



30 April 2020

Dear colleagues, students and stakeholders

The higher education sector, staff, students and parents are all eagerly awaiting the measures that will be introduced for the 2020 academic year following the easing of the lockdown to Phase 4 from 1 May 2020.

In my previous communique, I mentioned that the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Dr Blade Nzimande, was expected to hold a joint media briefing with the Department of Basic Education today. We have just received an advisory that the media briefing is scheduled to take place at 16:30 today.

I would also like to remind our students of the extended deadline of 1 May 2020 for the TUT Student Online Access Survey. The data gathered from this survey is vital for the integration of our plans for the way forward for the 2020 academic year. I am pleased to report that 998 students have completed the survey since Tuesday, bringing the total respondents to 34 883. I urge all students who have not yet completed and returned the questionnaire to use this last chance and visit bit.ly/2JF4Z6u to complete the questionnaire and have your voice heard.

Today, we also pay tribute to Dennis Goldberg, anti-apartheid activist and one of the last remaining Rivonia Trialists, who has sadly passed away at the age of 87. We acknowledge his unwavering dedication to the fight for freedom in South Africa.

I wish you an enjoyable long weekend. Although the regulations will be eased to some extent from Friday, 1 May 2020, please continue to stay at home and stay safe.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. van Staden'.

PROF LOURENS VAN STADEN
VICE-CHANCELLOR & PRINCIPAL