

## RE: Communique 6: Faculty student update 21 Sep 2020

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Dear students of the Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment

This communication is intended for all students in the following departments and programmes:

- Department of Chemical Engineering (all programmes)
- Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying (all programmes)
- Department of Clothing and Textile (all programmes)
- Department of Construction Management and Quantity Surveying (all programmes)
- Department of Electrical, Electronic and Computer Engineering (all programmes)
- Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering (all programmes)
- Department of Maritime Studies (all programmes)
- Department of Mechanical Engineering (all programmes)

As I write this communique I am cautiously optimistic. There has been a number of developments and activities since my last communique to you. To mention a few, (i) the marks for semester 1 have been largely concluded with some limited reassessments and deferred assessments still taking place; (ii) as the semester 1 results were concluded departments commenced with the start of semester 2 in the multi-modal approach; (iii) arrangements were made for and we have invited selective groups of students to return to campus for lockdown level 2; and (iv) the president has announced that the country will move to lockdown level 1 from mid-night on 20 September 2020.

Due to the continued COVID-19 restrictions in venues even under lockdown level 1, the faculty will not be able to accommodate all students simultaneously. After consultation with HODs, it was agreed that the faculty will be taking a hybrid and phased approach with both on-line and on-campus activities. The semester has already started with multi-modal learning. The focus for the phased return of students on campus will be on prioritising subjects that require on-campus practical's, laboratory work, specialised equipment and software. Students that will be returning to residences will continue with multi-modal learning and return to classes as stipulated in a personalised HOD letter. The way forward to conclude the Academic year 2020 is as follows:

- **Lockdown level 3 (LL3):** Final year students on path to graduation and PG students that required access to laboratories and specialised equipment and were invited under LL3 are continuing their activities during semester 2. At this point departments should have communicated the plans for these groups of students to continue either in the multi-modal mode and the on-campus activities where required for relevant subjects.
- **Lockdown level 2 (LL2):** The on-campus activities for selected groups of students identified to return under LL2 will commence on 28 September. Only those students who received their letters last week can proceed to return to class. Departments will communicate the planned timetables, relevant academic activities, dates and times. Please check your official student email, and if you did not receive a personalised letter to return to campus then you were not part of the initial identified group to return yet. You will be supported through the multi-modal approach until such time that you are permitted back on campus as part of the lockdown level 1. Personalised student letters for the additional groups of students that were originally planned under LL2 will be sent out later this week with the planned commencement of classes from 12 October after the mandatory quarantine period for students traveling across provincial boundaries.

- **Lockdown level 1 (LL1):** Following the president's announcement, as a faculty we are finalising plans for the return of the final group of students for LL1 collectively and in conjunction with other faculties, student support units and under the guidance of the institution's management. This is to ensure that while doing so we still comply with the required COVID-19 health and safety regulations. Under lockdown level 1 there are still restrictions such as for example the 50% capacity per venue; a maximum of 250 inside and maintaining physical distancing. So this will again require careful consideration and planning of various academic and non-academic aspects with input from various stakeholders including the health and safety unit. The plan is for this group to continue in the multi-modal mode in the meantime with the intension of commencing with on-campus activities later in October 2020. Please do not return to campus until you have been given a date for the commencement of classes. The HOD letters with the commencement dates will be communicated to you by 2 October.
- **International students:** We look forward to welcoming our international students in the selected groups as indicated above in line with the permitted government international travel regulations.

**COVID-19 health and safety requirements:** As we plan to phase in students up to the 100% allowed under the eased lockdown level 1 restrictions, I want to remind all students of the importance of adhering to the COVID-19 health and safety regulations; wearing of masks; maintaining social and physical distancing; and the regulated restrictions related to capacity and maximum numbers in venues. I have received reports of various transgressions on the part of students and my reminder to all of you is to adhere to the regulations. My concern is for the safety and well-being of all staff and students while on campus. Health and safety is not only a compliance requirement but it is everyone's responsibility to protect each other.

I want to use this opportunity to thank all students that are continuing their academic activities both on- and off-campus under very difficult circumstances. Academic staff, who in many cases have challenges of their own while working from home really are trying their best to deliver the academic project under very difficult circumstances. Where they were unable to adhere to certain requests I am sure it is not due to a lack of trying.

