



Minutes

Students' Representative Council Meeting

Date: 2022-07-20 | Time: 18:00 | Venue: SRC Boardroom and
Microsoft Teams

Welcoming

- Presented by **Viwe**.

Attendance and Apologies

- Presented by **Alysa-Abby**.

Attendance:

- Viwe Kobokana
- Philip Visage
- Alysa-Abby Kekana
- Precious Nhamo
- Chris Briel
- Takadiwa Chipfumbu
- Andre Zander Niemand
- Christo Van Der Bank
- Eugene Nell
- George Van Dyk
- Tamara Wicomb
- Vhuḍi Ravhutsi (online)
- Pule Lebaka (online)
- Wandile Sebothoma
- Alok More
- Josiah Aiyer
- Gerrard Damons
- Thimna Sotyato
- Anna Pansegrouw
- Tanyaradzwa Chiza (online)
- Fadeelah Williams
- Alex Vink

Absent:

- Toni Solomon

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Setting of Agenda:

- No additional points were added.

Internal Affairs:

- The following SRC members were wished a Happy Birthday Wandile, Precious, Chris, Christo, Josiah and Fadeelah.

Institutional Committee Feedback & Portfolio Feedback:

Viwe Kobokana

- 2 Council meetings took place since the last SRC meeting.
- The first meeting saw the voting for Prof Moyo and Viwe was voted as a replacement member on the Senior Appointments Committee. Viwe sat on as the member was not able to make the meeting.
- The 2nd meeting saw the discussion of the Communications Policy and the evaluation report. All the comments from the SRC and other student leaders were integrated into the documents which were sent to Council.
- There issues regarding the tone used in the documents surrounding student issues. Philip and Viwe addressed this to the general Council members as well as the RCs presenting certain documents.
- George and Viwe had a joint meeting with Prof Deresh and Prof Wim for the postponement of exams which went well.
- The meeting with Rectorate to propose the working document has been postponed as half of the Rectorate was not available to attend. Comments are reopened on the document until the next meeting.
- Viwe mentioned that the Council Induction took place.
- Rhodes University and two groups from the University Free State will be coming for benchmarking in the next two weeks. The dates will be sent to everyone and please mark your availability. Participation, even if it is brief, will be appreciated and encouraged.
- DSAF is hosting a roundtable on the 21st of July and Viwe will be in attendance doing opening remarks.

Philip Visage

- Philip stated that he is in the process of having different constitutions uploaded onto the SRC's website. As the week progresses, more constitutions will be uploaded and be made available for public view.

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- Philip mentioned that a gathering will take place on the 21st of July for all subcommittee structures as an appreciation event.
- The Chairs of these committees have been asked to meet Philip after for a quick logistics discussion after the meeting.
- The SRC closing function takes place on the 2nd of September. A save the date will be sent out.
- A leadership function is in the works to be hosted by Philip and Fadeelah for the different student leaders. Updates will be given as it progresses.
- Philip reminded the SRC to please utilise the internal calendar to write events down to ensure SRC support.
- Term reports are due on the 22nd of July.
- The year reports are due on the 2nd of August and Philip will send out details explaining how the processes work.
- It is handover time and a discussion regarding the conducting of the handover will take place. Please start the finalisation processes of projects or the handing over of projects to someone who is capable of finishing them next term.

Alysa-Abby Kekana

- The Bursaries and Loans Committee delved into the task team which is aimed to look at fundraising strategies, scholarships, bursaries and the requirements for them. How the committee will be constituted in terms of who sits on it was also looked at.
- The Naming Committee looked at the mandate for the committee itself, as well as the process of renaming the Arts and Social Sciences Building, and the Reading Room in the law section of the library.
- Viwe and Alysa-Abby attended a NSFAS Summit in Bloemfontein which spoke about the accommodation guidelines which they are looking to renew. Accreditation and accommodation allowances were amongst topics which were discussed at the summit.
- Plans for marketing for textbook assistance for financially needy students in the second semester will be finalised with Josiah and should be released on the 25th of July.
- Alysa-Abby was approached by SASCO, EFFSC to arrange transport for them to go to NSFAS offices with some students.
- Alysa-Abby and Takadiwa are on the planning committee for Umoja and the event takes place on the 29th of July.

Precious Nhamo

- The Quality Committee met on the 18th of July. There were peer review reports for the Departments of Geography and Education. Concerns were raised with regards to the manner in which things will be reviewed and how they contribute to the well-being of students.
- Precious expressed thanks to those who came to support the 19th of July's Event for Social Impact Week. Another event will be held on the 22nd of July and the lecture takes place on the 26th of July. All are encouraged to support and join.

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Chris Briel

- The Student Wellness Talk is taking place on the 20th of July at Meerhof.
- A sub-committee member is planning the Student Wellness Week which will include four sessions with different topics. The CSDC has been contacted for assistance for a psychologist.
- Chris hopes to have one more pop-up stall before the end of his term.

