



Picture: Armand Hough/African News Agency(ANA)

Dear Alumni and Friends

The images of the fire that has ravaged the slopes of Table Mountain since Sunday morning have been seen across the world. The damage to UCT and in particular to the Library, which many of you will remember as Jagger Library, is incalculable. The university has started the slow and measured process of taking stock of the damage and planning out the work that needs to be done.

Our most important priority now is to see to the safety and wellbeing of our students. All students and staff were safely evacuated from the campus, and students are currently accommodated in hotels and other spaces across Cape Town. The generosity of people in and around Cape Town in helping us achieve that cannot be overestimated.

For the next week, we estimate that we will need to feed some 4,000 students and help many to either find longer term accommodation or return to families and friends. UCT asked *Gift of the Givers* to undertake the task of feeding our students, and they are doing so with the support of so many members of the UCT and Cape Town community.

We have received very many requests from alumni asking how they can help. Our immediate priority is to respond to the needs of our students, particularly those that were displaced as a result of the fire. You can do this by donating to the UCT Emergency Relief Fund, the details of which appear below. In time, once the extent of the devastation to our campus has been assessed, we will be able to articulate our efforts to manage the loss of collections, materials and buildings and the ways in which you can assist.

If you would like to support UCT you can do so [online](#) or via your bank account by using the bank details below:

Account name: UCT Donations Account
Bank: Standard Bank of South Africa
Branch code: Rondebosch Branch, 025009
Account number: 07 152 2387
Swift code: SBZAJJ

All university activities have been cancelled until Wednesday 21 April, and the academic programme paused for this week, as assessment of the campus is undertaken by experts and authorities. Updates will be available on the [UCT News website](#) as UCT becomes able to make informed statements about the state of the campus and the affected buildings and assets.

On behalf of UCT, and the 4,000 students who will benefit from your assistance, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Yours sincerely

Gaby Ritchie
Development & Marketing, Faculty of Law

Excellence in Law

Donate

UCT Emergency Relief Fund

Ways to Give

To update your contact details please [click here](#).

UCT Alumni Connect is live - join thousands of alumni and sign up now!