

**Subject:** COVID-19 UPDATE 36 – IT'S IN OUR HANDS  
**Date:** Friday, 10 July 2020 at 17:34:08 South Africa Standard Time  
**From:** Shirona Patel on behalf of VCO News  
**To:** VCO News  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg

Dear Colleagues

Thank you for all that you have done in recent months – we know that it has been an incredibly difficult time for many of you. As infections in the province rise, we urge you to take care of yourself, and to look after your colleagues and loved ones. Let us continue to work coherently and to act responsibly in the best interests of all members of the Wits community.

### **Number of infections**

There are 40 staff members who have reported testing positive for COVID-19 over the past three weeks (22 June to 10 July 2020), many of whom have been working from home. Sixteen students have also tested positive during this period. All affected staff members and students are self-isolating, in line with the University's COVID-19 protocols.

### **The passing away of a staff member**

Mr Stanley Nkanyangi, a Supervisor in the Parking Office, passed away this week. At this stage we are still unsure of the cause of his death. Please take a moment to remember him and all those who have passed away.

### **Our responsibility**

We are all responsible for taking care of ourselves and others in our community. With the permission and support of your line manager, if you are able to work from home, please continue to do so. However, if you are required to report for duty on campus, please follow the University's approved COVID-19 protocols.

To protect yourself and others, **always** do the following:

- Complete the daily [screening process](#) via the Wits App BEFORE entering campuses,
- Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and dry properly,
- Wear your mask over your nose and mouth (or the appropriate PPE in specialised areas) at all times,
- Stay at least 1.5 metres from any other person,
- Sneeze or cough into your elbow, and
- Follow all COVID-19 University protocols and rules.

### **Resources and posters**

View Wits' COVID-19 educational toolkit here: <https://www.wits.ac.za/covid19/wits-resources/>.

### **It's in our hands**

Our actions today will impact on our collective futures tomorrow. Let us take the necessary precautions to ensure that we do our best to protect our colleagues, students, friends and other members of our community.

We are in this together.

Keep safe.

**SENIOR EXECUTIVE TEAM**

**10 JULY 2020**