

Statement from Prof. Mamoun Homeida the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the University of Medical Sciences and Technology

Following the events of Sunday 24/02/2019 that took place at the University of Medical Sciences and Technology, I immediately issued a statement on my capacity as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the University. I categorically and unequivocally condemned those events. In that statement, I denounced the storming of the campus by the security men, the brutal pursuit of the demonstrators and the unacceptable destruction of the University's properties and facilities.

We should bear in mind that two demonstrations took place prior to Sunday's demonstration. At both occasions the university, with the wisdom of its administration, managed to keep the students inside the campus to avert direct confrontation and clashes with the security men. It is also worth mentioning that a number of professors, including the University Vice President and the Principal were inside the students demonstration on Sunday in an attempt to contain the demonstration within the university boundaries in order to preserve the lives of the students. However, due to the enthusiasm of youth, the students broke the southern gate of the university to go into the street, allowing the security men to enter and carry out attacking and insulting students; acts which we greatly regret and unreservedly condemn with the strongest of words.

I issued a statement of condemnation and demanded the concerned authorities to immediately investigate those abhorrent acts and to hold accountable those who committed them in breach of our Sudanese morals and values.

I am pleased that the academic staff and employees of the university have issued a statement confirming their standing behind the University top management to safeguard and maintain the most progressive, stable and international university in Sudan. A university which is widely renowned for its undisputed adherence to discipline, respect for the rights of students and staff and free from any shade of racial or ideological discrimination. Therefore I refrain here from responding to those who claimed that it is the university that allowed in the security men because the absurdity of the claim doesn't fool the wise, and subsequently does not warrant a response.

Under these compelling circumstances the University Senate has decided to suspend the study pending investigation and rehabilitation.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity send my sincere greetings to my sons and daughters the students of UMST, assuring them that they will continue to be the focus of our interest. I would also like to acknowledge the support and dedication of the university staff that have succeeded in building a distinguished academic edifice that has proudly crossed the boundaries of the local to the international.

Mamoun Homeida

26/2/2019