

Pc 1/17/25/315

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54 Bowwood Rd.  
Claremont,  
Cape.  
9th December.

Dear Mr. Paton,

I must apologise to you for not writing sooner in this connection, but I have been embroiled in the Graduation Ball issue here at UCT, as acting chairman of the SRC. I do not know if it has been reported fully in your local newspapers, but the gist of it is that the principal of UCT ruled that the ball must be held on a whites only basis. In terms of our SRC policy we could not possibly comply with this and we cancelled the ball. Thus a major dispute arose and I was rushing around for a number of days making ~~xxxxxx~~ statement and interviewing the press.

This has all left me quite exhausted particularly since I have not really had any rest since July, when I began to get involved in all this student activity generally.

I therefore feel that in my present frame of mind and weariness that I would neither do justice to your research work nor enjoy it. Please do not think that I ~~am~~ have no conscience about letting you down, particularly since the person who was supposed to do it before me also let you down.

I spoke to Sen. Rubin about this and explained the position. He felt that you would not mind if I left it for a few weeks and then started it say in January. I should think that by then my exhaustion should have worn off. However if it is important that the work be done soon, I do insist that I find a substitute whom I will refer to Sen. Rubin for his approval, if you agree to this. I am rather inclined to favour the latter plan, since I will have to be drawing up a number of pamphlets for NUSAS and doing considerable administrative work in this connection.

I have mentioned the work to a History (Hons) student who is most interested and I am quite sure that I could find a suitable substitute more qualified than my self. *within a day or so.*

Again I must apologise for backing out, so to speak, at this late stage, but I have been most ~~disappointed~~ depressed at all the dirty washing that has been hung out in this Ball dispute, and my one reaction is to want to get away from it all and to have some time to think and ~~then~~ gather myself together.

I do hope that you will understand,

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Yours sincerely,

*Adrian Leftwich*

Adrian Leftwich.