

19 April, 2021.

Hon Professor Mamokgethi Phakeng,  
Vice Chancellor,  
University of Cape Town,  
Cape Town.

Dear Vice Chancellor,

All of us at our Foundation have followed the horrific news about the fire which has attacked the UCT at its Rondebosch Campus with a feeling of great distress.

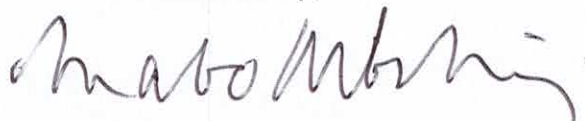
That feeling has been further deepened by the terrible news of the gutting of the Reading Room of the famous Jagger Library, the destruction of some of the priceless Collections domiciled in this Library and serious damage to other University property.

We were very pleased to hear the news that all the students have been safely evacuated and placed in temporary accommodation.

Please accept, dear Vice Chancellor, our sincere appreciation for the work you and your colleagues in the leadership and management of the University have done to manage what obviously was and continues to be a very challenging situation.

Kindly also accept, Honourable Vice Chancellor, our Foundation's commitment to do whatever it can to act in solidarity with one of our country's outstanding centres of learning and research, the UCT, at this moment of a great tragedy.

Yours sincerely,



Thabo Mbeki.  
Patron.