



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

COLLEGE OF FELLOWS

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UCT COLLEGE OF FELLOWS STATEMENT ON COVID-19 VACCINATION

The UCT College of Fellows is a distinguished body of world class Professors, consisting of over 90 Fellows representing more than 40 academic disciplines in which they have individually excelled. Fellowships of the University of Cape Town are awarded to members of the permanent academic staff in recognition of original, distinguished academic work that merits special recognition (<https://www.uct.ac.za/main/explore-uct/awards/fellows>). The UCT College of Fellows meets quarterly and has one annual event to welcome new members and recognise UCT researchers awarded the College of Fellows Young Researcher awards.

The University of Cape Town College of Fellows wishes to make known the following:

- There is robust scientific evidence that vaccination against SARS-CoV-2 is highly effective in preventing severe COVID-19 and COVID-19 related deaths. Vaccination also reduces milder COVID-19 infections and SARS-CoV-2 transmission. Data from many trials and observational studies demonstrates that the benefits of vaccination far outweigh potential risks of very rare severe side effects.
- The College of Fellows supports calls for a requirement that all staff and students of UCT provide acceptable proof of having been vaccinated against SARS-CoV-2, before engaging in in-person group activities. Such face-to-face group interaction is an essential component of the academic project allowing the university to achieve its full potential. Given the likelihood of the pandemic continuing into 2022, a responsible return to normal academic activity will only be possible if all staff and students are vaccinated.
- The College of Fellows is planning to hold its annual event in November 2021. It has been agreed that all those who attend must provide proof of vaccination. Other COVID-19 prevention measures will also be in place; this includes the event being held outdoors, wearing of masks and regular sanitizing. We have implemented all these measures for the event because each individual measure contributes, when applied in combination, to reducing the risk of transmission to a low enough level that makes it acceptable to resume such a gathering.
- The College calls on all members of the University community to promote a commitment to universal vaccination, through carefully-crafted public health messaging in the case of the Executive, and awareness-raising whenever possible by both the Fellows and all members of the university community. Concerns that fellow citizens have about vaccination should be addressed with respect and empathy and informed by the best scientific evidence regarding SARS-CoV-2 vaccination.

Yours sincerely



Professor MAMOKGETHI PHAKENG

Vice-Chancellor and Chairperson of the College of Fellows, on behalf of the College of Fellows, UCT.

Copies: A/Professor L Lange, DVC – Teaching and Learning
Professor S Harrison, DVC – Research and Internationalisation
Emeritus Professor M Hall, DVC – Transformation (Acting)

College of Fellows:

Professor Jane Alexander - Michaelis School of Fine Art
Emeritus Professor Mark Alexander - Civil Engineering
Professor Igor Barashenkov - Mathematics and Applied Maths
Professor Karen Barnes - Clinical Pharmacology
Professor Linda- Gail Bekker - Desmond Tutu HIV Centre
Emeritus Professor Solomon Benatar - Medicine
Professor Haroon Borat - Economics
Professor Jonathan Blackburn - Infectious Disease & Molecular Medicine
Professor Susan Bourne - Chemistry
Emeritus Professor George Branch - Biological Sciences
Professor Frank Brombacher - Pathology
Emeritus Professor Douglas Butterworth - Mathematics and Applied Maths
Emeritus Professor Mino Caira - Chemistry
Professor Kelly Chibale - Chemistry
Emeritus Professor David Chidester - Religious Studies
Professor Anusuya Chinsamy-Turan - Zoology
Professor Malcolm Collins - Human Biology
Emeritus Professor Hugh Corder - Public Law
Professor Keertan Dheda - Pulmonology
Emeritus Professor Cesareo Dominguez - Physics
Emeritus Professor Robert Dorrington - School of Management Studies
Professor Peter Dunsby - Mathematics & Applied Maths
Professor Timothy Egan - Chemistry
Emeritus Professor George Ekama - Civil Engineering
Emeritus Professor George Ellis - Mathematics & Applied Maths
Professor Johan Fagan - Division of Otorhinolaryngology
Professor Jill Farrant - Molecular & Cell Biology
Professor Mark Fleishman - Centre for Theatre, Dance & Performance
Professor Lucy Gilson - Division of Health Policy & Systems
Emeritus Professor Charles Griffiths - Biological Sciences
Emeritus Professor Martin Hall - Archaeology
Professor Susan Harrison - Chemical Engineering
Professor Bruce Hewitson - Environmental & Geographical Science
Emeritus Professor John Higgins - English Language & Literature
Emeritus Professor Gregory Hussey - Health Sciences
Professor George Janelidze - Mathematics and Applied Maths
Emeritus Professor Renee Kraan-Korteweg – Astronomy
Professor Mike Lambert - Exercise Science & Sports Medicine
Professor Vicki Lambert - Human Biology
Professor Murray Leibbrandt - Economics
Professor NAomi Levitt - Endocrinology & Diabetology
Professor Alison Lewis - Chemical Engineering
Professor Crick Lund - Psychiatry & Mental Health
Professor Gary Maartens - Clinical Pharmacology
Professor Aubrey Mainza - Chemical Engineering
Emeritus Professor Michael Meadows - Environmental and Geographic Science
Professor Graeme Meintjes - Medicine
Professor Peter Meissner - Integrative Biomedical Sciences
Emeritus Professor Robert Millar - Biochemistry & Structural Biology
Professor Valerie Mizrahi - Infectious Disease & Molecular Medicine

Emeritus Professor Vincent Moran - Weed BIO Control Unit
Professor Nicola Mulder - Computational Biology
Professor Landon Myer - Public Health and Family Medicine
Emeritus Professor Luigi Nassimbeni - Chemistry
Emeritus Professor Gerald Nurick - Mechanical Engineering
Emeritus Professor Cyril O'Connor - Centre for Minerals Research
Emeritus Professor John Parkington - Archaeology
Professor Edgar Pieterse - African Centre for Cities
Professor Raj Ramesar - Human Genetics
Professor Chris Reason - Oceanography
Emeritus Professor Daya Reddy - Mathematics and Applied Mathematics
Emeritus Professor Allen Rodgers – Chemistry
Professor Don Ross - Economics
Professor Peter Ryan - P.F.I.A. Ornithology
Professor Edward Rybicki - Infectious Disease & Molecular Medicine
Distinguished Professor Philippe-Joseph Salazar - Private Law
Professor Judith Sealy - Archaeology
Emeritus Professor Clifford Shearing - Public Law
Professor Pippa Skotnes - Michaelis School of Fine Art
Professor Mark Solms - Psychology
Professor Dan Stein - Psychiatry & Mental Health
Emeritus Professor Theodor Stewart -Statistical Sciences
Professor Edward Sturrock - Integrative Biomedical Sciences
Emeritus Professor Les Underhill - Biological Sciences
Professor Eric Van Steen - Chemical Engineering
Emeritus Professor Brian Warner - Astronomy
Professor Anna-Lise Williamson - Virology
Professor Carolyn Williamson - Pathology
Emeritus Professor Robin Wood - Desmond Tutu HIV Centre
Professor Heather Zar - Paediatrics & Child Health
Professor Peter Zilla - Cardiothoracic Surgery
Professor Alphose Zingoni - Civil Engineering
