



NORTH-WEST UNIVERSITY
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29 March 2012

Dear Sir

HIGHER TRANSFORMATION NETWORK (THABANG MAKHOANG) / NORTH-WEST UNIVERSITY

Your letter dated 7 March 2012 addressed to the Vice-Chancellor of the North-West University has reference.

We note that you purport to act on behalf of the Higher Education Transformation Network ("the HETN").

Please submit proof to us as to what the legal status of the HETN is.

We furthermore request you to confirm that Messrs. Lucky Thekiso and Reginald Legoabe are members of the HETN.

With regard to your requests set out in paragraphs 1. - 4. of your letter, we will not be making the information available to you. The NWU Council will first discuss the report and will resolve on the way forward, including communication with the family, the Minister and public.

We also request you to confirm the fact that the HETN is the same party that made statements of defamatory nature against the Vice-Chancellor of the North-West University in two media releases dated 13 February and 23 March 2012.

In these media releases your client published defamatory remarks about the NWU and Dr. Eloff in that he is a racist, that he condones initiation practices at the University, that his leadership style has resulted in the merger of the University being dysfunctional, and that he victimizes black students and academics, or words to that effect.

We attach the abovementioned media releases hereto for your ease of reference.

The University and the Vice-Chancellor, in his personal capacity, reject and take a grave view of the unfounded and baseless allegations made in the abovementioned media releases by your client. In addition they reserve their rights *in toto* with regards to the institution of a civil claim for defamation of character against the HETN and or Messrs. Lucky Thekiso and Reginald Legoabe in their personal capacities.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'W. Coetzee'.

We await your reply urgently.

Kind regards


WP COETZEE
SENIOR LEGAL ADVISOR