



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD

Congratulations

ALUMNI



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Message from the VICE-CHANCELLOR

Dear Graduate,

Graduation is a time of jubilation, when you reap the rewards of your years of hard work and tenacity at the University of Cape Town (UCT).

It's also an ideal moment to consider the pivotal role of UCT's exceptional academics and support staff, along with your own supportive network of family and friends, in helping you to achieve this celebration of success.

I join your behind-the-scenes supporters in saying how extremely proud you have made us!

You have overcome enormous challenges to qualify for your degree. In the process, you have grown and now you have much to share with others. It is incredibly important that as you go from here, you contribute not only towards the economy, but also towards the lives of others. I encourage you to commit your future to doing good with your skills, to benefit the country and the community of people where you will live and, to help achieve a fair and just society for all.

This is not a new idea. Generations of graduates before you, the UCT alumni of today, have set a time-honoured example of supporting others who may be less fortunate, by becoming a donor to UCT.

Many give not because they have so much more but because they have seen the great need to support higher education for the good of South Africa.

I challenge you to join them – and to take their example further in your own creative way. You don't have to start big. Every small donation is valuable. And you can give in other ways, by encouraging others to give with you, or by volunteering your services to help. We welcome innovative ideas from our alumni!

If you accept my challenge, imagine what a wonderful miracle can unfold in our country. A miracle that is fed by your commitment to give and serve.

Please do keep in touch with your alma mater.

- You can update your details on the UCT Alumni Connect platform: www.uctalumniconnect.com
- The alumni office is just an email away – alumni@uct.ac.za

Congratulations once again and I look forward to seeing you in service, doing good!

Professor Mamokgethi Phakeng
Vice-Chancellor
University of Cape Town





Message from the PRESIDENT OF CONVOCATION

Today is the beginning of the change you have been working for. As you celebrate your individual and collective achievements, remember that the pride you experience today must continue to reflect your actions in society and to the university that gave you a passport to the world with visas into the near and far away lands.

Over the few past years, you built a network that goes beyond the limit of your class and your course of study. The alumni network, to which you belong, is intellectually rich, proudly diverse and deeply connected to South Africa and the world. You earned that spot with your degree and it is extremely important that you, at times, look back with the fundamental answer to the question: How might I strengthen UCT?

In keeping the light of knowledge burning for generations to come, our responsibility is to embrace continuous learning and giving of time and resources to strengthen the future as an inter-generational gift.

Go well and keep blossoming.
All the best!

