

Nust registrar suspended

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by Eliaser Ndeyanale



Maurice Garde

THE governing council of the Namibia University of Science and Technology (Nust) this week placed the university's registrar Maurice Garde on suspension pending an investigation.

The university's spokesperson, Jordaan Andima, confirmed Garde's suspension today, but declined to provide details.

“The Namibia University of Science and Technology as per its human resources code cannot comment on any individual staff member. However, the university can confirm that Mr. Maurice Garde has been suspended,” she said.

The Namibian understands that the council resolved on 26 March this year to place Garde on special leave upon consultation with and approval from the minister of higher education Itah Kandjii-Murangi and her counterpart of public enterprises Leon Jooste.

However, the decision to suspend him was only effected this week. The Namibian has seen Garde's suspension letter signed 8 July 2020 by Nust acting vice chancellor Andrew Niikondo.

“In accordance with council resolutions, I was mandated by council to address this notice notifying you that you have been suspended from active duty as from the date of receipt of this notice.

“Your suspension has been necessitated to enable council to conduct an unhindered investigation into allegations that you have on numerous occasions abused your office,” part of Niikondo's letter reads.

Garde has also been told not to visit the university without a written permission from the council during his suspension.

“You are further required to hand over all the electronic devices e.g. laptops, tablets and cellphones and any other documents of the university, which are in your possession and or under your control,” reads the letter.

Contacted for comment, Garde said he will issue a full statement tomorrow.