

Vice-Chancellor and Warden

SC/JM/DB

22 April 2021

Professor Mamokgethi Phakeng  
Vice-Chancellor  
University of Cape Town  
Rondebosch 7701  
South Africa

Dear Professor Phakeng,

**Re: Jagger Library**

I wanted to express my sadness at the tragic fire at the University of Cape Town's Jagger Library and surrounding area. It is devastating news for the University, South Africa and indeed the wider world and the loss will be felt for a long time to come.

We greatly value our research relationship with the University of Cape Town (UCT). By working together our researchers are helping to address pressing global challenges in fields such as gender equality, equitable health care provision and climate resilience. This research collaboration also supports the aims of the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU), an organisation we both know well through our involvement on its Council.

We understand that work is still ongoing to understand the extent of the damage caused by the fire to your collections and buildings. We offer our solidarity to everyone in the UCT community and we stand ready to provide our support where we can. Please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,



**Professor Stuart Corbridge**  
**Vice-Chancellor and Warden**