

University of Technology, Jamaica

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President: Dr. Kevin Brown, PhD, MEng (Hons),

(University of Nottingham), AMIMechE

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 22, 2025

UTech, Jamaica Moves to Keep Campus Safe and Operational **During Tropical Storm Melissa**

Classes moved online and staff instructed work remotely

The University of Technology, Jamaica (UTech, Jamaica) advises that with a Tropical Storm Watch now in effect for Jamaica, the institution has activated its emergency preparedness and business continuity measures to safeguard the campus community and maintain essential services.

According to the Meteorological Service of Jamaica, Tropical Storm Melissa, located over the Central Caribbean Sea, is expected to affect the island within 48 hours. Heavy rainfall, strong winds, and possible flooding are anticipated across northeastern and southern parishes between Thursday and Friday, October 23-24, 2025, with intermittent rainfall into the weekend.

UTech, Jamaica continues to monitor advisories from the Meteorological Service and the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM). Updates will be issued promptly as conditions evolve.

Operational Arrangements

To protect staff and students while maintaining academic and administrative continuity, the following measures are in effect from Wednesday to Friday, October 22–24, 2025:

- Classes: All teaching activities will be conducted online.
- Staff: Faculty and administrative teams will work remotely and remain available via official University email channels.

- **Residence Halls**: Students may remain on campus or return home based on personal safety considerations.
- Safety & Security: Campus security personnel will remain on duty to safeguard facilities and equipment.

If weather conditions improve during the stated period, normal campus operations will resume. All members of the community are advised to assess local conditions and travel routes before returning to campus.

Health and Well-being Support

The University Medical Centre and Counselling Unit remain accessible to students and staff requiring support during this period.

President Dr. Kevin Brown reaffirmed the University's continued commitment to the well-being of its community, stating, "the safety, health, and well-being of our students and staff remain our highest priority. We continue to provide the necessary support to ensure that everyone stays safe and connected during this time."

Stay Informed

UTech, Jamaica urges all community members and external partners to rely solely on verified information. Official updates will be shared via:

- University's website: www.utech.edu.jm
- Official UTech, Jamaica social media platforms
- UTech email communication channels
- For general inquiries or assistance, please contact:

Customer Service Advocate — <u>customerserviceadvocate@utech.edu.jm</u> Safety and Security Department — 876-970-5170

End.

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