

MEDIA STATEMENT

Sunnyside Campus to reopen following thumps-up on its water quality.

Approved for Public Release

Date: Friday, 21 July 2023

The Sunnyside Campus of the University of South Africa (Unisa) would reopen and resume face-to-face student support services following the positive outcome of results of water tests conducted on campus.

On the 5th of June 2023, University of South Africa (Unisa)'s Department of Facilities Management (DFM) received complaints of water being brownish in colour and suspected deterioration of the water quality at its Sunnyside and Muckleneuk campuses.

To ensure that the quality of drinking water complies with pertinent legislation and meets the minimum requirement of South African National Standards (SANS), the University conducted an urgent investigation to establish whether water quality is compliant with statutory requirement as specified in SANS 241 and Water Act 108 of 1997.

The quality of the water was assessed by three independent water quality laboratories. The first service provider is the Institute for Nanotechnology and Water Sustainability (iNanoWS), who conducted independent tests complimented by a team of senior academics. The second service provider, CSE consultants, was appointed to sample the quality of water against various parameters at various strategic points. A third water testing was conducted by City of Tshwane's Scientific Services as the relevant authority that supplies water to Unisa. The latter dispatched its team to perform quality water sampling and testing.

After receiving the water quality tests reports, a meeting was scheduled at the Sunnyside campus whereby the independent experts communicated and presented the outcome of the results. All three independent water quality test reports, indicate that the quality of the water on all Pretoria campuses are safe for drinking and for any other usages.

Considering the positive outcome of the water quality results and the operational need of effective service delivery, the Unisa Sunnyside campus will open, and resume with its academic project.

-Ends-

ISSUED BY UNISA MEDIA AFFAIRS

For enquiries, please contact Senior Media Officers Tommy Huma on 072 218 6197 / 012 429 3981 / humatm@unisa.ac.za OR Edgar Rathelele on 063 731 5456 / 012 429 3981 / ratheme@unisa.ac.za

