek aid from the private sector and international donor agencies.

Of the R300 million available, the University of the North will receive R27,6 million.

Other allocations have been made to some universities and technikons

Daggers drawn at Zululand University over appointment

(54) Star 16/12/96

BY ADAM COOKE

The recurrent infighting at the University of Zululand has again surfaced, following allegations that the administration "fudged" the appointment of the new head of the English department.

A number of sources claim that a new departmental head was proposed by the university administration, in a move that ignored the decision of the university's highest decision-making body, the council.

The only official source that The Star was able to contact after repeated attempts to get the rector, Professor C R M Dlamini, was that the allegations were unsubstantiated.

Dean of the Arts Faculty, Professor Herbert Vilakazi, said that while "all kinds of rumours are circulating", a decision had not been made about which of the two candidates should get the post.

"The council has decided that the interviewing process is not yet complete and the council is the only body to make that decision," he said.

The allegations against the administration stem from a university council meeting held on November 29, at which it was decided that both applicants should be invited to come forward for interviews for the position.

This decision was - depending on different information supplied by sources who wished to remain anonymous - either "ignored" or "fudged" by the administration, which was pushing for the local

candidate, Myrtle Hooper.

Hooper is presently the acting head of department and is regarded by sources as being aligned with more conservative elements in the university administration.

The second candidate, Professor Romanus Egudu, who is head of the English department at the University of Benin in Nigeria, was strongly favoured by academics in the University of Zululand's English department.

A source in the English department said: "Conservative elements in the human resources department just sidelined his application."

Sources said Egudu was a world-renowned scholar and was held in the highest regard as a specialist in African literature and African oral traditions.

They said there was general elation when it was discovered that Egudu had applied for the post and it was assumed he would get the post.

Sources said malpractice in the administration was discovered when, after six months, Egudu had still received no response to his application.

A petition, signed by a number of senior English staff and given to the rector, alleged that there had been a tacit plot to slip in the local candidate.

"We ask then, that Professor Egudu be interviewed for the post he has applied for at this university, and that any error or violation of procedure which resulted in his candidacy being ignored, be now firmly corrected by yourself," the petition said.

(54)

Loans available to UWC students, if they pay

DENNIS CAVERNELIS

STAFF REPORTER

AKG 18/12/96

The University of the Western Cape and its Students' Representative Council have resolved to make loans to students, if they agree to make contributions to settle their debts.

Ikey van de Rhee, vice-rector of student affairs, and SRC president J J Tabane signed a financial assistance agreement yesterday.

UWC is owed more than R22-million in outstanding fees.

Professor Van de Rhee said UWC was prepared to offer loans to students who qualified on academic grounds, and in turn students had to make their own contribution.

The university served a largely disadvantaged community and most of its funding came from society through the Government, "but students had to share the burden".

"We need the contributions to ensure that the university will be able to meet its financial liabilities," Professor Van de Rhee said.

Following disruptions and student unrest last year, the university's executive and the SRC began working to pre-empt any possible crisis in the new year.

The agreement signalled a culture "of working together and taking responsibility", Professor Van de Rhee said.

UWC was facing a severe financial crisis, its state subsidy had been cut by R20-million, and the allocation from the Tertiary Education Fund by R7-million.

Govt seeks more active role in higher education

OWN CORRESPONDENT

CT 19/12/96 54
JOHANNESBURG: The green paper on higher education — which seeks solutions to what was recently called the “state of chaos” in the tertiary sector — was officially released for discussion yesterday.

Deputy director-general of national education Mr John Samuels said the green paper sought to develop a co-ordinated system that met the country's economic and social needs and “propels us into the 21st century”.

One of the proposals bound to spark discussion is the plan for an “independent assessor” who will essentially be the minister's troubleshooter on campuses in crisis.

A departure from the document on which it is based — the report by the National Commission on Higher Education — this move will allow the minister to intercede, whereas in the past he was required to wait for the university to call him in.

The green paper's most radical departure from the present system is the extension of the powers of the education ministry and the department and the resultant reduction in the autonomy of tertiary institutions.

One of the key features of this is co-operative governance, which assumes a pro-active, guiding and goal-oriented role for the government.

Added to this is government funding, which will favour institutions that specialise in areas such as the sciences and engineering.

The new document also proposes a host of new bodies that will guide and monitor the sector through the quality committee, the central student admissions scheme, and information and performance indicator systems.

Samuels said the green paper aimed to cope with a higher education system that was a “fragmented collection of institutions with significant inefficiencies ... with an unequal distribution of resources and no development or market-oriented curriculum”.

The green paper has been published for public scrutiny and there will be wide consultations from January to March. The white paper on higher education — with revisions — will be produced by April 1997.

Blueprint for tertiary education set to fuel debate

(54) / Star 19/12/96

A co-ordinated system to meet
the economic and social needs
of the country is being sought

STAFF REPORTER

The Green Paper on Higher Education, which seeks to find solutions to what was recently called the state of chaos in the tertiary sector, was officially released for discussion yesterday.

In outlining the document, deputy director-general in the Education Department John Samuels said the green paper sought to develop a co-ordinated system that met the economic and social needs of the country and "propels us into the 21st century".

One of the green paper's proposals that is bound to spark discussion is its plans for an "independent assessor" who will essentially be the minister's troubleshooter on campuses in crisis.

This move, which is also a departure from the document on which it is based - the report by the National Commission on Higher Education - will allow the minister to effectively intercede where in the past he had been forced to wait for the university to call him in.

The green paper's most radical departure from the present system is in the extension of the powers of the Education Ministry and the department, and the resultant reduction in the autonomy of tertiary institutions.

One of the key features of this is in co-operative governance, which assumes a proactive, guiding and goal-oriented role for

the Government.

Added to this is government funding which will act as an incentive in its bias towards those institutions which specialise in areas such as the sciences and engineering.

Also proposed in the new document is a host of new bodies that will provide guidance and monitor the sector through the quality committee, the central student admissions scheme, and information and performance indicator systems.

“
**It will propel
us into the
21st century**
”

Samuels said the green paper aimed to cope with a higher education system that is a "fragmented collection of institutions with significant inefficiencies ... with an unequal distribution of resources and no development or market-oriented curriculum".

The green paper has been published for public scrutiny and, it is hoped, will be widely consulted from January to March before being further revised to form the White Paper on Higher Education by April.

Higher education draft policy proposes far-reaching changes

Kevin O'Grady

AS THE tertiary education sector gears up for what could be an even more tumultuous year than the previous one as a likely result of massive cuts in government subsidies, the education department yesterday published for comment its draft policy on higher education transformation.

The paper gives a time frame for the implementation of changes to the

sector which were likely to begin only in May. New funding formulae and the use of earmarked funding for research were expected to be implemented only in 1998.

Policy proposals included new funding mechanisms for institutions, establishing a new statutory body to oversee the sector and an independent assessor to be deployed to campuses by Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu in crisis situations.

The green paper, as wide-ranging as the changes it proposed were, was unlikely to have an immediate effect on how the sector was expected to have evolved into promulgated legislation only by October.

However, certain aspects of the policy, which stemmed from the release this year of the national commission on higher education's report, and certain changes at institutions

would start taking effect as early as May, according to a timetable in the green paper.

March 15 would see the end of consultations and the closing date for written comments on the green paper and the beginning of the development of a draft white paper. In April work would begin on a new higher education bill and the draft white paper would go to the cabinet for approval.

The first tangible changes would be seen in May when, according to the timetable, the transformation of institutions' councils, the restructuring of senates and academic boards and the establishment of student services councils should have started taking place.

Other notable changes planned to have taken place by the end of next year included the repeal of the Universities and Technikon Advisory

Council Act and the disbanding of the council, the establishment of the new statutory body, the council on higher education, and the central admissions service provided for in the green paper. An institutional audit of the sector's buildings, equipment, academic staff and research development would be well under way and the new branch of higher education in the education department would have been established.

By October, when the new higher education bill was expected to be finalised, the Universities Act and the Technikon Act would be repealed to make way for it.

The green paper kept closely to the commission's earlier report in most respects, with one of its main national goals the conceptualisation, planning, administration and funding of higher education as a single coordinated system.

(54) 50 19/12/96



Campus crisis: Long-standing feud erupts on Njabulo Ndebele's campus

PHOTOGRAPH: SALLY SHORREND

Lecturers in punch-up

MtG 20-23/12/96 (54)

Joshua Amupathi

THE University of the North has appointed a commission of inquiry to investigate a long-running feud at its Unin Gwa Gwa campus, which came to a head last week when three lecturers exchanged blows. The commission comes more than a year after students, workers and lecturers first demanded independent investigations into allegations of corruption, mismanagement and personal feuds between academics on campus. The probe at Unin will begin next month.

"We tried to handle this internally but because there have been so many of these (problems) going on the council has now decided to appoint a commission that will investigate everything and everybody," said Unin representative

John Wiltshire.

Meanwhile, police are investigating charges of assault against the Gwa Gwa campus registrar for academic affairs NT Mosa and principal computer programmer LM Mabula. The two allegedly punched and man-handled Dr Mashupye Kgaphola of the chemistry department last week. They could not be reached for comment as they were on holiday.

The Gwa Gwa campus is in the Free State, about 600km from the headquarters in Pietersburg in the Northern Province. Unin is headed by Professor Njabulo Ndebele. Students, workers and some lecturers, calling themselves Concerned Members Group, have accused Vice-Chancellor Ndebele of "intransigence" and reluctance to end the crises. Kgaphola said numerous memoranda had been sent to Nde-

bele, but most had been ignored. Those that drew a reply, he said, did not address the problems. "When evidence is presented on many complaints there is no urgency in the action being taken."

Despite sending several SOS memoranda to the main campus, secretary general of the Students' Representative Council Mbulelo Nkwequ said: "The council and particularly Professor Ndebele have not come back to us to indicate whether the problem was being solved."

In October, Kgaphola laid charges of fraud with the police against the management of the Unin Gwa Gwa campus. Superintendent Boks van Jaarsveld, Bloemfontein's commercial crime unit's head, said the charges involve corruption, the issuing of false degrees and invalid letters of admission.

Wits (54)

loses

Sinclair

MtG 20-23/12/96

Joshua Amupathi

WITS University Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs June Sinclair is to leave the administration at the end of this month, after failing in her bid to win the most powerful office on the campus.

Sinclair, defeated in October in the contest to be Wits' next vice-chancellor, said this week she would not ask the university council for another 3-year term when her current tenure expires. She said she had not yet decided what she would do next.

The university is already advertising for her replacement and is also seeking two other new deputy vice-chancellors. The position of deputy vice-chancellor for academic affairs has been vacant for most of the year since the colourful exit of Professor William Makgoba, who is now doing medical research on the campus. Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research Friedel Sellschop is due to retire next year.

Wits representative David Williams said applicants would be subjected to the same kind of public scrutiny candidates endured in the race to succeed Vice-Chancellor Robert Charlton.

Sinclair's departure has been on the cards from the moment she lost that race to political scientist Sam Nohushungu. She hinted prior to the contest that defeat would prompt her to look for a new job.



Time's up: June Sinclair

PHOTOGRAPH: RUTH MOTAU

She is widely viewed to have a firm grasp on the financial realities facing Wits, and during the contest for Charlton's position she was frequently quoted about the business plan she would seek to put in place on the campus. Her relations with the student body and workers, however, have been strained since the decision in 1993 to bring police on to the campus to quell rowdy demonstrators.

She is also not popular among many Wits academics, some of whom questioned her academic record when she went after Charlton's post.

Veteran former MP Helen Suzman, a member of the university's council and one of Sinclair's strongest allies, said her departure was a "great loss" because of her "experience as well as academic and basic intelligence".

"Those (Sinclair's) are personal decisions about which there is not much an outsider can do," Suzman said.

Makgoba, meanwhile, said he had not "given it a thought" to re-apply, but said the filling of the vacancies was a trivial story compared to changes following the debacle of his ousting.

As tertiary education cuts loom, University of the North lecturers feud and Wits's June Sinclair departs

Funding chaos threatens students

Disadvantaged students could continue to be left out, report
Joshua Amupathi and Stuart Hess

(54) M4G 20-23/12/96

ting subsidies — the sector's primary income source — and bursaries provided under the National Student Financial Aid Scheme.

THOUSANDS of school-leavers hoping to further their studies next year could find themselves on the streets following the government's drastic cut in bursaries.

A string of universities and technicians contacted by the *Mail & Guardian* said they would have to slash enrolment numbers, following the funding plans revealed by the Ministry of Education last week.

And despite claims by "white" universities and technicians that they would bear the brunt of the cut-backs, every "black" institution contacted by the M&G said they also faced swingeing cuts.

The plans, which the ministry insists are preliminary, include cut-

ting subsidies — the sector's primary income source — and bursaries provided under the National Student Financial Aid Scheme.

The ministry remained tightlipped this week on the cuts and the planned allocation from its "redress fund" — thought to be worth about R250-million — for disadvantaged institutions. However, Acting Director General Dr Ihron Rensburg said the redress fund may target buildings, equipment and academic development, depending on an audit within tertiary education institutions.

Deputy Director General John Samuels said a fundraising committee set up by Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu was hard at work to obtain money to maintain or increase the level of financial aid.

But institutions warned the funding plans would leave them little option other than to cut first-year admissions, severely denting government attempts to widen tertiary education.

The warnings accompanied the official release this week of minister

Bengu's Education Green Paper — based on recommendations from the National Commission on Higher Education, which aims to give disadvantaged students an opportunity to further their studies.

Acting Vice-Chancellor for ML Sultan Technikon, Professor Christopher Cresswell, said the cuts contradicted the commission's recommendations.

"These severe cuts will affect our plans to take more students from disadvantaged backgrounds," he said. "How can we enrol more students if we know there is no money to pay for their studies?"

The ministry's proposed funding for ML Sultan would halve the institution's financial aid scheme to R3-million, and cut its general subsidy 12% to R7-million.

The University of the North, facing a 7% subsidy cut, said its enrolments would also decrease. A representative said the university, built for 4 500 students but with 16 000 enrolled, had a backlog of at least R657-million which needed to be

spent on facilities.

Technikon Natal's financial aid scheme will be cut to R4.7-million from R7-million, while the general subsidy will fall 9% to R82-million.

The University of the Western Cape, where students went on a rampage this year to demand a scrapping of debt and higher credit for food, faces a R27-million subsidy cut, R7-million sliced from its financial aid scheme. The university said in a statement the proposal represented a "severe blow ... we hope that the government will do everything possible to avoid cutting assistance and subsidy allocations to disadvantaged institutions, as the expectation of these institutions is an increase in the state allocation."

The University of the North-West faces a 34% cut in its government grant, while Transkei said it was facing a 21% cut. Vice-Chancellor Alfred Moleah hinted that the only way to cover the shortfall may be to increase fees. But such action would lead to friction on campus, he said.

Many institutions said fees were

already at painfully high levels, and further increases were unlikely to outstrip inflation. The main option in lowering costs would be reducing student enrolment and cutting staff.

Other universities hit include Wits, Pretoria, Rhodes, Durban-Westville, Potchefstroom, Natal, Free State and Stellenbosch. The latter faces a R24.8-million drop in subsidy, which would prevent it from issuing bursaries to new students next year.

"If the present cuts in the state subsidy are going to become the norm, universities will face serious financial crises," Vice-rector for operations Professor Christo Viljoen said. "The survival of some institutions could be jeopardised."

Deputy Director General Samuels said a new funding formula, still in the process of formulation, "will go a long way in alleviating the pressure on historically disadvantaged institutions".

Cutting the heart out of learning,
PAGE 24

Cutting the heart out of learning

(54) M+G 20-23/12/96

Subsidy cuts to tertiary education institutions are far more serious than they at first appear, argues **Brenda Gourley**, vice-chancellor of the University of Natal (Durban)

THERE has been a great deal of news coverage about the subsidy and financial-aid cuts to universities. Organisations all over the world suffer reverses of fortune and trim their sails accordingly. What is different about universities?

Let me first explain the cuts in financial aid to students. For several years the tertiary sector has been expecting the establishment of a National Student Financial Aid Scheme. Such a scheme would be endowed sufficiently to address the problems of indigent students. Funders who have been giving ad hoc amounts to individual institutions have stopped doing so in the expectation that they will be asked to contribute to this fund.

Students (and the institutions) are now stranded in a limbo where the national fund is not established and the funders are not giving. The situation is so bad that an institution such as my own is unable to assist even those returning students who have been successful in their examinations, much less new entrants. This is an untenable situation in a country where there is a desperate shortage of trained personnel and an enormous investment has already been made in these young people. They too, and their families, have made sacrifices to come this far and unlike the "customers" of other organisations, they are not going to stoically accept the situation. They have a political voice and they will make it heard.

What about the institutions themselves? Less than three weeks before the beginning of their financial year they are informed that they will have to make such substantial cuts in their operating expenses that it is clear drastic measures need to be taken if they are to balance their budgets.

The word "drastic" is used advisedly. At least 70% of expenditure in a university is attributable to staffing costs. Retrenching staff costs money and unlike the rest of the "public service", no financial assistance is offered by the government to assist with this cost. In any single year (and it is 1997 we are worried about) it would actually increase the monies spent by retrenchment packages being added to the bill.

Retrenching staff in a system which, according to the National Commission on Higher Education, is expected to double its student intake in the near future, is not an exercise to be undertaken lightly. It needs to be undertaken in the context of some planning parameters — which in other systems that have had to restructure, are provided by the Ministry of Education. If it is not done in such a context then a whole range of deci-



More bodies, less bucks: At a time when students of all races can at last attend university, they can least afford to do so

sions could be taken where similar or identical disciplines are eradicated in every university, resulting in nobody being able to study in that discipline anywhere in the country.

This is not in the national interest and would, in my view, intellectually impoverish the country very seriously. The fact is that a systemic view needs to be taken and indeed that is why the National Commission on Higher Education was undertaken, and its recommendations (after due process) need to be implemented in an orderly fashion.

Many university staff are highly specialised in a discipline and have chosen a life of scholarship. If they are made redundant, they will not be absorbed into the country's workforce, but will move to universities elsewhere in the world. And when the higher-education sector doubles in size and if and when we need them back, they are unlikely to return. It takes a long time to grow an academic and we neglected this process like so many others in the pursuit of an ideology which has now been crushed.

Like the many other things we neglected, this too is not curable overnight. It is my view that the biggest long-term crisis facing the higher-education sector is where to find the next generation of academics. With salaries as bad as

they are, the best of our young graduates are not pursuing academic careers. Among other things, the loans they have to repay make it almost impossible to do so. The lure of public and private-sector salaries is irresistible. And now they are also exposed to uncertainty.

I do not wish to argue that there are no operating improvements capable of being made in higher education. That would be ridiculous. But there are substantial parts of its expenditure that are highly sensitive to exchange-rates fluctuations which are beyond our control. The library, for example, which is so much at the heart of a university, procures most of its books and journals from abroad and the dramatic decrease in the

The biggest long-term crisis facing higher education is where to find the next generation of academics

value of the rand has had an equally dramatic effect on library purchases. Laboratory equipment is equally affected.

What about that other large item in the revenue of the university — student fees? There is a view in some business circles that fees should dramatically increase. The United States is pointed to as an example of where fees can range from anything up to the equivalent of R100 000 a year.

The fact is that the US has a healthy, functioning student financial-aid scheme where

students can borrow what they need and the loans are underwritten by the state. We haven't got that and it is a tragedy that the majority of our people are finally able to come to university at the very time when we cannot afford what students elsewhere in the world have come to take for granted — often free university education and at least adequate state-assisted loans.

Minister of Education Sibusiso Bengu is quoted (*Natal Mercury*, December 13) as saying that the universities are "panicking unnecessarily". It is his ministry which informed us of the subsidy cuts and we are only acting responsibly as we ponder how on earth we are going to find the means to get through 1997 without inviting bankruptcy.

Maybe bankruptcy is something we should face with more equanimity. Would the ministry bail us out? Even the dreaded Margaret Thatcher bailed out a university in Wales that went bankrupt. I, for one, do not see that as an option and I am sure the minister would agree. So my colleagues in universities and technikons remain worried. The higher-education sector is easy to destroy. It takes generations to build again. Let us look after what we have and not wait until it is too late.

Professor Brenda Gourley is also chairman of the Committee of University Principals

Subsidy cuts tip SA education into crisis

CT 20/12/198

(54)

IN THE LIGHT of proposals to slash government subsidies to universities and technikon, education writer **CAROL CAMPBELL** questions what has happened to transparency in education policy formation.

IT IS very hard to understand what the national Department of Education is trying to achieve by slashing university and technikon subsidies one minute and releasing its grand plan for higher education the next.

The only logical answer is that Education Minister Dr Sibusiso Bengu's heart is in the right place but the country has no money to turn his dream into reality.

What he is trying to do for higher education is mind-boggling: to turn an elite and expensive system into one that meets the needs of the masses, none of whom can pay for the education they demand.

For some reason Bengu has been unable to persuade the government to give him the money to make his dreams a reality.

Maybe he is just too nice. There is very little fight in Bengu and when one has to squeeze money from a cash-strapped government like ours, you have to roll up your sleeves and throw a few punches. This is especially true when competing with the ministries of housing, health and safety and security for a small bag of coins.

What has Deputy Education Minister Father Smangaliso Mkhathshwa done to woo government money to education? Not much, it seems.

At least Renier Schoeman (the past deputy minister of education) used to give speeches. What does Mkhathshwa do? Other than draw a salary, of course.

Maybe the head of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education, Dr Blade Nzimande, needs to help out a bit here. Nzimande, after all, knows how to

control a fight as we all saw when the Schools Bill was under discussion.

Of course, the expectation from the government and institutions themselves is for the quality of the existing system to be maintained, no matter what.

Maybe we are all being very naive.

After the recent announcement about subsidy cuts, it is clear that it is impossible for universities and technikon to carry on as they have. They simply do not have the resources to absorb the budget cuts by digging deeper into their shrinking pockets.

Institutions are being forced to reassess and decide exactly what they can afford to offer students.

If institutions are depending on the government for the bulk of their cash and the government wants them to churn out scientists, engineers and economists, then so be it.

Every thing else will have to go.

The cultural heart of the country will grow very weak because there appears to be no money for a music school, a ballet school, an opera school, an English department, a sociology department, an Afrikaans department, a history department, a geography department — anything associated with the humanities.

Where students who want to study these "soft" disciplines will go is open for suggestion. Those who can afford it will probably have to go to universities overseas and those who can't will have to study through Unisa.

The rector of the Peninsula Technikon, Mr Brian Figaji, poses an interesting question: "Where is all the money going?"

Is it really necessary for the national education department to restructure the school curriculum, at enormous cost?

Does everything have to be done now, now, now?

Is it really necessary to bump up the number of staff members in the department when there is no money to pay the people doing the real work in institutions?



ECONOMIC CRISIS IN EDUCATION: Public irritation at students who protest at government budget cuts at universities and technikon is to be expected. But some of those students are so desperate only their eyes are alight with expectation.

It seems the national department might have too many eager bureaucrats who are intent on making an impact and to hell with the consequences.

Change for change's sake! They need to be reined in. Judging from suggestions in the green paper on higher education there are going to be plenty of "impact studies" and "assessments" on the go in 1997. At what cost?

Bengu is starting to get a reputation for all the "studies" he commissions. How necessary are they? If the institutions have to tighten their belts, what is the national education department doing to tighten its belt?

The buzz word these days is transparency. Where is the transparency in education policy formation?

Teachers don't know what is going on. Academics don't know what is going on. Non-governmental organisation don't know what is going on. Provincial education departments often don't know what is going on. Nobody, it seems, knows what is going on.

Journalists find out about major developments such as changes in the school curriculum by fluke and then battle to get basic information from the government.

Public irritation at students who

protest at the University of Western Cape is to be expected. But some of those students are so desperate it is tragic. Their cheeks are sunken with hunger, their only possession the bedrolls they carry with them from Transkei; only their eyes are alight with expectation.

How do we give them a chance, change a racist education system into one that is founded on a human rights culture while we face an economic crisis? We do it by being inventive, by working hard, by making sacrifices and by trying to share the vision of Dr Bengu, which is to give every South African child a chance.

Prospective Pretoria University students offered a second chance

STAFF REPORTER

Students who feel their chances of getting into the University of Pretoria could be jeopardised by the problems around Gauteng's matric exams may apply to the institution to write admissions tests.

University spokesman Leon Rademeyer said yesterday the tests would only be available to those who have a university exemption.

Students who have already been notified by the university that they have been given provisional admission on the basis of Std 9 marks will be able to improve their chances of admission by writing the tests on January 10 next year.

A student who, for example, obtained an E symbol for maths and wants to enroll for a course where a C symbol is required will be able to improve his chances of final admission in this way.

"You can't come in here and say that you want to rewrite matric. This is not doubling up with ma-

tric," said Rademeyer.

He said should students find that they had achieved lower marks after writing the admissions tests, their original matric results would be counted.

The university said it had de-

Star 20/12/96 (54)

“
**This is not
 doubling up
 with matric
 examinations**
 ”

cidated on the step "in view of recent problems surrounding the matric exams".

The university also said that if results were not available by the time of writing the entrance tests on January 10, those students with

provisional admissions who doubted that their results would be satisfactory "are advised to write these tests, too".

"Problems could occur in distributing the matric results. And if they do, and matrics are unsure of their marks, then they should write the tests," said Rademeyer.

The tests will be written at The Aula, University of Pretoria, in Lynwood Road at 8.30am on January 10 1997.

Accommodation may be booked in one of the university residences at R25 by phoning CM van den Heever at (012) 420-2104.

The university will be closed between December 20 and January 3, so students should direct inquiries to (012) 420-2735/3701.

Last week, Wits University announced that after lengthy consultation and investigations into the matric exams, it would recognise the validity of Gauteng Department of Education's matriculation results.

Cutting the heart out of learning

(54) MtG 20-23/12/96

Subsidy cuts to tertiary education institutions are far more serious than they at first appear, argues

Brenda Gourley, vice-chancellor of the University of Natal (Durban)

THERE has been a great deal of news coverage about the subsidy and financial-aid cuts to universities. Organisations all over the world suffer reverses of fortune and trim their sails accordingly. What is different about universities?

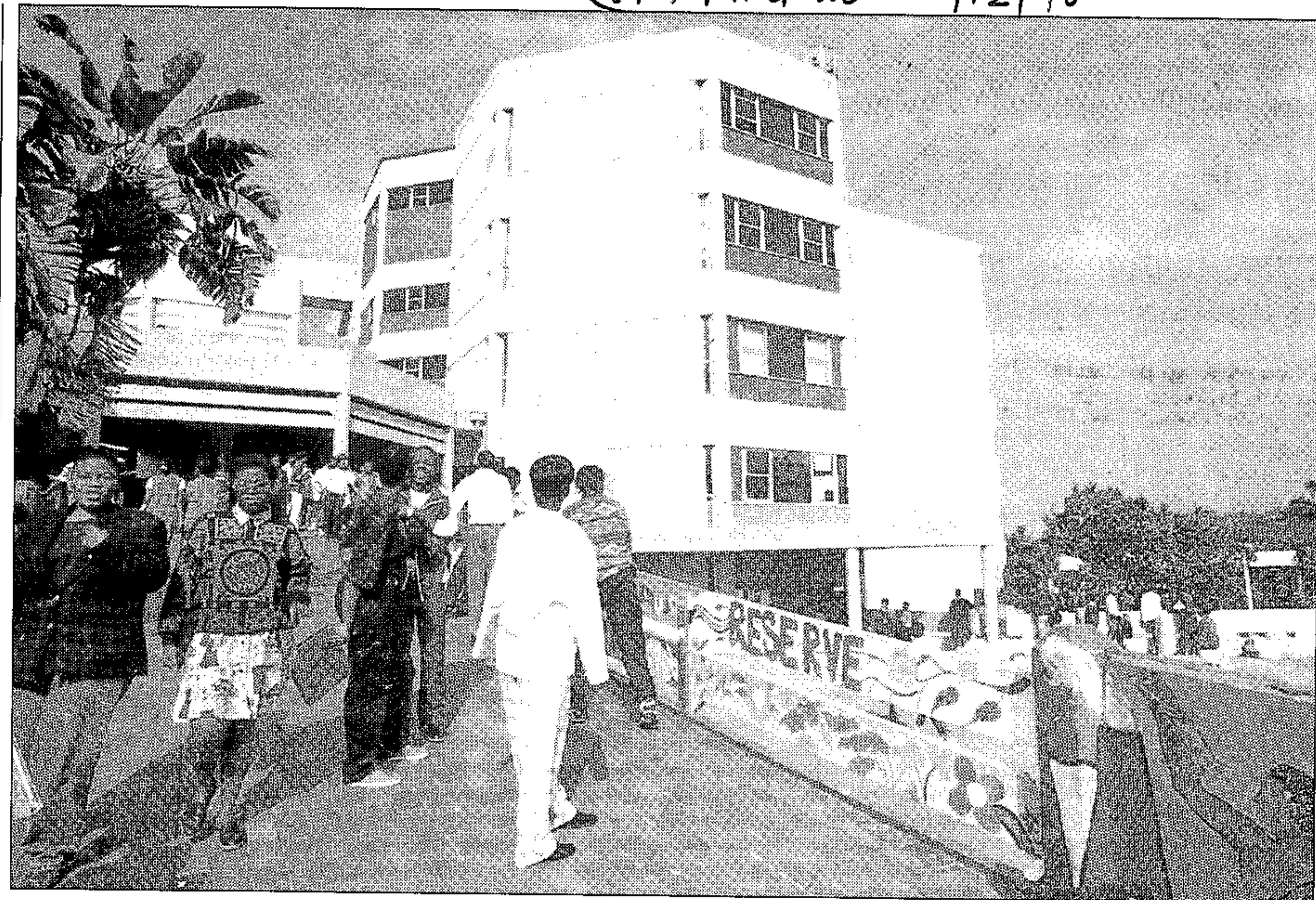
Let me first explain the cuts in financial aid to students. For several years the tertiary sector has been expecting the establishment of a National Student Financial Aid Scheme. Such a scheme would be endowed sufficiently to address the problems of indigent students. Funders who have been giving ad hoc amounts to individual institutions have stopped doing so in the expectation that they will be asked to contribute to this fund.

Students (and the institutions) are now stranded in a limbo where the national fund is not established and the funders are not giving. The situation is so bad that an institution such as my own is unable to assist even those returning students who have been successful in their examinations, much less new entrants. This is an untenable situation in a country where there is a desperate shortage of trained personnel and an enormous investment has already been made in these young people. They too, and their families, have made sacrifices to come this far and unlike the "customers" of other organisations, they are not going to stoically accept the situation. They have a political voice and they will make it heard.

What about the institutions themselves? Less than three weeks before the beginning of their financial year they are informed that they will have to make such substantial cuts in their operating expenses that it is clear drastic measures need to be taken if they are to balance their budgets.

The word "drastic" is used advisedly. At least 70% of expenditure in a university is attributable to staffing costs. Retrenching staff costs money and unlike the rest of the "public service", no financial assistance is offered by the government to assist with this cost. In any single year (and it is 1997 we are worried about) it would actually increase the monies spent by retrenchment packages being added to the bill.

Retrenching staff in a system which, according to the National Commission on Higher Education, is expected to double its student intake in the near future, is not an exercise to be undertaken lightly. It needs to be undertaken in the context of some planning parameters — which in other systems that have had to restructure, are provided by the Ministry of Education. If it is not done in such a context then a whole range of deci-



More bodies, less bucks: At a time when students of all races can at last attend university, they can least afford to do so

sions could be taken where similar or identical disciplines are eradicated in every university, resulting in nobody being able to study in that discipline anywhere in the country.

This is not in the national interest and would, in my view, intellectually impoverish the country very seriously. The fact is that a systemic view needs to be taken and indeed that is why the National Commission on Higher Education was undertaken, and its recommendations (after due process) need to be implemented in an orderly fashion.

Many university staff are highly specialised in a discipline and have chosen a life of scholarship. If they are made redundant, they will not be absorbed into the country's workforce, but will move to universities elsewhere in the world. And when the higher-education sector doubles in size and if and when we need them back, they are unlikely to return. It takes a long time to grow an academic and we neglected this process like so many others in the pursuit of an ideology which has now been crushed.

Like the many other things we neglected, this too is not curable overnight. It is my view that the biggest long-term crisis facing the higher-education sector is where to find the next generation of academics. With salaries as bad as

they are, the best of our young graduates are not pursuing academic careers. Among other things, the loans they have to repay make it almost impossible to do so. The lure of public and private-sector salaries is irresistible. And now they are also exposed to uncertainty.

I do not wish to argue that there are no operating improvements capable of being made in higher education. That would be ridiculous. But there are substantial parts of its expenditure that are highly sensitive to exchange-rates fluctuations which are beyond our control. The library, for example, which is so much at the heart of a university, procures most of its books and journals from abroad and the dramatic decrease in the

value of the rand has had an equally dramatic effect on library purchases. Laboratory equipment is equally affected.

What about that other large item in the revenue of the university — student fees? There is a view in some business circles that fees should dramatically increase. The United States is pointed to as an example of where fees can range from anything up to the equivalent of R100 000 a year.

The fact is that the US has a healthy, functioning student financial-aid scheme where

The biggest long-term crisis facing higher education is where to find the next generation of academics

students can borrow what they need and the loans are underwritten by the state. We haven't got that and it is a tragedy that the majority of our people are finally able to come to university at the very time when we cannot afford what students elsewhere in the world have come to take for granted — often free university education and at least adequate state-assisted loans.

Minister of Education Sibusiso Bengu is quoted (*Natal Mercury*, December 13) as saying that the universities are "panicking unnecessarily". It is his ministry which informed us of the subsidy cuts and we are only acting responsibly as we ponder how on earth we are going to find the means to get through 1997 without inviting bankruptcy.

Maybe bankruptcy is something we should face with more equanimity. Would the ministry bail us out? Even the dreaded Margaret Thatcher bailed out a university in Wales that went bankrupt. I, for one, do not see that as an option and I am sure the minister would agree. So my colleagues in universities and technikons remain worried. The higher-education sector is easy to destroy. It takes generations to build again. Let us look after what we have and not wait until it is too late.

Professor Brenda Gourley is also chairman of the Committee of University Principals



PHOTOGRAPH: SALLY SHORREND

Campus crisis: Long-standing feud erupts on Njabulo Ndebele's campus

Lecturers in punch-up

Joshua Amupadhi

MTG 20-23/12/96 (54)

THE University of the North has appointed a commission of inquiry to investigate a long-running feud at its Unin Gwa Gwa campus, which came to a head last week when three lecturers exchanged blows. The commission comes more than a year after students, workers and lecturers first demanded independent investigations into allegations of corruption, mismanagement and personal feuds between academics on campus. The probe at Unin will begin next month.

"We tried to handle this internally but because there have been so many of these (problems) going on the council has now decided to appoint a commission that will investigate everything and everybody," said Unin representative

John Wiltshire. Meanwhile, police are investigating charges of assault against the Gwa Gwa campus registrar for academic affairs NT Mosa and principal computer programmer LM Mabula. The two allegedly punched and man-handled Dr Mashupye Kgaphola of the chemistry department last week. They could not be reached for comment as they were on holiday.

The Gwa Gwa campus is in the Free State, about 600km from the headquarters in Pietersburg in the Northern Province. Unin is headed by Professor Njabulo Ndebele. Students, workers and some lecturers, calling themselves Concerned Members Group, have accused Vice-Chancellor Ndebele of "intransigence" and reluctance to end the crises. Kgaphola said numerous memoranda had been sent to Nde-

bele, but most had been ignored. Those that drew a reply, he said, did not address the problems. "When evidence is presented on many complaints there is no urgency in the action being taken."

Despite sending several SOS memoranda to the main campus, secretary general of the Students' Representative Council Mbulelo Nkwequ said: "The council and particularly Professor Ndebele have not come back to us to indicate whether the problem was being solved".

In October, Kgaphola laid charges of fraud with the police against the management of the Unin Gwa Gwa campus. Superintendent Boks van Jaarsveld, Bloemfontein's commercial crime unit's head, said the charges involve corruption, the issuing of false degrees and invalid letters of admission.

Wits (54) loses Sinclair

MTG 20-23/12/96

Joshua Amupadhi

WITS University Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs June Sinclair is to leave the administration at the end of this month, after failing in her bid to win the most powerful office on the campus.

Sinclair, defeated in October in the contest to be Wits' next vice-chancellor, said this week she would not ask the university council for another 3-year term when her current tenure expires. She said she had not yet decided what she would do next.

The university is already advertising for her replacement and is also seeking two other new deputy vice-chancellors. The position of deputy vice-chancellor for academic affairs has been vacant for most of the year since the colourful exit of Professor William Makgoba, who is now doing medical research on the campus. Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research Friedel Sellschop is due to retire next year.

Wits representative David Williams said applicants would be subjected to the same kind of public scrutiny candidates endured in the race to succeed Vice-Chancellor Robert Charlton.

Sinclair's departure has been on the cards from the moment she lost that race to political scientist Sam Nolutshungu. She hinted prior to the contest that defeat would prompt her to look for a new job.



PHOTOGRAPH: RUTH MOTAU

Time's up: June Sinclair

She is widely viewed to have a firm grasp on the financial realities facing Wits, and during the contest for Charlton's position she was frequently quoted about the business plan she would seek to put in place on the campus. Her relations with the student body and workers, however, have been strained since the decision in 1993 to bring police on to the campus to quell rowdy demonstrators.

She is also not popular among many Wits academics, some of whom questioned her academic record when she went after Charlton's post.

Veteran former MP Helen Suzman, a member of the university's council and one of Sinclair's strongest allies, said her departure was a "great loss" because of her "experience as well as academic and basic intelligence".

"Those (Sinclair's) are personal decisions about which there is not much an outsider can do," Suzman said.

Makgoba, meanwhile, said he had not "given it a thought" to re-apply, but said the filling of the vacancies was a trivial story compared to changes following the debacle of his ousting.

As tertiary education cuts loom, University of the North lecturers feud and Wits's June Sinclair departs

Funding chaos threatens students

Disadvantaged students could continue to be left out, report

Joshua Amupathi and Stuart Hess

THOUSANDS of school-leavers hoping to further their studies next year could find themselves on the streets following the government's drastic cut in bursaries.

A string of universities and technicians contacted by the *Mail & Guardian* said they would have to slash enrolment numbers, following the funding plans revealed by the Ministry of Education last week.

And despite claims by "white" universities and technicians that they would bear the brunt of the cut-backs, every "black" institution contacted by the *M&G* said they also faced swingeing cuts.

The plans, which the ministry insists are preliminary, include cut-

ting subsidies — the sector's primary income source — and bursaries provided under the National Student Financial Aid Scheme.

The ministry remained tightlipped this week on the cuts and the planned allocation from its "redress fund" — thought to be worth about R250-million — for disadvantaged institutions. However, Acting Director General Dr Ibron Rensburg said the redress fund may target buildings, equipment and academic development, depending on an audit within tertiary education institutions.

Deputy Director General John Samuels said a fundraising committee set up by Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu was hard at work to obtain money to maintain or increase the level of financial aid.

But institutions warned the funding plans would leave them little option other than to cut first-year admissions, severely denting government attempts to widen tertiary education.

The warnings accompanied the official release this week of minister

Bengu's Education Green Paper — based on recommendations from the National Commission on Higher Education, which aims to give disadvantaged students an opportunity to further their studies.

Acting Vice-Chancellor for ML Sultan Technikon, Professor Christopher Cresswell, said the cuts contradicted the commission's recommendations.

"These severe cuts will affect our plans to take more students from disadvantaged backgrounds," he said. "How can we enrol more students if we know there is no money to pay for their studies?"

The ministry's proposed funding for ML Sultan would halve the institution's financial aid scheme to R3-million, and cut its general subsidy 12% to R7-million.

The University of the North, facing a 7% subsidy cut, said its enrolments would also decrease. A representative said the university, built for 4 500 students but with 16 000 enrolled, had a backlog of at least R657-million which needed to be

spent on facilities.

Technikon Natal's financial aid scheme will be cut to R4.7-million from R7-million, while the general subsidy will fall 9% to R82-million.

The University of the Western Cape, where students went on a rampage this year to demand a scrapping of debt and higher credit for food, faces a R27-million subsidy cut, R7-million sliced from its financial aid scheme. The university said in a statement the proposal represented a "severe blow... we hope that the government will do everything possible to avoid cutting assistance and subsidy allocations to disadvantaged institutions, as the expectation of these institutions is an increase in the state allocation."

The University of the North-West faces a 34% cut in its government grant, while Transkei said it was facing a 21% cut. Vice-Chancellor Alfred Moleah hinted that the only way to cover the shortfall may be to increase fees. But such action would lead to friction on campus, he said. Many institutions said fees were

already at painfully high levels, and further increases were unlikely to outstrip inflation. The main option in lowering costs would be reducing student enrolment and cutting staff.

Other universities hit include Wits, Pretoria, Rhodes, Durban-Westville, Potchefstroom, Natal, Free State and Stellenbosch. The latter faces a R24.8-million drop in subsidy, which would prevent it from issuing bursaries to new students next year.

"If the present cuts in the state subsidy are going to become the norm, universities will face serious financial crises," Vice-rector for operations Professor Christo Viljoen said. "The survival of some institutions could be jeopardised."

Deputy Director General Samuels said a new funding formula, still in the process of formulation, "will go a long way in alleviating the pressure on historically disadvantaged institutions."

Cutting the heart out of learning,

PAGE 24

(514) M+G 20-23/12/96

'Degrees' of disorder

(54) CP 22/12/96

By CHRIS HLONGWA

TWO TOP policemen have been charged with fraud following the uncovering of the "degrees for sale" scandal at the University of Zululand.

They have been suspended indefinitely from duty.

Recently appointed head of reactive policing – in charge of detectives and the uniformed unit – at Empangeni police station, Senior Superintendent Jeremiah Mdlalose, and Bongumusa Ndlovu, a superintendent at the tracing unit at Gingindlovu police station, are alleged to have received fake degrees, said the senior public prosecutor at Empangeni magistrate's court this week.

One of them is alleged to have fraudulently received a BA in Police Science.

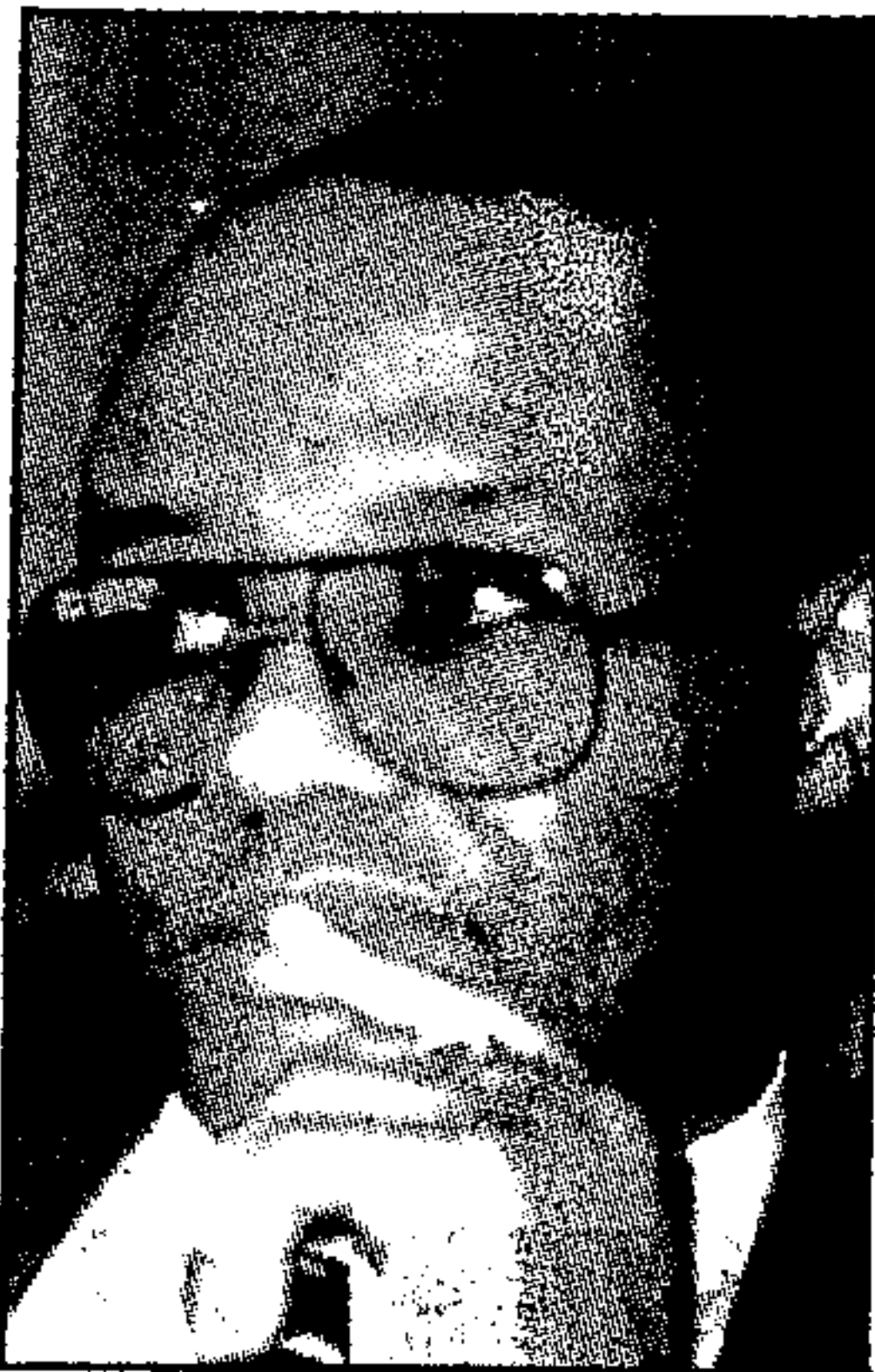
Also accused is a retired policeman, Abraham de Lange, while the University's former chief faculty officer, Alson Ngubane, is also facing charges in connection with the alleged phoney degrees scam.

They are to appear again in court on January 17.

Meanwhile, the beleaguered university has become a polecat among the academic community in SA, following the scandal.

Not a single academic from any other university in the entire country has applied for a vacant top post in the university, City Press has learned.

Cops charged with obtaining false academic qualifications



PURSUIING THE CASE . . . Public protector Selby Baqwa is investigating the 'fake degree' scandal.

The post which has been advertised is that of the head of the department of English.

In a petition to the rector, Professor Charles Dlamini, concerned academics have criticised the administration for failing to interview a prominent Nigerian scholar, who has applied for the job and whose presence in the institution they believe would have helped greatly to rehabilitate its shattered image.

Prof Romanus Egudu of the University of Benin, Nigeria, is said to be "a world renowned scholar . . ."

Fighting for his appointment, the academics wrote in the petition:

"It is already a warning signal to this university that not a single academic from any other university in the entire Republic of South Africa applied for the post under discussion.

"The fake degree scandal and other factors have left our academic reputation in tatters.

"We ask, then, that Professor Egudu be interviewed for the post he has applied for at this university, and that any error or violation of procedure which resulted in his candidacy being ignored, be now firmly corrected by yourself."

Attempts to contact the university's spokesman for reaction to the letter has been unsuccessful.

An academic, who said he intended leaving the university, said he would stay only if Egudu was given the post.

Out of the several hundred cases before the commission 23 have been finalised but a spokesman for the public protector's office declined to disclose further details, only to say the recommendations of the commission are to be submitted to the university in due course.

Public protector Selby Baqwa will resume his investigation on January 20.

Top academics leave Wits varsity in droves

seweta 23/12/96 (54)

THE University of the Witwatersrand has already lost and is set to lose several top academics in the wake of drastic government subsidy cuts which have exacerbated a mood of uncertainty and made the competition for fee-paying students more cut-throat than ever.

Among them are one of the university's most prominent academics, Professor Charles van Onselen; its deputy vice-chancellor for student affairs Professor June Sinclair; professor of applied mathematics Michael Sears, and zoology professor Robin Crewe, whose term as dean of the faculty of science expires this month, the *Sunday Times* newspaper reported yesterday.

Van Onselen has been shortlisted to take over the chair of race relations at Oxford University. He said this week he had applied for the post because of uncertainty about his future at Wits.

National limelight

Van Onselen, the director of the university's Institute for Advanced Social Research, was catapulted into the national limelight this year when he spearheaded an acrimonious campaign to prevent Professor William Makgoba succeeding Professor Robert Charlton as vice chancellor. He claimed that Makgoba had falsified his curriculum vitae.

Van Onselen (52) will be inter-

viewed for the post in January. If he gets it and accepts, he will take up his new position in September or October next year.

Van Onselen denied his application was related to the Makgoba issue, which made him a highly unpopular figure in some quarters at Wits.

However, he admitted the decision to consider a new post had a lot to do with the state of tertiary education in South Africa.

"Obviously if you're applying for another job it suggests you have some reservations about the job in which you find yourself. Are we going to be allowed to ply our craft as we have done?" he said.

Academics fight over the soul of universities

doctors, engineers'

'Chickens will come home to roost in incompetent

(54) AR 2/11/97

SABATA NGCAL
EDUCATION REPORTER

Controversy is raging among academics over the soul of South African universities, with some calling for greater Africanisation to make them more relevant and others warning against lower standards.

The debate is taking place as the National Commission on Higher Education discusses transformation in higher education.

Some academics argue if university standards drop with an influx of black students, it would indicate the task of inclusiveness had been ill-conceived or badly managed.

Another academic view is that the central issue of the perceived lowering of standards rests almost entirely on allowing stu-

dents "with diminished academic competence" to enter university and to proceed "without attaining the required pass marks". The Africanist perspective argues that the resurgence of the Africanisation debate in higher education has its roots in the desire for fundamental transformation rather than piecemeal reform of the racially fragmented system.

The academics agree transformation should take place, but they differ on how this should be achieved. Margaret Legum, a trustee of the Centre for Anti-Racism and Anti-Sexism in Natal, argues there is a need for a new "job description" for universities or standards will fall.

Ms Legum, who is also an international training consultant, said in the past the job description for universities had been to provide an environment in which individuals selected from the same cultural, class

and age backgrounds learnt information based on the experience of the cultures of Europe and those which grew from them.

Students also built on that learning to create new knowledge so the learning base was enlarged.

Ms Legum says the new job description for a transformed university may be very different "to provide conditions in which people who have previously been excluded from higher education may feel welcome and encouraged to join in the process of learning and research".

"It might be to create an environment in which previous conditions limiting the achievement of previously excluded people may be abandoned and their confidence in themselves enhanced," she added.

However, Mike Barrow, a research station manager in Greytown, said while he agreed transformation was necessary he

questioned whether students who showed future potential but failed current competency requirements should be allowed to proceed through university.

"Shouldn't these deficiencies be sorted out at a lower academic level than at our universities," he asked.

Mr Barrow said a university degree was the highest academic qualification attainable and there were many levels below that which could be used to correct academic deficiencies.

"It is at these levels that the government and business should attempt to raise academic competency," he argued.

Mr Barrow warned that if academically disadvantaged students continued being accepted at universities and they were unable to cope with the higher level of instruction, they would fail or be pushed through the system to satisfy racial quotas

and the desire for social engineering.

"The chickens will come home to roost in future when we discover thousands of accountants, engineers, doctors, nurses and agriculturists are incompetently running operations and making gross mistakes.

"South Africa will have thousands of black graduates but our roads will buckle, bridges fall down, medical operations go wrong and telephone services will not work.

"Many countries to the north of us have had their affirmative action universities for decades but who gets called in to fix their road systems and to attend to telecommunication faults?

"The answer is contractors from outside the country who employ qualified engineers and technicians.

"We will be doing South Africa a great

disservice by pushing through unqualified graduates," he said.

Blade Nzimande, chairman of the parliamentary education committee, said transformation had a far greater role to play - to redress the inequalities of the past. He said calls to Africanise the higher education system involved demands to increase the representation of black students, academics and administrators and at the same time redress the inequalities between historically black and historically white institutions.

"In addition, Africanisation opposes the traditional ideal of the liberal university standing beyond politics and society as inappropriate to the contemporary African context. It envisages a higher education system that is able to play an active role in the process of national reconstruction," Dr Nzimande said.

HIGHER EDUCATION (54)

GREEN ABOUT THE GILLS

FM 3/1/97

As they pore over the Green Paper on higher education released recently, academics and administrators will probably concentrate on two issues.

First is the role and powers of the proposed independent assessor. Second is the affordability of proposals emanating from the now disbanded National Commission on Higher Education to greatly expand the tertiary sector.

The Department of Education is guarded when fielding questions about the assessor. The post, says deputy director-general John Samuel, is aimed primarily at "strengthening the Minister's capacity to discharge his parliamentary responsibilities towards his budget.

"He receives more than R5bn from parliament for higher education, but has no way of accounting for this at the end of the year. So the role of the assessor should be viewed mainly in the context of financial mismanagement and corruption. The Minister must be able to report to parliament confidently on whether those billions have been well and honestly spent."

That does not mean, says Samuel, that the assessor will scrutinise all institutions' books. He will visit only those suspected of mismanagement or corruption.

Meanwhile, traditionally white universities will be wondering whether they can survive the redress proposed by the Green Paper. It involves "top slicing" the higher education budget to give extra funds to historically black universities, then dividing what's left among all tertiary institutions according to a complicated formula.

For the past 10 years, the State has been unable to afford the sums indicated by that formula. The degree to which they are affordable is known as the "A factor" and it has been declining steadily over the years. This year it's just 66,2% of the formula amount, which is 25% less than 10 years ago.

Next year's funding levels will be fi-

nalised only this month. Indications are that the "A factor" will be slashed by 10%.

That has caused traditionally — but certainly no longer — white universities to voice their concern to the media. The Department of Education has, in turn, responded angrily, saying that financial information given to universities is confidential and provisional. "The Minister will continue to do his utmost to bring the needs of the sector and the serious consequence of underfunding to the attention of the government," says a department press release.

And so, no doubt, will quite a few other departments. The chances of any of them getting more from a Cabinet determined to reduce next year's deficit to 4% are, however, remote.

For universities, whose financial years begin in January, to hope otherwise would be foolish. They must, after all, take steps to live within their means well before the new year.

As it is, the pain from nominal cuts will be intensified by inflation. The formula makes inadequate allowance for it, even in the matter of salaries.

A full professor's total package, under the formula, is now R160 000 — less than that received by a middle management public servant (director), whose total package runs to R250 000. When it comes to imported items, such as books, the gap is huge and will be greater this year, given the rand's collapse.

Universities such as Wits and UCT continue to seek ways to cut operating costs. But their ability to do so quickly is limited and they have to dig into capital reserves, formed mainly out of donations, to maintain infrastructure and essential academic activities. It's feared that will remain necessary for years, until no reserves are left.

Institutions are also deeply concerned about government's ability to finance needy students. Word is that last year's R300m kick-in will not be maintained this year. If that proves to be true, warns UCT registrar Hugh Amoore, "student unrest will be commonplace in 1997 on all campuses." ■

Crime rife at Turfloop

By ROCKY MOKOENA
and ANDILE NOGANTA

THE UNIVERSITY of the North, once famous for churning out luminaries such as Terror Lekota and respected Mpumalanga Premier Mathews Phosa, is now notorious for being a haven for criminals.

Hailed as a campus that had a "social conscience" in the 70s, Turfloop is now regarded by police as having the highest rate of crime in the entire Northern Province.

Student residences have been turned into hideouts for car thieves on the run from the law, and the police are aware of it.

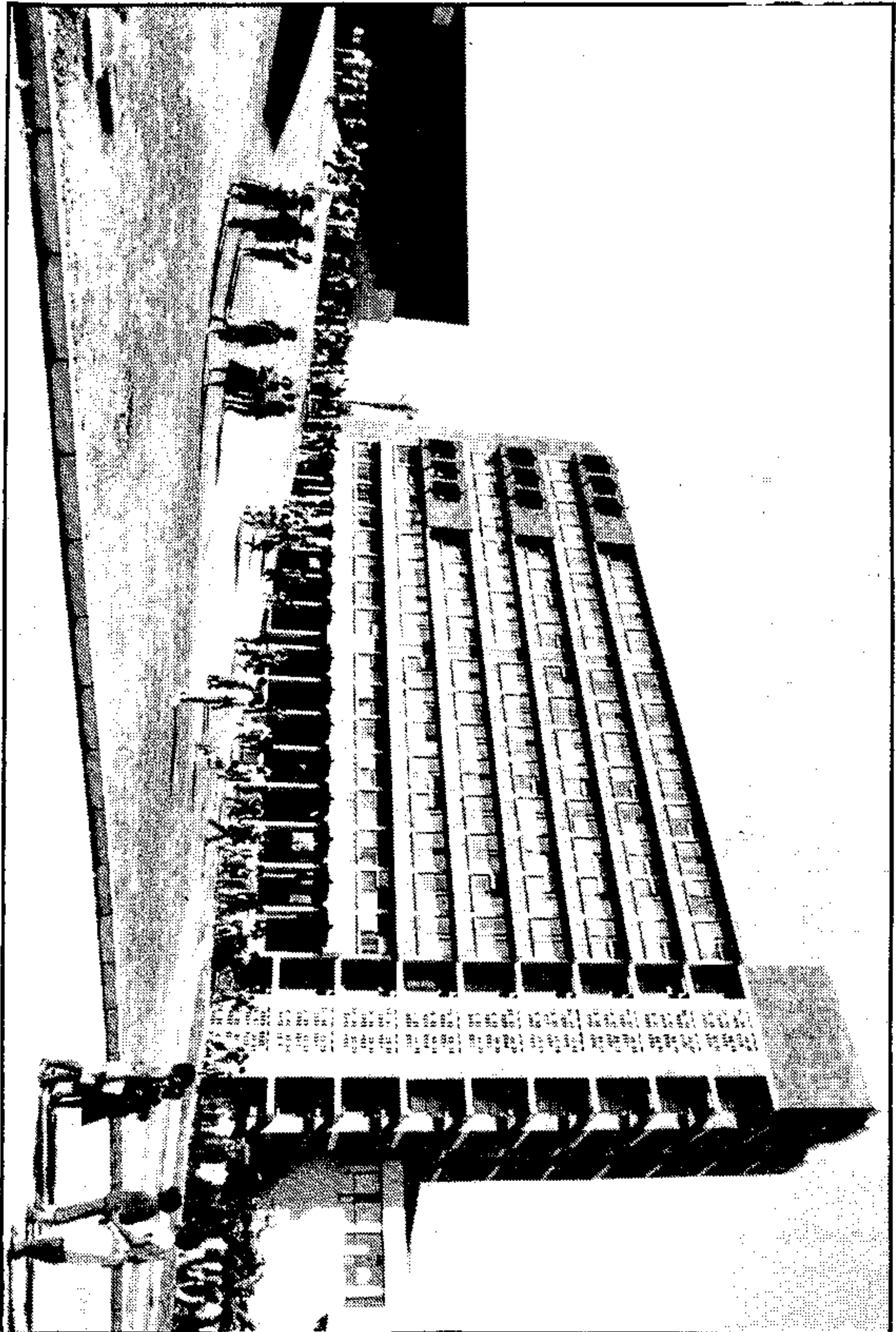
On average, ten students get killed every year on the campus.

The likes of former student leader Abraham Onkgopitse Tiro and the late former rector Pius Mokoekong may be turning in their graves at the state of anarchy prevalent on the campus today.

So critical is the situation at Turfloop that it has attracted the attention of the government. Provincial MEC for safety and security, Seth Nthai, has declared the university a criminal operation area.

"The institution is no longer a centre of learning but has become the hiding area for criminals terrorising the students. Police have discovered stolen property — including cars — on campus," he noted.

The harassment of female stu-



THE PROMOTED ILLUSION... Sleepy-looking Turfloop campus has actually become a haven for serious crime.

dents in particular has in recent years become a major phenomenon on South African campuses — but if five women are raped every weekend on a university campus it certainly is a sad indictment on the moral fibre of that institution.

Police say the number of rapes at the university has steadily increased since the start of 1996, and may be linked to the proliferation of illegal firearms on campus, which they say has also gone up

in the same period.

Considering that police statistics indicate a drop in crime figures in the province, the rise in crime on campus emphasises the seriousness of the situation at the university.

The police now regard the University of the North as the most crime-ridden place in the Northern Province.

Indications from the safety and security office are that plans to establish a mobile police station on

campus are at an advanced stage.

Nthai said consultation with university stakeholders about deployment of police on campus was in process.

So rampant is the crime rate that the situation has to be monitored on a 24-hour basis — an ironic throwback to the university's troubled past when the South African Defence Force occupied Turfloop, virtually placing the campus under siege between 1986 and

1989.

At that time, the SADF was called in by the university authorities amid what was regarded as fears of student protests during the 1986 countrywide rebellion, and suspicion of wanted activists using the campus as a hiding place.

The entire SRC and other activists were detained when the SADF swooped in on the night of June 11, 1986, and more people — notably academic Louis Mnguni — were to be detained under emergency regulations in the months that followed.

At that stage, the university was a thorn in the side of the bantustan government of Lebowa.

Could it be that the militant history of the university's student body has been allowed to degenerate into the state of anarchy the university finds itself in today?

One former student of the university, present there over the last five years and speaking on condition of anonymity, seemed to think so.

He said the university could not escape the social decay around it. However, he put the blame squarely on the university administration for not acting tough enough to deter student crime.

"The management has not been able to manage the transition of the campus from a politically active to a socially responsible university," the former student said.

Lybon Mabasa, a student at Turfloop in the mid-70s, also believes the problem at the university reflects the general falling of standards in society as a whole.

54

29-5/1/97

"If, for example, you are going to have shebeens run on a university campus then it shows how important alcohol has become in society today," he said.

However, he added that Turfloop used to be a progressive campus with the biggest ethnic mix of all of South Africa's traditionally black universities.

"The university has only become notorious recently. Turfloop had always been a university with a social conscience. Students there always knew that they were there to study.

"The thing about crime is probably a development of the past five or six years," he said.

But both ex-students agree that it is still a university campus — a place of culture which society looks up to to rise above social decadence and produce intellectual leaders.

Mabasa regards what he calls the overcrowding on campus as one major problem.

"The university has aspired to modern standards without modern facilities," he said.

When contacted for comment in Cape Town, where he was on holiday, university spokesperson DK Mohuba denied there was any crime on campus, but when presented with statements from the office of the MEC for safety and security he would not be drawn further on the subject.

"What crime? There is no crime at Turf. Just say the university has no comment," he said.

WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 8, 1997 ★

NEEDY STUDENTS PROMISED HELP

UWC protests belong to past — SRC leader

STUDENTS IN ARREARS have been told in writing they will have to pay a certain sum if they wish to be re-accepted at UWC. Education Writer **CAROL CAMPBELL** reports.

ET 8/1/97

THE student unrest that has plagued the University of the Western Cape for the past five years is unlikely to recur this year, says Student Representatives Council president Mr "J J" Tabane.

A trouble-free start to the academic year will be the ultimate reward for Tabane and his SRC as they have worked through the holidays to prepare for the influx of students.

In December, Tabane signed an agreement with the rector, Professor Cecil Abrahams, in which he committed students to help the university recover arrear fees.

"All returning students with outstanding fees have been posted a copy of the agreement and a personal letter telling them the minimum amount they will be expected to pay if they want to be accepted back," Tabane said.

Students would have had time in the holidays to raise money.

The university is one of the poorest in the country and is owed more than R22 million in arrear



AGREEMENT: Mr "J J" Tabane

fees as most of its students are from poverty-stricken communities.

Many of its students rely on the government's student financial aid scheme, the budget for which is expected to be cut from R300m to R250m this year.

"Our philosophy is that no deserving students must be denied a place because they cannot pay," Tabane said. "We promise to find a way we can help needy students."

Tabane said the student body was opposed to those who had "ridden on the back of the struggle" to dodge fees.

Some students had been sent money by their parents to pay UWC, but had spent it on furnishing their rooms or partying.

The challenge for UWC student leaders is to sell the new agreement to students. They hope to quell the emotion that has led to often-violent protests like those that closed the university last year.

Left-wing student organisations could upset the applecart by encouraging returning students to protest. However, Tabane is confident that most students will be in favour of starting the academic year on schedule on February 10.

Although UWC has had a "flexible" approach to students who are in arrears, the universities of Cape Town and Stellenbosch make short shrift of fee-dodgers, although they have programmes to help those that are financially disadvantaged.

A UCT spokesman said they had had 16 144 applications for 3 000 places, and Prof Walter Claassen, vice-rector (academic) at Stellenbosch, said enrolment was expected to jump 600 to more than 16 000.

(54)

Getting your slice

54

IN MY CONTRIBUTION to the debate about the quality of academic leadership that Wits University needed (and needs), I identified as one of the essentials the capacity and ability of the leadership to fiercely compete for the limited financial support from Government, while strengthening and broadening other forms of public and private support.

Professor Sam Nolutshungu, who has been chosen to be the university's new vice-chancellor, has the credentials to meet this challenge.

The basis of this reflection was (and is) that the emerging democracy in South Africa, with its emphasis on nonracism and equality, will not permit unequal preferential treatment as between public universities, the way the racist colonial and apartheid regimes did in the past.

Once some remedial measures are put in place to empower the previously disadvantaged black universities to uplift their ability to engage competitively with the former white universities, such as ours, the sustainable progress of universities will in future depend on their ability to be innovative in resourcing themselves, beyond the limited resources provided through the national budgetary process.

The boundaries of the "limited state resources" are, of course, elastic and the domain for democratic contestation.

The total "national cake", to which universities are making (and must make) a significant contribution by producing productive people-skills and know-how, will have to be shared very strategically so that universities are not rendered incapable of producing and reproducing quality graduates.

Quality graduates can only be produced through quality teaching in a favourable learning environment.

Besides quality graduates, the South African university must strive to be in the forefront when it comes to the production of new knowledge through research, with the aim of expanding the frontiers of such knowledge, qualitatively and quantitatively.

A relatively underdeveloped but fast-developing or industrialising nation like South Africa cannot afford not to invest in quality higher education.

The production of quality graduates and the extension of the frontiers of knowledge in conducive environments costs money – lots of money. This the universities and the State must appreciate.

Thus, when Minister of Education Sibusiso Bengu and the Department of Education inform us that the state does not possess unlimited finances for high-level spending universities, we do understand – but, at the same time, we must engage in dialogue.

We accept that special measures are required

Corrective financial measures are needed at historically black universities but this should not strangle universities like Wits. **Shadrack Gutto** considers the issue...



Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu ... says the state does not have unlimited finances for universities.

to improve the quality of teaching and research in the historically disadvantaged universities. This is a constitutional imperative.

The crux of the matter, however, is that whatever corrective dispensations are made to uplift the capacity of the disadvantaged universities should not be done by strangling universities like Wits.

Struggle within

The whole country knows we are struggling within to transform the institution and make it a university of excellence for all South Africans.

Transforming Wits University so that it continues to produce quality graduates and research output for a steadily increasing number of black students by, hopefully, an increasing number of black academics (without in any way marginalising the role and participation of white students and staff) requires enhanced and not diminished financial backing from the state.

Similarly, uplifting the capacity of previously disadvantaged universities requires and deserves increased finances, among other things.

What is the equitable formula for meeting these equally valid and legitimate needs of the new South Africa? This is the multimillion rand question which we shall constantly confront.

For the moment, we trust, from the Wits University vantage point, that the minister's



Professor Sam Nolutshungu ... has the credentials to meet the challenges at Wits University.

assurance that the debilitating cuts to us which his department announced are indeed initial proposals which will be revised upwards when the actual allocations are approved by Cabinet and disbursed.

Both the *Discussion Document* (April 1996) and the final *Report of the National Commission on Higher Education*, as well as the Green Paper on education, have put a uniform emphasis on equity, redress, quality and transformation.

We are grappling with all these with increased vigour and commitment.

As for those who in the figment of their fertile imaginations characterise the normal staff changes and movements at Wits University as an expression of either protest against the proposed cuts or the unavoidable reality that Nolutshungu, a black intellectual, will be our vice-chancellor, I consider the response from outgoing vice-chancellor Professor Robert Charlton apt and to the point.

Wits University will strengthen and not weaken. Wits University belongs to all South Africans, black and white.

(Professor Shadrack Gutto is co-chairman of the Forum for Advanced and Accelerated Transformation, chairman of the Wits Transformation Front and deputy director of the Centre for Applied Legal Studies, Wits University.)

training image

Now serves community

(54)
ARG 11/1/97

MXOLISI MGXASHE
STAFF REPORTER

The Good Hope College of Education in Khayelitsha, which has gone through all kinds of strains and hiccups since its establishment in May 1987, will physically shed its character as a teacher-training institution from next week and become a community college, with a capacity for serving the local community's needs more realistically.

The college has, like most teacher training institutions in the country, and particularly in the Western Cape, been producing graduates who end up increasing the huge army of unemployed.

The crises and frustrations the students, alumni and staff of Good Hope College of Education went through over the years when political turmoil was on the increase in the country, especially in the years leading to the 1994 elections, inevitably turned it into a vibrant base for political activism, which sometimes resulted in violent acts against some of the staff.

In spite of the fact that the college had been opened in 1987, proper accommodation in the form of the imposing structure it now has was realised only in 1994, thus ending more than seven years of overcrowding and squatting in several primary schools.

Technical college education chief planner Keith Loynes told Saturday Argus this week that the college would now assume its new look in partnership with the much older and more-endowed South Peninsula College in Muizenberg, which once admitted only white students.

Mr Loynes said the courses and programmes to be offered at the new college would correspond with the specific needs of the Khayelitsha community, and so provide more opportunity than before for its graduates to find jobs.

Entry requirements would be more liberal, ranging from Standard 7 to matric, depending on the courses and programmes students enrolled in.

Good Hope College and its twin-sister institution, South Peninsula, which has been operational for the past 25 years, will function as two campuses of the same college, and in the future a third component may be added in the Capricorn development area in Mitchell's Plain.

Courses to be offered will provide training to aspirant day mothers, creche

assistants, administrative clerks and assistants, secretaries and computer operators.

Others will be public administrators, entrepreneurs, financial managers and other vocational courses, which could either provide jobs with no hassles or prepare the students for more self-sufficient roles in their own businesses.

The list of courses and programmes offered will be further enriched by programmes such as the Students and Youth into Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (SYSTEM), aimed at providing access to teacher training in these subjects, and Entrepreneurship Training aimed at assisting the students in developing the full potential of their businesses.

"The overriding consideration is that the courses must provide access to further education, higher education and the job market. At a time when very little good news seems to emanate from education departments, it is indeed a pleasure to announce this exciting Western Cape Educational Department's project, which has the full support of so many roleplayers," said Mr Loynes.

The irony about the transformation of the

Good Hope College now is that it was officially opened only two years ago by Minister of Education Sibusiso Bhengu. The current move may be a reflection of the rethink government has on higher education, especially since community colleges have become quite popular in countries like the United States, and are known to have been useful in dealing with the peculiar problems of the disadvantaged.

In the US community colleges are normally two-year institutions that admit the regular students as well as the working youths and adults who attend classes in the evenings in preparation for an associate diploma, which guarantees them admission into four-year colleges, where they do an extra two years before attaining a university degree.

In addition to the associate degree programmes, short certificate courses lasting three months to a year are also offered to students who may not show a positive potential for making it in more advanced academic programmes.

These are usually sponsored by their companies as part of training for the implementation of affirmative action programmes when these were still permissible in the US.

'The overriding aim is that the courses provide access to further education'

College sheds
old teacher

'Optimistic' look at the year ahead for tertiary education

ARG 11/1/97 (54)

In spite of the transitional hitches faced by tertiary institutions, this year promises some exciting developments resulting from the great strides made in the past year towards the complete transformation of higher education, reports **Mxolisi Mgxashe**.

Chief Director of Higher Education Thumeleng Mosala, who has been in the forefront of the transformation process in tertiary education, is optimistic about the changes taking place.

In an interview with Saturday Argus this week, he said new policy and the Higher Education Act would come into effect this year and establish changes to the system.

Professor Mosala believes the ball is now in the court of the various higher education institutions. Their responsiveness to the demands of the situation and their readiness to be imaginative and innovative would do a great deal to improve the situation.

"By the end of this year, further strides will have been made in the transformation process as a whole and the rest will be up to the quality of leadership in the institutions themselves.

"We need the kind of leadership that will provide a vision as well as tough-mind-

edness, responsiveness to the demands of the situation and imagination," Professor Mosala said.

This would provide the right calibre of leadership in education and help deal with the crisis situations the various tertiary institutions face since the advent of the new dispensations.

"When uprisings occur on the campuses we should be able to see these in the context of the challenges of the transformation movement affecting us all.

"Uprisings are more negative features of a necessary transformation, and therefore form part of the struggle for change.

'Uprisings on campus are mere negative features of a necessary transformation'

"Yes, students have sometimes behaved in an unruly and unacceptable way and have been condemned by most stakeholders in higher education, but student leadership has also criticised these actions.

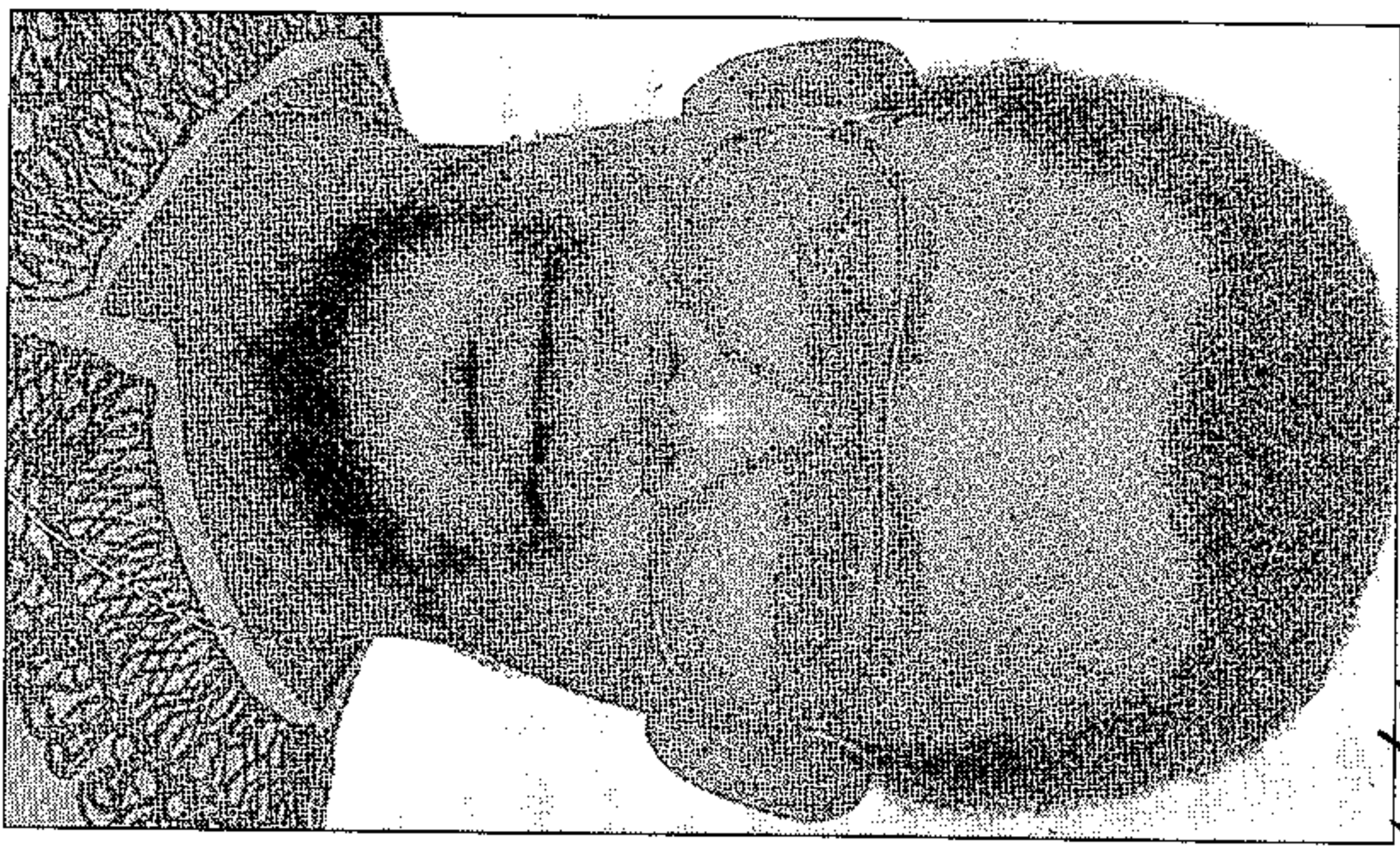
"It's too easy to simply condemn the students' behaviour.

