

Source: DAILY NEWS

Date: 24-Aug-2006

Topic: 25

Ref No: 4019



ID: 03381439-01 Source Page: 3

DUT head determined to restore order

BHAVNA SOOKHA

PROF Jonathan Jansen, the administrator appointed by Education Minister Naledi Pandor to restore proper management at the Durban University of Technology, is confident his six-month stint at the institution will yield favourable results.

Jansen will take over the authority of the university's council and will in fact be a one-man council until a new council is appointed. He will also oversee and ensure that a forensic audit at the institution is completed before the end of the year.

Jansen's appointment followed allegations of mismanagement, corruption and financial irregularities at the university involving millions of rands.

An independent assessor was initially appointed a few months ago who recommended in his report to Pandor that an administrator be appointed.

Jansen said his task at DUT had four dimensions. "I will take over the authority of the council until a new council is established. I will be working very hard in the next two months to establish a council of eminent, mature and accomplished people who can represent

DUT into the next several years."

He said the continuing forensic audit was proceeding well and that

he had set up a meeting with the auditors to discuss the conclusion of the process.

Jansen said he had met Student Representative Council president Thami Shezi and general secretary Lazola Ndamase after they had voiced concern over his appointment. "I met with them and told them I needed their co-operation. I don't see the student body as an enemy," said Jansen.

Ndamase said that although they had agreed to work with Jansen to help him achieve his mandate, they were still unhappy with the manner in which he had been appointed.