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OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR

COMMUNICATION AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

PRESS RELEASE

CLARIFICATION ON THE FEES POLICY AT MAKERERE UNIVERSITY

Makerere University Management wishes to make the following clarifications on the current fees policy now being contested by the students.

1. There has been no tuition increment this academic year. The students continue to pay the fees as per the structure given to each student at the time of admission.
2. The policy being contested by the students was approved and implemented in July 2018.
3. The policy was approved after a thorough report presented by the special committee of the Guild representatives appointed by the Guild leadership whose work started on 4th June 2018.
4. The appointed Students Guild committee presented the following recommendations to Council on 6th July 2018. They have been quoted verbatim.
 - i) Instead of increasing fees by the tune of 49% and 91% as it were in the earlier Management proposal there should be a uniform and moderate 15% increase in tuition fees across all programmes effective 2018/19 for the next 5 years. This however means that a student who joins the University at a given fees structure that has a 15% factored in, shall continue to pay similar fees until he completes the Course duration.
 - ii) While the Visitation Committee recommended that Public Universities should charge a unit cost per program, our Committee has only considered a reasonable and moderate 15% to cater for annual inflation. This was mainly considering our unique social –economic conditions as a country.
 - iii) The increment of 15% should only apply to first year students (effective 2018/19) going forward and not continuing students.

- iv) There should be a feedback framework where all matters/policies that affect students are discussed by student leaders beyond the two student representatives that sit on the Council and its Committees.
 - v) The Guild President and his Vice should be allowed more participation on committees of Council that relate to student issues including quality assurance and student welfare committees.
 - vi) The revenue accruing from the above proposal if approved and implemented should reflect a change in student services especially in areas of student hygiene, Laboratory facilities, teaching facilities, WiFi, health services and customer care.
5. The University Council upon receipt of the recommendations from the Students Guild committee discussed and agreed as follows:
- i. To increase fees on all undergraduate programmes for first year students by 15% beginning with the 2018/2019 academic year.
 - ii. That the 15% fees increment be successively continued for each cohort on the fees for the previous academic year over a five-year period.
 - iii. That every cohort of students continues with the fees structure upon which they are admitted until they complete their programmes.
 - iv. There will be no fees increment on continuing students
 - v. That Management sensitizes the student body on the new fees structure accordingly.

Management therefore wishes to inform all our students that we are ready and willing to meet the Guild leadership so as to address the complaints at hand, in line with the aforementioned recommendations.



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MANAGER COMMUNICATION AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS