

UNIVERSITY STATEMENT

14 August 2020

Dear staff and students

COVID-19 UPDATE

We are devastated to announce that one of our students, Mr Cassius Luvuno, has sadly passed on due to COVID-19 related complications. According to feedback that we have received, Mr Luvuno was not on campus at the time of his illness. However, the response guidelines will be implemented as per the COVID-19 protocols.

Mr Luvuno was completing his Masters of Health Sciences in Medical Laboratory Science, in the Department of Biomedical and Clinical Technology at DUT. We convey our most sincere condolences to his family, friends and colleagues. May his soul rest in peace. We also pass on our sympathies to the staff and students in the Department of Biomedical and Clinical Technology and in the Faculty of Health Sciences. We have already contacted Mr Luvuno's family and our Student Services Department will be providing them with support, at this very difficult time.

Here are the latest COVID-19 statistics for DUT:

Total number of cases:	83	
Total number of staff (positive):	42	
Total number of students (positive)	41	
Total number of recoveries:	17	(11 students and 6 staff)
Total number of deaths:	2	(1 student and 1 staff)
Number of new cases this week:	9	
Number of new cases (staff):	3	
Number of new cases (students):	6	
Location of new cases: DBN	9	
Location of new cases: PMB	0	
Has contact tracing commenced for new cases:	Yes	
Has disinfection of areas commenced for new cases:	Yes	

We will continue to pray for our staff and students who are fighting COVID-19 and we eagerly await their safe and successful return to good health.

Earlier this morning, the South Africa Medical Research Council announced that South Africa's coronavirus outbreak appears to be slowing, with health officials indicating that a number of provinces have reached or passed their peak. The situation in KwaZulu-Natal remains a concern, with the province now showing the second biggest amount of positive cases, behind Gauteng. Therefore, we urge all staff and students to remain vigilant and to follow the public health guidelines. This will help limit and prevent the further spread of COVID-19:

- Wear a face mask whenever you leave your place of residence.
- Practice physical and social distancing, stay a minimum of 1.5 metres apart from other people.
- Do not gather in groups.
- Wash your hands regularly, using water and soap for a minimum of 20 seconds.
- Disinfect frequently touched surface areas.

The reality is that the COVID-19 pandemic has not passed but rather, it has slowed down in South Africa. We cannot become complacent; several countries who assumed that the pandemic had eased, have since seen a resurgence in the last week. So please continue to take this disease seriously and protect your health and those of your family, friends and colleagues.

Please remember to use the **HealthCheck** online screening form **before** you enter the DUT campus. <https://healthcheck.higherhealth.ac.za/>

For those who cannot use the HealthCheck online form, manual screening is taking place at all campus entrances. The manual screening does take time, so please be prepared for delays. We also remind you that the use of a **face mask** is **compulsory** whilst you are on campus or in residence.

DUT has a dedicated email address for all COVID-19 related enquiries. You can email your questions and comments to: covid-enquiries@dut.ac.za

A COVID-19 telephone hotline service is in place at DUT. The hotline will be staffed during office hours, Monday to Friday. The telephone number is: **031 373 3760**.

Sincerely

DUT COVID-19 Response Task Team



DUT
DURBAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
INYUVESI YASETHEKWINI YEZOBUCHWEPHESHE

PREVENTING CORONAVIRUS

PROTECT YOURSELF

AVOID TOUCHING
your eyes, hands
and mouth.

ENSURE THAT YOU
sneeze/cough into a
tissue – discard the
tissue immediately
thereafter.

STEER CLEAR
of individuals
who are ill.

**REGULARLY WASH
YOUR HANDS**
with antibacterial
soap and warm water,
for a minimum of
20 seconds.

DISINFECT
objects and
surfaces that you
are frequently in
contact with.

If in doubt, please call the NICD helpline on **0800 029 999**