"The previous regime did that quite often and even used its iron fist.

"But we must try to get beneath the problems of the destruction of school property and other violent acts.

"We must find out why the students behave in this manner so that we can quickly try to find appropriate solutions, which is what the whole transformation process is all about," he said.

Professor Mosala said the recommenda-



Education hot seat: Thumeleng Mosala

tions made to the Ministry of Education in August last year by the Commission on Higher Education had been useful in the preparation of the Green Paper on education.

This paper will, after extensive participation by all of those involved, become the White Paper which will provide the framework for the Higher Education Act. The act will guide the new system of higher education.

In the now-disbanded Commission on Higher Education's statement of the vision, principles, features and goals of a new framework for higher education, the commission noted that higher education has a social function to foster, among other things, the learning needs and aspirations of individuals through the development of their intellectual abilities and aptitudes.

The commission's report states that because higher education is a key allocator of life chances it is expected to provide the cognitive empowerment that will enable the individual to make the best use of opportunities society offers for self-fulfilment in a "personally meaningful and materially secure existence".

The report also stresses that higher education in South Africa is characterised by an inequitable distribution of opportunities depriving many individuals of the possibility of fulfilling their education needs and aspirations.

The report sees a higher education system for the country that has to support the cultures of critical discourse and experimental thinking, of human rights and

'Higher education enables individuals to make use of what society offers'

intercultural communication and respect so as to "help bring about a free society with a fount of creative thinking and innovative leadership and a firm commitment to a humane, non-racist and non sexist community life."

Equity, democratisation, development, quality, effectiveness and efficiency are some of the principles that will drive the new higher education system.

Equity concerns the impartial and fair distribution of higher education opportunities, privileges and funds.

Democratisation is seen in this instance as an ideal which has to go far beyond politics but one that must permeate civil society and become the hallmark of the way in which authority and power are exercised in every sphere where the interests of citizens and common welfare are at stake.

As the commission sees it, development means a set of programmes and actions initiated and implemented to create conditions for a system that is intended to improve gradually.

Quality is seen as the maintenance and application of academic and educational standards which embrace excellence, effectiveness and efficiency.

Professor Mosala believes that these innovations should begin to deliver the kind of changes everyone expects to see in the country's tertiary education system.

As the commission sees it, development means a set of programmes and actions initiated and implemented to create conditions for a system that is intended to improve gradually.

Quality is seen as the maintenance and application of academic and educational standards which embrace excellence, effectiveness and efficiency.

Professor Mosala believes that these innovations should begin to deliver the kind of changes everyone expects to see in the country's tertiary education system.

AT THE age of 55, Professor Duncan Mitchell is one of the world's leading physiologists. He has scaled the heights.

A young student of his at Wits University has accepted a post-doctoral fellowship in Britain. Although he is still in the foothills, his scholarship stipend in Britain will easily outstrip his professor's salary.

Mitchell is not bitter about this, but the story illustrates why he and an increasingly gloomy band of 44 other A-rated scientists in South Africa believe they are part of a diminishing species.

Salaries apart, there are many reasons why South Africa's A-rated scientists of the future will not reach the top of the world or will have to leave the country for good to do so.

It is only thanks to government funding that the likes of Mitchell have achieved their eminence. But drastic cuts have left our university laboratories unable to replace old equipment.

Never mind comparing ourselves with Britain, the US and Europe — insofar as the funding and equipment available to their scientists is concerned, we may as well be on another planet.

We must look, far more modestly, at competing with Argentina and Australia. And even in this company, says Mitchell, our laboratories are "way, way behind".

Politicians who control the purse strings are leaning on scientists to do politically expedient research and, even more than money, this is encouraging them to look elsewhere for the realisation of their potential.

Diminishing funds have already forced scientists to curtail their overseas visits, without which they will be excluded from the mainstream of research.

Only seven A-rated scientists have left South Africa since 1987. That more have not done so owes almost everything to emotional and sentimental ties and very little to considerations of a more scientific nature.

"Every A-rated scientist could walk out tomorrow," says Professor Mike Wingfield of the University of the Free State.

Already well established, with collaborative research schemes in place and access to overseas funding which enables them to continue their top-drawer research, they can afford emotion and sentiment.

Top young guns with their way to make in the hurly-burly of international research cannot. And they are being lured overseas, often under the guise of collaboration which is no more than an exercise aimed at giving universities abroad a chance to vet our talent and keep the best. Once gone, there is no incentive for them to return.

Wits University physics professor Richard Lemmer says it is only the funding he has access to from Germany that has enabled him to maintain his top rating. He was the first South African to be awarded the Van Humboldt research prize in Germany in 1993, and he now visits that country two

or three times a year to do research.

Without international visibility, local scientists will not get the kind of access on which he has come to rely.

"Gaining this visibility is absolutely essential, and without adequate funding it will no longer be possible. Without the support we have had, younger researchers will not stay the course."

Chemistry professor Daneel Ferreira, from the University of the Free State, says that South Africa is within two to three years of losing its world competitiveness because of government funding cuts.

His funding for this year is 20 per cent less than it was last year. "This means I cannot do what I would like to

do or what my potential is."

Along with increasing numbers of his peers, he is forced to depend on private funding. "The danger of this is that you no longer have the freedom to do work you can publish in international-standard journals."

This, he says, is either because the work has little relevance to anyone other than the funder or because it is the funder's intellectual property. "And if you cannot publish you are dead."

Professor Henk Huismans from the University of Pretoria, the world's leading authority on the African horse sickness virus, says that in real terms the research money at his disposal is

less than a third of what he got 10 years ago. Without more money from the government, he believes he "will not be able to maintain anything like this rating for long".

He says his work depends on equipment from abroad, but it has become almost impossible to replace outdated equipment.

"We are losing our top students, many attracted by excellent offers from the US. It is now difficult for us to fill top positions with top people."

Mitchell said this week that with next to no money being invested in capital equipment anymore, there was no incentive for those studying overseas to return.

More and more scientists were realising that to survive they would have to seek collaborative research opportunities abroad, he said.

But there was "huge head-hunting going on under the guise of collaborative research" which was, in fact, "a cynical recruitment exercise" rather than genuine collaboration. "We now realise that nothing is coming into South Africa."

He agreed that most of South Africa's top scientists who had stayed had done so for sentimental reasons.

"Five years hence, if we look back to where we were in 1997," predicts Lemmer, "we'll be horrified at where we are then."

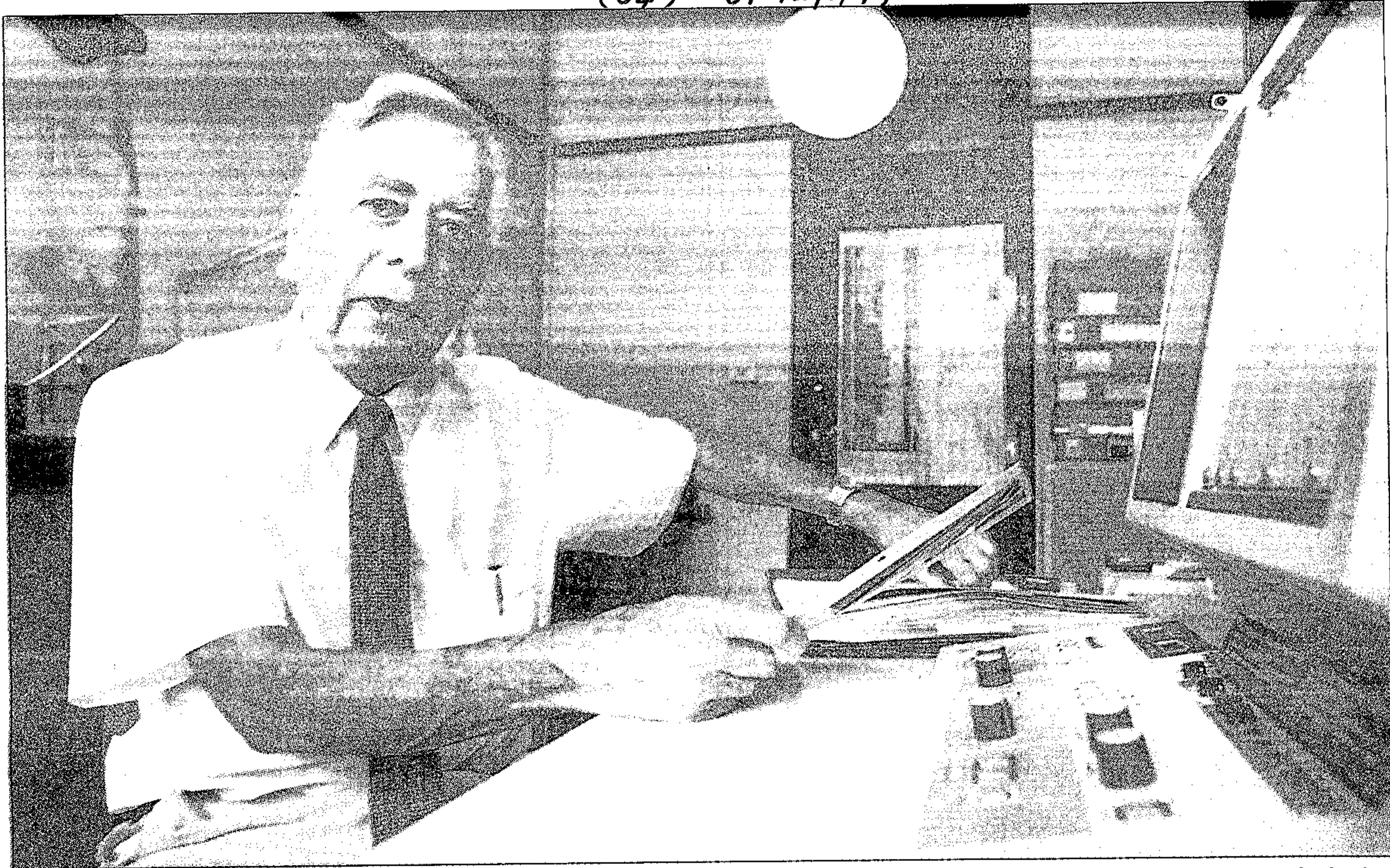
Sunday Times SECTION 2

2

(54)

ST 12/1/97

South Africa has 45 A-rated scientists, regarded as world leaders in their fields. For a developing nation, this is a proud record. But the impression it creates of a healthy research environment is illusory.
CHRIS BARRON reports



PIONEER . . . Dr Bob Brain, a palaeontologist who recently retired from his post at the Transvaal Museum, has been one of South Africa's A-rated scientists since 1984, when the rating system was introduced by the Foundation for Research Development
Picture: JULANI VAN DER WESTHUIZEN

How the cash drain hits SA's top brains

OUR A-RATED SCIENTISTS

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

Professor William Bond, 48, botanist. Particularly interested in processes that influence vegetation change. His work on fire ecology and ant-plant interactions has been widely cited internationally.

Professor George Branch, 54, marine biologist. Specialises in coastal ecology and management.

Professor G C L Brümmer, mathematician. Specialises in topology and category theory.

Associate Professor Douglas Butterworth, 49, has been a major driving force behind quantitative resource ecology.

Professor Jean Cleymans, 52, is a world authority on high-energy physics.

Professor Maarten de Wit, 50, structural geologist. His work on continental drift has earned worldwide respect.

Professor George Ellis, 56, cosmologist. His work focuses on the origins and evolution of the universe.

Professor John Field, marine ecologist. Research area is the Benguela Upwelling off the west coast, of central importance to the SA fishing industry.

Professor Gerd Gäde, 50, insect physiologist. Specialises in the biochemistry of flight muscles.

Professor John Gurney, 57, geologist. Research area includes the processes of diamond formation and geochemical methods of diamond exploration.

Associate Professor Don Kurtz, 55, astronomer. World authority on high accuracy photometry of variable stars.

Professor John Martin, 58, world leader in applied and computational mechanics.

Professor Bob Millar, chemical pathologist. World leader in the field of peptide hormone research.

Professor Lionel Opie, 63, has shed new light on heart failure and ventricular fibrillation.

Professor Doug Rawlings, 46, microbiologist. Specialises in the molecular biology of bacteria involved in the degradation of gold-bearing ores prior to extraction of gold by cyanide.

Professor Daya Reddy, 43, mathematician. Main interest is in continuum mechanics, the study of the deformation and motion of solids and fluids.

Professor Nic van der Merwe leads a world renowned archaeological research group which specialises in stable isotope studies.

Professor Brian Warner, astrophysicist. Specialises in the application of high-time resolution photometry.

Dr Robert Zartman, geologist. Research area the application of isotope geochemistry to the total Earth system.

UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND

Professor Geoff Blight, 62, civil engineer. Specialises in waste management and pollution.

Professor Arthur Every, 56, physicist. Research area non-destructive testing and evaluation.

Professor Nail Ibragimov, 59, mathematician. Principles of invariance.

Professor Michael Kew, 57, medicine. Research into causes of liver cancer.

Professor John Knopfmacher, 59, mathematician. Specialises in enumerative mathematics.

Professor Richard Lemmer, physi-

cist. Specialises in the structure of hadrons (a type of sub-atomic particle) and their implications for the origins of the Earth.

Professor Doron Lubinsky, 41, mathematician. Specialises in approximating complicated graphs with simpler, more easily computable ones.

Professor Duncan Mitchell, 55, physiologist. Studies problems of heat and cold as they effect animals, with reference to livestock farming and animal transportation.

Professor Beric Skews, 60, mechanical engineering. Specialises in the flow of liquids and gases, shock wave behaviour with reference to metal manufacturing.

Professor Peter Tyson, 57, climatologist. Studies climatic patterns, factors affecting climate in southern Africa.

RAND AFRIKAANS UNIVERSITY

Professor Lew Ashwal, geologist. Specialist in geochemistry of minerals.

Professor Nic Beukes, geologist. Specialises in sedimentology of iron, manganese and placer gold ore deposits.

Professor Freek Lombard, statistics. Specialises in change analysis.

Professor Piet Swart, electrical and electronic engineering.

Professor Daan van Wyk, electrical and electronic engineering. Specialises in industrial electronics.

UNIVERSITY OF NATAL

Professor Sarp Adali, mechanical engineering. Researches ways of optimising the design of composite materials and structures.

Professor Kanti Bhoola, experimental and clinical pharmacology.

Professor Rob Gous, animal and poultry science.

Professor Ron Harley, electrical engineering. Research into the dynamics of electric motors and power station generators.

Professor Dave Walker, physicist. Specialises in magnetospheric dynamics.

UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA

Professor Henk Huismans, 54, genetics. Uses recombinant DNA technology to determine the properties of the genes of the African horse sickness virus.

Professor Tom Modro, chemistry. Basic research on the organic and physical chemistry of compounds with technological, agricultural and medical applications.

UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE

Professor Daneel Ferreira. Studies the chemistry of polyphenolic compounds active in tea, coffee and red wine which protect the body against cancer and heart disease.

Professor Mike Wingfield, 43, microbiologist specialising in tree pathology.

UNISA

Professor Kleka Mynhardt, mathematics, specialising in applied mathematics and astronomy.

UNIVERSITY OF STELLENBOSCH

Professor Sakkie Pretorius, wine biotechnologist.

Wits post open as ailing professor is forced to withdraw

(54) ARG 14/1/97
Johannesburg - University of the
Witwatersrand vice-chancellor
designate Professor Sam
Nolutshungu will not take up the
position because of ill health, the
university has announced.

Spokeswoman Peggy Jennings said university council chairman Mr Justice Fikile Bam had confirmed that Prof Nolutshungu had informed him of the decision not to take up the vice-chancellorship.

"Prof Nolutshungu has informed me that an unforeseen deterioration in his health has occurred since council offered him the appointment as vice-chancellor and principal to succeed Professor (Robert) Charlton at the end of 1997," a council statement said yesterday.

"Prof Nolutshungu is very aware that good health is essential to meet the demanding requirements of the vice-chancellorship and he has advised me that with great regret he is compelled to decline the appointment."

Ms Jennings said the university had no further information about Prof Nolutshungu's illness or when the council would meet to discuss future proceedings.

The South African Students Congress said it was disappointed by Prof Nolutshungu's decision to decline his appointment.

"We supported the selection process, which was admirably democratic and transparent," Sasco said. The organisation restated its commitment to taking part in the process of selecting a new vice-chancellor.

However, the crisis should not be used by reactionary elements on campus to ascend to the post through default, it said.

- Sapa

TUESDAY
JANUARY 14, 1997 ★

NEW CRISIS FOR UNIVERSITY

Professor chosen to head Wits withdraws

(54)

JOHANNESBURG: Still reeling from a year beset with controversy, division and the resignation of several top academics, Wits University was dealt another blow yesterday, as the vice-chancellor-designate withdrew from the post.

et 14/1/97

WITS University has been plunged into an administrative crisis after the shock decision by vice-chancellor-designate Professor Sam Nolutshungu to withdraw from the post for health reasons.

Dismay and disbelief from across the university's political spectrum greeted Nolutshungu's withdrawal yesterday, some saying the move effectively set the university back two years.

While outgoing vice-chancellor Professor Robert Charlton gave the assurance that "we will be able to manage the university", his management team will be doing so without a number of critical permanent senior administrators.

Nolutshungu was to have been instrumental in selecting staff for three of the four deputy vice-chancellor posts, now filled by temporary staff. The positions were vacated last year by two prominent academic figures — Professor William Makgoba and Professor June Sinclair.

This leaves the university with just one permanent deputy vice-chancellor and no apparent heir to one of the top academic posts in the country.

Charlton, who was "greatly disappointed and distressed" at Nolutshungu's withdrawal, said that just when Wits appeared to have found someone who was acceptable to all parties at the university, the plan had fallen through.

One well-placed source at the university said any organisation of Wits' size would be in trouble without four of its most senior administrators.

"The delay in the whole selection process is such a blow for morale that it could refuel conflict," the source said.

Sinclair, who was also one of the shortlisted contenders for the post of vice-chancellor last year, said yesterday that Nolutshungu's withdrawal had "serious implications for the university".

"There is usually one year's

overlap between succeeding vice-chancellors and Professor Charlton is due to leave at the end of 1997.

"The withdrawal at this late hour puts the university under great administrative pressure," she said.

The university council is expected to meet this week to decide on the next step and there appears to be no contingency plan to cover such a withdrawal.

The university could not clarify the nature of Nolutshungu's ill-health, and he could not be reached for comment last night at the Frederick Douglas Institute for African-American studies at the University of Rochester in New York, where he is interim director.

Makgoba also expressed his disappointment at the withdrawal but said the decision of a man of Nolutshungu's integrity had to be respected.

"Wits has been through crisis after crisis — at each step something seems to go wrong.

"Perhaps the senior management of the university should consult a witchdoctor to find out what is going on," said Makgoba. — Own Correspondent

Crisis at Wits as Nolutshungu decides not to take top job

By Adam Cooke

The University of the Witwatersrand has been plunged into an administrative crisis by the shock decision of Professor Sam Nolutshungu to withdraw from the post of its next vice-chancellor for health reasons.

Dismay and disbelief swept across the university yesterday, with some saying the move effectively set the university back two years.

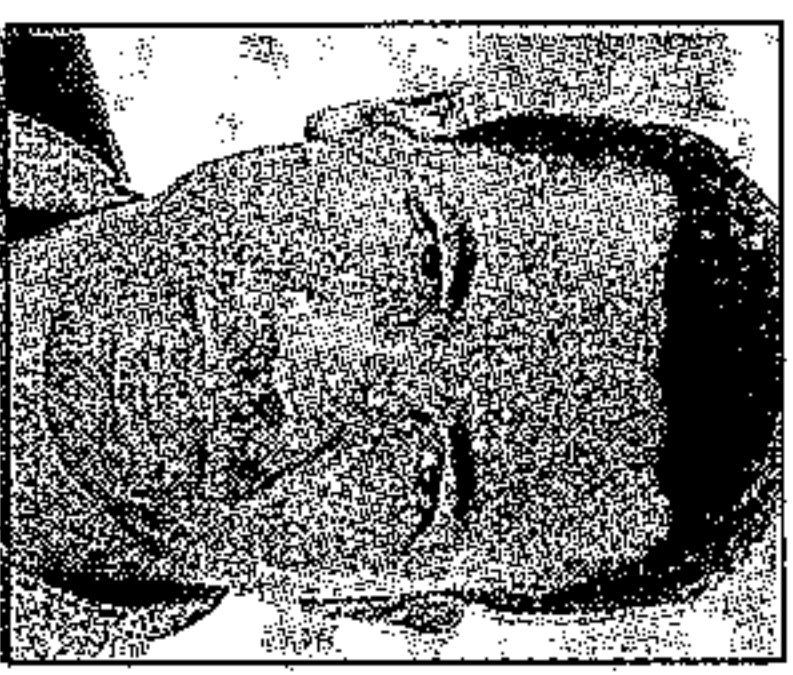
While outgoing vice-chancellor Professor Robert Charlton gave the assurance that "we will be able to manage the university", his team will now be doing so without a number of critical permanent senior administrators. Nolutshungu was to be central

in selecting the now temporarily filled posts of three of his four deputies at the end of January, posts which were vacated last year by two prominent academic figures - Professor William Makgoba and Professor June Sinclair.

This leaves the university with just one permanent deputy vice-chancellor and no apparent heir to one of the top academic posts in the country. Charlton, who was "greatly disappointed and distressed" at Nolutshungu's withdrawal, said that just when the university appeared to have found someone who was acceptable to all parties at the university, the plans had



Sam Nolutshungu ... in poor health.



William Makgoba ... crisis after crisis.

fallen through. One well-placed source at the university said any organisation of Wits' size would be in trouble without four of its most senior administrators. "The delay in the whole selection process is such a blow for

morale that it could refuel conflict," the source said. Sinclair, who was also one of the shortlisted contenders for the post of vice-chancellor last year, said yesterday that Nolutshungu's withdrawal had serious implications for the university. "There is usually one year's overlap between succeeding vice-chancellors, and Professor Charlton is due to leave at the end of 1997. The withdrawal at this late hour puts the university under great administrative pressure," she said.

The university council is expected to meet this week to decide on the next step and there

appears to be no contingency plan to cover such a withdrawal.

The university could not clarify the nature of Nolutshungu's ill health, and he could not be reached for comment at the Frederick Douglas Institute for African-American studies at the University of Rochester in New York, where he is interim director. Makgoba also expressed his disappointment at the withdrawal but said the decision of a man of Nolutshungu's integrity had to be respected.

"Wits has been through crisis after crisis - at each step something seems to go wrong. Perhaps the senior management of the university should consult a witch-doctor to find out what is going on," said Makgoba.

Star 14/1/97

Nolutshungu will not take up crucial university position

(54)
Kevin O'Grady

BD 14/1/97
THE University of the Witwatersrand's vice-chancellor designate Sam Nolutshungu is no longer available to head the university, raising fears of further discord on campus if last year's selection process needs to be repeated.

University council chairman Judge Fikile Bam said Nolutshungu had experienced "an unforeseen deterioration in his health" since the council offered him the appointment to succeed retiring vice-chancellor Robert Charlton at the end of the year.

"Prof Nolutshungu is very well aware that good health is essential to meet the demanding requirements of the vice-chancellorship and has accordingly advised me that with great regret he is compelled to decline the appointment," Bam said.

A university spokesman was unable to give details of Nolutshungu's illness and Nolutshungu could not be reached.

The council would meet soon to consider how to choose a replacement.

Nolutshungu was chosen for the position after a divisive selection process which was marred by disputes over the composition of the selection committee and demands by students and unions that then deputy vice-chancellor June Sinclair withdraw from the running.

A council source said yesterday a number of options were available in choosing a replacement.

One was to allow the selection committee to choose one of the two remaining short-listed candidates, Sinclair and University of the North vice-chancellor Njabulo Ndebele. Sinclair has since left Wits, her term as deputy vice-chancellor having expired.

The council could also refer to the initial eight-person short list and allow the committee to add one of the discarded candidates to the final short list for consideration, or it could begin the entire selection process anew.

One of the university's student representative council members on the selection committee and university council, Mearn Nienaber, agreed these were the most likely options and said the latter was likely to cause tensions on campus. The SA Students' Congress said it was disappointed by Nolutshungu's decision but pledged to participate in selecting a replacement.

Uncertainty over top Wits post

JOHANNESBURG: As speculation continues about whether outgoing University of the Witwatersrand vice-chancellor Professor Robert Charlton will be asked to stay on for an extra term of office, the university council will meet within the next fortnight to decide on a course of action for the troubled campus.

This follows the withdrawal of the vice-chancellor-designate Professor Sam Nolutshungu on Monday, for reasons of poor health. (54) CT 15/1/97

Sources at the university have expressed differing opinions on the future action that will be taken.

A number of sources involved in the selection process said Charlton, who is due to end his term of office this year, would be forced to

stay on and oversee the transition.

But spokesperson for the university Ms Peggy Jennings said she doubted whether Charlton would stay on for another term.

"He has worked extremely hard over a long period — he deserves his retirement," she said.

The council will be left with few options in dealing with Nolutshungu's departure.

Jennings said the council could either begin the whole selection process again, appoint a temporary replacement, or look again at the other two shortlisted candidates — Professor June Sinclair and Professor Njabulo Ndebele.

But there is doubt about whether these two would make themselves available again. — Own Correspondent

Varsities reel under subsidies blow

Mar 16/1997 (54)

Lower levels of state funding mean South Africa's historically 'white' learning institutions will have to tighten their belts and make drastic adjustments

By ADAM COOKE

South African universities, faced with multimillion-rand budget cuts this year, are pulling in their belts and scrambling to adjust to the prospect of permanently lower levels of state funding.

The historically white universities are looking at options ranging from salary cuts to reduced financial aid packages for students to cope with their lower budgets.

Those universities affected will cumulatively have some R200-million lopped off their budgets as Government shifts scarce educational resources to the previously disadvantaged universities.

The cuts will effectively dent the overall operating costs of the universities by up to 8% and in the case of Wits University, its allocation for student aid has been

slashed by R4-million, about 4%.

Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu has said the figures have yet to be approved by Cabinet and discussions with relevant stakeholders are taking place.

But Rhodes University in Grahamstown, which faces a possible R8,9-million cut in its subsidy, has already been forced to scrap the "13th cheques" for all staff for 1997, a move viewed unfavourably by employees.

Rhodes' communications manager Mary Burnett said the university was hoping to be able to reconsider this decision: "This is not the last word on the issue," she said.

The University of Cape Town, much like Wits, said it was particularly concerned at the implications of the cuts for financial aid programmes.

"We cannot broaden access to UCT without the money we need to support needy students financially," said Helen Zille, director of the institution's development and public affairs department.

The university will spread its cut, focusing on trimming its administrative budgets.

The financial subcommittee of the Committee of University Principals is due to meet next week to discuss the cuts and a final decision from the minister on the sub-

sidy issue is expected in March.

The University of Pretoria said these "drastic and shortsighted cutbacks" would mean there would not be funds available to replace broken equipment.

The university also said its R43-million cut, which is about 7,9% of its total annual budget, would make it impossible to accommodate the necessary and desired increase in student numbers.

The University of the Free State meanwhile, has been forced to look at its financial reserves and investments to cover its R24-million cut this year.

"Measures relating to capital supply have been instituted to overcome shortages," said Professor Arrie Schoonwinkel, general manager of finance and information at the university.

But he added that the university would not be able to deal with the cuts in the short term.

“
Some staff
won't get
13th cheques
”

The problem with Wits's transparent process for choosing a new vice-chancellor is that there was no Plan B

Wits: The prof who got cold feet

Mungo Sogot

THE bombshell which Sam Nolutshungu dropped on the University of the Witwatersrand this week — that he would not take up the post of vice-chancellor — had as much to do with his nerve as his health.

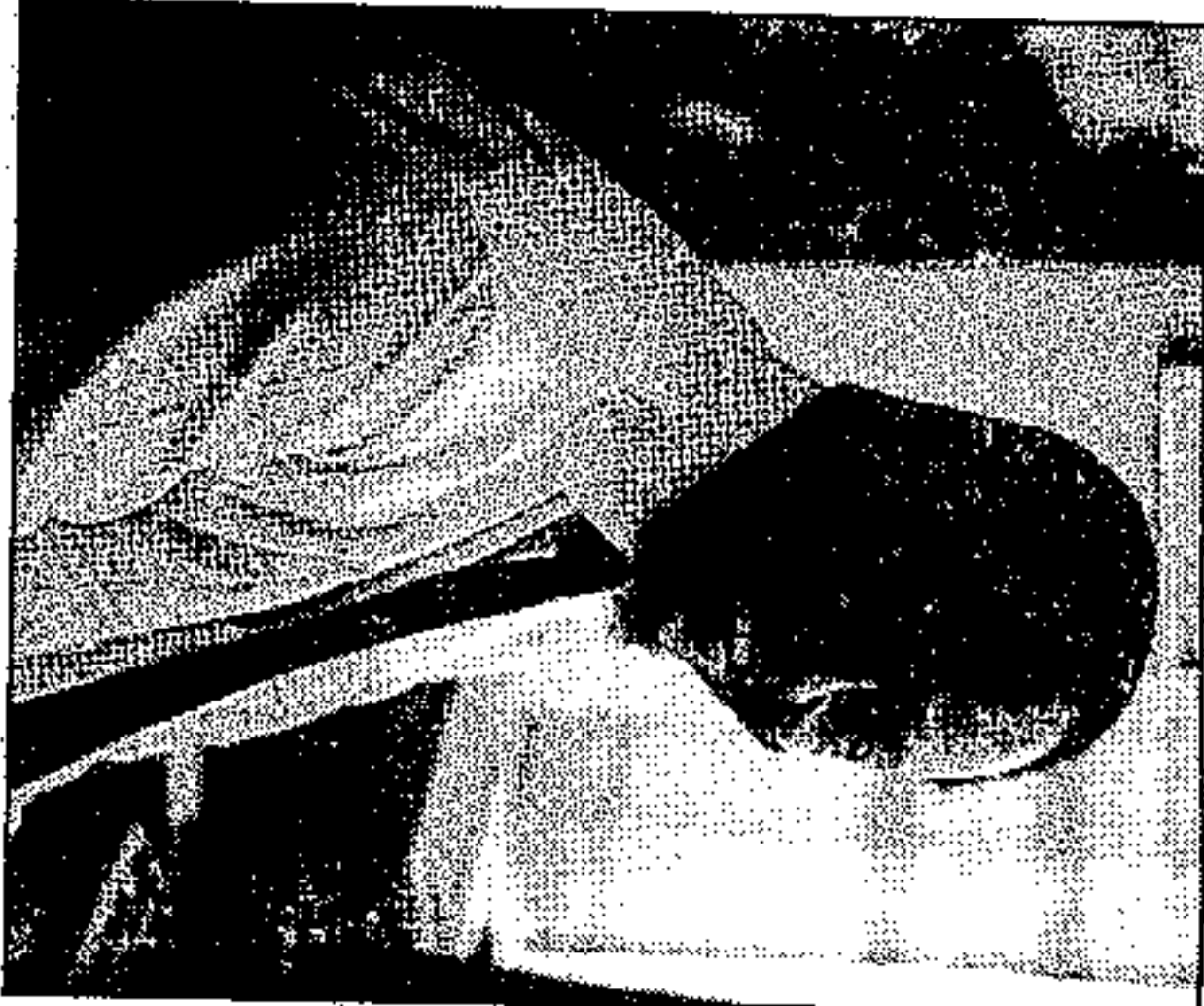
Friends of the enigmatic United States-based political science professor say he had grown increasingly anxious that the post — vaunted as the toughest job in South African tertiary education — was beyond him.

Both Nolutshungu and Wits have officially pinned his decision only on health. But Nolutshungu (51), who avoided inquiries from the *Mail & Guardian*, this week told the *Democrat and Chronicle*, his local paper in Rochester, New York, that he is "not that sick or crippled. I just don't feel robust enough for the job."

He added, "My health circumstances have changed since I visited South Africa."

But he is not quitting the University of Rochester, where he is interim director of the Frederick Douglass Institute for Afro-American Studies.

Wits, meanwhile, facing possibly the biggest crisis in its 75-year history, is unsure what to do next. The elaborate selection process, designed to appease all the university's constituencies, including the radical South African Students' Congress, was lauded at the time as a model for



Njabulo Ndebele: Once a favourite for the top job

The administration, however, neglected to make clear that Nolutshungu had never signed on the dotted line — Nolutshungu and Wits were still negotiating his package late last month. It also emerged this week that Wits was supposed to have put Nolutshungu through a medical examination before handing him the job.

The selection rules say the new man should be "industrious, energetic and in good health". It is understood the panel which discussed the clause suggested the chosen candidate be examined. Nolutshungu was not, however, examined.

It is not the first time Nolutshungu has jilted Wits. He was



June Sinclair: Holding talks with Crawford College

R36-million — and by the exodus of top staff.

Insiders fear it will be very difficult to find a replacement. It is unlikely the two candidates who were beaten by Nolutshungu — the former vice-principal and deputy vice-chancellor, June Sinclair, and the one-time favourite, the University of the North Vice-Chancellor, Njabulo Ndebele — would want the job, even if Wits wanted them.

Sources say there is no clear indication who could take Nolutshungu's place. "It is too early to think about people... we first have to come up with a process," said one selection committee member.

Some say it would be damaging to

54

M4G 17-23/197

that Wits was not yet sure how to appoint a replacement.

He conceded the university should have made it clearer last year that Nolutshungu had only been offered the job and had not yet accepted.

"But you have to understand the mood of the institution at the time. People wanted to know if Nolutshungu would be starting tomorrow. It was not a normal process... special situations were prevailing and we were carried away."

Gutto said that after completing the selection process — "the most transparent ever" — there was no question the winning man, Nolutshungu, would pull

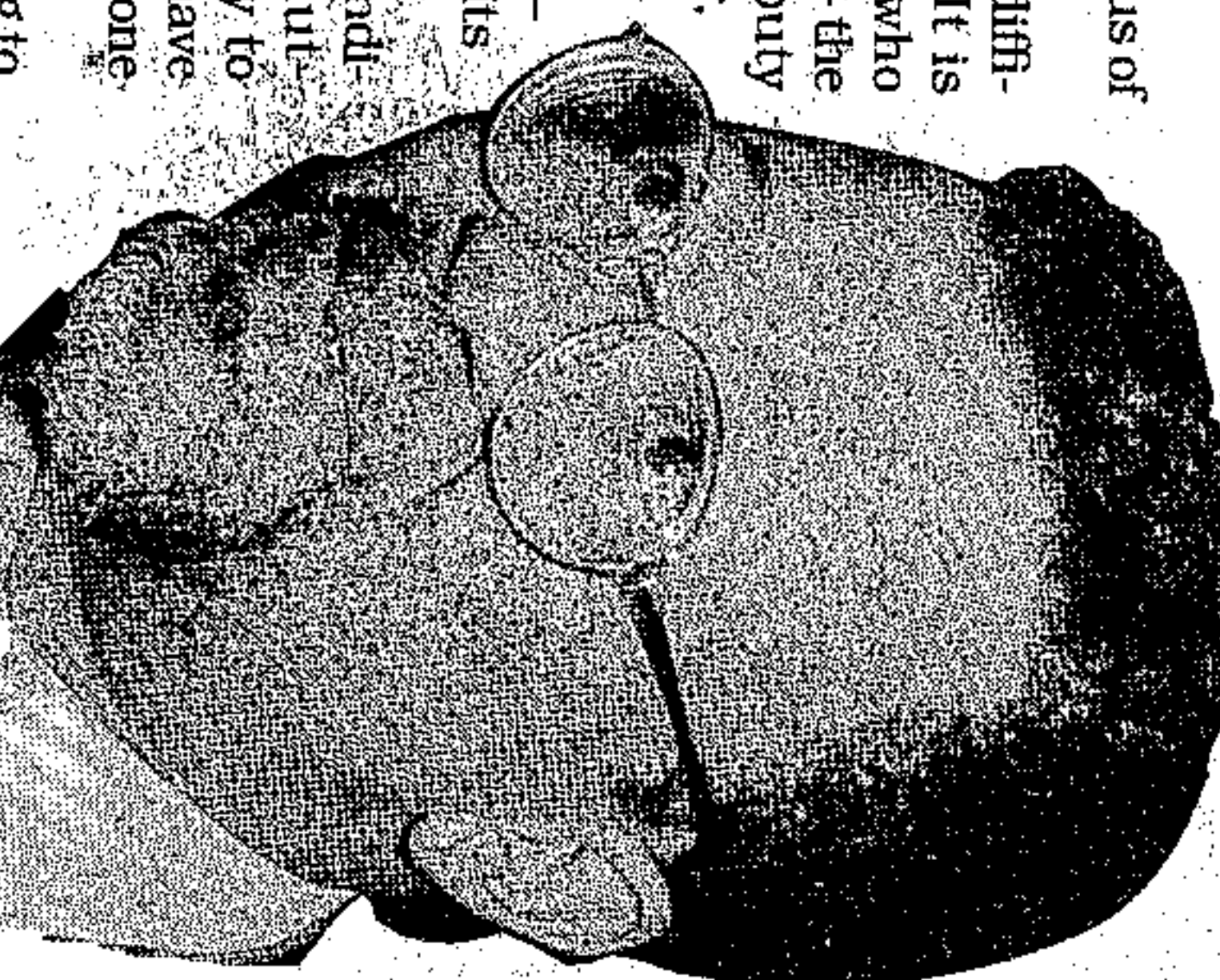
He said he was sure Nolutshungu himself had appreciated the special nature and enormous challenge of the job. But he said the university would probably need to "bring it [the challenge of the job] out more in the next interview process. We will have to make it more explicit."

Gutto said the most immediate problem facing the university was the appointment of three deputy vice-chancellors by the end of the year — a process Nolutshungu was supposed to have been involved in to help appease all parties.

Gutto was confident a replacement would be found. He said now that the selection procedure had been tested and had been shown to work, more potential candidates would come forward.

Ndebele could not be reached for comment but Sinclair, whose contract as deputy vice-chancellor in charge of student affairs ended in December, said she would consider the post if offered it, as one of several options before her.

Another option she is considering, according to elite Johannesburg school, Crawford College, is to guide its plans to set up an "Ivy League" university in Sandown. Sinclair confirms she has had talks with Crawford.



transparent recruitment.

But it was not accompanied by a Plan B. Insiders struggled this week to name possible replacements. "If Nolutshungu doesn't want it why should anyone else?" asked a senior academic. Another said Wits is now "in a state of political paralysis".

Nolutshungu's victory in October in the contest to succeed Robert Charlton was hailed as a breakthrough for the troubled university. After 31 years abroad, Nolutshungu was an outside candidate — until the day he charmed the campus with a witty public presentation on why he should have the job. Since then Nolutshungu has been toasted as the best and probably only choice, particularly by Wits.

in 1992, which he turned down. He was supposed to start shadowing Charlton in June this year before taking over next year.

Friends and colleagues say that apart from health troubles, Nolutshungu had grown increasingly daunted by the factious, politically-charged environment at Wits. It is understood many in the academic world warned him of the dangers of the job. Nolutshungu was also uncomfortable being in the public eye. He has also put down deep roots in Rochester.

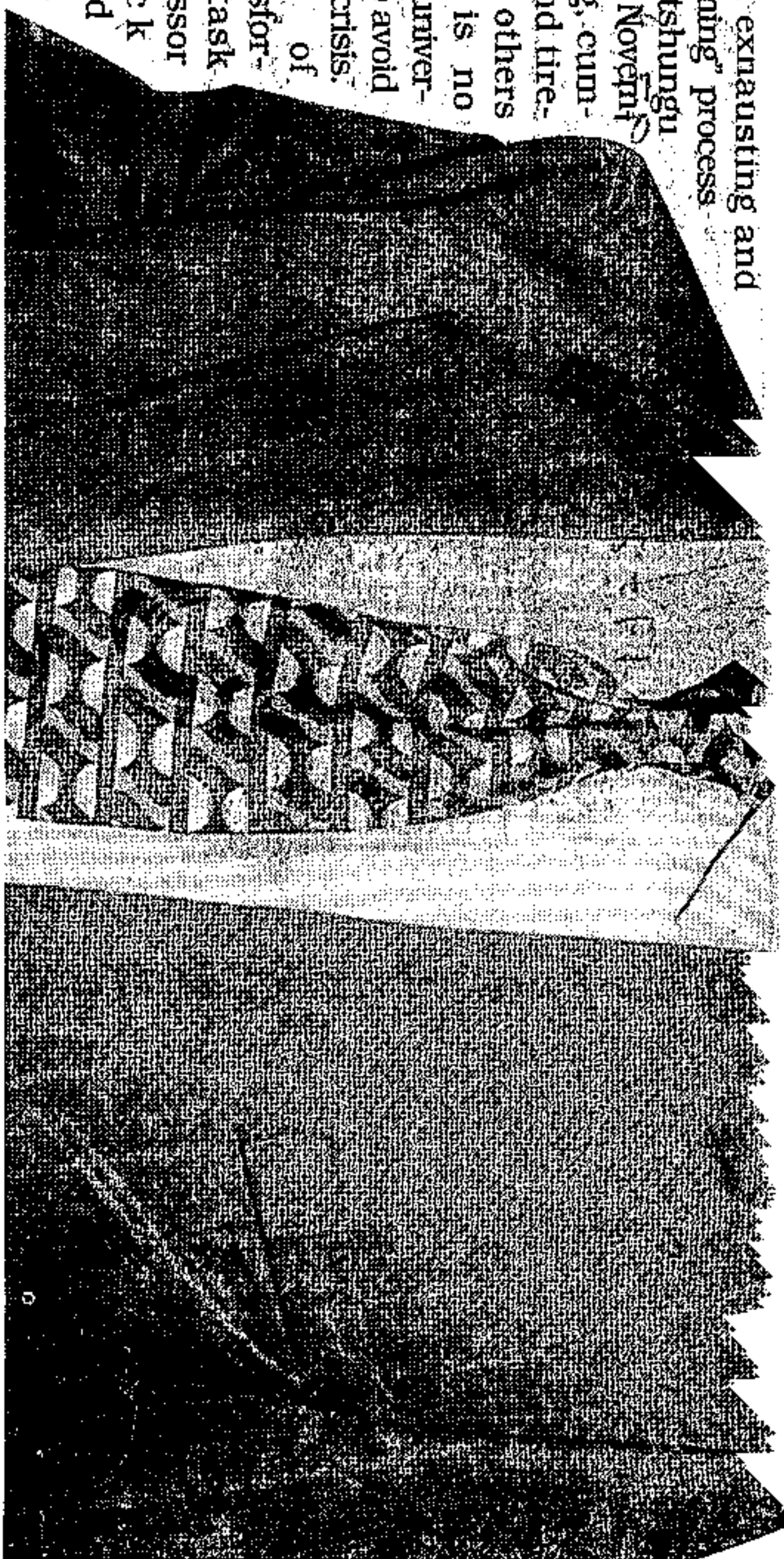
When he returned to South Africa in December, Nolutshungu was deeply troubled by the university's finances — in particular the government's decision to cut its subsidy by

appear the exhausting and time-consuming process.

— one Nolutshungu described in November as "long, cumbersome and tiresome". But others say there is no option if the university wants to avoid a full-blown crisis.

Co-chair of Wits's transformation task team, Professor S had rack Gutto, said this week

Sam Nolutshungu: His refusal of the top Wits job this week was as much to do with a change of heart as his health



PHOTOGRAPH: SIDDIQUE DAVIDS

Wits loses Mandela

M+G 17-23/1997

(54)

Mungo Sogot

DR MAKI MANDELA, the state president's daughter who led the affirmative action drive at the University of the Witwatersrand, has quietly quit the university for a top human resources post at parastatal Transnet.

Wits and Transnet confirmed this week that Mandela had secured a post at Spoornet, the parastatal's railway division. Transnet human resources executive director Joe Ndlela said Mandela, who is currently abroad, would have a "senior human resources post" in the organisation. Her appointment would be subject to a probation period, to ensure it made commercial sense. Her departure represents a blow to Wits. She headed the university's affirmative action drive — seen as a major component in its demands for its transformation.

Mandela, who was in the job for more than two years, was requested by the university council last month to compile a progress report on her work, due to be handed in next month.

Her resignation is the latest in a string of high-profile losses which is threatening to denude the campus of its best administrative brains. Among the other recent departures from Wits are applied mathematics professor Michael Sears and zoology professor Robin Crewe.

Leading historian Professor Charles van Onselen was recently interviewed for a top post at Oxford. Mandela's relationship with her father became strained when in 1994 she publicly called on people not to vote for the ANC, declaring her support for the Democratic Party.

She is his daughter from his first marriage.

Diary of a troubled institution

(54)

M+G 17-23/1997

Joshua Amupadhi

PROFESSOR Sam Nolutshungu's decision not to lead Wits into the next century caps a trying 14 months at one of South Africa's pre-eminent seats of learning.

October 1995: The Makgoba affair. A group of senior academics accuses deputy vice-chancellor William Makgoba of mismanagement and of embellishing his curriculum vitae, sparking a row that rapidly brings the race card on to the table.

November 1995: Makgoba counters by releasing details of his accusers' alleged tax evasion. Allegations are rejected by the university and are described by the academics as ranging "from the merely spurious to the outright ludicrous". Tribunal set up to investigate the allegations against Makgoba.

December 1995: Makgoba suspended and threatens to release

more information against ex-colleagues. South African Students' Congress and National Education Health and Allied Workers' Union threaten mass action unless Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu intervenes.

January 1996: Vice-Chancellor Robert Charlton assures parents protest action will not lead to cancelled lectures.

February and March 1996: Lawyers Dennis Davis and Cecil Wullson broker a resolution of the Makgoba affair. Apologies all round, but vicious conflict exacerbates leadership crisis. Makgoba takes a lower-profile role in medical research at Wits, which includes analysing human sperm.

June 1996: Speculation around contenders for new vice-chancellor hot up and Wits Transformation Front (WTF) dumps Makgoba. University of the North Vice-Chancellor Nyabulo Ndebele emerges as the new favourite among champions of rapid transformation — a view shared by

the African National Congress.

September 1996: Wits advertising campaign aimed at countering its reputation of becoming a "third-world" institution sparks allegations of anti-Semitism. The advert contained Derek Bauer cartoons of classic anti-Semitic representations in satirical portrayals of dinner party conversations.

October 1996: Tortuous selection process for new vice-chancellor designed to appease all factions comes to a close with public grilling of all candidates. Nolutshungu pips deputy vice-chancellor June Sinclair as Ndebele comes last in the voting.

December 1996: Government cuts Wits subsidy by R36-million for 1997. Top academics announce they are leaving. Sinclair decides against re-applying for her post after contract expires. Considers other options.

January 1997: Nolutshungu pulls out. Makgoba recommends university consults a witch doctor.

CANDIDATE RESEARCH

(54) PM 17/1/97

Hasty replacement of vice-chancellor designate Prof Sam Nolutshungu could plunge Wits back into turmoil. He has withdrawn for health reasons.

Three deputy vice-chancellors were to take up office once he was in place and had his say in their appointment.

His successor may have the same consideration — which could delay the appointments until late this year.

But that will not affect administration. The three posts are being filled temporarily by professors Peter Tyson, former vice-principal and deputy vice-chancellor, David Freer, retiring dean of the education faculty, and vice-chancellor Robert Charlton until the end of the year.

Charlton will not stay on after this year. He will be almost 69 by year-end and will have served three years beyond normal retirement. But his certain departure could panic the selection committee into making a hasty appointment.

Normal practice is for a Wits vice-chancellor designate — even one who has long worked in the university — to work alongside the incumbent for a year to ensure a smooth takeover.

That was not possible in Nolutshungu's case because he refused to leave his post at the University of Rochester in New York state until the end of its academic year in June.

The six months that would have left him with Charlton were considered sufficient, though they ruled out the months of travel usually taken by people in his position to research "best practice" at local and foreign universities.

But that factor should not induce prompt replacement. The newcomer could work alongside Tyson, for instance, who shouldn't leave for years.

During the next week or so, in its meetings under Judge Fikile Bam's chairmanship, the council should focus on maintaining the political gains it made with Nolutshungu's appointment.

These gains came about by creating a 28-member selection committee that represented all stakeholders.

38 CURRENT AFFAIRS

The election of Nolutshungu was no compromise. It was hailed by the whole university because of the man's stature, not because his views placed him somewhere between the other short-listed candidates — Wits law faculty's June Sinclair on the Right and University of the North vice-chancellor Njabulo Ndebele on the Left.



Sam Nolutshungu

However difficult, the search for the right candidate must continue until it succeeds. With ever-tightening finances, Wits's future will be tough enough in the years ahead. The last thing it needs is the wrong person at the helm. ■



UNABLE TO TAKE THE HEAT . . .
Professor Sam Nolutshungu, director of the Afro-American Studies Institute at Rochester University in New York, will not solve Wits' sticky problem by filling the demanding post of vice-chancellor. He has cited poor health as his reason and will stay in America.

Hot seat, cold feet — now what?

(G4) CP 19/1/97

CP REPORTER

‘HEAD wanted for eminent university. Must have nerves of steel, the wisdom of Solomon and peace-keeping abilities of an elder statesman.’

Were the University of the Witwatersrand to be frank about its quest for a vice-chancellor, this might well be how an advertisement for the post would read.

The announcement earlier this week that Professor Sam Nolutshungu would not take up the post of vice-chancellor plunged the troubled university into yet another crisis.

Educationalists had hoped Nolutshungu's appointment last year to succeed Professor Robert Charlton would be the final chapter in a year of strife which began when a group of senior academics accused deputy vice-chancellor William Makgoba of lying in his curriculum vitae.

But Wits administrators omitted to mention that while Wits had opted for Nolutshungu rather than former deputy vice-chancellor Professor June Sinclair and the University of the North's vice-chancellor Njabulo Ndebele, the American-based politi-

cal scientist had not signed on the dotted line.

This week, Nolutshungu turned down the job on the grounds of poor health. He intends to stay at the University of Rochester, New York, where he is director of the Afro-American Studies Institute.

However, the *Mail & Guardian* reported that it was less a case of poor health than of nervous jitters.

The newspaper showed that according to Nolutshungu's friends, he was nervous about dealing with the political tension at Wits and was uncomfortable with such a high-profile job. He was also concerned over a R36 million

cut in the government's subsidy for Wits and a brain-drain of top academics.

Nolutshungu reportedly told a New York newspaper he was "not that sick or crippled. I just don't feel robust enough for the job".

Not only does his sudden withdrawal mean Wits faces another lengthy selection process, it makes the Wits hot seat even less attractive to potential candidates.

The university's image has suffered several blows since October 1995, when a group of top academics accused Makgoba of exaggerating his achievements in his curriculum vitae. Makgoba countered by

accusing the academics of tax evasion.

When Makgoba was suspended in December 1995, Saco and the National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union (Nehawu) threatened mass action unless the Minister of Education intervened.

Peace was established between the groups last year but tension continued while speculation grew about candidates for Charlton's post.

Nolutshungu was chosen after a lengthy selection process designed to appease all parties. Ndebele has declined to comment on whether he will be available for the post.

Nolutshungu: Wits community shocked

By Shadrack Gutto

THE overwhelming majority of the Wits University community have been shocked by the news that Professor Sam Nolutshungu has declined to take up the post of vice-chancellor and principal because of an unexpected health problem.

I have talked to Nolutshungu and he greatly regrets this turn of events. He was looking forward with enthusiasm and excitement to the challenges of leading the institution and had started making contact with various internal and external stakeholders and potential supporters.

Nolutshungu is very grateful for the overwhelming support he was given by the stakeholders represented in the Forum for Accelerated Transformation, the senate and council.

Suitable replacement

He hopes that Wits gets a suitable replacement soon. The regret and disappointment is also ours. Where are we now and what is the way forward?

Well, Wits University is a living institution; it is not and cannot afford to remain static. In 1996 the process of consultative governance was consolidated.

FFACT became coherent and the administration, the senate and council started consulting FFACT.

It is through this new consultative paradigm that the process and procedures for the selection

511
Koussatou 21/1/97

A forward-looking, energetic and respected Judge Goldstone was installed as the chancellor. In other words we have been making progress.

of the vice-chancellor and the deputy vice-chancellor were moulded.

The university mission and the transformation process was brought into the broad democratic process. The reconstruction and composition of a representative and legitimate council was agreed on.

A forward-looking, energetic and respected citizen, Judge Richard Goldstone, was installed as the chancellor. In other words, we have been making progress.

The challenge that now faces Wits University requires the council to avoid taking unilateral decisions that may poison the goodwill that now prevails across different constituencies and stakeholders.

The council and other constituencies should make recommendations to FFACT and FFACT should deliberate on major policy issues through transparent consultation.

Given the rigorous selection procedures that were followed and the assessment of the candidates, any idea that those candidates who were interviewed for the vice-chancellorship could be offered a temporary appointment as a deputy vice-chancellor should not be entertained.

Focus energies

Members of council who have influence in the legislature should now focus their energies on ensuring that the Bill for amending the University Act, which is currently before the National Assembly, is passed in February.

This will produce a council that all constituencies will have confidence in.

Such a reconstituted council will bring added confidence to the whole selection process for vice-chancellor and deputy vice-chancellors.

The latter, of course, requires some form of fast-tracking if the institution is not to be paralysed by lack of effective leadership at the top.

A reconstituted council is also expected to confront the challenges of transformation with greater determination and commitment.

We need to be aware of the problems we have but not be ruled by pessimism and inertia. (Professor Gutto is co-chairman of the



Sam Nolutshungu declined to take up the post of vice-chancellor and principal at Wits University because of an unexpected health problem.

Forum for Accelerated Transformation, chairman of the Wits Transformation Front and deputy director of Wits University's Centre for Applied Legal Studies.)

Large parties banned on the UCT campus

EDUCATION WRITER

LARGE parties which might attract outsiders have been banned from the University of Cape Town campus — and angry students are threatening to toyi-toyi in protest.

Upset students told the Cape Times last night they would hold a mass meeting next week to decide whether they should toyi-toyi to highlight their unhappiness with the university's "inflexible" attitude. They said they want to hold "jols" to raise money for charity.

The university's unwillingness to allow sprawling campus parties follows a Boom Shaka concert in Jameson Hall last year that got out of control and during which a woman was allegedly raped.

Student Representative Council spokesman Mr Monwa Luxande said students had been told to hold "quieter events during the day" to celebrate orientation week — the traditional initiation time.

"Student life is not only about academics all the time. The univer-

sity should allow us to organise these events so that we can learn to be responsible citizens. Parties are part of the enjoyment of being a student," he said.

Luxande said organisations like Rag, Shawco and Ufundo needed to host parties to swell their coffers — money which went to charity or "financially disadvantaged" students.

University spokesperson Ms Helen Zille said orientation week was an important part of UCT's academic programme, and parties were not part of this occasion.

"Recreation time for students to get to know each other is important.

"Smaller parties and functions will certainly be permitted. But not large parties that attract outsiders to the campus and could get out of hand."

Students have said they will make every effort to meet the university's security requirements but, they say, their pleas fall on deaf ears.

(54)
CT 22/1/97

Students call for discussion of fees

Farouk Chothia

BD 22/1/97

(54)

DURBAN — The students' representative councils at the University of Natal called yesterday for a summit meeting to avert a registration crisis, saying policies which barred students from enrolling because of fee arrears should be reversed.

The councils of the Durban and Maritzburg campuses, as well as the medical school, said the university's executive and students' bodies should reach an agreement which would "see us through the registration period".

A university spokesman said a statement would be issued today. The councils said more than 320 students had already been excluded from the university this year on financial grounds. Students in arrears of more than R50 had their results withheld and were barred from registering.

These students were from disadvantaged backgrounds and should be given provisional registration.

The councils said the university should provide students with part-time jobs to offset their debts and should help by raising funds from external financial institutions and its own reserves. They remained opposed to the university's 7,5% increase in fees this year because it would limit access.

The councils condemned the "senseless" subsidy cuts for tertiary education and would "knock on the doors" of government to reverse the decision.

Sapa reports that a closure of the University of the North West in Mmabatho was averted yesterday when students and management agreed to continue discussions on an increase in study fees. The university said the two parties also agreed on a provisional registration fee structure.

Diary for new legislation unveiled

Wits goes head-hunting

(54) M+G 23-30/1/97
Andy Duffy

WITS University is to restart the long and arduous search for a vice-chancellor, following the eleventh hour rejection by its chosen candidate, Sam Nolutshungu.

The university's council met on Thursday to discuss options to fill the gap Nolutshungu left, but campus sources insist there really is only one: to advertise for new applicants, and pray the new list of hopefuls differs from its original. Ahead of Thursday's meeting, council chairman Judge Fikile Bam, agreed: "I think that's the way it should go."

University of the Western Cape vice-rector Colin Bundy is being touted as a possible contender among some academics. Closely associated with Western Capes' transformation, Bundy is widely respected as an academic and administrator. The theory is that he would be able to straddle Wits's political divide — a quality Wits's selection committee decided Nolutshungu had when it gave him the job.

Bundy was unavailable and Bam was unable to comment. He said, however, that the recruitment process would be a mix of advertising and head-hunting, where identified candidates would be "encouraged" to apply.

The university's other obvious options look unlikely.

The first would be to ask current vice-chancellor Robert Charlton to stay on. Charlton ruled this out on Wednesday. The second would be to choose one of the candidates Nolutshungu beat — former vice-principal and deputy vice-chancellor June Sinclair, or University of the North vice-chancellor Njabulo Ndebele.

Both have already been sounded out by their allies. Ndebele has indi-

cated he is not interested; Sinclair could be. Eager as ever not to show her hand, Sinclair says she will consider what comes along — "I'm qualified," she adds.

The problem would be one of legitimacy. The selection committee rejected Sinclair and Ndebele as strongly as it chose Nolutshungu. The transformation team, which will debate the council's decision on Tuesday, says the selection process — agreed after months of dispute — is only supposed to produce a winner, not a second and third choice. "I'd think it would take a lot of persuading for us to agree (to Sinclair)," transformation task team co-chair Shadrack Gutto says, mentioning "crisis" in the same breath.

Meanwhile, the official Wits line is that there is no cause for concern. There are still eleven months before Charlton goes, which should be ample time for the university to find a successor. Charlton dismisses as "absolute rubbish" suggestions that Nolutshungu's decision has left the university in trouble.

But the issue has still raised concerns within government. "We are worried," Education Department chief director for higher education Professor Itumeleng Mofala says. "There should be leadership all the time. It shouldn't be argued over for so long."

Charlton was also going to push council to be allowed to appoint three new permanent deputy vice-chancellors — a process which originally was to have involved Nolutshungu but now urgent if the administration is to stay on track.

Gutto adds, however, that the transformation team is likely to have a problem with Charlton's proposal.

Students to put concerns to university

(54) BO 23/1/97
Farouk Chothia

DURBAN — The administration of Natal University agreed yesterday to meet student organisations to address their concerns over registration policy, the budget-drafting process and fee increases.

University deputy vice-chancellor Prof Emmanuel Ngara said that such a meeting would result in a greater understanding of the financial crisis facing the university, and he hoped it would lead to a constructive and joint approach aimed at finding solutions.

The students' representative councils on the Durban and Maritzburg campuses, as well as the medical school, called earlier this week for the university to reverse the policy which barred students with fee arrears of more than R50 from registering for the new academic year.

The students' representative councils wanted the students to be given provisional registration, and time to settle arrears.

A university spokesman said this request was being considered. Registration starts on February 10.

University financial aid director Ann Knock said the university would fund financially disadvantaged students who applied timeously and were on target to finish their degrees in the minimum period plus one year.

"Unfortunately, there is just not enough money to fund late applicants and students who are academically weaker," she said.

Kevin O'Grady reports the Democratic Party (DP) has added its voice to those of political parties and student organisations opposed to government plans to cut subsidies to tertiary institutions, calling

the cuts "a disastrous decision".

DP youth president Siphso Moganedi said government was wrong if it believed cutting subsidies to formerly white institutions would narrow the gap between these and historically disadvantaged ones.

"A lot of disadvantaged students have been admitted to historically white institutions, so this will adversely affect these students." Government should reverse its decision and instead increase funding to disadvantaged institutions, he said.

The answer was not in finding money to give loans to students, when these might not be repaid and when "most disadvantaged students get low pass marks or fail totally", he said.

Such funds should be used instead to finance preparatory colleges to bring disadvantaged students up to university standards.

ADMISSION POLICY UNDER FIRE

Bursary cuts fuel UCT row

CT 23/1/97 (54)

STUDENTS at UCT claim the university has a new admission policy, which they reject, but the university says nothing has changed. Education Writer **CAROL CAMPBELL** reports.

TROUBLE is brewing at UCT as student leaders rally to challenge the university on its admission policy for new students, which they say excludes black students with poor schooling.

Already three new members of the new students' representative council have resigned, apparently because they are not prepared to "put their lives on the line" and risk the wrath of unhappy students who fail to get into the university.

Students claim the university has a new admission policy which they reject. But a university spokesman said yesterday "nothing has changed" about the way UCT selected its students.

Last year, university campuses around the country were racked with violence as thousands of would-be students demanded a place to study.

The looming confrontation at UCT could be fuelled by pending cuts to the national bursary and loan scheme initiated by the government two years ago to help poor students.

The scheme, which has barely started, is to have its subsidy cut from R300 million to R250m this year.

UCT students say they are unhappy with the "inflexible" and "paternalistic" approach of the university administration, which takes no notice of student input at meetings.

SRC member Mr Manwa Luxande said student leaders felt they were "getting nowhere" with the university's management and that the student body would not accept this lack of progress.

The students are to hold a press conference today to air grievances.

Student leaders from the three universities in the Western Cape are to meet in the next few days to discuss ways to help black students with poor schooling gain access to university degree courses.

At the University of the Western Cape, where the SRC and management have agreed to work together on the issue of student admissions and fees, there is growing unhappiness from opposition student groups, who have accused the SRC of operating without a mandate.

Mr JJ Tabane, the SRC president at UWC and the student who signed the agreement with management, said he was confident students would support his SRC's move to work with management towards a common goal of enrolling poverty stricken students.

"We allow a person two chances. If they have failed twice, they are not allowed back.

"Obviously there are always exceptions to this rule, such as ill health."

Up for discussion at the three-way meeting will be the formation of a "common applications centre" — a place which can allocate potential students places at university.

Tabane said this was a long-term plan but worth considering, because UWC was "overburdened" with financially and academically disadvantaged students.

"It is time for the other universities to do their share," he said.

"What UCT is doing to accommodate black students amounts to tokenism and that's why there is a crisis brewing on the campus."

Stellenbosch SRC president Miss Nadine Fourie said she was "very willing" to talk to other student leaders about the problems of academic and financial access.

"This is a national problem and we want to help find a solution," she said.

Stellenbosch University could not grow any bigger, she warned, and already there were hundreds of names on a waiting list for university residences.

UCT students to protest against transformation 'foot-dragging'

(54)

SABATA NGCAI
EDUCATION REPORTER

University of Cape Town students are holding a rally next Wednesday to protest against the university "dragging its feet" in transforming itself from a white-dominated body.

The Student Representative Council (SRC) yesterday said the university's attitude showed it was still "operating according to the old policies which are obsolete and anachronistic".

The SRC said the rally would help the student body to get a mandate from the students on the way forward. The move was triggered by a "high rate of exclu-

sions, inaccessibility for disadvantaged students, poor black admissions and denying students the chance to write supplementary examinations on the grounds that they are excluded".

The students said the university appeared to be admitting a large number of black students but also excluding them at the end of the academic year.

University Registrar Hugh Amoore said UCT was committed to transformation and it cared about disadvantaged students.

"We have a special admissions programme in all faculties to deal with applicants from educationally disadvantaged backgrounds who show potential for university studies," he said.

ARG 24/1/97
"We have an alternative admissions research project which provides for additional testing over and above the senior certificate school leaving exams," Mr Amoore added.

He said individual faculties took into account the results from these tests.

Mr Amoore denied that the number of black students was decreasing. "There is an increasing proportion of black graduates at UCT," he said. He denied student claims that the university used a "revolving door policy" and referred students who had been excluded to the University of the Western Cape.

"There is absolutely no substance to the claim," he said.

UCT accused of turning students away

CT 24/1/97
CAROL CAMPBELL

(54)

BLACK student leaders at the University of Cape Town have accused the university's management of turning away an "unacceptably high" number of potential students because of their poor educational backgrounds.

SRC members said yesterday they had discovered UCT was referring students they didn't want to technikons and the University of Western Cape (UWC), "as if these are third-class institutions".

UCT registrar Mr Hugh Amoore said a career counsellor might have suggested to an individual student to study at UWC because it offered a course not available at UCT — such as dentistry. "When a student does not meet the university requirements, we counsel them about other academic routes."

Although Amoore said UCT had a well established academic support programme for students from "disadvantaged" schools, the SRC said it is not good enough.

"The current system is old and inflexible — UCT is not carrying through on its transformation promises," said SRC president Mr Mzukisi Qobo.

The students are demanding a moratorium on all "academic exclusions", saying UCT's approach to struggling students was "elitist" and "arrogant".

Amoore said the accusation was unfounded.

Tertiary education in for short-term slide — rector

CAROL CAMPBELL

or 27/1/97

(54)

THE quality of South African tertiary education will slide in the short-term but, as the schooling system improves, so will standards.

This is the opinion of one of South Africa's top educators and the longest serving technikon rector in the country, Dr Theo Shippey of the Cape Technikon.

He retires officially at the end of the month, but will stay on until his successor has been appointed.

The controversial issue of "maintaining academic standards" is one which Shippey has lectured on many times — often causing controversy.

"The obvious question is: Whose

standards are we talking about here?"

The quality of education in historically white institutions could not be maintained in the short term because of the massive backlogs which still have to be overcome in black education.

"Until there is a broader base of educated people in South Africa we will struggle with standards, but I think we will climb out of the valley eventually."

Dr Shippey has been at the helm of the Cape Technikon for over 18 years of his 41-year career and was instrumental in establishing the new technikon campus on its current site in the old District Six. "It was a very controversial decision to build the technikon in District Six because of the area's history.

"Eventually we decided that,

because it was an educational institution, it would one day serve the interests of the people who were forced off the land in the 1960s."

Already the number of black students at the technikon is rising (40% this year) and by 2005 Dr Shippey estimates this figure will be 70%.

During the past 18 months the rector has been involved in a working group for the National Commission on Higher Education which handed its plan for higher education in South Africa to Dr Sibusiso Bengu last year.

"There has been a steady improvement in the social status of technikon compared to universities — especially since we started offering degrees."

There was no question that the tech-

nikon sector, including technical colleges, would be a major growth area in South Africa in future decades and, as money becomes available, more institutions will be built.

Eventually technikon would probably be called technical universities similar to those elsewhere in the world.

"We are already heading that way with the degree courses we offer in engineering, for example."

He would advise students to combine university and technikon study.

"A university education still opens doors to promotions and better salaries, while a technikon education is more likely to get one a job.

"You have to look at both options. Some people are more suited to the the-

oretical nature of a university education while others are more geared to studies where they can apply their knowledge."

Universities and technikon should complement each other and not compete. "It's very important for technikon to retain their uniqueness — their function is the transference of technology. This is their specific purpose in the community."

Once he finishes at the technikon, Dr Shippey plans to use his time to raise money for the performing arts in Cape Town and the SPCA.

He also plans to study for another degree at Harvard University. He already has seven degrees and one diploma and his ambition is to graduate 10 times.

Wits — BASF is dealt new blow ⁽⁵⁴⁾

sowetan 27/1/97

By Victor Mecoamere

PROF Sam Nolutshungu's withdrawal as Wits University's vice chancellor has dealt the institution's Black Academic Staff Forum a second blow, said forum chairman Mr Thembi Nkacha yesterday.

Nolutshungu's withdrawal, (for health reasons), follows a tension-packed selection process from which he emerged above the two other candidates, Professors June Sinclair and Njabulo Ndebele.

Sinclair is the deputy vice chancellor of Wits University while Ndebele is the chancellor of the University of the North.

"We had campaigned vigorously for Nolutshungu's appointment whom we saw as the best person to initiate a positive process of democracy and transformation in motion at Wits. This is a second blow," said Nkacha.

An earlier campaign for the appointment of Professor William Makgoba to the same position was dented when he quit and took up a post as a research professor.

Makgoba disappointing about-turn followed strong opposition to his appointment from the university's leading white academics whose complaints against him included claims of inaccuracies in his curriculum vitae.

"Makgoba's withdrew without consulting the people who had backed him," said Nkacha. Makgoba has reportedly not ruled out his possible reapplication for the position.

Both Sinclair and Ndebele will not be considered, and the new vice chancellor would only be known in about six months due to the nature of the selection process.

Wits council decides to make a fresh start

(54) *SA*
By LEE ANN ALFREDS

27/1/97
ments selection committee".

The Wits University council will not be appointing either of the two candidates shortlisted during a previous selection process to the position of vice-chancellor.

Instead, the position will be advertised again and new candidates sought to fill the post.

The position of the council on the issue of the appointment of a vice-chancellor was clarified by council president Judge Fikile Bam at the weekend following the release of a vaguely worded statement by Wits on Thursday, announcing that the "matter has been referred to the senior appoint-

The university has been in an administrative crisis following the shock decision by vice-chancellor-designate Professor Sam Nolutshungu to withdraw for

New names for top post sought

health reasons.

This left Wits with few options: to start the selection process again; appoint a temporary replacement; or look again at the

other two shortlisted candidates, professors June Sinclair and Njabulo Ndebele. Sinclair is a former Wits deputy vice-chancellor and Ndebele is the vice-chancellor of the University of the North.

But Bam ruled out the first two options, saying the council had recommended that the university start afresh.

"In that regard it would be from the point of advertising, from the point of view of actually searching, not to confine themselves to the members who were shortlisted. We would expect them to come up with a set of names once more," he said.

MOMENTOUS CHANGES AT SOUTH AFRICA'S UNIVERSITIES WILL HAVE TO BE INITIATED THIS YEAR. IN AN ARTICLE WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE CAPE ARGUS, MAMPHELA RAMPHLE, VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN, EXAMINES THE PROBLEMS THAT FACE TERTIARY EDUCATION AND SUGGESTS SOME OF THE SOLUTIONS

Higher education is a key performance area in South Africa's quest to translate the hard-won democracy into reality in the everyday lives of its citizens.

Our dismal performance in world competitiveness analyses is largely due to the lack of a critical mass of high levels of human capital particularly in the science and technology areas.

The successful translation of the government's macro-economic plans into reality rests on the critical input of high-quality human capital which the higher education system must provide.

This year is the critical one for setting up the higher education system to meet its obligations.

The new academic year has begun in characteristic style, with threats of conflicts between students and management of the higher education system.

The trigger from the students' side is their perception that their legitimate concerns around issues of equity of access to higher education, their aspirations for success in completing their studies, and the recognition of their personal development needs are not being addressed by higher education institutional managers and the Government.

Executive managers of higher education institutions are battling to bridge the gap between limited resources and increasing expectations of the higher education system, while the Government is also struggling to meet its responsibilities within the resource constraints it faces.

It is important for all stakeholders to stop and take stock before falling into a predictable downward spiral of conflict.

This year offers the higher education system an opportunity to make a new beginning.

The Ministry of Education needs to give visionary leadership to the system and create a policy framework which is conducive to the pursuit of excellence and equity throughout the entire system.

Creative management of the process of policy development and implementation is critical to success.

A realistic assessment of the capacity of the ministry to tackle the short, medium

and long-term tasks in this regard is essential.

Urgent attention needs to be given to establishing a sound, well-resourced and sustainable national student financial aid system which is the key to equitable access to higher education.

Investment in higher education is not a national expense item, but a critical success factor for future greater prosperity for South Africa.

At a system level the managements of higher education institutions need to develop a coherent voice to engage policy questions.

The Committee of University Principals (CUP), and the Committee of Technikon Principals (CTP) need to strengthen their ties and create synergy in tackling the challenges ahead.

A strong lobby for adequate resources for higher education is crucial to success in laying the foundation for the future.

The CUP needs to urgently transform itself into a credible strong voice in national educational policy matters.

Traditional divisions between institutions need to be challenged in the interest of a stronger co-ordinated system which encourages collaboration rather than destructive competition.

Tough decisions need to be made to eliminate unnecessary duplication arising out of the legacy of apartheid.

Rationalisation, mergers and partnerships are inevitable if the system is to be more effective and efficient.

Collegiality is eroded by the tendency of some institutions to vent their frustrations by pointing fingers at sister institutions. One-upmanship is also a problem.

The system has to be built on existing strengths, while acknowledging weaknesses and optimising the opportunities presented by the new South Africa.

The focus has to be on increasing quality within and across the system.

There is an urgent need for a system-wide audit of all institutions to establish a baseline for planning and resource allocation.

The management of individual institutions has to rise to the occasion presented by the proposed process for transforming the higher education system.

The Green Paper on Higher Education proposes that resource allocation be based on institutional plans which are informed by individual, locally tailored and internally negotiated mission statements.

Tackling this task has the potential of promoting co-operation and laying the foundation for co-operative government within the individual institutions.

The student sector faces many challenges.

Two major factors have exacerbated the inherent structural problem of high turnover rates of student leadership.

'This year offers the higher education system an opportunity to make a new beginning'

'It would be naive to underplay the major threats to the higher education system'

agendas.

There is an opportunity presented by the existence of a National Youth Commission which has yet to define its agenda.

Would it not be prudent for the Government to direct a proportion of the scarce resources allocated to this commission to promote the development of a strong national students' movement?

Students must stake their claim in this

First, the demise of apartheid has created a vacuum in the national student movement.

There is no longer a unifying focus for student activism.

Second, and related to the above, there is a lack of a strong coherent national student organisation.

Different student organisations speak with different voices and pursue disparate

AAU 28/1/93

regard. Institutional managers also need to devote resources to strengthening student government to enhance the capacity of student leaders to service the needs of their constituencies.

Student apathy on our campuses stems in part from the poor match between students' need for active support to negotiate the transition from school into higher education and the capacity of student leadership to deliver.

There are many talented young people within the system with outstanding leadership qualities who need to be supported and encouraged to take on the challenge.

Strong student leadership is essential for good governance in higher education.

It would be naive, however, to underplay the major threats to the higher education system.

First, the continuing weakness of the school system is creating a crisis within the system.

Larger proportions of weaker and weaker students with higher and higher expectations are knocking on the doors of learning.

Those entering are struggling to cope with the demands of learning at this level, even when supported by creative academic development programmes and innovative curricula.

Second, morale among academic staff is being eroded seriously by inadequate remuneration, increasing teaching loads with ever less well-prepared students, inadequate equipment, computer and library resources.

The capacity of the system to recruit, retain, develop and promote talented young people from diverse backgrounds is undermined by inadequate resources.

The difficulty experienced by many institutions in filling senior posts is a reflection of the perception of this sector as an unattractive career option.

The nation needs to sit up and take stock.

Third, there is a real risk of disruptive forces occupying the space created by the lack of a shared vision of higher education and perceived and real weaknesses in the leadership cadre at all levels within the system.

