

Date: 11 September 2025

Dear Prof Maharaj

Re: **Request for permanent embargo on MSc dissertation of Ms Monique Muller**

We are currently preparing Chapter 3 of Monique Muller's MSc dissertation for publication. As we were adding more details, we discovered that the dataset she used to produce the data for her Chapter 3 was incorrectly merged - a column in the Excel spreadsheet was incorrectly aligned. Neither of us noticed this at the time. All the analyses were perfectly carried out but unfortunately, the results are now skewed.

Because of this we would like to place a permanent embargo on the thesis so that it is not released to the public. Alternatively, we could keep the rest of the dissertation public but redact Chapter 3.

We would like permission to place a full embargo on the thesis so that it does not become public. The intention is that the corrected work would be published.

This request is put forward by myself as Primary supervisor, and supported by co-supervisor Professor Mike Wingfield, and Head of Department of Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology, Dr Pamela de Waal

Thank you for this consideration.

Regards,



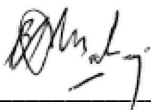
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Co-supervisor



Dr Pamela de Waal
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Signed and approved by:
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Vice-Principal: Research, Innovation and PG Education