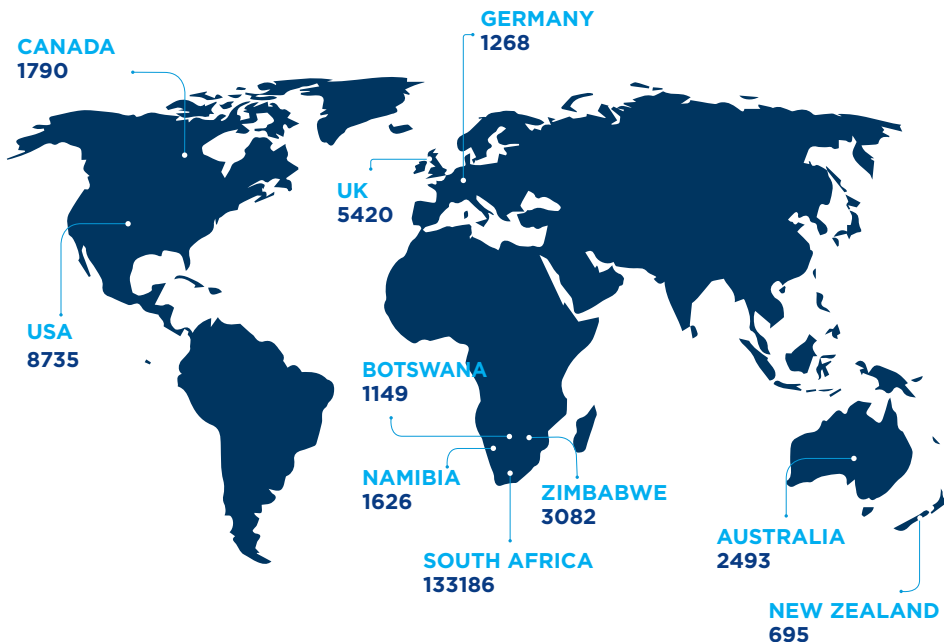
Carl Manlan
President, UCT Convocation

Join a UCT alumni chapter or affinity group

UCT currently has alumni chapters in the following places: Cape Town, Durban, Johannesburg, Port Elizabeth, Botswana, Kenya, Namibia, Uganda, Zimbabwe, New Zealand, Mauritius, New York and Switzerland.

Our alumni affinity groups include: 'The Spirit of 68', The UCT Association of Black Alumni (UCTABA); Smuts Hall Residence and Fuller Residence as well as a new Disability Studies affinity group.

To initiate a chapter in your region, contact our UCT Alumni Relations coordinator, Lu Nteya at: lu.nteya@uct.ac.za



A global community OF UCT ALUMNI

UCT has over **200 000 alumni**, located in **164 countries** around the world. Our university is home to five Nobel Laureates:

- Max Theiler (Medicine)
- Ralph Bunche (Peace)
- Sir Aaron Klug (Chemistry)
- Allan McLeod Cormack (Medicine)
- JM Coetzee (Literature)

We have a large network of alumni ambassadors and chapters, with increasing numbers in Africa. Our international UCT offices are focal points for leveraging institutional and research relationships, as well as donor opportunities.



UCT graduates HAVE THE EDGE

Graduates of the University of Cape Town (UCT) remain among the world's most employable, according to the 2022 Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) Graduate Employability Rankings.



UCT
PLACED

95TH

IN THIS YEAR'S
RANKINGS
WHICH COVERED

550

INSTITUTIONS

DID YOU KNOW?

- The QS Graduate Employability Rankings provide insight into the employability outcomes and prospects of an institution's graduates at a global level.
- This is the second consecutive time that UCT has placed within the top 100.
- The university maintained the leading position among South African institutions and on the continent.
- QS considers five indicators with different weightings.

THE INDICATORS ARE:



Employer reputation (30%): how well reputed the institution is among employers. This indicator is based on more than 75 000 responses to the QS Employer Survey, which asks employers to identify the most competent, innovative and effective graduates.

Alumni outcomes (25%): whether the institution is nurturing high-achievers. This indicator looks at the alumni on more than 150 lists of high achievers.



Partnerships with employers (25%): how connected the institution is to employers. This indicator captures the number of collaborative publications with global companies and work-placement related partnerships.

Employer-student connections (10%): the extent of employer presence on campus. This is a measure of the number of companies that have been present at events on campus and that have promoted themselves on university websites.



Graduate employment rate (10%): the proportion of recent graduates who are employed. This indicator considers the proportion of graduates employed within one year of graduation (excluding those who opt to study further).

Alumni can SUPPORT UCT STUDENTS

UCT alumni have a critical role to play in ensuring positive outcomes for current and future cohorts of students. Imagine the impact of each of our more than 200 000 alumni around the world giving as little as R50 a month towards a project that they care about.

Imagine what we could do as a collective! You do not need to be wealthy to make a positive contribution. As a UCT alumnus, your contribution whether big or small, can make a significant difference in the lives of students. To make a once-off or regular donation to your alma mater, visit our **Ways to Give** web page today.