It is imperative that strategic interventions be made to strengthen decisive leadership within the ministry, at the CUP and CTP level, and within institutions across the system.

The key to success in laying the foundation for an excellent and equitable higher education system lies in our ability and willingness to rise to the challenges posed by the legacy of apartheid.

Creative management by all stakeholders is critical to minimising the impacts of the threats to the system.

The media have a critical role to play in raising public awareness of the key issues facing the system, promoting public debate about various policy options and monitoring policy implementation to ensure that public officials are held accountable for their actions.

The latter is particularly important given the long-term impact of higher education policies on sustainable development.

Our responsibilities extend to future generations. We dare not fail them.

The time for universities to act is now
All stakeholders need to use creative management to avoid



BRENTON GEACH

At the battlefield: Vice Chancellor of the University of Cape Town, Dr Mamphela Ramphele

By ADAM COOKE

Subsidy cuts 'could put higher education under threat'

Star 29/1/97

Universities and technikon have joined forces in expressing their discontent at the threatened subsidy cuts, warning that the viability of the higher-education sector could be under serious threat.

This was spelt out during a meeting of the executive committees of technikon and university principals with Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu and Sport and Recreation Minister Steve Tshwete in Pretoria yesterday.

Spokesman for the principals Professor Jos Grobbelaar said he was optimistic about the talks and it was hoped that the concerns would be addressed.

"The minister will now go back to the Cabinet and try to find more money for the sector," he said. Historically white universities and technikon are facing budget cuts of up to 8%.

Provisional figures supplied to the institutions last month showed that they would be forced to cut back on staff, salaries, administration, and funding to needy students.

Grobbelaar said the worst hit would be the disadvantaged students, many of whom have relied on scholarships supplied by the universities in the past. These financial-aid schemes at individual institutions will be forced to review the amount of money they can release.

What emerged from the meeting was that the department had little room to manoeuvre because it was strapped for extra cash. According to a source, the minister will be looking at funds left over from the Reconstruction and Development Programme budget.

Each province has identified a hospital for this purpose. If she was made pregnant by rape or incest, the pregnancy is under 12 weeks. If she was made pregnant by rape or incest, the pregnancy is under 12 weeks. Each province has identified a hospital for this purpose. If she was made pregnant by rape or incest, the pregnancy is under 12 weeks. Each province has identified a hospital for this purpose.

(54)

UCT develops student (54) tutorial system on Internet

CT 29/1/97

EUGENE HUGO

The Computer Science Department at the University of Cape Town has developed a "new age" system to support the entire educational process in South Africa using the Internet programme well into the millennium.

Working in conjunction with the University of the Western Cape, UCT academics have discovered that the use of Internet programmes to provide distance education hold huge promise in terms of solving some of the educational short-comings in the present and future South Africa.

Professor Ken MacGregor of Computer Science at UCT, told the Cape Times that the newly developed system, with computer graphic tutorials

subsequent to lectures given by UCT staff, had been successfully used at the University of Pretoria and UWC.

MacGregor explained that the most common use of the Internet in education was the delivery of teaching material. This could be done using any technology such as television and video.

But, said MacGregor: "The major problem encountered is the follow-up after the lessons have been taught. Most times the teacher in the classroom cannot handle the questions of the pupils. Thus the only teaching acquired by the student is that provided by the delivery process conducted from afar."

The system developed at UCT, however, is designed to occur after

the "delivery phase" and permits the provision of tutorial assistance, either on an individual or group basis after the lesson has been given to students.

The session does not require the tutors and the students to be in the same location, only that both have access to the Internet. And the system permits a number of distinct interaction sessions to be opened on the tutors' screen which cover different types of tutor/student relationships.

Said MacGregor: "The most simple types of interaction are chat sessions, which allow a shared screen between either one student (in an individual chat session) or an entire class. Thus the students can ask questions and have the answer responded to by either another student or the tutor."

Another form of communication is a "whiteboard", shared between the tutor and all members of the class. Anyone can draw on the "whiteboard" with this contribution to "the discussion" simultaneously appearing before all other students. Further communica-



FORGING AHEAD: Professor Ken MacGregor of UCT is taking tertiary education into cyberspace. **PICTURE: GARTH STEAD**

tion sessions work in this way:

- A tutor can "talk" to a student on a one-to-one basis.
- The tutor and the student can "view" one another on video.
- Files on tutors' and students' computers can be shared. For exam-

ple, a tutor can move the cursor (the signal point on any computer) to any place on the jointly-viewed file, and change the contents of that file. These changes will be echoed on the student's screen.

MacGregor said that to permit

tutorial sessions to be developed more easily, a number of "tools" for developing "Interactive tutorial sessions" would be included. These involved animated pictures, question and answer sessions and multiple choice examinations.

Campus showdown looms on student fees

SRCs meet over barring of debtors

ARG 30/1/97

(54)

SABATA NGCAI
EDUCATION REPORTER

Cape Town universities and technikons are bracing themselves for a showdown over students with outstanding debts and inadequate academic standards being refused entry.

With proposed budget cuts of between R5,2-million and R30-million, and student debt running between R5-million and R22-million at the city's tertiary institutions, universities and technikons say they are in a "Catch-22" situation.

Tuition fees this year at the universities of Cape Town, Stellenbosch and the Western Cape, as well as the Cape and Peninsula technikons, are up between 7 and 10 percent.

Although the universities have indicated they will allow students to re-register if, among other things, they are "in good academic standing and have legitimate fee

debt", the institutions face mounting pressure from students. The UCT Student Representative Council (SRC) said some students could not register because they still owed money.

In a statement the university said it was its policy to assist students on financial aid to re-register for 1997 "if they are in good academic standing, have a legitimate fee debt and are deemed to have made every effort to assist themselves financially to the best their circumstances allow".

The SRC of the Peninsula Technikon will hold its general council meeting to discuss student problems at the weekend and a national executive conference of all technikon SRCs is also to take place in East London.

Matters to be discussed at both meetings include financial and academic exclusion of students, the shortage of accommodation, and subsidy cuts.

Last Friday Cape Technikon students demanded a meeting with the rectorate to

resolves a similar set of problems.

SRC member Larry Motsisi said there were about 200 students who had no accommodation and were squatting in various areas of Cape Town.

In a statement, the technikon promised to investigate students' problems and assist where necessary.

But at some universities there seems to be a degree of agreement between the students and management. At the University of Stellenbosch the SRC said the university had made available bridging funds to help students coming from disadvantaged backgrounds.

At the University of the Western Cape, the SRC and management agreed that there should be contributions by students themselves; that the university should provide financial assistance; that the Government should intervene on the issue of outstanding debt, and that no academically eligible student should be excluded on financial grounds.

Subsidy cuts 'threaten higher education'

ADAM COOKE
ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

Universities and technikons have joined forces in expressing discontent at threatened subsidy cuts, warning that the viability of the higher education sector could be under serious threat.

This was spelt out when executive committees of technikon and university principals met Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu and Sport and Recreation Minister Steve Tshwete in Pretoria this week.

A spokesman for the principals, Professor Jos Grobbelaar, said he was "optimistic" about the talks and it was hoped that the concerns would be addressed.

"The minister will now go back to the Cabinet and try to find more money for the sector," he said.

Historically white universities and technikons are facing budget cuts of up to 8 percent. Provisional figures supplied to the institutions in December showed that they would be forced to cut back on staff salaries, administration, and on funding to needy students.

Professor Grobbelaar said the worst hit by the cuts would be disadvantaged students, many of whom have relied on scholarships supplied by the universities in the past.

These financial aid schemes at individual institutions will be forced to review the amount of money they can release.

Professor Grobbelaar said it was vital that there should be a viable funding scheme, and the National Student Financial Aid Scheme - which was given around R300-million last year - should be supplied with adequate funding.

New Stellenbosch SRC leader ⁽⁵⁴⁾ Mates take first steps to coax university into changing ^{et. 30/1/98} towards transformation

CAROL CAMPBELL
EDUCATION WRITER

AGGRESSIVE protests to force change at Stellenbosch University would only raise the hackles of the university leadership — negotiation is the approach that would achieve long-lasting success, says the new SRC president, Ms Nadine Fourie.

Adopting a "let's talk" attitude would be the best way to propel "transformation" on the mostly white and Afrikaans campus, she says.

"We have to convince the management and students that it is in their best interests to open up the university so that it meets the needs of all South Africans.

"There is still a lot of fear about change here. People feel they have nothing to gain by changing the status quo.

"We have to persuade students that unless we make changes to the way Stellenbosch is run and increase the number of black students they will not leave the university ready for the South African reality."

Fourie is only the second woman to lead the Student Representative Council at Stellenbosch (Ms Erica Venter in the early 90s was the first), but she is no stranger to

tough politics or the academic life.

Both her parents have worked at the university all their lives. Her father, Dr Philip Fourie, is a mathematician and her mother, Lenie, a computer programmer.

Her sister Melissa was a controversial editor of Die Matie (she broke the story about initiations in residences which led to the newspaper being burnt on campus) and her other sister, Melanie Verwoerd, is an ANC MP.

"My mother has banned conversations at the dinner table about change at Stellenbosch because the debate gets too heated," says Fourie.

Stellenbosch rector Professor Andreas van Wyk has respect for his new adversary.

"She'll make a fine lawyer one day." It is Fourie's legal training (she is a final year LL B student) that may provide the weapon she needs to speed up change in the university's administration — she is trained as a strategist, not a fighter.

"I have enormous sympathy for students trying to get into university with poor high school education and no money. This is an area where I think our university can help — we should be doing more to develop pupils at secondary level.

"It's appropriate that the biggest portion of the government's education budget is invested in secondary education."

Talks between student leaders from the University of Cape Town, the Western Cape and Stellenbosch on ways to resolve a brewing crisis about "academic exclusions" are in the pipeline.

"Stellenbosch can't be too flexible in allowing in big numbers of students because this is a small town — there is just no space. We are developing a distance education programme which will increase student numbers without making the space problem worse."

She is deeply disappointed at the education ministry's cut-back on the budget of the national student financial aid scheme.

"The loan scheme could have encouraged universities like this to increase its number of black students because of the financial incentive."

In the coming weeks all eyes at Stellenbosch will be on Fourie to see if she can achieve what many consider impossible — to persuade the institution that trained most of South Africa's apartheid leaders to step into the new South Africa.

CAROL CAMPBELL

AS universities face a flood of poorly schooled and poverty-stricken students, Stellenbosch University leaders are taking their first steps to change the campus.

This week the rector, Professor Andreas van Wyk, said he would like to have laid the foundation of a "transformation forum" by the start of the second term in April.

The university's students and staff are still mostly white and Afrikaans and there is growing pressure from the government for it to accommodate more black "disadvantaged" students.

Last year only 16,3% of the 15 555 students at the university were "people of colour". The percentage is expected to be slightly higher this year.

Until now Van Wyk and his team have refused to be drawn into any discussions with students about transforming the campus.

Yet despite his apparent lack of enthusiasm for transformation he has invested R2 million on a pilot project in distance education so

more students can have access to Stellenbosch undergraduate courses, which will also cost less.

"The university's management team has already discussed how it should go about setting up a transformation forum and different groups on the campus are being asked for their opinions," he said.

The distance education project would, in the beginning, focus on "business type" courses and was expected to be running by 1998.

The project was expected to ease pressure on the university to accommodate more students.

Already 1 700 first-year students are on a waiting list for a place in residence and the town does not have enough accommodation to house the full campus community.

"I don't know how many students we will have on the distance programme because it depends on the resources (staff) we are able to put into it," Van Wyk said.

The establishment of a transformation forum will satisfy progressive students who have accused the rector of "stonewalling" their efforts to introduce change.

EDUCATORS TOLD 'TRIM FAT' OFF BUDGETS

Bengu promises to fight subsidy cuts

(54) CT 31/1/97

TERTIARY education centres were told to be creative, and not just target students in facing subsidy cuts. **CAROL CAMPBELL** reports.



EDUCATION Minister Dr Sibusiso Bengu told the country's university principals yesterday a final decision to cut subsidies to tertiary institutions had not been taken and he would fight to get them more money.

However, he also berated them for not being creative enough in trimming their budgets of "the fat".

The Department of State Expenditure told Bengu last year the government could not afford to fund universities and technikons at the same level it had in the past — and proposed cutting the subsidy from last year's 68% to 59% this year.

When Bengu arrived to address the meeting of the Committee of University Principals at the University of the Western Cape, he was met by a group of chanting students who asked him to resign should he fail to stop the cuts.

Bengu invited the students to listen to his speech and afterwards said nothing could be gained through his resignation.

"I will not be told by anyone to resign, so many people say 'resign, resign' but it's not my style. I will continue doing my work."

Bengu said he would ask a cabi-

net meeting on February 5 to continue to fund tertiary institutions at 68%.

However, he said it was time for leaders at higher education institutions to find ways to "trim the fat".

"It is fat to continue to pour money into the maintenance of what continues to be a luxury for some at the expense of what should be a livelihood for others."

University and technikon leaders were not prepared to "think creatively" on how to deal with subsidy cuts in their overall planning but, as the students had pointed out, they simply targeted students and workers to "protect their fat".

At the request of UCT vice-chancellor Dr Mamphela Ramphele, journalists were asked to leave the room during a question and answer session.

Earlier the head of the Committee of University Principals and vice-chancellor of Natal University, Professor Brenda Gourley, along with several top women academics, addressed the (mostly male) meeting on the career advancement of women in academia.

Women were not faring as well as men in academic circles, she said, because they took more of the responsibility for teaching and car-

ing for students at the expense of their research and other work important to promotion.

Women needed to be made aware about funding opportunities, specially in science and technology, so they could develop their research.

Institutions needed to set aside funds only accessible by women to encourage their development.

"I would say there are remnants of men's clubbiness or homosociality at universities which spill over into its hierarchies and organisational forms and indeed into discrimination against women."

Women often felt they were being subjected to subtle discrimination when they were faced with a male dominated selection or promotion committee and special care had to be taken so this did not happen at universities.

"What do we do to assist women with known difficulties? For example, has the university got child-care facilities — available not only to women of course but especially helpful to women."

Successful women had to be encouraged to champion the cause of women and act as role-models because "if women themselves do not support each other how can they expect men to do so".

Universities needed to ensure they had policies and procedures to deal with sexual harassment and make the effort to publicise the policies so that they were used.

"What are we doing about the ethos and culture of our university, a culture which demonstrably does not encourage women?"

Wits starts headhunt for vice-chancellor

OWN CORRESPONDENT

(54)
CT 4/2/97

JOHANNESBURG: The University of Witwatersrand Selection Committee is to start the search for a new vice-chancellor, buoyed by its new extra powers to headhunt anyone it considers fit to lead the institution into the 21st century.

The committee will also be asked to make appointments for the three vacant deputy vice-chancellor positions which closed last Friday for 18 months to three-year terms.

These developments follow the shock withdrawal last month of vice-chancellor designate Professor Sam Nolutshungu owing to "poor health".

The university's council and the Forum for Accelerated Transformation agreed last week to give the Selection Committee more authority to enable its members to come up with a list of candidates who could be interviewed by April and at the latest May.

Apart from calling for further applications in newspaper advertisements, the committee will identify possible candidates and include them on the list, said the forum co-chairperson Professor Shadrack Gutto.

He said previous applicants, including Wits Professor June Sinclair and University of the North's Professor Njabulo Ndebele, would have to reapply if they wished to be considered.

Gutto said various structures at the university pledged to stick to the process originally set up over a year ago to search for a vice-chancellor and deputy-vice-chancellors.

He said the forum had dismissed calls from certain quarters that since Sinclair and Ndebele had already appeared before the university community, they need not do so again.

Now higher education is target for revamp

Concern over subsidy cutback plans

(54) ARG 4/2/97

ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

Pretoria – Higher education, the implementation of the new Schools Act and new curricula top the list of education restructuring this year.

Until now the main focus of the Department of Education has been on ironing out administrative problems, including the scrapping of apartheid legislation, surveying schools to determine needs and reclassifying racially segregated education departments into nine provincial bodies.

Chabani Manganyi, Director-General of Education, said that the process of devolving education to the provinces was now coming to an end, and new priorities were emerging.

He described last year's efforts at rationalising education departments as having been a formidable challenge to integrate a racially fragmented system, with everything from computers, cars and furniture having to be taken into consideration.

Explaining the delays, Dr Manganyi, who has headed the department since August 1994, said: "From the beginning we took a very definite position that we were going to be hardnosed about being meticulous."

Some of the biggest challenges facing the department this year include the imple-

mentation of the South African Schools Act (gazetted last year) and the release of a white paper on higher education. New legislation should replace the old Universities Act before the end of this year.

"We think there will be considerable work on the higher education sector as a whole.

"The minister (Sibusiso Bengu), our colleagues and I will continue to act to find acceptable ways to deal with change."

Dr Manganyi declined to comment on the heavy subsidy cutbacks foreseen for tertiary institutions, but conceded the budget was, of considerable concern.

"Our minister has taken the view that there are still discussions going on. I cannot say more than that."

Dr Manganyi listed several issues facing the Department of Education this year.

■ The implementation of the South African Schools Act – this became law last year, and its main aim is to create equality among schools. Included in the legislation is the banning of corporal punishment and the establishment of only two types of schools – public and private.

■ The finalisation of the white paper on higher education is expected to be ready by October and aims to make tertiary education accessible to as many people as possible. The green paper, released late last

year, has been criticised as taking too much autonomy from tertiary institutions. According to Dr Manganyi, tertiary education will be a focal point of the department's work this year.

■ The development of policy for children with special education needs is planned.

■ New curricula are to be established. The current system has been criticised as being input-driven, which creates a product that cannot be creative or innovative.

■ The launch is planned of a corporate plan to change the day-to-day work in the department. This includes a new open-office plan and a revision of administrative procedures.

■ The national schools building programme – after two years of research, a comprehensive list of school needs has been completed. "For the first time we are able to tell at a glance how many schools there are in a particular area, what state they are in and what the transport is like," Dr Manganyi says. This will enable provincial education departments to implement the programme of building and renovation of schools.

■ A programme will be launched later this year on restoring the culture of learning in schools – and it will be aimed at pupils, parents and staff.

SADC seeks joint economic approach

WINDHOEK — The SA Development Community's (SADC's) annual consultative conference was officially opened in Windhoek yesterday with calls from development partners for an integrated approach to the economic problems of the region.

"National policies are no longer capable of providing solutions to existing problems and a regional perspective is urgently needed," Jan Pronk, The Netherlands Minister for Development Co-operation and representative of the European Union's (EU's) Council of Ministers, said in his keynote address.

"The creation of an internal market with the SADC, with free flows of goods, services and capital, should be accompanied by some form of free flow of labour," he said. This was not only

necessary to achieve significant growth but also to avoid political tensions between the SADC states.

Pronk also assured SADC members that the possible side effects of a Free Trade Agreement between SA and the EU were a "prominent topic" on the parties' agenda.

More than 500 delegates from the 12 SADC countries, international organisations and development partners from around the world are attending the SADC's annual consultative conference. The theme is Productivity: Key to Sustainable Development.

Canada's representative High Commissioner Arthur Peron, who is based in SA, encouraged members to launch initiatives to increase productivity, generate economies of scale, foster in-

creases in intraregional trade, harmonise economic policies and procedures and expand and link regional infrastructure.

Recent figures showed that Africa, including southern Africa, was receiving a decreasing share of vital foreign direct and portfolio investment.

China's assistant Foreign Trade and Economic Co-operation Minister Yang Wensheng said to maintain sound economic development, agriculture should be a priority.

Conference chairman SA Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo said the SADC region claimed to be in the forefront of political and economic reform in Africa. "Gender equality and full engagement of the majority of our populations in the process of governance

and development are critical twin pillars upon which productivity for sustainable development should be based," he said.

Officially opening the conference, Namibian President Sam Nujoma supported recommendations to make gender an important element of the SADC Programme of Action as well as establishing an SADC Gender Unit.

"The struggle for gender equality is actually a struggle for justice and human rights; and, as in the rest of the world, the struggle for justice and human rights is never done or completed," Nujoma said.

The regional grouping has 12 members states, with SA the chairman. Each country co-ordinates the activities of a particular sector. — Sapa.

Wits to resume hunt for successor

Kevin O'Grady

WITS University's senior appointments selection committee will meet today to chart the way forward in its second attempt to find a replacement for vice-chancellor Robert Charlton, who retires at the end of the year, following the withdrawal of his chosen successor.

A university spokesman said the committee, forced to reconvene by the withdrawal of US-based academic Sam Nolutshungu because of ill health, would decide how best to go about choosing a new vice-chancellor in as short a period as possible.

The new incumbent was expected to spend this year at the university with Charlton, preparing to take over from him on his retirement. Nolutshungu's withdrawal had made this impossible but it was important to find a replacement quickly.

The spokesman said the university council had given the selection committee — which comprises, academic and nonacademic staff, students and members of convocation — wider powers to seek out candidates, rather than just advertise the position.

The council had also suggested the committee form a "search team" to head hunt candidates.



Six injured in clash at University of SA

Kevin O'Grady

BD 13/12/97

FOUR University of SA (Unisa) staff members and two students were injured during a violent confrontation with campus security personnel yesterday as student groups marched to demand that charges be dropped against eight suspended students.

About 30 students from the group of about 200 that initially protested outside the university's administration buildings later occupied offices at the education department in Pretoria and

threatened to remain there until Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu returned from Cape Town tomorrow.

Police spokesman Capt Morne van Wyk said one unidentified student was admitted to hospital with concussion after the confrontation which erupted when security staff tried to arrest a student for allegedly throwing stones.

The protest follows the suspension of the eight students in November last year for allegedly assaulting and in-

Continued on Page 2

Unisa

(54) BD 13/12/97

Continued from Page 1

sulting staff members. The students, some of whom sit on the university's transformation forum, are to come before a disciplinary hearing next month.

Unisa students' representative council spokesman Madimetja Tisana said SA Students' Congress and Azanian Students' Convention members marched to the administration buildings yesterday to demand from university principal Marinus Wiechers that the suspended students be reinstated.

He said Wiechers was unavailable and after meeting other members of the administration who were unable to help, students "got out of control and were confronted by security guards". He said the student taken to hospital had been "beaten up" by guards armed with sjamboks and truncheons.

A Unisa spokesman said it appeared the confrontation started when

a female staff member tried to leave the administration building and was "pushed around" by students, prompting the security guards to intervene.

She said Wiechers had ordered an immediate investigation into the violence, but was "adamant" that charges against the suspended students would not be dropped.

Tisana said students had withdrawn from the transformation forum at its last meeting because of the suspensions, claiming that their absence from campus prevented them from participating effectively in the transformation process. The suspended students may attend forum meetings but may not otherwise enter the campus.

An education department spokesman confirmed last night that a group of students was still on the ninth floor of the Magister Building in Pretoria's Schoeman Street where Bengu's offices are situated.

"It looks like they might try to stay until he (Bengu) gets back on Friday," he said.

Unisa students stage protests

Farouk Cothia

(54)

60/4/2/97
DURBAN — About 250 students at the University of SA's (Unisa) Durban campus staged a march yesterday to demand the resignation of regional representative Joel Lee.

SA Students Congress (Sasco) Unisa branch chairman Smiso Nkwanyana claimed Lee was "visionless", and had implemented a "bogus" affirmative action programme by appointing blacks to insignificant positions.

Meanwhile Sapa reports the Azanian Student Convention (Azasco) threatened to bring Unisa to a standstill if the suspension of 10 students was not lifted with immediate effect.

The body also threatened to withdraw all members' registration fees from the institution.

The 10 students were suspended last year, pending a disciplinary hearing due next month. They face charges relating to violent behaviour in September and October last year.

Azasco spokesman Console Tleane said a meeting between students, education department officials and university management had failed to address the suspension. A Unisa spokesman said Unisa principal Prof Marinus Wiechers was adamant about the suspension.

Sasco spokesman Jacob Mamabolo said the protests would spread if the suspension was not lifted today.

Maties' top dogs brought to heel

(54) MtG 14-20/2/97

Stellenbosch University 'top-bestuur' faces revolt over secret pay-outs and management style.

Marion Edmunds reports

THE administration at Stellenbosch University, bastion of Afrikaner education, is facing a rebellion from its academics and students over its management style and secret pay-outs to five senior staff.

It also emerged this week that the university has been fined R90 000 by the Receiver of Revenue after failing to deduct tax from the pay-outs.

Rector Professor Andreas van Wyk called management, academics and students to a meeting on Friday following a private and reportedly bitter discussion with the dean of the law faculty, Professor James Fourie.

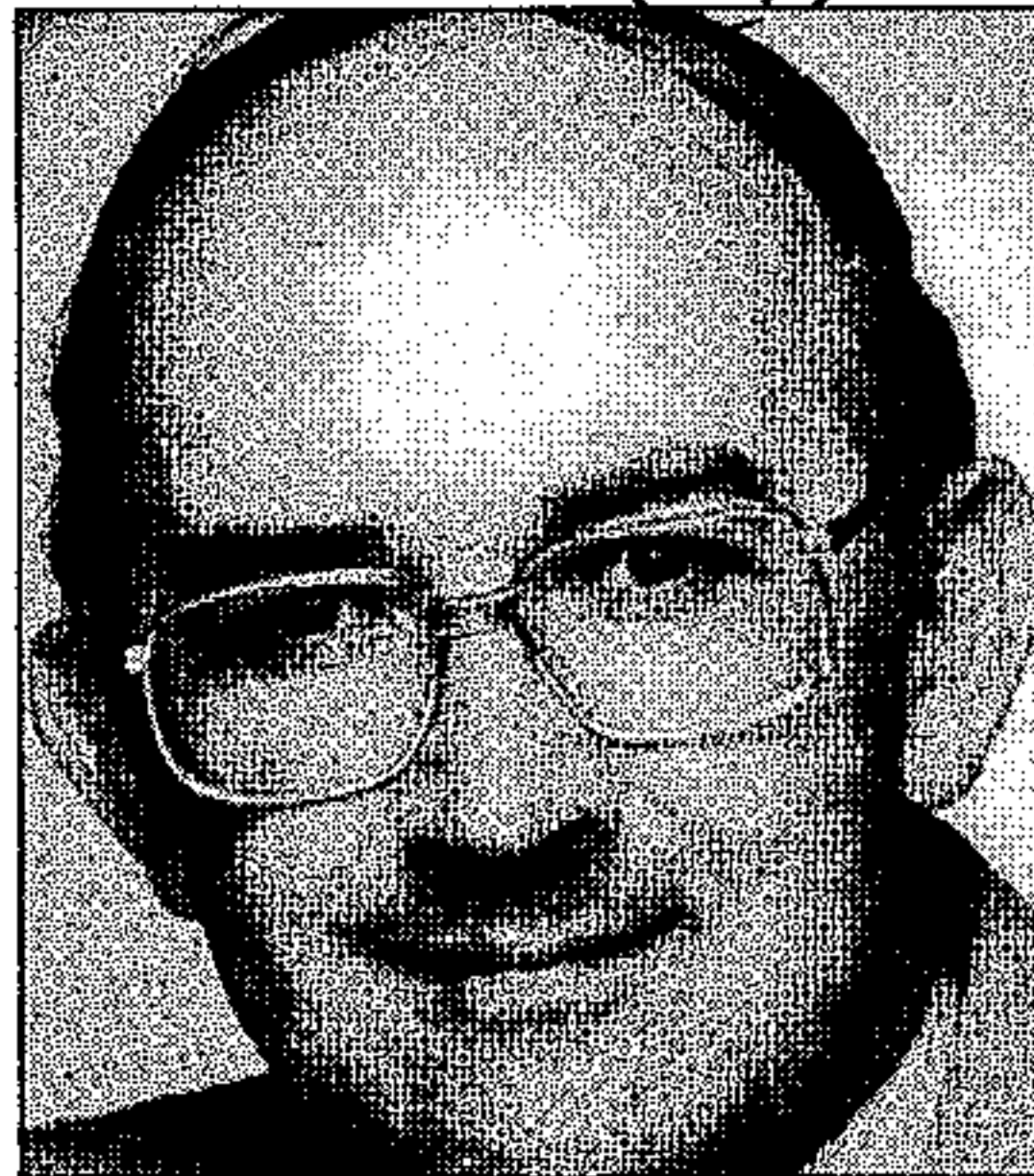
A number of highly-respected academics say they will back Fourie against the rector. Many of the academics are critical of the manner in which the "top-bestuur" manage the university.

This week the university's student newspaper, *Die Matie*, really let rip with an article entitled "Battle lines drawn in money war", and a scathing editorial.

The *Mail & Guardian* revealed in December how two vice-rectors, Christo Viljoen and Walter Claassen, director of finance Nico Basson, personnel director Kobus van Wyk and the head of student affairs, Flip de Wet, all received cheques ranging in value between R130 000 and R200 000.

The cheques were personally authorised by Van Wyk, who attempted to keep them secret, and initially tax was not deducted. The university is now paying a penalty for this oversight of R45 000, as well as R45 000 to cover interest on the arrears.

When the story broke, the university council chairman Gys Steyn said the pay-outs were in lieu of sabbatical leave which the five men were unable to take, such was their



Viljoen: 'Temperamental'



Claassen: 'Disliked'



Basson: In the firing line

committee that had kept no minutes of that particular meeting.

However, the answers failed to satisfy members of the senate and academic staff, who believe the rector and the five changed university policy strictly for their own benefit.

They believe the saga is jeopardising the university's future as an Afrikaans-language university in the new South Africa.

The *Mail & Guardian* has documentary evidence that Steyn instructed auditors Coopers and Lybrand to check the legality of the payments months after they were made.

In a letter to Steyn, Coopers and Lybrand indicated that the period of leave, allegedly cashed in for these payments, had not been marked off on individual leave cards, and this should be amended immediately. The auditors have recommended the university deduct the tax.

The meeting on Friday is expected to be a showdown between those who want to challenge Van Wyk's leadership and the manner in which he deals with staff and student problems, and those in top administrative positions, wanting to protect their positions and status.

Former employees of the university have indicated that Claassen and Viljoen are temperamental. Some students who have angered Van Wyk by publicly criticising the university say the same about him.

Van Wyk has ties with many powerful political and financial figures in the Afrikaner community.

He has built a reputation as a staunch defender of the Afrikaans language.

Van Wyk has indicated that he wishes to protect the Afrikaans character of the university in the face of government attempts to introduce bilingualism on to campus to make it more accessible to black and coloured students.

His ability to do this is now being questioned by some of the best minds on campus.

commitment to the running of the university.

He said the pay-outs had been sanctioned by a university council

Unisa students vow to continue daily protests over suspension of 10

PRETORIA CORRESPONDENT

Ten Unisa students facing charges relating to violence and disruptive behaviour on campus last year are to appear in the Pretoria Magistrates' Court today.

The 10 were suspended from the Unisa campus late last year. Violence flared again earlier this week when about 150 fellow students protested against the suspensions. They vowed to continue

daily actions until the suspensions had been lifted.

"If we have still not achieved results by today, we will mobilise other students and this will become a national issue," said Jacob Mamabolo, chairman of the SA Students' Congress in Gauteng.

"We will march on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange and demand that business withdraw funds from this institution."

The university has meanwhile

agreed to investigate the conduct of security officials in the violence following a meeting yesterday with Education Department chief director of higher education training Professor Iturneleng Mosala.

Mamabolo criticised the actions of the security staff, which resulted in three students being injured. One of the students was taken to hospital after sustaining head injuries.

Unisa's Broad Transformation

Forum has taken a decision that the suspensions must be lifted.

About half of the forum consists of student representatives, the Black Academic Forum and union members, while the other half is made up of university management and administrative and academic staff.

Unisa students marched on the Durban campus yesterday to demand the resignation of principal Professor Marinus Wiefchers and

the university council.

They also demanded that the university allow students who could not afford to pay fees to register, that it recognise student political organisations, and that it provide residential accommodation for students.

In a memorandum handed to Unisa director Joel Lee, they demanded that students' representative council members suspended last year for contravening the

university's code of conduct be reinstated, former SRC member Mfanafuthi Sithabe told Sapa.

A board of inquiry to investigate allegations of misconduct should be formed, he said.

Students have given officials at the Durban campus until Monday to respond to their demands or face further mass action.

Sithabe is one of the students scheduled to appear in the Pretoria Magistrates' Court today.

Unisa faces protests as Gauteng students plan stayaway

(54) Star 17/2/97
EDUCATION REPORTER

The University of South Africa is bracing itself for a wave of protests by students disgruntled with the suspension of 10 student leaders last year.

The protests are to start today and continue up to February 26, when a stayaway will be held in Gauteng to demonstrate against

the proposed government subsidy cuts to tertiary institutions and the actions of Unisa management.

SA Students Congress Gauteng chairman Jacob Mamabolo said yesterday students would protest on the campus every day from today. The protests were part of the buildup to a provincial stayaway called by Sasco for February 26.

Unisa spokesman Doreen Gough said yesterday the institution would not accede to the demands and that the disciplinary hearings, which have been tentatively scheduled for March 24 and 25, would go ahead.

She said that while the students would be allowed on to the campus to protest, they would not be allowed into buildings.

Tertiary institutions unite to go global

BY ADAM COOKE

Most of South Africa's universities and technikons have formed an association that aims to circumvent the detrimental effects of the academic boycott and put the country's tertiary institutions back in line with international trends.

Wits University registrar Dr Derek Swemmer said 19 universities and 11 technikons had formed the International Education Association of South Africa, to developing better services at tertiary institutions for international students and lecturers.

Swemmer said the country had been caught unawares when, at the end of the cultural and academic boycott, it was found that tertiary institutions around the world had internationalised.

Universities, Swemmer explained, began

linking up around the world, signing partnership agreements and offering exchange programmes.

"Other international universities are now streaming into this country, setting up satellite campuses and taking advantage of what we did not see."

The association plans to develop a directory of international educators and to help students take advantage of exchange agreements and travel abroad.

The association hopes to assist in easing the tension that exists between three government departments' policies: while the Department of Foreign Affairs is opening SA up to the world, the Department of Home Affairs makes it difficult to get study permits and the Department of Education is cutting subsidies to tertiary institutions.

Stan 18/12/97 (54)

DEGREE SCAM GROWS

Senior university official among four facing prosecution

By Simon Zwane

54

FOUR people, including University of Zululand faculty officer Mr Alson Ngunane, will face criminal prosecution for their alleged involvement in the institution's degrees-for-sale scam.

Public protector Advocate Selby Bagwa confirmed yesterday that five other individuals had been stripped of degrees which they fraudulently received from the university.

Ngunane was fired from the university last year after his involvement in the scam became public.

An inquiry instituted by the Department of Justice is currently probing claims that an Empangeni magistrate, Mr Themba Mnyandu, bought a degree from the university. The magistrate is allegedly among the 17 students who were stopped from graduating last year.

A magistrate from Cape Town has been brought in to chair the inquiry. A lawyer and a number of teachers are also believed to have fraudulently obtained their qualifications from the institution.

"This does not augur well at all, particularly if an individual has gone to

the extent of finding employment on fraudulent qualifications," Bagwa said. He congratulated the university for the bold step it had taken to ensure that corruption and fraud were thoroughly investigated.

Bagwa has investigated about 100 degrees which are thought to have been conferred fraudulently. Out of the 100 cases only five had been found to be valid.

Yesterday the commission of inquiry into the scam reconvened and heard representations from individuals suspected of having been involved in the scam.

When the investigation started last year, about 580 degrees and course certificates were believed to have been fraudulently obtained from the university. However, internal investigations confirmed that only 200 degrees and certificates were suspect.

"This cannot be allowed to happen, not at the University of Zululand or any other university," Bagwa said. He said his investigations had uncovered a "disconcerting level" of corruption. This was unacceptable.

The university stopped 17 individuals from obtaining their degrees at last year's graduation ceremony after

they were suspected of having received their degrees fraudulently. Subsequent investigations confirmed the suspicions.

The investigation is expected to continue for the next two weeks and a full report will be issued in April.

Bagwa said the report would make suggestions on corrective action to weed out malpractices.

A number of South African universities have reported similar irregularities. The University of the North (QwaQwa branch) is one of those which had been plagued by the scourge.

Edwelhan

18/2/97

Students, security staff clash in Durban Unisa campus protest

Farouk Chothia

DURBAN — Students and security staff clashed at the University of SA's (Unisa's) Durban campus yesterday after a mass action campaign to force the resignation of regional representative Joel Lee and deputy Kevin Beckworth turned ugly.

Unisa Durban branch SA Students' Congress chairman Smissa Nkwanyana said security staff had used dogs in an attempt to break up a demonstration. Students retaliated by throwing stones. However, no

BD 18/2/97
injuries were reported, he said.

University spokesman Ed Walsh said he had entered negotiations with student leaders and the campus was calm by afternoon.

Nkwanyana said the protest would continue today in a bid to force Lee and Beckworth to resign. Students would again march to their offices. Neither of the two were at their offices when students converged on them yesterday, Nkwanyana said.

Students wanted Lee and Beckworth to resign because they were

"visionless" and made token affirmative action appointments.

In addition, several students who were unable to write examinations last year due to illness were refused permission to write the examinations in January, Nkwanyana said.

The administration was biased in favour of white students and gave them more assistance, he said.

Walsh said that while negotiations were taking place with students, their demand for Lee's resignation could be dealt with only by Unisa's management in Pretoria.

Cops intervene at Unisa

(54) *Sowetan 19/2/97*
POLICE were summoned and a water cannon used to disperse demonstrating students on the University of South Africa's Durban campus yesterday morning.

Students lobbed bricks and large rocks through the glass doors of the main entrance after being refused entry after the university's closure on Monday afternoon.

At least one student was arrested during the fracas, public order policing unit spokesman Captain Trevor Reddy said.

University spokesman Mr Ed Walsh said it was decided by management in Pretoria to

close the institution late on Monday after students went on the rampage earlier in the day.

The university would remain closed at least until tomorrow.

Students are demanding the resignation of Unisa regional representatives Mr Joel Lee and Mr Kelvin Beckworth.

Students were also backing Pretoria students' demand that Unisa principal Professor Marius Wiechers resign.

Meanwhile, about 150 students demonstrated at the Pretoria campus yesterday against the suspension of ten fellow students. — *Sapa*.

Public protector blasts University of Zululand

(54) Sowetan/9/2/97

By Simon Zwane

THE public protector Advocate Selby Baqwa yesterday lambasted the University of Zululand after a student successfully challenged the institution's records which showed that she had not passed when she in fact had.

Ms Princess Vuyiswa Hadebe, a final year B Paed (science) student, was suspected of having fraudulently obtained results for her biology course.

She exposed an error in the evidence given by the departmental head Mr DP Ferreira.

In his testimony, Ferreira told Baqwa's commission into the degrees-for-sale scam that Hadebe did not sit for her examination and as a result could not

have passed the course.

Hadebe, however, insisted that she had passed and that her script was available in the university's archives. Her script was later found after the commission ordered a search in the archives.

"We note with due concern, having called a lecturer who testified *bona fide* that this student did not write her exams, that she in fact did write and pass," Baqwa said.

In clearing Hadebe, Baqwa said the way examinations were conducted at the institution left much to be desired.

An elated Hadebe, from Umlazi township in Durban, attributed her success to investigations she conducted when she received the subpoena to appear

before the commission.

She had approached the examinations department to ascertain whether they had her exam script. When it was confirmed that the script was available, she was convinced she would win the case.

Meanwhile, Students Representative Council president Mr Mbongiseni Ndlela confessed that he had actually failed a course but had been credited for his Bachelor of Science (Agriculture) degree.

Ndlela told the commission that he would have no objection if the course was removed from his academic record.

Baqwa said he would not make recommendations on whether students involved in the scam should be allowed to continue with their studies.

UWC academics ask court to confirm appointments

ARG 19/2/97 (54)

HIGH COURT REPORTER

Four senior academics at the University of the Western Cape Faculty of Dentistry have asked the Cape High Court for an order officially appointing them to their positions.

The application was brought by UWC, Christopher Owen, Yusuf Osman, Mohamed Parker and Johannes Hille against the provincial Minister of Health and Social Services, the national Minister of Health, the Public Service Commission and the Western Cape Provincial Service Commission.

The applicants said they had worked as principal and chief special-

ists in their respective departments in the Faculty of Dentistry since 1987 and 1991 and wanted to be appointed officially to these posts, with retrospective effect from 1994.

In a letter to the university, they said their appointments had been ratified by the university senate in 1994 but they had not been officially appointed, and had been "unofficially advised" to re-apply.

They said they had carried out the duties required of the positions, but had not been rewarded accordingly.

Mr Justice J H Hlope reserved judgment.

N Arendse and B Wagley appeared for the applicants and C Louw and G Kohler for the respondents.

Durban Unisa students smash building

DURBAN — Police were summoned and a water cannon used to disperse demonstrating students on the University of South Africa's (Unisa) Durban campus yesterday morning.

Students lobbed bricks and large rocks through the glass doors of the main entrance after being refused entry due to the university's closure on Monday afternoon.

A water cannon was used after students ignored a warning by police to disperse, and at least one student was arrested, a police spokesman said.

Damage was estimated at R20 000. University spokesman Ed Walsh

BD 19/2/97 (54)
said management in Pretoria decided to close the institution late on Monday after students went on the rampage earlier in the day.

The university would be closed at least until tomorrow, Walsh said, this would affect about 20 000 students.

Students are demanding the resignations of Unisa regional representative Joel Lee and Kelvin Beckworth, who was recently transferred to the Pretoria campus, and Unisa principal Prof Marius Wiechers. No reason for their demands were given, Walsh said.

The student council could not be reached for comment. — Sapa.

Turfloop owed R54-m

Some students have not paid a cent in five years

By Khathu Mamaila

THE University of the North which is owed more than R54 million in fees revealed yesterday that some students had obtained their degrees without paying a cent.

Assistant registrar (financial aid) Mr Jack Klaas told *Sowetan* that about 3 000 students owed the university huge amounts which ranged from R10 000 to R30 000. The average debt per student was R10 000.

Some students had not paid a cent since they registered five years ago, Klaas said.

He said the culture of non-pay-

ment had plunged the university into a financial crisis.

According to Klaas, some of the students were allowed to get through university year after year because of political pressure.

He gave an example of a student who enrolled for a B Proc in 1992 and had not paid a cent since. The student, who subsequently changed to B Juris, completed his law degree and registered for his LLB last year.

"This student is intending to register for LLB II this year," said Klaas.

"If he manages to register without paying, as he has done for the past five years, he will incur another debt of R13 000.

"This particular student already owes the university R31 100," he said.

Another example was of a student who registered for a BA degree in 1991. He has not paid a cent but he has completed his degree.

"He is intending to register for a Higher Diploma in Education this year, without paying," said Klaas.

"This student owes the university R23 443,60. Should the university allow him to register without paying, he will add another R13 000 to his debt".

Asked how was it possible for a student to be allowed to register for five years without paying, Klaas said:

"Sometimes, because of the pressure by the students, the management is forced to take political decisions which are not financially viable."

He said that students had been demanding provisional registration for several years. Provisional registration provides for students to register without paying.

Klaas said poor payment had a negative impact on the university. "We cannot improve the hostels, the lecture halls and a whole range of other things because there is no money," said Klaas.

The South African Students Congress has urged students who have money to withhold their money

until those who do not have money are allowed to register.

Sasco spokesman Mr Philemon Mokoena said yesterday that Sasco was still insisting on provisional registration. Asked if this did not encourage non-payment, Mokoena said: "Those who take advantage of our campaign to assist needy students are sabotaging us."

"Our good intentions could be abused. This kind of behaviour - where students do not even make an effort to pay - weakens our position."

The National Party in Northern Province on Wednesday called for a commission of inquiry into the unrest at the University of the North.

Disclose reserves, Wits told

Kevin O'Grady

BD 21/2/97

(54)

ELEVEN staff, students and workers organisations at Wits University have called on the university's management to disclose details of its reserve funds so that the affect of proposed government subsidy cuts can be assessed properly.

The organisations called on Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu, "in the interest of transparent and accountable governance", to address the Wits community on "government's reluctance to support transformation of the tertiary education sector".

The organisations said they "categorically reject" government's proposed subsidy cuts which, they said, would undermine the gains in transformation achieved so far.

Staff, workers and students at Wits had ensured the first steps towards addressing imbalances caused by apartheid were taken.

However, the proposed cuts "may adversely affect the infrastructure at Wits and lead to a consequent decline in the standards of education and educational facilities".

Further increases in fees, and the subsidy cuts, would handicap the university's ability to offer bursaries and financial assistance to needy students. "The effect of this will be to prejudice the very sector of the community that transformation was designed to uplift," the organisations said.

Universities around the country in turmoil over funding and damaging leadership crises

Ndebele at centre of Turfloop row

(5/4)

MF05 21-27/2/97

Protesting students have accused Njabulo Ndebele of being slow to implement changes on the campus, writes Tangeni Amupadhi

THE same forces who proclaimed University of the North Vice-Chancellor Njabulo Ndebele champion of transformation in tertiary education, have turned against him.

Ndebele — who lost out in the three-way competition for the top job at Wits University — has been accused by academic colleagues, students and workers of impeding transformation on the Turfloop campus.

The long-threatening row exploded this week with protest marches and uproar on campus. Chanting students tried to stop course registration and disrupted a meeting of university top management, insisting that they be allowed to hand a petition to Ndebele in person.

In the petition, they demanded an overhaul of university management and an agreement by the university to register even those students who owe the university money.

Student protesters accused the university of not doing enough to repeal its apartheid-era Act. They complained that the university transformation committee has failed to meet monthly as they are supposed to, and they said that the university senate is dominated by

"conservative Afrikaners".

The Allied Structures, which represents a range of academics, students and staff, has also accused Ndebele and his cabinet, which is known as the executive management committee, of making "retrogressive changes" and of stagnating transformation.

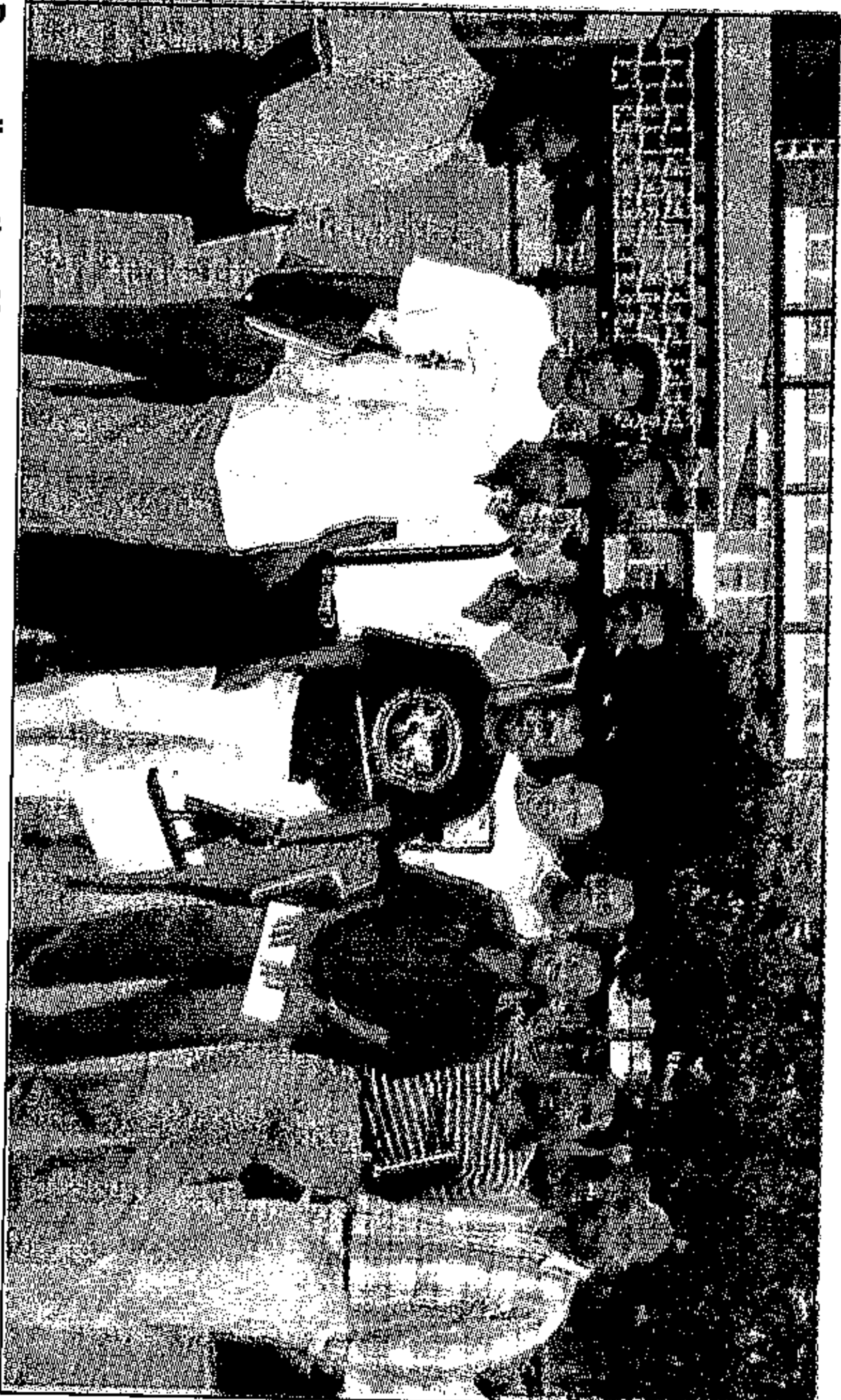
The *Mail & Guardian* could not reach Ndebele for comment. University spokesman John Wiltshire, while acknowledging there "are huge management problems", dismissed most of the allegations as unsubstantiated and malicious.

"Rhetoric is so easy," he said. "What do they mean by transformation? What more do they want us to do? We are the most democratic tertiary institution in the country. We began transforming a long time ago."

Allied Structures this week demanded the disbandment of the university management committee, saying that Ndebele has filled it with his preferred candidates, instead of his deputies and the university registrar.

Wiltshire conceded that many of the members of the management committee had been hand-picked by Ndebele. But they were acting on an interim basis, he said, and were not permanent members.

Members of Allied Structures also called for a change in the composition of the university senate. "The senate is dominated by conservative Afrikaners who are opposed to democratic processes. These people surround Ndebele and he does not see beyond them," said student



Demanding action: Members of the group of students and academics seeking changes

representative council president Gilbert Kganyago.

Kganyago criticised the management council and the senate members for turning away students who did not have money to continue their studies, saying they were ignoring national policy that no student should be refused education because of an inability to pay.

As of the end of October, university officials said, the student debt stood at nearly R70-million. Student council representatives said the university has ordered all students to pay at least 50% of the money they owe before they will be allowed to register.

Jack Klaas, assistant registrar for financial aid, said that while "no academically performing student will be excluded", the debt was a drain which the institution can ill afford.

About 90% of those in debt were doing poorly academically, and some owed as much as R31 000 each.

By this week about 6 000 needy students,

nearly half of the campus population, had submitted their names to the student council. They will be interviewed by a panel created to determine individual needs.

Wiltshire said most of the problems on campus are due to a lack of funds. The university, he said, needs to spend at least R657-million to upgrade its facilities. Built for a maximum of 4 500 students, the university now accommodates 16 000.

Wiltshire questioned the motives of those going public with their criticism, because all interests have representation in the university.

But students like Kganyago maintain that most decisions are taken without consulting stakeholders.

For example, top management decided to scrap the staff development programme, according to the representative of the administrative and technical staff, Jay-Jay Mavayisi. Workers involved were not consulted, and there is no replacement for the programme.

Nolutshungu 'used Wits to get better job'

M&G 21-27/2/97

Mungo Soggot

(54)

COLLEAGUES of Professor Sam Nolutshungu, the United States-based academic who turned down the vice-chancellorship at Wits University, say he used the Wits offer to land himself a better job with his current employer.

They also say Nolutshungu, who rejected the Wits post at the 11th hour for "health reasons", is not ill and acknowledged this to them at a staff meeting earlier this year. When asked if he was ill he replied "of course not", adding he had to find some explanation for the South Africans.

Nolutshungu has now quit as acting director of the University of Rochester's Frederick Douglass Institute to take up a full-time post with the university's political science department. In negotiating his new position, he secured a package that includes generous research funding and leave arrangements.

The Frederick Douglass Institute — named for an escaped slave, abolitionist, orator and newspaper founder in Rochester — specialises in African American studies.

Colleagues in Rochester expressed outrage this week at Nolutshungu's actions, saying he used the Wits offer as a bargaining chip to secure the post at the political science faculty, leaving the institute in the lurch. "They [Wits] got jilted. We got divorced," said a colleague.

Nolutshungu won Wits over last October with a smooth public presentation, beating rival candidates June Sinclair, a Wits law professor, and Njabulo Ndebele of the University of the North.

But colleagues say Nolutshungu was vague about the Wits offer, leaving them to track his progress by reading the local press which on January 15 reported Nolutshungu had turned down the offer. That was two days after Nolutshungu shocked Wits with his faxed note regretting that he could not take up the position.

Nolutshungu's decision means Wits will have to undergo yet another lengthy selection process to find a successor to Robert Charlton,



Sam Nolutshungu: Wits was 'bargaining chip'

who steps down at the end of the year.

One colleague, who declined to be named, said Nolutshungu had done a "grave disservice" to the institute by secretly negotiating a better package with the university without considering the institute's interests.

Another colleague said Nolutshungu's move now threatens to undermine the institute. He apparently looked out exclusively for his own interests when negotiating with the dean, and did not broach the issue of the institute's budget. Colleagues say that he could have pushed to have the institute's budget kept at a level that would allow it to replace him with someone of equal stature.

One colleague said that when Nolutshungu was confronted about his failure to lobby for the institute in his negotiations, he replied he had not mentioned it as this would have weakened his chances of getting the new package.

Another said his approach was particularly inappropriate because Nolutshungu's primary responsibility as the institute's acting director for the past two years, was to negotiate on its behalf with the university in a "tough environment with inadequate finances".

Meanwhile, the *Mail & Guardian* has learned that Wits never contacted the institute to inquire about Nolutshungu's skill at administration which, according to colleagues, is not his forte. "He is uninterested in administration, and nobody ever contacted us to ask about it," said one.

Nolutshungu again failed to respond to the *M&G*.

The struggle facing poorer students hit by funding cuts

Jim Day M+G 21-27/2/97

THE view from her back door is of acres and acres of corrugated steel roofs, weighted down by cement blocks and broken furniture. Thin columns of smoke rise from fires burning in steel drums. All around her, the streets are teeming with people, cars and a small herd of goats.

The environment, says Nompumelelo, a 28-year-old Wits University student who asked that her surname not be used, is "not conducive to studying". But it is where she will return next week when she leaves her student residence hall in Parktown. Earlier this month, Nompumelelo lost a bursary from the Institute for Race Relations after changing her course of study to a field not covered by the institute's bursary program. She had depended upon it for three years to pay for tuition and accommodation.

With two semesters to go to a degree in industrial sociology, Nompumelelo has learned firsthand what thousands of South Africa students know: without financial support, university is prohibitively expensive.

Even the R28 it costs weekly to travel from Alexandra to Wits is more than her mother can afford on a R400 per month pension. The thousands of rands per semester she needs for residence and tuition is out of the question.

She has been fighting all her life for a brighter future for herself and her 10-year-old daughter. She learned five languages. She worked a string of jobs from clerk to field worker. With the encouragement of teachers and her mother she kept plugging away.

She still has options. She could try to find another bursary, or work to pay her fees. In the past Nompumelelo also could have counted on a government-funded student loan. But with large-scale cuts in funding for higher education looming, that may not be possible. It is a situation that thousands of needy students face.

The Finance Ministry's 1997 preliminary budget figures call for cuts in student loans from R300-million to R250-million. Education officials hope they can find more money before the

budget is finalised, but as the figures stand, the number of students who receive assistance could drop from 60 000 this year to 45 000 next year, said Roy Jackson, the chief executive officer of the Tertiary Education Fund of South Africa, which administers the loans.

The South African Students Congress (Sasco) has announced plans for nationwide demonstrations in the coming weeks, partly in response to the funding crisis. Sasco leaders say the government is discriminating against poor students.

The cuts will have the greatest affect on institutions that traditionally served disadvantaged students, most of whom depended on some degree of financial aid. For example, Peninsular Technikon in Cape Town will see the largest cuts in the country. It received R12,4-million in 1996 for student loans; should the preliminary 1997 figures hold, Pentech will receive R7,9-million, a 36% reduction.

Meanwhile, institutions which used to have a predominantly white student body expect fewer cuts as more previously disadvantaged students enrol. At Wits, more than 2 000 undergraduate students received about R13-million in government loans in the 1996 budget year. Preliminary figures showed that amount could be cut to R9,2-million in the 1997 budget year, which would make for a 29% cut.

"Always in the past, if a student proves to us he is needy, we could provide the money," said Liz Fick, the senior assistant registrar for financial aid and scholarships at Wits. "Now, unless the government comes up with more money, we may not be able to meet the needs of all students."

Lincoln Mali, spokesman for Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu, said the minister was "optimistic" that greater funding could be secured, but Mali offered no information on negotiations under way. "There is a phase in which these matters must remain confidential," he said. "We can only engage the public when these figures are finalised." Figures for 1997 education funding could be released next week, said Mali.

From her home in crowded Alexandra Nompumelelo will be anxiously awaiting their decision.

University of North West stays shut after clashes

Mafikeng - The University of the North-West remained closed yesterday after clashes between students and academic staff earlier in the week.

A statement from the university said it had begun addressing some students' grievances, but their call for the resignation of deputy vice-chancellor Professor Neo Mathabe would not be considered.

She is apparently part of the team responsible for student affairs, and is involved in negotiations with them. The university would also not negotiate the non-recognition of an interim students'

representative council.

Classes were suspended indefinitely on Wednesday after students disrupted lectures and allegedly manhandled a faculty dean when the university's executive council said it had difficulties with some of the 20 demands submitted to it by 360 of the 6 000-strong student body.

High on the petition was the resignation of Mathabe, the resignation of the head of the economics department, and recognition of an interim SRC. Telephone calls were not answered at the university yesterday. - Sapa

(54) STAN 22/2/97

Few of the 'fake graduates' turning out to be in the clear

By CHRIS HLONGWA

THE SRC president and a high school teacher whose father is a controversial former cabinet minister are among those who should be stripped of their University of Zululand degrees and diplomas, public protector Selby Baqwa recommended this week.

Investigating the fraudulent degrees scam at the university, Baqwa found that Symington Bekisisa Jamile, the son of Samuel Jamile, a well-known inyanga and former cabinet minister in the erstwhile KwaZulu government, should be stripped of his Bachelor of Commerce degree (B Comm).

Jamile, a business economics teacher at Moyeni high school in Gingindlovu on the north coast, had obtained passes in courses that he had either not written or had failed.

On Thursday City Press received a list from advocate Tobias Barnard of five graduates who were stripped of their degrees. Jamile's name was on the list.

Barnard is part of the three-member commission investigating the degrees scandal.

City Press has also learnt that the president of the Student Representative Council, Mbongiseni Ndlela, is threatening to sue the commission and the *Sowetan* newspaper after it reported earlier in the week that he had confessed that he had actual-

ly failed a course but had been credited for his Bachelor of Science (Agriculture) degree.

Students confronted him at a student's meeting on Thursday, where he made his threat. Several attempts to get comment from him were unsuccessful.

Others on the commission's list were Vusumuzi Gerald, Biyela (B Comm), Geoffrey Nhlakanipho Khumalo (B Admin) and Joseph Bongani Mabangu (Senior Secondary Teachers Diploma).

The fifth defendant, a history teacher from Mtubatuba, stared blankly as Baqwa told him he was withdrawing the BA degree he had fraudulently received.

The public protector recommended that the university should withdraw the degree conferred on Phillip Lindinkosi Khathi as he had not passed one of the courses in 1995 that would have allowed him to graduate.

He admitted that he had not done the oral exam for which he was given 55 percent. Asked by Baqwa: "So you did not qualify for the degree?", he replied: "Yes".

He denied having induced anyone to give him a pass.

Other defendants who had been subpoenaed by the commission failed to appear and their degrees were nullified in their absence.

Among them was Nomathusi Fortunate Mkhize of Umlazi, who

(54) CP23/2/97
was stripped of three courses of a law degree.

Another defendant, Maria Fikelephi Nyoka, was stripped of two theology courses.

More than 20 cases were heard this week. A magistrate and a lawyer were among the defendants whose cases have not been finalised.

Of the 200 or so cases now before the commission, very few people were being cleared, explained Baqwa in an interview.

One of the few cases of a defendant who was cleared was that of Princess Vuyiswa Hadebe, a final year B Paed (Science) student, who was suspected of having fraudulently obtained results for her biology course.

Baqwa slammed the university after Hadebe proved she had passed and that her exam script was available in the university's archives.

"We note with due concern, having called a lecturer who testified bona fide that this student did not write her exams, that she did in fact write and pass," Baqwa was quoted as saying.

About 100 degrees have been investigated so far, and only five have been found to be valid.

The commission will listen to more cases this week, starting tomorrow.

Several defendants said they did not know how they obtained the credits that were invalidated by the commission.

90 'graduates' face charges in fake degrees investigation

ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

Durban - Criminal charges, for either corruption or fraud, are likely to be laid against about 90 University of Zululand "graduates" who have been found to have fake degrees.

An inquiry by public protector Selby Baqwa has revealed that a teacher is one of the people who allegedly fraudulently received a BA degree from the university last year. A magistrate is also suspected.

University spokesman Dirk Rezelman said today that the matter had become a "criminal" one and he could not comment.

Meanwhile, internal investigations into the role of university officials are nearing

(54) completion. Late last year, two officials were exposed and one, a faculty officer, was fired.

ARG 24/2/97
A student affairs official was demoted after it was found he had changed his marks, and investigations into the activities of a third official are still to be completed.

The scandal came to the fore last year after a quarrel between two lovers.

One spilled the beans to university authorities about a scam where students paid for credits, and an intensive investigation was immediately launched.

Initially 17 fake degrees were picked up, but it was later established that about 200 students were involved.

Unisa seeking 'language of the future'

(54)

Brain 25/2/97 NATASHA PINCL

Joseph Diescho, public relations director of Unisa, believes that the university has not made rapid changes because of its 'culture of distance learning'

By Helen Grange

Peering out of a birds-eye window of Unisa's administrative building at a lone white security guard babbling nervously into a walkie-talkie in the precinct below – as a group of boisterous black students mushroomed

close by – Joseph Diescho smiled to himself.

After all, if they were being subversive, it didn't look like it. Whatever chat was churning, it was evidently eliciting more than any-thing meriting such naked paranoia.

Paradoxical-ly, Diescho is probably more anxious about the students now than that security guard was then.



THE THING ABOUT YOU

By Helen Grange

"They're restless. The ANC, with its unfulfilled promises, has made them un-governable. Here is where you'll find the lost generation, those who've learnt to stand on the pavements and hurl stones," he muses.

Nambian-born Dr Diescho – a political analyst, author and public speaker – became Unisa's public relations director two years ago, and has since found glaring gaps between what he expected of the university's post-election mindset and the reality.

He's accustomed to being a bit of a troubleshooter, so to fling

down the gauntlet where Unisa's concerned doesn't faze him.

He declares: "I've found myself in an impossible situation. How do I, as a celebrant of the new order, serve as an apologist for the old? I am expected to move forward in reverse – to give credit to the forces that resisted the change."

"Unisa is a microcosm of the whole country. There are people with the best hearts and intentions, but they lack the courage and the compassion to move forward. I haven't been given the tools – the language of the future here."

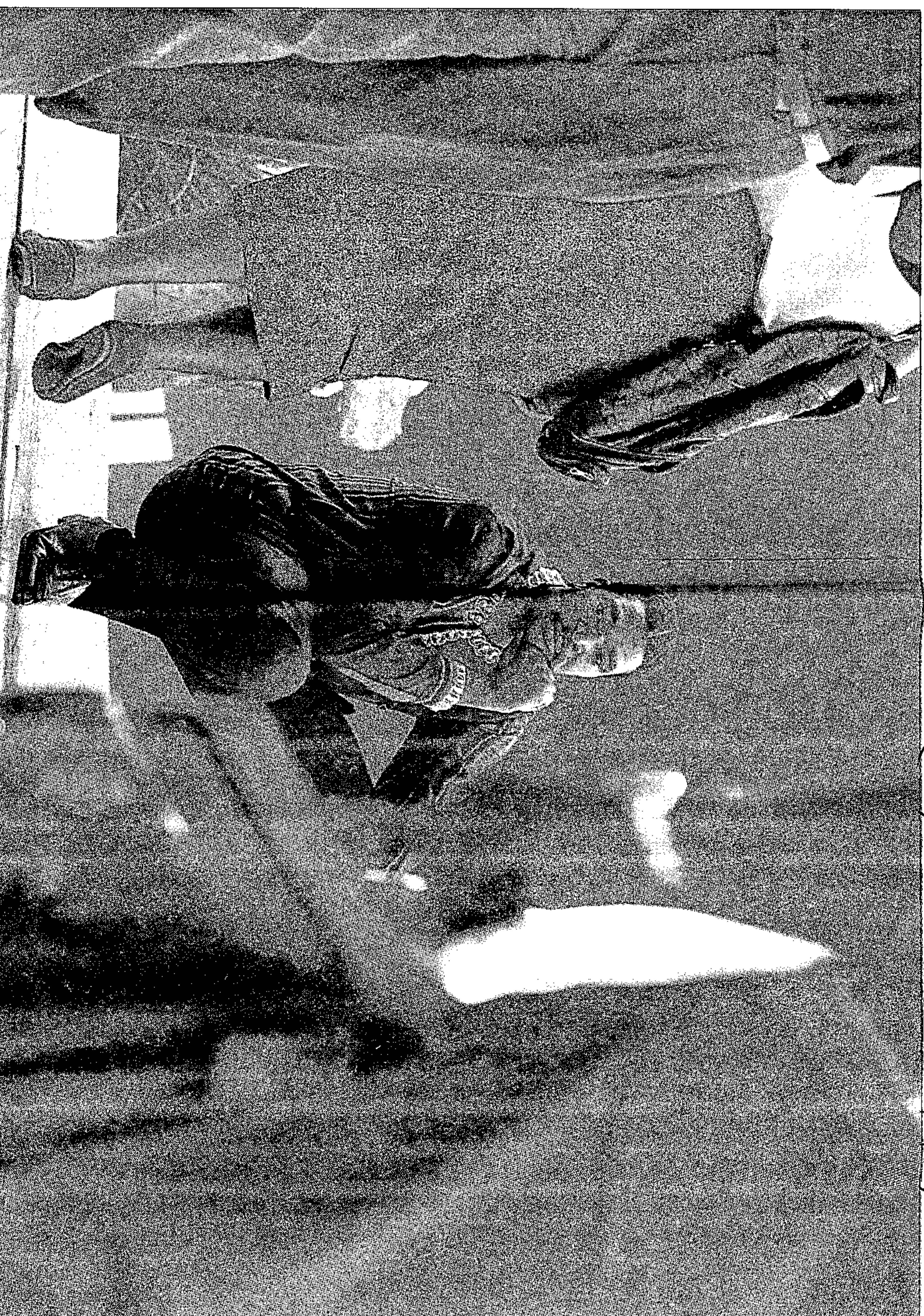
And, he says, nor have the students, a generation of whom, ranging in age between 18 and 29, feel they have not only been let down by the

ANC but are still being dictated to undemocratically by the guardians of their education.

He has a strong point when he says Unisa's reticence in the transformation process is causing a groundswell of frustration among its black staff and students.

Ongoing – and increasingly violent – confrontations between students and the authorities, reminiscent of the racial conflicts at Wits a couple of years ago, have served to bolster the assertion that Unisa is only just beginning its journey on the path that the traditionally liberal English-speaking universities have proceeded a good way down already.

More than 80% of Unisa's academic and administrative staff is still white, a fact used in verbal missiles by senior black staff and students on every opportune occasion. Student organisations have



Troubleshooter ... Joseph Diescho, public relations director of Unisa, hopes to help get affirmative action off the ground and Afrikaans scaled down.

singled out the university's principal, Professor Marinus Wiechers, in particular as being an obstacle to change.

Diescho has an interesting theory: "Unisa has been spoiled by the culture of distance learning ... the students are mostly invulnerable. So there hasn't been much pressure on the university to change its ethos. The problem now is that its leadership doesn't acknowledge that it got stuck in that ethos."

Although he doesn't agree with Professor William Makgoba's actions (Makgoba is said to have falsified his CV and lost a senior post at Wits), he believes

"they needed the stirring". "If you know what you're against, you know what you're for. Wits has actively sought to become more representative. Makgoba after all was headhunted. Unisa as yet hasn't done that inward inventory."

Nonetheless, Unisa has its own special hurdles to overcome in implementing affirmative action, and Diescho admits the institution's administration needs a highly qualified and specialised staff to keep it running as smoothly as it has been.

It's a point Wiechers strongly emphasises in his and his staff's defence, and in closing the academic year last year, he said: "A university cannot simply have mass democratisation. To become a

member of the academic, professional or support services staff, one has to have specific qualifications.

"If academics were, for example, elected by popular vote, Unisa would cease to exist as an academic institution."

True, but it doesn't mean popular vote shouldn't have some influence on decisions like language, Diescho argues. Rightly, he feels that since more than 80% of Unisa's students prefer English as their medium of learning, Afrikaans should be scaled down. The language issue, he says, has caused rifts between staff at Unisa, with no resolution in sight.

Diescho's is now the second "inside" voice to launch public

criticism against the failure of Unisa to get affirmative action off the ground. Vice-principal Professor Simon Maimela made some remarks last year, saying he feels compromised because his appointment is seen as a "token" one.

A graduate of the University of Fort Hare, where he got a doctorate in literature and philosophy, Diescho secured a Fulbright scholarship and completed a second doctorate in African politics at Columbia University in New York. He holds seven degrees.

Ominous as his views may sound, there is at least some reprieve when Diescho talks about

reconciliation in the country generally, and indeed, there is in this small point which could serve in mitigation of Unisa.

"Given the milieu we lived in where abnormality became normal, we should be grateful for what we've become. I feel quite small when I attempt to understand the reservoir of goodwill in the South Africa, and the unwillingness of South Africans to be bogged down with race."

As we pass through the admirably block, Diescho is warmly greeted by a number of white colleagues the campus is emitting a healthy buzz and the security guards look relaxed – but that's today and indeed, recent history showed it to be the calm before the storm.

Professor injured in student protest

OWN CORRESPONDENT

DURBAN: A lecturer at the city's University of Natal campus was rushed to Entabeni hospital yesterday after he was injured in violent student protests over a subsidy cut.

The R28 million decrease in the government's subsidy to the university sparked violent clashes between the university's management and about 300 protesting students, with non-protesting students bearing the brunt of the disruption. Architecture and allied disciplines

dean Prof Mike Kahn was taken to hospital for X-rays after being clubbed with a knobkerrie. He was later discharged.

Late yesterday Prof Ahmed Bawa, deputy vice-chancellor and Durban campus principal, responded to rumours that students planned to bring weapons to campus today by saying: "The university will take strongest action against violence, whether it be by protesters or counter protesters."

The incidents have also triggered racial tensions on campus after white

and Indian students vowed to defend themselves against black students they accused of disrupting classes.

In response to a query as to whether disruptive students would be arrested, Bawa said that the students had contravened the Public Gatherings Act — but that the police had said they would only act if campus management gave them a mandate to do so.

Lectures were cancelled yesterday while leaders of the South African Student Congress (Sasco) staged a sit-in at the office of vice-chancellor Prof

Brenda Gouley to protest against the refused registration of about 1 000 students who had been removed from the financial aid programme.

Sasco chairman Mr Thulani Mkhize said Sasco believed that as the university was internationally recognised it could get outside funding, could borrow money and could use money in its reserves.

However, Bawa said contributions to the financial aid programme had been reduced by R2m and the university had a R14m shortfall because of the subsidy cuts.

(54) CT 25/2/97

Professor smashed on head during protest over subsidy cuts

(54)

Campus campaign leads to barricade

OWN CORRESPONDENT

Durban - A professor at the Durban campus of the University of Natal was rushed to Entabeni Hospital yesterday after he was smashed on the head with a knobkerrie in violent student protests over a subsidy cut.

The Government's decision to cut its annual subsidy to the university by R28-million sparked violent clashes between the university's management and about 300 protesting students, with non-protesting students bearing the brunt of the disruption.

Many were "pulled out" of lecture halls and assaulted, confirmed Professor Ahmed Bawa, deputy vice-chancellor and Durban campus principal.

Architecture and allied disciplines dean Professor Mike Kahn was taken to hospital for x-rays after being hit. He was later discharged.

Racial tensions were heightened on campus when white and Indian students vowed to defend themselves against black students.

"It is a privilege, not a right to be here - I pay for my studies," said irate third-year BSc student Bruce Ross.

Bawa responded to reports that students planned to arrive today armed with weapons by saying: "The university will take strong action against violence, whether by protesters or counter-protesters." He urged students not to arm themselves.

Yesterday's campus protest led to the cancellation of lectures while seven leaders of the South African Students Congress (Sasco) staged a sit-in at the office of vice-chancellor Professor Brenda Courley.

But their plan to remain there overnight was dashed yesterday eve-

ning when police read them the Public Gatherings Act and ordered them to leave, which they did.

Sasco chairman Thulani Mkhize said the organisation believed the institution had the capacity to address their problems because it was internally recognised, could get outside funding, could borrow money and could use money in its reserves.

Bawa said contributions to the financial aid programme had been reduced by R2-million and the university had a R14-million shortfall because of subsidy cuts.

Students tried to barricade Pretoria University's main entrance with rubbish bins and litter yesterday after the management refused to close the institution tomorrow.

Staff removed the obstructions, and called in police to keep watch after threats by SA Students Congress members to disrupt classes.

Sasco, at a meeting with management on Saturday, demanded the closure of the university tomorrow to coincide with a countrywide Sasco protest planned for that day. - Sapa.

Star 25/12/97

Academic assaulted in Natal varsity protest

Farouk Chothia

DURBAN — An academic at Natal University's Durban campus was assaulted yesterday when a student protest against financial aid cuts turned violent, a university spokesman said.

Architecture dean Mike Kahn was hit on the head and admitted to Durban's Entabeni Hospital for treatment. Two other staff members and a student were also injured, the university said.

About 10 SA Students' Congress

BD 25/2/97

(Sasco) members also staged a sit-in at the offices of vice-chancellor Brenda Gourley who was not there at the time. Lectures were suspended for the day.

A campus source said Kahn was assaulted with a knobkierrie. He was later discharged from hospital.

The assaults took place when between 50 and 100 students marched into lecture rooms to disrupt classes.

Chairs and tables were thrown around during the action.

Continued on Page 2

64

Academic

BO 25/2/97

Continued from Page 1

(54)

Sasco Durban campus deputy chairman Desmond Mlatha said the organisation's campaign had been peaceful and a small group of "loose people" were responsible for assaulting Kahn.

Mlatha said the sit-in at Gourley's office would continue until Sasco's demands were met, and there would be a boycott of lectures today.

The university said a large police contingent was deployed on campus and "extensive discussions" were taking place with police to ensure that lectures resumed today.

Deputy vice-chancellor Ahmed Bawa said the actions of "unruly" students were illegal and the university had asked police to act against them.

Students' representative council (SRC) president Sam Thobakgale said the SRC supported "legitimate (and) peaceful" protest action. Grievances

centred on the university's decision to drop more than 900 returning students from its financial aid programme.

Mlatha said more than 150 first-year students who applied for financial aid had been told at the last minute to raise R4 000 each as a registration fee.

Thobakgale said returning students who owed the university less than R1 000 in fees were also being barred from registering. Such students should be allowed to continue studying while paying their arrears in instalments.

Thobakgale said that while the university faced a subsidy cut, it had about R22m in reserves. Some of this money should be used to help disadvantaged students, but the university was refusing to do so because it wanted to use the reserves to pay retrenchment packages to staff, he said.

