
3 February 2016

#RHODESMUSTFALL LETTER OF DEMAND:

This letter serves to present the set of demands drafted by #RhodesMustFall. On the basis that these demands are met we will in good faith vacate Avenue House by tomorrow the 4th of February 2016 at 07:00 am.

1. We demand that all students placed in transit be given permanent accommodation, starting tonight.
2. We demand a statement from the Vice Chancellor, Max Price, stating
 - a. The systemic failings of Student Housing and contextualizing the victories of mass action that led to students being housed at the Riverside Lodge.
 - b. Re-invoking the agreement with senior management that no one should be prevented from continuing their studies on the basis of affordability.
 - c. This should be released today.
3. We demand a meeting at 5 p.m. on Thursday the 4th of February with senior management, including the Vice Chancellor, to discuss:
 - a. Concerns of victimisation in RAC's
 - b. Overcoming exclusion
 - c. Pursuing collective reprieve for political action
4. We demand a clear description of the plan for the various scenarios' after the RAC has taken its decisions at the above mentioned meeting.

5. We demand a statement from the Vice Chancellor supporting African International students who are stranded in their home countries due to police clearance issues.
 6. We demand that students, who are reinstated by the university during the RAC, have financial aid restored.
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4 February 2016

On 04 Feb 2016, at 11:37 AM, Lisa Cloete <lisa.cloete@uct.ac.za> wrote:
Dear RhodesMustFall

Please find below a response from DVC, Professor Francis Petersen.

Regards
Lisa Cloete

Dear RhodesMustFall

Thank you for the notification below. This is really encouraging and we welcome your show of good faith. However, we have been reliably informed that there are still about 5 people in the building. We need to understand clearly that 'vacate the building' means the following:

- i) The occupation of Avenue House has been unconditionally ended
- ii) Avenue House staff will be able to return to their places of work without any interference or interruptions
- iii) RMF gives a firm undertaking that it will not re-occupy Avenue House and staff will be able to return without any fears that they will be not be uprooted

We wish to resume engaging with you as soon as possible and are more than willing to come to Avenue Hall at 5.00 p.m. today as requested in your email. However this can only happen if our understanding of what vacating Avenue House means is also shared by you.

We await your response by 1.00 p.m. at the latest today (Thursday, 04 February 2016) as we need to communicate to Avenue House staff that they can return to their rightful places of work. As we communicated to you in our earlier email, until the occupation of Avenue House is ended, the return of Avenue House staff to their places of work is our main priority.

Sincerely
Prof Francis Petersen

Deputy Vice Chancellor

From: RhodesMustFall [<mailto:rhodesmustfall@gmail.com>] **Sent:** 04 February 2016 01:01 PM
To: Lisa Cloete <lisa.cloete@uct.ac.za> **Subject:** Re: RMF demands (Avenue House occupation)

Dear Prof Petersen

RMF has committed to ending the occupation under the terms mentioned in the initial set of demands sent. We are not aware of who those 5 people are but have sent out a call to make sure that all have left the building so that staff may continue with their work.

We await the meeting at 5pm at Avenue Hall.

Regards
RMF

From: Lisa Cloete **Sent:** 04 February 2016 02:50 PM **To:** 'rhodesmustfall@gmail.com'
<rhodesmustfall@gmail.com> **Cc:** Francis Petersen <Francis.Petersen@uct.ac.za> **Subject:** Occupation of Cadbol House

Dear RhodesMustFall

Please find below a response from DVC, Professor Francis Petersen.

Regards
Lisa Cloete

Dear RhodesMustFall

We are currently dealing with the situation where the Cadbol House has been occupied by approximately 20 students and staff operations have been disrupted. Unfortunately we cannot address your concerns until the situation is resolved.

We appeal to you to do everything that you can to encourage those occupying Cadbol House to vacate the premises immediately so that our engagement can proceed.

Sincerely

Prof Francis Petersen
Deputy Vice Chancellor

From: Rhodes Must Fall [<mailto:rhodesmustfall@gmail.com>] **Sent:** 04 February 2016 03:38 PM
To: Lisa Cloete <lisa.cloete@uct.ac.za> **Cc:** Francis Petersen <francis.petersen@uct.ac.za>
Subject: RE: RMF demands (Avenue House occupation)

Dear DVC,

The occupation at Cadbol House has ended. We will see you and senior management in Azania House at 5pm as agreed.