Takadiwa Chipfumbu

- There is hope of making the Africa Day, held last term, an annual event.
- Takadiwa expressed that he is currently involved with the process of how short-term students experience the university. This is done to see the difference and comparison between the full-time students and short-term students.

Andre Zander Niemand

- Zander indicated that there was no feedback from their side, as Alex would be giving all the Feedback regarding pride.

Christo Van Der Bank

- Christo expressed that most of the communities have started with the HK, Prim and Vice-Prim elections.
- The election for Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Prim Committee will take place on the 2nd of August.

Eugene Nell

- Eugene expressed that the election planning is underway for the Senior Prim Committee.
- Projects are being finalised and the handover is being prepared.

George Van Dyk

- There was success in the delay of exams.
- George expressed that a request will be made to make lecture recordings available for the next two weeks, the two weeks being a grace period to transition.
- A directive has been sent to the class representatives to remind them of the power they possess to communicate more directly with lecturers as issues could be solved on a localized level.
- The candidate for the Rector's Award has been nominated and will be going to the AAC Vice Chairperson, Sebastian.
- The Co-Curricular Recognition Committee met on the 5th of July. All 12 applications were approved.
- Senate met on the 3rd of June. The Senate Review Committee was approved by Senate. A motion to include the student rep on the committee was brought forward and

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George was nominated for this position. This committee is tasked with making Senate meetings more fruitful and engaging towards the institution and its students.

- The Committee for Teaching and Learning met on the 1st of June. Assessment, electronic classrooms and how that would take place was discussed. The review of student feedback forms was also discussed. The breaking of the Fast during Ramadan was discussed and an attempt to create the frame of reference for best practice.

Tamara Wicomb

- Tamara mentioned that Nominations for the Societies Council elections are taking place. The elections take place on the 3rd of August.
- The re-registration period for societies is currently taking place.
- The preparation of handovers has begun.
- The Societies Council constitution has been approved and it will be sent to Student Court to get that process going.

Vhuḁi Ravhutsi

- The meeting with the DMT took place. A submission by Vhuḁi was made for the #crazysocksfordocs campaign.
- Transformation in academic spaces was discussed with the main argument being made for the mismatch of recruitment efforts between students and support afforded to support students.
- Feedback from the DMT was given concerning the upgrade of electric fences and cameras.
- Vhuḁi is in the process of finalising the financial policies.
- There is a wait for the submission of the transformation framework for the TSRC to engage with the policy unit.
- The TSRC Honorary Awards take place on the 22nd of July.
- Vhuḁi attended the 1st TSRC Caucus on the 19th of July but was unable to attend the entire caucus, based on what he saw the elections are going well and according to plan.
- There was an engagement with the Western Cape Government on social mobilisation. The subtopics included the vaccination rollouts.

Pule Lebaka

- The Military Student Constitution is complete. The signatures of the Dean and Commandant of the Military Academy are the last steps in the process.
- The process of the elections has started. An extension has been asked for as there are some military activities that are taking place and they will take three weeks.
- Student Governance and the Electoral Commission is aware and are attending to the matter.
- The new Student Captain will be announced on the 15th of September.

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Wandile Sebothoma

- Wandile expressed that she has working on the finalisation of the guidelines for the SRC so that merchandise does not need approval and redesigning with each project, and this she'll be able to handover to her successor.
- Wandile is in the process of liaising with Student Governance to help hold corporate communications accountable as two of her projects have been on hold for two months without any completion from their side and sick leave has been the only excuse thus far.

Alok More

- The Communication Policy Task Team was supposed to meet in July but the meeting was cancelled and no further meetings have been planned.
- The Mass Mailer was sent successfully last semester and there has been good feedback from students. Alok is preparing for the next Mass Mailer to be sent out. Details will be made available soon.
- Alok has been working with Student Governance and Thulani to plan the Rector's Award and the new Inauguration ceremony. The speaker for the Rector's Award is Professor Eugene Cloete. The invite was sent on the 20th of July.
- Alok mentioned Regarding the Inauguration ceremony, there has been a struggle due to a lack of budget.

Josiah Aiyer

- Josiah indicated that by next week, hopefully TikTok videos will be posted.

Gerrard Damons

- Gerrard mentioned that The Kuko Variety Show's date has been moved and all the culture committees have been informed.
- The Glitterball will take place on the 19th of August and more information will follow over the course of the next few weeks.
- The Acapella season is underway with the first event happening on the 24th of July on the Neelsie stage from 6pm to 8pm. Prims are kindly asked to please send out word regarding this to show support.
- The Endler has changed dates for the venue itself so prelims and semis might change dates.