The university said a task force had been appointed to examine possible solutions to the funding crisis.

A protest march was also held at the university's Maritzburg campus but there were no disruptions to lectures.

Students at Natal campuses held after violent protests

Farouk Chothia

(64) DD 26/2/97

DURBAN — Police arrested 16 protesting students at the University of Natal's Maritzburg and Durban campuses yesterday as the campaign against cuts in financial aid triggered more violence.

Maritzburg police spokesman Henry Budhram said 16 students were arrested at the Maritzburg campus on charges of causing malicious damage to property, assaulting policemen, resisting arrest, and holding an illegal gathering.

Eleven of the 13 students were offered bail of R200 at the Maritzburg magistrate's court and the case was remanded to March 25.

Budhram said the other two protesters had been unable to appear in court because they were admitted to hospital for injuries sustained.

Police were called in by university authorities and used batons to break up demonstrations, Budhram said.

Durban campus students' representative council (SRC) president Sam Thobakgale said three students from the campus — including SA Students' Congress (Sasco) provincial leader Jomo Khosa — were arrested on charges of holding an illegal gathering.

Thobakgale said that police gave no warning and simply moved in.

University spokesman Vanessa

Gray said police were forced to "take control" yesterday after 150 students armed with knobkerries and sticks attempted to disrupt lectures.

A police officer said six female students had laid charges of indecent assault and sexual harassment against protesters but police spokesman Insp Vish Naidoo could not confirm this.

Thobakgale said student leaders met the university executive council but failed to break the impasse over financial aid allocations.

The council had proposed that a task group look into ways to solve the financial crisis. The SRC agreed to this, provided that affected students were granted provisional registration. The council refused, resulting in the deadlock. Negotiations were to resume this morning, he said.

Sasco members also planned to march to the Durban offices of various government personalities.

Bonile Ngqiyaza reports that students, academics and general staff at Wits University yesterday rejected government's plan to cut higher education subsidies, saying it would prejudice the very sector of the community transformation was designed to uplift.

The University of the Free State announced yesterday that the cut-off date for payment of outstanding amounts by individual students would be extended to June 30 this year.

Students on march against fundings

Apr 26 | 2 | 97

(54)

Planned cuts in subsidies and higher fees have united tertiary institutions; but academics have been on the sharp end of violent protests on some

BY LEE-ANN ALFREDS

Universities and technicians are bracing themselves for an increase in violent protests by students over the funding of their education.

There has already been violence at institutions in Gauteng, the Free State and Natal by students opposed to planned cuts in subsidies and the annual increase in tuition fees.

Students from Wits University were marching in central Johannesburg today as part of a movement that is rapidly gaining national momentum to pressure the Government into rethinking its proposed funding cuts to tertiary institutions.

A total of 16 students were arrested at the University of Natal's Durban and Pietermaritzburg campuses yesterday, and police were called to the University of the North where about 100 students had barricaded entrances to the campus, trapping staff inside.

Early this morning, academic and administrative staff as well as students held a picket outside Wits' Jan Smuts House. The picket included the vice-chancellor Robert Charlton and deputy vice-chancellor David Freer.

They were picketing to create awareness of the effects of a 10% subsidy cut worth R30-million.

"The subsidy cuts mean less money for especially the needy students, the majority of whom are black," Charlton said.

It would also impact on staff and student ratios. Wits is expecting to have to retrain staff and cut the range of subjects offered.

In Johannesburg, Wits Tech-

nikon students protested against tuition fee increases yesterday.

Sapa reports that today's Wits march is the first time in 10 years students, academic staff and workers have united for a common goal. It is expected to start at the university at 10am and proceed to the stock exchange.

No further clashes are expected at Wits Technikon, today, where yesterday's disruptions caused minor damage.

The students were demanding that a 9% increase in tuition fees for 1997 be waived, and they oppose any annual fee increase.

The march, which started from the Auckland Park campus and went via the Eloff Street campus, ended up at the Doornfontein campus where a memorandum was submitted to the vice-chancellor, dean of students Gary Vorster said.

Some classes were disrupted and cars, classrooms and the library were damaged, but officials were still assessing the damage he said.

Vorster said tensions between groups of students had also mounted as a result of the march, but it had been defused by the technikon's administration. The technikon was preparing a response to the students' demands.

In KwaZulu Natal, protests relating to financial aid, accommodation and student debts, ended in 16 arrests, reports Sapa.

Three students were arrested in Durban after a scuffle with police, and 13 in Pietermaritzburg after several people were injured and windows broken during protests.

Today's Gauteng march is scheduled to be followed by a national stayaway on March 12.



NATASHA PINCUS

campuses

Don't cut us down ... students from Wits were up early today to appeal for support against planned subsidy cuts from rush-hour motorists.

Upset in campus politics as five SRC members resign at UCT

CT 26/2/97

CAROL CAMPBELL
EDUCATION WRITER

(54)

STUDENT politics at the University of Cape Town are in disarray, following a mass resignation of Student Representative Council (SRC) members only a few weeks after they were appointed to their new posts.

The 15-member council has been reduced to eight. Five members handed in resignation letters citing ill health, SRC corruption, academic pressure and "irreconcilable differences" as their reasons for going; a sixth member has been suspended for allegedly using his position on the SRC to further his own interests; and a seventh has been "academically excluded" and has not returned to the university this year.

Four of the five students who have resigned are white, which has raised speculation about underlying racial tensions on the council.

Today the remaining members will meet to decide if they should disband the council in favour of a new election, or if they should hold a by-election — the most likely solution to the problem.

Ms Ruth Faragher, the student who won the most votes in the SRC election, wrote a letter to the student newspaper Varsity, citing her reasons for leaving.

"I was vice-president responsible for resources," she said.

"The lack of a policy and all the complicated politics around access to resources quickly made up my mind that I could not defend the SRC's use of resources."

16 held in crackdown (54) CT 26/2/97 on Natal student demos

OWN CORRESPONDENTS

DURBAN: The police public order unit, in a crackdown on "illegal gatherings", arrested 16 University of Natal students on the Durban and Maritzburg campuses yesterday.

Students have been staging increasingly violent protests over financial aid and accommodation.

On the Durban campus, the provincial leader of the South African Students Congress (Sasco), Mr Jomo Khoza, was one of three students arrested. Khoza was injured on the mouth during a scuffle with the police.

On the Maritzburg campus, 13 people were arrested after protests in which several people were injured and windows broken. A member of the university staff and several bystanders were slightly injured. A strong police presence was maintained throughout the day.

Two of the students arrested were treated at a hospital for injuries described as "slight".

Eleven of the students appeared in court yesterday afternoon on charges connected with disruption and violence on the campus. As none was able to pay the R200 bail, all spent the night in jail.

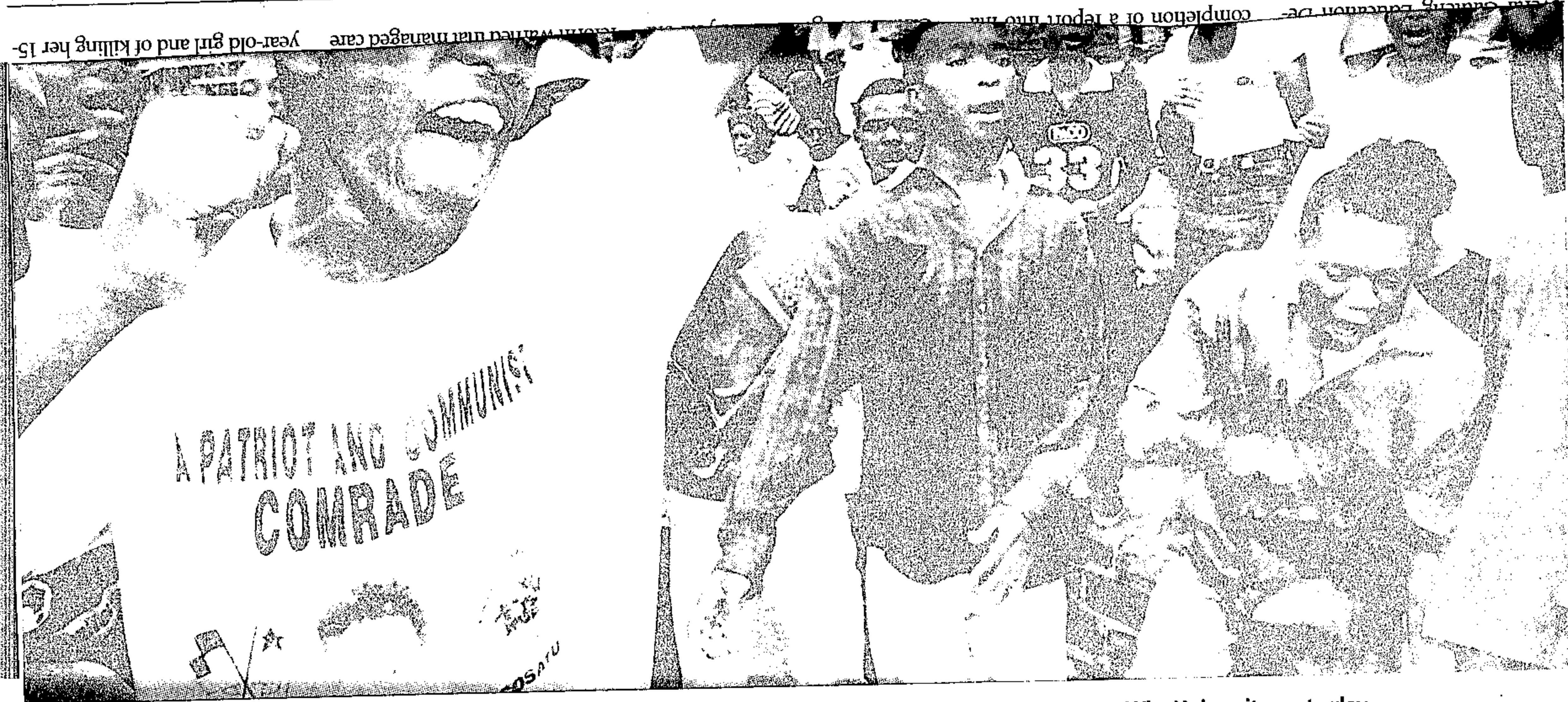
Members of the Maritzburg SRC said the students had received permission to stage protests yesterday, but alleged police had refused to allow them to take place. One member described the police as "provocative" and said the SRC had hoped to resolve its problems through negotiation.

The arrests of the Durban students follow widespread incidents of violence, including assaults on academics and non-protesting students. The incidents have created tension between students of different race groups. Non-protesting students have threatened to take up arms to defend themselves.

Public order unit spokesman Inspector Trevor Reddy said four Durban students had laid charges of indecent assault against some of the protesters yesterday.

Sasco chairman Mr Thulani Mkhize said the incidents of violence would be investigated as his organisation believed in peaceful protest.

Sasco is to march to Truro House in Durban tomorrow to demand a moratorium on fee increases and exclusions on financial and academic grounds. It also demands that the province increase its financial allocation to tertiary institutions.



Power to the people ... a student shows his rejection of the Government's proposed subsidy cuts during a protest at Wits University yesterday.

Three policemen injured by stone-throwing students in campus violence

(54) Star 27/2/97
 Three policemen were injured, one of them seriously, when they were attacked by stone-throwing students at the University of the North near Pietersburg yesterday afternoon.

Eight students were later arrested and were due to appear in the Mankweng Magistrate's Court last night on charges of public violence and attempted murder.

The clashes between police and students started shortly after the students were given an ulti-

matum to leave the campus by 4pm. This followed a decision to close the university until tomorrow after two weeks of demonstrations over government subsidy cuts to universities and technikons.

Minister of Education Sibusiso Bengu is due to make an announcement on the issue of funding cuts to tertiary institutions at the University of Fort Hare tomorrow, spokesman Lincoln Mali said today.

Mali said the minister felt the

university would be an appropriate forum to address the "burning questions" which have sparked a week of protests across the country.

Bengu and Deputy President, Thabo Mbeki will be at Fort Hare to launch the "Culture of Learning and Teaching for Higher Education" programme.

The protests came to the Johannesburg city centre yesterday when more than 1 000 students took to the streets of Johannesburg to voice their opposition to

the proposed subsidy cuts.

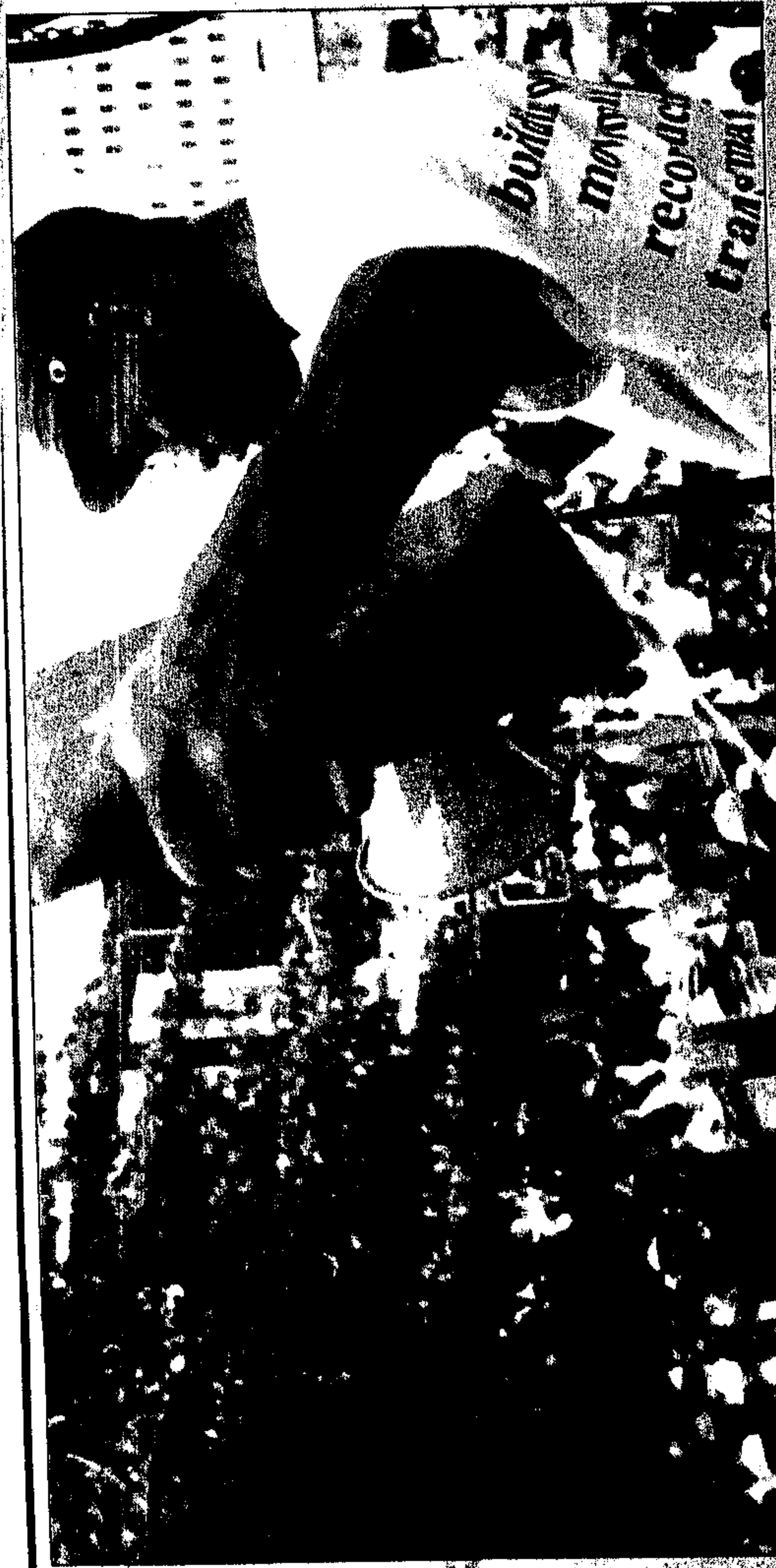
Members of the SA Students' Congress, (Sasco) which is heading the main student opposition to the cuts, marched peacefully from Wits University in Braamfontein to the Johannesburg Stock Exchange around 2pm.

Under the watchful eyes of scores of policemen, the students toyi-toyed and sang as they made their way slowly to the JSE, where they were addressed by Sasco provincial president, Jacob Mamabolo, before a memoran-

dum was handed to JSE acting president Bill Urman.

Deviating from the original plan because of the absence of Finance Minister Trevor Manuel, the students then marched to Main Street, where they handed another copy of the memorandum to Gauteng finance MEC Jabu Moleketi.

Sasco demanded that proposed budget cuts be reconsidered "as the country is bound to regret the implications in the long run". - Staff Reporter, Sapa.



A student leader addresses Wits University students in Johannesburg yesterday. More than 2 000 students marched through the city centre to pressurise the Government into rethinking its proposed funding cuts to tertiary institutions. Student action is rapidly gaining momentum nationally. PIC: LEN KUMALO

Campuses uprisings

Research 27/10/97

The crisis at universities and other tertiary institutions in the country reached crisis proportions yesterday as management at the University of the North (Uninor) decided to close the institution indefinitely because of continuing student upheavals.

In KwaZulu-Natal, students marched at major institutions such as the Natal, Durban, Westville, and Zululand universities, as well as at the Mangosuthu and ML Sultan colleges and at technicians.

Most of the protests were against the Government's decision to cut sub-

sidies to institutions of higher learning. The protesters also demanded that financially indebted returning students be granted aid.

Durloop University public relations director Mr John Wilshire said yesterday that all students had been given until 1pm to leave the campus.

He said the decision to close the university was taken after an ugly incident on Tuesday in which members of the staff were held hostage by a group of students.

The protesting students barricaded several gates for hours and prevented anybody from leaving or entering the campus.

Police were called in and the gates were opened only at about 7pm.

Asked what would happen to students who wanted to remain on campus, Wilshire said: "We are not giving them any options. Everybody has to leave the campus. We have police and they alone will remain on campus."

At the University of Durban-Westville students and the university management reached consensus that needy students who could not afford registration fees should be registered.

Cutting costs

The student representative council at the university told a student meeting that 1 500 of 1 800 students had already been registered although they could not afford to pay their fees. The remaining 300 would probably be

registered by Friday.

The SRC proposed that the university cut down on its administrative staff to release more funds to assist needy students. The SRC also promised to negotiate cheaper fares with Durban City Transport for students who lived off campus.

Natal University SRC president Mr Sam Thobakgale said mass action against the university would go on until their demands were met.

Meanwhile three students arrested at Natal University on Tuesday were released on bail after a brief appearance in court. A further 11 students arrested at the university's Maritzburg campus have also been released.

Thousands of SA Students

Congress members from tertiary institutions in Gauteng marched to the Johannesburg Stock Exchange on Wednesday to present a memorandum protesting against some already cut tertiary educational institutions.

In a memorandum addressed to NSF president Mr Richard Loubser and Finance Minister Mr Trevor Manuel, Sison said it was worried about the Government's policies having a negative impact on spending on social causes such as health and education.

Unlike campuses in KwaZulu-Natal, Northern Province and North West, universities in the Western Cape were reported to be "relatively calm" on Wednesday.

Five quit UCT student body

JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTER

ARG 27/2/97

(54)

Nearly half the members of the University of Cape Town's students representative council (SRC) have resigned, citing reasons such as poor health and academic pressure. One member has been suspended.

The SRC's fate will be decided in two weeks' time.

Its president, Zukisi Qobo, said the remaining eight members of the original 15-member executive committee would make proposals to the student parliament on the future of the council.

During the past few days, five members have resigned, citing academic

pressure and poor health, while the organisation's treasurer had been suspended for allegedly furthering his own interests at the expense of the SRC.

A seventh member did not return to the campus for the new term.

Mr Qobo said the remaining executive members would propose that a by-election be held to fill the vacant positions, as the next round of elections was due only in August.

Although four of the five who had resigned were white, the problems were not related to race.

The student parliament will meet in two weeks to decide on the future of the present SRC and try to assess what the causes were for the sudden spate of resignations.

RIGHTS WITHOUT FUNDS

FM 28/2/97

One of the ironies of the mainly black student unrest which erupted at several universities this week, is that it is the very institutions which have done the most to transform which now find themselves targeted.

Some, having been financially penalised during the Eighties for trying to diversify their student populations, now stand accused of racism by Africanists, who claim the universities' failure to assist disadvantaged black students is aimed at retaining lily white institutions.

There has also been a conservative backlash — with claims that universities such as Natal, Free State, Pretoria and Wits have all moved too quickly. However, the largely black University of the North at Turfloop is owed more than R54m in fees by about 3 000 students.

Picking up the pieces and laughing all the way to the bank are universities like Stellenbosch, where integration has been slow and which now attract fee-paying students.

And there seems little likelihood that the situation will improve until government addresses the growing problem of financial aid. This is so critical that universities like Natal have for the first time had to turn students away halfway through their courses simply because they cannot pay.

"We are desperately unhappy about the situation but are caught in a catch-22 situation," says Natal University Maritzburg principal, David Maughan Brown. "We would like to support the peaceful student protests, but find ourselves in the morally untenable situation where we must say no because of our fiduciary responsibility to keep the uni-

versity solvent.

"At the same time admitting fee paying students, but turning away those equally qualified but unable to pay, is morally unacceptable and amounts to a second-phase apartheid."

The fundamental cause of disruptions which hit the universities of Natal, Free State and Pretoria this week, and were expected to spread to others, are legitimate grievances over student aid funding, which primarily affects disadvantaged blacks, Maughan Brown says.

Worst hit was Natal, where lectures were cancelled at the Durban campus on Monday following protests, and counter-protests, against the exclusion of fellow students unable to pay fees. A faculty dean and four others were injured in ensuing violence, and the vice-chancellor's office was occupied by students.

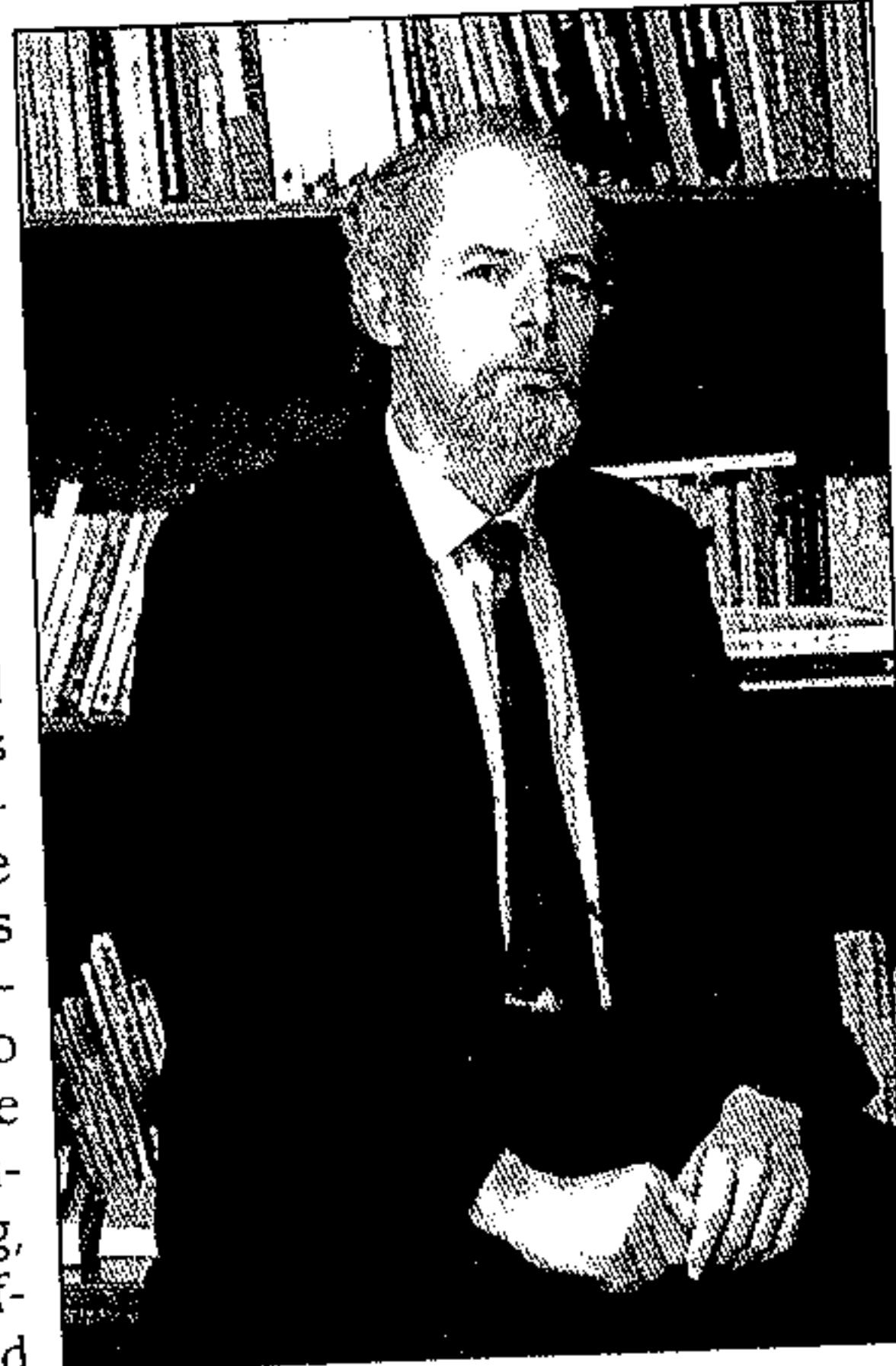
"It is fine for President Nelson Mandela to talk about a culture of learning as long as the protests do not become endemic," says Maughan Brown. "But they will — unless a permanent solution is quickly found to the funding problem. The universities will drain their already overstretched resources to protect themselves against escalating mass action."

Maughan Brown stresses that the problem is not new.

A national financial aid scheme has been identified as a crucial need in every major policy document published since 1990. The legislation and structure for the Central Education Fund of SA are already in place.

Cash strapped government, however, believes R650m — others say R800m-R1bn is more realistic — is needed to kickstart the fund. Instead it committed R300m/year until 1998 to assist students. This year, however, the sum was slashed to R200m — later grudgingly boosted to R250m — which meant that universities which based admissions on the committed figure were suddenly oversubscribed.

Adding grist to the mill, other substan-



David Maughan Brown . . . the money simply isn't there to assist students

tial external donors, like the Ford and Kellogg foundations, have suspended contributions pending the establishment of a self-funding national loan scheme.

In order to alleviate the problem, universities such as Natal have in recent years topped up student aid from operating and reserve budgets, on the basis that an aid scheme would be created.

Since 1992 Natal University loans to student aid have risen from less than R1m to more than R60m.

The result is that the university has been unable to further subsidise the aid scheme,

having run up a R30m deficit. This year it admitted only 505 new students compared with 1 000 last year, all based on the presumed R300m government aid allocation. When this was cut to R250m, midcourse registrations also had to be slashed. Protesting students are now demanding the university add a further R15m to the fund so that they can continue their education.

The problem, says Maughan Brown, is that the university simply does not have the money. *Herb Payne*

Students threaten to march on Parliament if

Farouk Choithia (54) 60 28/2/97

DURBAN — The SA Students' Congress (Sasco) warned yesterday that it would organise a stayaway at all tertiary institutions and march to Parliament on March 12 — when Finance Minister Trevor Manuel presents his first budget — if government did not back down from plans to cut subsidies.

Kenny Diseko told about 1 500 students who marched in Durban that government was "capitulating" to western "imperialist forces" and imposing a structural adjustment programme in SA which had wrought "havoc" throughout Africa.

"We will hit Gear (government's growth, employment and redistribution strategy) at its weakest link, which is education," Diseko said. Sasco said in a memorandum addressed to Manuel that it "vigorously and unashamedly" rejected Gear.

The progressive movement should "save" the reconstruction and development programme (RDP) and "revitalise" its "aspirations". Students held aloft placards, reading: "Privatise Manuel — Nationalise the RDP", and "No economic growth without skilled labour force".

African National Congress (ANC) KwaZulu-Natal education spokesman Cyril Xaba, who received the student memorandum, said no final decision had been taken on the issue of subsidy cuts.

Xaba said that he had "no doubt whatsoever" that the message of Sasco's mass action campaign had "reached the ears of the national treasury, which will advise the cabinet accordingly". A government source said any decision to deviate from the proposed cuts lay with the finance ministry and Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu was "hopeful" it would do so.

The finance ministry was expected to make its views known to the education ministry today, before Bengu and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki visit Fore Hare University to launch a nationwide campaign to foster a culture of learning and teaching at institutions of higher education, of universities.

As the start of the financial year of universities preceded that of government, preliminary figures were usually supplied confidentially to the universities. The figures supplied this year were substantially lower than the grants received last year.

However, government sources said spending on universities and technikons rose substantially last year compared to the year before.

Govt cuts subsidies



Zululand University in turmoil

(54) Star 28/2/97

For many, it's no surprise that the institution's affairs are in a mess, writes Colin Jackson

The University of Zululand, it appears, has silenced its supreme authority, the council of the university.

At its most recent meeting, on November 29 last year, the council took note of a staff petition saying that the application of Professor Romanus Egudu had been sabotaged by the university administration and asking that he be included in the interviewing process for the post of head of the department of English. On that day, the council resolved that this distinguished applicant ought to be interviewed and that they would withhold confirmation of any appointment until after Egudu's interview.

The same day vice-chancellor and rector Professor CRM Dlamini, having received the petition, spoke to the local candidate, a loyal member of staff for the past 11 years, and offered him the post. Immediately afterwards, he sent out a letter of appointment. He did so in haste, confident, we suppose, that he could flout the council and get away with it.

It seems that he was right. In South Africa, we are conscious of the many educated people leaving the country each month. Many

leave because of the weak administration in public institutions, particularly the educational ones. Yet when able people apply to come into this country, we turn them away.

Our motives are petty; we prefer to remain mediocre, buying other people's products and culture, the same abject level of ambition operating that dominated us under apartheid. As our most able people go, we are left behind to lead the world in crime and road accidents.

The University of Zululand was in the news recently over allegations that officials had accepted money from students to adjust their marks so that they would get their degrees. There is even more to the story: the marks of all students are routinely adjusted in every department.

Again, the motive here is money. Each year the university strives to admit as many students as it can, because there is a government subsidy for each student. The intake has been extended well beyond students of university entrance standard; the standard slides downward and the marks are adjusted, so that the required quota continues to fail, pass, and gain distinctions.

The teaching is not adjusted. The premises are hopelessly overcrowded, and any hope of education as a "dialogue" to sharpen perception has long since been abandoned in favour of mindless rote learning. Here is a sample from a script with which the candidate passed second year, and is now seven months away from a BA degree; the question is on *The Colour Purple* and whether the three women in the story can learn to engage in a fight against ingrained prejudice:

"I agree that these three women they stands for all women in the world because done things that all their type are done outside the world. We have got Celie as deprive women because from eliar stage she got a rape at the age of fourteen..."

The difficulties the university has in performing its function are visible. Windows going unrepaired, grounds are littered with rubbish. At a meeting with the arts faculty last December, the rector answered a question from a member of staff about the rubbish.

He said he had spoken to the grounds staff, but they were slow workers. They had spent an unreasonable amount of time on tiling a floor. He had spoken to them about the rubbish, but they did not respond.

A further difficulty was that students

could not be fined for littering because sometimes they did not carry money, and they did not have postal addresses to which demands for payment could be sent.

Other questions were asked at the faculty meeting. What about the unending theft-overhead projectors out of classrooms, PCs and personal possessions out of offices? This again was a problem, replied the rector: the security guards had been increased, and they had been spoken to. However, admittedly, items were disappearing at a serious rate.

A senior lecturer stood up to say that he had been mobbed in his classroom and prevented from teaching by students demanding that his course be scrapped because he was trying to fail them with his strict marking. He had been insulted, physically threatened and his authority as one of the university's teachers set at naught.

Directly after the incident, he explained, he had appealed to the rector - and he had been sent away with a message through a secretary to "communicate through the proper channels".

His course has in effect been scrapped

because his department head had solicitously invited the students to choose other courses, and there had been no statement from the rector since the incident, two months earlier. It was, in short, a problem much like the litter, or the theft. There was no single path to be perceived, leading to one specific action.

The case was reported in December, and caused not a ripple of reaction in the Government. Yet the Minister of Education has a choice to make:

Either he can see to it that the constitutional rules of higher education are obeyed by universities; that university principals seek out conscientious people for every appointment, and that people who agree to serve on university councils do not connive at unprofessional manoeuvres and concealments, but do their duty.

Or he can let the sham education carry on perpetuating itself. We will then lead lives of mounting uncertainty in this country, and become ever more dependent on visiting foreigners.

Colin Jackson is a former temporary lecturer in the Department of English of the University of Zululand.

Amid uproar at South Africa's universities, evidence of state manipulation emerges

Bengu's secret campus agenda

Ann Eveleth

MINUTES of a secret meeting allegedly between Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu, University of Durban-Westville (UDW) council members and high-flying Durban attorney Linda Zama suggest a clear political agenda lies behind an ongoing probe into campus conflict.

Attorneys acting for UDW's Combined Staff Association (Comsa) wrote to President Nelson Mandela's office this week demanding a presidential commission of inquiry appointed last year to investigate long-standing conflict at the institution be immediately disbanded. Comsa attorney Jay Surju attached minutes of an October 1996 meeting between Bengu, "certain unidentified members of the council" and Zama, a member of the commission.

The minutes suggest Bengu and Zama wanted to use problems on the campus as a justification for ministerial involvement in appointing a new vice chancellor. "The gloomy picture at UDW presents opportunities," the minutes quote Bengu saying.

Bengu's spokesman Lincoln Mali could not confirm the contents of the documents and Zama declined to comment. Surju's letter claims the authenticity of the minutes has been "verified and confirmed".

Surju also notified Mandela of Comsa's intention to approach the Durban Supreme Court "for appropriate relief" with respect to

MTG 28/2 - 6/3/97

(54)



Political motives? Sibusiso Bengu

Zama's conduct in the meeting. Zama is quoted in the minutes as saying "Comsa is not a union as it claims to be. It is a vehicle to achieve certain goals ... Comsa's agenda is to prevent transformation, by appealing to race. The union holds the institution at ransom".

Surju says these comments justify earlier Comsa concerns regarding Zama's impartiality following her appointment to the commission in May 1996. Comsa and the UDW Student's Representative Council (SRC) opposed the formation of the commission, and demanded a commission of inquiry to ensure greater impartiality.

SRC spokesman Busani Ngcaweni said a mass student meeting on Wednesday resolved to approach the Durban Supreme Court for relief from subpoenas issued to some student leaders by the commission: "The document

now in our possession shows the partiality of the commission and justifies our reservations. This document will be circulated to every person on campus next week so they will know what happened last year," he said.

Surju argues the contents of the minutes "are capable of no other interpretation but that the minister of education, Zama, and certain members of the council are collaborating and colluding in order to implement a political agenda and strategy through the vehicle of the commission by manipulating the contents of the reports to be presented to the commission in such a manner as to support their political agenda and strategy".

The minutes record Zama as saying: "There are sinister forces that are operating [and this] may mean that part of the solution will have to focus on the need for an intelligence network."

Surju argues the minutes also provide "distressing and irrefutable evidence that the failure to appoint Professor Hluneleng Mosala was politically orchestrated". Mosala was the favoured candidate of various campus constituencies including Comsa and SRC for appointment as university vice-rector, but his application was rejected by the university council.

The minutes quote Bengu as saying: "The non-appointment of Mosala was a success."

The minutes also suggest a wider attempt to gain political control of the university, with council quoted saying: "An active senior management in 1995 was a recipe for disaster ... The alliance between the SRC and Comsa proved to be the most lethal part of the crisis."

UDW is in a fluid situation which has many factors that can be exploited to restore balance." Council refers to the formation of a rival staff association last year as "an important new feeling among staff" and notes that "sanity is now being restored" with respect to Sasco's position on campus.

Both Zama and council are recorded commenting on the need for "intelligence" work on campus, with council adding that: "Given the situation of this province, we need to not lose this campus." The discussion turned to contents of the commissioner's report and the possibilities for ministerial intervention. Council asked Bengu whether the appointment of the still-awaited new vice-rector was "going to be a ministerial appointment".

Bengu responded that: "When the management of the institution gets to the point of being demobilised, then ministerial intervention will be possible with express Council agreement".

Council then replied that it (council) "needs to protect the minister politically and therefore it is important not for him to be seen to be intervening unnecessarily, thereby being taken to court (ultra-vires) as was the case with the Minister De Klerk ... The gloomier the report is, the better, so we can realise the severity of the situation."

Surju argues this conduct by the meeting participants "unlawful and contrary to the express terms of reference and regulations of the commission of inquiry itself" and that there is "no proper or lawful basis for the commission continuing to purport to be 'impartially' investigating the situation at UDW".

Unlikely allies unite



Jim Day and Tangeni Amupadhi

WHEN Wits University Vice-Chancellor Robert Charlton waggled a placard on Jan Smuts Avenue this week, he could count among his allies students who have spent much of this week disrupting campuses across the country.

Charlton, a staunch opponent of such misbehaviour, struck the unlikely alliance to protest the belt-tightening policies of Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu and the national government's apparent choice of fiscal rectitude over education.

The signs waved at rush-hour commuters on Wednesday morning — "Education is a right! Subsidy cuts are a blight!" — were held by Wits university administrators, professors, secretaries and librarians, standing side by side with members of the South African Students' Congress (Sasco), whose more militant activities this week have led to police crackdowns and closures of several campuses across the country.

"We can come here and stand every day, and nothing will happen. We have to step on some toes, too," said Xolani Malawana, an honours student in politics and a Sasco member, standing across the street from Charlton. Later in the day, Malawana marched through the streets of Johannesburg in the spunkier but still peaceful demonstration of about 5 000 Sasco supporters. That action ended at the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, where Sasco Gauteng chairperson Jacob Mamabolo blared demands through a megaphone into the ear of a distinguished but discomfited JSE representative.

The demonstrations this week are part of a broader Sasco campaign to bring attention to the troubled state of tertiary education in the country. Sasco secretary general Blessing Manale says students are targeting business for its support of the so-called traditionally white universities at the expense of the traditionally black institutions; the government for its proposed cuts in university subsidies; and universities and technicians for turning away students who cannot pay fees.

Next week Sasco carries its campaign to the campuses of Afrikaans-language universities -

Stellenbosch, University of the Free State, Rand Afrikaans University and University of Potchefstroom.

It is the threat of funding cuts that unites militant students with the likes of Charlton and members of the Committee of University Principals (CUP).

Opponents of the cuts warn that reducing subsidies will force institutions to cut faculty, reduce financial aid, and raise fees. And those likely to suffer the most will be the very disadvantaged students the government says it wants to help.

"If subsidy levels remain where they are now, institutions will be extremely hard pressed," said Jos Grobbelaar, the chief executive officer of CUP. His organization has appealed to Bengu not to go through with the cuts.

Members of Sasco were linked this week to unrest at campuses in Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Northern Province, North-West province and in the Free State. The Johannesburg demonstration was notable for its peaceful atmosphere.

Sasco says it rejects violence, but that the group cannot accept responsibility for the behaviour of frustrated students. They blame police and campus security for escalating tensions.

"The only time we see the rule of the state in higher education is when we see police on the campus of Unisa, on the campus of Turfloop, on the campus of Durban," said Mamabolo.

Demonstrations forced the closure of the University of the North this week. Protesting students barricaded the campus on Tuesday and held administrative staff until late in the evening, when police were called to intervene. Eight students were arrested on Wednesday evening after three policemen were injured, one seriously, by stone-throwing on the campus. Police responded with rubber bullets. University spokesman John Witshire said it was the first time in many years that police had been called in.

Some student organisations are critical of Sasco's tactics. The Azapo affiliated Azanian Students' Congress (Azasco) supports Sasco's demands, but acting president Nelvis Gekema says class boycotts and trashing



Paying protest: Wits students demand an end to subsidy cuts

PHOTOGRAPH: SIDDIQUE DAVIDS

campuses was excessive.

And while the South African Liberal Students' Association Wits branch participated in the Wednesday morning demonstration, members declined to march to the stock exchange, saying Sasco was barking up the wrong tree.

But Sasco has been successful in forcing some institutions to submit to its vaguely worded demands for all students to be registered regardless of their finances. The University of Port Elizabeth has agreed to a morato-

rium on exclusion of students who cannot pay their fees. The University of the Free State followed suit by extending the deadline for students to pay overdue fees to June 30.

Next week student protests will be directed at the Finance Department. Current plans are for a nationwide stay away on March 12, with a student march on Parliament coinciding with the budget vote.

Paradox behind campus cuts



In cutting university subsidies in the current manner, the ANC is reneging on its election promises, argues University of Natal philosophy professor **Daniel Herwitz**

AS an American academic recently arrived from California, I wish to speak out decisively against the funding formula put in place by the Ministry of Education this year.

In the name of redress, the formula redistributes funding away from historically "white" universities to historically "disadvantaged" universities.

I wish to speak out against this because it is self-destructive, which everyone in university life already knows well. All one has to do is witness the student unrest of the past week to know that the new funding formula is having its greatest effect on the very students — black students — it was intended to help.

But what also is at stake is the African National Congress's fundamental vision of itself as a democratically elected government, a government whose fundamental mission should be to represent its constituency, the majority of South Africans who elected it.

It is well-known that the funding formula takes a sizeable percentage of the budget of "white universities" and redistributes these funds to historically "black" or "disadvantaged" universities (we shall have to ask what these terms mean soon enough).

It begs the question: What are the grounds for this redress? What is being restituted? By what argument is a black university (so-called for the moment) awarded something better



(54) M+G 28/2-6/3/97

white one? Black universities owe their existence to the old apartheid state, rather than to white universities.

If one presumes a moral argument about redress according to which white universities owe something on account of their whiteness during those years, then one is failing to distinguish the historical role of a university like the University of the Witwatersrand or the University of Natal (both of which opposed the state) from a university like the University of Pretoria (which did not). To lump these together is racism, the obliteration of the most profound moral differences on the basis of sameness of colour: white colour.

Now what is this white colour which attaches itself so persistently, so indelibly, to Wits, a university which disavowed the politics of racism from the birth of the apartheid state? In persisting with this label, is the education ministry not simply perpetuating the categories of racism which were created by Verwoerd and his gang of bad apples?

First: Wits now has a majority of "black" students, Cape Town has about 50%, Natal about 68%, and the Afrikaans universities have rapidly rising figures. Significant numbers of the best of these students are at these universities (Cape Town, Natal, Wits), rather than at the "disadvantaged" ones. Before you argue, take a closer look at the situation.

Second: all universities are participants in the process of transformation. All of them are working out new ways to accommodate vastly divergent student populations, all are coming to terms with what it means to be educated in a globalised, African world.

Where does the stigma "white university" come into it? Apparently it comes down to the university faculties: the faculties of white universities are essentially white, those of black universities are not. But redress in this case should be confined to issues of firmly applied affirmative action. No funding formula ought thereby to come into it.

At this point a second range of arguments comes into the picture, those about the differential capacities of "white" versus "disadvantaged" universities to find alternative sources of funding. The argument is twofold. First, that "disadvantaged" universities are inferior because of inequalities in the allocation of resources during the days of apartheid. However, the "Bantu" universities were provided with ample university

Feeling the heat: This week saw students and academics in several parts of the country protesting swingeing cuts to subsidies. Among the protestors was Wits vice-chancellor Robert Charlton (left)

resources (compare the grand buildings of University of the Western Cape to the crumbling lecture halls of Wits — but not to Stellenbosch which always had extra funding in the past). And if the library at Wits is superior to that of say, Zululand, that is simply because Wits is a far older university. Should it be punished for that?

The minister of education has spoken of "leveling the playing field" of the universities in the name of total and complete equality (no library should be better than another). But that apparent recipe for "total equality" sounds rather like taking a better rugby team and starting its players until they drop to the level of the less adept teams so that everyone is "equal". Is that a recipe for the institution of mass education and the improvement of South African social life?

Second, the argument is that "white" universities are better equipped to find alternative sources of funding than "disadvantaged" ones. This is of course not an argument about redress but instead about the relative sustainability of different universities in economic hard times.

All South African universities could dramatically improve their fund-raising capacities. But at the moment, it is those universities which the outside world has identified (rightly or wrongly) as "disadvantaged" which are favoured to receive funds.

Switzerland and the Scandinavian countries have been most generous to these universities.

South African corporations have been notoriously tight-fisted in their philanthropic activities and in any case, no company will invest in an institution which it perceives to be unstable. By rendering universities liable, and turning them into investment liabilities, the new education policy has thwarted its own aims.

It is ironic that the burden of pain inflicted by the current policy is being borne by the population of serious and hardworking black students whose careers at Natal, Wits and the like are endangered on account of it.

A student came into my office a week ago wanting me to write him a letter of recommendation for a menial job, so that he could earn money to continue his third year of university. He is among the best philosophy students in our programme. He is lucid, dignified and highly reflective. If there ever were a person needed by a society in transition — a society requiring new modes of thinking and the supple intelligence of the young to do it — it is he. If the policy is breaking his back, it is breaking the back of the nation. South Africa, like any society, must replicate itself with young people who have the audacity and the quickness to think new thoughts. To lose this student is to lose nothing less than this precious feature of life.

This is truly a loss of standards. It is not the presence of this student at the University of Natal that we fear: it is his loss, a loss which the ANC is bringing about with complete authority. Having recognised that the policy will produce such results, the ministry of education is now trying to raise more scholarship funds for "black" students. Yet it is doing so in a way that will preserve the underlying formula for redress intact, and merely supplement it for "blacks".

The politics of tribalistic cronyism, as opposed to those of representative government, is the real issue

The illogic of this is complete: having engendered a situation of educational atrophy and cronyism, the government will throw a bone to those of the required tribe who are losing out. But this titbit will not prevent overall decline of the university. My student's need for a good education is hardly served by a sinking ship. The across-the-board cuts in educational funding will exacerbate this decline.

It is the politics of tribalistic cronyism, as opposed to those of representative government, which is the real issue here. Indeed one suspects that the policy of redress is simply a code for getting black faculties on the gravy train. The inherent cronyism repeats the political tribalism of the National Party. Except that the ANC was elected not by a tribe but by a broad constituency to

which it is accountable. Call it a "majority".

This is where the ANC contradicts itself. There have been in effect two ANCs in existence since the party assumed power, operating according to two narratives. One is a narrative of liberation, of riding the waves of history in the name of all South Africa. According to this narrative, the ANC has acquired legitimacy through its past, its leaders have authority because of what they did 10 years ago (their "role in the struggle"). It is a powerful and a unifying image.

But there is another, ultimately far more just narrative, which is the narrative of a popularly elected government, which owes its existence to "the people" who voted it into power.

While the struggle lends moral authority to those who risked their lives for it, it has nothing to do with the politics of representative government. What matters now is not what the ANC did in the past, but what it is doing at the moment, whether and how it responds to the needs of South African citizens.

Let me paint a nightmare scenario: black students will have less and less access to universities of quality. The quality of all universities will decline because of the cycle of deterioration I have described. All those who can afford it will go abroad, adding to the brain drain from the country. A kind of Brazilianisation of the country will take place, with increased anomie, lack of access to middle-class life, violence, redistribution. Not a pleasant scenario.

But decline in the quality of a nation's universities inevitably is accompanied by a general decline in the nation itself. Let the ANC realise that its incoherent politics of redress is a failure to address the broad constituency of South Africans.

The ANC has been remarkable for its refusal to give in to the politics of resentment, politics which never produce anything worthwhile. Let them quickly redress the current lapse from this remarkable moral success.

Daniel Herwitz came to South Africa from Los Angeles. He is professor and head of the Department of Philosophy at the University of Natal, Durban.

By GEORGE MAHABEER

Lawyer to let campus rats out of the bag

Durban-Westville commission member
fights back after spy accusations

(54) ST 2/3/97

A PROMINENT lawyer will drop a bombshell in the Durban High Court this week as she quits a commission of inquiry into the turmoil at the University of Durban-Westville.

The lawyer, Linda Zama, is accused of suggesting in a meeting with the Minister of Education, Professor Sibusiso Bengu, that intelligence agents be brought on to the campus to monitor staff and students.

Yesterday Zama said she would recuse herself from the commission when she appeared in court on Wednesday and would make some startling disclosures about the university.

"I am working on my affidavit this weekend and ... it will contain some shocking revelations. I have had death threats, my two dogs disappeared and my car was damaged and obscene slogans were written all over it," she said.

University staff and students have applied to the Durban High Court to interdict Zama, a commission member, from disclosing information in connection with the inquiry.

In court papers it is alleged Zama's participation in the Bengu meeting broke rules which prohibit commission members from disclosing its findings which have not yet been handed to President Nelson Mandela. He appointed the commission in May last year to investigate the turmoil unleashed as the university transformed from a predominantly Indian campus to one with a majority of black students.

Students and staff learned of Zama's suggestion this week when they were leaked the minutes of the "secret meeting" between her, Bengu and others. There have previously been reports that the National Intelligence Service was operating on the campus.

The university's acting rector, Dr Marcus Balintulo, and council member Professor Mervyn Shear admitted they also attended the meeting.

However, they and Zama said the leaked minutes did not accurately reflect what had been said.

Several students and staff have refused to give evidence before the commission, objecting to the appointment of Zama and Professor Jerry Coovadia, a Durban activist and medical lecturer, who they say are linked to the ANC.

They also informed the commission chairman, Advocate Johan Gautschi, that they would not give evidence because the inquiry was to be held in secret and cross-examination of persons who made allegations was not allowed.

Since 1993, various constituencies at the university have been calling on the government to appoint a judicial commission to investigate the problem-racked campus.

In an affidavit filed in court, the chairman of the Combined Staff Association, Preadeepkumar

Banwari, said the commission had become aware of an "apparent hostility by Zama towards academics who were Comsa office bearers. But they had had no proof before receiving the leaked minutes on Wednesday last week.

Zama allegedly told Bengu "the security aspect is worrying ... there appears to be greater loyalty of some staff members to the union (Comsa), than the university. There are some sinister forces that are operating, which may mean that part of the solution will have to focus on an intelligence network."

Banwari said it was clear Zama had suggested an infiltration and intelligence network to monitor Comsa members.

In his application, the president of the students' representative council, Justice Samson Mthimunye, said his belief that Zama was "biased, prejudiced and could not function as an impartial and appropriate member of the commission" had been vindicated.

But Zama said the court action was designed to discredit the commission and water down its

recommendations so that some people could continue playing a destructive role on the campus.

"Also it is very important to know that the situation is so serious at the varsity that certain people have access to the highest government departments, they can leak documents that are constructed by them in order to disinform the public.

"It should be known that this is a designed pattern of destabilisation and disinformation which should be investigated at the highest level. Universities should not be properties for political organisations, even the ruling party," said Zama.

However, academics who asked not to be identified, said the problems at the campus were not related to party politics.

They said although the campus was dominated by ANC supporters, there were also PAC, Inkatha and Azapo supporters.

They blamed the chaos on a few individuals with strong personalities who were manipulating the varsity community.

Radical affirmative action policies were responsible for some of the problems, they said.

By CHRIS HLONGWA

THE fourth-floor council chambers at the University of Zululand on Friday was the scene of one of the longest, most dramatic hearings in the Public Protector's inquiry into the country's worst academic scandal.

On the walls, pictures of university luminaries, including the chancellor, Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi, looked on as the commission probed the validity of a postgraduate diploma awarded to a former student.

At stake was the senior education diploma awarded to Barbara Them-bisile Sishi. She graduated in April 1994 - but the dean of the faculty learnt she had dismally failed the exam in educational psychology - a course required for her diploma.

Her lecturer had awarded her a courtesy mark of 1 percent.

As she sat dejectedly beside her lawyer, Sipho Nxumalo - who expressed shock at hearing that anyone could get only one percent - Sishi listened as evidence was led that she had first graduated and later had sat for an oral exam that post facto regularised her graduation.

"It's the first time I have ever heard of such a thing happening," fumed her former lecturer, JD Adams - who blamed the head of the department and other university authorities for "raising the student's hopes".

Adams said Sishi, - who had previously failed the course - had "written right off the point". A senior professor of the Umlazi

Things have come to a pretty pass!

(54) CP 2/3/97

campus, Professor Giovanni Urbani - a colourful witness who claimed to hold a South African record for producing the most students with doctorates - was among the officials who had examined Sishi orally.

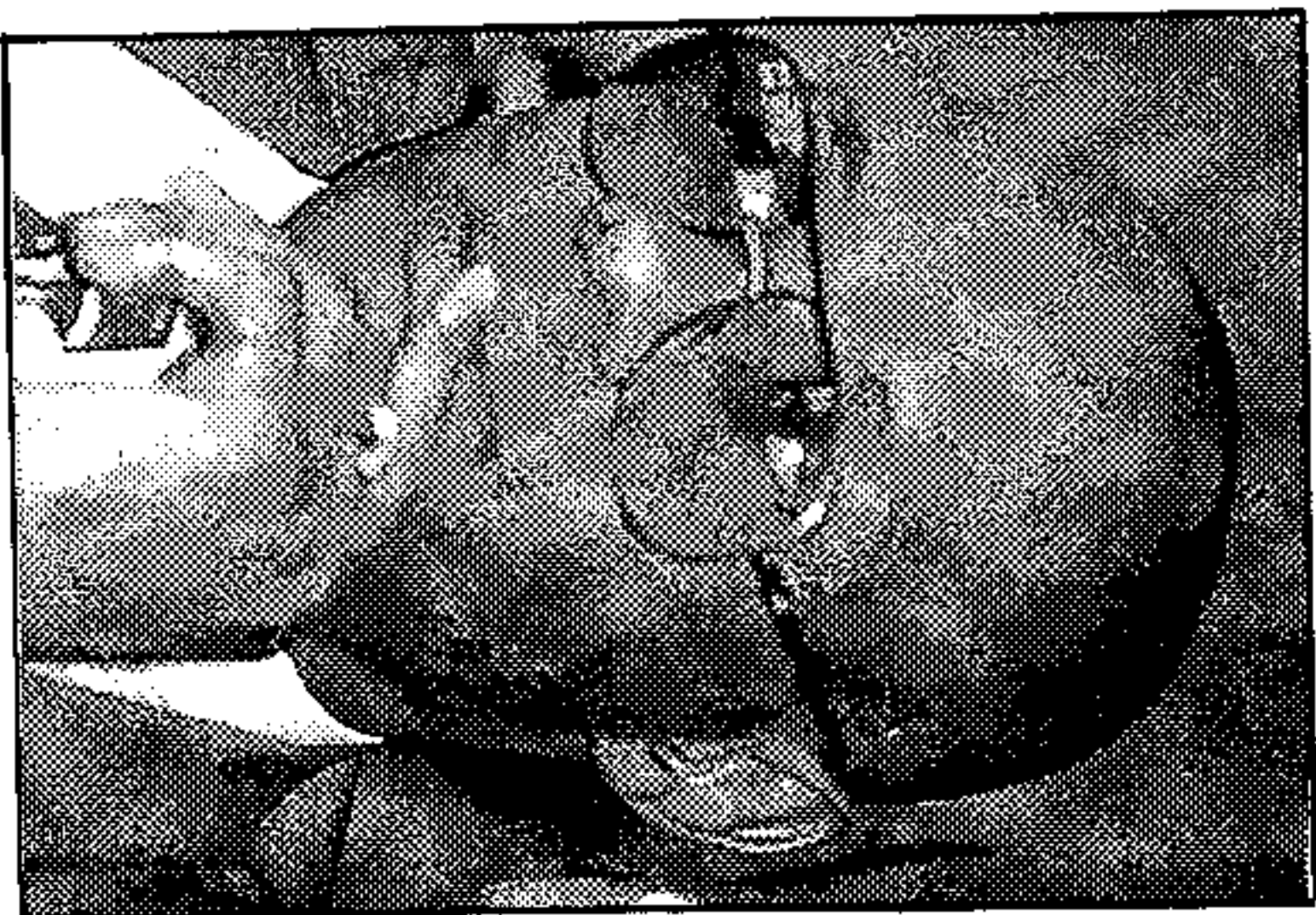
He said he had not known she had already graduated when she took the oral exam.

"That was highly irregular - and that could only happen at the main campus," he said, causing rare laughter at the solemn sessions.

The Public Protector, Advocate Selby Bagwa, found that the pass mark of 58 percent Sishi got for the oral exam was not the matter the commission had to make a finding on. The question was whether she had graduated without passing the required course.

The diploma had been improperly awarded, the commission found. It recommended that she be stripped of it.

□ An angry Sishi later told City Press she was taking the matter to the high court.



SHOCK UPON SHOCK... Public Protector Selby Bagwa, who is leading the probe into fake degrees.

The case, one among several huddled in the fake degree scandal being probed by the commission, was

one of the most dramatic this week.

□ Earlier, the Public Protector recommended that the acting head of the department of African languages, Nonhlanhla Mkhulisi, face an immediate disciplinary hearing by the university - and referred the case to the KwaZulu-Natal attorney general for possible prosecution.

Baqwa found it most reprehensible that a person of such responsibility could act fraudulently and falsify documents.

Mkhulisi is said to have passed a student who had not registered for two courses in which she was passed by the acting head.

The student, Lungile Jiyane, was stripped by the commission of the BA degree she had obtained.

She had been given a pass mark of 58 percent. The course lecturer, Sibongile Koloti, said it was impossible for her to have passed without attending the lectures.

□ Other prominent people who appeared this week included a stocky and vociferous magistrate from

Scottsburg on the south coast - who was stripped of the credits for Afrikaans courses he had not written.

Magistrate Tobias Mathabela said: "I am a Latin man and did not do Afrikaans even in matric!"

He said he did not know how he got a pass for two courses he said he had not done.

He said he did not know why, as records showed, Alson Ngubane - the faculty officer facing fraud charges in connection with the degree scam - had given him pass marks of 55 percent and 53 percent for the subjects.

He agreed with the commission to have the courses expunged from his academic record as he was not entitled to them.

"I'm an English man, not Afrikaans," he said. And he did not need the courses for his B Juris and LLB degrees.

□ A Pinetown lawyer made a long and spirited claim that he had passed a Latin exam. Oscar Nzimande's academic record showed he had passed a Latin course - but the rector, Professor Charles Dlamini, questioned this, as Nzimande had not registered for the course.

Pitted against his former student, the busy rector seemed impatient with what he seemingly saw as a cut and dried case. He said it would be the first time a student at the university had cancelled a course and immediately reinstated it, as the former law student and attorney testified.

Dlamini said it was possible someone had manipulated the records.

The commission found that he had not passed the course and recommended that he be stripped of it.

After the hearing Nzimande said it was not the end of the matter - but would not say what steps he would take.

Student action to go ahead in spite of bigger grants

(54) Star 1/3/97
By LEE-ANN ALFREDS

The SA Students' Congress (Sasco) will not call off its mass action despite Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu's announcement yesterday that more money will be allocated to tertiary institutions than previously thought.

Bengu's announcement at the launch of the Culture of Learning and Teaching in Alice, Eastern Cape, came in the wake of a recent wave of increasingly violent student unrest, spearheaded by Sasco, at tertiary institutions around the country.

The universities of the North and of the North West were forced to close and several other institutions, including the University of Pretoria, were forced to call in police after students embarked on illegal protest action in the past couple of weeks.

Bengu, who had been under increased pressure to resolve the problem, announced yesterday that a "new funding level" for universities and technikons had been decided.

Although he did not comment on what it entailed, Bengu promised "it improves upon the provisional guideline amount announced to the institutions in December".

Exact figures will be released on Budget day, but institutions would also be given advance notice of their subsidies, he said.

Protests curb cuts, but it's not over

By BETH GLENN

(54)

A WEEK of student protests and demonstrations paid off yesterday when Minister of Education, Sibiso Bengu announced that there would be no cuts in subsidies to tertiary education.

"I am glad to announce, with the blessing of the Minister of Finance, that the total sum available for the National Student Financial Aid scheme, together with generous grants from external partners, will not be less than in 1996," he told the newly-launched Council of Learning and Teaching at Fort Hare University. "In fact, we are hopeful that it will be more."

Bengu said he sympathised with student protestors and their legitimate concerns, but condemned the violence and conflict some of their methods generated - a message in line with that of the ANC.

The announcement was an obvious victory for the South African Students' Congress (Sasco), the most visible organization in student

demonstrations this week.

"To all our comrades . . . who said Sasco was dead, we are here to send the message that they must rethink that position," said Jacob Mamabolo, provincial president of Sasco, as he addressed over 1 000 supporters during Thursday's march to the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

The marchers delivered a proclamation to JSE president Bill Urman and Gauteng finance MEC Jabu Moleketi, which outlined their concerns with government and big business policies:

□ Sasco claimed students were not consulted in the formation of the new economic plan which recommended steep education cuts. They further alleged no progressive groups representing workers were included in the planning. They urged the government to reopen discussion on the economic plan, involve all stakeholders, and reconsider cuts in education and social programmes.

□ The statement further called on business to redirect its funding to institutions and students with the most

acute needs instead of funding those who have historically enjoyed access to funds. The students claim businesses' funding policies exclude poor students from higher education and put historically disadvantaged institutions at risk of closure.

Though Sasco members made up the bulk of the marchers, they were for the first time joined by a coalition of Wits university professors, staff and students united to lobby education, finance and business officials - even Wits vice-chancellor Robert Charlton was picketing alongside students on Jan Smuts avenue on Wednesday morning.

Though the tertiary education cuts will not go into effect, many at Wits say the battle is not over, since the government's policies extend into other social spending areas.

The root of the problems, say the protestors, is the government's Growth, Economic and Redistribution program (GEAR). They say its focus on cutting the deficit has led to a dangerous tendency to ignore social spending in areas like housing, health care and education. As a re-

sult, Wits was facing subsidy cuts that could have totalled R30-million - cuts that would have led to retrenchment of professors, privatisation of staff jobs and reduction in bursaries for disadvantaged students.

"Such cuts go right to the heart of transformation - a process we've only really just started," said law professor Shadrack Gutto, who was one of the picketers.

Dan Motaung, speaking at the pre-march rally on behalf of the National Health and Allied Workers' Union (Nehawu), agreed that the cuts would have narrowed access to education along class lines.

"These cuts are going to make it virtually impossible for members of the working class to provide their children with higher education."

But in challenging business interests and GEAR, university groups are forcing a national rethinking of the role of the state in education. They say that for the nation to transform, both business and the state should treat education as an investment in the future.

Students to march in spite of aid promises

Pearl Sebolao

(54) 20 4/3/97

TERTIARY students plan to go ahead with their mass action campaign despite Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu's announcement at the weekend that planned subsidy cuts would not be as severe as expected and that R300m would be made available for student aid this year.

SA Students' Congress national deputy president Kgomotso Diseko said the protest march to Parliament in Cape Town and the stayaway by students planned for budget day next Wednesday was still on.

In KwaZulu-Natal the spotlight would fall on the University of Natal where the university management had made it clear it was not prepared to negotiate any further with students, Diseko said.

Diseko said the congress was taking Bengu's announcement "with a pinch of salt" because subsidy cuts were the finance ministry's domain and not his and therefore his comments could not be official. "We are still waiting for a formal response from the finance ministry," he said.

The announcement was a political attempt to confuse congress members and dissuade them from planned mass action on March 12, he said.

Funds allocated for financial aid were the same as last year and did not meet students' needs, Diseko said. The allocation did not take into account increased inflation, increased student fees and the increasing student population.

University of Natal student representative council president Sam Thobakgale said the financial aid crisis would be partly resolved but there would still be a shortfall. He said institutions were responsible for ensuring that returning students got funding. The council was proposing that tertiary institutions used money from their reserves and borrowed from private financial institutions if necessary to create financial assistance.

University staff cautioned

Farouk Chothia

BO 7/13/97 (54)

DURBAN — Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu yesterday warned staff members at Durban-Westville University that he would not allow them to "destroy" the institution, following their decision earlier this week to embark on a new mass action campaign to demand the resignation of the university's acting vice-chancellor, Marcus Balintulo.

Bengu said that his determination to get to the root of problems at the university had been strengthened, and only those who had "something to hide (would) resist" the government-appointed commission of inquiry into conflict on the campus.

Combined staff association chairman Preadeepkumar Banwari and students' representative council president Justice Mthimunye were among nine former and present staff members and students who made an unsuccessful bid in the Durban High Court earlier this week to scupper the commission's work.

Bengu said elements within the association, having failed in court, had shifted their focus to Balintulo. They were harassing him and were resorting to threats, intimidation and slander, Bengu said.

Meanwhile, the association's attorney, Jay Surju, said his clients, who included Banwari and sociologist Ashwin Desai, would not heed subpoenas to appear before the commission because they viewed the commission as "illegitimate" and had the "real fear and perception that either one or more of commissioners are biased". The commission said there was prima facie evidence against Banwari and his colleagues, implicating them in campus violence.

Student debt at crippling R300m

(54)

R300m

CT 7/3/97

JOHANNESBURG: South Africa's tertiary institutions are owed at least R300m in unpaid tuition fees and loans and the education ministry has warned that the number of students refusing to pay fees is growing.

A canvass of tertiary institutions around the country this week revealed that an estimated R304,5m was owed to 24 of approximately 36 universities and technikons at the end of last year. Education ministry spokesman Mr Lincoln Mali's grim warning yesterday coincided with Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu's announcement of the higher education budget.

It also comes in the wake of a wave of nationwide student unrest spearheaded by the SA Students' Congress (Sasco), which stemmed from proposed subsidy cuts and student demands for increased financial aid.

According to Bengu, R4,886bn is to be allocated to tertiary institutions this year — an increase of about R500m from last year and an improvement of four percentage points on the previously proposed funding level.

In terms of the allocation, universities and technikons will be subsidised at a level of 65,59%, almost three percentage points lower than last year's funding level of 68,1% and more than 25 percentage points down from the 89,1% allocation in 1986.

Bengu also announced that R344,5m would be allocated to the ad hoc fund for rates and other property-related charges; R166m for a redress fund; and R300m was earmarked for the National Student Financial Aid Scheme for disadvantaged students.

Sasco national president Mr Andile Sihlahla said the additional money showed "significant progress" was being made by Bengu in ensuring there was enough money for higher education.

But he reiterated Sasco's intention to go ahead with protests planned for next Wednesday.

Mali said the government had no intention of writing off the debt or securing donations to do so. "Students must accept that those who are not paying are actually bringing these institutions to their knees," he said.

Tertiary education budget raised 11%

Tim Cohen

CAPE TOWN — Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu announced yesterday that the tertiary education budget for 1997/98 would increase 11% or R491m, but denied he had yielded to pressure from students following countrywide campus unrest this year.

Bengu's announcement follows strong protests from academics and students after preliminary figures for sharp cuts to university and technikon budgets were issued late last year.

The subsidies for tertiary institutions for the next financial year would amount to R4,886bn, compared to R4,395bn in 1996/97. Despite this increase, the overall funding level would drop from 68% of the full subsidy to 66%, putting it roughly at the level it was in the 1995/96 financial year.

Bengu said the major reason for the

60 7/3/97
apparent anomaly was that the overall funding level was affected by the total number of students, which had increased. The level also took inflation into account and was affected by staff salaries, which had also increased.

The proposed funding before the recent increase was announced would have led to a funding level of 60%, which suggests recent lobbying by Bengu had led to an extremely large increase to the budget for tertiary institutions. He did not know whose budget had been trimmed to provide for universities and technikons.

The increases were not in any way related to the recent campus protests, he said, which was demonstrated by the fact that campus unrest was probably greater last year despite the proposals for large budget cuts this year.

"We carry a heavy burden to justify this huge investment of public funds,"

Bengu said. (54)

The national education department had to sustain the sector but had to confront "inefficiency, corruption, damage to valuable property, nonpayment of fees and other luxuries we have come to associate with higher education". He also announced additional funds had been made available, including R344,5m for rates and property-related charges by universities.

Government had secured R166m in development assistance from external funding agencies to fund redress programmes in universities and technikons and would contribute R200m towards the national student financial aid scheme. An additional R100m would be contributed to the scheme by external donor agencies, mainly the European Union, in the coming year, bringing the funding level of the fund to about the same level it was last year.

Big boost for universities, technikons

Rationalisation programme could lead to the closing down of some institutions

Sowetan 7/3/97 (54)

By Rafiq Rohan
Political Correspondent

UNIVERSITIES and technikons are to get bigger subsidies in the coming financial year, Education Minister Mr Sibusiso Bengu announced in Parliament yesterday.

Subsidy payments to these institutions would be R491 million bigger than the 1996-97 figure, translating into an overall national average subsidy level of 65,59 percent, Bengu told a media briefing in Cape Town.

Universities and technikons will now receive R4,886 billion in subsidies in 1997-98 compared with R4,395 billion in 1996-97.

The announcement is likely to quell the highly volatile situation on campuses throughout the country. However, the increased subsidy scheme is not a result of buckling under student pressure and protests, Bengu said.

He announced that the Government had secured R166 million from foreign funders and an additional R100 million would come from Government coffers towards the National Student Financial Aid Scheme.

Bengu praised the efforts made by for-

ign donors to South Africa's higher education system.

"The total of these sums is R5,697 billion, which will be available to the university and technikon sector in one form or another in the coming financial year. Most of the money comes from the European Union," he said.

Bengu said principals were "notified confidentially" this week of the new funding because it comes ahead of next week's Budget by Minister of Finance Mr Trevor Manuel.

He also announced a rationalisation programme for institutions of higher learning which will soon come into effect.

Although he was reluctant to be specific, the rationalisation programme could lead to the closing down of some universities.

It could also mean the merging of some institutions as a cost-cutting measure.

He suggested that the University of Transkei and the University of Fort Hare could merge into one university where they could "share resources and professors and reduce costs".

Bengu did not specify which universities would be subjected to subsidy cuts but pointed to "five special cases that belonged to the former homelands".

Court ruling fails to quell campus row

(54) MGT 7-13/97

Ann Eveleth

THE Durban High Court ruled this week that President Nelson Mandela has the right, if he chooses, to appoint biased and partial commissions of inquiry, and that citizens have no legal recourse to oppose them.

The ruling by Judge Ron McLaren followed the leak of documents from a secret October 1996 meeting between Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu, four members of the University of Durban-Westville (UDW) council and Durban attorney Linda Zama. Zama is a member of the commission of inquiry appointed last May to investigate unrest on the UDW campus.

The documents, described by the court as "aides-memoires", suggested that the participants planned to use the recent problems at the university to justify ministerial involvement in the appointment of a new vice-chancellor. They also mention establishing an "intelligence network" on the campus.

UDW's Combined Staff Association (Comsa) and nine other individuals, including six Comsa members and three students, had gone to court seeking an interdict to prevent Zama from participating in the commission, arguing that her participation in the meeting was "unlawful" and suggested her role in the commission was not impartial.

But delivering judgment after a tense day of argument, Judge McLaren dismissed the application with costs, saying the court "has no power to interfere with the composition of the commission or to grant the relief sought by the applicants".

Judge McLaren said in his judgment that "it is the prerogative of the state president to decide who to appoint to a commission ... If the commission is comprised of non-impartial members, it is the status of the commission which will suffer."

Observers said the judgment was likely to cause renewed conflict on campus after six months of calm.

Comsa's counsel Archie Findlay, SC, argued that the interim Constitution — applicable — when the commission was formed in May 1996 — assured citizens a right to "lawful and fair administrative action" against the absolute nature of presidential prerogative held by previous governments.

But the court heard that Deputy President Thabo Mbeki, who in Mandela's absence had signed the proclamation appointing the UDW commission, had invoked the 1947 Commissions Act.

The act enshrined presidential prerogative with respect to the operation of the commission and its terms of reference. Only the office of the president could determine whether such a commission was bound by the Constitution or other rights.

Quoting historical cases, Zama's counsel, Malcolm Wallis, SC, said the nature of presidential commissions of inquiry was such that they were not legally binding judicial bodies, and that the constitutional protections demanded by Comsa did not apply to their operation. The commission was "merely an advisory body to the executive" and its func-

tions were therefore not open to judicial review.

Judge McLaren further accepted Wallis's contention that Comsa and its fellow applicants had failed to prove that their application was "urgent", or that Zama's conduct, or the contents of the secret meeting, were "sinister" or in any way compromised the work of the commission.

"[Zama] gave unchallenged evidence that she told [Bengu] she did not want to discuss the manner in which the commission does its work ... she said I deny that I have a pre-determined policy, perception and agenda with respect to the university ... My involvement at UDW and in the commission is dispassionate and professional," Judge McLaren said.

The judge added that even if he did have the power to grant relief in terms of the application, he "would not exercise that power in [the applicants'] favour".

Describing the application as "ill-founded", he suggested that Comsa should give evidence to the commission in terms of subpoenas issued to several of the applicants the commission has accused of criminal and/or disciplinary offences.

Comsa has boycotted the commission since its inception and within weeks of the commission's appointment sent letters to commission chair Johann Gautschi and Mandela alleging Zama and co-commissioner Jerry Coovadia could not be impartial.

Responding to the court ruling, Comsa said: "While the Constitution of South Africa gives us certain rights and protections, the court refused to help us ... The struggle to keep political interference out of education has begun."

But Bengu this week blamed "a small element" of people for trying to dislodge the commission and said this was "because they have something to hide". He denied the meeting had been "secret" and claimed the minute-taker had been "creative" in his record of the proceedings.

UDW vice-rector Pitika Ntuli said it was ironic that the campus had been the "most united in its entire career"

in the week preceding the exposure of the secret meeting.

"Then the document hit our desks with the suggestion of the possibility of the creation of a network of spies, with serious questions for academic freedom. To even suggest such a thing raises a spectre we have just emerged from in the dark days of apartheid. After months of building a united front between students, Comsa and management, that document has come like a bolt from hell's kitchen, barbecuing

our hopes for this campus."

University of Natal constitutional law professor Kathie Govender, who is also a member of the Human Rights Commission, said the courts had been divided on the issue of presidential prerogative in the post-1994 era, with two judges coming to opposing conclusions in separate cases.

"What one is saying is there is an area of executive competence which is beyond the Constitution," she said. "I'd have been safer with a ruling that says the court does have jurisdiction to constrain the president's actions."



The minute-taker had been 'creative' in his recording of the proceedings, says Sibusiso Bengu

Varsities reel from bad debts

Sowetan 7/3/97
(54)
By Victor Mecoamere

FOUR universities are owed about R20,3 million in outstanding tuition fees and most of the 16 universities in South Africa are struggling because of the Government's subsidy cuts.

Stellenbosch University is currently owed about R10 million, Free State University R7 million, Port Elizabeth R2,3 million, and the University of South Africa R1 million.

Free State University publicist Ms Hettie Human told *Sowetan* yesterday that the institution had been given R17 million less than it received in 1996.

"However, we took expectations of subsidy cuts into consideration when compiling the budget for 1997 and the shortage on budget now is just over R10 million," said Human. She added that the university had written off R425 000 in bad debts.

Stellenbosch University spokesman Mr Hans Oosthuyzen said yesterday that the rate of repayment stood at 85 percent although "unpaid debts have led to temporary cash flow problems."

Oosthuyzen said the university could not write off their debts because this would lead to "serious deficits".

At least 1 046 students were indebted to the University of Port Elizabeth, finance registrar Mr Hannes Jacobs said, adding that many of them would not be able to graduate without paying their outstanding fees in full.

Fees owed

University of South Africa media relations office Ms Doreen Gough said students who owed fees were not being allowed to re-register. New students who registered for only one course are expected to pay in full.

The university that is owed the most money is the University of the North (Turfloop). The institution has R54 million outstanding in unpaid debts.

Turfloop closed its doors because of violent student demonstrations about two weeks ago. It has since reopened.

How to reach Sowetan ...

