Students threaten to burn campus

By MISHECK MAKORA and VELANI LUDIDI
OPEN Stellenbosch student activists threatened to burn down their campus if the University of Stellenbosch continued to threaten them for having “a lawful and peaceful gathering.”

“We advise Stellenbosch to stop using the tactics of universities whose buildings are down when theirs are still standing,” said a student leader yesterday as others cheered.

The student leaders alleged the institution sent e-mails to students, threatening them about a gathering that took place on Tuesday.

The students had gathered to address issues they said needed to be resolved at the institution.

The student activists said they wanted security workers who were fired last year to be reinstated.

They said there was also a need to remove the symbols of white superiority on the campus.

A student leader told Daily Sun: “Students stand in solidarity with the fired workers.

“These workers are our mothers and fathers who were unfairly dismissed by the university after they participated in the students’ protest.

“We bear the responsibility for their reinstatement.”

One of the dismissed workers, Asanda Mthimkulu (35), said when they took part in the strike, the university assured them that they would not be fired. The students will hold another meeting today.

Cape Peninsula University of Technology students threatened to shut down their institution yesterday.

The SRC held a meeting with students, saying they wanted the university to suspend academic activities until all financially excluded students were registered.

They said management should find another residence for students and give them 24 hours to respond, saying they would strike if they were ignored.