MEDICAL STUDENTS AND PREGNANCY

1. Delivery of the curriculum poses a number of identified risks to a student who is pregnant:
   a. The embalmed cadavers contain phenol and formaldehyde – these are hazardous to a foetus.
   b. The pots contain phenol and formaldehyde and may contain arsenic – these are hazardous to a foetus in the event a pot breaks open.
   c. A range of chemicals and pathogens are used in the multi-purpose lab – these may be hazardous to a foetus.
   d. Clinical Skills practicals involve lifting and handling – this should be avoided by pregnant women.

2. There is a range of mitigating measures which can be employed but it is beholden on any student who is pregnant or may be pregnant to bring this matter to the attention of one of the Pro Deans as soon as possible.