



## PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*(Georgetown/Guyana/Turkeyen/12.03.2023/No Lawsuit Served on UG by Wayne Forde)*

### NO LAWSUIT SERVED ON THE UNIVERSITY OF GUYANA BY WAYNE FORDE

The University of Guyana wishes to thank the numerous persons who have reached out to express their disgust at what they perceive to be a campaign against the University by former employee Dr. Wayne Forde using social media and some sections of the local press.

Dr. Forde, over the last two days, has enjoined two newspapers in perpetuating a gross untruth in the public domain by publishing an unsubstantiated Letter to the Editor *December 2 (Stabroek News)* and *December 3 (Village Voice)* stating that the University is a defendant in a lawsuit for defamation.

*As at the date of writing this statement (December 3) neither the University nor its lawyers have been served by any Court with any documents relating to a defamation suit from Dr Wayne Forde.*

However, should any such document arrive at any point in the future, the University would hope the matter is addressed urgently by the Courts since the University has no intention to, and in **fact, not** wronged this person in any way at any time.

It is regrettable that the nation's attention should be directed to such a scurrilous and frivolous personal matter at this difficult time in our country's history by media outlets who may now have unwittingly enjoined themselves in the legal case by publishing Forde's letters on the matter without validation and fair comment from the University.

Nevertheless, the University of Guyana remains committed to justice and fair play and should any legal actions ensue would expect to be totally vindicated in Court.

The University once again wishes to remind that verification and validation remain important aspects of responsible and fair journalism and for the avoidance of legal penalties. The University is always willing to avail itself to the media for comment or verification so that all ethical tenets of journalistic practices can be upheld.

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## UG IN BRIEF

The University of Guyana, now in its 60th year, was founded in October 1963. “UG” as it is fondly referred to offers 160 plus programmes in over 60 disciplines in online, face-to-face or blended formats. UG delivers in a Guyana-based system across eight campuses. It is the largest, oldest, most advanced and only state University in Guyana with a student population of over 10,000.

“UG” has provided education, training and research for over 50,000 alumni over its 60-year history. UG’s national and global impact and footprint are significant. Its graduates have risen to populate the commanding heights of national, regional and international organisations of repute in over 150 different disciplines. The mission of the University is to discover, generate, disseminate and apply knowledge of the highest standard for the service of the community, the nation, and all mankind within an atmosphere of academic freedom, innovation and universal respect.

UG’s forward-thinking Blueprint 2040 is currently setting the course for the University’s future design and institutional response to the changing needs of Guyana, the region and the world. UG is currently celebrating its 60th anniversary and is stepping up its focus on becoming one of the leading and most sought-after educational institutions in the world for both staff and students.

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