



# Higher Education Transformation Network

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For Immediate Release

## PRESS RELEASE: UNIVERSITIES SOUTH AFRICA STATEMENT

The Higher Education Transformation Network (HETN) hereby notes the media statement by Universities South Africa (USAF) dated the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 with deep concern.

Whilst we acknowledge that the state has contributed to the delay in the release of the final report of the Heher Fees Commission for consideration by all stakeholders in higher education, we believe that there has been requisite strategic policy guidance from the state as well as internal consultative meetings between affected universities managers, NSFAS and the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET).

The Network does not support the chaotic storming of university gates advocated by some political roleplayers. This will be tantamount to chaos.

### Extension of University Admission Timelines.

- We hereby call on all 26 universities to extend their admission deadlines for the acceptance of more applications to cater for the students who are to benefit from the Fee Free higher education plan. **The admission deadlines of most universities for the 2018 academic year has already closed.**
- Whilst we note university management concerns regarding chaotic registration processes, the emphasis on exclusively online applications alone will indirectly hamper the access by poor rural communities **who cannot access technology.**

Higher Education ACCESS for ALL Communities



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About the Higher Education Transformation Network (HETN):-

The Higher Education Transformation Network (HETN) is an independent network of alumni and graduates from various higher education and further educational institutions across South Africa committed to the process of transformation of higher education to increase equitable and access to education, skills and learning to eliminate of socio-economic disparities.

