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## Message From the Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research and Internationalisation

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From DVC Research & Internationalisation <dvcresearch@uct.ac.za>

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# UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

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### Message from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research and Internationalisation

January 26, 2026

Dear colleagues,

I write to you having completed my first three weeks at UCT, during which I have had the privilege of meeting with directors and staff across all four portfolios that comprise our collective: the Research Office (RO), Research Contracts and Innovation (RC&I), the International Academic Programmes Office (IAPO) and e-Research.

First and foremost, I wish to extend my sincere gratitude for the warm welcome and exceptionally engaging introductory sessions. Your openness, professionalism and evident commitment to UCT's research and internationalisation mission have been both inspiring and affirming. I am particularly pleased to welcome Professor Danie Visser as acting Director of IAPO and Ms Christina Pather as acting Executive Director: Research. I look forward to working closely with them and all portfolio directors in the months and years ahead, and I trust they will enjoy the fullest support from all of us as they undertake these important roles.

As a chemical engineer by training, I approach leadership through a process systems lens. This implies viewing our collective work as an integrated system where individual components must function optimally, while contributing to the efficiency and effectiveness of the whole. Each of our four portfolios has a distinct identity, specific expertise and critical functions that must be sustained and strengthened. However, our greatest potential lies in how we harness synergies across these portfolios, ensuring that our processes are aligned, our communication channels are open and our efforts are coordinated toward shared institutional goals.

Going forward, I am committed to fostering a collaborative environment where we operate as a unified team. This means creating spaces for cross-portfolio dialogue, identifying opportunities for integration and supporting one another in addressing the complex challenges inherent in advancing research excellence and international partnerships at a world-class institution.

This is the first of what will be regular communication throughout the year. I look forward to

keeping you informed of developments, celebrating our successes together and engaging with you on matters that shape our collective work.

Thank you once again for your dedication to UCT and for the privilege of working alongside you.

Warm regards

**Professor Thokozani Majozi**

Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research and Internationalisation  
University of Cape Town



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University of Cape Town

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