



November 2018

Dear Alumni and Friends

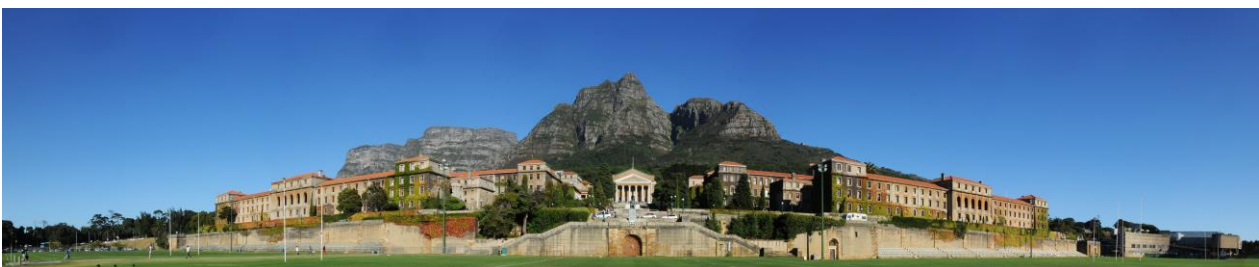
I took office as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cape Town in July this year, having previously been Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research and Internationalisation. As a proud alumnus, it is therefore with enormous pleasure that I write to you to encourage support for your *alma mater's* **Annual Appeal 2018/19**.

It is an honour and a privilege to be asked to lead a world-class institution at such an exciting time, when there are multiple challenges but also multiple opportunities. **UCT's place in the world is to be at the cutting edge**, to forge into the unknown and the unfamiliar, opening new pathways and arriving at new understandings. I have come into this office with a huge sense of responsibility, understanding UCT's reputation for excellence. The three pillars on which I will build my tenure will be ensuring excellence, transformation and sustainability, particularly as this relates to research, teaching and learning, and social responsiveness.

At UCT, we want to make real change happen.

How can you help today? There are a number of opportunities open to you:

- A donation to the **UK Alumni Bursary Programme** will help talented students from historically disadvantaged backgrounds, affording them opportunities which would otherwise be unattainable, and ensuring that UCT continues to provide South Africa with superbly trained professionals and role models. Postgraduate bursaries are needed in particular, to unlock the brilliance of young scholars who have been raised in disadvantaged communities and deeply understand the kinds of problems we need to overcome as a nation – and who have the potential to make an impact through research and academia.
- Support for the increasingly critical **Student Wellness Service** will make an important contribution to promoting the mental health and wellbeing of our students.
- A pledge to the **Schools Improvement Initiative** will help it continue its transformative work in Western Cape primary and secondary schools.



- Contributions to **Distinguishing UCT** will build UCT's endowment and provide a permanent source of funding that will enhance UCT's ability to work towards its vision and mission.
- Support for **The Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance** will help advance excellence in leadership around the African continent.
- Or you can celebrate **SHAWCO's** 75 years of community engagement with a donation to support their work in the townships.

Further details of these projects are attached.

I am proud to be leading a team of talented and dedicated people, and I am committed to advancing and strengthening your *alma mater* for future generations of students. We can all contribute to UCT's quality and growth, and I call upon alumni of Africa's leading university to partner with me as we tackle the challenges that face us and our students, our campus, and our society.

I hope to meet many of you at alumni events in London and elsewhere during my visit to the UK in May 2019, but in the meantime, please do consider making a tax deductible commitment to UCT via the UCT Trust (UK registered charity number 803042). UCT needs your support – to make our vision of being an inclusive, engaged and research-intensive African University a lived reality, and ensure that UCT can continue to address South Africa's developmental challenges and retain its position of excellence on the African continent and throughout the world.

Thank you so much.



Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M Phakeng". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "M" and "P".

Professor Mamokgethi Phakeng
Vice-Chancellor

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You have received this letter because you are an alumnus of the University of Cape Town and have provided UCT with your contact details. UCT holds your data in support of your lifelong relationship with the University and wishes to keep in contact with you to ensure that you have the opportunity to remain engaged with your alma mater. The UCT Trust has access to that data in furtherance of its own charitable purposes. You have the right at any time to request a copy of the personal data held about you by the Trust, by contacting the Trust at uct-trust@tecrcs.net. If you do not wish to receive any more invitations from the UCT Trust, please contact the Trust at uct-trust@tecrcs.net. You can access the UCT Trust's Data Privacy Policy on the Trust's website: www.ucttrust.org.uk.