



NEWSLETTER

19 MAY 2023

MECSU REACTION TO SALGA (in KWAZULU NATAL) STATEMENT OF 8 MAY 2023 ON BOGUS ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS BY OFFICIALS TO SECURE EMPLOYMENT IN THE PROVINCE'S MUNICIPALITIES.

As MECSU we fully support KZN SALGA's position on skills audit required to deal with the scourge of bogus qualifications in all 54 municipalities in the province following media reports on fake qualifications by senior managers in the employ of municipalities, in particular in Ethekwini, uMhlathuze, and uMdoni, amongst others. This is just a tip of an icebag. There are many unscrupulous individuals in municipalities across the country who go to the extreme to pay for fake qualifications, and are brave in producing fraudulent documents to support their curricula vitae to secure senior positions in the country's municipalities. The rot of fake qualifications in the country's municipalities is a serious concern as it does not only impact on service delivery, it poses serious threat to those who have rightfully obtained qualifications, demonises workplace, thus places both the municipalities and academic institutions into disrepute.

Cadre deployment, unethical conduct of some officials in academic institutions, and verification of qualifications by human resources through bogus 'verification' companies are some of the contributing factors in the employment of individuals with fake qualifications as these companies are prepared to confirm fraudulent qualifications in exchange of bribes, while some officials in the academic institutions with no sense of integrity and ethical standards, enable the rot of fake qualifications by issuing fake qualifications or confirmation letters of qualifications which are non-

existent in exchange of money, to the detriment of municipalities. These corrupt activities take place in full view of the trade unions within the local government sector, hence individual leadership of trade unions turn a blind eye for personal gain and have their families employed in the municipalities by these unscrupulous individuals who faked qualifications.

Our position as MECSU is that skills audit and verification of qualifications must be conducted across all the country's 257 municipalities by reputable audit firm/s and qualifications verification companies, not just in KwaZulu Natal, and those unscrupulous individuals who submitted fake qualifications and lied in their curricula vitae to get employment in municipalities must be held to account, pay back all the salaries they unduly earned, and face prosecution for defrauding the state.

WORKING CLASS UNITE AGAINST FAKE QUALIFICATIONS AND PROTECT THE COUNTRY'S MUNICIPALITIES FROM BARBARIC ACADEMIC FRAUDSTERS!!!!

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