

Office of the President and CEO
Mastercard Foundation
250 Yonge Street, Suite 2400
Toronto, Ontario M5B 2L7 Canada



April 22nd, 2021

Professor Mamokgethi Phakeng
Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Town
Cape Town, South Africa

Dear Mamokgethi,

I was saddened to learn about the fire at the University of Cape Town and surrounding communities. It was heartbreaking to read about the extensive damage to the Jagger Library and some of its priceless collections as well as other UCT buildings across Rondebosch and Rosebank. Thankfully, until now we have not heard of any serious injuries or loss of life.

This last year of leading the University through the global pandemic has been challenging enough - our hearts go out to you.

I was heartened to read your statement to the UCT community that conveys hope and encouragement to rise together in this difficult time. We understand that the efforts to repair and rebuild as well as recover records are considerable. To assist with these efforts, the Foundation would like to contribute USD \$1 million of the unspent funds from our current partnership under the Scholars Program to assist UCT in its rebuilding efforts. We have been fortunate to have significant program savings, allowing us to strengthen the program and support nearly 150 additional Scholars compared to what was originally committed to, and we would like to contribute a portion of these savings towards rebuilding efforts.

We hope this contribution expedites the rebuilding efforts as UCT continues to pursue its vision 2030 "to unleash human capacity and create a fair and just society". My colleague Phil Cotton and his team will be in touch with further details.

Please continue to stay well and safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Reeta Roy".

Reeta Roy

CC: Philip Cotton

Shona Bezanson