Best

From: Lisa Cloete **Sent:** 04 February 2016 04:31 PM **To:** 'RhodesMustFall'
<rhodesmustfall@gmail.com> **Subject:** RE: RMF demands (Avenue House occupation)

Dear RMF

Please see communication from Prof Francis Petersen below.

Regards
Lisa

Dear RMF

It has come to our attention that you have posted a notice on your Facebook page indicating that you will be meeting with Senior Management at 5pm today at Azania House. Furthermore, that you have made a call to all financially and/or academically excluded students without accommodation to meet directly with Senior Management. This is, despite the fact that we have made it absolutely clear to you that we will not be meeting with you at this stage.

Our reasons for NOT meeting with you at this stage are as follows:

- You wrote to us on Wednesday, 3 February 2016 at 16h35 PM with several demands.
- We wrote to you in response on the same day at 20h41 PM to explain that we will only consider engaging further with you once you have ended the occupation of Avenue House which you began on Monday, 1 February 2016 leading to the expulsion of the Avenue House staff from their work stations.
- You wrote to us at Thursday, 4 February 2016 at 9h41 AM, to say that you have vacated Avenue Hall. We sent an officer to the building after your email to find that five people were still in the building.
- We wrote on Thursday, 4 February 2016 asking you to clarify what you meant by vacating and to reassure us that that the occupaton will end unconditionally. Furthermore that Avenue House staff could return to their work stations and would not be interfered with.
- You wrote back on Thursday, 4 February 2016 at 13h01 to say that you will vacate only

after we have met your demands.

- Almost at the same time you (20 people) invaded the Cadbol building, intimidating and forcing staff to leave the building.
- This created a situation where the Masingene building was locked in fear that this will be invaded to.

The actions by you, the fear you have created in staff members, the racial abuse of staff and the interference in the work has resulted in a situation where we have no functional student services at present. The very issues you raise and bring to the table cannot be resolved by the services having been rendered disrupted.

The above give us no indication that there is a relationship of trust and that you are keen to engage in an accountable way. We are keen to engage with you but will only do so once you have demonstrated that such engagement can occur in a respectful manner.

Sincerely,
Prof Francis Petersen
Deputy Vice Chancellor

11 February 2016

On Feb 11, 2016 2:13 PM, "Lisa Cloete" <lisa.cloete@uct.ac.za> wrote:
Dear RhodesMustFall

Please find below a response from DVC, Professor Francis Petersen.

Regards
Lisa Cloete

Dear RhodesMustFall

As the Executive, we wish to thank you for drawing our attention to concerns relating to student accommodation. We would like to engage in discussion on the broader issue of transformation, private security and also provide feedback/ progress on the accommodation issues. In earlier communication we had indicated that you may make use of Avenue Hall until the deferred examinations have been concluded (25 Jan 2016) and we will also discuss the plan for you to leave Avenue Hall.

We would like to meet with you tomorrow, Friday 12 February at 12:00 (noon), to discuss the above in The John Martin Room, Level 5, New Engineering Building, Upper Campus.

We await your reply.

Sincerely

Prof Francis Petersen
Deputy Vice Chancellor

12 February 2016

From: Rhodes Must Fall [<mailto:rhodesmustfall@gmail.com>] **Sent:** 12 February 2016 10:58 AM
To: Lisa Cloete <lisa.cloete@uct.ac.za>; Francis Petersen <francis.petersen@uct.ac.za>; Russell Ally <russell.ally@uct.ac.za>; Elelwani Ramugondo <elelwani.ramugondo@uct.ac.za>; Judith Du Toit <judith.dutoit@uct.ac.za>; Max Price <max.price@uct.ac.za>; Anwar Mall <anwar.mall@uct.ac.za>; Sandra Klopper <sandra.klopper@uct.ac.za> **Subject:** Re: Request for meeting on 12 Feb

Due to the taxing effects of the events transpiring at yesterday's Free Education protests at parliament the #RhodesMustFall movement is unable to meet with the university management under the suggested conditions.

We reject the tone and suggestion in this email invitation that there is anything amicable between us as you and the executive have consistently defamed the movement to the university community and have used illegal forms of private security to intimidate and repress our members and the just protests they have embarked on.

