

22 April 2021

**Professor Mamokgethi Phakeng**

Vice-Chancellor: University of Cape Town  
Private Bag X3  
Rondebosch, 7701

Dear Prof Phakeng

In the wake of the recent devastating fire, on behalf of the President, Council and staff of the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf), I would like to offer my solidarity and hope for significant gains in the recovery efforts over the coming days.

I wish you, your staff and students, courage and good luck in the aftermath of this huge crisis.

Yours sincerely,



**Professor Himla Soodyall**  
**Executive Officer: Academy of Science of South Africa**