



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

February 15, 2024

Chief of the Cabinet of Ministers,
Engineer Nicolás Posse

Honorable Minister:

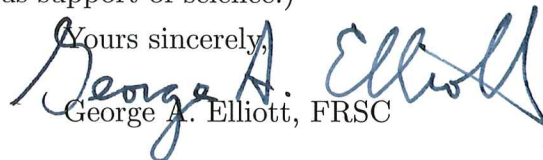
I am somewhat taken aback, or rather, surprised, by news that the prestigious Argentine national science and technology system, respected world-wide, has been recently reduced in stature by actions of your government.

I understand that, as has been reported in the journals *Science* and *Nature*:

- (a) the Ministry of Science and Technology has been closed down,
- (b) many administrative employees at research institutes have been or will be dismissed,
- (c) the CONICET and National University budgets have been frozen, in spite of inflation,
- (d) the payment of funds already committed to ongoing research projects has been discontinued, and
- (e) fellowships and permanent positions for early career investigators are uncertain.

I write to express my support for the Argentine scientific community in what seem like trying times, and to ask you to listen to their difficulties, and to work with them towards restoring and even strengthening a system that allows Argentina's very talented scientists and technologists to thrive and continue the good work and important scientific advances they have been producing.

I presume to suggest that having a flourishing national system for science and technology is key for the development of nations. (In Canada we are always hoping that the government will increase its already quite generous support of science.)

Yours sincerely,

George A. Elliott, FRSC

C.c. Mr. President of CONICET, Dr. Daniel Salamone
C.c. Members of the Board of Directors of CONICET

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