Information- International students

Message from the International students division – University of Pretoria:

***Re: Admission of International Post-graduate students and new Immigration Act***

Changes in the Immigration Regulations, 2014 under the Government Gazette no 37679 in terms of section 7 of the Immigration Act no 13 of 2002, incorporating 2007 & 2010 amendments, published on 26 May 2014, indicate that International students cannot be registered without a valid visa.

Based on Directive 43 the CSC - International Student Division (ISD) could do the Immigration clearance (lifting of the SS2 block) of these students on the “Acknowledgment of receipt” from the Department of Home Affairs (DHA), while their visas were still being processed. In April 2014, Directive 43, was withdrawn, and the new Immigration Act became law in May 2014. Thus we can no- longer do the Immigration clearance and register these students without a valid visa.

***The Study Visa time frame***:

The new application process through the Visa Facilitating System (VFS), takes 30 to 90 days. December is a particularly busy month at DHA as they have to process new applications for undergraduate students as well.

**Please apply as soon as you are admitted to the programme.**