

MEDIA STATEMENT

Unisa condemns the misuse of the passing of its staff members for propaganda and gamesmanship

03 August 2026

The University of South Africa (Unisa) has noted with serious concern some recent media reports attempting to use the passing of some of its staff members for what can only be described as unfortunate propaganda and gamesmanship.

Unisa is saddened and disappointed that the passing of its staff members and their well-being are being misused in unsavory agendas at a time when we should be allowing their loved ones to mourn with dignity. It also has no intention whatsoever to participate in such insensitive acts, lest it finds itself doing exactly what it is advising others not to do.

The university condemns these actions unequivocally and is looking into the matter of this deliberate and coordinated misinformation. Furthermore, it reiterates that, should there be any reason to suspect wrongdoing by anyone, it shall take all necessary steps to address such wrongdoing, including reporting any wrongful action to the relevant authorities. The University wishes to reassure the public that it respects and follows all applicable laws of the country in handling its employee affairs.

The university remains firmly committed to the well-being, dignity, and support of all its staff members, both during their service and in moments of loss. Furthermore, the University has fully established structures, including its Employee Wellness Program, Human Resources support channels, and formal grievance and reporting mechanisms, through which staff and their families can access assistance, counselling, and guidance.

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