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27 March 2020

Dear SBL Student

Coronavirus Pandemic: SBL during the 21-day National Lockdown

Global and local events related to the spread of COVID-19 are rapidly unfolding. Our daily routines have been disrupted by constant news streams advising us of the latest developments, new impacts and tips and trends in mitigating against the spread of the virus.

On Monday 23rd March 2020, a week after he declared the coronavirus pandemic a national disaster, the President of the Republic of South Africa, his Excellency, President Cyril Ramaphosa, has announced a drastic new measure to combat the spread of the Covid-19 coronavirus in South Africa – a three-week lockdown with severe restrictions on travel and movement. The Graduate School of Business Leadership (SBL) commends the President for the resilient and decisive leadership he has provided.

The University of South Africa (Unisa) has come to grips with this new reality that is facing us. As an ODeL institution, the university realises that it is perhaps less affected than other sister institutions when it comes to serving students. That is why Unisa management has implemented several measures and protocols that would enable its staff to continue servicing you, our valued student, with integrity, loyalty and commitment during this lockdown period.

In line with the above the SBL closed its physical campus on Thursday, 26 March at 12:00. The SBL however remains steadfast in its commitment to continue to serve our students. In this regard the SBL management has put measures in place for essential staff members to operate from home during this lockdown period. You are encouraged to make use of the electronic delivery system (*edsonline*) as well as emails to engage with academic. Regular updates regarding any arrangement that will impact on your academic journey will also be shared on this platform.

Students may also direct any enquiries directly to managers in the table below. Kindly note that due to limited staff availability to assist with enquiries, you would need to kindly allow us a maximum of 48 hours to respond to your enquiry.



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Be assured that the university's leadership is doing everything possible to ensure that your academic journey is least impacted negatively by this lockdown. We further commit to communicate as frequently as possible to keep you apprised of any arrangements or changes that might impact your academic programme.

We appreciate your understanding and support and wish that you and your families remain safe and healthy during these uncertain times.

Yours sincerely

Matta

Prof Cyril N Mbatha Acting Executive Dean

