



**GENERAL STUDENTS' BODY  
(SUG FBC, SUG COMAHS, SUG IPAM)  
UNIVERSITY OF SIERRA LEONE**

**Contacts: +23231362397/+23278965948/+23279956001 26<sup>TH</sup>/11/2020**

**POSITION PAPER BY THE STUDENTS' UNION PRESIDENTS  
ACROSS USL ON ASA-USL'S INDUSTRIAL ACTION**

The insistence of the Industrial Action by ASA-USL, stemming from concerns of extreme inattentiveness of the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, to review the conditions of service of ASA-USL, which has not been reviewed since the last review in 2011, has held the students of the constituent colleges of the University of Sierra Leone (FBC, IPAM & COMAHS) hostage to profound uncertainties right at the middle of examinations.

It is, but, very apparent that the concerns and demands of ASA-USL are genuine and very reasonable in the face of a national economy that has attracted inflation of about 137% since 2011 to date, while the salaries of Lectures remain the same. It becomes even difficult to discuss, when what ASA-USL members are rightfully due has not been given to some of them for months now. And at the centre of ASA-USL's strike action, resulting from the failure to act on the part of the USL Administration, and the Ministry of Education, lies a range of effects that utterly deprive students across USL, the chance to write exams and being relieved thereof for holidays.

As Students' Union Presidents from all three campuses of USL, we want to communicate publicly to the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone, USL Administration and ASA-USL our dissatisfaction and frustration in the inability expressed thus far by the negotiating parties in handling this issue within the shortest possible time. We the students have exercised patience and restraint in respecting the table of dialogue, believing that something good was going to come out of the negotiations in days past. The depression or psychological effect this has on students cannot be measured.

At this point, to demonstrate reasonable respect for the negotiation table which has been prolonged considerably, we want to make it clear that our limit of restraints and reliance on a positive outcome from the ongoing negotiations does not go beyond Friday, 27th November 2020, 5:00 PM. We say this with the strongest of convictions that: should there be no positive result informing us of a

swift continuity of exams, starting Monday 1st December 2020, we the students will make our voices heard even harder in ways provided for by law.

We will continue to talk to students across the three campuses of the University of Sierra Leone to stay calm in preparedness for the continuity of exams, and rely on the enduring leadership of the various Students' Union Governments across three campuses to continue to lead and help bring the desired result. We will keep you posted with the relevant updates as they come in, and we will also openly inform you as to our next move as a combined force.

SIGNED AND APPROVED BY:



Augustine Bona

Students' Union President

Fourah Bay College



Dwight J.H. Nicol

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COMAHS



Salamatu Suma Jalloh

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