

Dear Colleagues,

In light of the current COVID -19 Pandemic and the effect it has on the closure of the University facilities and resources, we urgently need to ascertain the impact on the University's research activities and to what extent it hampers your ability to deliver in terms of any research contract obligations we have to our contractual partners and/or funders.

The current situation may be considered a force majeure event. If you are unable to perform any of your obligations in terms of a research contract, please liaise directly with the Research Contracts & Innovation (RC&I) Office via email on [innovation@uct.ac.za](mailto:innovation@uct.ac.za). RC&I will communicate and inform the contractual partner and/or funder accordingly.

We also need to get clarity of the number of SFARS and other contracted staff involved in those research projects that are impacted negatively. Please note that under force majeure, the University may be in a situation whereby the salaries of SFARS and other contract staff cannot be charged against the project.

Please complete the table herein below in an Excel spreadsheet and return to [innovation@uct.ac.za](mailto:innovation@uct.ac.za) by no later than close of business on 25 March 2020.

Principal Investigator	Funder	IRMA/ERA number	Are You Able to continue with the Activities (Yes/No/Partly)	If No or Partly does it involve SFARS	If so, how many SFARS members

Yours sincerely

Piet Barnard

Director: Research Contracts & Innovation