

---

From the Dean of Engineering and the Built Environment (FEBE)

Communique 4: FEBE academic project status update 8 June 2020

---



Dear faculty staff

Last week, 1 June 2020, was the official start of Term 2 of the revised academic year 2020 (AY2020) and the commencement of the remote and flexible multi-modal teaching and learning as approved by Senate. Some of the feedback received for the first week showed that in many cases both staff and students were excited to be engaging again and that communication is taking place using various platforms suitable for both staff and students for their specific context. At the same time, we acknowledge that there are still some challenges that needs to be addressed and every effort should be made to ensure that all students are given a fair opportunity to complete the academic year. To this end, students were provided with data from different service providers between 1 to 3 Jun. Those students that have not updated their contact details and have not yet received the data should be referred to follow the process communicated in the Newsflash on 4 Jun.

During last week departments also started planning for the initial maximum 33% of students that will be permitted to return to the academic project that aligns with the minister's announcements and government regulations. Under lockdown level 3, priority will be given within this faculty to final year students and PG students on path to graduation in 2020 that require access to laboratories, specialised equipment and software in a phased and staggered approach.

During the past week a number of important Newsflashes were communicated. Please be reminded of:

- 30 May: Student contingency plan
- 31 May: Staff working arrangements and campus protocols
- 3 Jun: Message to graduating students
- 3 Jun: Staff contingency plan (including workplace plan; guidelines on comorbidities; guidelines on leave application scenario's under Covid-19)
- 4 Jun: CPUT Covid-19 Fund
- 4 Jun: Courier service notice
- 4 Jun: Call logging process for students (including students that need to update their cell phone numbers for data connectivity)
- 4 Jun: Update on Covid-19 insurance benefit to staff

The focus for the upcoming week, 8 to 12 Jun, should be on:

---

## Teaching and Learning

- Continuing the remote and flexible multi-modal delivery of the curriculum using an agreed departmental online schedule until such time that students are permitted on campus.
- Printing, packaging and delivery of print material for those students that have indicated they prefer physical material. Clear instructions and expectations from lecturing staff should accompany such material of how students should engage with the material. HoDs have been provided with the process to follow for printing from the faculty manager.
- Submission of the FISA (final integrated summative assessments) for semester 1. All FISAs for semester 1 should be ready for submission to AGC from 8 June as per the revised AY2020 calendar. The process of submission will be finalised and communicated from the faculty manager to HODs for Wed 10 Jun.

- Departments should finalise the revised timetables and planning for the final year students on path to graduation that requires access to laboratories, specialised equipment and software. More detail will be communicated regarding access which is dependent on campus readiness and compliance.

---

## Postgraduate studies

The only groups of Postgraduate student that will be allowed on campus under lockdown level 3 are those on the path to graduating in 2020 that need to finalise laboratory-based work for 100% Masters and Doctorate Research and those that require access to laboratory equipment and other technical equipment for the final year coursework Masters.

The faculty's research coordinator is finalising the plans for the online research methodology course which will include support for proposal writing to all our Postgraduate first year students planned to take place around mid-June. More information will be communicated shortly.

### Contacts

- Faculty Research Coordinator: Prof Tunde Ojumu ([OjumuT@cput.ac.za](mailto:OjumuT@cput.ac.za))
- Postgraduate studies: Ms Taylia Green ([GreenT@cput.ac.za](mailto:GreenT@cput.ac.za))
- Research and Innovation: Nonyaniso Didiza ([DidizaN@cput.ac.za](mailto:DidizaN@cput.ac.za))



---

Finally, I acknowledge that this is a very challenging time for everyone and the well-being of all our staff and students is of utmost importance. To this end there is an **institutional wellness unit to support staff** during this period. Please do not hesitate to contact them should you require personal support. Thank you to all our amazing staff that are working so hard, persevering under very difficult circumstances and doing everything they can to assist our students.



I urge all staff and students to protect and safeguard themselves from the spread of the Covid-19 virus by exercising physical and social distancing; and self-isolation as required, and adhere to all the COVID-19 and government lockdown regulations, guidelines and requirements.

### In conclusion

I want to emphasise again and assure you that the safety of our staff and students are our top priority. CPUT is taking every precaution to mitigate the risks associated with Covid-19 and is in the process of ensuring that all facilities, buildings, and residences are compliant with the return to campus requirements and regulations.

While we all work our way through this uncertain and unfamiliar period, please remember that you are not alone. Your wellbeing is important to us. Please stay safe and we will get through this together.

**Prof Marshall Sheldon**

**Dean of Engineering and the Built Environment**

Cape Peninsula University of Technology | #WeAreCPUT

t: +27 (0) 21 959 6757 | e: [sheldonm@cput.ac.za](mailto:sheldonm@cput.ac.za) | w: [www.cput.ac.za](http://www.cput.ac.za)

PO Box 1906 Bellville 7535 | Symphony Way, Bellville, Cape Town, South Africa

**Covid-19 Emergency Hotline: 0800 029 999 | WhatsApp Support Line: 0600-123456**

---