COVID-19 UPDATE (30) – WITS PREPARES FOR THE RETURN OF SOME STUDENTS FROM 8 JUNE 2020

Dear Colleagues and Students

We have spent almost two months in lockdown and we understand that the restrictions may be taking a toll on some students and staff members. If you do need help, please make use of the University’s health and wellness services available to staff and students.

On another note, President Cyril Ramaphosa announced last night that the entire country would be moving to level 3 restrictions. He said that all higher education institutions should have remote teaching and learning plans in place to ensure that all students had an equitable chance of completing the 2020 academic year. He added that all students who could study or work from home should do so. Finally, he confirmed that final year students and other groups of students would be allowed to return to public universities from June 2020, provided that all the requisite preparations were in place and that no more than one third of the total University community returned.

The University has developed a schedule for the planned return of students and staff at level three and subsequent levels. Senior executives and managers will refine the plan and will advise on Friday, which student groups should return to campus from 8 June 2020.

The next two weeks will be used to ensure that our campuses are prepared for the return of students and staff, and that all the requisite screening, cleaning, sanitising and personal protection equipment is in place before members of the community return to campus. Further details will follow later this week.

In the interim, keep learning and working from home.

Take care and keep well.

SENIOR EXECUTIVE TEAM

25 MAY 2020