



ST AUGUSTINE COLLEGE OF SOUTH AFRICA NPC

Registered with the
Department of Higher Education and Training
as a private higher education institution under the
Higher Education Act, 1997

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19 July 2022

Dear Friends of St. Augustine,

Greetings to each of you in this 2022.

It seems important to bring you up to date with what is happening at the college.

In February we sent you a communication setting out the situation of St Augustine.

I would like to thank Prof Terry Sacco who has stepped into the breach with great aplomb, supported by the Heads of Departments. In fact, they designed a very successful short course for teachers on gender and sexuality which has gained enormous traction.

We reiterate that the Board along with the South African Catholic Bishops Conference and the Nuncio, decided that the College as a Catholic Institution will continue. In order to achieve the objectives set, it was decided that the College would continue as a postgraduate institution and offer the Higher Certificate of Biblical Studies, and a number of very relevant short courses. The College has met its obligations to the undergraduate students by teaching out those students to achieve their degrees. The undergraduate programmes, however, will be put in abeyance at the end of this year.

We continue to conduct classes and administration, relying heavily on 'sessional teachers' to supplement the modules. We are grateful to all who continue to engage with the college and its students in carrying out this mission.

The financial situation of the college remains difficult as with many similar institutions, exacerbated by the pandemic. The Board is working on a number of initiatives for the immediate future to ensure that the College is financially capable of achieving its objectives.

We believe that an institute such as St. Augustine has a significant contribution to make to the Church and to the South African society. Both staff and those students who have found a home here at St. Augustine testify to its enduring value in their lives and ministry. As do our many friends and associates.

During July 2022 the property owned by the College in Victory Park was sold to Curro Holdings Limited and all permissions required have been obtained from the hierarchy of the Church.

A detailed planning session will be finalised in the near future taking into account the requirement to relocate, the details of courses offered and lessons learnt from Covid. Once these details have been finalised we will communicate again with you.

Wilfrid Cardinal NAPIER OFM, Patron Archbishop Jabulani NXUMALO OMI, Grand Chancellor

Company Registration No 1997/020522/08 NPO - 043-665 PBO - RG/01114/07/05

Directors: Mr M J ANTONIE (Chairperson) Dr Msgr M A F M de MÛELENAERE
Professor D G KOURIE Ms E MAEPA (Deputy Chairperson) Ms K H MOHAFI
Ms L PHALATSE Dr D M PRETORIUS Dr Bishop T G ROSE Mr B P SCALLAN

Once the property is transferred to Curro and the proceeds received, St Augustine will be able to pay all its debts and will have a substantial amount of cash, which it has never had, for future developments. The Board will decide on the use of the funds and how to increase the funding pool of the College.

The Catholic Order of the Knights of Da Gama has supported the College throughout these very difficult times and if it was not for their support this College would have closed long ago. We can only thank the Knights and its officers for the tremendous support given.

It would be remiss of us not to comment on the substantial support received from the Diocese of Stuttgart–Rottenburg and the many South African Donors who continuously supported the College over the last 23 years.

THE COLLEGE IS NOT CLOSING BUT IS IN THE PROCESS OF REINVENTING ITSELF TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE CHURCH AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN PEOPLES IN ITS AREAS OF EXPERTISE.

We ask for your sustained prayer and support, that all who are responsible for the college remain hopeful throughout the coming year and be directed in their work according to the mind of God.

With gratitude for all you do to support the college, the Board of Directors, the SACBC and Nuncio and particularly the very dedicated staff for their very positive outlook in these very difficult times.

Regards,

Melvyn Antonie

Chair, Board of Directors, St. Augustine College