



The Council Of The Pharmaceutical Society Of Uganda

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INVESTIGATION REPORT ON ALLEGATIONS OF LEAKAGE OF THE PSU 1ST PRE-REGISTRATION EXAMINATIONS 2018

1.0 Background of PSU

The Pharmaceutical society of Uganda is the professional body of Pharmacists in Uganda established under cap 280 of the laws of Uganda. Its governing body is the Council of the Pharmaceutical society of Uganda mandated to secure the highest practicable standards in the practice of Pharmacy. Among the duties of the council is to provide for the conduct of the qualifying examinations for membership of the society or registration as a Pharmacist. In this regard council, organizes Pre-registration exams for persons who have completed internship as a pre-requisite for their membership to the society and registration as Pharmacists with the Pharmacy board.

1.1 Background of the report

On the 22nd of February 2018 the Pre-registration and Pre-internship exams were held from 0900 hrs to 1200 hrs at Pharmacy department, Makerere University. The exam was conducted through PSU's standard examinations procedures which included the following: Verification of the examination area to ensure no traces of papers or any documents, screening by Securex security of every candidate at the entrance in the presence of invigilators to ensure that no prohibited items entered the room, checks by the examinations committee to ensure each candidate had an invitation letter, receipt and their identification, allocation of sitting positions to the candidates as per sitting layouts with a minimum space determined by the examinations committee with a minimum of an arm's length distance among others.

Photographs of the candidates undertaking the exams were taken at different time intervals for record purposes. Candidates that needed to go for a short call had to be



escorted by one of the examiners. No candidate was allowed to leave the examinations room even if they had completed answering the questions before the 3 hours.

After the exams that ended at 1200 noon, a document titled, 'exam retrieve' was sent out through various social media platforms. The social media messages insinuated that the circulating document was the PSU exam which was claimed to have been leaked. Subsequently, allegations of the said document having been accessed before the day of the exam specifically at 12:00 am on the 22nd of February 2018 began circulating. On this basis, council instituted an inquiry into these allegations to establish the truth and take appropriate measures.

2.0 Methodology of investigation

Council used three methods in carrying out the investigation and these were (1) Engagement of Information Technology (IT) experts, (2) Review of the students scripts including carrying of statistical analysis of the marks and (3) One on one interrogation of the IT expert, the candidates who circulated the suspect documents and the pharmacist who claimed to have seen the same questions with some candidates and helped in discussing the questions and subsequent cheating of the exam.

2.1 Information Technologist procedures

Samples of 3 soft copies of documents titled 'exam retrieve' and whatsapp messages sent from different sources to the PSU secretary's phone were forwarded to an IT expert to carry out a forensic analysis and determine the following: (1) establish the time and date when the document was created, (2) Determine the source of the document, (3) Evaluate whether any modifications were made to the document and; (4) make comparisons between the said document and the original examination document kept by PSU. As a quality assurance measure, the forensic analysis was done using various licensed online and offline softwares for consistency of findings.

2.2 Interrogation of named candidates, a pharmacist and the IT expert

Interactions and interrogations were further made with selected candidates by the PSU council subcommittee (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer). The candidates interrogated were namely: David Lwanga, Richard Mukundane, Adamai Samuel, Francis Kawooya and Godfrey Rucungwirwe .A phone interaction was also made with Richard Labalpin, a PSU member who made a social media post on the PSU