

17 April 2023

Apology to affected students

We unequivocally apologise to all students in Minerva and Irene who were affected by the residence practices during welcoming week in 2021 and who felt that their human rights and dignity were affected by not being able to speak Afrikaans in a social context. We have extensive training in place on the application and implementation of the Language Policy for student leaders, and we have reinforced that training this year, and we will continue to do so. We will also ask the Language Committee of Council to consider whether a change is necessary to the Language Policy to provide the clarity suggested by the SAHRC.

We acknowledge that our journey of transformation requires constant attention and we reiterate our commitment to a multilingual, multicultural University which respects human rights and dignity and where all our stakeholders feel welcome. That vision will require all stakeholders to find new and constructive means of collaboration: the University is committed to this.