THE MANIFESTO OF THE UNISA LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

We, the UNISA Law Students Association will be contesting the upcoming university SRC elections. Quite firmly, as a matter of fact, the SRC is a fundamental institution of voice capable of transforming the university business model and cater for the interests of the primary stakeholders, the students. We, therefore, intends to contribute largely to the promotion of quality and intellectual work of the university with motive to reimagine student's governance as a significant instrument of change. In addition, the basic core-thrust of this student-centred academic formation is to design programmes that will contribute to our tacit knowledge. Furthermore, the process of reimagining and rethinking the transformation process will require a programmatic, ideological, intellectual, and unquestionable political sagacity.

This text is a detailed plan of the commitments that will be ushered under the banner of an ULSA led SRC:

1. **Decentralization of Critical Institution of Service:**

Regional campuses are under-resourced. The is a systemic concentration of administration work in Tshwane. This is extremely problematic since regional campuses struggle to comprehend with students challenges and instead refer them to the main campus. ULSA, therefore, wishes to advocate for the decentralization of the administrative work to other regional campuses, this will assist to curb unnecessary migration of students to register in Tshwane. Regional campuses should have sub-faculty offices with lectures, libraries, clinics and so forth and the likes.

2. **Curriculum Redesign and Transformation:**

The UNISA curriculum is outdated. It appears that the university is fundamentally opposed to the emerging developments in society. A university curriculum should be inextricably intertwined with the developments of society. Consequently, the is a sense of scepticism in recruiting our graduates, particularly in the private sector. Our curriculum must be redesigned to suite the demands of the markets. The culture of spending a four-year degree learning an irrelevant content and not get exposed to the working environment is problematic. Furthermore, our curriculum must remember the dismembered and distorted history of our forefathers. The curriculum should disengage from the western monochrome logic of western epistemology.

3. **Student Funding:**

ULSA is underpinned in the ideological fabric that intends to dismantle the traditional distribution of study funding. One of the principal objectives of our student formation is to advocate for a fair distribution of university funding. UNISA students are always at the receiving end of punitive treatment and relegated to a substandard status. This unreasonable disrate and discriminatory funding model will be challenged in all strata of society, including the courts!

➢ **NSFAS OFFFICES MUST BE DECENTRALIZED TO THE UNISA CAMPUSES.**
➢ **WE DEMAND AN INCREASE OF MEAL ALLOWANCES.**
➢ **WE ARE DESERVING OF RECEIVING RESIDENTIAL ALLOWANCE MONIES. WE RENT APARTMENTS; RENT IS MORE EXPENSIVE THAN STUDY FEES.**
➢ **THE INTELLIMALI SYSTEM WILL BE SCRAPPED. WE MUST RECEIVE OUR MONIES DIRECTLY TO OUR BANK ACCOUNTS.**
➢ **WE WILL ESTABLISH A POSTGRADUATE BURSARY AND ACCOMMODATE OUR PEERS ADVANCING THEIR ACADEMIC WORK.**
➢ **WE WILL REDISIGN THE COUNSEL BURSARY AND ACCOMODATE 'THE MISSING MIDDLE' STUDENTS.**
➢ **THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DEBT FORMS WILL BE REINTRODUCED.**

PROMOTION OF COMPETITIVE SPORTS:

The existing conceptual definition of the UNISA sports is extremely regrettably and lacks fundamental meanings. UNISA, to be precise, offers no competitive sports due to its character as a distance learning university. However, ULSA will advance its longstanding positionality of transforming the university to a dualistic intellectual landscape. Let it be optional to be distant from the campus and to be fulltime. Therefore, we will ensure that the university affiliates in formal sports ranging from leagues and actively participating in intra-campus tournaments. Through sports, we will manage to contribute to a healthy lifestyle, and the general campus network and a horizontal exchange of experiences.

WOMEN LEADERSHIP IN THE UNIVESITY:

Part of the decolonial efforts is to challenge patriarchalism in all its facets in the intellectual landscape. Of the 26 universities, at least less than 6 women are leading as the Vice chancellor and principal. In addition, women are under-represented in academia, permanent staff in academia are men. Therefore, ULSA led SRC will be a lobby group in promotion of women female leaders into critical positions of influence both in operations and counsel. Sankara, the great revolutionary of the past decades once said, 'women hold the other half of the sky'.

4th industrial Revolution and the Digitization of the Academic Project:

In part or combined, the government has made it a fundamental point to digitize the entire academic project of higher learning. We also experienced the introduction of online leaning as a steadfast intervention to the traditional learning modalities of seat-in-exam. However, the technical glitches exposed the unreadiness and unpreparedness of the university. Therefore, ULSA is quite firm in its stance to invest heavily in the development of our ICT machinery to catch up with the new normal. Furthermore, we are also concerned about the total withdrawal of seat-in-exam as an assessment procedure of centuries and the implications this will have in our qualifications.

UNAPOLOGETICALLY END THE SUPER-SEMESTER LOGIC

ULSA is extremely disturbed about the efforts to interrupt and interfere with our traditional two-semester model in favour of a Super-Semester model which lacks coherent meanings. This decision is inconsiderate of the final year students due to complete their final modules and already waiting for placements. ULSA will head the clarion call that the new students (grade 12) must enrol for the super semester and the rest of us who are already in the system must continue with the existing modus operandi.

THE END!