



30 April 2020

Close to R7m raised through UCT COVID-19 emergency fund

Approximately R6.8 million has been raised so far through the University of Cape Town COVID-19 emergency fund, with some of the crucial needs covered including a R16.4 million laptops purchase.

The funds raised have supplemented a separate R30 million UCT Council-approved fund to assist the university with responding to the pandemic.

Some of these generous donors to the COVID-19 emergency fund include African Bank (R100 000), Community Chest (R100 000), the Harry Crossley Foundation (R185 000), the Stella and Paul Loewenstein Trust (R50 000), the Ball family (R100 000), Mr Daniel Maseko (R100 000), Mr Trevor Norwitz (R100 000) and Willis Towers Watson (R600 000). Numerous UCT alumni and staff members have also pledged support.

UCT's Chancellor, Dr Precious Moloi-Motsepe, announced late last month a donation of R5 million by the Motsepe Foundation, and Vice-Chancellor Professor Mamokgethi Phakeng committed 20% of her salary to the fund for a three-month period. This is above and beyond her regular monthly donation of 10% of her salary to the Mamokgethi Phakeng Scholarship Fund and her contributions towards her Adopt-A-Learner education trust and other initiatives.

Professor Phakeng said: "The COVID-19 UCT Emergency Fund demonstrates solidarity and a strong commitment to supporting the most vulnerable members of the UCT community. Any amount will go a long way towards helping our students complete their academic studies so that the UCT community can contribute to the restoration of our country. While the pandemic has placed new demands on everyone, the need to build towards the future is so strong that I have no hesitation in asking for your support."

Donations can be [made online](#) or deposited into the following account:

Bank: Standard Bank | **Account Name:** UCT Donations | **Acc number:** 071 522 387
Branch Code: 025009 | **Acc Type:** Business Current Account | **Swift Address:** SBZAZAJJ

Donors should use COVID-19, initials and surname as reference, and email proof of payment to giving@uct.ac.za so that a S18A tax certificate can be issued for the donation.

The fund has so far helped with needs such as providing transportation for students who needed to return home ahead of lockdown, disinfecting buildings as they were vacated, purchasing laptops and arranging their delivery to needy students, providing personal protective equipment to essential staff members who needed to remain on campus, and purchasing data bundles for students, to name a few.

- READ: [The full communication by Professor Mamokgethi Phakeng.](#)
- VIEW: [View the donations barometer and donor acknowledgements.](#)
- LISTEN: [A short sound clip version of this release.](#)

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