

RE: Communique 5: Faculty student update 7 Sep 2020

Dear students of the Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment

I trust that this communique finds you and your families safe during this very challenging time for everyone. Since my last communication there has been a number of activities and developments: i.e. the institution and faculty resumed its academic activities as from 17 August and the President on 15 August 2020 announced that the country will move to lockdown level 2 as from 17 August 2020.

Final assessments: From 17 August some departments resumed or continued their final assessments. We are aware that some students could not use the opportunity to participate in the assessment on-campus or online for various reasons. I have received numerous requests from students requesting for additional opportunities, catch-up, reassessments; deferred assessments; etc. Departments are in the process of reviewing the marks for each programme and subject. Challenges experienced by students are being analysed within the context of the policies, procedures and guidelines of the institution. Some students would have already been informed of deferred/reassessments/interventions where departments have concluded the first round of marks review while, other departments will conclude this process in the coming two weeks. I want to reassure you that the departments and the faculty, through the marks review process will discuss and determine, where appropriate, any additional interventions required. This has to be done while maintaining the academic integrity of the programme and at the same time affording everyone a fair opportunity to complete the academic year.

Return to campus under lockdown level 2: As a faculty we are currently working collectively with all other faculties on the plans for the return of the second group of students under lockdown level 2 focussing on the categories as listed in the minister's risk-adjusted strategy in accordance with the Gazette (No. 43414) dated 8 June 2020. This has been an extremely challenging process and we have engaged on various options.

This has taken much longer than anticipated, due to the practical nature of most of the programmes within the faculty. As was the case with lockdown level 3, the number of students that fits into the permitted categories are far beyond the permitted 66%. **The faculty is therefore unable to accommodate all students in all of these categories at the same time.** Therefore, we have to prioritise certain categories, try to maximise the number of students to complete the on-campus practical components of the AY2020 year while, complying with the health and safety regulations. The academic project also has to be planned within the limitations of the permitted 66% of students in residences which further restricts the number of student that can be permitted. HODs will inform the relevant students for their programmes and levels of their respective departments as soon as approval has been granted to all faculties to do so. Students not accommodated in this level 2 categories will continue with the multi-model approach and those that still require practicals on campus will be accommodated at a time when permitted to do so. Any adjustment period required for all study levels will be accommodated in 2021.

International students: Unfortunately, international students currently outside the borders of South African will still only be allowed to return to South Africa under lockdown level 1 as communicated from government. If you are an international student in the faculty please send an email to Nonyaniso Didiza (DidizaN@cput.ac.za) with the following information: student number, name, surname, location (i.e. current address and current country); department; qualification registered; year of study; and indicate whether you intend to return when permitted. Please do so immediately.

Student wellness: We acknowledge that we are working with a diverse group of students with different living and learning environments but can unfortunately not accommodate all the requests received for students to return to campus and residences simultaneously. Students will be accommodated as approval is granted and as permitted under the different lockdown level regulations.

In conclusion

We are mindful of students, staff, families, friends, colleagues that have been affected during this time. I plead with everyone to be more patient, considerate, flexible and caring to one another during this time as the wellbeing of everyone is important for us to move forward as a faculty community, institution and country.

Please stay safe and remember, we will get through this together.

Prof Marshall Sheldon

Dean of Engineering and the Built Environment

Cape Peninsula University of Technology | #WeAreCPUT

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



APPENDIX A: Student queries

Please direct any queries you have as follows:

| Query | Unit | Contact person |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| Academic | Departmental | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemical Engineering (Siyasanga Nqwazi, Email: Nqwazis@cput.ac.za) • Civil Engineering and Surveying (Ms Gaudentia Pretorius (pretoriusg@cput.ac.za) or Ms Wendy Heuvel (heuvelw@cput.ac.za). • Clothing and Textile (Ms Charlene Parenzee; parenzee@cput.ac.za) • ConMan & QuanSurv (Ms Charlene Daniels; Email: DANIELSCH@cput.ac.za) • DEECE: Dr Zak Nkosi, nkosiz@cput.ac.za • Industrial and Systems: (Shahida Ngonda; Email: NgondaS@cput.ac.za) • Maritime Studies: (Theresa Williams williamsth@cput.ac.za) • Mechanical and Mechtronics: National Diploma & Diploma (Mechanical): Dr Msomi (msomiv@cput.ac.za; Mr Meyers (meyersl@cput.ac.za) and Mr Senda (sendap@cput.ac.za) BTech and Advanced Diploma (Mechanical): Mr Kohlhofer (kohlhoferw@cput.ac.za) and Mr Fawkes (fawkesh@cput.ac.za) Postgraduate: Prof Oliver (oliverg@cput.ac.za) Mechatronics: Mr Ayodele (ayodeleo@cput.ac.za) |
| Postgraduate studies | FEBE | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty Research Coordinator: Prof Tunde Ojumu (OjumuT@cput.ac.za) • Postgraduate studies: Ms Taylia Green (GreenT@cput.ac.za) • Research and Innovation: Nonyaniso Didiza (DidizaN@cput.ac.za) |
| Registration and cancellations | Faculty office | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemical Engineering (Evette Festus, festuse@cput.ac.za) • Clotex, DISE, CMQS (Andre Burt, burtac@cput.ac.za) • Civil& Surv (Zaheera Rawoot, rawootz@cput.ac.za) • DEECE (Natalie Booyesen, booyesenn@cput.ac.za) • DMS (Melanie Frieslich, frieslichm@cput.ac.za) • Mechanical & Mechatronics (Nggamane Madonsela, madonselan@cput.ac.za) |
| IT related | CTS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helpdesk: ctsservicedesk@cput.ac.za • Connectivity and data: ctsservicedesk@cput.ac.za • Password/login: ctsservicedesk@cput.ac.za • Blackboard: ctsservicedesk@cput.ac.za |
| Residences | Student affairs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deputy Dean of Students, Mr Tulani Nkuntse, NkuntseT@cput.ac.za |