The next pages in this booklet detail 7 UCT fundraising projects that would benefit from



UCT Alumni IN ACTION

UCT has not been left unscathed by the increase in GBV in South Africa over the past few years. In August 2019, UCT student Uyine Mrwetyana (19) was raped and murdered in the Clareinch Post Office when she went to collect a parcel. The COVID-19 pandemic – and its accompanying series of national lockdowns – has further exacerbated the country's GBV problem, with support structures and counselling services hampered due to financial strain and restrictions on movement.

In response to this strong need for mental health support and counselling for GBV survivors, UCT alumna Zella Fuphe felt compelled to initiate the Alumni in Action programme. Alumni in Action aims to provide up to eight sessions of mental health support services to UCT students who have survived GBV. Fuphe provided initial funding of R120 000 towards the programme.

HOW CAN ALUMNI HELP?

If you are a Psychologist, please consider providing 8 consecutive counselling sessions of 40-60 minutes each. Alumni can pledge financial support to the programme in the form of free counselling sessions for impacted students. Select Alumni in Action from our list of projects, available on our **Ways to Give** page.

“Gender-based violence has many adverse consequences in our society: it can retard personal growth, destroy the dreams of survivors, and have a negative impact on the country's GDP. It can also have an adverse intergenerational impact,” UCT alumna and founder of Alumni in Action, Zella Fuphe



AFRIFUND: a SRC-led campaign

Unlike South African students, international students do not receive financial aid from UCT. This can leave some international African students from disadvantaged backgrounds in tight financial situations without many support options. Many students from the rest of Africa have to juggle their studies by working part-time to cover tuition fees, the cost of accommodation in Cape Town and all the associated costs of living away from their home countries.

The SRC AfriFund is a student-led fundraising campaign driven in partnership with UCT's Development and Alumni Department (DAD). Since inception, it has benefited from generous funding from UCT Chancellor, Dr Precious Moloi-Motsepe. However UCT alumni can play a role too. Select AfriFund from our list of projects, available on our **Ways to Give** page.

“The SRC AfriFund campaign is fully aligned with UCT's 2030 vision of 'reclaiming Afrika's agency'. As the continent's premier university, we need to ensure inclusivity and recognise that the struggles we face as South Africans are not different to those of other African countries,” Sharon Mogale, former UCT SRC member.

UCT Student WELLNESS SERVICES

Holistic student development is among our key concerns at UCT since the achievement of academic goals is dependent on a healthy lifestyle. The UCT Student Wellness Service (SWS) works to promote this value through a range of interventions offered by a professional team consisting of medical practitioners, psychiatrists, nurses, a social worker and psychologists. The team is dedicated to helping students adopt healthy living values and to make life choices that promote their well-being.

HOW CAN ALUMNI HELP?

UCT's Student Wellness Service (SWS) offers health and counselling services to nurture the wellbeing of our students. If you know what it's like to feel overwhelmed and worried as a student, here is a way that you can make a difference! Your donation of just R150 a month will provide a student with a listening ear and the opportunity to navigate stress, giving them the confidence and support they need to progress through their studies, towards graduation.



The UCT FOOD PROGRAMME

Every year UCT supports around 1,500 students – 1 in every twenty of your peers – with food vouchers and food parcels. We do this because we know that studying or writing exams when you are hungry makes it so much harder to concentrate and remember. Because UCT supports student wellbeing and wants all student to graduate successfully, we provide students without funding, access to food vouchers and food parcels.

HOW CAN ALUMNI HELP?

From as little as R50 a month, you can provide a student with enough food for a day. If you want to support this important initiative, why not skip the cup of coffee, slice of cake or treat that you would purchase in a week and donate what you would have spent on these items to the UCT Food Programme instead. It is that easy and will make the world of difference to a student in need.





100-UP:

The UCT 100-UP programme recognises that the quality of education is not uniform across all high schools. It targets Grade 11 and 12 learners drawn from 40 high schools in Khayelitsha, Mitchells Plain and Philippi. 100UP provides an academic enrichment and Saturday School programme to give these learners the best possible chance of getting the results that will enable them to study further. We guide them through their National Benchmark Tests (NBTs), university applications and subject choices, also introducing them to campus life through a series of lectures, team building activities and walking tours.

