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19 April 2021

Dear Prof Phakeng

MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO THE UCT COMMUNITY

On behalf of the entire Stellenbosch University (SU) community, I would like to convey a message of support to you and all your colleagues and students. We are thinking of you in this difficult time as you deal with the aftermath of the devastating fire.

We are grateful that no lives were lost, and we commend you for taking swift action to ensure staff and student safety, which is always the highest priority.

At SU, we are all too familiar with the effect of a disaster of this nature on a campus community's morale. Implementing emergency measures to ensure that the academic project can continue, students are cared for and the campus community is kept informed requires immense effort. At the same time, one has to come to terms with the loss of academic material and campus infrastructure. We also share the UCT community's anguish over the loss of irreplaceable collections, artefacts and artwork of international renown.

As trying as the circumstances may be, however, we know that UCT will emerge stronger and more resilient than before. Please do not hesitate to call on us if we can be of any assistance in the days and weeks ahead.

In solidarity, and with our best regards,

Prof Hester Klopper
Acting Rector and Vice-Chancellor

saam vorentoe · masiye phambili · forward together

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