

UNIVERSITY OF BUEA

P.O Box 63,
Buea, South West Region
CAMEROON
Tel: (237) 332 21 34
Fax: (237) 332 22 72



D/FA
REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
PEACE-WORK-FATHERLAND

PRO-CHANCELLOR: Professor Maurice Tchuenté
VICE-CHANCELLOR: Nalova Lyonga, PhD
DVC/Teaching, Professionalization and Development of
Information and Communication Technologies: Professor Joyce B. Endeley
DVC/Research, Cooperation and Relations with the Business World: Professor Victor Julius Ngoh
DVC/Internal Control and Evaluation: Dr. Blaise Moukoko
REGISTRAR: Professor Samson N. Abangma

16 MAY 2013

PRESS RELEASE

The Committee of Deans and Directors (CDD) of the University of Buea held an extraordinary meeting today, Thursday, 16 May 2013 to review the incident which occurred on the campus Wednesday, 15 May 2013 and informs the public as follows:

1. On Wednesday, 15 May 2013, a band of students armed with machetes, hammers, clubs and other homemade weapons invaded the campus of the University of Buea. In the process, they broke down doors and windows of carefully selected staff offices, destroyed furniture and equipment and looted equipment. Besides burning one administrative car valued at thirty million francs, they severely vandalised five other vehicles, students' restaurant, and smashed all the windows and doors of the security post. Nine unarmed security guards on duty were severely wounded. The destruction is valued at over eighty million francs.
2. The students circulated tracts making the following demands:
 - a) An increase from 2,500 Frs. to 3,000 Frs. per student for participating in the 20th May match past so that they can dry clean their suits;
 - b) An increase in the number of courses at re-sit examinations;
 - c) Withdrawal of the court case against students involved in the riots of 6 February 2013;
 - d) The right to organise UBSU elections as they deem fit;
 - e) Maintenance of the eligibility criterion at 2.0 GPA for the Presidential Excellence Award instead of 3.0 which VC allegedly changed.
3. Having examined these claims, CDD concluded that they were baseless and bogus because:
 - a) Matching during the National day is voluntary, patriotic and therefore maintained that the 2,500 Frs. per student for refreshments is adequate.
 - b) Re-sit examinations are governed by existing rules and regulations which have not changed.
 - c) The case against the students is a state matter. The Vice-Chancellor is a witness like any other and therefore has no authority to withdraw it.

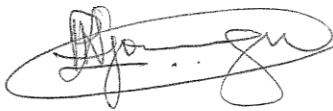
- d) The University of Buea upholds the Ministerial Order no 08/0249/MINESUP of 11 September 2008 To Lay Down the Common Statutes of Students of State Institutions of Higher Learning in Cameroon which is the text of application which stipulates how student elections should be conducted and that the 2008 Law repeals all other Laws.
- e) The criteria for the Presidential Award of Excellence are set by the Ministry of Higher Education and there has never been any attempt by the University of Buea administration to modify them. The University of Buea forwarded its list to MINESUP on 25 April 2013 containing students' names with a GPA of 2.0.

In view of the gravity and senselessness of the wanton destruction, the Committee of Deans and Directors condemns the misinformation given by the perpetrators, flagrant and deliberate violation of institutional regulations and severe injuries inflicted on unarmed security staff on duty.

In light of the above, the Committee of Deans and Directors recommends:

- a) UBSU should be suspended with immediate effect;
- b) Faculty associations are encouraged to continue with their activities;
- c) students who have been identified as responsible for these activities should face the full weight of the law immediately;
- d) internal institutional sanctions will also be applied to perpetrators;
- e) classes should resume normally and the University of Buea should participate in the National Day celebrations as usual;
- f) the rules and regulations governing the reparation of destroyed property should be applied; and
- g) administration should take the necessary measures to ensure security on campus.

16 MAY 2013



Nalova Lyonga, PhD
Vice-Chancellor

