

2020 UFS Thought-Leader Webinar Series: Predictions for 2021

Issued by [University of the Free State](#)

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The University of the Free State (UFS) will present the final webinar on 2 December in its Thought-Leader Series in collaboration with *Vrye Weekblad*, as part of the Vrystaat Literature Festival's online initiative, VrySpraak-digitaal with the theme, 'Post-Covid-19, Post-Crisis'.



The political and economic landscape in South Africa was in a logjam before the Covid-19 pandemic. What is likely to happen politically and economically in South Africa in 2021? What needs to happen to get South Africa on the path to recovery? These questions will be addressed by panellists Ms Magda Wierzycka, chief executive officer: Sygnia Group; Ms Zingiswa Losi, president of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu); and Prof. Ivan Turok, SARChI research chair in city-region economies at the UFS and executive director: Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) will look to address.

This year, higher-education institutions globally are situated within a challenging context of Covid-19. Aware of, and

grounded in the reality that the world will not return to the normality of pre-Covid-19, our responsibility as scholars still remains to contribute to public discourse and offer innovative solutions that will impact the lives of people nationally and globally to help them understand and adapt to a new world order.

Against this background and context, this year's debates focused on Post-Covid-19, Post-Crisis with health and modelling, the economy, politics, with the forthcoming webinar on predictions for 2021 as the sub-themes.

Details of the fourth webinar can be found below:

Date: Wednesday, 2 December 2020

Topic: Post-Covid-19, Post-Crisis: Predictions for 2021

Time: 12.30pm-2pm

RSVP: Alicia Pienaar, pienaar1@ufs.ac.za by 30 November 2020

Facilitator:

Dr Max du Preez

Editor: *Vrye Weekblad*

Introduction and welcome:

Prof Francis Petersen

Rector and Vice-Chancellor, UFS

Panellists:

Ms Magda Wierzycka: chief executive officer: Sygnia Group

Ms Zingiswa Losi: president: Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu)

Prof Ivan Turok: SARChI Research Chair in City-Region Economies at the UFS Executive Director: Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC)

▫ **Traditional medicines should be equally supported and fairly researched** 29 Oct 2021

▫ **UFS Department of Nuclear Medicine treats first patient with advanced stage of prostate cancer** 18 Oct 2021

▫ **Fungal infections might be dangerous to Covid-19 patients with severe symptoms in ICU** 18 Oct 2021

▫ **Reaching out to save young lives in rural areas** 5 Oct 2021

▫ **New variants of Covid-19 may prolong the duration of the virus** 30 Sep 2021



University of the Free State

Established in 1904 and situated in the Free State Province in the centre of South Africa, the University of the Free State (UFS) is one of the oldest higher education institutions in the country.

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