We have no interest in speaking to puppets who dance to the music of conservative whites on council and senate for their own careerist objectives. If we are eventually to meet with anyone to discuss the issues listed it will be directly with the Vice Chancellor and not with disposable tools of the white power structure.

From: Lisa Cloete **Sent:** 12 February 2016 07:03 PM **To:** 'Rhodes Must Fall'
<rhodesmustfall@gmail.com> **Cc:** Francis Petersen <Francis.Petersen@uct.ac.za> **Subject:** Request for meeting on 15 February

Dear RhodesMustFall
Please find a response from DVC, Professor Francis Petersen.
Regards
Lisa Cloete

Dear RhodesMustFall,

Following on your response dated 12 February, the Special Executive Task Team (SETT) takes extreme exception to the tone, language and description of senior leaders within the University used in your response. Ironically, we believe that your statements go against the objectives of your movement that strives to empower Black people. SETT has been mandated by the Executive to engage on various challenges that the University might experience during the year; including engagement with RhodesMustFall. Therefore, SETT and not the Vice Chancellor will engage with you on the issues as specified in our earlier invitation to you. No other member of the Executive or the Vice Chancellor will meet with you, other than SETT.

Again, we would like you to reconsider the invitation to meet with SETT on Monday, 15 February at 13:00 to discuss the issues mentioned in our earlier invitation. Should you decline this meeting request, the Executive will have no choice other than to proceed on the plan for Avenue Hall without your involvement.

The venue will be the John Martin Room, Level 5, New Engineering Building, Upper Campus.

We await your response.

Sincerely

Prof Francis Petersen
Deputy Vice Chancellor

13 February 2016

From: Rhodes Must Fall [mailto:rhodesmustfall@gmail.com] **Sent:** 13 February 2016 02:29 PM
To: Lisa Cloete <lisa.cloete@uct.ac.za>; Francis Petersen <francis.petersen@uct.ac.za>; Anwar Mall <anwar.mall@uct.ac.za>; Max Price <max.price@uct.ac.za>; Judith Du Toit <judith.dutoit@uct.ac.za>; Russell Ally <russell.ally@uct.ac.za>; Sandra Klopper <sandra.klopper@uct.ac.za>; Elelwani Ramugondo <elelwani.ramugondo@uct.ac.za> **Subject:**
Re: Request for meeting on 15 February

Dear Colonial Administrators,

The Rhodes Must Fall movement has steadily come to the realisation that the university has established indirect rule through the formation of the so called "special task team" of the executive. It is definitely regrettable that the university has found Black people willing to

participate in activities that are not only illegal but repressive and against the grain of progress. Sadly this too is not ahistorical, the British empire and the Apartheid government had no trouble finding and installing Black people to carry out their diabolical tasks. Please don't confuse your steady rise through an unjust system by stepping on the heads of Black students as "empowerment" - don't insult us and the rest of our people.

It is clear as day that this team has been constituted to protect the Vice Chancellor. You, Francis Peterson, have made a decision to act against programmes that ultimately stand to work to the benefit of you and your children and you must prepare to face the consequences of what you're doing.

The Rhodes Must Fall movement wishes to caution you, Francis Peterson, on the dizzying heights of praise you may be experiencing from conservative whites and fellow colonial administrators - these people are not on your side nor do they care about our people.

You are responsible for setting private security on Black students. Security who have been documented participating in illegal practices. Security that has consistently sexually harassed women and non-binary members of our community as they exercise their patriarchal power for hire. Now you have actually lied to the university community and now have the audacity to take extreme exception at an email?

We are here battling for space to survive in an institution that is unashamedly patriarchal, anti-black and anti-working class. We won't be cowering, we have endure brutality from the likes of you (and the state) to be strengthened by it. Black pain is what has forged the black consciousness. We are here doing important work that numerous academics across the globe are engaging with at the risk of our lives and you are choosing to treat us like criminals that are to be erased at whatever cost. To be frank we are doing work that you and your staff have continuously failed to do with impunity.

We will not speak through the channels of indirect rule as a matter of principle.
Step aside and stop protecting Max Price.

If you are now threatening to take the space by force we will stand our ground. It is as simple and as complex as that.

Your inflated salaries will help you buy the comfort you "need" to massage your bruised egos.
Cut your strings or remain a puppet.

