

COMMUNICATION TO ALL STAFF AND STUDENTS - REVIEW OF FEE CONCESSIONS FOR 2024 AND EXTENSION OF THE LATE REGISTRATION PERIOD

EMC, at its Ordinary Meeting held on 21 February 2024, having received correspondence from the SRC, noted the following regarding the Student Debt:

That the Student Debt of privately funded students at MUT continues to escalate to the point of risking the financial health of the university.

The current student debt is illustrated in the table below:

Debt Analysis Summary	
	31 Dec 2023
	R
Private debt	660 509 854
Provision for Doubtful debt	440 368 339
% of debt provided for	66,67%
Total Tuition & Accommodation Fees	800 558 246
Private debt as a % of Fees	83%
Prov as a % of Fees	55%

The above table shows that self-funded students owe the University R660m. Based on historical data and analysis it is likely that R440m of this debt will not be paid. This equates to 67% of the debt. In other words, only one-third (33%) of private debt appears to be collectable. Furthermore, the outstanding debt represents 83% of 2023 fees; and the provision for non-collectable debt is 55% of Fees for 2023. This exposes MUT to a significant degree of financial risk.

In light of the above figures, it is clear that the levels of student debt are unsustainable and constitute the greatest risk to the financial sustainability of the university.

Having taken into consideration the above figures, EMC resolved as follows:

- In order to further assist students to register for the 2024 academic year, EMC has resolved to reduce the current fee concessions payable by students across all debt categories and study levels, that is, Diploma, Advanced Diploma and Postgraduate qualifications and programmes.

Debt category	PREVIOUSLY APPROVED CONCESSIONS	APPROVED REVISED CONCESSIONS
R1- R10 000	50%	43%
R10 001 – R20 000	45%	38%
R20 001 – R30 000	35%	28%
R30 001 – R40 000	30%	23%
R40 0001 +	30%	23%

- EMC further resolved that in order for the students who have lodged appeals with NSFAS to be registered, they must pay the (Minimum Initial Payment) and the revised concession amount towards arrear fees owed by the student and should their appeal be successful, they will be refunded the relevant amounts.
- EMC further resolved to extend the late registration period to 1 March 2024. Students who are not registered must use the late registration period to sort out their registration.



Acting Vice-Chancellor and Principal

Prof. MM Ramogale

21 February 2024