Johannesburg (011) 471-4000

Pretoria (012) 325-6213

Pietersburg (0152) 291-5876

Durban (031) 309-1341

Cape Town (021) 403-2756

E-mail: swtnedit@swt.argus.co.za

Work-for-fees plan could help needy varsity students

(54) ARG 8/3/97
ADAM COOKE
OWN CORRESPONDENT

Johannesburg – Higher education fundis have welcomed a proposal recently proposed by American specialists in South Africa that seeks to provide students with funding for studies in return for community work.

In a whirlwind tour of South Africa, including meetings with the welfare ministry and prominent education specialists, American law professor and a former official in President Bill Clinton's administration, Peter Edelman, has been spreading the idea of Americorps.

The programme, which has been successfully running in the United States for three years, has 25 000 "volunteers" in that country, outstripping the rather better-known American Peace Corps which has about 7 000 volunteers.

Dean of students at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, Ron Carter, said he was very excited about the programme after having discussions with Mr Edelman and that the programme should and would be further explored.

"It could help ease some of the tensions of funding at tertiary education. It would also help students to invest in themselves," he said.

The Americorp programme takes students who do not have the financial means to study at tertiary level and places them in community and developmental projects.

In return, "volunteers" are paid a small monthly amount and given US\$5 000 (about R22 250) on completing one year's work. The money has to go on education whether for graduate studies or technical training.

Students volunteer for the programmes which are run by non-profit organisations in various areas, including building and teaching in schools, maintaining low cost housing, helping with community policing and environmental programmes.

But Mr Edelman emphasised that this was neither a substitute for a financial aid scheme, nor could it be done by government alone – private investment, he said, was crucial to activate the programme.

Past vice-chancellor of the University of Cape Town, Stuart Saunders, said after meeting Mr Edelman that there was a need to investigate fully its implications.

"In the US it uses a lot of federal funds. It costs a lot and really needs more detail," Dr Saunders said.

Where did the money go? — student body under fire

Matie demand probe of national council

PIETER MALANI
STAFF REPORTER

The most representative student body in the country has been rocked by allegations of serious financial mismanagement, totalling thousands of rands.

The Stellenbosch University SRC this week suspended its membership of the SA Universities' Student Representative Council (SAU-SRC) after the national body failed to produce independent audited financial statements for the past two years.

Matie SRC chairwoman Nadine Fourie wrote to Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu this week, expressing concern at the organisation's lack of financial accountability. She asked him to initiate an investigation into the matter.

She said the SAU-SRC had failed, after repeated requests, to provide independently audited financial statements. "In the

light of the fact that public monies, in the form of contributions by the Committee of University Principals (CUP), have been used, we have been forced to reconsider our position in this organisation."

Student sources said the CUP donated R10 000 to the organisation this year. Each of the 22 universities who were members of the SAU-SRC also paid affiliation fees of R2 500 each — a total of R55 000.

Sources said that after the institution ran out of money about 18 months ago each affiliate was expected to pay an additional R2 500 to help pull the body out of the red.

As this money was also not enough, a proposal was tabled that each university student pay 50 cents to fund the body.

Ms Fourie said it would be difficult to persuade her constituency of the necessity for this payment if the SAU-SRC could not show what it had done with their money paid until now.

Student sources close to the council said

(54) its bookkeeping measures were woefully inadequate. Most of the organisation's receipts and other financial documents were, until recently, kept in a shoe box.

This box had been forgotten in Stellenbosch after a national congress held at the beginning of last year and was only recently handed over to the organisation's new treasurer, University of the Western Cape student Bridget Mohlala.

It is understood that the SAU-SRC also owed Stellenbosch University R7 000 in accommodation and other fees after its national conference was held in Stellenbosch last year. This amount had been much higher, but the Matie SRC managed to get some of it back after threatening the council with legal action.

Ms Fourie stressed that the Matie SRC had only suspended its membership until audited financial statements were produced. "We are still committed to national and regional efforts to promote students'

interests and to achieve equity and excellence in higher education."

She said that as the Matie SRC had committed itself to transparency and accountability, it could not be affiliated to a body which did not share this vision.

SAU-SRC secretary-general Bheki Zani denied claims of financial mismanagement, saying the new treasurer, Ms Mohlala, had everything under control and would present audited statements to the council's national meeting shortly.

But Mr Zani admitted that none of the council's previous treasurers had submitted financial statements to its executive council in the past.

Its first treasurer, elected after the council was established in 1994, disappeared without a trace, he said.

Mr Bengu's spokesman, Lincoln Mali, said the ministry was very concerned about the abuse of resources, but would not immediately respond to the claims.

Principal's suspension brings varsity crisis to the boil

BRETT ADKINS

THE suspension of the University of Transkei's principal and vice-chancellor, Professor Alfred Moleah, has lifted the lid on a campus divided by claims of corruption, maladministration and "drinking on the job".

A week that began with the university council suspending Moleah due to his refusal to be accountable to its members, ended with the Minister of Education, Professor Sibusiso Bengu informing the council on Friday that it had no legal standing to do so.

There was a standoff at the gates of the Umtata university late on Friday when Moleah — having received Bengu's statement — tried to return to his office, but was barred from the campus by members of the National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union (Nehawu). On Monday, a disciplinary in-

quiry was launched to investigate Moleah's conduct of university affairs. The council resolved to keep him off campus for the duration of the probe. The move was backed by Nehawu and the SA Student Congress, but was rejected by the students' representative council, the Azanian Student

Convention and the Union of Democratic University Staff Associations. Moleah claimed his suspension was an orchestrated manoeuvre by a "Nehawu-led clique" to resist change and to protect corruption on campus. He said "drinking on the job" was common.

ST 9/3/97

Take over campus, urges vice-chancellor

(54) Star 10/3/97

East London – Eastern Cape Technikon vice-chancellor, Professor Alvern Makepula, has called for security forces to take over the technikon's Butterworth campus following two weeks of protest action by members of the Pan Africanist Student Organisation.

In an advertisement intended for publication today, Makepula outlines the events that led to his call for the regional government to intervene and a further recommendation that the institution be closed "for at least two weeks until certain things are sorted out".

Last week students closed the campus by blocking the entrance with vehicles stolen from the maintenance garage and locked staff in-

side the administration building.

Makepula said the crisis started on February 27 when about 50 students demonstrated on campus to demand additional student housing, the elimination of the R150 late-registration fee and to complain about tardy instructors.

He had agreed to look into their demands and called for a public meeting the following week.

A further crisis occurred when a private security company's contract with the technikon expired. Another security company was temporarily engaged, but was chased off campus, Makepula said.

On March 3 students claiming to represent the students' representative council allegedly hijacked

two cars from the campus. The cars were later used to blockade the campus entrance.

The blockade was broken the next day when police forcibly opened the gates, removed the vehicles and released the hostages. The SRC demanded it have its own cars and that SRC members be allowed to drive the cars themselves.

The Students' General Council said yesterday students wanted Siyabusa Security to continue running the campus security.

SGC publicity secretary Banzi Mkhundlu said the council was against the closure of the institution and believed Makepula was running away from meeting students' demands. – Sapa.

Students could pay fees in social work

BY ADAM COOKE

South African higher education experts have welcomed a proposal to provide students with funding for studies in return for community work.

American law professor Peter Edelman has been spreading the idea of Americorps during a tour of South Africa.

The programme has gained 25 000 "volunteers" in just three years in the United States, outstripping the better-known American Peace Corps which has 7 000 volunteers.

Dean of students at Wits University Dr Ron Carter said the programme should be explored. "It could help ease some of the tensions of funding at tertiary education. It would also help students invest in themselves."

The programme takes cash-strapped students and places them on community and devel-

opmental projects. In return, "volunteers" are paid a small monthly amount and given \$5 000 (R22 257) on completing one year's work. The money has to go on education.

The programmes are run by non-profit organisations in a whole host of areas, including building and teaching in schools, maintaining low-cost housing, helping with community policing and environmental programmes.

Edelman emphasised this was neither a substitute for a financial aid scheme, nor could it be done by government alone - private investment, he said, was crucial to setting the programme in action.

Former vice-chancellor of the University of Cape Town, Dr Stuart Saunders, said there was a need to investigate the proposal. "The US uses a lot of federal funds. It costs a lot of money and it really needs more detail," Saunders said.

ADAM 10/3/97

(54)

Wits braced for slash in subsidies

Kevin O'Grady

(54)
60/11/3/97

WITS University was still expecting a R17m cut in its government subsidy for 1997/98 in spite of last week's assurances by Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu that funding levels would be maintained, a spokesman for 10 Wits student, staff and worker organisations claimed yesterday.

The spokesman said that despite Bengu's comment that institutions would receive 65,59% of the full subsidy, Wits had been told to expect 63%.

The university would now receive R17m less than last year, compared to the R38m cut it was initially told to brace itself for when institutions were told of likely subsidy levels late last year.

Bengu's spokesman Lincoln Mali said he was unable to comment on amounts awarded to individual institutions but reiterated details of Bengu's announcement that the sum set aside for subsidies in tomorrow's Budget would be increased to R4,887bn from last year's R4,395bn.

Institutions' "a-values" — the percentage of the full subsidy received — would drop to 65,59% from last year's 68% because they were affected by student numbers, inflation and salary adjustments.

Meanwhile, Sapa reports SA Students' Congress deputy president Kenny Diseko said the organisation planned to launch a "systematic and uncompromising" strategy to deal with tertiary institutions which excluded students on financial grounds.

Fort Hare closed after protests (54)

Alice — The University of Fort Hare in the Eastern Cape was closed yesterday by vice-chancellor Professor Mbulelo Mzamane who cited disruptive protests against the exclusion of students who had failed to pay fees.

Fort Hare's closure followed that of the University of the North West in Mafikeng, the University of the North near Pietersburg and the University of Zululand in KwaZulu Natal, making it the fourth to close its campus this year. — Sapa.

Star 12/3/97

UWC cuts smack of apartheid era — rector

(54)

ET 13/3/97

CHRIS BATEMAN

AN apartheid-era formula was responsible for the University of the Western Cape (UWC) budget being slashed yesterday by seven times as much as Stellenbosch University — while the University of Cape Town's (UCT) budget was increased by nearly R7 million.

This was UWC rector Professor Cecil Abrahams' interpretation of disparities in yesterday's education budget in which his campus grant was reduced by R22,952m, the Maties' funds slashed by R3,436m and UCT got a cash injection of R6,937m. Abrahams said that the cut meant disadvantaged campuses continued to be punished for taking on poorly prepared high school students.

The same formula meant that UCT and Stellenbosch — with better resources — benefited from financial incentives for getting students through degrees in the shortest time possible.

Abrahams said Education Minister Dr Sibusiso Bengu told him last week that his operating grant would actually be improved by R9m — effectively reducing yesterday's budget cut figure to R14m. Abrahams said Finance Minister Mr Trevor Manuel had been sympathetic, saying it was "difficult to pry money loose from the finance department".

Even if Bengu came up with more subsidy money, UWC would face a deficit of R9,5 million — without budgeting for salary increases. With increases in July, the deficit would soar to R19m.

As chairperson of Historically Black Universities, he spoke for 10 campuses facing similar crises, Abrahams said.

Mr Lincoln Mali, spokesman for Bengu, said the total amount available to universities and technikons was R4,886 billion, compared with R4,395bn last year. The overall subsidy level was 65,59%, compared with 68% last year.

'Marriage' rights for gay couples

Varsities' new deal

HUGH ROBERTON AND JERMAINE CRAIG
STAFF REPORTERS

(54) (54)
ARG 13/3/97

Five of South Africa's leading universities, including the University of Cape Town, have taken the controversial step of recognising gay and lesbian unions by extending full marital benefits to gay and lesbian staff members.

Their decision means that gay and lesbian staff - said to number "several hundred" at the five institutions - will be allowed to register same-sex partners for pension and medical aid benefits and will be entitled to all other benefits granted to married staff.

The other universities involved are the University of the Witwatersrand, Fort Hare, Zululand and Rhodes.

The decision of the universities has implications for all employers, and for insurance companies, pension schemes and medical aid societies.

It follows extensive research and debate on the provision in the new constitution which prohibits discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation.

It also follows decisions at leading universities around the world to extend full marital benefits to gay and lesbian staff and to eliminate discrimination on the

basis of gender and sexual orientation.

South Africa's new constitution is the first in the world to prohibit discrimination against gays and lesbians.

Joy Fish, the deputy registrar at UCT's Human Resources Department, said the university had taken the decision last year after receiving a number of letters from staff involved in long-term same-sex relationships.

"We recognised that we had to find a way of recognising such people (gay partners) as legitimate partners.

"It feels right, like the type of thing UCT would want to do, and is in line with UCT culture," said Ms Fish.

UCT had a provident fund in which staff could name their beneficiaries, she said.

In terms of the university's medical aid fund, trustees would look into cases in which beneficiaries were not named.

"We require that they sign an affidavit that they are in a marriage-like relationship that is intended to be permanent. Having signed the affidavit, the same benefits are available as if the partner is a common-law spouse," said Ms Fish.

A spokeswoman for the National Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Equality said the coalition believed the Labour Relations

Gay couples win 'marriage' rights

From page 1

(54)

Act and the constitution required that all employee benefits were extended to same-sex partners as they would be to heterosexual couples.

Eric Potgieter, an actuary for Old Mutual Actuaries and Consultants, said extending employee benefits to same-sex partners was an issue many companies had not thought about before and had not been challenged on.

In terms of the new constitution, this would now change, he said.

"Many companies have extended benefits to same-sex partners - it is a further step on the road to diversity. To me it is a question of acknowledging the realities of the society we are living in."

He felt it would not have a marked effect on the insurance industry.

"I cannot see any significant financial implications. Companies ... do not have a lot to worry about," said Mr Potgieter.

ARG 13/3/97

The Big Story, page 12

To page 3

Fort Hare hits at reports that it will close for good

(54)

ARGUS CORRESPONDENT

ARG 13/3/97

Johannesburg -
Speculation that the
University of Fort
Hare - shut on
Tuesday because of
severe financial
problems - might
close permanently
was unfounded, a
university spokesman
said today.

Vuyani Green said
reports that the univer-
sity would have to be
closed permanently
because millions were
owed in unpaid fees,
were "blown out of
proportion".

He said the universi-
ty's council would meet
tomorrow to decide
when the institution
would reopen. Fort Hare
has about 5'000 students.

The vice-chancellor,
Mbulelo Mzamane, or-
dered students off the
campus after they re-
negeged on a deal to pay in
instalments.

UWC rector joins students in protest march to Parliament

SABATA MCGAI
EDUCATION REPORTER

AKG 13/3/97 (54)

Some Western Cape university and technikon heads joined hands with students and trade union members who marched to Parliament to protest against budget cuts, as others were criticised for their absence.

Cecil Abrahams, University of the Western Cape rector, and Peninsula Technikon head Brian Figaji, accompanied by staff members, joined yesterday's march along with hundreds of students and members of various trade unions.

The march, led by the SA Students Congress (Sasco) and the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu), called on the Government to allocate the bulk of yesterday's Budget to social services.

Mr Abrahams, who brought greetings from the Historically Disadvantaged Institutions, of which he is chairman, said the marchers were standing at the gates of

Parliament to remind the Government that education was a right for every South African.

Speaking from the back of a lorry used by various speakers, he said cutting government subsidies to tertiary institutions would not help alleviate the plight of students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Of the R40-billion education budget announced yesterday, UWC is getting R145,6-million compared to R182,6-million in the previous financial year.

When the rectors arrived they were greeted with enthusiasm by the students, who had been in front of Parliament for about 20 minutes.

The workers and students shouted slogans criticising University of Cape Town vice-chancellor Mamphele Ramphele, University of Stellenbosch rector Andreas van Wyk and Cape Technikon rector Theo Shippey.

The marchers said the three did not associate themselves with the march.



Sash protest: Black Sash members protest against perceived cuts in welfare and social spending in Finance Minister Trevor Manuel's Budget yesterday

OBEZ ZLWA

17 varsities, technikons seeking 'redress funds'

Nov 13/3/97 (54)

'Government must consider degree of advantage, disadvantage'

By JOVIAL RANTAO
Cape Town

The Historically Disadvantaged Institutions (HDI) Forum, which represents 17 predominantly black tertiary institutions - 10 universities and seven technikons - has asked the Government to provide "redress funds" which would enable them to compete equally with other institutions.

In a presentation during the public hearings on the green paper on higher education, the HDI proposed that when subsidies are allocated to institutions the Government should consider the degree of advantage and disadvantage between institutions.

The HDI also recommended that the Ministry of Education should develop a funding process that would not continue to "privi-

lege the historically advantaged institutions".

University of Western Cape rector Professor Cecil Abrahamse, who tabled the HDI recommendations, said while his forum endorsed the funding formula proposed in the green paper, it was concerned that the paper was silent on a number of key issues such as student fees, student housing and public accountability and limitations on spending.

"The national higher education document and the green paper don't suggest capping the fees institutions may charge students. Given the existing level of inequities, there's a strong need to determine minimum and maximum fees," Abrahamse said.

The HDI recommended that the Ministry of Education should provide policy direction for issues such as student fees and consider

capping fees, taking into account the fields and levels of learning.

The forum felt the green paper suggestion that private funding was to become an increasing source of revenue generation was of little consequence for HDIs.

The forum recommended that the ministry should pay more attention to creating a policy framework which, deliberately and proactively, redirected resources towards HDIs.

"For example, companies would be eligible for a more significant tax break if they invested in HDIs which were located in areas where there was no significant private sector activity."

The forum also recommended that the Education Minister Dr Sibusiso Bengu should review the salaries of academics across the system.

Students must pay or Fort Hare may close permanently

(54)

Bisho - Unless students helped reduce Fort Hare University's R20-million debt, the bankrupt institution would have to close permanently, vice-chancellor Mbulelo Mzamane said today.

He was defending his decision yesterday to close the university two weeks before the Easter vacation.

Students have demanded part payment of their outstanding fees not be a precondition for registration, and that the maximum payment for registration be R1 000.

After students threatened to make the university ungovernable, Mzamane secured a court interdict on Tuesday forcing students to leave the Alice campus and residences.

Speaking at a press conference at Fort Hare's Bisho campus Mzamane said the university had to exceed its usual R5-million overdraft by R25-million just to operate during the first three months of this year.

The university's annual budget counts on receiving R28-million each year in student fees.

"Four thousand students have paid, the rest are piggy-backing, they are not students at all because they are not registered," Mzamane said. - Ecna.



Black Stellenbosch students: 'We feel deliberately marginalised'

PHOTO: RODGER BOSCH

Maties rector 'also got payout'

(54) M+G 14-19/3/97

Marion Edmunds

THE paper trail stemming from secret six-figure payouts to senior staff at Stellenbosch University led to the rector's office this week.

Professor Andreas van Wyk, who until now has kept silent on the payouts, is being challenged on his campus to confirm or deny whether he handed himself a windfall of R160 000. To date, he has declined to take up the offer.

Academics and staff claim Van Wyk received the payment last June, the same month he bought a R400 000 holiday home in Hermanus.

Van Wyk's failure to respond to the charge has done little to assuage anger on the campus, particularly as the administration has warned that lower subsidies will force a 10% cut in the university's staff.

The *Mail & Guardian* revealed in December that five senior administrative staff members, including the two vice-rectors Professors Christo Viljoen and Walter Claassen, received secret payouts of between R127 000 and R200 000 last year. Van Wyk personally authorised the cheques.

The university's council has defended the payouts on the grounds that they were paid to administrative staff in lieu of sabbatical leave that they were unable to take, such were their duties at the university.



Andreas van Wyk: Implicated

The council also said the payments had been endorsed by its remuneration committee and declared them legitimate.

However, the payouts saddled Stellenbosch with the prospect of a hefty fine from the Receiver of Revenue, after the administration allegedly failed to deduct tax, and enraged students and academics.

Van Wyk failed to contain staff dissatisfaction over the payments last month at an emergency meeting. The council has been forced to place the matter on its agenda for a second time for discussion this Monday.

Lobbying ahead of the meeting has already started, with one faction pressing for an independent inquiry into the payments and the other arguing that sinister forces on the campus are attempting to frame Van Wyk in a bid to destroy

the institution. Academics have been giving the *M&G* quotes and then withdrawing them, while savaging each other's reputations in personal correspondence.

Stellenbosch had still to respond to queries from the *M&G* at the time of going to press. The questions were put to the university last week.

Academics and students also feel that the secrecy of the university's executive is blocking the much-needed transformation process on the campus.

The *M&G* understands that a new report to be handed to Van Wyk on its transformation will paint a disturbing picture of where the university has gone wrong.

The report, by John Swanepoel who took over the university's academic development programme earlier this year, is expected to argue that Stellenbosch has succeeded only in maintaining the separation of former disadvantaged communities from the university.

The programme was instituted to provide bridging education for students who could not make initial entrance qualifications at the university, mainly black students who were not proficient in Afrikaans.

However, little more than 1% of the 15 000-strong Stellenbosch student body is black. Many black students told the *M&G* this week that they felt they were being deliberately marginalised, particularly by the university's policy of mainly teaching in Afrikaans.

Bengu's efforts too little too late

Education gets more money but too late to prevent stringent cost-cutting and student unrest, report
Tangeni Amupadhi and Carien du Plessis

THE Ministry of Education may have succeeded in securing more money for tertiary education, but it has come too late to prevent stringent cost-cutting on campuses across the country.

Several universities and technikons contacted by the *Mail & Guardian* this week said that even with the additional government funding, they received far less this year than they had received last year. For many institutions, the new allocation will go straight into operating expenses — paying for staff salaries and building operations. Others said they would use the money to reduce deficits.

Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu's announcement of the increase also failed to quell campus unrest, which has disrupted most of South Africa's so-called black tertiary institutions.

It has been estimated that one student in six has been affected by campus turmoil. Among the hardest hit has been the University of Transkei. The universities of the North, Fort Hare and North West, and the Eastern Cape Technikon, have been closed.

Fort Hare is the latest university to close, due to students protesting against the exclusion of those who fail to pay fees.

Finance Minister Trevor Manuel, in his Budget address on Wednesday, confirmed that tertiary institutions would receive an allocation of R5,4-billion for the 1997/98 fiscal year, representing an average funding level of 65,6% (a percentage of the total subsidy due under a funding formula dating back years).

The figure was 68% last year, but Bengu had warned in December that the initial funding level for 1997/98 was likely to be just 60%, prompting institutions to start planning drastic budget cuts, and students and academics to start planning campus protests.

Even with the increase, most of the budget cuts remain in place — the University of the Witwatersrand, Cape Town, Rhodes, Stellenbosch, Natal and Peninsula Technikon said their subsidy

levels would still only be 63%.

Wits said even with the new allocation, it faced a shortfall of R17-million. There is no reason "to think that further cuts will not be imposed in future national budgets," said Wits representative Peggy Jennings. "We must assume that the latest partial reprieve is likely to be temporary."

University of Cape Town representative Helen Zille said the new subsidy levels were "our worst-case scenario and will impose a very stringent financial regime on the university".

The University of the Western Cape is to receive R9-million more than expected (it had been braced for a R27-million cut), while Stellenbosch is getting R2-million more (after expecting a R24,8-million cut). The extra funds for the University of the Western Cape still amount to a shortfall of R14-million, which will mean that salary increases will be below the level of inflation.

Pentech said that any subsidy level of less than 68% would still hurt, while the University of Pretoria warned that its capacity for a larger intake of students has been limited. The University of Durban-Westville said it was now searching for a longer-term solution to continued funding difficulties.

Bengu attempted to direct much of the increased allocation toward the so-called black institutions. But South African Students' Congress Organisation (Sasco) national president Andile Sihlahla said the money still fell short of the funds necessary to benefit the formerly disadvantaged communities.

The reasons for campus unrest at the moment range from rows about fees — involving Sasco, the Pan African Students' Organisation and various worker organisations — to straightforward attempted management coups, launched by disaffected academics.

The University of the North, which called in the police two weeks ago when student demonstrations turned violent, said this week the campus would reopen on Monday.

But the university, owed R54-million by its students, set preconditions for the reopening, including that there be "no taking of hostages during demonstrations" and "no barricading of exits and entrances to and from campuses".

(54) M+G 14-19/3/97

Tense times for E Cape's troubled campuses

OWN CORRESPONDENT (54)

ARC 15/3/97

East London - Students have been ordered home on two Eastern Cape campuses, while at a third the vice-chancellor has been sent packing.

The troubled state of three of the province's campuses this week follows the launch two weeks ago by Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu of a national campaign to promote professionalism at tertiary institutions and eliminate "corruption, vandalism, incompetence, laziness and mediocrity".

It was also a week in which one of the region's vice-chancellors felt moved to slate students for being elitist and corrupt, as well as berating them for having misplaced notions of entitlement.

Two weeks ago, standing on the hallowed ground of Fort Hare University, Mr Bengu presented his vision for tertiary education to a hall packed with top-echelon politicians and educators, among them deputy president Thabo Mbeki.

Days later the entire campus was empty of students, who were ordered away by a management facing an R18-million debt. The students had protested against being told by the university to pay a portion of their outstanding fees.

On Monday vice-chancellor Mbulelo Mzamane closed the university for two weeks, saying staff would use this time to investigate which students could afford to pay their fees and service their debt, and which were genuinely "needy" students.

At the Eastern Cape Technikon in Butterworth, student corruption and belligerence was slated by rector Alvern Makapela.

Professor Makapela, in a full-page statement in the Daily Dispatch newspaper, said protesting students had seized technikon vehicles and petrol cards, locked up administrative staff and blockaded the campus entrance.

Professor Makapela called for security force help and swiftly obtained an interdict ordering the protesters to remain 500m away from the campus.

Meanwhile, about 150 kilometres up the road, another row has erupted at the University of the Transkei, where principal Alfred Moleah was suspended by the university council pending a disciplinary enquiry into his affairs.

Council chairman De la Rey Mkatshwa said Professor Moleah was being investigated for unilateral staff appointments and tender allocations, and the alleged collapse of his administration.

Soon after his suspension National Health and Allied Workers' Union shop steward Mxoleli Nkuhlu, who had supported Professor Moleah's suspension, was himself suspended by provincial union leaders for irregular media statements.

Professor Moleah said this week that he would not be intimidated by his council and the union.

And in the midst of all the campus chaos came the news that the recent announcement by Mr Bengu of subsidy relief to universities and technikons, as well as more financial aid for students, would only happen in the middle of the year.

Until then the campuses look set to remain a tense political battlefield.

Rector mum on pay scandal

Academics call for independent probe

(54)

PIETER MALAN
STAFF REPORTER

Mattie rector Andreas van Wyk has declined to respond to allegations by academics on the campus of the University of Stellenbosch that he gained from a controversial pay-for-leave scheme uncovered last year.

Saturday Argus revealed in December last year that more than R800 000 worth of accumulated leave was paid out to five senior officials, including the two vice-rectors, without the direct knowledge of the university council. These payments were apparently approved by Professor Van Wyk months before the payment was discussed by the remuneration committee – a sub-committee of the university council, the body with ultimate responsibility over the institution's finances.

Some academics at the university now allege there were indications that Professor Van Wyk received R160 000 in June last year. Some believe the list of people who received payouts could be even longer.

University spokesperson Kobus Visagie refused to confirm or deny the allegations about Professor Van Wyk's or any other payouts, saying the names

of people who had received a payment for accumulated leave were confidential.

Senior academics have now called for an independent investigation into the matter, saying the allegations have not only harmed the university's name, but have also resulted in a crisis of confidence in senior management.

They pointed out that the payouts, totalling almost R1-million, came at a time when the university was tightening its belt.

Until now the university has argued that the payments actually saved it money in the long term.

Council chairman Gys Steyn argued, in the past, that the payments had been made earlier at current remuneration values, instead of what would have been a higher level at the date of retirement.

This week the student newspaper Die Matie wrote in an editorial that the rector's silence in the midst of increasing suspicion was undermining his and the university's reputation.

The paper said an independent inquiry into the circumstances of the payout was required.

Professor in public management and administration, Julius Jeppe, said: "To restore confidence in the university administration there is only one way out of this – the people involved must pay back the

money with interest."

Another senior academic, who requested anonymity, said it was clear that the university council had failed the university by not acting decisively when the matter was first brought to the attention of the council's chairman. At the time Chairman Gys Steyn asked for an auditor's report, the contents of which was discussed at the December council meeting, although ordinary council members were not given copies thereof. Sources said after the discussion the chairman indicated that members could request copies of the report.

It subsequently transpired that only one council member, Nadine Fourie, also chairperson of the student representative council, had asked for a copy.

Academics this week slammed the lackadaisical attitude of the university's senior governing body. One academic told Saturday Argus: "If that is true (that only Ms Fourie asked for the auditor's report) then we have got a pretty useless council."

Dean of the Faculty of Law, James Fourie, said it was incomprehensible why the council had not moved to quell the rumours.

"The defence that it was a confidential matter was not acceptable as the university was financed largely with public money," he said.

RAU 15/3/97

Blackboard war continues in Eastern Cape

BRETT ADKINS

(514) ST 16 13/97

THREE campuses in the former Transkei and Ciskei are in a state of turmoil with two closed

because of ongoing student disruptions and non-payment of fees. Shutting down the cash-strapped University of Fort Hare this week for an "early Easter break", vice-chancellor Professor

Mbulelo Mzamane said the institution could not function "without the restoration of the rule of law and order". The Eastern Cape Technikon campus in Butterworth was also closed

following two weeks of protests during which staff were locked inside a building.

Meanwhile in Umtata, a high court judge will deliver judgement tomorrow in an application to prevent the University of Transkei principal, Professor Alfred Moleah, from returning to the institution pending the outcome of a disciplinary inquiry against him.

Moleah has filed a counter-interdict against the university's council after his suspension amid accusations of corruption and maladministration.

The Education Minister, Professor Sibusiso Bengu, has told the council it had no legal standing to suspend Moleah.

The ANC called on educators and students at all three campuses to resolve the problems. At Fort Hare, Mzamane

said students' failure to pay fees had aggravated the financial crisis at the university.

"The university must face up to the fact that it has become insolvent and will not function without student fees as budgeted for, and the servicing of the huge student debt now standing at nearly R20-million.

"With an overdraft of some R25-million, the university is bankrupt."

Mzamane said about 4 000 students who had already registered were being held hostage by a minority.

The Eastern Cape Technikon vice-chancellor, Alvern Makepula, recommended the campus's closure after PAC students protested to demand additional student housing and the elimination of a R150 late registration fee.

MAALDIVES

EASTER HOLIDAYS

8 DAYS ONLY R3790

Seats available on the 5th April
Relax and unwind in the beautiful unpolluted
Maldiv tropical islands. No cars, no phones,
no computers, no news, no shoes, no...

INCLUDING BREAKFASTS AND DINNERS

Degree scam suspects summoned

Sowetan 18/3/97

(54)

Students must appear to explain changes made in their academic records

By Lulama Luti

ABOUT 60 former University of Zululand students have been summoned to appear before the public protector in connection with qualifications they obtained at the university.

In a notice published in a weekly newspaper on Sunday, public protector Selby Baqwa cites the students' whereabouts as unknown. Those who fail to comply with the subpoenas will be fined up to R40 000 or or sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment or both, says the notice.

According to the notice the subpoenas form part of an investigation into "changes effected" in the academic records of courses that the students undertook at the university.

It follows recent disclosures of a scam at the university in which several academic and administrative officials have been accused of selling degrees.

In terms of the notice the students are to appear at the University of Zululand's council chamber, admin building, at KwaDlangezwa.

The students whose names are cited are: Mr Slaka Mahego, Ms Nonhlanhla Khumalo, Mr

Emmanuel Masondo, Ms Zanele Simelane, Mrs Onnica Mkhwanazi, Mr Graemme Ngcobo, Ms Thulisiwe Ndlovu, Mr Ndabezinhle Mahaye, Mr Busuku Mkhathshwa, Mr Thathezakhe Makfanya, Mr Matthew Mpata, Mr Bongani Mthembu, Ms Irenejoyce Khumalo, Mr Patrick Nkosi, Ms Nonhlanhla Maseko, Mr Cedric Sokhulu, Mr Clement Dube, Ms Nokuphumelela Gobhozi, Ms Hlengiwe Mabaso, Ms Lindiwe Vilakazi, Ms Nomsa Ntshangase, Mrs Angeline Nkabinde, Mr Mduduzi Mkhwanazi, Ms Junerose Mthembu, Mr Douglas Sibisi, Mr Justice Mbaba, Mr Paulus Shabangu, Mr Elliot Nyawo, Mr Nicholas Sibambo and Ms Rachel Mbambo.

Also cited are : Mr Israel Majozi, Mr Jabulani Mbatha, Ms Sibongile Sishi, Ms Nontsasa Nodada, Ms Nomusa Vilakazi, Mr Mpumelelo Twabu, Mr Bhekabantu Mkhwanazi, Ms Compassion Magagula, Mr Peter Dlamini, Mr Bhekuyise Mthembu, Mr Shura Mthlengiwe, Mr Ron Mncwabe, Mr Bhekani Nzuza, Mr Sebastian Ndlovu, Ms Admire Mhlongo, Mr Kenneth Brown, Mr Arnold Shange, Mr Timothy Radebe, Ms Philianna Dlamini, Mr Thulani Ntuli, Ms Lynette Mbatha, Mr Ishmael Noge, Mr Phillip Mkhwanazi, Ms Mary Jane Mkhize, Mr Dumisani Masuku, Mr Mandlakayise Xulu, Mr Emmanuel Mokoka, Mr Esau Madonsela and Mr Vusumuzi Ngema.

ANNE LAING

Standards must remain high ... rector Andreas van Wyk believes the University of Stellenbosch can continue to compete internationally.



Reaching out, but looking inwards, too

(54) Star 12/3/97

Recent protests at cuts in tertiary subsidies have thrust universities into the forefront of the news. In a new series, The Star will ask vice-chancellors and rectors of top universities to outline their vision for the future. First under the spotlight is Stellenbosch

By Winnie Graham

The University of Stellenbosch epitomises all the qualities of the world's best Ivy League universities. The campus is undoubtedly the most beautiful in South Africa, encircled as it is by mountains and vineyards. The oak-lined streets, the Cape Dutch homesteads and the university's impressive buildings give the campus a special charm.

Stellenbosch is an acknowledged centre of excellence and tradition, the environment so patently perfect for studying that senior academics from other universities - including Professor June Sinclair, deputy vice-chancellor of Wits University and Professor J.C. van der Walt, rector of RAU - have sent their sons there.

Yet beautiful as the university is and high as its standards are, not even Stellenbosch has escaped the demands for "transformation", this despite the fact that the university is one of a few not to have been disrupted or trashed by student unrest.

Will it remain untouched or, more importantly, can it manage the growing calls to change? Is Stellenbosch a conservative institution hellbent on protecting Afrikaner elitism or is it contributing to the new order? The questions may appear naive but they are increasingly being asked.

As thousands of young people streamed back to university for the start of the new academic year, the rector of Stellenbosch, Professor Andreas van Wyk, agreed to share his vision for the future. Top of the list of questions was that of language.

Stellenbosch would remain true to its roots and would continue serving the needs of specifically Afrikaans speakers, regardless of colour or creed.

"I would not presume to tell the people in Venda to change their medium of instruction," he said. "They are entitled to a university that serves the majority in their

region. So are the people of this community. Stellenbosch University is the only institution of its kind in an overwhelming Afrikaans area. Its constituency, in fact, is 70% Afrikaans.

"Whites are not the only ones who speak Afrikaans. There are many Afrikaans-speakers in the Cape, including, of course, the coloured community and black people along the Orange River."

He predicts that by the year 2000 half the university's students will be black. Last year, some 17% of the student enrolment of 15 555 was black and the figure this year is expected to be even higher. Between 1985 and 1995 there was a rapid increase when the number of students of colour jumped by 33%. Around 30% of the students are non-Afrikaans.

A third of the post-graduate students are doing their courses in English.

He added: "The language of instruction has certainly not limited the number of non-Afrikaans speakers from registering at the university, and their numbers are growing."

It is the university's policy to try to attract promising young graduates and every effort is being made to recruit good black staff but, as other universities have found, this is not easy.

The rector is aware that his university has been branded as "the nursery that produced the apartheid leaders". Former prime ministers, presidents and politicians such as D.F. Malan, John Vorster, Eben D'onges and Jan Smuts were among those who obtained degrees at Stellenbosch.

"We have every intention of continuing to produce leaders," he said. "Of any colour."

He is wary of the word "transformation", which he sees as a code word for certain student groupings and other parties agitating to take over the universities.

"It won't work," he said. "One needs only look at what happened in Europe in

1968 when rioting students tried to take control. It spelled disaster for the universities."

Nonetheless, he appreciates the value of student input and has adopted an open-door approach with their leaders. He accepts the Students' Representative Council as legitimately representative of the student body and feels there is a place for an even more inclusive institutional forum.

The rector is aware of the difficulties under which disadvantaged students labour and a considerable number of bursaries have been made available to deserving students.

He points out that not all white students have unlimited means. The cost of studying at Stellenbosch ranges between R19 000 and R20 000 a year and a tertiary qualification requires considerable sacrifice by many young people. While some 70% of students have bursaries, others are building up huge debts in their determination to acquire a good education.

"The drop-out rate at this university has fallen by half in recent years," he said.

"In 1993, 443 students gave up their studies. Last year the figure was down to 219. Some 82% of the undergraduates passed. It is apparent that students, especially black and coloured students, are taking their studies increasingly seriously. They know the consequences of affirmative action and accept the importance of being well qualified if they want to find jobs."

He acknowledges that the traditionally white universities have good infrastructures, but dismisses the perception that they are "rich". The bulk of their funding comes from government and students' fees. Money from the private sector is invariably earmarked for specific projects.

"Stellenbosch University has fine buildings and adequate equipment because it was established in 1866 and has had time to acquire them," he said.

A particular weakness in the South African educational system is a source of real concern to the rector. In a recent international survey South African schoolchildren came last in maths and science. As a result, the university is doing what it can to encourage the sciences. Among its projects are special Saturday classes for matric pupils at the local Khayamandi High School. The school produced good results last year.

Community work, in fact, is a vital part of the university's outreach into disadvantaged communities. It operates an array of projects ranging from literacy classes, teacher upgrading, assistance for street children, legal aid clinics, medical clinics and social work. Bridging classes which offer an excellent academic development programme for students who need assistance have become the norm.

Despite these commendable efforts, change is in the air. What is the future of the university? The rector has his own vision.

Ten years down the track, he says, it will be run in an even more businesslike fashion. It must be. With funding constantly being curtailed, it has become imperative for universities to become ultra-efficient.

Professor van Wyk added: "The University of Stellenbosch is playing an important role in the development of South African society. I would like to see Stellenbosch remain one of the top research institutions with an even higher percentage of post-graduate students and, therefore, a very good research staff. We must retain, and improve, our international standing.

"More important, if we want to compete with the rest of the world, we must continue to improve standards. And we must continue to support the process of socio-economic development and growth in South Africa through education, research and community service. I have confidence in our young people as I have in the future of this university. The quality is there."

Fort Hare will open again

THE University of Fort Hare in Eastern Cape will reopen on April 1 on condition that students abide by agreements, including payment of their debts, vice-chancellor Professor Mbulelo Mzamane said.

He said the decision was taken this week at an executive committee meeting of the university's council.

Students who could not afford to make payments would have to be

accompanied by their parents, who would have to provide proof of their inability to pay.

It was recommended that affidavits signed by a commissioner of oaths be presented as proof.

Students with confirmation letters from sponsors had to bring such documentation, but if the letters only covered the 1997 debt and such students had outstanding balances, they would

have to service their debt as agreed.

All students would be required to obtain a fees clearance certificate on April 1.

Residence registration and clearance certificates would also have to be obtained before students were admitted to residences.

"The university is anxious to resume its work and to guarantee rights of students who have paid." - Sapa.

(54)
Lb/le/ae/20/1977
Sawston



WE WANT MORE: Western Cape Director-General Dr Niel Barnard (left) and MECs Leonard Ramatlakane (Roads, Transport and Public Works), Gerald Morkel (Police), Premier Hannes Kriel, Kobus Meiring (Finance), and Ebrahim Rasool (Health and Welfare), yesterday predicted woeful service delivery unless their budget is increased.

PICTURE: ALAN TAYLOR

'Medical schools should fuse post-graduate departments' (54)

CT 20/3/97

CAROL CAMPBELL
HEALTH WRITER

AN independent report suggesting new ways to cut spending in the Western Cape health service has recommended that the medical schools of the universities of Cape Town and Stellenbosch merge their post-graduate departments.

The document, drawn up by a team of British doctors and economists from the King's Fund in London, suggests the undergraduate schools be left to continue training doctors separately.

A possible merger of the two schools has been a major bone of contention in talks between the Groote Schuur, Tygerberg and Red Cross Children's hospitals where doctors and nurses are trained.

The deadlock prompted Health MEC Mr Ebrahim Rasool to get a fresh opinion on ways to balance the health department's books.

Head of the Western Cape health department Dr Tom Sutcliffe dismissed rumours that one of the training hospitals would be privatised — but confirmed ser-

vices would be drastically curtailed.

"There's no room left to cut the health service. There is no fat — we are already on the bone," he said.

Doctors warned that cuts to the health budget meant treatment like renal dialysis, cardiac surgery, neurosurgery and even cancer treatment would no longer be freely available.

Whole wards and departments would close, they said, if the spending cuts continued.

Professor Wynand van der Merwe, associate dean of Stellenbosch University's medical school, said doctors were being forced to "play God" by deciding whom to treat and whom to turn away.

"We are being pushed into a quota system, which means that we can only manage a certain number of patients in some areas. Those who cannot afford private hospital care will be made to suffer the consequences and could die."

Rasool said it was not expedient for him to comment on the British report until the province's budget was finalised.

His spokesman, Mr Logan Wort, said the shift in health spending was to communities that had no health services. Thirty-four new clinics had been built in the Western Cape since the change in government.

The dean of UCT's medical school, Professor J P van Niekerk, said he doubted the British would have a "big bang" solution to the province's health problems.

"We can't afford to carry on the way we have, but looking at our financial picture, I don't see any other way. We (UCT and Stellenbosch) are going to have to work much closer together."

Dr Peter Mitchell, chief medical superintendent at Groote Schuur, said the hospital would have to reduce its beds by 1 000 to cope with the proposed cuts.

A spokesman for Health Minister Dr Nkosazana Zuma said money would be used to build 272 new clinics and open 151 mobile clinics in needy areas this year. Another 236 clinics would be upgraded and R10 billion spent building eight new hospitals and upgrading 217 others, the spokesman said.

UNIVERSITY TURMOIL

SALVAGE THE BEST

(54) FM 21/3/97

During the past month four black universities and a black technikon were so besieged by angry students that they had to close their doors. The oldest of them, Fort Hare, has also just been declared financially bankrupt by its vice-chancellor, Prof Mbulelo Mzamane.

At SA's historically white universities, administrators are clutching their heads, wondering where they can make further savings in the face of a level of government subsidy that does not adequately compensate for cost inflation and rising student numbers.

The worst-hit university, though, is not historically white but caters for black students. Like the distance university Unisa, the University of the Western Cape will suffer a nominal (pre-inflation) reduction in its subsidy.

For years, universities have been described by those who work in them as being in a state of crisis. Indeed, National Commission on Higher Education chairman Dr Jairam Reddy gratefully left his previous job as vice-chancellor of the University of Durban-Westville in 1994, declaring the institution "ungovernable."

Similar feelings had no doubt been entertained by those who summoned him shortly afterwards to the commission's chair. Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu had done a stint as vice-chancellor of Fort Hare — at Alice in the Eastern Cape — while his director-general, Chabani Manganyi, had filled the same position at the University of the North, near Pietersburg. All three of them must have found life a great deal quieter in their Pretoria offices, where angry black students are seldom encountered.

Not that violent student protest has been confined to black universities. During the early Eighties, UCT saw black students pitching tents on the grass outside Jamieson Hall. More recently, those at Wits emulated disgruntled municipal workers by trashing the campus.

Most of the violence is caused by student anxiety about exclusion from university on the grounds of not passing courses or not paying fees. Poverty of secondary schooling and inadequate fi-

nancial support, rather than personal inadequacy, is often to blame. But exclusion means rejection not only by the university but also, probably, by the labour market, which has little room these days for the unskilled. Long-term unemployment is a spectre to drive any young person to violence.

The crisis in which SA's universities

time in a few months. Angry over delayed payments of meal and book allowances, students vandalised the campus and stoned vehicles, retreating only when police used batons and teargas on them.

Nor is the problem confined to Africa. In a 1994 study of higher education, the World Bank declared the sector to be in crisis throughout the world.

The crisis is, however, most acute in developing countries.

The reason is plain enough. There are too many university students relative to the funds available to educate and support them during their studies.

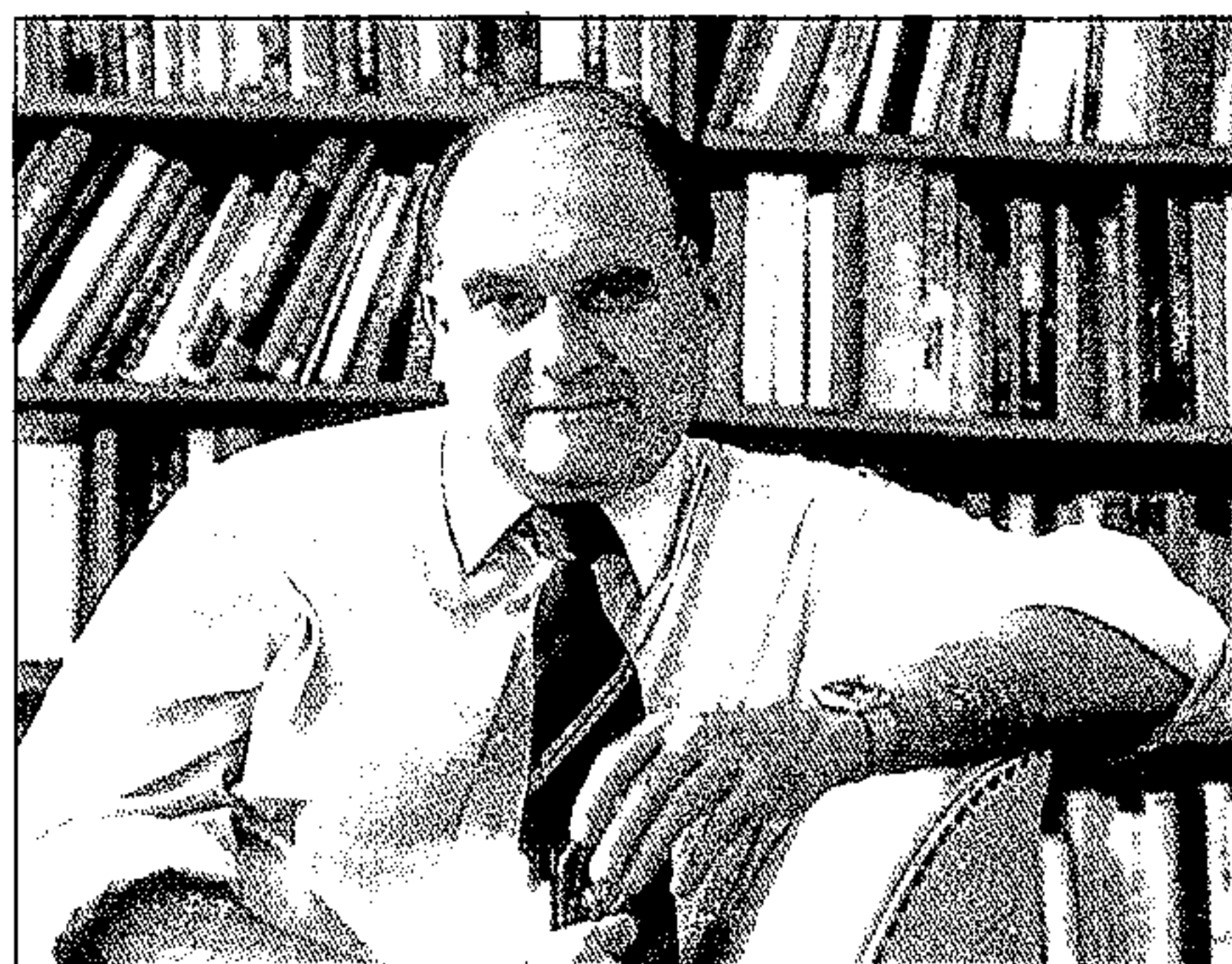
During the past 20 years, says the bank's study, university enrolments have increased annually in low- to middle-income countries by an average 6.2%, making higher education the fastest growing part of the educational system.

The outcome has been disastrous. The bank study talks of "overcrowding, deteriorating physical conditions and lack of resources for nonsalary expenditures such as textbooks, educational materials, laboratory consumables and maintenance."

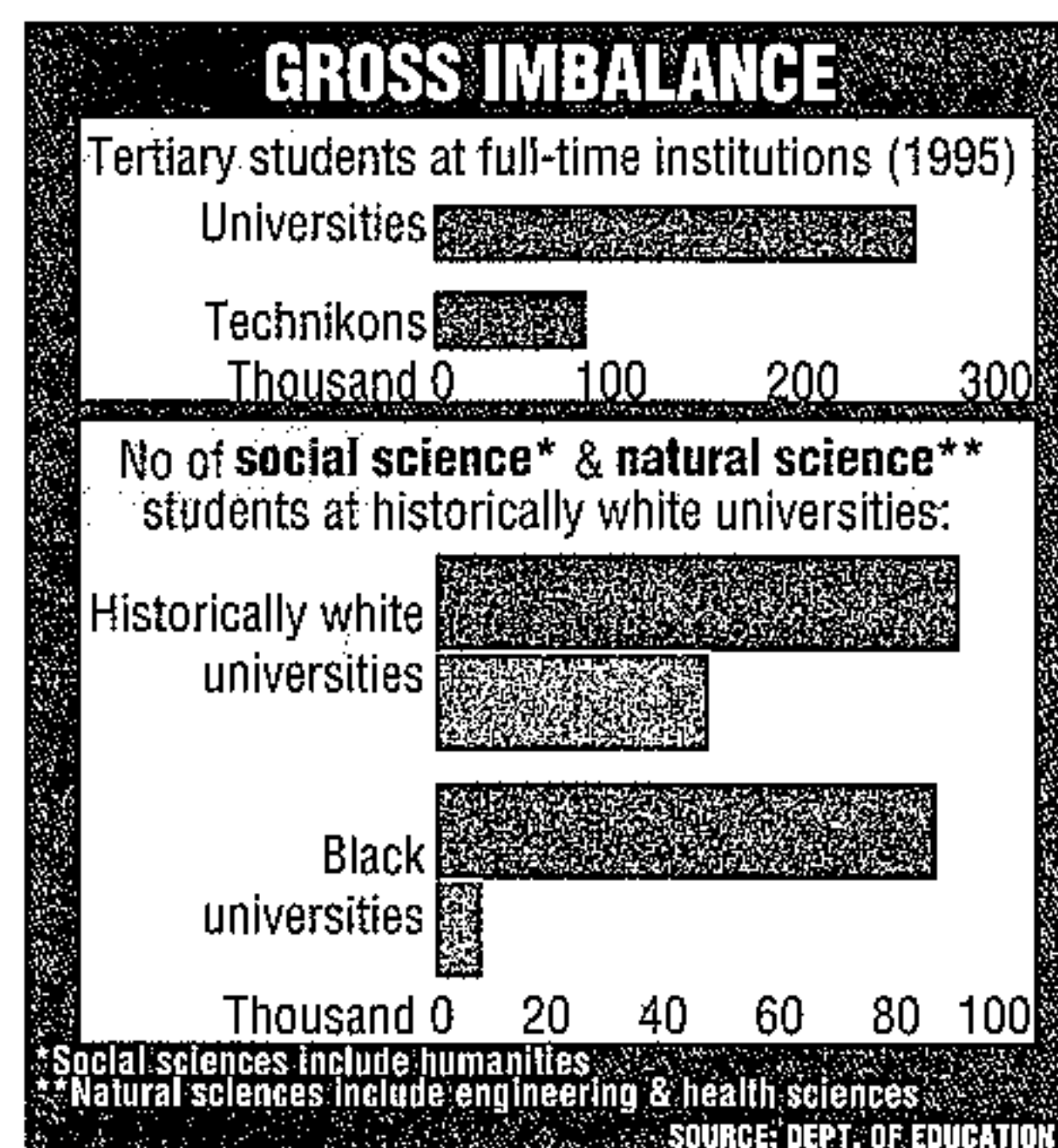
A more vivid picture was painted at a workshop on tertiary education held in Magaliesburg, near Pretoria, in January 1995. N'Dri Thérèse Assié-Lumumba of Cornell University, New York, described "a familiar scene on many African campuses in the Nineties." Overcrowded classrooms meant "some students are forced to stand outside lecture halls where they are unable to see, or barely hear, the lecturer. In order to have access to a seat, some students report to class hours before the session starts."

All of which leads unavoidably to high drop-out and repetition rates.

The latter worsens overcrowding and



Van Onselen . . . lecturers now mass-communicators



are now immersed in, however, not peculiar to this country — and nor are its causes. The same story has been repeated over many years throughout the continent.

Only last week the University of Zambia in Lusaka was closed for the second

Continued on page 26

DETERIORATION AND DECLINE

Uganda's Makerere University and the University of Dakar in Senegal were for many years after independence two of Africa's premier public universities. Today, their facilities have deteriorated and the quality of instruction provided is profoundly threatened — the consequence of political and economic turmoil combined with chronic underfunding and misallocation.

In Uganda, Makerere University and its affiliated institutions account for 94% of all university enrolments. University lecturers receive a salary equivalent to just US\$19/month. A 1990 survey indicated that 27 senior staff had resigned from the university since 1989, most to take employment elsewhere, and that 48% of teaching positions were unfilled. The low salaries have transformed academic work into part-time employment

for many staff.

In addition, many of the residence halls are accommodating students far in excess of their physical capacity.

The University of Dakar, originally designed for 3 500 students, enrolled nearly 20 000 students in 1991. There has been a gradual decline in the physical infrastructure because of the lack of resources and maintenance.

This is most evident in the library, once the largest in the region. Its central air conditioning system broke down in 1980 and has not yet been repaired, placing the book collection in jeopardy from heat and dust.

The University of Dakar spends five times more money every year on medicines for its students and their families than on books or periodicals for the library. *World Bank*

Continued from page 23

increases demand on the State for subsistence payments. Housing, food and service costs amount in some African countries to more than half the total higher education budget.

A similarly rapid rate of increase in university enrolments has been seen in SA. Between 1988 and 1992 the annual average for all universities was 8%. During those years the total growth in numbers at black universities added up to 35%. At the University of Transkei it was 48%. Over those few years its two largest faculties, arts and education, grew by 58% and 84% respectively.

The same motive drives most Africans seeking full-time higher education. A degree in most African countries was for a long time the guarantee of a government job — which meant the pleasures of urban life, and freedom from unemployment or the tedium and uncertainty of a rural existence.

So, too, in SA. With the exception of Fort Hare, all the black universities were the creation of apartheid. Their purpose was to produce graduates who could administer the homelands and provide them with teaching, health and legal services.

As the late Prof Harold Wolpe and his colleagues at the University of the Western Cape's education policy unit pointed out to a recent national conference on the higher education Green Paper, there

was never any intention that the black universities should produce scientists and engineers; the bantustans had no need of them.

Nor, for the same reason, was there any need for them to engage in research — or even to challenge conventional wisdoms, which is generally the basis of universities' intellectual vitality.

In return for not rocking the political boat, graduates of black universities could look forward to secure jobs. For the duration of their studies, too, they would have a roof over their heads and food in their stomachs — no small thing for those from poor backgrounds. Many students used some of their maintenance grants to help feed their families.

The steep rise in black student enrolment was due to two factors.

First was the rapidly increasing number of black pupils who, after 1976 when government began pumping ever more funds into black schooling, obtained a matric certificate.

Second was the method by which black universities were financed.

Unlike white universities, whose funding formula provided incentives to get students through their courses in the minimum time, black universities were until a few years ago financed almost entirely by government on the basis of projected costs.

The crucial decision now facing Bengu is whether to roll back this unaffordable

development or to persist with his overarching aim of achieving "equity" between historically white and black universities.

More bluntly, should he force the black universities to shrink their student numbers, and even shrink the number of institutions purporting to operate as universities (there are 10 black universities out of a total of 21)?

Or should he encourage them to become more like true universities by ignoring the financing formula and giving them a greater share of the total tertiary education budget so that they can afford to develop science and engineering faculties, and engage in research?

It's not a new dilemma. Since Union in 1910 there have been at least 20 commissions or committees examining the financing of higher education.

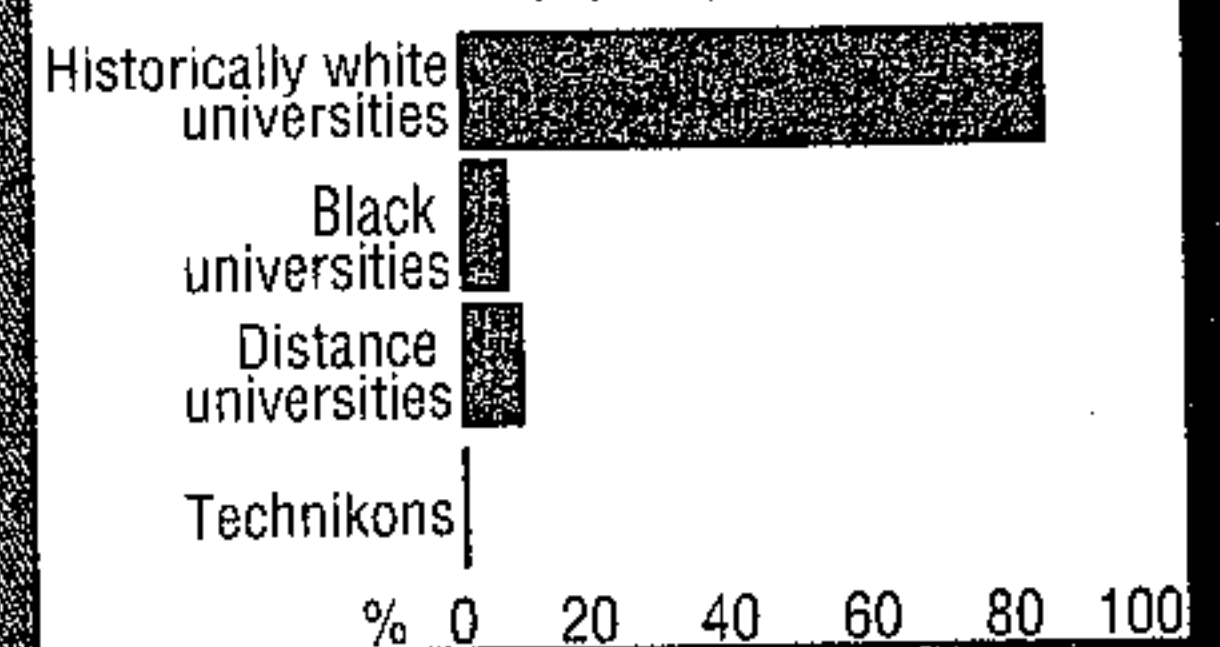
The Van der Horst Commission of 1928 was in no doubt of the correct approach. "If it is true that the idea of a university implies a wide range of teaching and a wide range of students," it declared, "the means that are available should not be frittered away upon small institutions that do not and cannot fulfil the requirements, and a false idea of equity should not stand in the way of the larger institutions obtaining the assistance they may need to become universities that will adequately fulfil their duty to the country."

The historically white — but most of them no longer so — universities privately agree. Few of their professors will say so for the record, though.

Wits's feisty historian Charles van On-

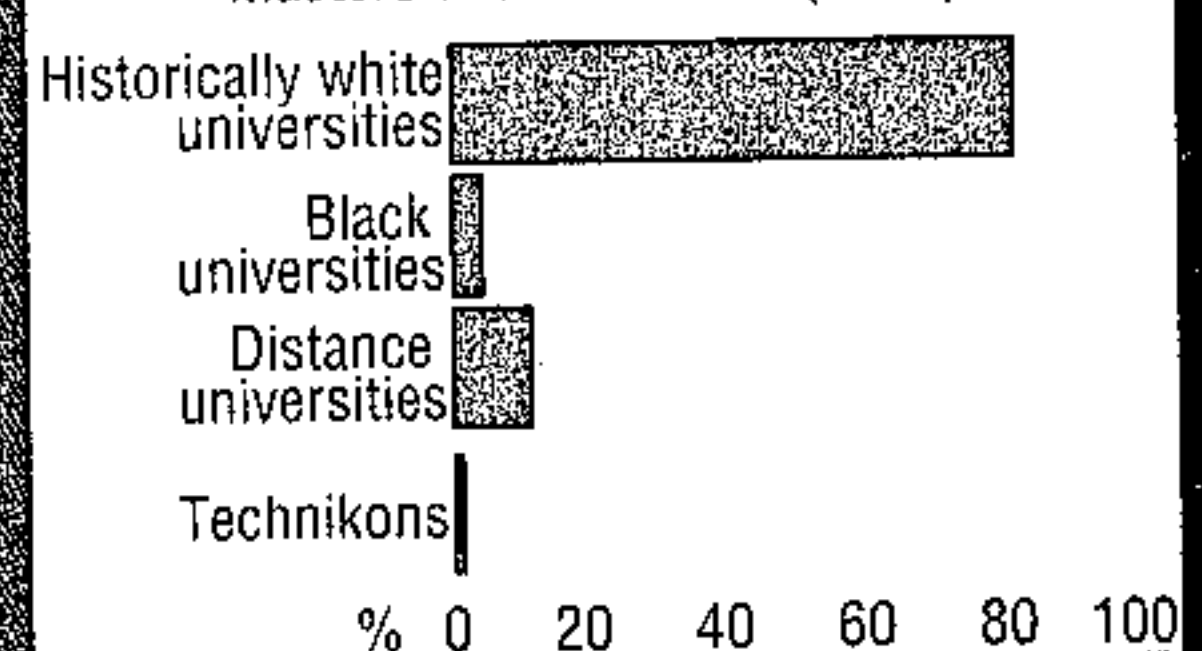
WHO PRODUCES THE RESEARCH?

Source of research papers published in 1993



WHO PRODUCES POST-GRADUATES?

Masters and doctorates (1993)



SOURCE: COMMITTEE OF UNIVERSITY PRINCIPALS

selen suffers no politically correct inhibitions. Over the past quarter of a century he has watched his university's physical environment deteriorate as more and more buildings have been erected to cope with ballooning student numbers.

As finances became ever tighter, savings were made first on building maintenance and then on research facilities. The latter, he says, has meant putting postgraduate students, key players in research efforts, under worsening financial strain. That's because of the increasing numbers of students from deprived secondary education backgrounds enrolled at Wits, and the proportion they represent of the student body.

Lecturers have to simplify their instruction so that these students will be able to understand — which bores and alienates well-prepared students.

"We're having to fulfil a function that falls halfway between university and secondary school, and that increases the number of staff you need," Van Onselen complains. "They don't have to be high-calibre staff, engaged in research, but people who are mass-communicators of information. The quality of information conveyed also suffers because it gets simplified."

Ask him whether northern suburbs dinner-table talk of declining standards at Wits is justifiable, and he replies without hesitation. "Of course they have. The question is, in which faculties? Not in the vocational disciplines, where international professional bodies or local, industry-backed institutes maintain qualification standards, but in the soft underbelly stuff that brings in most students — the humanities and social sciences."

Van Onselen is convinced some universities should have their government funding substantially reduced, while a couple of others should be offered financial incentives to turn themselves into centres of excellence. For the latter, he suggests the University of the North and Fort Hare, if only for politically significant geographic and language-group reasons. But, he observes, "it would take real guts and determination from the Minister to see it through."

Government's Green Paper on higher education doesn't, in fact, shy away from tough decisions in this area.

It talks of "regional rationalisation to reduce duplication and overlap in programme provision (not excluding the possibility of institutional mergers and closures)."

A central aim of the Education Department could prove no less politically difficult. It is, says deputy director-general John Samuel, to use financial means to reduce the heavy preponderance in the university sector of arts and education students over those registered for courses in natural sciences and engineering.

In 1994, the humanities accounted for 50% of students, education for 15%, science and technology for 20%, business and commerce for the remaining 15%.

Samuel says universities and technikons, where an increasing proportion of students are studying nontechnical subjects, will be told how many students government will be prepared to finance nationally in the various faculties. If they wish to register more students than that, it will be at their own expense entirely.

However rational, such a course could see student protests become even more violent. Because of grossly inadequate teaching, only a tiny proportion of black pupils do well enough in matric maths and science to qualify for university study in those subjects. In 1993, says the Foundation for Research Development, it was 3% of African matriculants for maths and 4% for science. The respective figures for white matriculants were 20% and 21%.

Rather than exclude black students from higher education altogether because their matric results don't qualify them for university study in the subjects it is prepared to back heavily, government should take rapid steps to diversify the tertiary sector.

That means creating less intellectually demanding, but no less economically and professionally valuable, teaching institutions with the money it saves from rationalising the university sector.

If study at these far more cheaply operated institutions allows those enrolled to continue working, so much the better.

The bane of Africa's university system,

says Assié-Lumumba, is the assumption that the most desirable system is that inherited from Europe, characterised by full-time, uninterrupted study from the time of entering school to graduating from university.

The World Bank study supports her. It reports that Asia has been more successful than any other region at diversifying higher education, and has reaped the reward of higher coverage of the population at lower per-student cost to government.

There is, in short, only one way forward for Bengu and his colleagues. The notion of crude, undifferentiated redress must be abandoned. Given the rapid blackening of the historically white universities, it makes no moral sense and cannot but be destructive of the competence of those universities.

It must be replaced by total commitment to higher education efficiency. That means funding the present centres of excellence adequately and in a way that frees them of the need to enrol students in excessive numbers.

More first-class universities must be created in the same way, according to a national plan of needs.

To achieve the savings needed to finance that, and to provide suitable institutions for those emerging from weak schooling, some of the present black universities must be converted to technikons — there are, absurdly, only 15 — or technical and community colleges.

Given the proposed national qualifications framework which will allow qualifications to be transported from one institution to another, an articulated higher education sector can be developed that will put no automatic ceiling on anyone's educational advancement.

In bringing that about, Bengu or his successor would achieve the best form of redress — opportunities that match individual ability and are nationally affordable. *John Collings*



John Samuel . . . forcing universities to produce according to national needs

Arnold Prout

Maties appoints probe over leave payouts

ARG 22/3/97

(54)

PIETER MALAN
STAFF REPORTER

The council of the University of Stellenbosch has appointed a commission from its own ranks to answer questions relating to the controversial "cash-for-leave" payouts to the rector and other senior university officials.

The decision came after academics and students at Stellenbosch had called for an independent commission of inquiry into the controversial payouts, totalling more than R90 000.

Believed to be a compromise between those who support Matie rector, Professor Andreas van Wyk and those calling for greater transparency, the commission will have no active investigative powers and will merely answer questions from the university community.

Headed by Afrikaans business tycoon Christo Wiese, the commission also will include Bernard Lategan, former dean of

the Faculty of Arts, Nadine Fourie, chairperson of the student representative council, and Hennie Erasmus, a former professor of law at the university.

Saturday Argus first revealed in December last year that about R800 000 worth of accumulated leave was paid out to five senior officials, including the two vice-rectors, without the direct knowledge of the university council.

The university still argues that these payments saved the university money in the long-term, because the "payments were made at current remuneration levels, instead of what would have been a higher level at the date of retirement".

However, university spokesman Douglas Davis has admitted to Saturday Argus that the men could qualify again for a cash payout in future, depending on "their position regarding unused leave at retirement". This would effectively nullify any saving to the university at present.

After this week's council meeting, the university also released a document -

referred to as "the chronicles" by some council members - outlining the alleged procedures followed with the paying out of accumulated leave.

"The chronicles" admitted for the first time that the rector himself received a payout of R120 000 in June last year. The document also acknowledges that Professor Van Wyk's payout was ratified by one of his own juniors, the chief director, finance and services.

The document also states that the Receiver of Revenue had fined the university R41 773,88 and demanded that interest of R44 827,66 be paid, because no tax had been deducted from the amounts paid out. "This issue is still in dispute and it is being handled by the university's auditors," stated the document.

It also acknowledged that leave records were not kept up to date after the payment in lieu of accumulated leave. Saturday Argus was told these records were never credited with the leave paid out to the six individuals.

voter may vote only at the specific voting station to which he or she has been allocated. (The question of special votes for dealing with absent voters is a separate subject.)

(iii) Elections and the voters' roll should be seen as an integrated subject. A voting station/district is an electoral "building block" and the result of the polling at each voting station contributes to the result for an entire ward, province or country, as the case may be. Whatever the election, the building block - that is, the voting district/voting station - will be the constant element.

(4) Given this background, the fundamental question the Electoral Commission will have to decide is whether first to delimit wards on the basis of the population distribution as determined by the 1996 Census and then to register voters or whether first to register voters and then to use the statistics thus gathered to delimit wards. It is the view of the Electoral Steering Committee that delimitation should precede voter registration.

(5) It is impractical and very costly to have different voting districts for different tiers of government in South Africa. It is therefore essential first to resolve the relevant issues surrounding future local government - types of structure, outer boundaries of local authorities, the electoral system, the number of seats per council, etc. - since the systems and structures decided upon at this level will provide the organisational basis not only for local but also for provincial and national elections. Delimitation of wards and voting districts and voter registration will thus have to await the finalisation of local government issues, although the development of a GIS can proceed independently. Alternatively, the constitutional requirement for voters' rolls at national and provincial elections could be done away with; otherwise duplicate systems would have to be developed with the additional cost being for the account of the taxpayer.

(6) The compilation of an accurate and reliable common voters' roll is not a simple matter. Since

the complexities are being faced squarely, however, there is every reason to believe that problems will be overcome and that high quality rolls will be produced for 1999. Underlying this assurance are the assumptions that -

- (i) the Electoral Commission will be established soon;
- (ii) adequate funding will be made available;
- (iii) the requisite legislative framework will be adopted timeously; and
- (iv) no undue delays will occur in the finalisation of local authority structures and systems to the extent that they relate to the organisation of elections.

*48. Mr D K PADJACHEY - Public Works.
[Question standing over.]

Certain prisoner released from prison

*49. Mr W A HOFMEYER asked the Minister of Correctional Services:

- (1) Whether a certain prisoner, whose name has been furnished to his Department for the purpose of his reply, who was convicted and sentenced to death in Natal in or about 1990, has been released from prison; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, (a) in terms of what statutory and/or other provisions and (b) who were the persons who were involved in the decision that the said prisoner be released;

- (2) whether he has been consulted on or informed about the decision; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what was his response thereto;

- (3) whether any representations were made on behalf of the said prisoner at any time prior to his release; if so, (a) by whom and (b) what are the further relevant details? N485E

The MINISTER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES:

- (1) Yes, the person referred to was released unconditionally on 17 May 1993. He had, however, at that stage not been sentenced to death, but was serving a sentence of life imprisonment.
 - (a) The prisoner had applied for release in terms of the stipulations of the Further Indemnity Act, 1992 (Act No 151 of 1992), and his release was effectuated in terms of section 2(1) of the mentioned Act.

(b) In terms of the stipulations of the Act, the following institutions and/or functionaries are responsible for a decision regarding such applications.

* The National Council on Indemnity, an independent body consisting of three (3) judges who had to consider the applications and advise the State President regarding such applications.

* The State President with whom the final decision rested.

- (2) The former Minister of Correctional Services, who held the portfolio at that stage, took cognisance of the decision which was taken and had effectuated the decision.

- (3) Representations regarding the prisoner's application in terms of the mentioned Act, were received from his legal representatives. The Department of Correctional Services did not receive or deal with other representations regarding his release.

*50. Mr L M GREEN - Posts, Telecommunications and Broadcasting. [Question standing over.]

*51. Mr L M GREEN - Sport and Recreation.
[Question standing over.]

Former TBVC states: consolidating criminal legislation

*52. Mr J H VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Justice:

Whether any progress has been made in consolidating the criminal legislation of the former TBVC states with that of the Republic; if not, why not; if so, what progress? N490E

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

Yes, the Justice Laws Rationalisation Act, 1996 (Act 18 of 1996) was adopted by Parliament during 1996. The principal object of this Act is to provide for uniform laws throughout the Republic of South Africa regarding judicial matters which, *inter alia*, include legislation dealing with criminal matters. This Act will come into operation on 1 April 1997.

For written reply:

Subsidies to technikons

81. Mr T D LEE asked the Minister of Education:

- (a) In respect of the (i) 1995-96 and (ii) 1996-97 financial years, what subsidy amounts were allocated to the (aa) Cape Technikon, (ab) Pretoria Technikon, (ac) Witwatersrand Technikon, (ad) Port Elizabeth Technikon, (ae) Natal Technikon, (af) Peninsula Technikon and (ag) Transkei Technikon and (b) what was the percentage increase or decrease in each case? N141E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

The state allocations for the 1995-96 and 1996-97 financial years, and the percentage increase in each case, are given in the table below according to technikon.

STATE ALLOCATIONS (IN THOUSAND RANDB) TO CERTAIN TECHNIKONS FOR 1995-96

TECHNIKON	1995-96				1996-97				% increase
	Funding level	Subsidy formula (R'000)	Ad hoc (R'000)	Total (R'000)	Funding level	Subsidy formula (R'000)	Ad hoc (R'000)	Total (R'000)	
Cape	0.611	76 664	12 952	89 616	0.682	89 529	20 391	109 920	22.7
Pictoria	0.611	98 896	18 152	117 048	0.682	135 329	30 359	165 688	41.6
Witwatersrand	0.611	78 733	16 034	94 767	0.682	96 155	25 766	121 921	28.7
Port Elizabeth	0.611	53 392	10 392	63 784	0.682	74 735	16 548	91 283	43.1
Natal	0.611	61 079	8 745	69 824	0.682	74 586	17 148	91 734	31.4
Peninsula	0.611	60 608	11 035	71 643	0.682	65 538	21 952	87 490	22.1
Transkei	0.760	20 849	9 731	30 580	0.745	28 823	8 136	36 959	20.9

- 1) *Ad hoc* amounts constitute contractual interest and redemption on loans, capital allocations for new buildings, financial aid to students, property tax and purchases of land. Additional support to Transkei Technikon for its incorporation into the RSA is also included in the 1995-96 allocation.
- 2) The percentage increase in the subsidy formula amount of institutions cannot be compared, because it is influenced by, inter alia, the growth in the number of students at each institution.

Subsidies to universities

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

118. Mr R S SCHOEMAN asked the Minister of Education:

- (a) What amounts in respect of the financial years (i) 1994-95, (ii) 1995-96 and (iii) 1996-97 were paid out by the State in subsidies to the (aa) University of Stellenbosch, (bb) University of Cape Town, (cc) University of the Orange Free State, (dd) Potchefstroom Universiteit vir Christelike Hoër Onderwys, (ee) Rand Afrikaans University, (ff) University of Pretoria, (gg) University of the North, (hh) University of Transkei, (ii) University of Venda, (jj) University of Port Elizabeth, (kk) University of Natal and (ll) University of Durban-Westville and (b) what did the increase or decrease in each case amount to? N206E

- 1) Excluding *ad hoc* amounts constituting contractual interest and redemption on loans, capital allocations for new buildings, financial aid to students, property tax and purchase of land.
- 2) The percentage increase in the subsidy formula amount of institutions cannot be compared, because it is influenced by, inter alia, the growth in the number of students at each institution.
- 3) The Universities of Transkei and Venda were funded by the former TBVC states up to 1994/95.

