

April 11, 2016

PRESS RELEASE

Last week I made a statement during a media briefing that the unfortunate events that led to the closure of the University had indeed provided us with opportunity to internally reflect on certain underlying issues and find solutions on how to deal with each of them.

I particularly singled out two salient issues:

1. Student goons at the University
2. The management of SONU affairs.

During the meeting of April 7, 2016, Senate identified four (4) key priority areas which must be addressed expeditiously before the University is re-opened.

They are:

- i) Clean-up of halls of residence and rooms for possible weapons, alcohol and drugs.
- ii) Improving security at Halls of residence
- iii) Discipline and prosecution of student goons who participated in the destruction of public property.
- iv) A thorough audit and investigation of SONU affairs including its electoral process.

The Senate constituted committees headed by Principals of Colleges and gave them mandates and specific terms of reference to execute and submit their reports to the Senate by Sunday April 10, 2016 at 3.00 p.m.

While dealing with issues No. i), ii) and iii), we invited the police on April 9, 2016 to help us clean the rooms for possible weapons, alcohol and drugs.

The police were also at the University gathering evidence for possible prosecution of students who participated in the destruction of public property during the recent student unrest.

We are committed to protect the image of the University from being destroyed by a few bad apples.

The University shall continue to maintain a safe and peaceful environment for learning.

We would like to remind a few indisciplined students that they shall be dealt with firmly. The University does not enjoy immunity from inviolation of premises by the police and shall not provide a safe haven for law breakers.

Any student who commits a crime within and without the University shall be held accountable.

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