



## African Language Association of Southern Africa

29 May, 2020

For the attention of ALASA members and prospective delegates

**Re: Postponement of the 2020 Interim African Languages Association of Southern Africa (ALASA) Conference to 2021**

Dear colleagues

Hope this correspondence finds you in a mint condition. Firstly, let me apologies to you, on behalf of the ALASA Board, for our unresponsiveness to your anxieties in relation to the hosting of the 2020 ALASA conference. It is now apparent that the unprecedented COVID 19 dictates our lives, and it appears that no one knows what the future holds. Hence our response to you at this point in time.

Secondly, I have been in consultation with the ALASA Board, Chair of the Organising Committee (Prof Satyo) as well as the Management of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, at Fort Hare, (Dean Nekhwevha) regarding the postponement of our conference in the light of the pandemic. The general feeling is that we should move the conference to 2021 (Term 1, date to be announced at a later stage). I'm now turning to you to share the same sentiments, with the hope that you will embrace this position.

Finally, I must point out that the University of Fort Hare remains the host of the 2021 ALASA conference. This position was reiterated by both the Management and the Organising Committee.

I call on everyone to practice all the widely known safety measures. I also wish you well as you wade through this unprecedented threat to our lives. We live in hope that this too shall pass.

Sincerely

Professor Monwabisi K Ralarala  
Chairperson: African Languages Association of Southern Africa