Izwe Lethu
#RhodesMustFall

14 February 2016

From: Lisa Cloete
Sent: 14 February 2016 10:15 AM
To: Rhodes Must Fall <rhodesmustfall@gmail.com>
Cc: Francis Petersen <francis.petersen@uct.ac.za>
Subject: RE: Request for meeting on 15 February

Dear RhodesMustFall

Please find below a response from DVC, Prof Francis Petersen.

Regards
Lisa Cloete

Dear RhodesMustFall

Your response to our most recent request for a meeting to discuss Avenue Hall and related issues of dedicated space, transformation and decolonization is regrettable. Not only do you reject all attempts at engagement, but you also demonstrate the utmost contempt for authorized representatives of the university executive. Sadly your communication has degenerated into the politics of personal insult, intolerance, intimidation and threats. This is completely unacceptable and has no place in a democratic society, let alone an institution of learning. It is your right to hold diametrically opposed views on what constitutes progressive politics. Not only does the executive respect this, but it is its responsibility to ensure that space is provided in the university for such views. It will never seek to repress or criminalize such views or the people who hold such views.

The executive repeats that private security on campus is not here to repress political activity but only to make sure that the university is able to carry out its core activities without disruption and intimidation. The executive makes no apology for this. It will not allow a culture of impunity to exist on campus. It has a duty to protect all staff and students and to guarantee their safety and security. These are responsibilities it takes very seriously and which it will always prioritize.

The executive is offering you one last opportunity to engage on the issues outlined in previous communication. Your failure to take up this offer will leave us with no alternative but to begin the legal process of removing you from Avenue Hall. As you are well aware, your presence in Avenue Hall was never meant to be permanent. The executive granted permission for your continued presence in Avenue Hall until the end of the deferred examinations on 25 January 2016. It did so on a specific request from RMF and because it did not want to disrupt the preparations of anyone who still had to write the deferred exams. The deferred exams have long

since being completed. The continued presence of RMF in Avenue Hall is now no longer necessary.

The executive has raised the question of dedicated alternative space because it recognizes the importance of the issues represented by RMF. It has also indicated its openness to finding a way to acknowledge the historical significance of Avenue Hall. Contrary to what is being claimed, it is not the intention or wish of the executive to 'crush' RMF. The executive believes that RMF has a critical role to play in the continuing transformation (what RMF calls decolonization) of the university. But the university can no longer be held to ransom. Without mutual respect and willingness to create a conducive environment for open and meaningful engagement, not only is the academic project of the university jeopardized but also all hopes of a constructive transformation process.

Satisfactory resolution of the continued presence in Avenue Hall and the issue of dedicated alternative space is now completely dependent on the actions and decisions of RMF.

We repeat our offer for a meeting on Monday 15 February at 13h00 in The John Martin Room, New Engineering Building, Level 5, Upper Campus. The refusal by RMF to take up this offer will mean that RMF has no intention whatsoever to discuss leaving Avenue Hall and that the executive must begin the legal process to ensure that this occurs.

Sincerely

Prof Francis Petersen
Deputy Vice Chancellor

16 February 2016

Dear members of RMF

We write to you in relation to the shack you have erected on Residence Road. We completely respect your constitutional right to protest action and recognise the importance of the issues you are raising.

We wish in no way to halt or divert your protest action but we are concerned that the place you have chosen for the shack (in the middle of the street on Residence Road) has serious implications for UCT operations. These include the interruption to the flow of vehicles and interference with pedestrians. The traffic blockage is also causing delay in the Jammie Shuttle schedule. This morning the consequence of the traffic interference at Residence Road caused a backlog on the M3, which infringes on the rights of others beyond UCT.

We have identified the green lawn in front of Smuts Hall as a more workable venue for your protest action. We will send CPS officers at 16h00 today to assist you in moving the shack to that space. We hope you can assist the officers in moving the shack to the designated space. We recognise your goal to continue with this protest action until the accommodation backlog at UCT is resolved. The UCT Executive team and staff within Student Housing and Residence Life have been working tirelessly to resolve these issues, and we are confident that there will be no student whose issues have not been dealt with adequately.

Please also ensure that anyone participating in the protest action in relation to the shack do so within legal parameters and refrain from interfering with the rights of fellow students and staff.

If you refuse to allow the officers to move the shack and the shack is still in its current position by 17h00 we will unfortunately have no option but to take action to remove it.

The Executive
16 February 2016