TABLE 1: STATE ALLOCATIONS (IN THOUSANDS OF RAND) TO CERTAIN UNIVERSITIES FOR 1994-95, 1995-96 EN 1996-97

UNIVERSITY	1994-95			1995-96			1996-97			% INCREASE	
	Funding level	Subsidy formula amount (R'000)	Funding level	Subsidy formula amount (R'000)	Funding level	Subsidy formula amount (R'000)	Funding level	Subsidy formula amount (R'000)	1994-95 to 1995-96	1995-96 to 1996-97	
Stellenbosch	0.663	177 491	0.628	179 580	0.662	213 097	0.662	221 990	12.0%	18.7%	
Cape Town	0.663	175 051	0.628	195 976	0.662	221 990	0.662	221 990	13.3%	13.3%	
Orange Free State	0.663	112 800	0.628	118 810	0.662	144 268	0.662	144 268	5.3%	21.4%	
Potchefstroom	0.663	92 882	0.628	98 457	0.662	124 761	0.662	124 761	6.0%	26.7%	
RAT	0.663	105 759	0.628	116 209	0.662	154 813	0.662	154 813	9.9%	33.2%	
Pretoria	0.663	294 719	0.628	289 898	0.662	362 225	0.662	362 225	24.9%	24.9%	
North	0.668	128 668	0.628	126 662	0.662	160 646	0.662	160 646	-1.6%	26.8%	
Transkei			1.100	105 177	0.999	98 037	0.999	98 037	-6.8%	-6.8%	
Venda			0.700	46 598	0.696	66 679	0.696	66 679	43.1%	43.1%	
Port Elizabeth	0.663	59 676	0.628	62 019	0.662	76 942	0.662	76 942	24.1%	24.1%	
Natal	0.663	174 672	0.628	193 949	0.662	229 572	0.662	229 572	3.9%	24.1%	

Refugees in South Africa

140. Mr C W EGLIN asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:

- (a) How many refugees are currently resident in South Africa, (b)(i) of which countries are these refugees citizens and (ii) how many such refugees are there from each such country, (c) what steps has the Government taken to deal with such refugees while they are resident in South Africa and (d) in respect of each country of origin referred to above, what steps has the Government taken to deal
- (a) 3 229 Refugees are currently resident in South Africa.
(Also see note.)
- (c) Recognised refugees are permitted to reside, work and study anywhere in the country. Their residence is regularised in accordance with the provisions of the Aliens Control Act, 1991 (Act No. 96 of 1991).
- (d) The Government has not taken any steps to deal with such refugees' repatriation to, or resettlement in, their countries of origin. This will only be done if and when the situation in their countries of origin has normalised.
- Note: In the case of refugees from Mozambique the following information has reference:
- (a) The exact number is not known.
- (b) With the assistance of the United Nations High Commissioner 32 010 persons were voluntarily repatriated to Mozambique.
- (c) A large number of the refugees from Mozambique who opted to remain in South Africa have been granted exemption in terms of the Aliens Control Act, 1991 (Act No. 96 of 1991).

(b) (i)	(b) (ii)
Alghanistan	4
Angola	2 018
Burundi	17
Bosnia/Herzegovina	1
Republic of Croatia	2
Ethiopia	1
Iraq	3
Iran	1
Liberia	9
Rwanda	77
Somalia	979
Sudan	4
Yugoslavia	46
Zaire	67

members wanted to know and now they should listen. [Interjections.] No, I am giving the background to what I said. [Interjections.] They must hear the background first.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr P W COETZER: Madam Speaker, on a point of order. . . [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Hon member, it would be quite useful if you could let the Minister finish her point so that we can make some progress. [Interjections.]

Mr P W COETZER: No, Madam Speaker, that is exactly my point of order. [Interjections.] I will have to repeat myself again and again until. . .

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Please state your point of order.

Mr P W COETZER: Madam Speaker, you asked the hon the Minister to repeat what she said. What she is doing now is giving a speech and changing the context of what she said. [Interjections.] In fact, what she is trying to do is deliberately to mislead this House. I implore you rather to study the Hansard.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! With regard to this particular point of order from the NP, I would like to be given the opportunity to study the Hansard. [Applause.] I will give my ruling after studying the Hansard. I would like to close this particular matter.

Dr B E NZIMANDE: Madam Speaker. . .

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Hon Blade Nzimande, would you like to raise another issue?

Dr B E NZIMANDE: No, Madam Speaker, I accept what you have just said. However, in the light of this, I would also like to say that, in considering that text, you must take into account the fact that what the Minister was saying was that the people. . . [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Please allow the member to raise his point of order.

Dr B E NZIMANDE. . . who actually killed that woman were the security forces of the NP government. [Interjections.] Considering what you are saying, we must be careful that we also do not use this

House to suppress the truth. The NP government must actually take political responsibility for those murders and killings. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Hon members, I would like the proceedings of this House to move on now.

Mr P W COETZER: Madam Speaker. . . [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Hon Coetzer, I have not recognised you.

Mr M F CASSIM: Madam Speaker, I would like to address you on a point of order. The necessity for good order in the House is to allow the programme of this House to be facilitated. I wish to contend that by taking a whole series of frivolous points of order the general good order of the House is seriously disadvantaged, and that week after week the function of the House, which is to allow a number of questions to be put to Ministers, is not materialising in practice. Apart from looking at minor points of order, one should look at the overall point of whether the House is in good order during question time so that members of Parliament can fulfil their function to society as a whole by putting a wide series of questions to Ministry and holding them accountable. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I have already indicated that the time allocated for questions has expired.

Business interrupted in accordance with Rule 199(3) of the Standing Rules for the National Assembly.

*15. Dr W A ODEENDAAL - Health.† [Question standing over.]

New questions:

Number of doctoral students in sciences

*1. Mr M F CASSIM asked the Minister of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology:

(1) Whether an assessment has been made to determine whether an adequate number of doctoral students in the sciences and related fields graduated during the period 1994 to 1996; if not, why not; if so,

(2) whether the number of such graduates has been

found to be adequate; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, why?

(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter? N231E

The MINISTER OF ARTS, CULTURE, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:

(a) Unfortunately, there is a lack of information on the number of people with doctoral degrees in South Africa's general population and in the workforce. For example, the 1995 October Household Survey provides details of the number of people with lower level qualifications (such as Std 9 or Std 10) but only indicates that 649 000 people in South Africa are estimated to have a degree of some sort. The Central Statistical Services Manpower Surveys provide details of the professional and other occupations of the workforce but do not provide level of qualifications. The Resource for R&D Survey 1993 of my Department only describes researchers, a total of 18 596 in 1993, and the number of researchers with postgraduate qualifications, a total of 14 252 in 1993. It is anticipated that the 1996 Census database will be able to provide more detailed information.

Information which is more readily available is that on the supply side with a total of 4 904 students enrolled for doctoral degrees at universities in 1993. The figure can be expected to be in the vicinity of 5 000 in 1997. This constitutes about 1.7% of total university degree enrolments and 9.2% for all postgraduate enrolments (honours, masters and doctoral). About 14% of these enrolled doctoral students graduate each year, and between 600 and 700 doctoral degrees are awarded annually.

It is, however, important to point out that my Department is at present involved in a project called the National Research and Technology Audit. The aim of the Audit is to assess the strengths and weaknesses of South Africa's science and technology system, and in particular to harmonise the Government's expenditure on research and technology with the national needs. A very important aspect of the Audit is the Skills survey which will indicate the country's current capacity and future needs regarding the development of human resources for science

and technology. It is anticipated that the results of the Audit will be available by the end of this year.

(b) It is difficult to gauge the real demand for graduates with doctorates. The main employers of people with doctorates are the higher education institutions themselves. For purposes of comparison the USA has about 1 810 academic staff with doctoral degrees employed at higher educational institutions per one million of the labour force compared to the equivalent of about 473 for South Africa. In 1993, 41.3% of all university academic staff in South Africa, or 4 262 staff members had doctorates.

Science councils, other parastatals and government departments tend to employ PhDs in research and key managerial positions but the demand does not seem to outstrip supply, except in specialised research areas. Middle management positions advertised at these institutions usually tend to attract a fair number of applications from people with doctoral degrees.

While industry does employ a number of PhDs for research, many of these positions are also suitably filled by Masters graduates and Technikon graduates, especially where the work entails innovation or product development. Judging from job advertisements, there appear to be few classic research and development positions in South African industry which require people with PhDs. The few very specialised positions available will usually be filled by skilled personnel from overseas with specialised training or experience. It also appears that South African PhD graduates are attracted to overseas markets where there are more positions available for their high qualifications and general skill.

There is a need, however, for PhDs in specialised areas in South Africa both to develop their field and especially to train others. It is not the number of PhDs produced but their specialist areas and the demand for their specific skills which are important to take into account in education and research planning.

(c) The importance of producing adequate numbers of scientists and technologists was pointed out by me on several occasions. My Department

is also actively involved in promoting the development of human resources for science and technology. I do not intend to make a statement on the matter at this point in time.

Title of magistrates changed

*2. Mr M F CASSIM asked the Minister of Justice:

- (1) Whether the Government has taken or intends taking any steps to change the title of magistrates and all judicial officers trying cases in formal courts to that of "judge"; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;

- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? N232E

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

(1) and (2) I spoke on this issue during the Justice Budget Vote Debate in the National Assembly on 13 June 1996. I am of the opinion that we should move towards the creation of a single coherent judiciary. To achieve this objective, the independence of our judiciary needs to be strengthened. This is particularly so with regard to our Magistrates' Courts. In practice many people have drawn a distinction between the judiciary when referring to the High Courts and the magistracy when referring to the Lower Courts. The impression is created that Magistrates' Courts do not form part of the judiciary. I am in favour of the creation of a single judicial system. All presiding officers would be judicial officers and their main function would be a judicial function.

In the United States, for example, all judicial officers are referred to as judges. My view is that a logical extension of the notion of a single coherent judiciary would be the possibility of giving all judicial officers the title of judge. There is, however, no plan to address the issue of nomenclature before addressing the substance. The first step would be to strengthen the independence of our lower courts and raise the quality of justice administered in those courts. In the process much consultation is necessary before effecting any change.

There are also numerous matters emanating from the Constitution which will require legislative changes and which fall within the line functions of my Department. One of these matters is the rationalisation of the courts and related issues. Item 16(6) of Schedule 6 of the Constitution provides that all

condition of the granting of the casino license that the bidder must create Olympic facilities. The advantage being that these facilities will be owned and operated by the private sector and will be rented for the period of the Games.

Innovative financial structuring will be adopted to facilitate the joint funding of a number of the major facilities between the private and public sector. A in-principle decision has been taken to have the major facilities owned on a regional basis potentially through the Cape Town Metropolitan Council (CMC).

- (c) R250 million.

SA harbours: mandrax tablets/dagga confiscated

*5. Mr A FOURIE asked the Minister for Safety and Security:†

- (1) Whether the South African Police Service confiscated any quantities of (a) mandrax tablets and/or (b) dagga at South African harbours during the period 1 January to 31 December 1996; if so, what quantity in each case;

- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? N235E

The MINISTER FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY:

- (1) (a) No.

- (b) Yes.

310 grams

*6. Mr M C J VAN SCHALCKWYK - Posts, Telecommunications and Broadcasting:† [Question standing over.]

*7. Mr D H M GIBSON - Justice. (Question standing over.)

Shortage of textbooks

*8. Mr R S SCHOEMAN asked the Minister of Education:†

- (1) Whether his attention has been drawn to reports that there are shortages of textbooks in certain provinces; if so,

- (2) whether he or his Department has investigated the matter; if not, why not; if so, what is the

cause of such shortages;

- (3) whether he or his Department has taken or intends taking any steps in this regard; if not, why not; if so, what steps;

- (4) whether he or his Department contemplates taking any steps with a view to preventing such shortages arising in future; if not, why not; if so, what steps? N238E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

- (1) Yes.

- (2) The Department of Education is in the process of collecting information concerning shortages of textbooks from the provincial education departments and will provide a written reply to the question at a later stage. It should be noted that, in terms of the South African Schools Act of 1996, the provincial education departments are responsible for the provision of school education. Provincial education departments may, therefore, make their own budgeting decisions on the provision of school textbooks.

- (3) Falls away.

- (4) Falls away.

Violent crimes: granting of bail

*9. Mr D H M GIBSON asked the Minister of Justice:

- (1) Whether he has issued any instructions to State Prosecutors, in regard to the granting of bail to persons charged with violent crimes; if so, what instructions; if not,

- (2) whether he intends issuing any such instructions; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? N240E

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

- (1) No.

- (2) In terms of the Attorney-General Act, 1992 (No. 92 of 1992), State prosecutors fall under the control of an Attorney-General in whose area of jurisdiction they operate. That means they exercise their functions under the control and direction of the Attorney-General. Neither the Minister of Justice nor any member of the

Sasco hits out at student protesters

(54)
Kevin O'Grady

BD 27/3/97
THE SA Students' Congress (Sasco) yesterday criticised students who went on the rampage at Technikon Natal's Durban campus on Tuesday night, trashing and looting the campus canteen in support of their demands for it to be privatised.

Sapa reports that 17 students were arrested on charges of theft and malicious damage to property after the protest. Technikon spokesman Kim Roderick said that despite the violence, lectures would continue until the end of first term today.

Sasco deputy president Kenny Diseko said the events were "seriously deplored". He said "innocent students were consciously used to pursue narrow ideological interests which take our struggle for students' rights a decade back". The call by the technikon's student representative council for services such as the canteen to be privatised would "certainly result in a loss of jobs and would not in any way solve any specific problems".

"It exposes inexperience on the part of the drafters of the memorandum (presented to technikon management) because (students at) 80% of institutions are calling for a return to in-house catering wherever catering has been outsourced," Diseko said.

"Let all interested parties pursue the option of constructive engagement with management because violence will certainly rubbish even the most legitimate of demands."

Commission to investigate Fort Hare murders

Police request probe

(74)

AAU 29/3/97

East London - A possible motive for two sensational killings at the University of Fort Hare in 1995 will be investigated by the Heath Commission set up to probe irregularities in state institutions.

Police investigating the mysterious murder of Jan Stoffel Erasmus and the killing by police of Basie Namo, said this week they had asked the commission to investigate whether corruption within the UFH was linked to the killings.

Mr Namo confessed to murdering Mr Erasmus, who worked in the university's computer department, about a week after his bullet-riddled body was found abandoned near a railway outside Alice, by police.

Alice police said at the time that Mr Namo and four students alleged they had decided to kill Mr Erasmus because he had discovered a "top secret" that could topple the university. University personnel denied any knowledge of such a secret.

Police later reported that they had shot Mr Namo when he tried to escape while showing them where he had put the gun he used in the murder.

The inquest into Namo's death in 1995 has been postponed several times with the latest date set for next month.

Police initially arrested four students in connection with the murder of Mr Erasmus, but they were later released on bail and charges against them have since been "temporarily withdrawn" and they are believed to be back at the university.

Soon after the killings, the Union of Democratic University Staff Associations (Udusa), released a statement expressing concern over both deaths.

well-being of the university.

"It is necessary for rumours to be quelled," the statement said.

But the rumours persist.

Vice-chancellor Professor Mbulelo Mzamane said last year that he would not react to speculation in the media about the circumstances which led to Erasmus's death.

"The matter is still in court and therefore the university cannot say anything."

Last year a newspaper editorial hinting at a link between these deaths and the 1994 murder of UFH finance director, Riaz Razavi - who was dragged out of a Baha'i faith ceremony with two friends and shot - drew strong criticism from the university.

Mr Mzamane rejected the link and announced a commission of inquiry to investigate rumours of financial impropriety at the university.

The status of this commission is not known at present.

Heath Commission advocate, Gerard Visagie, confirmed that the commission would assist police with certain investigations. But, he said, he could not elaborate because the issues involved were "sensitive".

Renowned for educating South Africa's most prominent leaders when black students were not allowed to attend "white" institutions in South Africa, the university now battles a crumbling image and bank balance.

Last week it closed its campus after a group of students protested about how much they had to pay to register.

This was after an agreement last year that students had to substantially reduce the R18-million debt owed in student fees.

Acting registrar Nico Jooste is taking court action against the university for being forced off campus by protesting students last year, when members of the Broad Transformation Forum demanded his removal.

The university has also refused to comment on this, saying this subject too, was subjudice. - Ecna

It said: "This is a troubled campus indeed and many staff are experiencing deep feelings of insecurity over the quality and stability of their working environment.

"Udusa urges that priority be given to the investigation into these deaths.

"The present situation is untenable and quite harmful to the academic

Keep 2 medical schools - report

JERRY WALL
STAFF REPORTER

UK team probes health centres' future

(54) AR 4 29/3/97

The two medical schools in the Western Cape linked to the Universities of Stellenbosch and Cape Town should be maintained at an undergraduate level, and one graduate school should be established to integrate postgraduate training opportunities.

These are two key proposals of the King's Fund report, "Academic Health Centres in the Western Cape: A partial diagnosis and a tentative prescription", drawn up by four British consultants to advise the provincial cabinet on the rationalisation of the academic health centres.

The report, compiled by Brendan Devlin, Ken Judge, David Knowles and Robert Maxwell, was released this week as the provincial cabinet struggles to find ways to finance its R780-million deficit.

Academic health centres, which have already had to cut services, are likely to bear the brunt of health service cuts.

The report identified institutional rivalry between the two main centres, Tygerberg Hospital linked to the University of Stellenbosch, and Groote Schuur/Red Cross hospitals, linked to the University of

Cape Town, as a "real block" that had inhibited change.

Attempts to reach consensus on the future of the centres had failed, the report said, and reform at the academic health complexes was in a cul-de-sac.

A divisive issue was the proposal on medical training in the province.

UCT proposed one central Health Sciences Centre for the Western Cape, with highly specialised services at Groote Schuur and Red Cross hospitals.

Stellenbosch University believed strongly that an independent, comprehensive medical school with Afrikaans as a teaching medium should be maintained and this meant the retention of tertiary services at Tygerberg Hospital.

The report found both proposals had serious flaws. It recommended that both medical schools be retained while emphasising that

'We believe this diversity should be a source of strength and opportunity'

there should be a clearer distinction between the management of the hospitals and the medical schools.

"This recommendation may well be interpreted as a concession to a perceived political imperative that the time is not right for a merger," the team of consultants said.

"That is not the basis for our proposal. In the Cape there are two very distinct, not least in the language of teaching, medical faculties associated with two culturally diverse universities. We believe that this diversity should be a source of strength and opportunity.

"However to make a significant contribution to meeting most urgent needs they have to make faster progress in achieving two strategic goals. "What is needed is a radically different and primary health care oriented undergraduate curriculum and a much fairer intake of students."

It said there had been a lot of lip service paid to the concept, but there was little evidence of its reality.

The second proposal was that a new graduate school be established for the province as a whole.

This would be a powerful influence for maintaining excellence in teaching service and research.

"Until and unless the Western Cape finds a way to co-operate for these purposes across institutional boundaries the downward spiral will continue," the report said.

The graduate school would be managed independently, with representatives from all three hospitals, universities and the province.

A third step was to have a single hospital board, for Tygerberg, Red Cross and Groote Schuur, to improve managerial capacity.

"This would provide a focus for practical and strategic co-operation and collaboration among the hospitals."

The health care system in the Western Cape was disabled by cultural, organisational and political impotence, the report said.

It identified the need for urgent and radical change and found that progress had been blocked by inertia, frustration, uncertainty, rivalry, the cumbersome nature of participatory democracy and a stultifying bureaucratic culture.

The report said the central issue should not be rationalising specialist services, but rather all services provided by academic health complexes.

The team identified three pre-requisites for effective change:

■ Establish a sensible budgetary process within the academic hospitals, which set challenging but realistic savings targets;

■ In order to achieve real financial savings there had to be a sensible retrenchment policy; and

■ The National Department of Health should commit funding for those specialised services which were designated to serve national or at least the intra-provincial community.

The proposals will now go to the universities and hospitals for comment. Western Cape Health Minister Ebrahim Rasool will present the report and comments to the cabinet in June.

RAU owes success to democratic approach

SHOW 31/3/97 (54)

By WINNIE GRAHAM

Architecturally, the Rand Afrikaans University in Auckland Park must be one of Johannesburg's most imposing buildings.

The concrete austerity of the enormous pillars, however, is not to everyone's liking.

A recent visitor to the Reef remarked: "It's so ... authoritarian!"

Yet, if the architecture is indeed as over-bearing as that remark might suggest, it has little in common with the genial rector of the university, Professor J C van der Walt.

Far from imposing his views on students, he has gone out of his way to involve them in decision making.

That is why, he believes, RAU has not been subjected to the campus trashings and student outbreaks that have characterised life on certain other campuses.

Since he took over the reins two years ago, the professor has made a point of keeping open the lines of communication between his office and students. He says a culture of tolerance permeates RAU. English and Afrikaans-speakers, black, white, coloured and Indian students, all get on with each other.

"I am totally open with student leaders," he said.

"I have no hidden agenda. I am happy to provide them with any information they need. Recently, the executive committee of the Students' Representative Council spent two hours discussing the university's budget with me.

"As far as we are concerned, the 'struggle' is over. I am happy to involve the students in all aspects of the university's affairs. I know they want to make a contribution."

The composition of the university council has changed to



CHRIS ADLAM

Flexible approach ... Professor J C van der Walt, vice-chancellor of RAU, stands in front of the campus buildings. Van der Walt believes in involving students in all decisions concerning RAU.

include three black members and a woman, possibly not a dramatic change, but not entirely cosmetic either.

The composition will change even more in the future.

In the rector's view, much of the university's success stems from its flexible approach to the language question. Increasing numbers of non-Afrikaans speaking students are enrolling at RAU.

"Students have the right to be lectured in one of the official languages, provided it is practical to offer tuition in that language," Professor Van der Walt said.

"Obviously, most lectures are still in Afrikaans, but we are aware of the needs of English-speaking students, and in classes where there is a large concentration of non-Afrikaans stu-

dents, access to English tuition is in the process of being arranged. Certainly, the notes are always available in English and Afrikaans."

He has found that students

I know our students want to make a contribution

are remarkably adaptable when it comes to language. There has been little resistance to lectures in Afrikaans. Within a year or two most are able to speak Afrikaans well.

At the same time he accepts

that the large numbers of English speaking students need to be educated in English.

"I feel strongly that Afrikaans will always remain a medium of instruction, but it would be unrealistic not to provide instruction in another official language if this is feasible," he said.

RAU, of course, has always served a broad constituency. Students come from all parts of Gauteng and beyond, from white and coloured suburbs and black townships, from the richer and the less affluent areas.

When the university opened on February 24 1968, the then rector, Professor Marais Viljoen, accepted the principle of openness.

Coloured students were enrolled from the start, but the

first black students, who now make up some 25% of the enrolment, arrived more recently.

Recently there has been a large influx of Indian students. Even President Mandela had his daughter, Zinzi, enrolled at RAU for a period.

Today, the residences are fully integrated and there are no known instances of racial disharmony.

Professor Van der Walt says the university's admission policy is based on matric results and no students of real potential are turned away simply because they cannot afford the fees.

The Tertiary Education Fund, arrangements with banks and bursary funds from the university have made possible the funding of all academically sound students.

RAU is one of the less expensive universities: Tuition and accommodation at RAU costs round R15 000 a year.

"If the university has a weakness it is that the staff composition is too white," he said.

"We are more than willing to appoint black academics and have embarked on an equal opportunities programme with the intention of appointing black staff with potential.

"We hope this programme will help change the position."

Like all other vice-chancellors and rectors in South Africa, the rector feels as strongly as students about the cuts in government subsidies.

His vision, however, goes beyond the immediate needs of students struggling to finance their studies.

"To keep this country competitive, it is imperative we deliver quality graduates and post-graduates," he said.

"Our resources are already limited. If the student/staff ratio has to be cut, the quality of education will suffer."

"The Government wants

tertiary education to be more accessible yet, at the same time, funding is being reduced.

"This is a total contradiction and a disaster for universities."

Though RAU is a relatively young university - it was established 29 years ago - it has a reputation for "high standards, stability and tolerance".

The rector believes the law faculty at RAU is the best in the country, that the departments of accountancy, engineering, natural sciences, chemistry and geology are "strong", that the faculty of education is "highly progressive" and the department of nursing science "excellent".

Last year, Rand Afrikaans University signed a co-operative agreement with Howard University in the United States, and is working out practical ways of initiating exchange programmes that will benefit both students and academic staff.

Yet, the rector says, when the Howard team came to South Africa last year, a visit to RAU was not on its itinerary.

"Professor Sonya Verwey heard they were in the country and invited them to visit us," the rector said.

"They were so impressed with our community development programme that they wanted to get involved - a real coup for us."

Despite the largely financial problems which beset universities, Professor Van der Walt is excited about RAU's future.

To cope with subsidy cuts, tertiary institutions will have to become more entrepreneurial.

"It is difficult to get no-strings-attached money, but in view of the declining subsidies, we need to become more responsive to the labour market," he said.

"That is our challenge."

■ This is the second in a series on South African universities.

SA education reforms seen as example for rest of Africa

By EDWIN NAIDU

Higher education reform in South Africa holds valuable lessons for tertiary institutions on the rest of the continent, according to a United Nations education adviser.

Charles Hubert, adviser to the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco), said he was impressed by the now disbanded National Commission on Higher Education's proposals for restructuring higher education.

"We are impressed with what has been going on in

54
South Africa, particularly with the manner in which the process was systematically drawn up after much consultation. It is also impressive to note that the Government is committed to higher education," Hubert said.

Some of the participants in the commission have been invited to share their expertise with their African counterparts at a conference in Dakar, Senegal, this week. They are the chairman of the disbanded commission Professor Jairam Reddy, Committee of University Principals acting chief execu-

Star 31/3/97
tive Professor Jos Grobelaar and Council for Higher Education Transformation director Dr Nico Cloete.

Academics from all over the globe will be asked to approve a worldwide action plan to reinforce the contribution of tertiary education to economic and social development and to democracy. It is also hoped the conference will pave the way for much-needed reform in the national systems of higher education in various countries.

A recent Unesco report on higher education said universities were in a bind worldwide,

caught between a flood of students in quest of a useful degree as well as budget cuts imposed in the name of less government involvement.

The report said there were too many graduates; a fall, or imagined fall, in standards; and that universities were unable to cope. Finding ways to help universities overcome these problems would be at the heart of the 1998 conference's mission.

The report said South African institutions were in search of a new identity and that its universities were still marked by the divisions of apartheid.

Universities worldwide battling to survive

Star 31/3/97 (54)

By Edwin Naidu

Universities in various parts of the world are battling to survive massive budget cuts, growing student numbers and a decline in standards – similar problems to those experienced in South Africa.

Institutions in Latin America, Russia and the Far East are facing difficulties forging new identities to keep up with political and economic changes, according to a report by the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco).

The report, published in the journal *Unesco Sources*, revealed that various universities around the world were undergoing crises linked to subsidy cuts and transformation.

Students and staff in South Africa opposed subsidy cuts when they were first made public last December and led a series of nationwide protests. Troubles have seen various

campuses close for brief periods since the academic year began. These include the University of the North West, the University of the North (Turloop) and the University of Fort Hare.

Although the report did not focus on student debt, it said countries in Latin America had massive foreign debts and its citizens were living in poverty.

Despite the "ocean of poverty" in those countries, there were 8 million students at some 800 universities.

Studying, according to the report, was proving to be difficult as governments in Latin America slashed funding to universities, paving the way towards privatisation.

"They're trying to make us into banana republics," biologist Judith Sutz told Unesco, adding that local industries and most governments were interested only in profits.

The report said cash-strapped Kazan University, one

of Russia's most famous centres of learning, could no longer afford to pay its water and electricity bills.

It said question marks hang over the future of the university, which produced the intellectual and social elite under communism.

Rector Yuri Konoplev said the university was close to bankruptcy and had stopped purchases of new equipment or teaching materials.

In the Philippines, business leaders said they were happy with the country's graduates but found that the universities were not producing students to fit the needs of a growing economy.

Universities in the Philippines also complained bitterly about the lack of adequate financial resources.

Statistics compiled by Unesco showed that higher education enrolment has skyrocketed, particularly in developing

countries where the number has doubled from 17 million to nearly 35 million over the past 14 years.

In a Policy Paper for Change in Higher Education, Unesco said the growth in the number of higher education students has not been accompanied by increases in allocation or resources in real terms.

The report said countries in sub-Saharan Africa spend more money on higher education than industrialised ones. "Yet, they still cannot allocate the support needed. Average expenditure per student in absolute terms is 10 times lower than that of the industrialised world. This underscores a major policy dilemma: the poorer the region, the higher the cost per student."

The report said a young person was six times more likely to pursue his or her studies in an industrialised country than in a developing one.

Students register as Fort Hare is reopened

ALICE — The main campus of Fort Hare University in the Eastern Cape reopened yesterday after closing about three weeks ago when students protested against a university decision on repayment of outstanding fees.

"Everything is returning to normal," said spokesman Mbeko Mnyatheli. Hundreds of students had gathered to complete registration.

BD 2/4/97 (54)
Students would not be allowed on the campus without positive identification and a letter of admission. They must bring the balance of their outstanding debt and 20% of the registration fee, or a bank deposit slip as proof that money owed has been deposited.

Students would be required to commit themselves to signing a letter of declaration. — Sapa.

Matties to stay Afrikaners-speaking

IN THE FIRST of a series of interviews with vice-chancellors at South Africa's rapidly transforming universities, associate editor of the Star **WINNIE GRAHAM** talks to Matie rector Professor **Andreas van Wyk**.

THE University of Stellenbosch epitomises all the qualities of the world's best Ivy League universities. The campus is undoubtedly the most beautiful in South Africa, encircled as it is by mountains and vineyards. The oak-lined streets, the Cape Dutch homesteads and the university's impressive buildings give the campus a special charm.

Stellenbosch is an acknowledged centre of excellence and tradition, the environment so patently perfect for studying that senior academics from other universities — including Professor June Sinclair, deputy vice-chancellor of Wits University and Professor J C van der Walt, rector of RAU — have sent their sons there.

Yet beautiful as the university is and high as its standards are, not even Stellenbosch has escaped the demands for "transformation", this despite the fact that the university is one of a few not to have been disrupted or trashed by student unrest.

Will it remain untouched or, more importantly, can it manage the growing calls for change? Is Stellenbosch a conservative institution hell-bent on protecting Afrikaner elitism or is it contributing to the new order? The questions may seem naive but they are increasingly being asked.

As thousands of students returned for the new academic year, the rector of Stellenbosch, Professor **Andreas van Wyk**, agreed to share his vision for the future. Top of the list of questions was that of language.

Stellenbosch would remain true to its roots and would continue serving the needs of Afrikaners speakers, regardless of colour or creed.

"I would not presume to tell the people in Venda to change their medium of instruction," he said. "They are entitled to a university that serves the majority in their

region. So are the people of this community. Stellenbosch University is the only institution of its kind in an overwhelmingly Afrikaners area. Its constituency, in fact, is 70% Afrikaners.

"Whites are not the only ones who speak Afrikaners. There are many Afrikaners-speakers in the Cape, including, of course, the coloured community and black people along the Orange River."

He predicts that by 2000 half their students will be black. Last year, some 17% of the student enrolment of 15 555 was black and this year's figure is expected to be even higher. Between 1985 and 1995 there was a rapid increase with students of colour jumping by 33%. Around 30% of the students are non-Afrikaners.

He added: "The language of instruction has certainly not limited the number of non-Afrikaners speakers from registering at the university, and their numbers are growing."

It is the university's policy to try and attract promising young graduates and every effort is being made to recruit good black staff but, as other universities have found, this is not easy.

The rector is aware that his university has been branded as "the nursery that produced the apartheid leaders". Former prime ministers, presidents and politicians such as D F Malan, John Vorster, Eben Dönges and Jan Smuts obtained degrees at Stellenbosch.



PROFESSOR ANDREAS VAN WYK: "I have confidence in our young people ... The quality is there."

"We have every intention of continuing to produce leaders," he said. "Of any colour."

He is wary of the word "transformation", which he sees as a code word for certain student groupings and other parties agitating to take over the universities.

"It won't work," he said. "One need only look at what happened in Europe in 1968 when rioting students tried to take control. It spelled disaster."

Nonetheless, he appreciates the value of student input and has adopted an open-door approach. He accepts the Students' Representative Council as legitimately representative of the student body and feels there is a place for an even more inclusive institutional forum.

The rector is aware of the difficulties facing disadvantaged students and a considerable number of bursaries have been made available. He points out that not all white students have unlimited means. Stellenbosch fees range from R19 000-R20 000 a year and a tertiary qualification requires considerable sacrifice by many young people. While some 70% of students have bursaries, others are building up huge debts trying to get a good education.

"The drop-out rate at this university has fallen by half in recent years," he said. "In 1993, 443 students gave up their studies. Last year the figure was down to 219. Some 82% of the undergraduates passed. It is apparent that stu-

dents, especially black and coloured students, are taking their studies increasingly seriously. They know the consequences of affirmative action and accept the importance of being well qualified if they want to find jobs."

He acknowledges that the traditionally white universities have good infrastructures, but dismisses the perception that they are wealthy. The bulk of their funding comes from government and students' fees. Money from the private sector is invariably earmarked for specific projects.

"Stellenbosch University has fine buildings and adequate equipment because it was established in 1866 and has had time to acquire them," he said.

The rector expressed concern at results of a recent international survey in which South African schoolchildren came last in maths and science. As a result, the university is doing what it can to encourage the sciences. Among its projects are special Saturday classes for matric pupils at the local Khayamandi High School. The school produced good results last year. Community work, in fact, is a vital part of the university's outreach programme in disadvantaged communities.

Despite these commendable efforts, change is in the air. What is the future of the university? The rector has his own vision. Ten years down the track, he says, it will be run in an even more businesslike fashion. It must be with funding constantly being curtailed, it has become imperative for universities to become ultra-efficient.

Van Wyk added: "The University of Stellenbosch is playing an important role in the development of South African society. I would like to see Stellenbosch remain one of the top research institutions with an even higher percentage of post-graduate students and, therefore, a very good research staff. We must retain, and improve, our international standing. More important, if we want to compete with the rest of the world, we must continue to improve standards. And we must continue to support the process of socio-economic development and growth in South Africa through education, research and community service. I have confidence in our young people as I have in the future of this university. The quality is there."

(54) CT 2/4/97

Define students' role

(54) Semeton 4/4/97

THE RECENT publication of the Government's Green Paper on higher education represents a radical break with a system that was fraught with imbalances, inequalities and a disproportional spread of resources that was not in line with the demographics of the country.

The Ministry of Education has done well by accepting most of the recommendations of the National Commission of Higher Education.

Hopefully, the new legislation will usher in a new era of a peaceful, dynamic and growing system of higher education that we have never experienced before.

This has been a result of a process of consultation. What is even more commendable is that all role-players and interest groups with a legitimate stake in higher education were consulted on the Green Paper.

This process is not easy especially when one considers the often diverse views of various student groupings on the one hand and management representatives on the other.

While this is necessary at this stage of transition, one cannot but pity those drafters of legislation who face the task of blending some of the irreconcilable differences.

For example, students argue very strongly for the legislation of the Broad Transformation Forums (BTF), while other sectors argue for the retention of councils as supreme statutory governing bodies of institutions.

The other hotly debated matter is that of student access to, or "massification" of, higher education. While this is necessary to educate the nation and meet the country's human resources needs, the main problem is the lack of Government funding of such an exercise.

Capital projects

How can institutions be expected to admit more students (especially from disadvantaged communities) when no money is provided for capital projects to cope with such growth and expansion?

What is even worse is that students may not even have money to pay for class and accommodation fees. The National Student Fund will not be able to cope with the demand for more funds.

The result is that universities and technikons are forced to bear the brunt and pay the costly price of rapid change which, while necessary, could have been better managed.

The Green Paper is rather vague or silent on various issues such as the exact location of colleges in a single coordinated system of higher education, as well as in other areas – but the central area of silence is in the area of institutional governance.

It is such a pity because the success or failure

Endless running battles will doubtless continue in tertiary institutions unless new legislation tackles university funding.

Aubrey Mokadi explains why ...

of a transformed system of higher education will be manifested on our campuses. Conversely, campuses have the most potential for undermining the new system or making it work.

This is where the Green Paper ought to focus. This is where real change and transformation ought to happen.

More than half of our higher education institutions have experienced turmoil within the first quarter of the year, to the extent that some of them were forced to close. What are the issues?

The issues have nothing to do with illegitimate governing structures or similar undemocratic matters, but mainly have to do with funding: unpaid fees, accommodation fees, an increase in class fees, access and registration fees, and so on.

One would have thought that impending new legislation on higher education would bring hope especially to students, seeing that they would be represented in various areas of governance both at a systemic and institutional level – something that was never a practice in the history of higher education in this country before. But no, that is not enough for students.

But surely when we, as vice chancellors, have opened doors to negotiate with all student representatives, I would like to think that sanity and sobriety would not allow us to differ so much and be so conflicting that the institution would be at stake as a result of these differences.

Most institutions have gradually accepted the important role students play in the governance of higher education, and some of them have elevated student matters to a point where senior staff such as vice rectors or deans handle these to ensure they are discussed at top management. Yet for our students this is not enough.

As the Green Paper seeks to transform institutional governance and management practices, it also has to equally propagate a significant change in student attitudes.

It does seem to me that unless the new legislation defines very clearly the role of students and the degree of participation, we will continue to have endless running battles on our campuses.

If every decision-making process is drawn out and protracted, I am afraid that we are fast approaching the time when almost every decision will be an area of contestation by various stakeholders, staff and students.

While it is true that in matters of importance



the input of those who would be affected should be solicited, reality and experience tell us that the process is arduous, painful and conflictual.

One may involve students in the budgetary process, but students may reject almost out of hand a hike in class fees in spite of having been part of the whole process of consultation and negotiation.

The point is that, after having gone the extra mile in consultation, transparency and negotiation, the price of democracy becomes too costly – especially when it does not bear fruit.

Sufficient consensus

Just where do we draw the line? What is it that should be negotiated and what should not? When decisions are taken democratically, who is responsible when such decisions are detrimental to the institution?

To what extent should one negotiate? What are the limits? Do we need to involve that controversial term "sufficient consensus"? What happens when there is a stalemate?

The Green Paper avoids dealing with these matters. The Government's response to this – through the Green Paper – is to call for the establishment of the BTF.

This would be a partial answer and would not solve the problems raised above. To establish a BTF is a very simplistic attempt to solve the issues of responsibility and accountability.

Problems of values, attitudes, suspicions and so on can never be solved by the establishment of any particular structure.

The ultimate aim of a transformation process is to create an environment in which decisions taken by management would be sensitive to the concerns of those affected by such decisions.

The best way of realising this outcome is to absorb students and staff into various organs of governance within an institution. We at the Vaal Triangle Technikon have taken a bold step in doing exactly that.

While we have to recognise that no system is flawless, especially when the stakes are high and everyone needs representation, we are optimistic that with time we shall navigate the minefields of transformation successfully.

(Professor Mokadi is the rector and vice chancellor of the Vaal Triangle Technikon, Vanderbijlpark.)

Higher education needs new look

Lowetian 7/4/97 (54)

By Verne Kleinsmidt

THE RECENT student protests at tertiary institutions over financial exclusions and a disappointing higher education budget allocation has highlighted the problems in its transformation.

Amid the turmoil, a Green Paper on Higher Education Transformation was released to the public for discussion and debate.

The Green Paper represents a stage in a democratic process of consultation between the Government and the broadest possible range of interests and stakeholders involved with higher education.

It is a document that presents to the public the new Government's proposed strategy to reconstruct and improve a sector of education which is plagued with problems.

The Green paper proposes principles which will underpin transformation of this sector and which reflect a process of thorough research and commitment to overhauling the critical aspect of the development of South African society.

The Green Paper proposes a new funding framework that is a welcome departure from past unequal and inefficient allocations to institutions and students.

This proposed new approach has as one of its components earmarked funding to provide specific funds for targeted redress programmes.

In this year's education budget, the higher education community was presented with increases in the general subsidy formulae and informed that the allocations for education are internationally comparable.

While this should not be used as justification for an insufficient allocation, it does provide some indication of our level of development. However, it does not indicate South Africa's specific conditions or where energies need to be focused for transformation.

Inadequate

The increases are of course welcome, but for higher education they will not adequately satisfy a transformation process that requires such fundamental change at all levels.

The student protests over financial exclusions which went ahead even with an increase in the higher education budget signals that the deep-seated problems around student finance remain almost untouched by the increases.

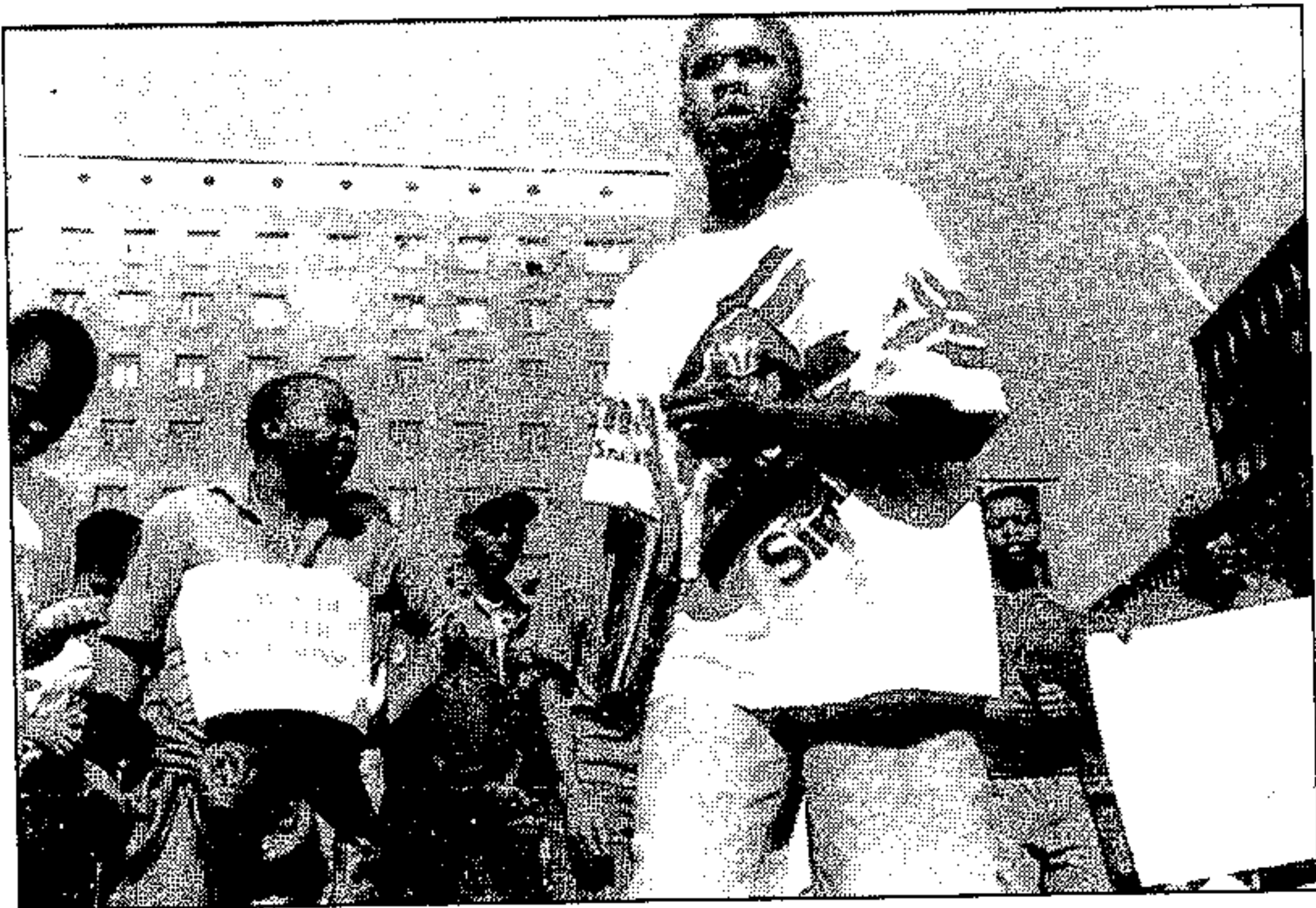
One of the major thrusts of transformation in the Green Paper is increased access or participation in higher education. Increasing access and therefore enrolment in higher education institutions, requires that students previously denied entry because of a lack of funds are now given an opportunity to participate in the system.

The state has to assume some financial responsibility to ensure greater participation and access to higher education.

Institutions already beset by problems relating to finance are struggling to deal with subsidy cuts. It is acknowledged that the subsidy cuts were not as severe as expected.

But even with the 2.8 percent increase in the education budget, the 12.8 percent increase in the general subsidy formula in the higher education budget and R300 million promised for financial aid, some institutions have had to close down temporarily (Fort Hare and The University of the

State should consider conditional amnesty for student debt



Flashback ... recent student protests at tertiary institutions over financial exclusions have highlighted problems in the transformation of higher education.

North), and others have had to operate with lower subsidies.

Also, with subsidies down three percentage points from last year, some institutions have increased their tuition fees. This bodes ill for the funding of the National Student Financial Aid and loan Scheme (NSFAS) and the crisis around financial exclusions.

One of the key areas of concern that have emerged around tertiary education finance is the national student debt, which has been dealt with inadequately by the higher education Green Paper.

The Green Paper has committed the Ministry to lifelong learning, increased participation and increased responsiveness as key features of higher education transformation.

In view of this approach, the issue of financial exclusions of those students who have been most disadvantaged conflicts with the general thrust of the Green Paper proposals.

The treatment by the Government of the current crisis around the R300 million student debt is not just a student problem. There is a historical context to the student debt:

- The student debt was accumulated in a context where there has been no government support or commitment to the NSFAS (the present scheme was started in 1996);

- Many students in debt come from the majority of the population who earn salaries which can barely meet basic needs, let alone carry the costs of higher education;

- Higher education institutions and secondary education institutions have not, and still do not, adequately prepare students for choices around higher education costs and payments;

- Poor secondary school results in subjects such as mathematics and science often excluded black students from accessing bursaries and loans from the few non-governmental private bursary and loan options; and

- The struggle for democracy as well as inadequate preparation caused by apartheid schooling means students often spent more than the required time to complete their degrees and diplomas, and thus continue to increase their debt.

In order to attempt to alleviate the problem in the above-mentioned context, the Government should consider granting a set period of conditional

amnesty for the student debt, as has been done with the recent tax and rates amnesty.

Key to this strategy will be transparency and the development of a solid partnership between students and institutions around financial aid. Institutions will need to develop the capacity and skills required for better financial management to service students adequately.

The role of institutions cannot be passive in this process. It will be necessary for them to take on more responsibility in the administration of student financial aid.

Students will have to be committed to dealing constructively with the crisis and therefore cooperating with government in recovering as large a portion of the debt as possible.

Amnesty

During the period of amnesty, investigation into the actual debt should be commissioned by government. The investigation should look into:

- The number of students who have defaulted as a result of a genuine inability to pay their fees;

- The number of graduates who have defaulted and are able to pay;

- Alternative sources of interim funding to cover the debt, such as the Reconstruction and Development Programme fund, as this could enable institutions which have closed down to become operational again;

- The work of the Eminent Persons Group – a committee set up by the Education Minister to rally donor support for student financial aid – should be reviewed and more effort be put into donor support and feeding this funding into the NSFAS.

Financial exclusions as a result of student debt demonstrate the unresolved tension between students and institutions, and is what has resulted in the financial crisis.

This is a financial crisis for which neither of the two players are responsible, and for which they should not have to pay the price, whether in the form of closure or exclusions.

● The second part of this article will look at the National Student Financial Aid Scheme tomorrow.

(The writer is a policy analyst with the Centre for Education Policy Development, Evaluation and Management, Johannesburg.)

ANCYL urges students to pay

(54) 27814197

JOHANNESBURG: In a move likely to create tension between it and the SA Students' Congress (Sasco), the ANC Youth League (ANCYL) has called on all students who are able to pay their fees to do so.

At its Youth Policy conference here at the weekend, the ANCYL said that if students who could pay their fees did so, it would enable the national student aid scheme to help those who could not afford to.

The ANC-aligned Sasco and other students' organisations embarked earlier this year on a national campaign to have all students' debts scrapped.

The ANCYL has also called for compulsory graduate community service to plough skills back into communities. — Political Staff

Protesting students teargassed in Durban

(54)

Durban - Police fired teargas to disperse several hundred protesting students at Durban's Technikon Natal yesterday.

The students locked the gates to parking areas on campus on Tuesday night and distributed pamphlets warning other students that the institution would be closed yesterday.

At 10am police fired teargas after the students refused to disperse during a march on the office of the principal, Professor Bennie Khoapa.

Student leader Nkanyiso Mnembe said the students were protesting against the management's failure to respond to a memorandum of demands.

Mnembe said the police's intervention had been unnecessary because the protest had been peaceful.

Technikon spokesman Kim Roderick said it was not true that the management had failed to respond. Almost all the issues were being investigated. Students and staff were requested to go home, but it was hoped classes would resume today.

The students' demands include financial assistance for needy students, additional residential accommodation and lower food prices in the canteen. - Sapa.

Row over Rhodes 'rape week' hoax as women fake attacks

MIKE EARL-TAYLOR

ARG 12/4/99

(54)

Grahamstown - A furore has erupted over the fake rapes on the Rhodes University campus, with the student representative council (SRC) accusing vice-chancellor David Woods of trying to downplay the problem.

To the sound of loud screams, students on three occasions this week pretended a rape was taking place, once at 10pm outside the main library on the corner of Prince Alfred Street and University Road. The acts formed part of "rape week".

On Wednesday Dr Woods responded with a circular calling the fake rapes "very stupid and irresponsible behaviour".

Yesterday SRC vice-president Linda Pledger said: "Our response to Dr Woods in respect of the rape hoaxes is that to deny the fact there is a very real threat to female students everywhere is totally unrealistic.

"The obvious fact that a faked rape was staged simply reiterates the lack of campus security.

"Although the SRC had no knowledge of these incidents until the letter was distributed, it must be remembered that most date rapes go unreported."

Ms Pledger said the SRC had just completed a rape awareness campaign and had asked students to wear purple ribbons as a statement of protest.

"We are trying to put across to students that the Rhodes campus is not immune to the incidence of rape and until campus security is upgraded students must be conscious of the dangers."

She said the awareness campaign had a lot of support from male students and staff.

Grahamstown police spokesman Captain George Green said they had received no reports of the faked rapes.

Two weeks ago Grahamstown police announced that 181 incidents of rape had been reported in Grahamstown and almost 750 in the surrounding Albany area last year.

Rhodes University spokeswoman Mary Burnett yesterday emphasised there had been no reported rapes on the campus last year or in the present academic year.

"The university is always very concerned about the safety of its students and female students are frequently urged not to walk alone on the campus at nights and to be with other students," she said. - Ecna

Five seek top posts at Wits

(54)

Five applicants have been short-listed for the three vacant deputy vice-chancellor positions at the University of the Witwatersrand, the university said yesterday.

Candidates will be invited to give a public lecture and will also be interviewed by the senior appointments selection committee. The interviews will be televised on closed-circuit TV to the university community.

The candidates, including three South Africans, are:

■ South African-born Professor Jan Boeyens (62), the former dean of the science faculty and now head of the chemistry department and director of the Centre for Molecular Design.

Boeyens studied and lectured at various universities in the United States, Germany and the United Kingdom;

■ South African-born Professor Mzamo Mangaliso (48), who is associate professor at the School of Management at the University of Massachusetts in the US. He holds a tenured associate professorship and has

been lecturing to masters- and doctoral-level students.

He obtained his BSc degree with chemistry and physics from the University of Fort Hare and lectured there before going to the Graduate School of Business at Cornell University in 1994 to do an MBA.

He obtained his PhD in strategic planning at the University of Massachusetts in 1988;

■ Professor Tuntufye Selemani Mwamwenda (52), who was born in Tanzania and who is currently assistant to the vice-chancellor of the University of Transkei, which he joined in 1988. He has held the post of acting deputy vice-chancellor and various other positions, including dean of the faculty of education.

Mwamwenda obtained his masters degree in education at both the State University of New York and the University of Ottawa, Canada. He lectured at the University of Alberta in Canada, before returning to Africa to a post at the University of Botswana.

■ Professor Adclani Ogunrinade (46), currently head of the department of veterinary microbiology and parasitology at the University of Ibadan in Nigeria.

He graduated in veterinary medicine from the University of Ibadan before going to London where he obtained two MScs in parasitology and immunology, followed by a PhD in medical helminthology from the University of London. Ogunrinade was born in Nigeria.

■ South African-born Dr Sibisi Sibusiso (42), who is currently chairman of Massive Inference Techniques Limited at Cambridge in England.

In 1974 Sibusiso went to Britain to do A-levels and eventually went on to Cambridge to gain a PhD in the department of applied mathematics and theoretical physics. He returned to South Africa to lecture at Wits in applied mathematics from 1984 to 1989.

He left Wits in 1989 to return to Cambridge, where he held various academic posts before going into industry. - Sapa

NEWS EAST RAND-PRETORIA**University still closed as
dispute continues** *Samet an 15/4/97* (54)**By Khathu Mamaila**

THE University of Venda remained closed yesterday after management and students failed to resolve a dispute relating to the 13 percent fee increase.

The university was closed more than two weeks ago when students boycotted classes to put pressure on the university management not to proceed with the increase.

Senior management officials of the university were reported to be in an urgent meeting yesterday with student leaders as the situation on campus was reported to be tense after clashes between police and students led by the Azanian Student Convention last Friday.

Azasco deputy president Mr Boiki Tsedu said police used rubber bullets to disperse more than a thousand students on Friday. He said Azasco would not

accept the fee increase as it could not be justified.

"We are not resisting the increase for fun," said Tsedu. "The reality is that there has been a lot of unjustified spending by certain officials and the poor students are expected to foot the bill. We will not be intimidated because we have no option but to oppose the fee increase."

Budgetary projections

Earlier Univen public relations officer Mr Waldamer Budeli said student representatives had agreed to the 13 percent fee increase that was also approved by the council last December.

He said the increment was based on the budgetary projections for the 1997-98 financial year. He added the increase was only announced after a formal agreement had been reached between management and student leaders.

University closed after boycotts

Empangeni - The University of Zululand has been closed until further notice after students ignored an ultimatum to return to class yesterday, university spokesman Carl de Villiers said.

He said a group of students began boycotting lectures on Monday, demanding that cash-strapped students be allowed to register without paying the required fees upfront. - Sapa.

(54) Star 16/4/97

back Lekota for senior ANC post

Lekota is currently the only directly elected ANC national executive committee (NEC) member in the top 60 of the NEC. Two other Free State representatives are part of 18 representatives drawn into the NEC from all provinces.

Lekota's name was mentioned in the recent leadership debacle in the North West ANC, where regional chairman and North West Premier Popo Molefe was reported to have insisted that Lekota's name be included in the final list of nominees, even though members had voted him out.

According to the list sent to The Star by the North West executive committee, Lekota's name did not feature at all in the top six. However, Molefe later said Lekota's name was omitted by mistake because he was supposed to have been nominated, together with Mpumalanga Premier Mathews

Phosa, for the position of ANC deputy president.

The North West nominees were Deputy President Thabo Mbeki for president, Phosa as his deputy, Jacob Zuma as national chairman, Cheryl Carolus as secretary-general, Molefe as her deputy and UK high commissioner Mendi Msimang as treasurer-general.

Senior North West ANC members said Molefe was insisting on Lekota because they were friends and he had already promised him the nomination. Molefe denied this.

Lekota said Molefe had approached him to find out if he would be prepared to stand for the deputy presidency, to which he agreed. However, he said the request had nothing to do with their friendship but was based on the confidence people had in his leadership.

Call for tough action on campus vandalism

(54) Star 16/4/97

Durban - The trashing of the Technikon Natal campus in Durban on Monday has been condemned by the ANC Youth League in KwaZulu Natal.

The league yesterday blamed the suspended students' representative council for a rampage through lecture halls in which some students were forced out of lectures and others intimidated and assaulted.

The students were demonstrating against the SRC's suspension and the price of cafeteria food, and were demanding more financial aid.

ANCYL spokesman Sifiso Sonjica said the SRC was manipulating students.

"If needs be, culprits should be suspended and expulsion should

be considered ... the technikon shall have public support."

He said students should distance themselves from a clique in the Azanian Students' Convention and Pan Africanist Students' Organisation that was bent on looting and vandalism.

"The ANCYL (also) calls upon students to distance themselves from racist tendencies practised by the SRC."

More than 500 students handed a note to the office of technikon principal Professor Bennie Khoapa, saying they wanted the suspension of the SRC revoked.

Technikon spokesman Kim Roderick said the march was peaceful. Lectures were continuing and the SRC was expected to meet supporters later in the day. - Sapa.

Hotels host fewer foreign tourists

The number of hotel bed-nights sold to foreign tourists decreased by 13,4% in January this year, the Central Statistical Service said yesterday.

It said 227 263 bed-nights were sold in January, more than 35 000 fewer than the 262 288 sold in January 1996.

The market share of four-star hotels increased by 6,7%, with the most bed-nights being sold in these and three-star hotels.

However, nil-star and five-star

hotels had lost a share of their markets.

The Western Cape showed the largest increase in market shares for January, while there was a 3,9% decrease in the Gauteng market.

According to the Central Statistical Service, more bed-nights were sold to foreign tourists from Africa, Europe and Central and South America, while the North American market showed a slight decrease. - Sapa.

University closed after boycotts

Empangeni - The University of Zululand has been closed until further notice after students ignored an ultimatum to return to class yesterday, university spokesman Carl de Villiers said.

He said a group of students began boycotting lectures on Monday, demanding that cash-strapped students be allowed to register without paying the required fees upfront. - Sapa.



TOTAL FREEDOM WARRANTY
3 YEAR WARRANTY given by The Mobile Phone Store on all phones sold by us.

AKTAKING CLEARANCE

ALSO OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY 26 and 27 APRIL



Bundy is backed for top post

(54)

M+G 18-24/4/97

Mungo Soggot

COLIN BUNDY, vice-rector at the University of the Western Cape (UWC), has emerged as a leading contender for the politically charged top job at Wits.

The widely respected historian, closely associated with UWC's transformation, confirmed this week he had accepted nomination for the post. Bundy, it is believed, enjoys strong support on the Wits campus and is said to have the backing of several black academics.

The university's student magazine, *Wits Student*, this week gave Bundy its backing, dubbing him a "healthy contender for vice-chancellorship".

The university's selection committee is due to meet next week, after the deadline for applications for the post closed last Monday. It is believed that only two candidates have been nominated. Other candidates could emerge at a later stage of the selection process.

A second nomination is Mala Singh, director of the Human Sciences Research Council. Singh, formerly at University of Durban-Westville, previously applied for a deputy vice-chancellorship at Wits. She could not be contacted at the time of going to press.

Wits was forced to readvertise the post in February after being dumped at the eleventh hour by Professor Sam Nolutshungu, a South African currently teaching at the University of Rochester in the United States.

Nolutshungu was chosen to lead Wits into the next century after beating two rivals — Wits deputy vice-chancellor June Sinclair and University of the North vice-chancellor Njabulo Ndabele. He scored over them at a public grilling in the university's Great Hall last October.

But Nolutshungu faxed the university in January to say he was pulling out for "health reasons". He has, in the meantime, accepted a new, better-paid post at Rochester.

Nolutshungu's antics meant Wits had to start all over again. Robert Charlton, the current vice-chancellor, retires at the end of the year but several academics say there is already a power vacuum.

In an apparent snipe at Nolutshungu, the *Wits Student* said Bundy is "no foreigner to the challenges facing institutions of tertiary education, no lily-livered import".

The selection committee, which includes representatives from several campus constituencies, is also empowered to hunt for and to nomi-

nate candidates. But one academic says Wits was unlikely to have been swamped with applications from capable candidates in the wake of the last selection process.

Judge Fikile Bam, chair of the university's council, has previously said the recruitment process would be a mix of advertising and head-hunting, where identified candidates would be "encouraged" to apply.

Bundy was first touted as a contender before the post was advertised, enjoying support among constituencies who had previously favoured Ndebele.

Both Ndebele and Sinclair decided not to submit themselves to the Wits process again. The latter, previously linked with Crawford College's plans for an "Ivy League" university, confirmed this week that she had been offered a senior administrative post at the University of Pretoria.

It was still unclear this week whether the South African Students Congress (Sasco), a strong proponent of radical campus transformation, will throw its weight behind Bundy's appointment.

A spokesman said the organisation had not yet decided on its support. He said Sasco would be meeting this weekend to discuss its stance.

Wits staff fight over 'slipping standards'

M+G 18-24/4/97

(64)

The Education Ministry dismisses concerns about the quality of university degrees as 'racist', report **Mungo Soggot** and **Stuart Hess**

A PUBLIC row has erupted at Wits University between two of its top academics over whether its drive to bring in previously disadvantaged students has eroded standards.

Professor Charles van Onselen, a historian, says the quality of the university's teaching has been compromised by its efforts to cater for students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

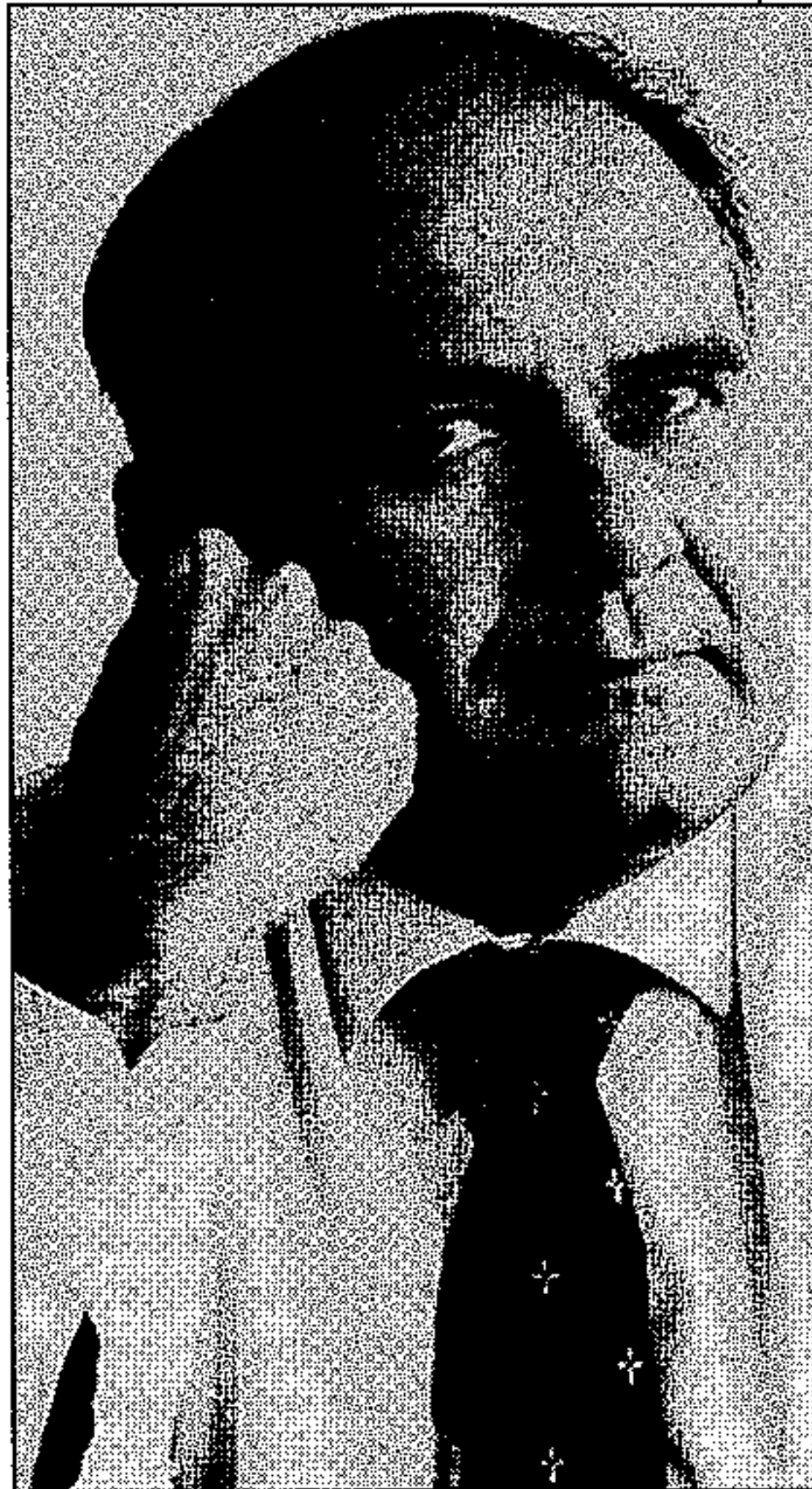
Van Onselen — who last year spearheaded the opposition to Wits former deputy vice-chancellor William Makgoba — says academics now also have to coach previously disadvantaged post-matric students before they can begin teaching the contents of the degree courses. This has undoubtedly hit standards, he says, singling out "the soft underbelly stuff that brings in most students — the humanities and social sciences".

But the dean of the arts faculty, Professor Gerrit Olivier, says the "end products" from Wits are as sound as before — despite the fact that many resources are spent bringing students from disadvantaged backgrounds up to speed.

The dispute is symptomatic of the debate raging across tertiary education. Wits has resorted to heavy advertising to try to allay fears that its standards have fallen.

The Education Ministry, however, this week dismissed concerns that standards were falling, claiming such arguments are racist.

The two academics have crossed swords in the pages of the weekly *Financial Mail*. Olivier sought to shoot down Van Onselen's opinions, writing to the magazine: "Professor van Onse-



Charles van Onselen: His opinion is 'not borne out' PHOTOGRAPH: RUTH MOTAU

len's statement that standards in the humanities and social sciences at Wits are declining is not borne out by the evidence at my disposal.

"It is true that in the first year lecturers often have to explain things that should have been done at secondary school." But he added that "while entrance criteria can be flexible ... the quality of the degree is guarded fiercely".

Olivier told the *Mail & Guardian* that he cannot settle the matter by showing exam papers from the past five years as the university does not keep past papers.

But he says examiners are not inflating marks to compensate students who have been through Bantu Education. "We need to offer all students a real guarantee that they are not getting an inferior degree," he says.

He concedes there is a perception that Wits has slipped, encouraging students from wealthy backgrounds to

head for other universities.

Olivier says that because many students do not obtain the required matric grades, Wits sets an admissions test to check whether they have the potential to graduate. Students are now often taking four years to finish a three-year degree.

"It is true that many students are badly prepared for university. But correcting that does not inevitably affect the quality [of teaching]." However, efforts to bring many students up to speed did drain resources.

Olivier adds that Wits students also have no trouble going to foreign universities: "They still get bursaries and scholarships. There has been no drop in the standard because the quality of the end product is the same."

Van Onselen, who says he is still looking for posts abroad after failing to secure a top job at Oxford University, says the vocational disciplines have an easier time maintaining standards as professional bodies or industry-backed institutes maintain qualification standards.

Thami Mseleku, special adviser to the Education Minister, Sibusiso Bengu, says that the idea that tertiary education standards are dropping is racist.

"They are saying that with the old participants the standards were higher, but since students from other races were brought in these standards have dropped. Such an argument is based on race."

Humanities and arts degrees are losing value all over the world, Mseleku says, as demands rise for disciplines such as science and engineering.

"The people who can finance these faculties are investing the money in subjects which have an immediate impact in the world," he adds.

The Education Department's chief director for higher education, Itumeleng Mosala, says the government also wants to put more emphasis on science, technology and engineering degrees. Student numbers on such courses already help determine government subsidies to individual institutions.

Lessons back on at Venda university

By PHALANE MOTALE

(54)

CP 20/4/97
LECTURES resumed conditionally at the trouble-torn University of Venda, Northern Province on Friday after student riots led to the closure of the campus last week.

Nearly 4 000 students were crowded in villages around Thohoyandou after the university's management ordered them off the campus and called in the police.

University spokesman Waldemar Budeli announced on Thursday that students would be allowed back on campus and lessons would resume on Friday.

However, only registered students will be allowed to return – on condition they sign an undertaking to abide by the institution's rules.

He said the decision to re-open the university was taken at a meeting between university management student bodies' representatives on Wednesday – excluding the Azanian Student Convention (Azasco), which has vowed not to stop fighting against the 13 percent fee increase.

□ Meanwhile, the Northern Province education department has not yet decided to re-open the Bosele School for the blind and deaf, in Nebo, which was closed indefinitely last week after ongoing disruptions.

A department spokesman said the school would only be re-opened when there was a definite commitment from both students and teachers to restore order.

The trouble started earlier this year when armed students ousted the principal after he allegedly refused to attend to their grievances.

Some teachers then pledged their support for the school's principal and boycotted classes.

But the last straw was when the department ordered the teachers to resume their lessons – only for them to be assaulted by some pupils.

The PAC in the province this week appealed to the education department to re-open the school.

"When we tried to intervene, the department referred us to the superintendent-general, Professor ZM Chuenyane, who is never available for a meeting.

"A committee should be formulated to investigate the problems at the school and submit a detailed report to the department for consideration," he said.

Education funding set to be revamped

BD 21/4/97

(54)

Kevin O'Grady

WIDE-ranging changes to the funding and governance of higher education institutions, but which stop short of some drastic changes demanded by student organisations, have been published in draft form by the education ministry.

Education director-general Chabani Manganyi released the draft white paper on higher education and the draft higher education bill in Pretoria on Friday and called for public submissions before the documents were submitted for the cabinet's approval in June.

After the cabinet's approval, the white paper will be published as a formal statement of government's policy on higher education transformation and the bill will be prepared for introduction in Parliament during the current session.

The white paper proposes the planning, governing and funding of the higher education system as a single national co-ordinated system and redefines the sector as one consisting of all learning programmes leading to qualifications higher than the proposed further education certificate or the current standard 10 certificate.

This includes colleges of education and agriculture, the responsibility for which would shift, in terms of the paper, from provincial education departments to the national department.

The white paper commits government to ensuring equity and redress at institutions but stops short of forcing institutions to establish transformation forums on campus and rules out free higher education as demanded by

groups such as the SA Students' Congress (Sasco).

The document says that the relative proportion of public funding used to support academically able but disadvantaged students must be increased along with envisaged increased access to institutions.

However, limited real growth in public expenditure meant that institutions would be required to "mobilise greater private resources as well as to reallocate their operating grants internally", according to the white paper.

"Increased access must not lead to a revolving-door syndrome for black students, with high failure and drop-out rates... Public funds earmarked for achieving redress and equity must be linked to measurable progress towards improving quality and reducing the high drop-out and repetition rates."

The white paper guarantees academic freedom and institutional autonomy, but links this to public accountability, and says the ministry has "no responsibility or wish to micromanage institutions".

It recognises institutions' councils as their highest decision-making bodies while the draft bill dictates that at least 60% of council members must come from outside the institutions.

The white paper and the bill provide, however, for the appointment by Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu of an independent assessor to investigate circumstances at institutions that involve financial or other maladministration or that seriously undermine the institution's functioning.

Continued on Page 2

Education

(54)

Continued from Page 1

Funding proposals remain largely unchanged from the previously released 'green paper' dealing with the sector, providing for general purpose block funding for institutions and for earmarked funds to achieve specific purposes such as redress, capital works and equipment and student financial aid.

The white paper says "free higher education for students is not an affordable or sustainable option" and proposes a "well-functioning student financial aid scheme" similar to the one in existence. The option of a single, capitalised public endowment or trust fund was not viable and could not be

supported by government as "the initial capitalisation required would be far too great for the state to contemplate" and would require "massive periodic recapitalisation if insolvency were to be avoided".

Contrary to demands by Sasco and other student groups, the draft bill allows councils of public institutions to determine language policy and to refuse admission to students who fail to satisfy minimum requirements.

The bill also bars any person who holds public office or who is in the full-time employ of the state from being a council member or from being appointed as chancellor of a higher education institution — a move likely to affect President Nelson Mandela, his deputy Thabo Mbeki and Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi, who all hold chancellorships.

Almost half SA's new graduates are women

Susan Russell

54) 9298
00 21/4/97

THE gender imbalance that existed among SA's graduates a decade ago has almost disappeared, with women now making up almost half the number of people who graduate from local universities, according to latest figures.

Results of a Human Sciences Research Council survey published this month show that women now make up almost 50% of graduates, against 39% in 1985. The HSRC analysis is based on figures from 1980 to 1994.

However, the survey also found that during the same period, women were underrepresented in high-paying occupations and earned income packages that were considerably lower than those of their male counterparts.

During this period the number of women who qualified in the human, medical and management sciences increased while the natural sciences remained largely male-dominated.

At the same time the number of graduates who qualified in natural sciences decreased from 22% in 1985 to 17% in 1994, while the percentage of human and management science graduates increased 3% to 48% and 26% respectively.

By 1994 more than 35% of graduates held postgraduate qualifications, although the medical sciences lagged in this respect, with only 18% completing a second degree.

The top wage earners in 1990 and 1994 were self-employed stockbrokers.

Cape students owe

R42 million in fees

UWC'S VICE-RECTOR of student affairs has urged the government to call an urgent summit to tackle the problem of student arrears. Political writer **HENRY LUDSKI** reports.



UNIVERSITIES and technicians in the Western Cape are owed a staggering R42 million in unpaid student fees — of which R18m is owed to the cash-strapped University of the Western Cape alone.

Stock figures released in Parliament last week by Education Minister Dr Sibusiso Bengu put the combined amount owed by students at the country's universities at about R80m.

Technikons, particularly those that have a large number of students from disadvantaged communities, have a similar problem.

Bengu, replying to questions, gave the amount owed to the University of Cape Town as R7,4m. The University of Stellenbosch is owed R3,07m. UWC is owed double Vista University's debt of R9m. This puts UWC students among the worst defaulters in the country.

UWC's vice-rector of student affairs, Professor Ikey van de Rhee, has called on the government to convene an urgent summit to address the problem.

"It... has to be addressed at a national level and unless this is done we are not really going to get anywhere," said Van de Rhee.

At the beginning of last year, UWC had a student debt of R29m, of which it has recovered about R7m.

An additional problem is that since last year, UWC's allocation for student financial assistance has been reduced from R22m to R16,6m.

For the first time, UWC was considering — among the drastic steps it might have to take to ensure it could perform optimally — staff redeployment and the possibility of not filling vacancies, Van de Rhee said.

The rector, Professor Cecil Abra-

hams, had sought additional funding from Bengu and Minister of Finance Mr Trevor Manuel, but had not yet had a positive response.

In his 1997/98 Budget, Manuel has allocated an additional R100m for student assistance, but even this is not expected to change the picture significantly for struggling institutions.

Universities, facing steady cut-backs in funding and dealing with student turbulence, have also had to contend in the past few years with huge numbers of students needing financial assistance.

Although the government-initiated National Student Financial Aid Scheme has brought some relief, it has not gone near solving the cash crisis.

Financial assistance was one of the issues that Bengu, replying to a question by the ANC's Professor Selby Ripinga, said was the subject of "urgent and serious" investigation by his department.

Peninsula Technikon's rector, Mr Brian Figaji, said yesterday that the Commission on Higher Education, of which he was a member, had looked at the financing of tertiary institutions.

CT 21/4/97

(514)

Debt burden

WESTERN Cape universities and technikons are owed the following amounts in arrear fees:

- R18,8 million — University of the Western Cape
- R7,43m — University of Cape Town
- R3,07m — University of Stellenbosch
- R7,5m — Peninsula Technikon
- R6m — Cape Technikon

Historically, black universities and technikons, which generally have the highest percentage of students from disadvantaged communities, have had to shoulder the bulk of the bad debt.

They have also been burdened with a state subsidy formula that is biased in favour of historically more privileged institutions. The formula, carried over from the apartheid system, is being reviewed by the government.

UCT and Stellenbosch, with their smaller debt burden, are in the more fortunate position of having, in the main, a wealthy student population and the administrative back-up to pursue student debtors.

UCT's registrar, Mr Hugh Amore, said the university expected to recover most of its debt.

