

BRIEFING FROM UTAG-GIJ EMERGENCY MEETING HELD ON 27TH JANUARY

DECEMBER 2022

1. It was agreed that UTAG-GIJ write to the Interim Council Chairman and Management of UniMAC to, among other things, express our displeasure at the slow pace and the lack of clear structures and clarity in the merger leading to the formation of UniMAC.
2. That the ultimate source of confusion and arbitrariness on the part of the UniMAC management is the lack of the UniMAC Statute, which will operationalize the Act. We are convinced that the merger cannot proceed without the Statute, hence we resolve to mount pressure on the Interim Council to attach much more seriousness to the enactment of the Statute to forestall the impending confusion and anxiety on our campuses as a result of the excesses of the UniMAC management. Failure to act swiftly on the Statutes will give us no option than to protest for GIJ's withdrawal from the merger.
3. That we impress on government to release funds to run UniMAC and ease the burden on GIJ, which seems to be bearing the majority of, if not all, the cost associated with running the new university, and hasten the drafting of the UniMAC Statutes. Other demands include separation of GIJ funds from UniMAC funds, definition of the distinct roles of acting rector of GIJ, registrar and VC of UNIMAC as regards the running of GIJ, integrate UTAG-GIJ/UniMAC into the Interim Council and ultimately trigger actions towards amendment of portions of the UniMAC Act which threaten academic freedom, independence, and interest of staff.
4. The government, interim council, and management of UniMAC would be given up to February 28, 2023, to act on our demands. If our demands are not met by the said date, UTAG-GIJ will take further drastic actions. The letter will be copied to UTAG National Office to apprise them of developments on our campus and seek their support, especially in the event of a showdown.
5. Members expressed worry about the "cherry-picking" posture of UniMAC management, where they pick and choose between the UniMAC Act and the GIJ Statutes as and when it favours them.
6. The president urged members to read the draft UTAG Constitution and make their input. The secretary was told to circulate the constitution through members' email addresses for swift action.
7. Members were entreated to pay their dues, on account of receipt of the supervision and marking claims and other windfalls.

8. Members unanimously agreed to wear **RED** arm bands from Monday 30th January 2023 in protest against the unlawful demotion of a UTAG-GIJ member by management of UniMAC. The initial plan was to start wearing the arm bands from today (Saturday) but an intervention from the executives and some members that we write first to inform management of our intention and disagreement prevailed. Members are to note that the order to wear the arm band covers **ALL** UTAG-GIJ members and should be worn to class and everywhere on the Ringway and North Dzorwulu Campuses of GIJ. Directive on where to get the arm bands will be communicated in due time.

Dr. James Asante moved for the meeting to end, with Noel Nutsugah seconding.

Attendance: 29 members

Summary Prepared By: Eric Agyekum (Secretary)

Approved: Dr. Kodwo Jonas Anson Boateng (President)

