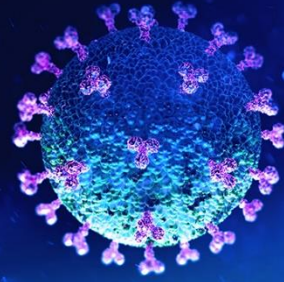




UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA - UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD

Find out more about UCT's approach
to COVID-19 on the UCT website



22 April 2020

UCT sets up COVID-19 emergency fund

The University of Cape Town (UCT) has set up a Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) emergency fund to assist in the fight against the virus and its impact on the UCT community.

In response to the unprecedented situation that resulted from COVID-19, members of the UCT community are urged to rally behind the fight against the pandemic by making contributions to the fund. Any amount by any member of the UCT community – including alumni, staff and students – will go a long way towards assisting UCT readjust to these extraordinary times.

UCT Vice-Chancellor Professor Mamokgethi Phakeng will donate 20% of her salary to the fund for a three-month period. Professor Phakeng already donates 10% of her salary monthly to the Mamokgethi Phakeng Scholarship Fund set up when she took office in July 2018, as well as a substantial contribution towards her education foundation and other initiatives she set-up even before she joined UCT.

WATCH: [Professor Mamokgethi Phakeng announces the 20% donation to the COVID-19 fund during an online update session for UCT alumni held on Tuesday, 14 April 2020.](#)

Donations towards the COVID-19 fund can be [made online](#) or deposited directly 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:** SBZAJJ

The reference is COVID-19 and the full name of donor, and proof of payment should be emailed to giving@uct.ac.za so that a S18A tax certificate can be issued for the donation.

In addition to the COVID-19 emergency fund that has been set up through the Development and Alumni Department, the UCT Council has approved a separate R30 million fund to assist the university with responding to the pandemic.

Some of the funds already raised, including the [R5 million donation by the Motsepe Foundation](#) announced late last month by UCT Chancellor Dr Precious Moloï-Motsepe, have provided an invaluable source of crucial support for UCT in implementing a range of measures to support students during this unprecedented period.

These include the purchase of laptops for students in need to ensure that they would be able to continue with online learning, at an approximate total of R16.4 million. Further funds were utilised to assist with travel arrangements for students after the lockdown was effected by the government, including travel to other African countries.

When the lockdown is lifted and students and staff start making their way back to campus, the funds will support a critical need to ensure the safety of everyone through, among others, the purchasing of all the necessary personal protective equipment.

The setting up of a dedicated COVID-19 fund further underscores the critical need for all – within the university community and the broader society – to work together in this unprecedented crisis and contribute in any way.

ENDS

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