



Dear Alumni and Friends

The Faculty of Law is able to be the outstanding institution that it is only with the support of our alumni and friends. This support comes in so many forms, including (amongst many others) giving guest lectures, serving as adjunct professors, providing networking opportunities and career advice to students and, of course, contributing financially in support of the Faculty's work.

When we conceived of the Faculty's *Endowment Fund* back in 2008 our priorities were clear-cut. Our needs-blind admissions policy meant that a large majority of our students come from families unable fully to support the cost of their Law studies. Our fundraising for the past decade has therefore focused on assisting with the cost of tuition fees.

In 2018, when the National Student Financial Assistance Scheme (NSFAS) began funding full-cost tuition, the needs of students from the poorest families were largely addressed. However, a large number of students still required additional support for key costs related to doing a Law degree, and we had to review our funding criteria by looking far more closely at academic excellence.

And then 2020 caught all of us by surprise. Our world has changed, and how we assist our students has changed in ways that we could not have thought possible in a world before Covid-19 and lockdown. Our funding needs now encompass more crisis support, unanticipated travel costs, and finding ways of supporting students in a remote learning model.

While I know that these are really tough times for many of our alumni, I also know that our Law Alumni have a strong sense of responsibility and generosity to our Law community and the young people who are working hard to join the profession.

We will be sending out a more detailed request for support in the next week. In the meantime, if you would like to contribute you can do so online by going to the button below and selecting the *Excellence in Law* project on UCT's donation site, or by contacting Gaby Ritchie in the Faculty on [gaby.ritchie@uct.ac.za](mailto:gaby.ritchie@uct.ac.za).

We need to help our students differently. And we need your help to do this. Every gift matters to us and to our students.

Wishing you and your families both health and safety,

**Danwood**

**Professor Danwood Chirwa | Dean of Law**

**Excellence in Law**

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Project Information

To update your contact details please [click here](#).

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