



HEFMA MEETING

IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON UNIVERSITY BUSINESS

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INTRODUCTION

- ❖ **The MUT-HEFMA Institutional Members are as follows;**
- 1. Lindokuhle Mzolo – Infrastructure Project Coordinator & HEFMA Co-Director: Staff Development & Training**
- 2. Muzi Khumalo – Senior Director: Operations**
- 3. Malindi Xala – Director: Infrastructure Delivery**
- 4. Kenyata Makhoba – Works Manager: Maintenance**



PURPOSE OF PRESENTATION

1. The purpose of this presentation is to share;
 - **MUT's experiences on the impact of Covid-19 pandemic on MUT business**
 - **lessons learnt**
 - **MUT's response to Covid-19**



DISCUSSION

1. Like all Institutions MUT has suffered immensely due to Covid-19 outbreak and the subsequent National Lockdown as declared by the State President of the Republic of South Africa.
2. The University core business of Teaching & Learning was immediately stopped at the eve of national Lockdown resulting to regrettable disruption of academic programme.
3. Apart from the considerable disruption of the academic calendar, the institution has had to incur cost implications on stalled projects with effect from commencement of lockdown to date.
4. All our Students accommodated in either University owned or leased residences have had to evacuate residences.
5. All Contracted services including Cleaning & Hygiene, Landscaping & Catering have had to be put on hold for the past two months.
6. Only Security services have been working continuously given the critical nature of their service to the university.
7. MUT has had to reprioritize R190 million worth of funds originally allocated for Infrastructure Development towards remote Teaching & Learning Programmes.



MUT's RESPONSE TO COVID-19

- ❑ In response to the pandemic the Institution has put the following measures in place in line with the Covid-19 regulations as set out by Government;
- ❖ MUT has established a Covid-19 Task Team (CTT).
- ❖ The task team has developed Standard Operating Procedures that have been presented and noted by EMC.
- ❖ MUT has set aside a budget specifically for Covid-19 related purchases (budget is yet to be approved however it covers for the purchasing of PPE, sanitizing equipment , frequent cleaning, training and awareness through posters etc).
- ❖ We are placing sanitizing equipment at strategic places for ease of accessibility to staff and students
- ❖ There is a phasing in of employees within each department in order of essentiality of work and therefore each HOD must conduct risks assessments to determine departmental requirements for the purpose of meeting the regulations.
- ❖ MUT Human Resource Department has developed a policy that speaks to sick leave related to Covid-19 illness or where staff have to vacate premises due to a decontamination and disinfection should it be required where a staff test positive for Covid-19.



MUT's RESPONSE TO COVID-19 (Continued)

- ❖ The university has identified 2 spaces that will be utilized as isolation rooms. These are close to the gate and therefore should someone need to be isolated they will be able to use these room whilst awaiting direction of where to go for testing.
- ❖ The CTT has also developed requirements for a Compliance Officer which will be appointed through HR Recruitment processes.
- ❖ The Institutions has phased Procurement of Personal Protective Equipment.
- ❖ There will be Screening at all University access points before access to the campus is granted.
- ❖ All Offices, Lecture Venues, meeting venues, Residences University Fleet etc are being deep cleaned & sanitized.
- ❖ There is Phasing in of return of Students as per the department of Higher Education Guidelines.
- ❖ We are Procuring services of Construction Health & Safety Practitioners for Strict Enforcement of Health & Safety Compliance for resumption of Construction Projects.
- ❖ Attendance of Compulsory Tender Briefing Sessions will be put on hold.
- ❖ The Principle of Social Distancing is and will continue to be observed.



LESSONS LEARNT

1. Covid-19 has taught us to capitalize in use of technology at our disposal.
2. While working from offices has been prohibited under strict lockdown regulations, many university members of staff have been working from home.
3. Meetings have been held virtually *i.e* through Apps like MS Teams, Zoom etc.
4. Covid-19 has taught us to improve communicating in writing.
5. It has also compelled us to make considerable progress towards realization of Remote/ E-Learning which has been a University long-term goal for some time.
6. In essence due to covid-19 we have learnt to do things differently but efficiently.



CONCLUSION

1. It can be concluded that;

- ❖ The pandemic has inversely impacted on the university business & operations.
- ❖ Covid-19 has necessitated the realization of remote teaching & learning
- ❖ The institution has incurred & will continue to incur unforeseen cost implications due to standing time owing to the lockdown & reduced production upon gradual easing of lockdown restrictions.
- ❖ The pandemic has taught us to do things differently and still be efficient.
- ❖ The Institution is preparing & getting ready to receive some of the staff & students in line with level 3 lockdown regulation.



CONCLUSION (Continued)

THANK YOU!

THE END!!!



QUESTIONS, COMMENTS ETC

