One such student who had applied for the course but was not enrolled even though she had more points than Jaffa’s daughter is Eva Shitatala, who scored 32 points, way above the 25 minimum required.

Ludmilla applied during the application period of 2007, with her Grade 12 August results, which did not comply with the requirements, and her application was unsuccessful. In 2008, pre-selection and registration took place on 31 January, and prospective students needed to produce their final Grade 12 results.

Ludmilla Jaffa’s results were like these: English 3, Biology 3, Mathematics B, Physical Science C, Accounting C, and German C. Such results showed that she did not meet the requirements for the Bio-medical programme because she did not obtain a B-symbol for Physical Science.

On the other hand, Shitatala, who applied with her final Grade 12 results had the following points: Biology B; Mathematics B; Physical Science B; Oshindonga B; Environmental Management C; and English E. She fulfilled the minimum requirements and the additional entry requirements but she was not accepted in the programme.

“This is unfair in the extreme,” said one source. “Ludmilla was supposed to be put on a waiting list. The Registrar may argue that his daughter obtained more points if one counts the symbol for a Polytechnic evaluation scale. But there are no indications that the students with the most points would be accepted. It only says that the minimum and additional requirements are a must.” Sources also say that while pre-selections were conducted by the relevant department, they add that the Head of Department could not waive admission requirements which were approved by the Senate of the Polytechnic of Namibia without input from the Registrar.

“He also should have written an explanation as to why such a decision was made but no where does such documentation exist,” said the Rector. “And the Rector made a poor job of it by not investigating it thoroughly. The management of the current top management of the Polytechnic...”