### In conclusion

The cautious optimism is amidst the continued existence of the pandemic that will remain with us for months to come. We remain mindful of those staff, students, families, friends, colleagues that have been affected during this time. The wellbeing, health and safety of everyone off- and on-campus is of utmost importance as we move forward as a faculty community, institution and a 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"> <li>• <b>Chemical Engineering</b> (Siyasanga Nqwazi, Email: <a href="mailto:Nqwazis@cput.ac.za">Nqwazis@cput.ac.za</a>)</li> <li>• <b>Civil Engineering and Surveying</b> (Ms Gaudentia Pretorius (<a href="mailto:pretoriusg@cput.ac.za">pretoriusg@cput.ac.za</a>) or Ms Wendy Heuvel (<a href="mailto:heuvelw@cput.ac.za">heuvelw@cput.ac.za</a>).</li> <li>• <b>Clothing and Textile</b> (Ms Charlene Parenzee; <a href="mailto:parenzeec@cput.ac.za">parenzeec@cput.ac.za</a>)</li> <li>• <b>ConMan &amp; QuanSurv</b> (Ms Charlene Daniels; Email: DANIELSCH@cput.ac.za)</li> <li>• <b>DEECE</b>: Dr Zak Nkosi, <a href="mailto:nkosiz@cput.ac.za">nkosiz@cput.ac.za</a></li> <li>• <b>Industrial and Systems</b>: (Shahida Ngonda; Email: <a href="mailto:NgondaS@cput.ac.za">NgondaS@cput.ac.za</a>)</li> <li>• <b>Maritime Studies</b>: (Theresa Williams <a href="mailto:williamsth@cput.ac.za">williamsth@cput.ac.za</a>)</li> <li>• <b>Mechanical and Mechtronics</b>: National Diploma &amp; Diploma (Mechanical): Dr Msomi (<a href="mailto:msomiv@cput.ac.za">msomiv@cput.ac.za</a>; Mr Meyers (<a href="mailto:meyersl@cput.ac.za">meyersl@cput.ac.za</a>) and Mr Senda (<a href="mailto:sendap@cput.ac.za">sendap@cput.ac.za</a>) BTech and Advanced Diploma (Mechanical): Mr Kohlhofer (<a href="mailto:kohlhoferw@cput.ac.za">kohlhoferw@cput.ac.za</a>) and Mr Fawkes (<a href="mailto:fawkesh@cput.ac.za">fawkesh@cput.ac.za</a>) Postgraduate: Prof Oliver (<a href="mailto:oliverg@cput.ac.za">oliverg@cput.ac.za</a>) Mechatronics: Mr Ayodele (<a href="mailto:ayodeleo@cput.ac.za">ayodeleo@cput.ac.za</a>)</li> </ul>
Postgraduate studies	FEBE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faculty Research Coordinator: Prof Tunde Ojumu (<a href="mailto:OjumuT@cput.ac.za">OjumuT@cput.ac.za</a>)</li> <li>• Postgraduate studies: Ms Taylia Green (<a href="mailto:GreenT@cput.ac.za">GreenT@cput.ac.za</a>)</li> <li>• Research and Innovation: Nonyaniso Didiza (<a href="mailto:DidizaN@cput.ac.za">DidizaN@cput.ac.za</a>)</li> </ul>
Registration and cancellations	Faculty office	<p>Faculty officer, Mr Badroen Cassiem (<a href="mailto:CassiemB@cput.ac.za">CassiemB@cput.ac.za</a>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chemical Engineering (Evette Festus, <a href="mailto:festuse@cput.ac.za">festuse@cput.ac.za</a>)</li> <li>• Clotex, DISE, CMQS (Andre Burt, <a href="mailto:burta@cput.ac.za">burta@cput.ac.za</a>)</li> <li>• Civil&amp; Surv (Zaheera Rawoot, <a href="mailto:rawootz@cput.ac.za">rawootz@cput.ac.za</a>)</li> <li>• DEECE (Natallie Booysen, <a href="mailto:booyseenn@cput.ac.za">booyseenn@cput.ac.za</a>)</li> <li>• DMS (Melanie Frieslich, <a href="mailto:frieslichm@cput.ac.za">frieslichm@cput.ac.za</a>)</li> <li>• Mechanical &amp; Mechatronics (Ngqamane Madonsela, <a href="mailto:madonselan@cput.ac.za">madonselan@cput.ac.za</a>)</li> </ul>
IT related	CTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helpdesk: <a href="mailto:ctsservicedesk@cput.ac.za">ctsservicedesk@cput.ac.za</a></li> <li>• Connectivity and data: <a href="mailto:ctsservicedesk@cput.ac.za">ctsservicedesk@cput.ac.za</a></li> <li>• Password/login: <a href="mailto:ctsservicedesk@cput.ac.za">ctsservicedesk@cput.ac.za</a></li> <li>• Blackboard: <a href="mailto:ctsservicedesk@cput.ac.za">ctsservicedesk@cput.ac.za</a></li> </ul>
Residences	Student affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deputy Dean of Students, Mr Tulani Nkuntse, <a href="mailto:NkuntseT@cput.ac.za">NkuntseT@cput.ac.za</a></li> </ul>