



20 April 2021

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Dear Prof Phakeng,

The Council on Higher Education (CHE) has with a deep sense of sadness been following the news regarding the devastating impact of the fire on Table Mountain, and the effect it has had on the University of Cape Town.

We empathize strongly with the university community, its leadership, its staff and its students on the disruption that has resulted, and on the loss of significant university infrastructure and resources, including the irreplaceable archive material reported to have been destroyed. The impact of the fire will no doubt be felt for some time to come.

The University can take some heart from the outpouring of emotion and support from South Africans as a whole, an indication of the importance and affection that the university holds in the national context.

Please be assured of the support of the CHE during this time, and going forward, as we all work together to rebuild what has been lost.

Yours Sincerely,



Dr Whitfield Green
Chief Executive Officer