



10 April 2020

Dear colleagues and students

MESSAGE ON EXTENDED NATIONAL COVID-19 LOCKDOWN

The country and nation has now been under lockdown for two weeks and I trust that you are all safe and healthy.

After President Cyril Ramaphosa's announcement last night of the extension of the nationwide lockdown by another two weeks until the end of April, I write to you to, once again, assure you that you are not alone, we are in this together. It could not have been an easy decision for the President and his Government, therefore I urge the TUT community to support this decision and the accompanying measures to safeguard our nation. It is our civil and social duty to support Government in fighting this virus and the risks it poses to our nation.

The past two weeks have been taxing on all of us, with staff members trying to juggle family responsibilities and a professional life and our students waiting to continue their studies in completely unknown circumstances.

I once again want to thank every staff member who have been working tirelessly to put new ways of work in place to ensure the TUT business can continue, as well as harnessing technology to make academic content available online to enable as many students as possible to continue their studies. I commend the innovation and resilience of our staff members in finding ways to navigate these uncertain times for the benefit of the University.

Easter is one of the most important Christian celebrations for many of our colleagues and students. Although it is not possible to celebrate in the way it is normally done, I would like to wish those who observe the Christian religion, a blessed Easter celebration.

Until we talk again, stay safe, healthy and blessed.

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

PROF LOURENS VAN STADEN
VICE-CHANCELLOR & PRINCIPAL