UNISA university of south africa

MEDIA ADVISORY

Unisa Convocation to hold its second fundraising gala dinner to mobilise funds for student support

Date: Thursday, 18 September 2026

The University of South Africa (Unisa)'s Convocation, in collaboration with the University's National Students Representative Council, will hold its second fundraising gala dinner on Wednesday, 23rd September 2026 at the Maslow Times Square Hotel, Menlyn Maine, Pretoria.

This comes after the success of its first fundraising event held in 2025, where a total of R4, 8 million was raised towards student fees, benefiting over 600 students who are set to graduate in 2026.

However, more than 6 258 undergraduate students will not be able to graduate because they owe the university. A total of R47m is required to cover their fees.

Despite the rising education costs, the university remains committed to keeping its fees affordable compared to traditional full-time universities. At Unisa, an amount of **R2,300** covers one module, while **R11,500 (5 x R2,300)** can fully fund a student on the verge of graduation.

Over R4 million has been raised for the 2026 campaign, with an expected match from the Unisa Foundation Board of Trustees, which will raise the amount to R8 million. Different donor organisations, stakeholders, Unisa staff and alumni, and other role players helped to raise this required amount.

Like many universities in the world, Unisa has a high amount of outstanding fees due to students not being able to pay, which hinders their academic progression and the completion of their studies. They remain in the system and are unable to graduate or move to the next level of their studies as they are unable to settle their study fees.

The Unisa Executive Management, together with the President of Convocation, will be present to engage with potential donors to advance student support as the event brings an opportunity for alumni, corporate partners, and friends of the university to contribute to a life-changing cause.

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Members of the media are invited to attend or cover the event as follows:

Date: Wednesday, 23 September 2026
Venue: The Maslow Times Square Hotel, 2098 Aramist Avenue, Menlyn, Pretoria.
Time: 17:30 for 18:00

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For RSVPs and interview requests, please contact Unisa Senior Media Officers: Mr Tommy Huma on 072 218 6197 / 012 429 3981 / humartm@unisa.ac.za OR Mr Edgar Rathelele on 063 731 5456 / 012 429 3981 / ratheme@unisa.ac.za

ISSUED BY UNISA MEDIA AFFAIRS
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