HOW CAN ALUMNI HELP?

If you are an alum of the 100UP programme or were fortunate enough to attend a high school that set you up for acceptance for study at UCT, consider paying it forward. Make a donation to keep the programme going for the next cohort of learners. R50 a month covers a learner stationery pack and R290 (once off) will pay for an NBT for a learner applying to study at university.



UCT DISABILITIES SERVICES

Many of us take our ease of access on campus for granted. But for students with disabilities, UCT can be a challenging environment – even more so when they cannot access the support they need to participate and excel alongside other students. UCT Disabilities Services sets out to dismantle the barriers that can prevent students with disabilities being included in all aspects of campus life. It provides specialised services to students with a range of different disabilities. These specialised services are provided to students at no cost – but the number of students who can be assisted is capped based on available funds.

HOW CAN ALUMNI HELP?

Make a donation that speaks directly to your commitment to an inclusive and diverse student population. This will enable UCT Disabilities Services to reach even more than the 400 students it currently supports. Between R200 and R500 will buy an hour of specialist assistance for a student with disabilities, or pay for fuel for the UCT Disabilities Services minibus that provides wheelchair-access transport.





Student DEBT RELIEF

UCT graduates are highly sought after wherever they go in the world, and rank best in Africa for employability. But what if you had not been able to graduate because of student debt, despite meeting all the requirements for qualifying your degree? Imagine coming so close to attaining your dream, but falling short at the very last minute... Every year there are students

who cannot graduate because they have outstanding debt to UCT – on average in the region of R60,000 each. These students are caught in a catch-22: without proof of their degrees, they will struggle to find employment; and without employment, they will be unable to begin to pay back their UCT study debt.

HOW CAN ALUMNI HELP?

As part of the graduating class of 2022/2023, you can give your fellow classmates with student debt the same opportunities that you now have. Make a donation of any sum to the Student Debt Relief Fund, and allow these students to celebrate their achievements at the next UCT graduation ceremony!



**Let's stay
CONNECTED.**

Alumni of the University of Cape Town are now your global family.

The friends you made while studying at your alma mater remain important connections during the next phase of your professional journey. So commit to staying connected.

JOIN UCT ALUMNI CONNECT

Join UCT ALUMNI CONNECT, a new alumni social networking site which will enable access to a global network of professionals, innovators, thought-leaders and entrepreneurs.

BENEFITS

1. Expand your professional network
2. Stay in touch with your alma mater
3. Connect with thousands of UCT alumni
4. Locate UCT alumni in your area using mobile GPS
5. Access career mentorship opportunities
6. Share images from reunions and alumni events
7. View UCT events happening in your city
8. Access UCT Careers Service support



SIGN-UP

- Sign-Up takes less than 2 minutes
- Visit the UCT ALUMNI CONNECT page
- Click on the 'Join' link to sign up
- Utilize your Facebook, LinkedIn or email credentials
- Membership verification is quick!







SCAN TO JOIN NOW:

www.uctalumniconnect.com



STAY IN TOUCH

At the Development and Alumni Department, we want to ensure that we stay connected to our donors, alumni and friends. You can help us maintain connection with you in the following ways:

- Update your details on the [Development and Alumni website](#)
- Attend UCT alumni events hosted in your region
- Participate in the AGM of Convocation. Hosted in December each year, this has become a fully virtual experience which enables participation of the broader alumni community
- Tell us how we can improve our events and communication with you. [Email us.](#)
- Join our bespoke social networking platform called [UCT Alumni Connect](#)
- Find and follow @UCTalumni.      
- Visit the Alumni Relation office on campus. Old Admin Building. Lover's Walk.
- UCT Lower Campus. Rondebosch. Cape Town
- We love to profile our alumni. To share your news, [email us.](#)



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