



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS  
FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES ASSOCIATIONS DE BIBLIOTHECAIRES ET DES BIBLIOTHEQUES  
INTERNATIONALE VEREINIGUNG BIBLIOTHEKARISCHER VERBÄNDE UND EINRICHTUNGEN  
FEDERACION INTERNACIONAL DE ASOCIACIONES DE BIBLIOTECARIOS Y BIBLIOTECAS  
МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ ФЕДЕРАЦИЯ БИБЛИОТЕЧНЫХ АССОЦИАЦИЙ И УЧРЕЖДЕНИЙ  
国际图书馆协会与机构联合会

الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات ومؤسسات المكتبات

Ms. Ujala Satgoor  
Executive Director  
University of Cape Town Libraries  
Rondebosch  
7700 CAPE TOWN  
South Africa

Date: 20 April 2021  
Our Ref: H7.11/gl/cm  
Subject: Fire at University of Cape Town Library

Dear Executive Director Ujala Satgoor,

It was with a heavy heart that we heard the news of the fire that has damaged both the Jagger Library at the University of Cape Town, as well as other areas of the University and city, this past Sunday.

Our thoughts and best wishes are with the library's staff and patrons, as well as the entire UCT community during what is surely an incredibly distressing time.

Although the loss of the library's Reading Room and damage to collections is devastating, it was a relief to hear that more widespread damage to the library's facilities and collections was prevented. We commend the library's disaster preparedness measures and the safety features that were in place which halted the fire's spread.

IFLA would like to offer what assistance we can as you begin to consider damage assessment and recovery. For example, our Preservation and Conservation (PAC) Centre Network contains a great deal of expertise on disaster recovery. When the time comes, we would be happy to connect UCT Library staff to experts in the PAC Centres to further assist you through these processes.

The international library field is a global network, and as such, we support one another through challenging times. IFLA stands by the University of Cape Town Libraries as you look towards recovery.

Yours sincerely,

Gerald Leitner  
Secretary General