

Investigating the Rudiments of *Access Must Rise and Fees Must Fall* in the Tertiary Institutions of Learning in Selected African Countries

Akeem Adewale Oyelana

***Department of Public Administration, University of Fort Hare, P.B. X1314,
Eastern Cape, Alice, 5700, South Africa
E-mail: olatokunboliso2012@gmail.com***

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ABSTRACT Education plays a major role in the socio-economic growth and development of a nation. The rights of students in the tertiary institutions of learning in South Africa should not be handled with levity. The objective of this paper was to examine the causes of *access must rise and fees must fall* in South African tertiary institutions of learning. This paper used a literature review methodology and presented the following investigative findings pertaining to the causes of *access must rise and fees must fall* in South African tertiary institutions of learning and made recommendations to the government pertaining to various actions that should be taken to protect the rights of students by ensuring that they all have equal access to infrastructural facilities and obtain financial support to study in any university of their choice. The findings from this study revealed that the majority of the students are affected by the poor social infrastructural facilities and lack of financial support as well as the increase in the tuition fees raised by the government. The review confirmed that the majority of the students in higher institution of learning will be adversely affected by these challenges because they come from poor families and they cannot continue to study in environments that are not conducive. The paper also identified the need for preventing all these quandaries and predicaments in the higher institutions of learning in South Africa by providing an insight into further research regarding the institutional weaknesses and policy issues. The paper made the following recommendations: the government should collaborate with other governmental organisations and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) as well as other private groups to alert and educate them on the need to support her in order to enable her effectively finance and provide conducive and enabling learning and living conditions for the students in various tertiary institutions of learning in South Africa.