



higher education
& training

Ministry:
Higher Education and Training
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

Minister Nzimande meets with University of Zululand

8 October 2016 - The Minister of Higher Education and Training, Dr Blade Nzimande has met with the Chairperson of the University of Zululand, Mr CV Gamede and National Education Health and Allied Workers Union (Nehawu) President Mzwandile Makwayiba in an attempt to try find a solution to the labour dispute at the university.

The meetings which were held separately were at the request of Minister Nzimande in a bid to try to assist the two parties to find each other and end the strike which has been taking place for two months. It is important that the university resume and complete the academic programme despite the labour dispute which can be resolved through dialogue.

The Minister felt that he should play some role in trying to assist the parties to find each other even if he is not allowed to do so by law.

“I have decided to get involved at an informal level to try assist the parties involved in the labour dispute. I am equally aware of the fact that as the Minister of Higher Education I cannot get involved in a labour dispute in a university. However, the labour dispute which has been under mediation of the CCMA has not yielded any results and we are nearing the end of the year which is a critical time in higher education” said Minister Nzimande.

The two parties agreed to form a six member committee comprising three members each to work towards a solution and resumption of the academic programme. The three will be from the university council and other three from Nehawu provincial leadership.

The Minister and the department calls on all parties to do everything in their power to ensure that teaching continues and students complete their academic programme.

End.

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