



OFFICE OF REGISTRAR

PRESS NOTICE

UTM Achievements for the period 31 July 2018 to 22 August 2019

1. The Board of Governors of the University of Technology, Mauritius (UTM) is pleased to inform students, stakeholders and the public in general of the achievements at the university for the period 31 July 2018 to 22 August 2019.
2. The positive actions undertaken to bring credit and a feel-good factor back to the University were numerous, and the main ones are listed below:

A. Policy Matters

- (1) A new Regulation on MPhil / PhD, strengthening the research agenda of the UTM with the implementation of a revamped and simplified procedure for MPhil and PhD research studies. This has already brought results with 5 PhD graduates awarded their degree in June 2019;
- (2) A new Policy for Examination Moderation;
- (3) A new Policy for Consultancy for UTM Staff;
- (4) A new process for the recruitment of part-time lecturers;
- (5) A new Policy for Procurement and a Procurement Flowchart to remove the reported bottleneck in procurement activities;
- (6) A new Policy for the Payment of Fees;
- (7) A new Policy on participation in international conferences to present research papers;
- (8) The setting up of an Audit Committee, as a sub-committee of the Board;
- (9) New Policies for Scholarship Schemes to promote the recruitment of local and international students, as well as to promote academic excellence of on-going students;
- (10) Approval and implementation of an organigram for UTM.

B. Management Good Practices

- (1) Implementation of 24 out of the 28 recommendation of the 2017 TEC Quality Audit Report on UTM;
- (2) Recruitment / promotion in line with the 2017 TEC Audit Report.
- (3) The setting up of a Health and Safety Committee;
- (4) The setting up of an open-door policy with all UTM Staff and UTM Students' Union;
- (5) The setting up of a forum and cordial working relationship with the Students' Union;
- (6) The setting up of a formal protocol for meeting with the Staff Union;
- (7) The setting up of a sound communication strategy;

- (8) Cordial Academic Council meetings, leading to students receiving their examination results earlier than in the past;
- (9) The implementation of the electronic display of exams results;
- (10) The clearing of back-log on administrative files;
- (11) The implementation of an online system to capture details of graduating students, applications for vacancies and new applications for a seat at the University;
- (12) the successful holding of the UTM 25th, 26th, 27th and 28th Graduation Ceremonies in October 2018, April 2019 and June 2019;
- (13) The issue of degree certificates to graduating students on the day of graduation;
- (14) The setting up of a harmonisation protocol for common modules across Schools;
- (15) The setting up of a master-time table to ensure optimum use of classrooms while minimising expenditure;
- (16) The setting up of an online method to improve meeting scheduling and document management to promote institutional memory;
- (17) Sound financial management to ensure optimal use of resources;
- (18) Collaboration with National Audit Office to clear backlog of accounts to be audited.

C. Improvement to Infrastructure

- (1) Government decision to grant UTM land in Cote d'Or for a new campus. Concept paper and brief submitted to the Ministry;
- (2) Award of contracts for a total of about Rs 15 million for improvement works to the campus. Capital works worth some Rs 12 million have already been completed;
- (3) Improvement to the general environment on the campus;
- (4) Conversion of the existing bare land into a recreational area for students;
- (5) Availing of more space for classes and offices;
- (6) Continuous upgrading of internet access to ensure optimum bandwidth availability, coverage and usage across the whole UTM premises;
- (7) Continuous improvement of the IT infrastructure to provide improved services to students, for example online journals, e-books and other reference materials;
- (8) Online application and online payment by students.

D. Recruitment and Marketing

Some of the main actions implemented by Management to improve the University brand and promote enrolment of students are:

- (1) The implementation of branding strategies through a revamping of the UTM website, the launching of a UTM Facebook page, a UTM LinkedIn page, a UTM Alumni forum, creation of video clips, etc., in collaboration with the Student' Union;
- (2) The installation of signboards on the main roads to indicate the direction to the University;

- (3) A strong commitment to recruit international students. These include an enhanced strategy and participation in international education events;
- (4) The approval of ten scholarships for International Students, under the “UTM International Students Scholarship Scheme”, offering up to 50% tuition waiver to students with excellent academic records;
- (5) Five (5) Tuition fees waiver scholarships to Mauritian students, offering up to 80% tuition waiver to students with excellent academic records, under the “UTM Presidential Scholarship Scheme”;
- (6) Launch of new Scholarship Scheme for the children of all UTM full-time academic and non-academic staff entitled “The UTM Power of WE” scheme;
- (7) The launch of a Scholarship Scheme for needy students of the Mauritian society;
- (8) The introduction of 4 Merit-based Scholarship for students with outstanding academic performance at Undergraduate level and a further 4 Scholarships for students at Postgraduate level.

E. HR Matters

- (1) The processing for the filling of posts at UTM. As at 31 July 2018, some 65 posts were vacant and by end of August 2019, 57 posts will be filled;
- (2) Recruitment of a substantive Director General following an open selection process. The new DG will join office as from 01 September 2019;
- (3) Implemented the recruitment for the three Statutory posts, namely that of Registrar, Head of Finance and Head of Information Services;
- (4) Appointment of Assistant Registrars, Administrative Officers, Facility Manager, Human Resources Management Officer, Confidential Secretaries, Accounts Officers, Account Clerks, Library Clerks and Clerk/Word Processing Operators, amongst others;
- (5) The anomalous situation of numerous staff has been cleared through sound HR principles;
- (6) The implementation of an online system to capture details of those applying for vacancies and other similar;
- (7) A restructured and more transparent process for the recruitment of part-time lecturers;
- (8) The issue of an updated and more complete contract to part-time lecturers;
- (9) Capacity building of staff to promote improvement – participation in Washington Accord Engineering Accreditation training, Project Leadership Certification, Research and Innovation Forum, Academic Research Capacity Building Events, etc.

F. Partnership

- (1) MoU signed with Murdoch University (Australia) for the joint offer of courses in business, management, finance and tourism. The first intake is likely to be in March 2020;
- (2) Enhanced procedures for admission and monitoring of MBBS programmes run by Anna Medical College;
- (3) MoU with Polytechnics Mauritius Ltd for the award of Diploma courses;

- (4) MoU with Alumni AI Ltd for post-graduate programmes in Artificial Intelligence and Block Chain technologies;
 - (5) Improvement to the MoU with Team Synthesis for the conduct of the Project Leadership Certification;
 - (6) On-going discussions with a number of potential stakeholders for tie-ups and collaborative agreements;
 - (7) Exchange programmes for the benefit of UTM staff.
3. The Board of Governors has expressed its thanks and gratitude to the Officer in Charge, Mr. Kiran Bhujun, for his hard work and dedication to the UTM cause over the last 13 months and wishes him well in his career.

27 August 2019