"The amount of R7,4m was out of a total payable in 1996 of R144m," he said.

"We expect that we will recover most of this and that we will write off less than one percent."

Amore said UCT would apply a range of measures in collecting debts. These included refusing to release results or to allow readmission, or not allowing students to graduate if they had outstanding fees.

The university also used "all the measures open to a creditor" to recover amounts owing, including debt-collection agencies and attorneys, Amore said.

Almost half the graduates in 1994

in SA were women
(54) SA 22/4/97

The gender imbalances that existed among graduates a decade ago have virtually been eradicated, the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) says in its latest edition of The Graduate.

It said in 1985 only 39% of those who graduated from South African universities were women, whereas in 1994 women constituted almost half of the graduates.

More than 35% of all graduates in South Africa held a postgraduate qualification in 1994. Medical sciences lagged behind the natural, human and management sciences with only 18% completing a second degree.

Also, the percentage of graduates who qualified in the natural sciences decreased from 22% in 1985 to 17% in 1994.

Human sciences and management science graduates both increased by 3%, to 48% and 26% respectively.

The latest HSRC survey monitoring occupational income of graduates in South Africa found that the average income package of self-employed people was R142 600 a year. Employees in the public sector earned R90 300 and employees in the private sector R117 100. - Sapa.

'Substantial increase' in financial aid for students

(54) SA 22/4/97

Draft Bill on Higher Education aims to reduce the duplication of courses and hopes to achieve 'collaboration' between institutions

By ADAM COOKE

The Government will use financial incentives to encourage different education institutions to collaborate, according to the Draft Bill on Higher Education released by the Education Department.

But the Education Department warned that the entire sector would also be rationalised.

Department of Education deputy director-general Trevor Coombe told a press briefing that the draft bill aimed to encourage different institutions to work towards a "sensible collaboration" that will reduce the current widespread duplication of courses.

The bill stresses that such co-operation is important in that it is the forerunner of the new system of organisation at the higher education level.

"But rationalisation must take place ... some very hard decisions should be taken in this regard," said Coombe, without providing any details on how this would happen.

Speculation has it that the country's six Afrikaans institutions could be targeted in this regard, and that regions which are oversupplied with higher education institutions could face cutbacks.

The draft bill goes on to propose that unregulated local and international private institutions need to be brought into the fold and monitored.

"There is a high potential for students to be ripped off in these centres," said Coombe. He added that private institutions needed to be regulated in line with the aims of increasing access and ensuring a quality service.

A process of registering all private

institutions will begin shortly.

It was also announced that the proportion of public funds allocated to the National Student Financial Aid Scheme would be "increased substantially".

But this funding, as with all funding to the sector, will be closely targeted to meet the goals of equity and redress.

The department's chief director of higher learning, Professor Itumeleng Mosala, said the Government would drive transformation by giving leadership through policies and strategies. He warned that institutions would not be given the option whether to transform or not.

The draft bill will for the first time bring all institutions - including colleges, universities and technikons - under one governing roof.

Minister leaves door open for bigger child support benefits

David Greybe

CAPE TOWN — Welfare Minister Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi left the door ajar yesterday for an increase in the controversial R75 monthly grant for the poorest of children under government plans for a new child support benefit scheme.

She conceded that the public hearings on the new scheme had produced "many very important" inputs.

Fraser-Moleketi said she would deal with the issues raised at a "major" press conference in Pretoria tomorrow following a meeting between herself and her provincial counterparts.

However, it would be "premature" for her to announce an increase in the proposed flat rate of R75 for each child up to six. A technical team was still investigating the scheme.

The flat rate and other aspects of the scheme came under heavy fire from more than two dozen civil society organisations at a two-day public hearing of the parliamentary welfare committee on the Lund committee report on child and family support.

Fraser-Moleketi said she had not expected the hearings to be easy, but was "not unduly fazed" by criticism.

Government planned to deracialise the scheme, which had benefited coloureds, Indians and whites almost exclusively.

Because of the higher costs to the state of the new scheme, family support would be phased out and the child benefit rate and eligibility cut back.

Fraser-Moleketi chided the public and private organisations for the late-

ness of their comments and suggestions, saying the Lund report had been released in September.

She said it was not her job to defend the figures provided by the Fiscal and Financial Commission for the cost of the scheme, to be phased in from August 1. A number of nongovernmental organisations maintained the figures were incorrect, resulting in a saving for the state at the expense of the poorest of the poor.

At yesterday's hearings the SA National Nongovernment Organisation Coalition argued for an increase in the rate to R135 and a widening of the target figure from the intended poorest 30% to all children living with a care giver whose monthly income was less than R800.

Jacqui Boule, director of the coalition, which represented more than 2 400 non-government bodies, said that if government predictions proved correct, the number of applicants for child benefit in the next five years would drop because of lower unemployment. This meant poverty relief programmes should be a short-term priority, and that the welfare department should provide a reasonable grant to as many people as possible, especially in the light of the short-term savings that the nongovernment bodies claimed would be made.

Welfare committee chairman Cas Saloojee said the committee would hold public hearings in Northern Province and Eastern Cape before it drafted a final report.

Comment: Page 11

Vice-chancellor is given a 'mock funeral'

Kevin O'Grady

STUDENTS abandoned a protest march at Pretoria University yesterday because of a strong police presence and instead held a mock funeral for vice-chancellor Johan van Zyl over the appointment of Reserve Bank governor Chris Stals as university chancellor.

About 100 SA Students' Congress (Sasco) and Pan Africanist Students' Organisation members attended the "funeral" in protest against what they claimed was a lack of transparency in

Stals's appointment, Sasco Gauteng chairman Jacob Mamabolo said.

Another grievance, which would be the focus of a protest march at the University of SA (Unisa) on May 12, was the deployment of police on the Pretoria University and Unisa campuses.

University spokesman Leon Rademeyer dismissed the complaints over Stals's appointment. He said that it was approved by the university's transformation forum — from which Sasco recently withdrew — and the university council.

said copies of the

Need to be more responsive to labour market

CT 23/4/197

(54)

THE RAND AFRIKAANS University in Johannesburg, once a predominantly Afrikaans institution, has undergone a quiet transformation. In another instalment in the series of articles dealing with changes at South African universities, **WINNIE GRAHAM** talks to its rector.

ARCHITECTURALLY, the Rand Afrikaans University in Auckland Park must be one of Johannesburg's most imposing buildings. The concrete austerity of the enormous pillars, however, is not to everyone's liking. A recent visitor to the Reef remarked: "It's so... authoritarian!"

Yet, if the architecture is indeed as overbearing as that remark might suggest, it has little in common with the genial rector of the university, Professor JC Van der Walt.

Far from imposing his views on students, he has gone out of his way to involve them in decisions. That is why, he believes, RAU has not been subjected to the campus trashing and student outbreaks that have occurred at other universities.

Since taking over two years ago, the professor has made a point of keeping open the lines of communication between his office and students.

He says a culture of tolerance permeates RAU. English and Afrikaans-speakers, black, white, coloured and Indian students, all get on with each other.

"I am totally open with student leaders," he said. "I have no hidden agenda. I am happy to provide them with any information they need. Recently the executive committee of the Students Representative Council spent two hours discussing the university's budget with me. As far as we are concerned, the 'struggle' is over. I am happy to involve the students in all aspects of university affairs. I know they want to make a contribution."

The composition of the university council has changed to include three black members and a woman — possibly not a dramatic change but not entirely cosmetic either. The composition will change even more in future.

In the rector's view, much of the university's success stems from its flexible approach to the language question. More and more students who do not speak

we are aware of the needs of English-speaking students. In classes where there is a large concentration of non-Afrikaans students, access to English tuition is in the process of being arranged. Notes are always available in English and Afrikaans."

He has found that students are remarkably adaptable when it comes to language. There has been little resistance to lectures in Afrikaans and within a year or two most are able to speak Afrikaans well. At the same time he accepts that the large numbers of English-speaking students need to be educated in English.

"I feel strongly that Afrikaans will always remain a medium of instruction but it would be unrealistic not to give instruction in another official language if this is feasible," he said.

RAU, of course, has always served a broad constituency. Students come from all parts of Gauteng and beyond, from white and coloured suburbs and black townships, from the richer and the less affluent areas.

When the university opened on February 24, 1968, the then rector, Professor Gerrit van N Vijljoen, accepted the principle of openness.

Coloured students were enrolled from the start but the first black students — who now make up about 25% of the enrolment — arrived more recently. Recently there has been a large influx of Indian students. Even President Mandela had his daughter, Zinzi, enrolled at RAU for a period.

Today the residences are fully integrated and there are no known instances of racial disharmony.

Van der Walt says the university's admission policy is based on matric results and no students of real potential are turned away simply because they cannot afford the fees.

The Tertiary Education Fund, arrangements with banks and bursary funds from the university have made it possible to fund all academically sound students.

RAU is also one of the less expensive universities. Tuition and accommodation at RAU costs round R15 000 a year.

"If the university has a weakness, it is that the staff composition is too white," he said. "We are more than willing to appoint black academics and have embarked on an equal opportunities programme with the intention of appointing black staff with potential, and we hope this programme will

help change the position."

Like all other vice-chancellors and rectors in South Africa, the rector feels as strongly as students about the cuts in government subsidies. His vision, however, goes beyond the immediate needs of students struggling to finance their studies.

"To keep this country competitive, it is imperative that we deliver quality graduates and post-graduates. Our resources are already limited. If the student/staff ratio has to be cut, the quality of education will suffer," he said.

"The government wants tertiary education to be more accessible — yet at the same time funding is being reduced. This is a total contradiction — and a disaster for universities."

Though RAU is a relatively young university (it was established 29 years ago) it has a reputation for "high standards, stability and tolerance." The rector believes the law faculty at RAU is the best in the country, that the departments of accountancy, engineering, natural sciences, chemistry and geology are "strong", that the faculty of education is "highly progressive" and that the department of nursing science is "excellent".

Last year RAU signed a co-operative agreement with Howard University in the United States and is now working out practical ways to start exchange programmes which will benefit both students and academic staff.

Yet, the rector says, when the Howard team came to South Africa last year, a visit to RAU was not on its itinerary.

"Professor Sonya Verwey heard they were in the country and invited them to visit us.

"They were so impressed with our community development programme that they wanted to get involved — a real coup for us," said the professor.

Despite the largely financial problems which beset universities, Van der Walt is excited about RAU's future.

To cope with subsidy cuts, he says, tertiary institutions will have to become more entrepreneurial.

"It is difficult to get no-strings-attached money, but, in view of the declining subsidies, we need to become more responsive to the labour market," he said. "That is our challenge."

□ Winnie Graham is an associate editor on *The Star* in Johannesburg.



PROGRESSIVE PROFESSOR: Prof JC van der Walt, the rector of RAU, says as far as he and his students are concerned 'the struggle' is over.

Afrikaans are enrolling.

"Students have the right to be lectured in one of the official languages — provided it is practical to offer tuition in that language," Van der Walt said.

"Obviously, most lectures are still in Afrikaans but

Need to be more responsive to labour market

(54)

CT 23/4/97

THE RAND AFRIKAANS University in Johannesburg, once a predominantly Afrikaans institution, has undergone a quiet transformation. In another instalment in the series of articles dealing with changes at South African universities, **WINNIE GRAHAM** talks to its rector.

ARCHITECTURALLY, the Rand Afrikaans University in Auckland Park must be one of Johannesburg's most imposing buildings. The concrete austerity of the enormous pillars, however, is not to everyone's liking. A recent visitor to the Reef remarked: "It's so ... authoritarian!"

Yet, if the architecture is indeed as overbearing as that remark might suggest, it has little in common with the genial rector of the university, Professor JC Van der Walt.

Far from imposing his views on students, he has gone out of his way to involve them in decisions. That is why, he believes, RAU has not been subjected to the campus trashing and student outbreaks that have occurred at other universities.

Since taking over two years ago, the professor has made a point of keeping open the lines of communication between his office and students.

He says a culture of tolerance permeates RAU. English and Afrikaans-speakers, black, white, coloured and Indian students, all get on with each other.

"I am totally open with student leaders," he said. "I have no hidden agenda. I am happy to provide them with any information they need. Recently the executive committee of the Students Representative Council spent two hours discussing the university's budget with me. As far as we are concerned, the 'struggle' is over. I am happy to involve the students in all aspects of university affairs. I know they want to make a contribution."

The composition of the university council has changed to include three black members and a woman — possibly not a dramatic change but not entirely cosmetic either. The composition will change even more in future.

In the rector's view, much of the university's success stems from its flexible approach to the language question. More and more students who do not speak

we are aware of the needs of English-speaking students. In classes where there is a large concentration of non-Afrikaans students, access to English tuition is in the process of being arranged. Notes are always available in English and Afrikaans."

He has found that students are remarkably adaptable when it comes to language. There has been little resistance to lectures in Afrikaans and within a year or two most are able to speak Afrikaans well. At the same time he accepts that the large numbers of English-speaking students need to be educated in English.

"I feel strongly that Afrikaans will always remain a medium of instruction but it would be unrealistic not to give instruction in another official language if this is feasible," he said.

RAU, of course, has always served a broad constituency. Students come from all parts of Gauteng and beyond, from white and coloured suburbs and black townships, from the richer and the less affluent areas.

When the university opened on February 24, 1968, the then rector, Professor Gerrit van N Viljoen, accepted the principle of openness.

Coloured students were enrolled from the start but the first black students — who now make up about 25% of the enrolment — arrived more recently. Recently there has been a large influx of Indian students. Even President Mandela had his daughter, Zinzi, enrolled at RAU for a period.

Today the residences are fully integrated and there are no known instances of racial disharmony.

Van der Walt says the university's admission policy is based on matric results and no students of real potential are turned away simply because they cannot afford the fees.

The Tertiary Education Fund, arrangements with banks and bursary funds from the university have made it possible to fund all academically sound students.

RAU is also one of the less expensive universities. Tuition and accommodation at RAU costs round R15 000 a year.

"If the university has a weakness, it is that the staff composition is too white," he said. "We are more than willing to appoint black academics and have embarked on an equal opportunities programme with the intention of appointing black staff with potential, and we hope this programme will

help change the position."

Like all other vice-chancellors and rectors in South Africa, the rector feels as strongly as student about the cuts in government subsidies. His vision however, goes beyond the immediate needs of students struggling to finance their studies.

"To keep this country competitive, it is imperative that we deliver quality graduates and post-graduates. Our resources are already limited. If the student/staff ratio has to be cut, the quality of education will suffer," he said.

"The government wants tertiary education to be more accessible — yet at the same time funding is being reduced. This is a total contradiction — and a disaster for universities."

Though RAU is a relatively young university (it was established 29 years ago) it has a reputation for "high standards, stability and tolerance." The rector believes the law faculty at RAU is the best in the country, that the departments of accountancy, engineering, natural sciences, chemistry and geology are "strong", that the faculty of education is "highly progressive" and that the department of nursing science is "excellent".

Last year RAU signed a co-operative agreement with Howard University in the United States and is now working out practical ways to start exchange programmes which will benefit both students and academic staff.

Yet, the rector says, when the Howard team came to South Africa last year, a visit to RAU was not on its itinerary.

"Professor Sonya Verwey heard they were in the country and invited them to visit us.

"They were so impressed with our community development programme that they wanted to get involved — a real coup for us," said the professor.

Despite the largely financial problems which beset universities, Van der Walt is excited about RAU's future.

To cope with subsidy cuts, he says, tertiary institutions will have to become more entrepreneurial.

"It is difficult to get no-strings-attached money, but, in view of the declining subsidies, we need to become more responsive to the labour market," he said. "That is our challenge."

□ Winnie Graham is an associate editor on *The Star* in Johannesburg.



PROGRESSIVE PROFESSOR: Prof JC van der Walt, the rector of RAU, says as far he and his students are concerned 'the struggle' is over.

Afrikaans are enrolling.

"Students have the right to be lectured in one of the official languages — provided it is practical to offer tuition in that language," Van der Walt said.

"Obviously, most lectures are still in Afrikaans but

Unisa staff slate management (54)

Unofficial vote of no confidence passed after 12,5% salary cut mooted

BY ADAM COOKE

A lobby of staff and student organisations at the University of South Africa in Pretoria has passed an unofficial vote of no confidence in the management of the institution.

The front of organisations, including the Academic and Professional Staff Association (Apsa), the National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union, the South African Parastatal and Tertiary Union (Saptu), the Black Forum and students, told The Star that a rift had developed between the staff and management at the university.

"Something needs to be

done soon. There is confusion over where the university is going and staff are not part of the process," said Saptu chairman Annelize Hartzenberg.

The latest move that has ag-

Proposed cut 'disregards agreed-on principles'

gravated the rift is a proposed 12,5% cut in academic staff salaries.

Staff Association general secretary, Nick Coetzee, said members had been told academics

could face the cut in an attempt to address the institution's financial problems.

Coetzee said a legal response had been delivered to the university management requesting written confirmation that a contract signed last year would be implemented.

"The proposed salary cut disregards the agreed-on principles that staff would be remunerated on market-related lines," he said.

But university vice-chancellor Professor Marinus Wiechers said the agreement was signed at a time when the university did not foresee the financial problems it is now experiencing.

He said the legal case had

Star 25/4/97
been withdrawn by Apsa and the two parties were now in mediation.

He said the 12,5% cut was a "bargaining chip" thrown down to the association as the university's opening bid in the bargaining chamber.

"It is a point of departure, and from this point we will negotiate," he said.

Chairman of the Black Forum, Professor David Masoma, said the contract had raised staff expectations about improved wages.

"Management has made a major error on the possibility of this salary cut - the morale of staff is at an all-time low," he said.

Five candidates vie for Wits top (54) post next month

Sowetan 25/4/99
Sowetan Reporter

CANDIDATES for the vacant post of deputy vice-chancellor at the University of the Witwatersrand will make individual presentations and take questions in the Wits University Great Hall next month.

Wits spokesperson Mrs Peggy Jennings said yesterday the presentations would take 35 minutes for each candidate and another 20 minutes would be reserved for questions from the audience.

The candidates, whose presentations will be on different themes, are Professor Jan Boeyans, Professor Tuntufye Mwamwenda, Dr Sibusiso Sibisi, Professor Adelani Ogunrinade and Professor Mzamo Mangaliso.

Boeyans' presentation on May 6 will be on the theme "Academy

Research", Mwamwenda's on May 7 will be on "Research and Transformation at Wits", and Sibisi will talk about "Some Thoughts on University Research Direction in South Africa" on May 8.

These presentations will start at 2.30pm each day.

Ogunrinade's address will be on "University Education for the 21st Century: Old Problems and New Challenges", on May 14 at 9am, while Mangaliso's presentation will deal with "Democracy in Age Globalisation: Challenges for Newly Emerging Nations". It will take place on May 16 at 3pm.

Jennings said the final interviews of the candidates would be conducted later by the senior appointments selection committee. The interviews would be relayed by closed-circuit television to the hall.

Degrees of difference distinguish the cabinet

S 7 27/4/97

(54)

THE Sunday Times has traced the educational histories of cabinet members to find out which universities produce South Africa's top political achievers.

To simplify matters, only the first university the ministers attended has been noted, even if, as in the case of Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi, her studies at the University of the Western Cape were disrupted before she went on to Harvard.

According to available information, four of the 27 members of the cabinet did not attend university.

They are Joe Modise, Sydney Mufamadi, Steve Tshwete and Trevor Manuel, who went to the Western Cape Technikon. Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo went to Fort Hare University, but did not complete his degree.

Mac Maharaj and Alec Erwin attended the University of Natal, Dullah Omar studied at the University of Cape Town, and Lionel Mtshali was at Rhodes before going on to three others.

Wits had no ministers as first-time students, but Nelson Mandela and Penuell Maduna completed their studies there.

Those who did all their studying abroad include Thabo Mbeki (London and Sussex), Sipo Mzimela (then West Germany and New York) and Pallo Jordan (Wisconsin).

Of the local universities, Fort Hare and Zululand had the most ministers. Nelson Mandela, Mangosuthu Buthelezi, Zola Skweyiya and Stella Sigcau started their studies at Fort Hare and Jeff Radebe, Nkosazana Zuma and Sibusiso Bengu studied at Zululand.

The University of Durban-Westville helped mould Jay Naidoo and Mohammed Valli Moosa, the North produced Sankie Mthembi-Mahanyele and Tito Mboweni.

Penuell Maduna and Kader Asmal went to Unisa before moving on to other institutions, while the University of Port Elizabeth boasts only Derek Hanekom.

In search of SA's Ivy League

A Wits degree hangs behind most top businessmen

CAS ST LEGER and ANDREW UNSWORTH

A STINT at the university of life may not earn you a string of initials after your name, but it can get you into the country's top boardrooms.

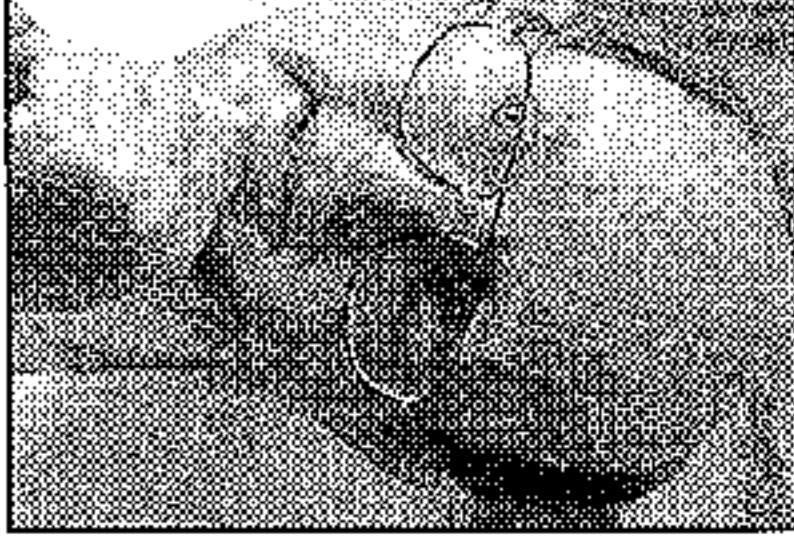
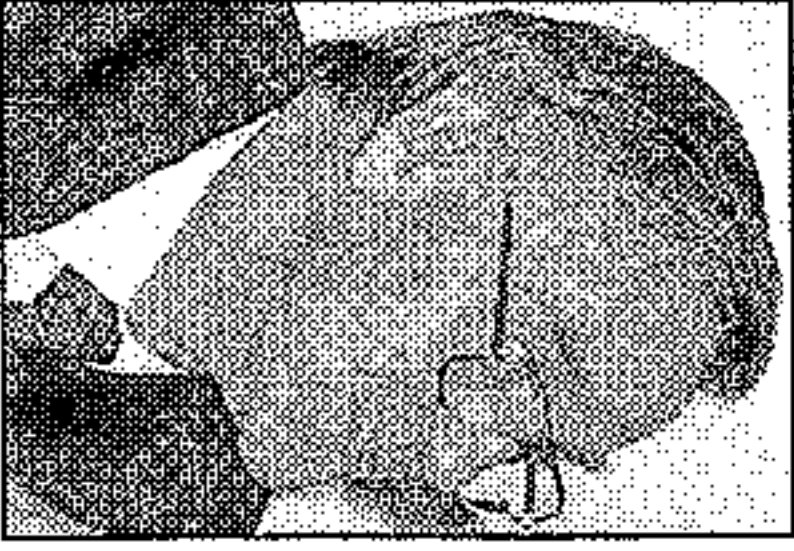
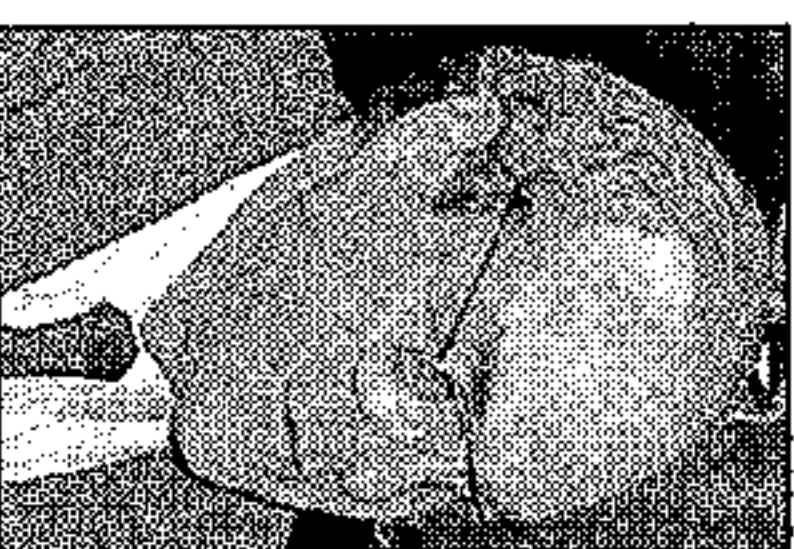
A Sunday Times survey of the bosses of South Africa's top 100 companies found that nearly one in four of their chief executive officers graduated from the University of the Witwatersrand and the second largest group of executives never went to university at all.

The choice of companies was based on the results of last year's Business Times list, which rated companies according to the performance of their share price.

Of the 101 bosses surveyed (one company had two MDs) a total of 23 attended Wits, and 15 didn't go to university, or did and never finished a degree. This group includes Jeremy Ord, the managing director of last year's top company, Dimension Data.

The University of Cape Town had 13 graduates and Stellenbosch came fourth with nine.

Foreign universities also scored high with 11 businessmen who had studied in the UK, Canada, Spain, Cyprus, the US and Zimbabwe for their first degrees. A number of local graduates did further degrees, especially in the US and Britain, but these were not included, nor were second degrees at local universities.



CAPTAINS OF INDUSTRY: Frame Group's Mervyn King, Basil Hersov of Loraine Gold Mines, Lionel Hewitt of Grootvlei Proprietary, Liberty's Donald Gordon and First National's Viv Bartlett

Viv Bartlett, the chief executive of First National Bank, made it to the top without a degree, as did Cas Scharinghuisen, the boss of the top 100 company that bears his name. Others who succeeded without a university grounding include Renier van Rooyen of Harwill Investments, Ellertine's Eric Ellertine, Phil North of Premier Pharmaceutical, Bill Jack of African Life and Ken Saggors of Mutual & Federal.

Some of Wits' top old boys include the Frame Group's Mervyn King, Liberty Life's Donald Gordon, Sasol's Peter Cox, Lionel Hewitt of Grootvlei Proprietary Mines, JCI's Bill Naim, David Sluzman of JD Group, Mike Smith of AECI and Lindsay Roberts of Chubb.

University of Cape Town graduates include Dorbyl's chief executive Rob Braithwaite, Times Media's Lawrence Clark, Cedrick Savage of Tongaat-Hulett, Phillip Biden of Board of Executors, Bruce Illsley of Sage and Syd

Muller of Wooltru.

Others won their laurels abroad, like Richard Mennell, chief executive of Middle Witwatersrand (Western Areas), who attended Trinity College in Cambridge, and Eduardo Garcia of Unitrans, who went to Valladolid University in Spain. Bounnat's chairman Peter Glendenning went to the University of Zimbabwe and Basil Hersov of Loraine Gold Mines went to Cambridge.

Professor Mike Ward, the director of academic programmes at Wits Business School, is not surprised that so many top business leaders got there without formal business training.

"Our society is still very open with incredible opportunities for entrepreneurs, far more so than Britain or Australia," he said. Ward says that when Wits does accept MBA students who have no degree but years of experience in business, they tend to perform above the average of students with degrees.

Nearly all the top performers listed are white males but Ward says the colour profile of top management is changing. There are already black MDs, even if they are not yet reflected in the top 100 companies.

But, he adds, it will take decades for the country to overcome the devastation wrought by black education.

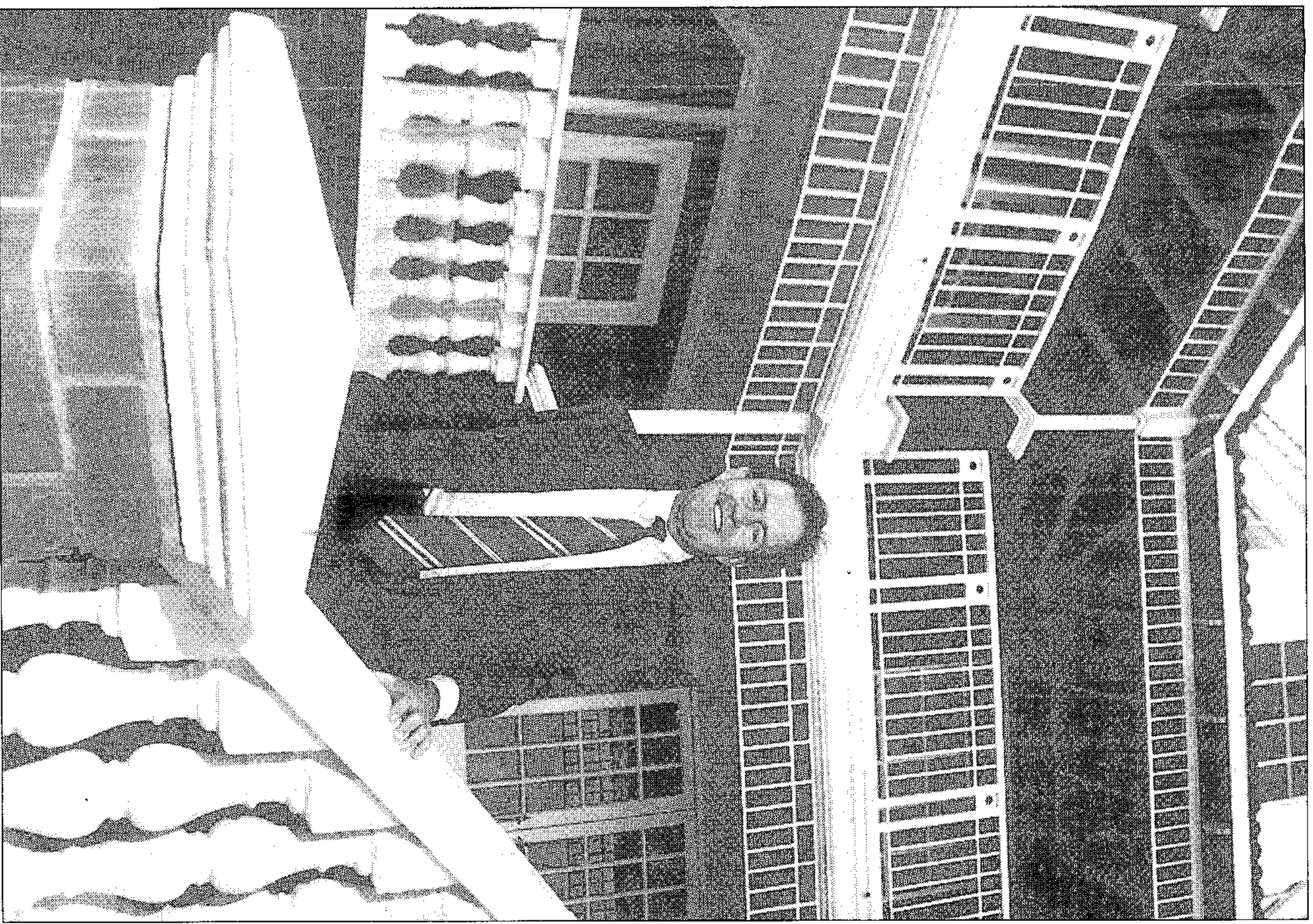
"But we would still expect to see the top people coming from the established universities, whatever their colour, because these institutions have the advantage of systems and people to keep them ahead."

Ward points out that Wits would score even higher in the survey of second degrees.

"A similar survey in London last year revealed that after Oxford and Cambridge, most top London businessmen came from Wits," he said.

While some get to the top without a degree, the fact that 85 per cent of top bosses have one proves it certainly does help.

And while checking out the MD's academic record is no sure guide for potential investors on the stock exchange, it does count when it comes to top salaries.



NATURAL TALENT: Jeremy Ord, Dimension Data's managing director, who did not attend university

Top black bosses' academic

colours

A SUNDAY Times survey of SA's top 20 black business achievers shows that all but three got their start in the commercial world with a university degree — exactly the same proportion (85 per cent) as their white colleagues.

Kilimanjaro Investments chairman Richard Maponya, SAA's Zukile Nomvete and the SABC's Zwelakhe Sisulu got to the top without academic help, although Sisulu won the prestigious Niemann Fellowship for journalists, to do a non-degree course in Boston, US.

Most of the 17 attended more than one university, but counting only first academic stops, Fort Hare came out top with five ex-students, followed by Unisa and the University of the North with four each, Zululand with two and Natal University with one.

Among those who claim Fort Hare as their alma mater are Nali's Nthato Mollana, Wiseman Nkuluhi of Worldwide African Investments, the Independent Development Corporation's Khaya Ngqula, business consultant Wendy Luhabe and Real Africa Investments' Don Ncube. Unisa can claim prominent figures like Nali's Dikgang Mosenke, Saki Mcozoma of Transnet, Peter Vundla of Herdtuoy's and Mzi Khumalo of JCI.

Other top businessmen include Reuel Khoza of Eskom, Tsogo Sun's Jabu Mabuzza, Israel Sikosana of SA Express, Welcome Mosomi of Sasani Investments, Transnet's Mafika Mkhwanazi and Don Mkhwanazi of Management and Marketing Renaissance, Cyril Ramaphosa of Nali and Johnnie, and Vasi Khanyile of Thebe Investments who studied at Birmingham and Princeton.

Public presentations by candidates for top Wits positions

The candidates for the three vacant Wits University deputy vice-chancellor posts will make their public presentations at the Wits Great Hall starting on May 6.

On May 6, Professor Jan Boeyens will talk on "Academic research"; on May 7, Professor Tuntufye Mwamwenda will talk

on "Research and transformation at Wits University"; on May 8, Dr Sibusiso Sibisi will speak on "Some thoughts on university research direction in South Africa"; May 14 will see Professor Adelani Ogunrinade talk on university education for the 21st century: "Old problems and new challenges";

and on May 16 Professor Mzamo Mangaliso will talk on "Democracy in an age of globalisation: challenges to the newly emerging nations".

Candidates will be interviewed by the senior appointments selection committee after the speeches. - Staff Reporter

(54) STAN 28/4/97

I have cancer, says professor who quit Wits

'Money wasn't a factor'

RICH MKHONDO
WASHINGTON BUREAU

(54)
ART 30/4/97

Washington – South African professor Sam Nolutshungu says he withdrew as vice-chancellor of the University of Witwatersrand after being diagnosed with cancer – not over money.

Professor Nolutshungu said he had multiple myeloma, a rare cancer of the blood. The disease afflicts 13 000 people in the United States every year. The median survival rate after diagnosis is three years.

There was widespread speculation that he had withdrawn from the Wits job even before assuming the post because he had failed to negotiate a huge salary and perks, and that he used the South African offer as a bargaining chip to get a better job at the University of Rochester outside New York.

Professor Nolutshungu, 51, described the speculation as "blatantly false".

"When I applied for the vice-chancellorship of Witwatersrand and during the interviews I had no inkling whatsoever that I might be suffering from this condition," he said.

"It was not until mid-November, after the overwhelming (Wits) Council vote in my favour, that the results of a routine

medical examination led to my referral to a haematologist with suspected multiple myeloma."

It is the first time Professor Nolutshungu has revealed his reason for withdrawing from the post.

"There was no bargaining between me and Wits," he said.

"Because of my health situation, I withdrew before any discussion of terms and conditions had occurred. I had no idea what the eventual Wits offer would have looked like."

He was one of three candidates interviewed in public forums for the vice-chancellorship of Wits last October.

Professor Nolutshungu beat Wits Deputy Vice Chancellor June Sinclair, and University of the North Vice Chancellor Njabulo Ndebele.

Had he taken up the post, he would have occupied a politically charged seat at the university following heated debates, strikes and squabbles over who would succeed Professor Robert Charlton as vice-chancellor.

The race became open when Professor William Mogalepuru Makgoba, who had been earmarked for the post, quit over claims he lied on his curriculum vitae.

Afrikaans here to stay, says top Unisa official

BY ADAM COOKE

(54) Star 30/4/97
such an impoverishment,"
he said.

Unisa vice-chancellor Professor Marinus Wiechers has quashed rumours that his university is to drop Afrikaans as a medium of instruction.

The rumours stemmed from a confidential report by a committee of the university's Broad Transformation Forum that said language usage at the institution should be examined.

According to a university source, the institution has been flooded by Afrikaans-speaking students who believe the report recommended that Afrikaans be dropped in favour of English.

But Wiechers said the issue was simply being debated.

"Personally, I shall resist any attempt to impoverish Unisa's rich traditions of upholding cultural diversity and of admitting as many students as possible.

"Reverting to one language of instruction would, to my mind, certainly and flagrantly mean

However, sources say Wiechers will have little input on the matter because the decision will be made by the transformation forum and the university's highest decision-making body, the council.

Unisa public relations director Professor Joe Diescho said recently that the use of Afrikaans at the university was not cost effective because every document had to be translated.

"We are not saying we do not want Afrikaans. But please, don't thrust it on us when most of the students would prefer English as the medium of tuition," he said.

About 83% of the university's 130 000 students are taught in English and, according to official figures, just 16% of students are Afrikaans-speakers.

And according to sources, even though the issue is still to be discussed, the general feeling among academics and students alike is that Afrikaans will not be missed.

Description	Supplier / Contractor	Amount
<i>Building Material</i>		
Hardware	Baltic Timber	R 117,54
Doors & panels	Int. Spektrum	4 725,66
Paint	Paint City	280,19
Cupboards & Hardware	Suidhoek	20 592,07
Petrol (generator)	Protea Motors	38,65
Bathroom Accessories	Hypermarket	373,88
Curtain hooks	Up the Track	30,00
Petrol oil (generator)	Bonteboek Motors	11,80
Scaffolding (hire)	FRA	923,40
Hardware, carpets	Suidhoek	7 572,61
TOTAL		R 134 042,56

Labour	Salary	Amount
M J Saayman		5 000,00
M J Saayman		3 473,00
FRA (1 skilled tradesman, 1 Worker - one day		82,00
M J Saayman		12 947,00
M J Saayman		10 800,00
M J Saayman		15 000,00
M J Saayman		10 000,00
G Fairbairn		180,00
G Fairbairn (Setting up of handrails)		13 992,00
M J Saayman		18 000,00
G Fairbairn		5 060,00
		R 93 734,00

Description	Supplier / Contractor	Amount
Matress	Ivor Garb	R 892,64
Deposit for curtains	Biggie Best	3 500,00
Oil Lamps	Domionon	247,04
Cutlery	Smiths	658,80
Coat stand	Something diff.	124,30
Kitchen (general)	Makro	2 436,00
Cutlery	Smiths	1 511,02
Kitchenware	Mev. Smit	370,65
Kitchenware	S Voischaek	353,69
Furniture	Silver Sixpense	5 035,28
Chairs	Tech An tique	2 696,80
Garden furniture	Tafelberg	1 248,65
Furniture	Jumbo pine	4 694,59
Kitchenware	Domionon	93,17
Kitchenware	Erasers	191,29
Curtains	Biggie Best	12 307,99
Kitchenware	Checkers	402,11
Kitchenware	Mev Smit	575,06
Barbecue	Prico	214,70
Rugs	Master Weavers	879,25
* Accessories	Mev Smit	204,42
	GRAND TOTAL	R 38 637,45
		R 266 414,01

Mr D H M GIBSON: Madam Speaker, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, I would like to say that when this subject was last raised in the House, I asked the hon the Minister whether he considered it appropriate that a property which had been expropriated from private people should continue to be used in this way. The usage had changed, in that it was now being used for what amounts to the entertainment or private pension, or whatever one would like to call it, of a political functionary. The usage had therefore now changed. I asked the hon the Minister then whether he would investigate whether the property should not be returned to the people from whom it was forcibly taken. He undertook to investigate the matter. Is he in a position now to tell us what the results of his investigations are?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS: Madam Speaker, as I indicated in my reply, this property is under the administration of the Western Cape government at this point in time. We are getting information in dribs and drabs, as the hon member can see from the response that I have provided.

Mr W A HOFMEYER: Madam Speaker, I would also like to indicate my displeasure at the lack of information that we are apparently receiving via the Western Cape province. According to an answer given in the Western Cape provincial legislature, R150 000 of taxpayers' money was spent on this house in addition to the donation that was received from the Rupert Family Foundation, yet there is no indication in this answer that that was the case. [Interjections.]

In his previous response the hon the Minister said that certain questions that had been raised at that time would be investigated further. The first part of my question asked what was the result was of those investigations. There was no answer to that. I would like the hon the Minister to comment on that point.

The MINISTER: Madam Speaker, getting information from the Western Cape is like squeezing blood out of a stone. However, we will endeavour to get as much information as we can and we will come back to this House with all that information.

Ms F I CHOCHAN: Madam Speaker, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, I wonder if he could explain to us why, when the Cape Provincial Administration had received the donation from the Rupert Family Foundation in April 1990, the Department of State Expenditure was told about and approved this apparently anonymous donation just nine days before the first democratic elections in 1994. Specifically, was State Expenditure ever fully taken into confidence and fully informed about this donation either in 1994 or on a previous occasion? If so, did the Department of State Expenditure at any time indicate that they had serious reservations about this?

The MINISTER: Madam Speaker, the more this debate continues, the more skeletons we uncover in the cupboard of the apartheid regime. However, I believe that the responsible department, State Expenditure, will have to respond to the question asked by the hon member.

Ms Y L MYAKAYAKA-MANZINI: Madam Speaker, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, I would like to know whether Mr De Klerk informed the President of the Republic and the Deputy President about this property at Lekkerwater, since he was one of the Executive Deputy Presidents when the NP was still participating in the Government of National Unity.

The MINISTER: Madam Speaker, I wish Mr De Klerk was in this House to answer that question himself. However, if the hon member so wishes, I will endeavour to find out whether that was the case.

Mr D H M GIBSON: Madam Speaker, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, in his enquiries to the Western Cape and other responsible people, would he be good enough to enquire about the possibility of returning to people the property which was forcibly expropriated from them against their will?

The MINISTER: Madam Speaker, we are going to investigate this matter and then we shall come to the House with a proper reply.

Handwritten: Hansford

Question standing over from Wednesday, 14 May 1997:

Crisis at University of Durban-Westville

(54)

*8. Mr A J LEON asked the Minister of Education:

(1) Whether a meeting took place in October 1996 between himself, council members of the University of Durban-Westville and a certain person, whose name has been furnished to his Department for the purpose of his reply, concerning a crisis experienced at that university; if so, what was the outcome of the meeting;

(2) whether he will table the minutes of the meeting; if not, why not? N897E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

(1) Yes, I did have a meeting with council members of the University of Durban-Westville in October 1996, and the person the hon member is referring to did attend the meeting at my request. I hope the hon member is aware of the statement I released on this matter on 6 March this year, after the Durban Supreme Court's decision to dismiss with costs the urgent application of the Durban-Westville's Combined Staff Association (Comsa), detailing my views on it. Since the hon member has an interest in this matter, I would suggest that he contacts my Ministry's press liaison officer, who will gladly make the statement available to him. Otherwise I can mention to the hon member that the outcome of the meeting was that I was informed about the situation at that University at the time of the meeting.

(2) No. Considering the number of meetings I hold with a variety of groups, I would be very surprised if the hon member expected me to table minutes of those meetings here. I therefore suggest that the hon member contacts my office if he needs a copy of the minutes.

Mr A J LEON: Madam Speaker, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, would he accept that there is a difference between press reports and releases and actually tabling statements in Parliament? Also, will he accept that the purpose of asking a Minister a question in Parliament is actually to get, officially, certain statements and facts on the parliamentary record? The Minister obviously does not agree with that.

In view of his reluctance to table the minutes of the meeting as requested, which he in principle does not seem to object to, but seems to find a procedural problem, I would like to know whether it is true that the hon the Minister stated at the particular meeting, and I quote:

The gloomy picture at the University of Durban-Westville presents opportunities.

If he did say this during the meeting, what precisely did he mean by that? Did the person appointed by the hon the Minister, Dr Zama, say that Comsa was not a union, as it claimed to be, but a vehicle to achieve certain goals? Did he say that Comsa's agenda was to prevent transformation by appealing to race and that the union held the institution to ransom?

It is alleged – perhaps the Minister could comment on this final point – that the minutes clearly show that the Minister, Dr Zama and certain other members of the council are collaborating and colluding in order to implement a political agenda, and through the vehicle of this commission, are manipulating the contents of reports to be presented to the commission in such a manner so as to support a strategy. It is also alleged – perhaps the Minister could comment on this – that the Minister said during the same meeting – no doubt the tabling of minutes would or would not reflect this – and I quote:

We will have to focus on the need for an intelligence network.

Could the Minister, in the light hereof, comment on whether these statements form part of the record of that meeting, and if so, what is their implication? [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Madam Speaker, in the first place, I have no sense of what I would give as a statement to the public as being different from what I would give to this Parliament. As I have said, the minutes are there, and they are contained in two or three sentences. I have the statement which I made on 6 March 1997 here with me. I can give it to the member if he wishes. In that statement I clearly say, and I quote:

The so-called minutes are thus a disjointed, inaccurate, unsophisticated and feeble attempt to undermine the purpose and spirit of this important meeting.

Those minutes may be known to the hon member; in fact, I hope we knew the agenda of that meeting as well, but those minutes are not known to me.

Mr A J LEON: Madam Speaker, further arising out of the Minister's reply, whether the minutes are, in fact, disjointed, unsophisticated and feeble is really irrelevant. Can I just get the Minister to confirm or deny whether or not he said the following:

The gloomy picture at the University of Durban-Westville presents opportunities.

Did he or did he not say that? If he did say that, what did he mean by it?

The MINISTER: Madam Speaker, I need to ask the hon member whether he prepared those minutes himself. I have said clearly that I do not know the contents of those minutes. They are his minutes, I suppose. I did not make that statement. [Interjections.]

Mr J H NASH: Your intelligence was wrong! [Laughter.]

Questions standing over from Wednesday, 21 May 1997:

Cuban doctors: individual contracts

*1. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Health:

- (1) Whether the Cuban doctors currently practising in South Africa have concluded individual contracts with the

South African Government; if not, why not; if so, what is the salary scale of these doctors:

- (2) whether these doctors' salaries are paid in fully directly to them; if not, (a) why not, (b) what percentage of their salaries is paid to them and (c) (i) where and (ii) to whom is the balance paid? N991E

The MINISTER OF HEALTH:

- (1) All Cuban doctors currently practising in South Africa have entered into individual contracts with the relevant provincial departments of health where they are deployed.

All Cuban doctors are employed on the same scales as their South African counterparts as either Principal or Senior Medical Officers based on their experience. The salary scales are as follows:

* Principal Medical Officer:	R 115413-123468-131523
* Senior Medical Officer:	R 98463-102702-106941
* Medical Officer:	R 78141-81045-83949-86853-89757

(2) No.

(a) The following deductions are made from their salaries:

* Tax based on the applicable South African rates, exactly the same as any other South African citizen, is deducted and paid to the Government of South Africa.

* 8% of basic salary for pension – South Africa has agreed to pay this amount over to the Cuban Government on a monthly basis as contribution to the Cuban doctors' provision for pension in Cuba.

(b) and (c)(i) and (ii) In some provinces there are deductions for accommodation and these vary from province to province.

The rest of the salary is paid directly to the doctor.

*5. Mr M J ELLIS – Health:†

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Madam Speaker, hon members, and specifically hon member Mike Ellis, I would like to apologise because I have not received all the answers from the provinces. Maybe the hon member could request that information directly from the legislatures.

[Question standing over.]

School feeding scheme: crisis

*9. Mrs P W CUPIDO asked the Minister of Health:

(1) Whether she or her Department has ascertained whether any crisis is being experienced in regard to the school feeding scheme; if so,

(2) whether she or her Department has any plans to control the handling of this crisis; if so, what are these plans; if not, why not;

(3) whether it is the intention to draw up such plans; if not, why not; if so, when will such plans be made available.

(4) whether she will make a statement on the matter? N999E

The MINISTER OF HEALTH:

(1) There is no crisis in the feeding scheme but since its inception, it has been affected by general problems in the provinces relating to capacity, lack of logistical and human resources, lack of proper management systems and control procedures, and poor information.

(2) and (3) The Department of Health, in collaboration with the Department of Education, has embarked upon a number of significant initiatives in order to address some of these weaknesses.

Firstly, the Health Systems Trust, an independent NGO, was requested by the Minister of Health to evaluate the programme and to make recommendations to help shape future policies and strategies.

methods in order to improve on convenience to the public and to reduce costs.

As shown in the last audited income statement (at 30/09/96) TV Licence collection costs equalled 17,8% of the total licence fee collected. (See attached for abbreviated income statement.)

(2) (a) (i) and (ii) The following marketing expenses were incurred by TV Licences:

to 31.3.97 to 30.9.96
(6 months) (12 months)

Advertisement /	R562 188	R5 503 713
Production cost		
TV air time - SABC (gross rate cost)	R9 925 498	
Radio air time - SABC (gross rate cost)	R1 041 492	R5 049 963
Community radio air time	R966 624	R188 824
Special promotion / exhibition	R1 383 536	R346 289
Other marketing costs	R938 640	R962 777
Total	R14 817 978	R11 831 566
(b) Fully paid on 31/12/96		1 500 000
Monthly / quarterly payers on 31/12/96		200 000

Department: TV licence	
Abbreviated Income Statement	
For the Period ending 30 September 1996	
	R'000
Gross TV licence Fees	309,788
Direct Expenses	21,304
Collection Fees: Paid to Agents e.g. Post Offices	17,171
Other	4,133
Total Net TV licence Fee Income	288,484
Operational Expenditure	33,901
Personnel Costs	9,064
Marketing Costs	11,832
Other Costs	13,005
Total Net Revenue Collected	254,585

Maluti/Mt Ayliff: constant water supply

520. Mr G O DOIDGE asked the Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry:

(1) Whether the town (a) Maluti and (b) Mt Ayliff in the north-eastern region of the Eastern Cape have an adequate and constant water supply; if not, what plans does his Department have to address the problem; if so, (i)(aa) what purification systems are in place and (bb) how effective are these systems and (ii)(aa) when were tests last carried out on the water and (bb) what were the results of these tests;

(2) whether the water in these towns is (a) clean, (b) pure-tasting and (c) safe to drink; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;

(3) whether the water reticulation systems in the said towns comply with the policy of his Department; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details? N861E

The MINISTER OF WATER AFFAIRS AND FORESTRY:

The supply of water is a function of the local authority and only in those instances where there is no such an authority or where there is insufficient capacity on local and provincial level does the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry become involved. I have, nevertheless, had the supply of water to the towns of Maluti and Mt Ayliff investigated and the replies to the various questions are as follows:

(1)(a) The town of Maluti is supplied with water from the Belfort Dam.

(b) The water supply to the town of Mt Ayliff was recently upgraded by the Provincial Department of Housing and Local Government in terms of the Municipal Programme.

(1)(i)(aa) In Maluti the design capacity of the purification works, which was upgraded in 1995, is adequate for the town as well as the military base.

In Mt Ayliff the water treatment works was upgraded with new chemical equipment, rapid gravity sand filter and a clear water storage reservoir. The town is reticulated with individual connections while the adjacent informal settlement is supplied with communal standpipes.

(bb) The capacity of the pipeline from the purification works to Maluti is not adequate to meet peak demands to the town. Consequently there are periods when the town does run out of water.

The system in Mt Ayliff is adequate for the town's immediate needs and if managed correctly, will be able to supply water which meets the accepted standards for domestic water supply.

(ii)(aa) The monitoring and testing of the water quality on a regular basis is the responsibility of the local authority and the health authorities.

(bb) The Department has no record of this test results.

(2)(a) to (c) A recent inspection was carried out in Maluti and my Department established that the operators on site are not operating the plant correctly and frequently by-pass the filters and therefore supply untreated water to the town. Steps are being taken to rectify this unsatisfactory situation. Under the correct operating conditions the water would be clean and safe to drink.

No details are available as far as Mt Ayliff is concerned.

(3) Maluti, which is administered by the Provincial Department of Housing and Local Government, does have a reticulation system. My Department was, however, unable to confirm the adequacy of this system.

The successful and continuous operation of a rural water supply scheme is linked to capable local structures who take full responsibility for all aspects of the scheme. The north eastern region of the

Eastern Cape Province is mountainous, accessibility is poor and no local government organisations are active. The Department has therefore launched a pilot project in this Region to propose and implement a potential feasible organisational structure for the operation and maintenance of rural water supply schemes. This would also serve as a model for possible implementation in other areas.

SABC: company credit cards

554. Mr A J LEON asked the Minister for Posts, Telecommunications and Broadcasting:

(1) Whether any employees of the South African Broadcasting Corporation have company credit cards; if so, which employees;

(2) whether there is a limit on expenditure in respect of such credit cards; if so, in each case, (a) what is the limit and (b) what amount was spent using such credit card in the 1996-97 financial year? N935E

The MINISTER FOR POSTS, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND BROADCASTING:

The Chairperson of the SABC has informed me as follows:

(1) No SABC employees carry company cards. These were withdrawn by Group Chief Executive, Zwelakhe Sisulu, in January 1996 as he saw no need for SABC executives and managers to carry company credit cards.

(2) Falls away.

Universities/technikons: (54)

565. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Education:

(a) What subsidy was paid to each university and technikon in South Africa in (i) 1993, (ii) 1994, (iii) 1995, (iv) 1996 and (v) 1997 and (b) what was the total amount paid in subsidies in each of these years N950E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

The subsidy to universities and technikons (in thousands of rand) for the years 1993 to 1997 is given in the following table according to institution. Subsidy to Universities and Technikons (In Thousands of Rand) according to Institution and Year

Year	State Subsidy														
	1993			1994			1995			1996 ²⁾			1997 ²⁾		
Tertiary Institution	Subsidy Formula (R'000)	Ad hoc ¹⁾ (R'000)	Total (R'000)	Subsidy Formula (R'000)	Ad hoc ¹⁾ (R'000)	Total (R'000)	Subsidy Formula (R'000)	Ad hoc ¹⁾ (R'000)	Total (R'000)	Subsidy Formula (R'000)	Ad hoc ¹⁾ (R'000)	Total (R'000)	Subsidy Formula (R'000)	Ad hoc ¹⁾ (R'000)	Total (R'000)
Universities															
Cape Town	167 683	29 737	197 420	175 051	29 115	204 166	195 976	26 073	222 049	221 990	28 655	250 645	249 381	28 004	277 385
Durban-Westville	74 353	3 593	77 946	96 712	3 034	99 746	102 118	7 471	109 589	130 484	6 926	137 410	141 472	1 220	142 692
Fort-Hare	43 494	12 509	56 003	49 190	34 122	83 312	62 419	15 913	78 332	69 939	14 976	84 915	81 923	8 560	90 483
Medunsa	54 830	9 101	63 931	67 404	11 292	78 696	67 732	9 635	77 367	81 581	26 737	108 318	99 422	24 550	123 972
Natal	165 097	18 900	183 997	174 672	15 660	190 332	193 949	23 453	217 402	229 572	18 702	248 274	248 266	18 286	266 552
North	89 468	14 834	104 302	128 668	11 712	140 380	126 662	31 478	158 140	160 649	23 485	184 134	203 556	3 500	207 056
North West	3)	3)	3)	3)	3)	3)	91 382	3 860	95 242	85 676	1 400	87 076	101 927	1 460	103 387
Orange Free State	110 437	9 338	119 775	112 800	7 632	120 432	118 810	7 780	126 590	144 268	7 804	152 072	156 577	8 095	164 672
Port Elizabeth	50 554	8 257	58 811	59 676	7 503	67 179	62 019	7 203	69 222	76 942	7 239	84 181	79 315	6 721	86 036
Potchefstroom	92 781	13 528	106 309	92 882	12 237	105 119	98 457	8 429	106 886	124 761	8 337	133 098	136 323	7 766	144 089
Pretoria	253 067	35 902	288 969	294 719	29 610	324 329	289 898	25 328	315 226	362 225	34 973	397 198	399 518	22 169	421 687
RAU	93 799	9 832	103 631	105 759	11 997	117 756	116 209	13 245	129 454	154 813	16 727	171 540	180 333	8 734	189 067
Rhodes	48 316	6 570	54 886	49 557	4 230	53 787	54 218	4 734	58 952	60 834	5 146	65 980	75 590	3 416	79 006
Stellenbosch	152 923	20 593	173 516	177 491	15 674	193 165	179 580	18 914	198 494	213 097	17 293	230 390	228 393	17 862	246 255
Transkei	3)	3)	3)	3)	3)	3)	105 177	33 137	138 314	98 037	8 732	106 769	112 432	8 872	121 304
Unisa	223 746	10 540	234 286	252 118	7 895	260 013	277 283	13 324	290 607	349 637	13 284	362 921	330 863	7 570	338 433
Venda	3)	3)	3)	3)	3)	3)	46 598	13 204	59 802	66 679	11 126	77 805	70 406	6 633	77 039
Vista	69 658	22 036	91 694	89 615	26 686	116 301	118 744	34 828	153 572	154 859	37 259	192 118	185 307	24 236	209 543
Western Cape	99 178	16 184	115 362	97 038	14 382	111 420	104 142	22 920	127 062	155 579	27 019	182 598	144 478	12 950	157 428
Witwatersrand	203 672	32 048	235 720	215 224	33 009	248 233	245 522	27 075	272 597	267 332	45 271	312 603	276 643	20 183	296 826
Zululand	47 977	21 983	69 960	41 890	7 292	49 182	53 145	8 428	61 573	66 028	4 409	70 437	88 964	3 800	92 764
Subtotal	2 041 033	295 485	2 336 518	2 280 466	283 082	2 563 548	2 710 040	356 432	3 066 472	3 274 982	365 500	3 640 482	3 591 089	244 587	3 835 676
Technikons															
Border	3)	3)	3)	3)	3)	3)	24 596	9 092	33 688	24 837	6 382	31 219	32 161	6 635	38 796
Cape	56 975	21 230	78 205	54 988	21 366	76 354	76 664	12 952	89 616	89 529	17 500	107 029	94 848	13 060	107 908
Eastern Cape	3)	3)	3)	3)	3)	3)	20 849	9 731	30 580	28 823	4 680	33 503	38 183	2 800	40 983
Orange Free State	27 671	9 666	37 337	31 442	6 282	37 724	38 760	11 452	50 212	55 068	8 574	63 642	57 548	4 285	61 833
M L Sultan	42 689	6 007	48 696	42 650	5 398	48 048	49 615	3 815	53 430	68 839	4 652	73 491	77 267	2 285	79 552
Mangosuthu	25 297	4 380	29 677	27 604	3 461	31 065	36 992	2 688	39 680	43 546	3 442	46 988	69 548	945	70 493
Natal	44 113	9 100	53 213	47 654	8 635	56 289	61 079	8 745	69 824	74 586	10 137	84 723	87 094	8 783	95 877
North West	3)	3)	3)	3)	3)	3)	22 775	1 494	24 269	25 450	2 478	27 928	33 201	3 131	36 332
Northern Transvaal	35 043	2 754	37 797	42 736	2 836	45 572	49 035	4 065	53 100	79 210	6 124	85 334	89 117	4 300	93 417
Peninsula	44 393	12 396	56 789	45 642	8 820	54 462	60 608	11 035	71 643	65 538	9 498	75 036	87 835	4 309	92 144
Port Elizabeth	35 343	4 265	39 608	41 589	4 143	45 732	53 392	63 784	74 735	8 582	83 317	82 913	3 576	86 489	
Pretoria	80 396	23 899	104 295	90 481	23 852	114 333	98 896	18 152	117 048	135 329	23 365	158 694	153 023	20 691	173 714
SA	71 086	10 368	81 454	82 141	10 067	92 208	136 138	19 041	155 179	180 547	13 212	193 759	188 121	7 199	195 320
Vaal Triangle	39 540	9 047	48 587	45 468	8 823	54 291	47 882	11 634	59 516	77 964	9 423	87 387	97 143	3 569	100 712
Witwatersrand	60 625	16 393	77 018	78 055	15 996	94 051	78 733	16 034	94 767	96 155	18 575	114 730	107 723	14 399	122 122
Subtotal	563 171	129 505	692 676	630 450	119 679	750 129	856 014	150 322	1 006 336	1 120 156	146 624	1 266 780	1 295 725	99 967	1 395 692
Total	2 604 204	424 990	3 029 194	2 910 916	402 761	3 313 677	3 566 054	506 754	4 072 808	4 395 138	512 124	4 907 262	4 886 814	344 554	5 231 368

- 1) Includes ad hoc amounts constituting contractual interest and redemption on loans, capital allocations for new buildings, property tax and purchases of land.
 2) Excludes amounts of R300 million and R200 million for 1996 and 1997 respectively, for the National Student Financial Aid Scheme.
 3) The universities and technikons of the former TBVC states (excluding Fort Hare) were funded by the former TBVC states up to 1994/95.

RDP: donation by American Government

604. Mrs T J MALAN asked the Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry:†

- (1) What portion from the donation of R256,7 million by the American Government towards the Reconstruction and Development Programme was allocated to his Department?
- (2) whether he or his Department is to spend any amount from the portion allocated to his Department in respect of the Bosbokrand area in Mpumalanga; if so, (a) what amount and (b) how is this amount to be spent?
- (3) whether he will make a statement on the matter? N990E

THE MINISTER OF WATER AFFAIRS AND FORESTRY:

(1) R5 400 000 was allocated to the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry.

(2)(a) and (b) The whole amount will be spent to establish a community based water board for the Bosbokrand/Bushbuckridge area of the Northern Province and Mpumalanga.

(3) Yes. First of all I would like to thank the Government of the United States for its support and aid over the last three years. This contribution will improve the living conditions in an area where people have suffered great hardship, and did not have access to a basic commodity such as a dependable supply of safe and clean drinking water. The contribution is intended to support the efforts of the Department to ensure the sustainable, reliable, and affordable supply of water and sanitation services to low-income communities. The programme involves the provision of support, specifically technical assistance and training, for institutional capacity-building linked to the effective provision and management of water and sanitation. The institutional development project, which is

being implemented by Rand Water on behalf of the Department has been underway for over a year and is a continuation of an RDP Presidential Lead Project launched in 1994. In effect, the initial planning and assessment phases have been completed and preliminary evaluations of these phases have been undertaken. These funds will be integrated into the project and will implement specified training and technical assistance for project implementers, local authorities and community groups.

New postal code system

608. Mr J A JORDAAN asked the Minister for Posts, Telecommunications and Broadcasting:

Whether, with reference to the reply to Question No 21 on 20 March 1996, any further progress has been made with the introduction of a new postal code system; if not, why not; if so, (a) when is such system to be introduced, (b) what are the estimated costs involved and (c) what are the further relevant details? N1039E

The MINISTER FOR POSTS, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND BROADCASTING:

The Managing Director of the South African Post Office Limited has informed me as follows:

No. General consensus between the various Southern African countries regarding the utilisation of a common postcode system has not yet been reached, which is a prerequisite for further developments.

Mail delivery points in SA

688. Mr J J DOWRY asked the Minister for Posts, Telecommunications and Broadcasting:†

(a) How many mail delivery points were there in the Republic in (i) 1995 and (ii) 1996 and (b) what was the breakdown of the figure for each of these years in respect of (i) postboxes, (ii) poste restante points, (iii) private bags, (iv) private boxes and (v) street delivery points? N1178E

phone lines for detection of fraud and corrective action purposes.

(5) Yes. (a) 393 Telkom staff are disciplined.

(b) 170 staff members were dismissed. The balance of the staff members were given serious warnings due to:
* In conclusion evidence in most of these cases.

* Variations in judgements in some of these cases because the disciplinary hearings are chaired by different appointees.
To ensure consistency, the disciplinary process is being revised.

National Bursaries and Loans Scheme: students granted loans

150. Mr W F MNISI asked the Minister of Education:

(1) (a) How many students were granted loans in 1996 in terms of the National Bursaries and Loans Scheme and (b) what was the average amount paid to each student;

(2) whether any of these students failed; if so, (a) how many and (b) what was the total value of loans paid to these students;

(3) whether such students are obliged to repay their loans; if so, (a) what arrangements have been made for such repayments and

(b) what amount had been repaid as at the latest specified date for which information is available? C163E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

(1) (a) 66 940 students

(b) R4 677

(2) The 1996 statistics in this regard are not yet available. (It may be of interest to extrapolate from the 1995 experience, where, of all courses for which these recipients of aid were registered, 71.45% of the courses were passed by them.)

(3) All loanees are obliged to repay their loans.

(a) The Special Funds for Tertiary Education and Training Act, 1993 (Act No. 121 of 1993) provides for the recovery of loans at remuneration source. The NSFAS will not write off a loan unless the money is definitely irrecoverable. At this stage, only the loans of deceased students and two students severely handicapped in motor vehicle accidents have been written off.

(b) In the 1996/97 financial year ending on 31 March 1997, R16 367 043 was recovered from loanees. It is anticipated that a further R30 million will be recovered in the 1997/98 financial year.

QUESTIONS UNDER NAME OF MEMBER

De Ville, Adv J R —

Correctional Services, 75, 76

Justice, 215

Fisher, Mr S D —

Agriculture and Land Affairs, 101

Housing, 30, 92

Provincial Affairs and Constitutional

Development, 38

Transport, 73, 112, 115

Henry, Dr M —

Environmental Affairs and Tourism, 27

Safety and Security, 24

Jooste, Mr J A —

Health, 91

Koornhoof, Dr G W —

Health, 138, 262

Public Service and Administration, 79, 270

Safety and Security, 42, 84, 85, 86, 175, 177,

180, 181, 181, 191, 292, 294

Malatsi, Mr D M —

Health, 138

Mnisi, Mr W F —

Arts, Culture, Science and Technology, 241, 284

Correctional Services, 123

Education, 61, 205, 305, 307, 311

Home Affairs, 124, 182

Housing, 15, 29, 33, 52, 157, 271, 277, 280

Posts, Telecommunications and

Broadcasting, 55

Provincial Affairs and Constitutional

Development, 33, 52, 59

Public Enterprises, 81

Public Service and Administration, 5

Public Works, 43, 50

Safety and Security, 211

Sport and Recreation, 218, 238, 288

Mokotjo, mnr R H —

Health, 40, 99, 262, 263, 266, 266, 267, 268, 268

Home Affairs, 97

Public Service and Administration, 78

Transport, 13

Welfare and Population Development, 263

Moorcroft, Mr E K —

Agriculture and Land Affairs, 12, 28, 203, 209,

209, 212, 239, 279, 290

Arts, Culture, Science and Technology, 41

Correctional Services, 57

Environmental Affairs and Tourism, 9, 10, 50,

66, 67, 187, 190, 208, 251, 260, 277, 288

Finance, 109

Health, 126

Justice, 28

Minerals and Energy, 169

Posts, Telecommunications and Broadcasting,

308

Provincial Affairs and Constitutional

Development, 236

Safety and Security, 3, 22, 23, 34, 125, 216,

301

Sport and Recreation, 62, 107

Water Affairs and Forestry, 88, 203

qualification, (b) what is the average salary (i) of all Eskom employees and (ii) in each of these qualification categories and (c) in respect of what date is this information furnished?
N500E

The MINISTER FOR PUBLIC ENTERPRISES:

Question No.	No. of Employees	Question No.	Average Basic Salary per month
(a) (i)	39 590	(b)(i)	R4 579
(ii)(a)	11 126	(ii)	R2 612
(b)	20 037	(ii)	R4 466
(c)	7 402	(ii)	R7 232
(d)	1 025	(ii)	R10 370

(c) 1 March 1997.

Construction/reconstruction/maintenance of roads in Western Cape

321. Mr F J VAN DEVENTER asked the Minister of Transport:

- (1) What amount was budgeted for the (a) current and (b) previous financial year for the (i) construction, (ii) reconstruction and (iii) maintenance of roads in the Province of the Western Cape;
- (2) whether the Cape Town Olympic Bid was taken into consideration in deciding what amount to allocate for the maintenance and upgrading of the road network in the Western Cape; if so, what are the relevant details?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT:

(1)

Category	1995-96	1996-97
1. Construction	8	645
2. Reconstruction	109 180	99 954
3. Maintenance	95 820	108 903

Hansard

Transport: losses as a result of corruption

366. Mr J S A MAVUSO asked the Minister of Transport:

- (1) Whether he or his Department has any statistics on the loss of income suffered by his Department as a result of corruption; if so, (a) how many cases of corruption were reported during the latest specified period of 12 months for which information is available and (b) what was the total loss of income suffered by his Department during that period;
- (2) whether he or his Department is contemplating taking any steps to combat corruption; if not, why not; if so, what steps;
- (3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT:
N578E

- (1)(a) No cases of corruption occurred during the latest 12 months, and
- (b) no loss of income was suffered.

- (2) The necessary steps to prevent corruption are all contained in Treasury Instructions. These are reinforced through internal control systems contained in departmental accounting instructions. Stringent application thereof will always prevent corruption.
- (3) In the light of the above, no statement is necessary.

Secret services: total amount spent

393. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Finance:

- Whether he will furnish information as to the total amount spent on the various secret services; if not, why not; if so, what total amount (a) was spent on all the various secret services in each of the past five financial years and (b) has been budgeted for all the secret services in the 1997-98 financial year? N637E

The MINISTER OF FINANCE:

The following amounts were made available by the Department of State Expenditure to the various secret services:

Year	Nominal (R'000)	Real (Against base year 1992-23) (R'000)
Actual		
1992-93	400 409	400 409
1993-94	435 096	374 618
1994-95	568 541	442 031
1995-96	714 381	505 987
Budgeted		
1996-97	821 933	531 516
1997-98	768 430	460 146

Department: loss of income as result of corruption

400. Mr J T ALBERTYN asked the Minister for Public Enterprises:

- (1) Whether she or her Department has any statistics on the loss of income suffered by her Department as a result of corruption; if so, (a) how many cases of corruption were reported during the latest specified period of 12 months for which information is available and (b) what was the total loss of income suffered by her Department during that period;
- (2) whether she or her Department is contemplating taking any steps to combat corruption; if not, why not; if so, what steps;
- (3) whether she will make a statement on the matter? N645E

The MINISTER FOR PUBLIC ENTERPRISES:

- (1) No.
- (a) and (b) Fall away.
- (2) Yes, in terms of the Financial Regulations.
- (3) No.

Office of Deputy President: loss of income as result of corruption

402. Mr P W COETZER asked the Executive Deputy President:

Diversity enriches learning

(54) M/G 2-8/5/97

University teachers face more challenges in the lecture halls now, but they are better for them, writes **Eddie Webster**

OFTEN meet students I have taught over the years who ask me nervously: "How are things at Wits?" I am always cautiously upbeat. I realise, of course, that for some of us it was more comfortable to struggle for democracy than to have to live in one! But on balance, at the chalk face, I believe the quality of teaching has risen and we have not lowered our exit standards.

The vast bulk of my colleagues welcome the demographic transformation of our classrooms. It is the fulfilment of a struggle for a genuinely open university that goes back four decades. These new students have improved our ability to understand and appreciate "difference". Instead of social homogeneity, we now face a classroom that is increasingly representative of the diversity of our country.

This has enriched teaching and learning. It is a decisive step towards teaching excellence in the faculty. To take advantage of this opportunity, we, as teachers, need to develop new skills: language, mentoring and a sensitivity to the knowledge and life experiences of a new constituency of students.

This demographic transformation presents us with a challenge. Many of these students speak English as a second or third language. They often come from desperately poor backgrounds and have been to schools where the teachers were unqualified, poorly motivated and badly resourced. This is the legacy of apartheid. I believe we have responded to this challenge in creative ways.

To begin with, we appointed academic development tutors to teach alongside mainstream tutors where "under-prepared" students were given a variety of academic skills to off-set their lack of preparation at high school level. We soon realised this response was inadequate and began introducing year-long foundation courses. We hope eventually to be able to offer a full foundation year so that students from "under-prepared" backgrounds will spend a year making up for lost ground in their high school education.

To date, we have been unable to afford a full foundation year. But it is gratifying to note that the Department of Education's recent White Paper argues for strengthening academic development structures to promote quality teaching and learning.

Our decision to put major resources into these areas arose out of a two-fold realisation:



On a high: A new generation of Wits students are graduating with degrees that are every bit as good as their predecessors'

firstly, "under-preparedness" is not a temporary phenomenon that will pass away in a year or two. This "myth of transience" was initially widely held in the faculty. Under-preparedness is not a short-term problem.

Secondly, an increasing number of under-prepared students were passing, but most in the third class. Foundation courses were designed to give them an opportunity to do well by taking an extra year over their degree, not simply pass it. We are now developing a new generation of postgraduate students assisted by, for example, the research internship system of the Centre of Scientific Development.

Unexpectedly, the challenge of teaching under-prepared students has raised the standard of pedagogy. When I started teaching at Wits 20 years ago, we seldom used overheads, activity-based learning and other interactive styles of teaching. Today, all my colleagues are aware of how to communicate better in the classroom.

In 1990 we created, along with other faculties, a Faculty Teaching and Learning Committee. Most departments have a teaching and learning sub-committee. What we initially thought was necessary for under-prepared students we now realise is simply good practice for all teachers.

There are no "quick-fix" solutions in education. We may only reap the harvest of this human resource investment in five to 10 years. Meanwhile, some prizes are not being awarded at our annual graduation ceremonies. This has always been the case and is not a sign of a "drop in standards". On the contrary: it is a recognition of our commitment to maintaining standards. We do not award prizes to the best student in the class: we award prizes only when the best student achieves a first-class pass. It is a case of "levelling up" and not "levelling down". We intend to maintain the same exit standard in 1997 as we did in 1977.

But, during the period of transformation, we have lost many good students to other faculties, other universities, and, indeed, to other countries. This is a regrettable but temporary phenomenon. In our concern with "redress", we may have neglected the top 10% of students. This is part of our next challenge — to make our curriculum relevant to a multicultural South Africa.

There are limits to what we can do. There has been a global shift from elite to mass education. This puts a strain on academic teachers all over the world. We have more routine work, larger classes and less discre-

tionary labour time to engage in research activities. In spite of this, most of my colleagues retain a steady output of accredited publications and some are leading scholars internationally.

I do not think it is helpful to label the small number who have resisted these changes as racist. Indeed I think the statement from the Department of Education (*Mail & Guardian*, April 18 to 24) is counter-productive as it stifles constructive debate. The allegation of racism is too serious to be used in a cavalier fashion.

My impression is the vast bulk of the faculty are recognising the need to "retool" their skills and adapt to the changing demography of the classroom.

I observe daily the transformation in the classroom of students previously excluded from a good university education. I consider it an honour to be part of this process. I do not believe we have achieved teaching excellence in the new circumstances, but I am confident that we are moving towards that goal.

Eddie Webster is professor of sociology and chair of the Teaching and Learning Committee at the University of the Witwatersrand

Crackdown on fly-by-night colleges looms

Star 3/5/97

(54)

The Government is taking steps which could soon see a clamp-down on fly-by-night private colleges.

These colleges, which often charge thousands of rands for qualifications that are practically worthless, invariably lack proper facilities and teachers, but continue to operate due to loopholes in the law.

There are at least 12 currently operating in the centre of Pretoria. "It's unbelievable how many students we've had here that have been duped," said John McMahon, who runs an established college.

"We had one student who had been studying at a college for two years. When he came here we practically had to start from scratch in training him."

At the moment, all that is needed to open a college is for the college to be registered as a business. But the draft bill on higher education, which is expected to be passed by Parliament in October, aims to classify colleges as part of the tertiary education sector.

The department's acting deputy director-general of higher education, Dr Trevor Coombes, said the bill aimed to ensure that

all colleges would be forced to register with the department, which would make it necessary to maintain certain standards of education.

The draft bill makes it an offence to use the name "college" unless the institution is a recognised college, Coombes said.

At the moment, about 200 private colleges are registered with the Association of Private Colleges of Southern Africa, a national body set up in 1989 which allows colleges to register under its name if it measures up to certain criteria. — Own Correspondent

Jobless graduates pool brain power

SIPHO VANGA

SIX-HUNDRED jobless graduates from universities and technikons have put their brain power together to form a union to give them greater muscle in finding work.

The graduates, who have launched the South African Graduates and Diplomates Union (Sagdu), complain that job-seeking has been a frustrating enterprise despite their years of studying.

They say they have been turned away by the government and private sector companies, who explain that the job-seekers come with qualifications but no hands-on experience.

As a result many of them are heavily in debt.

The graduates have accused prospective employers of discrimination. The union intends to lobby the government to create job opportunities and tackle the problem of unemployment of qualified people.

Union member Michael Nkwali said: "Unless the government establishes temporary relief programmes to avoid the unemployment crisis, it will reach alarming proportions. This year outgoing university graduates and technikon diplomates will join those presently unemployed."

Another member, Russel Kele, said: "The government should regard this as a serious matter which

(54) (275)
needs urgent attention. If the circumstances do not change we are prepared to organise a no-vote campaign in the coming general elections."

Nkwali said he had taken up their plight with the President's Office and the Ministry of Labour. Johan Fourie, administrative secretary in the ministry, said they were trying to help the students.

Charl Adams, Human Resource Manager, Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said: "We have about 300 000 students at university and 100 000 are in social science. Some of their courses are not geared towards the requirements of the private sector. Taking on such persons would be costly because they would need training."

ST(CM) 4/5/97

Winds of change rattle Unisa windows

(54) *Star 5/5/97*

What was known as the 'quiet' learning option is now experiencing a campus brawl with all unions at the university expressing dissatisfaction at way it is being run

By Adam Cooke

Driving into Pretoria from Johannesburg, a massive concrete building leaps into sight, forcing its way out of those curvaceous highveld hills.

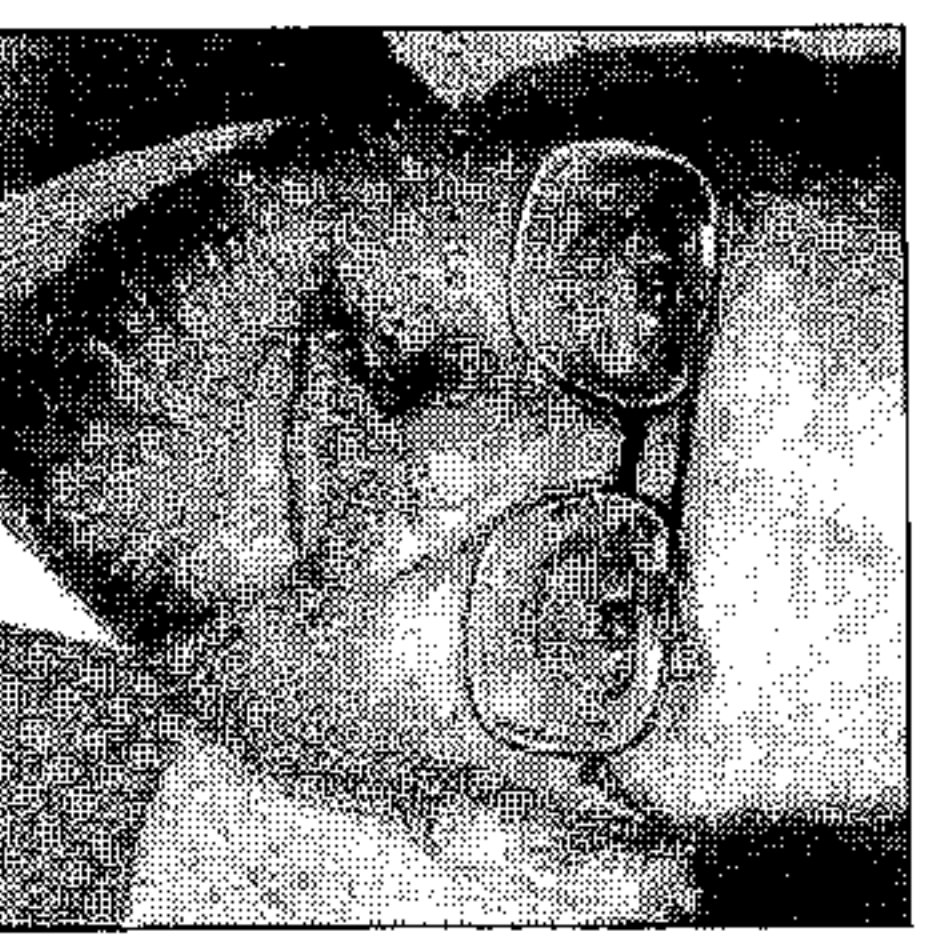
The building says a lot about the style of Unisa's architects - it is rigid in its structure, unwieldy in its size, and the only way of finding the library is to follow the trail of students.

But, behind the austere facade is a battle so painful that the building's foundations are shifting underground.

By its nature as a centre of distance education, where, unlike at most universities, students are not on campus in large numbers each day, Unisa has been less preoccupied with its role as a catalyst for change than its counterparts.

Unisa has been the "quiet" learning option that, while producing graduates notable for their role in transformation such as President Nelson Mandela, has provided thousands of people with the opportunity to pick up respectable degrees each year.

Today Unisa is feeling the crunch, where increasing num-



Walking a tightrope ... Unisa's vice-chancellor Professor Marinus Wiechers is disturbed by the dissent on campus.

bers of the 14 000 students who study full-time are coming on to campus and, together with unions and staff associations, are bringing the issues of the day into the administration buildings.

Since August last year, the university has faced a series of student demonstrations and union action at its campuses around the country.

The incidents have left several people injured and extensive damage to property.

Yet the conflict is not a simple division between senior man-

agement and maintenance workers or radical students.

The divisions are so complex and the struggle for power so intense that it is, as one Unisa source said, difficult to see the wood for the trees.

Defining the problem is made more difficult by the fact that certain individuals who are vital to the process of change and reconciliation are no longer communicating at all.

The vice-chancellor, Professor Marinus Wiechers, and the director of public relations, Dr Joe Diescho, have not shared a civil word in more than six months.

While there is a great degree of unity among staff and student organisations around the problems with university management, they are split between those who are more concerned with issues of wages and staff morale on the one hand, and those who believe the university has not accelerated change on the other.

Central to this change is the strategy of affirmative action.

A look at the figures shows that of the top management posts, such as heads of departments, about 90% are white. About 1 140 of the 1 328 teaching

and research personnel are also white.

Wiechers, a renowned legal academic and the man who wrote much of the Namibian constitution, pointed out that 43% of last year's appointments and promotions of administrative staff were black.

He said that in the last three years there had been more black

and then implemented.

The policy aims to ensure that staff composition represents and reflects Unisa's student profile, 62% of which is black.

So, while the university management triggered discussion around transformation, it has, as one source said, failed to recognise the urgency and gravity of the situation.

The university is, according to spokesman Doreen Gough, "dealing with each new crisis on an ad hoc basis".

The debate has now turned into a campus brawl.

All the unions at Unisa, even those historically associated with white politics, are objecting to the way in which the university is run.

"We are in crisis here. We have crossed the Rubicon - while the university keeps on functioning at a day-to-day level, lecturers are demoralised and have lost faith in the management of their institution," said the secretary-general of the Academic and Professional Staff Association, Nick Coetzee.

"The staff as a whole are ready for change. But there is no vision and no leadership," said the chairman of the Black



No communication ... Unisa's director of PR Dr Joe Diescho disagrees with Wiechers over the running of the university.

Forum, Professor David Mas-Forum, Professor David Mas-Forum.

This sentiment is heard again and again from the unionised staff.

Wiechers, while disturbed by the dissension, finds this conflict healthy.

He says: "Transformation is a huge process of democratisation. The people must have a voice and this is what we are seeing here - democracy is conflict, it is taking up adversarial positions." But he warns that if the rules of democracy are broken, "democracy becomes subver-

sive".

And this is where the current breakdown in communication lies.

Ten SRC members have been suspended by Wiechers, backed by the council, since last year after they went on the rampage in calling for speedy transformation.

They are not allowed back on to campus until criminal charges of assault and damage to property appear in court later this year.

Even the university's Broad Transformation Forum, which is meant to represent all sectors at the institution, but half of whose members are students, condemned his actions.

Wiechers sums up his dilemma: "It is a tightrope I am walking - you have to keep institutional stability while putting change and a new democratic ethos in place.

"You have to keep maximum continuity because from a position of stability you can reform best."

But, staff organisations say Wiechers' tightrope is between meeting the needs of a conservative and well-established power group at the university on the one hand, and properly engag-

ing with change on the other.

Perhaps the Makheke Commission, which was appointed last year to investigate issues of excellence, equity and affirmative action, identified the most crucial problem at the university - the absence of a shared vision and goals in line with the democratic ethos of the new South Africa.

Ten SRC members face criminal charges

And while Wiechers says each department is actively coming up with its own vision, the need for clarity, sense of purpose, and strong leadership is imperative.

This would see an asset of international standing travel beyond the perimeters set by the social engineers of the 1960s who designated it an exclusively Afrikaans and white institution.

Wits candidates to give lectures

(54) Sowetian 5/5/97

By Victor Mecoamere

FIVE candidates short-listed for the three vacant positions of Deputy Vice-Chancellor at Wits University will give public lectures at the Wits Great Hall in Johannesburg from tomorrow.

Three of the candidates are South Africans Professor Jan Boeyens (62), Professor Mzamo Mangaliso (48) and Dr Sibusiso Sibisi (42), while the other two are a Nigerian Professor Adelani Ogunnade (46) and a Tanzanian Professor Tautufo Selemani

Mwamwenda (52).

Boeyens, who joined Wits in 1981 first as Dean of the faculty of Science and is the institution's current head of chemistry and director of the Centre for Molecular Design, will talk on "Academic Research" tomorrow.

Mwamwenda will air his views on "Research and Transformation at Wits" on Wednesday.

He is the Assistant to the Vice-Chancellor at the University of Transkei and was formerly acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor at the same institution after

joining it in 1988.

KwaZulu-Natal-born Sibisi will talk about "Some Thoughts on University Research Direction in South Africa" on Thursday.

Sibisi is the current chairman of the Massive Inference Techniques Limited in Cambridge, Britain.

Before that he lectured at Wits in Applied Mathematics and has held various prominent posts at Cambridge University.

Nigeria-based Ogunnade, who is the head of the University of Ibadan's

Veterinary Microbiology and Parasitology, will look at "University Education for the 21st Century: Old Problems and New Challenges" on May 14.

Mangaliso, the associate professor in the School of Management at the University of Massachusetts in the United States, examines "Democracy in an age of Globalisation: Challenges for Newly Emerging Nations" on May 16.

Twenty minutes of each of the five presentations, set to take 35 minutes, will be dedicated to a question and answer session with the audience.

Starting gates open at Wits

Candidates for vacant posts to offer series of lectures

(54)

Stan 6/5/97

Wits University begins the race to fill its three vacant deputy vice-chancellor posts today when public lectures and interviews start with Professor Jan Boeyens speaking on the topic "Academic Research".

The 62-year-old Boeyens is a former dean and current head of the department of chemistry at Wits. He headed the physical chemistry division of the CSIR from 1976.

He will speak in the University Great Hall at 2.30pm.

Speculation has it that not all three of the vacant posts, the

most senior management positions after the vice-chancellor, will be filled by the five applicants.

Tomorrow will see Tanzanian Professor Tuntufye Mwamwenda speaking at 2.30pm on the topic "Research and Transformation at Wits University".

He is currently assistant to the vice-chancellor of the University of Transkei, which he joined in 1988. He has held the post of acting deputy vice-chancellor and various other positions including dean of the faculty of education.

Also tomorrow, Dr Sibusiso

Sibisi will deliver "Some Thoughts on University Research and Direction in South Africa", also at 2.30pm.

The 42-year-old Sibisi is currently chairman of Massive Inference Techniques Ltd in Cambridge, England. He returned to South Africa in 1984 to lecture in applied mathematics at Wits after leaving the country in 1974.

On May 16 at 9am, Professor Adelani Ogunrinade will talk on "University Education for the 21st Century: Old Problems and New Challenges".

This Nigerian is currently

head of the department of veterinary microbiology at the University of Ibadan in Nigeria.

The last public speech will be by Professor Mzamo Mangaliso, who will talk on "Democracy in an Age of Globalisation: Challenges for Newly Emerging Nations".

He is currently an associate professor in the School of Management at the University of Massachusetts.

He was born in Benoni and did his PhD, at the University of Massachusetts, in strategic planning. - Staff Reporter.

Dispute over Unisa's PR chief

(54) Star 6/9/97

BY ADAM COOKE

Black staff at Unisa have condemned what they call the victimisation and harassment of the university's director of public relations, Dr Joe Diescho.

The Black Forum said yesterday that Diescho had been harassed by "management" for statements he had made regarding the appointment earlier this year of acting registrar: academic, Professor Themba Msimang.

Diescho's statements revolve around what he called the "undemocratic" appointment of Msimang by the university's vice-chancellor, Professor Marinus Wiechers.

Diescho also said that while this was not an attack on Msimang, the process of his selection had not taken into account the feelings of staff organisations.

Wiechers said he had called a

meeting of all staff organisations to get their input on the appointment of Msimang.

"There has never been any kind of consultative process in the selection of people for senior acting posts. At least I have started the democratic process," Wiechers said. He added that for permanent positions there was a full selection process.

But both the South African Parastatal and Tertiary Union and the Academic and Professional Staff Association had walked out of the consultative meeting claiming Wiechers was being undemocratic in not heeding their input.

According to the Universities' Act, Wiechers is entitled to make such an appointment of his own accord.

The Black Forum, of which Diescho is a member, said the harassment violated constitutionally guaranteed freedoms.

Drastic need for funding of research at Wits underlined

(54) Star 7/5/97

STAFF REPORTER

Wits University should begin a worldwide drive to fund research if it is to fulfil its obligation to service the entire continent, Professor Jan Boeyens said yesterday in his public lecture as a candidate for the post of deputy vice-chancellor: research.

He told a gathering of the university and the senior appointments selection committee that there was a need for universities to have greater financial independence.

In line with this, a trust fund should be established using international funds to provide income for research.

The 62-year-old former dean of the faculty of science at Wits said there was also a need to restore staff confidence.

"What is needed, in many cases, would be no less than a doubling of

their salaries."

He pointed to the need to transform the funding system and said the main aim of the deputy vice-chancellor: research was to negotiate the university's rightful share of public funds provided for research.

"The university without a vigorous research programme becomes a college, and when it lacks the teaching component it stagnates into a Soviet-style academy that serves neither state nor science," Boeyens said.

It should be the responsibility of the university to ensure that academic research had the same priority and quality as university teaching, he said.

At 1pm in the Wits Great Hall today, Professor Tuntufye Mwanwende will speak on "Research and Transformation".

Academic dismayed by research loss

(54) Star 8/5/97

BY ADAM COOKE

The universities of the Witwatersrand and Cape Town had seen a marked drop in the amount of research they had produced in recent years, a candidate for Wits University's post of deputy vice-chancellor said yesterday.

Professor Tuntufye Mwamwenda, applying for the post of academic deputy vice-chancellor, told a gathering of the selection committee and the Wits University community that this drop had led to concern over the institutions' international standing.

He said he did not think the concerns were entirely valid, but was worried that Wits had lost its place as South Africa's leading producer of published articles to the University of Cape Town.

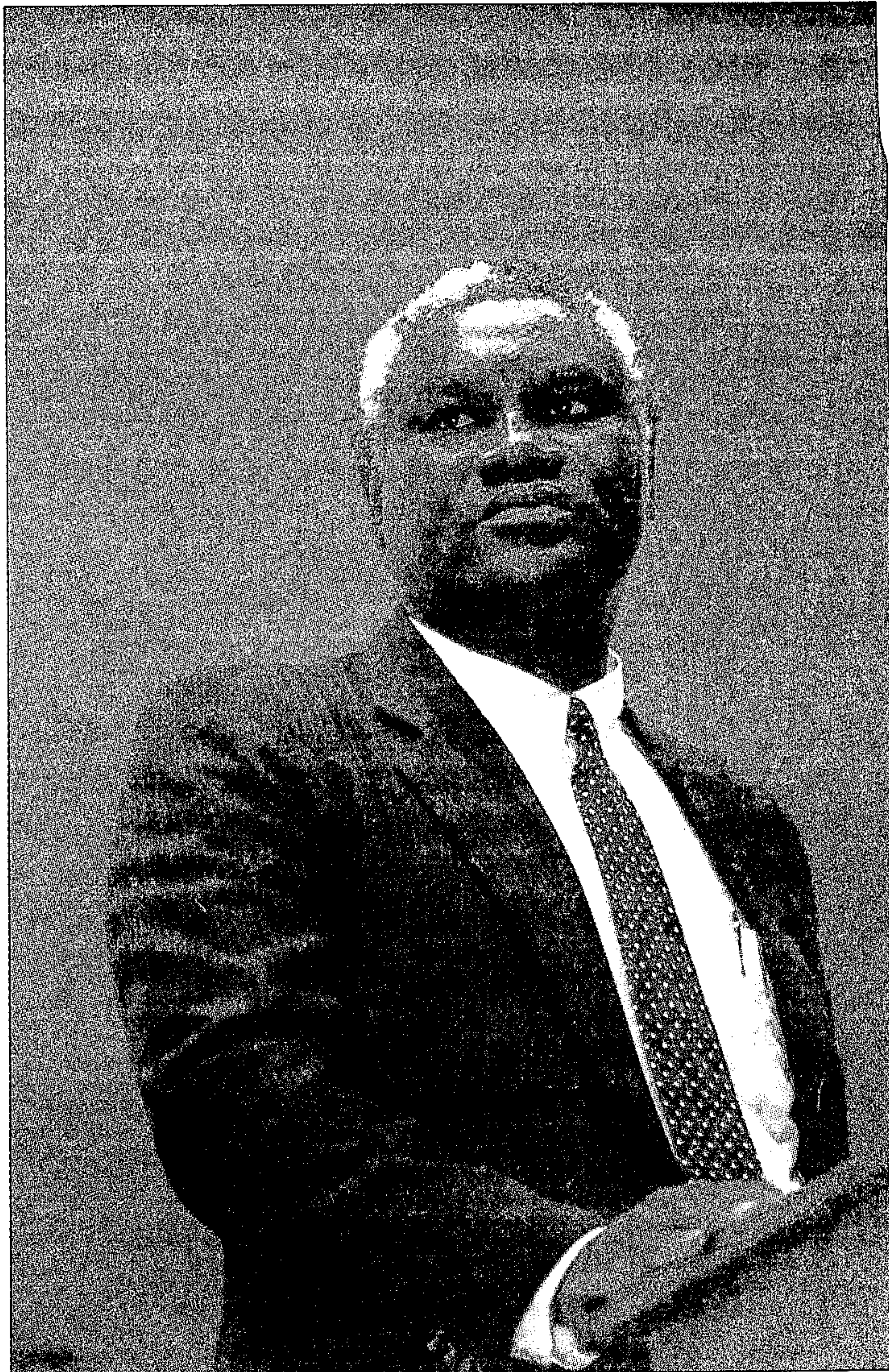
Status showing signs of dwindling

"I would want to believe that if you have been number one, you would want to maintain such a position as long as possible," he said, adding that research and scholarship were the core of the professional identity of the academic profession.

Mwamwenda is currently the assistant to the vice-chancellor at the University of the Transkei and was once acting deputy vice-chancellor of the university.

He also said funds would have to be raised to retain staff who were tempted by higher salaries to join industry.

Today Professor Sibusiso Sibisi, the third applicant for the three vacant deputy vice-chancellor positions, will talk on the topic: "Some Thoughts on University Research Direction".



Taking stock ... Wits University deputy vice-chancellor candidate Professor Tuntufye Mwamwenda says the university needs to address the drop in its research output.

STYLIA
Linda
20 528

Inroads set to help students

somefan 8/5/99
(54)

By Shadrack Mashalaba

DISADVANTAGED South African business and engineering students stand to benefit once plans by the United States-based internship organisation to start a training and placement programme are realised.

Charles Story, chief executive of Inroads, says his non-profit organisation hopes to find employment for successful students.

According to Story talented youths from various tertiary institutions will be identified, trained and placed for an internship programme in the corporate world.

"Plans are already under way to start with a local programme at the beginning of the new year. We have formed an interim committee to license our name here and transform the commitment made by local companies into practical action."

For the programme to succeed, Story says its structural composition and operation will have to be locally bred.

He says they have spoken to a number of private sector organisations, which he said have shown enthusiasm about starting such a programme here.

"The programme will start as a pilot project in Johannesburg, spread to Durban and hopefully throughout the country," he says.

Inroads was started in Chicago in 1970 with 25 college student interns and 17 sponsoring corporations.

Its aim is to develop and place talented, disadvantaged youths in business and industry and prepare them for corporate and community leadership.

Story says several dozens of Inroads graduates today hold senior positions in government in some countries. Others have carved a niche for themselves in business.

6 Dozens of Inroads graduates today hold senior positions

semetan 8/5/97

'Wits must address diversity'

(54)

By Victor Mecoamere

DOES the University of the Witwatersrand reflect South Africa's diversity? To what extent are its academics reflective of the "Rainbow Nation"?

These and other questions were yesterday dealt with during a lecture by Tanzanian Professor Tuntufye Selemani Mwamwemba who is a candidate for the post of deputy vice-chancellor at Wits. He was speaking on research and transformation at Wits.

Mwamwemba, who has worked at the University of the Transkei since 1988 and is the current assistant to Unira's Vice-Chancellor, is one of several candidates vying for the position.

In his address, at a lunch hour meeting at the Wits Great Hall, Mwamwemba stressed the importance of academic and research excellence, and an adherence to a transformation process which would suitably reflect the "rainbow nation".

If appointed, Mwamwemba would address why "we (Wits) are no longer number one and how we can reclaim such (a) lead", citing information from various journals which quoted Wits as being second best to the University of Cape Town in terms of research.

On transformation, Mwamwemba asked whether Wits' 18 000-strong student population, 99 heads of departments, 10 faculty deans and the men and women in middle and top management reflected "South Africa's multicultural society".

"In terms of the many professors that are at this university, to what extent are they a reflection of the Rainbow Nation?" Mwamwemba asked. He suggested that for Wits to survive, business had to be approached to help in the institution's many vital programmes.

UCT's commerce faculty red-faced

(54)

Does a fall in student numbers herald the demise of the traditional B Comm?
asks **Heather Parker** in Cape Town

BD 12/5/97

THE commerce faculty at the University of Cape Town is slightly red-faced: its total enrolment numbers stagnated this year, undermining its argument that it should be granted more of the university's resources; and the Bachelor of Business Sciences degree overtook the Bachelor of Commerce for the first time in terms of numbers of new students.

Have all those jokes about boring accountants resulted in deflecting school leavers into sexier-sounding degrees?

Not at all, says Prof John Simpson, who heads the School of Management Studies which offers the B Bus Sci degree.

"Yes, B Comm numbers are down and B Bus Sci numbers are

up, but possibly that is because, with the chaos in matric results at the end of 1996, UCT offered B Comm places rather late," he said. "Students may well have committed themselves to other universities in the meantime."

While other universities are prepared to base their selections on criteria such as mock matric results, UCT has been steadfast in insisting on final results before it offers applicants places on the course.

The B Bus Sci degree, which is unique to UCT, would not have lost potential candidates to competing universities.

The essential difference between the two degrees is that the B Comm is an accounting-orient-

tated degree, while the B Bus Sci is a general management degree with specialisations.

It also offers finance and commerce subjects, and it includes subject options such as marketing, human resources management, psychology and informational systems.

The fourth year of the business science degree is an honours year. A number of students who specialise in finance go on to write the chartered accountant board exams, where they tend to do well, says Simpson.

The business science degree was established in 1969, but has taken off since 1994, with first-year student numbers rising from 200 in that year to 360 this year.

Wits soldiers bravely on into the future

Star 12/5/97

(54)

Vice-chancellor Charlton maintains that the university is still largely known for the excellence of its teaching and research and the service it renders to society

BY WINNIE GRAHAM

The University of the Witwatersrand, 75 years old this year, was born in controversy.

Unlike some of South Africa's other "Ivy League" universities that have mellowed into gracious old age, Wits has retained much of the fiery fighting spirit that brought it into being.

It was founded at the insistence of the people of Johannesburg rather than with the blessing of the government of the time. In fact, in the early part of this century the then-minister of education, Jan Smuts (later prime minister of South Africa), was opposed to a university in Johannesburg.

Against this background it is easy to understand why Wits has always been fiercely independent. It has not hesitated to take the government head-on. Opposed to any form of prejudice, it fought discrimination to become recognised as a bastion of liberal thought - only to come face to face with campus disturbances and political intrigue.

The University of the Witwatersrand, in short, reflects the energy, the anger and the aspirations of Johannesburg - the qualities and tensions that built the city into the economic heartland of South Africa. Wits has educated a high proportion of its business and professional people.

At the helm of the vibrant university is Professor Robert Charlton, vice-chancellor and principal, a man who, despite a studied calm, is visibly irritated by irresponsible rumour-mongering and gossip about the university.

He describes talk of lowered standards and "withdrawal of international recognition" as mischievous. He is adamant that a degree from Wits remains one of the most cherished possessions young South Africans can acquire.

"Nothing has changed," he said in an interview. "Wits is recognised internationally for

the quality of its graduates and the excellence of its teaching, research and service to society. No one has retracted recognition, nor has there been any suggestion of such a thing. Standards at this university are as high as ever - perhaps higher."

The university, he stresses, has not been forced to accede to demands from radical student groups "to pass one, pass all". That demand had never been made at Wits and certainly no student had been granted a degree without having achieved it through merit.

Professor Charlton added: "No one gets pushed through without deserving to pass. The quality of students today is as high as it was ten years ago and perhaps higher than it was in 1946, when I was a student at Wits.

"The only basis I can deduce for the rumours is old white South African racism. There are people who cannot accept

“**Standards are as high as ever - maybe higher**”

that our black students can do as well as our white students."

The vice-chancellor says that, if anything, black students work harder than their white counterparts. "They have to. They come from a disadvantaged background and have to work to overcome their educational backlog," he said.

What of unpaid student fees?

The vice-chancellor does not believe the problem is particularly serious and says about two percent of fees are written off "but only after three or four years," when everything possible has been done to recoup the money.

What of students who genuinely cannot pay? "If a student is passing and qualifies for financial aid in terms of family income, we do everything possible to accommodate him or her," he said.

This year 17 599 students enrolled at Wits, of whom 9 124 (or 52%) were white, 5 756 (33%) were black, 2 389 (13%) were Indian and 330 (2%) were coloured. There was a marked increase in undergraduate first-year admissions in architecture (22% up on 1996), commerce and health sciences.

The only faculty where undergraduate first-year registrations dropped sharply was education (40% down). This is attributed to the turbulence and uncertainty in the teaching profession. The number of aspirant black teachers dropped by 50% and whites by 11%.

For the first time in several years the number of white undergraduate admissions has increased - by more than 7% on the 1996 total. A specially heartening aspect is the substantial increase in the number of black postgraduate students: the figure is up by 21%.

"The major proportion of our students come from Gauteng," Professor Charlton said. "While a number of Johannesburg students have always attended universities at the coast, understandably not many young people come inland to study."

With not many months left before Professor Charlton retires as vice-chancellor, he is not unduly concerned that a successor has not yet been found.

"Of course it was disappointing that Professor Sam Nolutshungu withdrew but I never saw it as a setback," he said. "In fact, we may even have benefited by demonstrating our willingness to follow an inclusive and transparent selection procedure and to welcome a black vice-chancellor."

Suspicion that Wits was resisting transformation was allayed. Since then some interesting candidates have come

forward. "There is still time to appoint the right person."

Professor Charlton speaks reluctantly but openly about the unfortunate "Makgoba affair" - another of the controversial issues that has dogged the university in recent years.

Professor William Makgoba was appointed deputy vice-chancellor in October 1994. A year later complaints were formally lodged against him by 13 senior members of the university, including eight deans.

They alleged Professor Makgoba had been dilatory in carrying out his duties, that some of his public statements had brought the university into disrepute and that there were discrepancies between various versions of his curriculum vitae.

Professor Charlton offered Makgoba an opportunity to respond at a formal meeting at which his legal advisor, his principal accuser and a senior member of the senate would be

“**No one passes without deserving to**”

present. Professor Makgoba decided not to attend and "garbled reports" were published in the media.

"I then had no alternative but to recommend to the University Council that a formal inquiry be undertaken," he said. The matter was resolved when Professor Makgoba and nine of his accusers reached an agreement.

Wits remains one of the leading research universities not only in SA, but in Africa. Research funds are used to support about 70 university recognised research entities and administered units and a large number of individual researchers.

Mnr D.

Mnr F I

Mr Ralp

Mr Verr

Mnr Ste

Dr. D. C

Ms Ruby

Mr Basil
Mandy D
Alida Sm

Mr Boyce



Supportive ... Robert Charlton believes most black students work harder than white students to counter their education.

Nigerian is in line for post at Wits

Kevin O'Grady (54)

80 22/5/97

WITS University's selection committee has strongly recommended the appointment of Nigerian Prof Adelani Ogunrinade to one of three vacant deputy vice-chancellor posts, but the other four short-listed candidates failed to garner more than 50% of the committee's votes.

A university spokesman said the recommendation on Ogunrinade, who currently holds a position at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria, would now go before the university senate and, if approved, to the university council, the institution's highest decision-making body.

The university's transformation forum, representing all the institution's stakeholders, would give its views on the recommendation directly to the council, the spokesman said.

Filling the remaining vacant deputy vice-chancellorships would be delayed until the committee had chosen a new vice-chancellor, a position which falls vacant when Prof Robert Charlton retires at the end of the year.

The committee would meet soon to consider drawing up a short list of the nominees and applicants for Charlton's position, the spokesman said.

The other four short-listed deputy vice-chancellor candidates were Wits academic Prof Jan Boeyens, SA-born Massachusetts University associate professor Mzamo Mangaliso, Tanzanian-born Transkei University acting deputy vice-chancellor Tuntufye Mwamwenda and SA-born UK-based businessman Sibisi Sibusiso.

Unisa principal's position in doubt

(54)

Senate decides to set up interim management board after vote of no confidence

PRETORIA CORRESPONDENT

Unisa principal Professor Marinus Wiechers could be stripped of some of his powers following a decision by the university senate to set up an interim management board.

The move follows an official vote of no confidence in Wiechers taken by a number of staff associations at the institution as well as repeated demands for Wiechers' resignation.

Wiechers has, in the past, offered to step down in October this year but there has been no indication recently that he is still prepared to do so.

His term of office ends in 1999.

The university senate met yesterday to discuss Unisa's fi-

nancial problems as well as a proposal by the staff associations that Wiechers be relieved of his duties.

Allegations of financial mismanagement and a lack of openness have been levelled at Unisa management for some time and groups pushing for the principal's resignation say that as head of the university he is ultimately responsible.

The groups which put the motion forward include the Academic and Professional Staff Association (Apsa), the National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union (Nehawu) and the Black Academic Forum.

They released a joint statement yesterday.

Their complaints include:

- The handling of the morato-

rium on promotions last August;

- Dissatisfaction with the Makhene Commission, set up to investigate Unisa's affirmative action policy;

- Alleged problems with the financial management of the university, which - like many other tertiary institutions - is facing financial difficulties;

- The appointment of persons to jobs seemingly created expressly for them, without following proper selection procedures.

However, the senate's adoption of the motion still has to be ratified by the university's council if it is to be implemented.

The next council meeting is scheduled to take place in about two months' time, but a special

meeting could be called to discuss the matter.

The university has tried to tackle staff dissatisfaction by holding a series of information sessions.

Staff have been complaining of a lack of openness on the part of management, and over the past few weeks, have held a series of information sessions where a panel of senior staff members and representatives were available to answer questions. But they have also lacked transparency, Apsa general secretary Nick Coetzee said.

Wage negotiations have been deadlocked for over a month. A final decision about a proposal that the salaries of academic staff be reduced by 12,5% has still not been reached.

Star 22/5/97

Only one (54) candidate gets past Wits panel

BY ADAM COOKE

Wits University's selection committee has recommended that just one of the five candidates who applied for the three vacant positions of deputy vice-chancellor be appointed.

The selection committee's recommendation of only Nigerian Professor Adelani Ogunrinade leaves the university with just three of its five second-tier management positions filled and a vice-chancellor who is to retire at the end of the year.

A shortlist of candidates for the vice-chancellor position is expected to be announced soon.

The other four shortlisted deputy vice-chancellor candidates - Professors Jan Boeyens, Mzamo Mangaliso, Tunufye Mwamwenda and Dr Sibusiso Sibisi - received less than 50% support from members of the selection committee.

A candidate needs more than 60% support to be appointed.

Sources say the move to appoint just one of the candidates to a university that has been struggling to fill its senior positions is a sign that Wits is trying to rebuild a strong management team that will take the institution out of its present malaise.

Ogunrinade (46), who has been at the University of Ibadan, obtained an MSc and PhD from the University of London and has a second MSc degree from Brunel University in the United Kingdom.

He has been head of the department of veterinary microbiology at Ibadan since 1985 and was dean of the Postgraduate School from 1990 to 1996.

Vice-chancellor

Continued from Page 1

BD 27/5/97

(54)

the selection of two Western Cape academics "says something about Wits as a place of scholarship compared to institutions in the Western Cape".

Bundy, a widely respected historian who is researching a biography of African National Congress stalwart Govan Mbeki, testified in mitigation of sentence at the 1989 "Broederstroom Three" trial in which ANC activists Damien de Lange, Ian Robertson and Susan Donnelly were convicted of terrorism. Before his appointment as UWC vice-rector he was director of the university's Institute for Historical Re-

search from 1992 to 1994.

Wilson, director of UCT's Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit since 1974, co-authored Uprooting Poverty: The South African Challenge, with UCT vice-chancellor Mamphela Ramphele, a confidant of the late black consciousness leader Steve Biko. He was also director of the Second Carnegie Inquiry into Poverty and Development in Southern Africa between 1982 and 1989.

A Wits spokesman said the candidates would now be required to give a public lecture and be interviewed by the committee after which a recommendation would be made to the university senate and then the council. The successful candidate would need 60% of the committee's support.

Western Cape men head Wits short list

Kevin O'Grady

BD 27/5/97

(54)

THE long-awaited appointment of a new vice-chancellor for Wits University drew closer yesterday when the institution's senior appointments selection committee short-listed two white Western Cape academics for the post.

They are University of the Western Cape (UWC) vice-rector Prof Colin Bundy and University of Cape Town (UCT) economist Prof Francis Wilson.

Their short-listing follows a delayed and disputed process last year in which US-based Prof Sam Nolutshungu was chosen to replace retiring vice-chancellor Robert Charlton at the end of this year. He withdrew and the committee had to begin searching again.

University sources said yesterday that the short-listing of two white candidates, when much had been said about the importance of a black person to fill the politically charged job, could be seen by some as "retrogressive".

However, Bundy's and Wilson's "struggle" credentials made it unlikely the university would face student protests on the scale experienced in opposition to former Wits Deputy vice-chancellor June Sinclair's short-listing for the position last year.

The SA Students' Congress (Sasco), which was most vocal in its opposition to Sinclair's potential appointment, could not be reached for comment. Sasco is represented on the committee.

A Wits source also commented that

Continued on Page 2

Universities, techs face financial crises ⁽⁵⁴⁾

CT 27/5/97

OWN CORRESPONDENT

PRETORIA: Universities and technikons are battling to make ends meet after the state subsidies granted to them this year were cut back — in spite of promises to the contrary.

This follows an outcry at the end of last year when the tertiary institutions were given provisional figures for their 1997 budgets which were far below the sums they expected.

At least three universities — including the University of Fort Hare — are experiencing financial crises, while others have had to make huge cutbacks.

Unisa is expecting a provisional deficit of about R100 million by the end of the year and the Technikon Pretoria is bracing itself for a possible strike after management refused to give staff an increase this year.

The national Education Department's acting deputy director-general of higher education, Dr Trevor Coombe, confirmed that the amounts allocated had been less than expected.

He said the department depended on the amount allocated to it by the Department of Finance and, like other government departments, had been forced to tighten its belt.

The amounts granted vary from one institution to another, but universities and technikons are reluctant to reveal exact figures in case they anger the department.

But University of Pretoria principal Professor Johan van Zyl commented on the situation during his inaugural speech last week: "The necessity of providing effective training to an increasing number of students, without a proportional increase in resources, means that universities can only survive and grow if they make significant, and even radical, changes to their administrative structures and training models."

At Unisa, staff and management are at loggerheads over a salary increase the university cannot afford, and the situation at Technikon Pretoria has been referred to the Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration.

If technikon staff go ahead with the strike, it will cripple the institution during its mid-year exams, which start on Monday. The technikon is nearly R10m in the red.

Union members on campus — which make up about half of the technikon's staff — have threatened to strike if an agreement is not reached by next month.

"Our people are under great pressure," said Mr Simon Sauer, campus president of the National Union of Technikon Employees in South Africa.

"We are losing people to other institutions because we cannot pay market-related salaries. It's killing us and it's killing the technikon," he said.

If the problem is not solved, the union says, it has a mandate from its members to go on strike from June 17.

SA FOLLOWS WORLD TREND

State stops subsidies to foreign students

UNIVERSITIES are hoping to raise money by charging additional levies to foreign students, although those from Southern African countries will be exempt. **CAROL CAMPBELL** writes.

FOREIGN students studying for undergraduate degrees at South African universities are no longer subsidised by the government and have to pay up to three times more for a degree than local students.

The education department's chief director of higher education, Mr Ahmed Essop, said the decision to stop supporting foreign students had been taken last year because the government barely had enough money to meet the demands of South Africans.

"Students from the Southern African development countries will still be supported because we believe in regional co-operation and development," he said.

The acting chief executive of the Committee of University Principals, Professor Jos Grobbelaar, said the decision was in line with international trends.

"In Australia education is one of the country's main sources of foreign

revenue and in the United States students are expected to pay more if they go to a university in another state," he said.

Charging higher fees to foreigners could be used to subsidise local students who could not afford high fees.

"This is one of the few ways universities can earn money and it is not to be sneezed at," he said.

The decision to stop the subsidies was taken "at a high level", but not all universities had adopted the policy.

Grobbelaar said some of the historically white and Afrikaans universities did not charge foreigners extra.

Yesterday a University of Cape Town science student from England said he was "shocked and upset" when he received a bill for an extra R15 500 at the weekend.

"Nobody told me when I registered for the degree that I would be expected to pay so much more. I have paid my fees, which were about R8 500."

In its account to the student, the

(54) CT 27/5/97
university said the money had to be paid by the end of June.

The student, who wished to remain anonymous, said there were "dozens" of foreigners at UCT, all in the same predicament.

"My fiancée is supporting me while I upgrade my qualification, so I can get a reasonable job. If I had known this would have happened I doubt I would have come to South Africa. I feel like I've been robbed."

UCT is expected to comment on why it charges a "foreign student premium" today.

One of the reasons cited for the levy is that foreign students come to South Africa and earn degrees at top local institutions like UCT and then go home, taking their new skills and education with them.

At the University of the Western Cape foreign students have a 50% levy added to their fees, and students from Southern African countries pay a levy of 25%.

"Often the currency these students are paying in is much stronger than the rand, so it's not unreasonable to ask them to pay more. It's the international trend," a spokesman said.

Two local professors on shortlist to head Wits

(54)

CT 27/5/97

JOHANNESBURG: Two Cape Town academics are the only two candidates short-listed to replace University of the Witwatersrand vice-chancellorship Professor Robert Charlton, who retires at the end of the year.

The two are Professor Colin Bundy, of the University of the Western Cape, and Professor Francis Wilson, of the University of Cape Town. They are required to give a lecture and field questions in August in the Wits Great Hall, followed by an interview with a selection committee. Its recommendations go before the senate and council.

Wilson, 58, of UCT's School of Economics, has been director of the Southern African Labour and Development Research Unit at the university since 1974. Bundy, 52, vice-rector (academic) at UWC since 1995, was director of the Institute for Historical Research at UWC from 1992 to 1994, among other appointments. — Sapa

Leading ⁽⁵⁴⁾ thinkers on Wits shortlist

Star 27/5/97
By ADAM COOK

Wits University has shortlisted two of South Africa's leading social thinkers and academics - professors Francis Wilson and Colin Bundy - for the position of vice-chancellor.

Wilson, who is a professor in the University of Cape Town's School of Economics, has been director of the Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit at UCT since 1974 and was selected a fellow of the Royal Society of South Africa in 1984.

He was also director of the Second Carnegie Inquiry into Poverty and Development from 1982 to 1989 and has held visiting fellowships or professorships at the universities of Sussex, Oxford, Harvard and Princeton.

He was educated in the Eastern Cape and at the universities of Cape Town (BSc) and Cambridge (MA and PhD).

He has published three major books, including *Migrant Labour in South Africa*, and numerous articles.

Bundy (52) has been vice-rector: academic at the University of the Western Cape since 1995, having been director of the Institute for Historical Research at UWC between 1992 and 1994.

He was appointed professor of history at UCT in 1985 and has been a research fellow at Oxford, a lecturer at Manchester Polytechnic, and a visiting professor at Stanford in the United States.

He was educated in the Eastern Cape and at the universities of Natal (BA), Wits (BA Hons) and Oxford (BPhil, DPhil). He has written three major books, including *The Rise and Fall of the South African Peasantry*.

The vice-chancellor position falls vacant at the end of the year when Professor Robert Charlton retires.

Technicon *sowetan 29/5/97* chooses (54) principal

By Themba Sepotokele

STUDENTS, academic and non-academic staff of the Technikon Witwatersrand (TWR) yesterday went to the polls to nominate their choice of candidate for the position of vice-chancellor and principal left vacant when Professor Chris Swanepoel resigned last year.

The elections took place shortly after the candidates, Professor Conzelia Connie Pretorious, professor of psychology at the University of South Africa and Dr Aggrey Mxolisi Mbere, deputy director-general in the office of the Public Services Commission addressed a public lecture at the Standard Bank Arena.

Staff and students were given a chance to question each candidate after their address. They took part in an opinion poll to give the TWR's Search and Selection Committee an indication of the acceptability of each candidate.

The committee comprises four members appointed by the Council, four appointed by the Broad Transformation Forum (BTF), four appointed by the student community, one member of the convocation, four members of industry and five observers from the BTF.

In his speech, the modest Mbere said higher education currently has perpetuated inequitable access and lack of participation for the majority of students. He touched on issues such as equity and redress, democratisation, diversity management, academic freedom and institutional autonomy and public accountability.

Pretorious said she would enter the patriarchal, sexist academic world with the vision of addressing gender imbalances. "Women will have equal opportunity at the institution. My priority is to address gender issues. My strategy of participatory involvement will take all stakeholders, students and trade unions, on board."

FW slates Bengu over Maties language policy

'Afrikaans under attack'

AR4 30/5/97 (54)

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT AND SAPA
STAFF REPORTER

National Party leader F W de Klerk has hit out at Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu for trying to "blackmail" Stellenbosch University into giving up its "inclusive Afrikaans character".

He accused the African National Congress of trying to turn the country into a "cultural melting-pot" by insisting on the transformation of the university's language policy and identity.

Mr De Klerk was addressing about 400 mainly white students at the Neelsie Centre on the campus yesterday at the invitation of the local NP youth branch.

Support for Mr De Klerk was split about 50-50 in the audience. Many students jeered his comments about the NP's track record of "delivering on its promises".

The only outright attack came from an ANC student spokesman, who criticised Mr De Klerk during question time for "taking away my vote".

Mr De Klerk's response was: "This party gave you the vote. We abolished apartheid."

In his speech, Mr De Klerk accused the ANC of "reinstating apartheid".

"White and brown people who make up the majority of this audience are disqualified from jobs," he said.

Mr De Klerk said Mr Bengu's statements could not be based on the constitution, which protected every culture group and language. He asked whether the minister would also insist on Afrikaans tuition at English language universities.

Regarding the NP's own inner turmoil, Mr De Klerk denied the party had "cold feet" about its vision, based on "values instead of ethnicity". He said it was Roelf Meyer's own choice to leave the party.

"If he is looking for a political power base at the cost of the NP, we are heading for confrontation. The ball is in his court."

Mr Meyer was "naïve" if he thought the NP should disband before restructuring.

Other opposition parties also condemned Mr Bengu's statement that the language policy and identity of Stellenbosch University needed to be urgently reviewed.

Democratic Party leader Tony Leon said Mr Bengu's comments were more evidence of his totalitarian tendencies.

Freedom Front education spokesman Leon Louw said Mr Bengu, by contradicting Mr Mandela, suggested the Government still had no intention of accommodating the cultural rights of Afrikaners.

Choosing vice-chancellor tough task for technikon

Two candidates have very different backgrounds and qualifications

(54)

By ADAM COOKE

Technikon Witwatersrand (TWR) faces the task of choosing between two very different candidates for the post of vice-chancellor following their public addresses on Tuesday.

They are the deputy director-general of the Public Service Commission, Dr Aggrey Mbere, and professor of psychology at Unisa, Professor Conzelia Pretorius.

Mbere has extensive managerial experience but apparently little understanding of the internal workings of centres for higher learning. Pretorius, on the other hand, has vast experience in the functioning of tertiary institutions, but little management background.

Mbere, who has a doctorate from Harvard University in Massachusetts and was awarded a distin-

guished college teachers fellowship at Yale University, said the vision and mission of TWR should be driven by the draft white paper on higher education.

He pointed to the importance of improving access for black students, of achieving equity and of

Both applicants seek race and gender equity

making governance of TWR democratic and participatory.

During question time, he said the technikon should look to forging agreements with business and industry to improve internship programmes and to ensure that graduates would secure jobs.

In her speech, Pretorius gave

Star 30/5/97
ideas of what her programme of action would be, isolating the importance of student development programmes and career counselling.

A member of Unisa's broad transformation forum and convener of her department's community projects, Pretorius suggested TWR should begin a student recruitment drive to identify high school pupils with potential and help them enter the institution.

Top of her agenda would also be gender equality and she criticised the technikon's selection committee for being almost exclusively male. Questioned about her ability to manage an institution with 14 000 students and about 1 200 staff she said: "I have been a leader in many areas ... The skills I have learnt are not in managing large numbers, but I think I can easily transfer from a micro to a macro level."

Transformation talk fans Matie tempers

Student 'chided for inviting Bengu'

ARG 31/5/97

(54)

PIETER MALAN
STAFF REPORTER

A rift is widening between the Stellenbosch University administration and some students over the "slow" rate of transformation at the bastion of Afrikanerdom.

The growing discord has become apparent following Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu's warning to the university to get its transformation process on the road or face the ire of his department.

Professor Bengu's visit to the university on Wednesday has provoked an angry response from Matie rector Andreas van Wyk, who has criticised student representative council chairperson Nadine Fourie for inviting the minister to the campus without first notifying him.

Professor Bengu told students and academics, including Professor Van Wyk, that the university's language policy and identity needed an urgent review.

He said the reality was that the majority of South Africans perceived the university's Afrikaans language policy as a pretext for the perpetuation and preservation of apartheid privilege.

There was no moral or constitutional justification for the preservation of the university for the sole or dominant use by one community to the exclusion of others, Professor Bengu emphasised.

"I want to state as unequivocally as pos-

sible that this institution has to be equally open to all South Africans."

Professor Bengu told Saturday Argus after the meeting his visit was specifically aimed at sounding a "clear warning" to the university establishment that their transformation process was not on track.

Student sources said the minister was invited to the campus while Professor Van Wyk was in Taiwan attending a conference of university presidents, where he delivered a keynote address.

On Wednesday night, minutes before the public meeting was to start, Professor Van Wyk was overheard chastising Ms Fourie for inviting Professor Bengu without his knowledge. He chided Ms Fourie for "exposing him to criticism on his own doorstep", according to people who overheard the conversation.

Ms Fourie and university spokesman Douglas Davis declined to comment.

It is clear, however, that a rift is developing between students leaders and the university administration over the university authorities' unwillingness to get the "transformation process" on the road.

Ms Fourie said the 11-member Student Transformation Forum (STF) met with Professor Bengu on Wednesday night before his speech, complaining about their three-year struggle to get the debate about a "new" Stellenbosch going.

In terms of the process suggested by the white paper on higher education a "broad

transformation forum", consisting of representatives of all stakeholders on campus, should be established - something that is not happening on the Matie campus, according to students.

Ironically Professor Van Wyk, in reply to Professor Bengu's speech, quoted the existence of the STF as proof that transformation was not being stalled.

University spokesman Douglas Davis said the Minister's speech showed a "menacing attitude of intervention" in matters which were the university's own responsibility and not in the spirit of "co-operative governance", a principle spelled out by the Commission on Higher Education.

He said the university received hundreds of calls from parents, donors and previous students, urging the university to "stand firm" in its fight against the Government.

■ Yesterday Professor Bengu also agreed to meet members of the Freedom Front youth wing after they occupied his Cape Town office for an hour.

Youth leader Kallie Kriel told Sapa they had asked the Minister for a meeting on Thursday. When he had failed to respond, they had decided on a sit-in at his office.

"We were willing to use methods we don't normally use, because we're serious," he said.

They left after they got a written undertaking from the Minister that he would meet them within two weeks.

Mandela stands by minister on university language policy

STAFF REPORTER

President Nelson Mandela and Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu have rejected insinuations that the Government sought to undermine the cultural and linguistic heritage of Afrikaans speaking communities.

Professor Bengu came under heavy criticism from opposition parties this week after he told Stellenbosch students and academics that their language policy and identity needed urgent review.

Opposition parties were quick to point out that this contradicted assurances given

by Mr Mandela when he accepted an honorary doctorate from the University of Stellenbosch six months ago that there was indeed room for an Afrikaans university.

Mr Mandela said then that Afrikaans should be developed as a language of the sciences.

In a joint statement, Mr Mandela and Professor Bengu said: "We are convinced the cultural and linguistic heritage of Afrikaans-speaking communities will flourish in a non-racial, non-sexist and democratic society."

Attempts to use the issue of language to resist transformation and to pursue divi-

sive political agendas did not assist the search for solutions that would guarantee South Africa's unity in diversity, they said.

A false impression was being created that they disagreed on the role and future of Afrikaans at tertiary institutions.

The constitution guaranteed that all public institutions, including universities, belonged to all South Africans, irrespective of race, class, language, gender or religion.

Mr Mandela and Professor Bengu encouraged these institutions to develop language policies which would cater for the right of all students, the statement said.

Heated words over language

(54)
OWN CORRESPONDENT

The debate about language at universities and technikons is becoming increasingly heated as more Afrikaans institutions opt to give classes in English.

The issue has made headlines several times over the past month as Unisa discussed the possibility of relying chiefly on English in future, and the University of Pretoria discussed the possibility of officially becoming a dual-medium institution.

Earlier this week, Education Minister Sibusiso Bengu caused a stir by saying the language policy and identity of the University of Stellenbosch should be urgently reviewed.

Now his deputy, Father Smangalisu Mkhathshwa, has come out in solid support of Professor Bengu's statements.

Speaking at Promat teacher training college near Cullinan yesterday, Mkhathshwa said changing language policy was part of transformation.

There were 11 official languages in this country, he said. Unfortunately, due to problems in the past, some of the official languages were not developed to the same extent as others.

Mar 31/5/97
Right to refuse

"I'm not saying that English and Afrikaans are better languages, I'm merely saying they've had the opportunity to develop.

"Each and every institution has a right to use a particular language. But that does not mean that any institution has the right to refuse admission on the basis of language.

"We are saying that the policy of the Education Department is opposed to that.

"They do have a right to use their language - that is Afrikaans - but they cannot use that as an excuse to keep their institution lily white and only Afrikaans."

Mkhathshwa added: "Practically, I am quite aware, of course, of the problems."

Meanwhile, Aksie Red Tuks has come out against the education minister's statements.

"Since our last days as NP members we have repeatedly warned that the admittance of non-white students to Afrikaner universities would lead to confrontations and the destruction of these universities," group chairman dominee Daan van der Merwe said.

Aksie Red Tuks has made a call on students and management officials at Afrikaans universities to prevent what was described as their takeover.

Universities 'must adapt to allow more access'

Star 15/5/97

(54)

STAFF REPORTER

Even underprepared students should be admitted to universities, and disciplines should have different enrolment quotas to enable tertiary institutions to meet the increasing demands for access, according to a Wits University deputy vice-chancellor candidate.

Universities will have to refine curricula and admission and language policies, and implement an adequate financial aid programme, Professor Adelan Ogunrinade said yesterday.

Ogunrinade, a Nigerian, is one of five candidates vying for the three deputy vice-chancellor posts which become vacant

at the end of the year.

The other candidates are professors Jan Boeyens, Tuntufye Mwamwenda, Sibusiso Sibisi and Mzamo Mangaliso.

The three deputy vice-chancellors - who will head the portfolios of academic affairs, finance and student affairs - will be interviewed again before the appointments are announced.

Ogunrinade (46) said access and research and development would be important challenges for the 21st century.

To expand access, he subscribed to the need for different enrolment quotas for different disciplines and the admission of the underprepared.

He said that to increase research, partnerships should be encouraged between universities and the private sector.

He said that as deputy vice-chancellor he would make curriculum changes, mobilise resources, train personnel, and place more emphasis on research and development.

Changes would involve the creation of new research disciplines such as studies of poverty, unemployment and gender studies, Ogunrinade said.

Given Wits' "excellent record", more emphasis should possibly be placed on postgraduate development, he added.

He proposed that Wits should:

- Expand access to margin-

alised groups.

- Promote harmony among stakeholders.
- Establish a graduate school to co-ordinate postgraduates.
- Expand the private sector portfolio and donor agency participation.
- Design curricula in response to information technology and the global environment.
- Promote internationalisation, particularly within the African subregion.

Ogunrinade is a veterinary medicine graduate from Nigeria's Ibadan University. He has two MSCs in medical parasitology from two English universities and also holds a PhD from London University.

SOUTH Africa's tertiary education institutions are plagued with apparently endless unrest. This constitutes a major crisis, not only for those institutions: the country as a whole cannot do without properly functioning universities and technikons.

But there is, in fact, a real question mark over why student unrest continues. What we need, I would suggest, is a new "way of seeing" this phenomenon.

Let us revisit it from a slightly different historical and sociological perspective to see whether this does not offer us an understanding of student behaviour which often appears as mindlessly violent as it is poorly directed.

The conventional wisdom is the following: the problems in South African tertiary education are a direct consequence of our racially tortured past.

To overcome these inequities there is the need, first, for financial redress — redirecting resources from privileged "historically white universities" to neglected "historically black universities".

Secondly, to help right the wrongs of Bantu education, the state must rapidly increase access to an integrated system of tertiary institutions which are, simultaneously, developing policies to overcome the deficiencies of an appalling schooling system.

The daunting quantitative dimensions of this task are outlined in the government's recent green paper on higher education transformation where it is noted that:

"While it endorses the major elements in the case (made by the 1995 National Commission for Higher Education) for a 'massification' of higher education, the ministry believes that the participation rate of the 20 to 24 year cohort should be increased from 21 percent to 30 percent over the next 10 years (a rise in student numbers from about 800 000 to about 1.5 million in 2005) should be treated as provisional until more detailed demographic and labour market analyses are available."

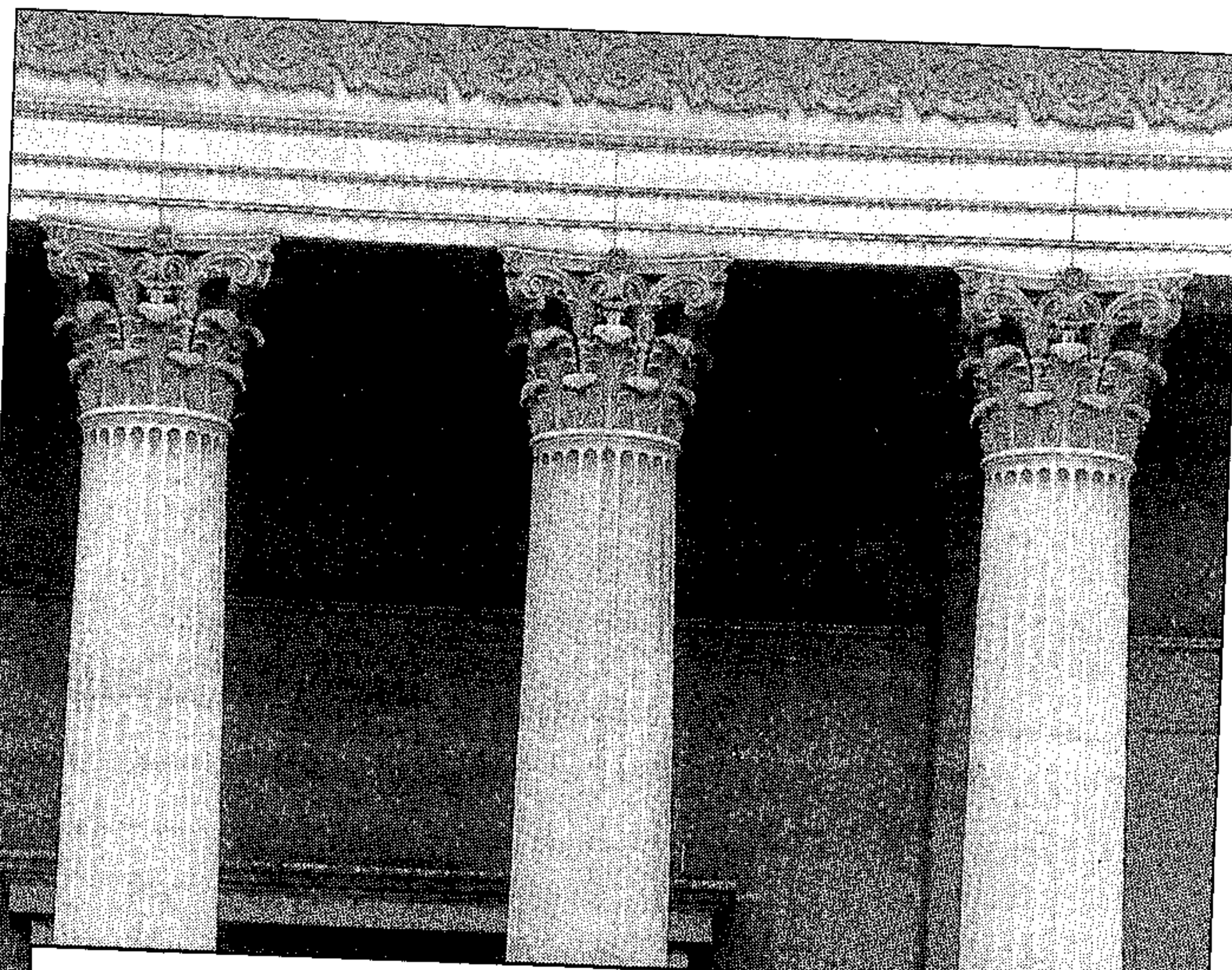
In addition to the call for the so-called "massification" of tertiary education, there is also widespread agreement that the sector should become more firmly rooted in the social, economic and political realities of the continent.

Furthermore, structures of governance that were shaped by the old, discredited order, need to make way for "models of co-operative governance" which would involve a wider range of stakeholders and strengthen democracy at every level of the system.

For most South African citizens it is not the goal of transformation itself that is at issue, but the questionable means that student activists use to achieve its objectives. But even such public criticism is often muted, precisely because the underlying notion is that much of the activity is for a desirable educational outcome.

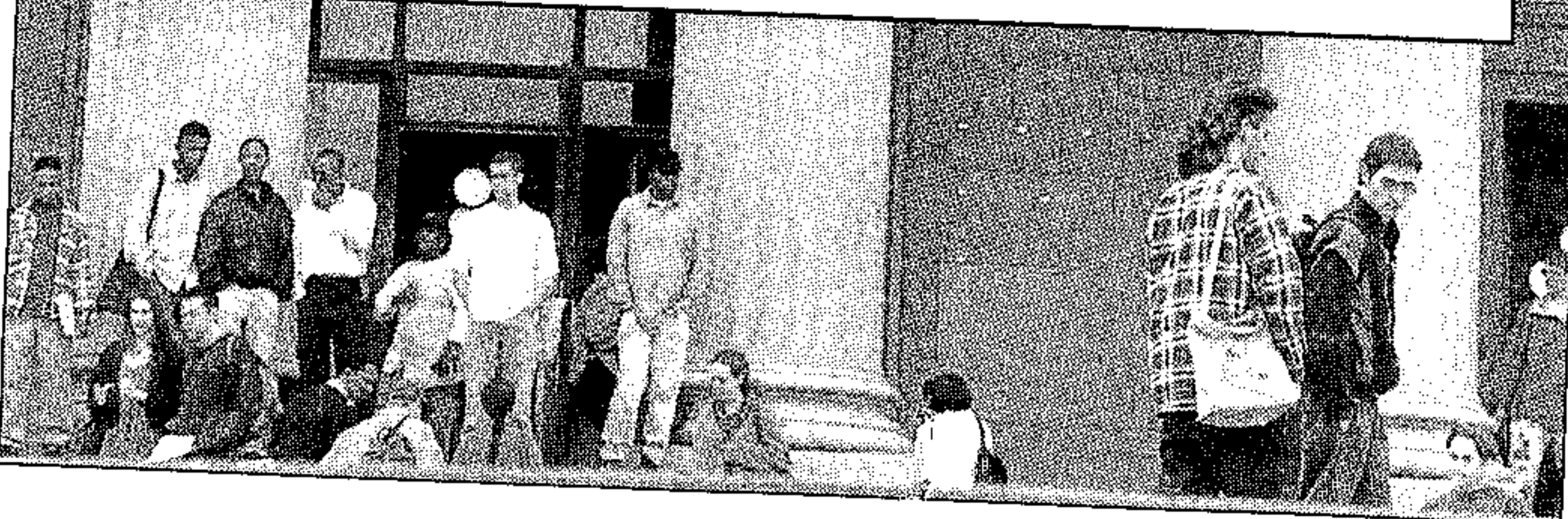
Most of the criticism is based on the assumption that what we are confronted with are simply local manifestations of age-old methods of student protest, exacerbated by student impatience and a lamentable shortfall in state financial resources.

However, if we adopt a slightly longer term historical



Universities bear the brunt of the state's failure to provide the dole

ST 18/5/97



and sociological perspective, we may need to abandon these conventional wisdoms and examine three propositions that flow from this different approach.

One, that what we are witnessing is not so much a classical manifestation of "student unrest", but an insistent plea for the alleviation of acute poverty via a youth cohort that is acutely aware of its responsibilities to the extended family, and which senses that it can most readily articulate its demands in educational rather than social terms.

Two, that in accommodating economic demands that seem to come from ordinary students, but which in reality derive more from a youth cohort deeply scarred by the ravages of apartheid schooling and poverty, the government is in danger of confusing its welfare and educational responsibilities.

Three, that seen in this light, the disturbances in the tertiary education sector are both less irrational and less "anti-social" than they seem.

These propositions are perhaps easier to accept once we place them in their broader historical and sociological context. Here, there are two factors to consider.

The first has to do with the

nature of the industrial revolution that we are still experiencing — a revolution which is taking place in a society that has not passed through a feudal period. Feudalism tended to produce some of the political, social and cognitive structures that have served as precursors to industrialisation elsewhere. But the South African industrial revolution was built on a foundation of communally held African values which have long been underwritten by the system of migratory labour.

AN unintended consequence of this has been to prolong notions of social commitment to the extended black family. Black South Africans are extremely serious about their social and economic commitments to their grandparents, their parents, and their siblings.

It is, secondly, a more central fact than is often realised that the South African population has an unusually large number of young people. According to recent statistics it may be reasonably safely assumed that 50 percent of our population is 20 years old or younger.

When these two facts are inserted into a context of acute rural poverty, low economic

growth, an unemployment rate of more than 35 percent, and a rapidly changing education system, there are consequences which extend well beyond the mere quantitative dimensions envisaged in the proposed "massification" of tertiary education.

Viewed from this perspective, it becomes easier to understand why many young black South Africans see access to a college of education, a technikon or a university as assuming an importance that far transcends the intrinsic value that can be attached to a tertiary education qualification per se. And why many are willing, literally, to fight for the right to enter and stay in the sector regardless of how badly they have been prepared for it by their schooling.

For thousands of black South Africans, access to tertiary education has become the difference between having a roof over your head and being homeless, between being starving, and between meeting your social commitments by sending home cash to your family, or joining the ranks of those who are unemployed.

In the absence of universal conscription to the armed forces, significant youth employment schemes or the dole, much of the tertiary education sector becomes, in effect, a sponge which the state — perhaps unwittingly — uses to absorb thousands of unemployed youth who still seethe with a revolutionary anger.

The other side of this picture is that over the past decade our universities, technikons and colleges of education have had to

on their building and maintenance programmes, and then on research. Finally, the instruction budget itself is cut back. The consequence is a worsening of staff/student ratios, which results in a further falling off in educational performance, higher failure rates, and renewed complaints about culturally inappropriate or insensitive teaching, the need to use only basic English, and the demand to "Africanise" ever more rapidly.

The physical decay on most of our campuses is very visible: what is often less well understood is just how far this process has eroded the core activities of research and teaching at some of our leading universities.

At two of our most prestigious "historically white universities" the amount of funds devoted to bursaries and loans has, over the past five years, outstripped the amounts allocated to research.

At Wits, for example, the research budget for 1996 was R20 981 000 while R9,8-million was allocated to bursaries and loans. In addition, the allocation to Wits students from the National Student Financial Aid Scheme amounted to R13 138 128. Imperceptibly, we are thus turning many of our universities, technikons and colleges of education into institutions with a fundamental responsibility for accommodating, feeding, clothing and transporting — as opposed to simply educating — some of the nation's poorest and most underprivileged young citizens.

The point comes home even more starkly when it is learned that at one university in the Western Cape the annual cost of catering, in residences, already exceeds the university's entire research budget.

There is already a significant amount of qualitative if not quantitative data which shows that many hard-pressed black undergraduates divert large proportions of their loans and bursaries to the maintenance of their extended families. They forgo their own meals or other needs so that they can make cash remittances to their extended families — a sort of parody of the migrant labour system. In short, economic necessity dictates that too many of our students from underprivileged backgrounds use bursaries and loans for purposes other than their own education.

For example, the dean of students at Wits reports that in dealing with cases of students facing "financial exclusion", around one in four admits that part of his or her bursary has been spent on meeting social commitments at home. Since students know that such expenditure might be regarded as illegitimate by some, the true figure could be higher.

MOREOVER, the dean reports similar trends in the rollover loan programme — to help those who have met the minimum requirements to avoid academic exclusion but cannot re-register because of outstanding account balances.

Many students admitted that, despite such help and part-time employment, they still could not re-register for the next year because they had to meet financial obligations at home.

Thus, in a roundabout way, students were borrowing from the university to support families at home.

The new vice chancellor of the University of Cape Town, Professor Mamphela Ramphele, addressing the Ernest Oppenheimer Memorial Trust last year, noted how she had been the recipient of an Ernest Oppenheimer Memorial

"That bursary award made it possible for me to support my mother and siblings during the very difficult period following my father's death in 1967. It was a modest amount by today's standards, but it made an enormous difference to my life and that of my widowed mother."

A clearer example of the hidden linkage between bursary use and rural poverty would be hard to find.

Also, the authors of the National Education Teacher Audit, detected some of the welfare-bursary-alienation malaise that plagues many colleges of education, which are often situated in remote rural areas beset by high unemployment, when they noted that:

"The most disturbing finding ... was the large proportion of students who are not committed to teaching and merely want a tertiary qualification as a means to further study or a job outside teaching ... Generally, students showed little awareness of and interest in wider educational and societal issues outside political flash points and bread and butter issues such as bursaries."

It would seem, therefore, that important parts of the education sector have already come to assume as much of a quasi-welfare as an educational role in our low growth economy.

ONCE it is conceded that there is frequently as much of an economic imperative as an educational objective in seeking entry into the tertiary sector it becomes easier to understand student behaviour and militancy. Admission to, or exclusion from, an institution of higher learning is often — quite literally — the difference between life and death for the poorest of black students and their families.

Seen from this perspective, it is easier to understand why the process of student admission and re-admission is so often accompanied by violence, and why there is a populist tendency to exert pressure downward on academic standards (pass one, pass all).

Nor is it surprising that, amidst so much apparently mindless student rioting, can-tees and kitchens should become such frequent and specific objects of looting: what one is seeing is the spectre of medieval bread riots rather than modern manifestations of student unrest.

Against a background in which the quasi-welfare function of the tertiary sector and the hidden class struggle of our most economically deprived citizens and voters continues to be poorly understood by the state and an increasingly urbanised middle-class public, the government's proposal to give priority to the "massification" of tertiary education over a better integrated but significantly diverse system of higher learning, is alarming.

As the French discovered in 1968, systems of tertiary education that neglect their core functions of teaching and research can come to exact an awful price from society.

South Africa's government needs urgently to think again about how it intends to incorporate its newly enfranchised, unsettled and predominantly youthful population. In particular, it needs to give careful thought to where it wishes to draw the line between the

right of access to tertiary education for adequately prepared scholars and the legitimate social welfare needs of its poor.

Failure to distinguish clearly between these competing demands could bring about a dramatic increase in the number of poorly educated unemployed graduates in an economy characterised by a high

Wits ready to ride out the storm

CF 19/5/97

(514)

AS WITS UNIVERSITY celebrates its 75th birthday, the vice-chancellor, Professor **ROBERT CHARLTON**, spoke to **WINNIE GRAHAM** about the turbulent history of his internationally recognised institution and predicted that it would continue providing South Africa with the leaders — and entrepreneurs — this country needs to make the economy grow.

THE UNIVERSITY of the Witwatersrand, 75 years old this year, was born in controversy. Unlike some of South Africa's other Ivy League universities that have melted into gracious old age, Wits has retained much of the fiery fighting spirit that brought it into being.

It was founded at the insistence of the people of Johannesburg — rather than with the blessing of the government of the time. In fact, in the early part of this century the Minister of Education, Jan Smuts (later Prime Minister of South Africa), was totally opposed to a university in Johannesburg.

Against this background, it is easy to understand why Wits has always been fiercely independent. It has not hesitated to take the government head-on. Opposed to any form of prejudice, it has fought discrimination to become recognised as a bastion of liberal thought — only to come face to face with campus disturbances and political intrigue.

The University of the Witwatersrand, in

short, reflects the energy, the anger and the aspirations of Johannesburg — the qualities and tensions that built the city into the economic heartland of South Africa. Wits has educated a high proportion of its business and professional people.

At the helm of the vibrant university is Professor Robert Charlton, vice-chancellor and principal, a man who, despite a studied calm, is visibly irritated by irresponsible rumour-mongering and gossip about the university. He describes talk of lowered standards and "withdrawal of international recognition" as mischievous.

He is adamant that a degree from Wits remains one of the most cherished possessions young South Africans can acquire.

"Nothing has changed," he said in an interview. "Wits is recognised internationally for the quality of its graduates and the excellence of its teaching, research and service to society. No one has retracted recognition, nor has there been any suggestion of such a thing. Standards at this university are as high as ever — perhaps higher."

The university, he stresses, has not been forced to accede to demands from radical student groups "to pass one, pass all". That demand had never been made at Wits and certainly no student had been granted a

degree without having achieved it through merit.

He added: "No one gets pushed through without deserving to pass. The quality of students today is as high as 10 years ago and perhaps higher than it was in 1946 when I was a student at Wits. The only basis I can deduce for the rumours is old white South African racism. There are people who cannot accept that our black students can do as well as our white students."

The vice-chancellor says that, if anything, black students work harder than their white counterparts. "They have to. They come from a disadvantaged background and have to work to overcome their educational backlog," he said.

What of unpaid student fees? The vice-chancellor does not believe the problem is particularly serious and says about 2% of fees are written off "but only after three or four years" when everything possible has been done to recoup the money.

What of students who genuinely cannot pay? "If a student is passing and qualifies for financial aid in terms of family income, we do everything possible to accommodate him or her," he said.

With not many months left before Charlton retires as vice-chancellor, he is not unduly concerned that a successor for him has not

yet been found.

"Of course it was disappointing that Professor Sam Nolutshungu withdrew but I never saw it as a setback," he said. "In fact, we may even have benefited by demonstrating our willingness to follow an inclusive and transparent selection procedure and to welcome a black vice-chancellor. Suspicion that Wits was resisting 'transformation' was allayed. Since then some interesting candidates have come forward. There is still time to appoint the right person."

Charlton speaks reluctantly but openly about the unfortunate "Makgoba affair" — another of the controversial issues that have dogged the university in recent years.

The Makgoba controversy is just one of many that have marked the history of the university. Wits, of course, started out as a School of Mines and that is what it would have stayed had Jan Christiaan Smuts had his way. He viewed Johannesburg as incorrigibly corrupt and vice ridden, preferring Pretoria as a venue for a university.

It took considerable pressure, but visionaries finally persuaded the authorities to turn the "school" into a university in 1922. Since then it has survived the great depression, financial constraints, cutbacks in equipment and laboratory supplies and, devastatingly, a fire in the central block in 1931.

Its history, as recorded by Bruce Murray, professor of history at the University of the Witwatersrand, has always been turbulent and though latter day South Africans know more about recent protests and problems, Wits' early history was considerably more fiery. The struggle to establish a university in Johannesburg involved Witwatersrand may-

ors who, in February 1916, had their demands published in *The Star*.

Today Wits has a comprehensive range of programmes to assist students in developing their academic potential, particularly in the fields of maths, science and English.

Charlton believes the university could eventually accommodate up to 25 000 students.

Discussing post-graduate research at the university, Charlton referred to Wits' recently published research report outlining the work being done. The document, comprising more than 200 pages, lists research which spans the areas of medical sciences, physical sciences, biological sciences, earth sciences, mathematical sciences, engineering, humanities, law, education, architecture, management and commerce as well as various inter-disciplinary endeavours.

Wits remains one of the leading research universities not only in South Africa, but in Africa. Research funds are used to support about 70 university-recognised research entities and administered units, as well as a large number of individual researchers. Part of the University's subsidy allocation from the Department of National Education is derived from research output in the form of DNE-accredited publications. Measured in this way, the University's high standard of research publications enable Wits to remain a leader in South Africa. A high proportion of the study body are post graduates.

"We are alive and well and publishing internationally," Charlton said.

□ Winnie Graham is an associate editor of the *Star*.

Shock as Unisa senate agrees to hand management's powers over to an interim board

By ADAM COOKE

Unisa's senate has accepted a proposal that could see the principal and the university's management committee stripped of their powers - a move informed sources say could change the direction of the institution.

According to sources, the senate decided yesterday that the university's management

powers should be transferred to an interim management board. The decision could still be vetoed by the university's council, which is the highest decision-making body.

The senate is comprised of all the full professors at the university.

The sources said yesterday's marathon day-long meeting had adopted the proposal by a vote of 145 to 28. They said the

proposal was the result of negotiations with university deans, heads of department and the transformation forum.

"The motion makes allowance for the formation of an interim management board that takes over all the powers now vested in the principal and the management committee," a source said.

The principal, Professor Marinus Wiechers, told The Star

that the motion had emerged from a protracted labour battle over staff salary increases.

"It is an ugly business and the plain facts are that the university cannot afford to increase salaries because we have not seen the sort of growth we had expected."

He said that when staff realised the severity of Unisa's financial restrictions, they immediately blamed manage-

ment. "More than that, they go right for the top. And that is me," he said.

The senate's drastic decision followed a call from three staff organisations earlier in the day - the Academic and Professional Staff Association, the Black Academic Forum and the National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union - for Wiechers' immediate resignation.

Star 21/5/97

(54)