Thimna Sotyato

- A conclusion has been reached regarding the Kayamandi evening shuttle. The Transport Division and Student Government sent a contingency plan which was distributed to students.
- Thimna is awaiting the formal incident report from Miss LeRoux.
- Communication is being waited for from Mr Loubser about an update regarding the Stellenbosch University campus shuttle.

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Anna Pansegrouw

- Regarding the name change of the Special needs portfolio, there has been feedback, some had to be removed as it was not relevant as the commentators do not have a disability.
- Anna mentioned that a good suggestion for a name was given: Disability Resources.
- Stories on Instagram regarding disabilities are being posted.
- The Disability Unit is doing a soft launch soon which Anna is involved in.
- There will be a Safe Space taking place in approximately 2 weeks. The date has yet to be confirmed.

Fadeelah Williams

- After the Protest week, meetings were held with FVZS and Student Governance with regards to the protest protocol, media training and other forms of leadership training.
- The talks were not successful and Fadeelah is currently evaluating the next step forward.

Alex Vink

- SRC Pride is still underway. The first event took place before exams started and was successful although there were less people than hoped for.
- The next event take place on the 21st of July and is the Pride Picnic. It will be from 1pm to 2:30pm. Attendance is encouraged.
- The next event takes place on the evening of the 22nd of July at 5:30pm at Goldfields. It is being called the Golden Mixer. All are welcome to attend.
- Stay WAQE will be launching the 3rd podcast episode, the Pride episode, and it will be released at 12pm on the 22nd of July.
- During recess, Alex worked with the Equality Unit on a series of posts regarding GBV, what it is, who does it apply too, what can you do, and will be available within the next two weeks as well as posts on Pride and what it is, who does it apply to, who are the allies and what do they look like.

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Matters of Information:

SRC Benchmarking:

Viwe

- Benchmarking was a 5-day trip in Pretoria.
- The following institutions were visited: UP, WITS, TUT, SMU and NWU.
- Viwe expressed that a key takeaway would be that more structures within this institution need to undergo benchmarking.
- There will be a report written with the recommendations that the benchmarking team have collated.
- There were 4 groups which covered 4 different aspects; Support for the SRC, resources at the SRC's disposal; Powers, Duties and Responsibilities of the SRC and the General institutional issues.
- There were 3 people per category and they engaged with the relevant SRC members from the various institutions. The SRC received responses and drafted a table with the different institutions and the different questions which were asked vs the way it is at SU and the ultimate recommendation.
- The draft will be presented at the next SRC meeting.
- The SRC will split which recommendations are internal. The other recommendations would be for DSAF, Student Governance and other relevant departments/divisions.
- The other recommendations would be for Rectorate which includes the bigger changes that need their approval and signature.
- As an accountability measure to have a larger chance of integrating these changes, the recommendations will be left with Prof Deresh's office.

Matters for Resolution:

AAC Constitution Ratification:

- The AAC has worked arduously to create the Constitution for the AAC which is empowering to students regarding their academics.
- Sebastian, the Vice-Chairperson of the AAC and Chairperson of the Constitutional Review Committee, was present. The Chairperson of the Engineering Student Council, Sandri was also present.
- George presented that There are 11 chapters. A preamble inspired by the student constitution has also been included. The Chapter amendments were presented as following:
 - Chapter 1 covers basic provisions. The composition of the AAC has been improved especially with regards to how the Tygerberg AAC is incorporated

into the AAC. They now form part of the ex-officio structure of the AAC and the AAC in their own right on the Tygerberg Campus.

- Chapter 2: Composition, Improved.
 - Chapter 3: Duties and Functioning of the AAC, significantly improved, now stand alone.
 - Chapter 4: the Executive Committee of the AAC, significantly improved, in line with Student Constitution 4.4.
 - Chapter 5: Discipline and Conflict, new section.
 - Chapter 6: Election, significantly improved, in line with Student Constitution, also provides standardisation to Faculty Student Committee elections while retaining their autonomy.
 - Chapter 7: Term of Office, new section, straightforward, in line with Student Constitution.
 - Chapter 8: Task Teams, new section, in line with and inspired by Student Constitution.
 - Chapter 9: Finances, straightforward, in line with Student Constitution.
 - Chapter 10: Constitutional Amendments and Review, new stand-alone section, significantly improved, in line and inspired by Student Constitution, expands to constitutions of Faculty Student Committees to ensure they are in line with AAC constitution and Student Constitution.
 - Chapter 11: Student Court Jurisdiction, new addition, straightforward and in line with Student Constitution and Student Court regulations.
- The TAAC is an academic affairs council within its own right and it is an ex officio structure represented by the chair and elected representatives. The reporting line is still being investigated between the TSRC, the SRC, AAC and TAAC.
 - There is incorporation of the privileges that the AAC possess by the TAAC and Jess is in the process of setting up monthly meetings with Prof Deresh.
 - The chairperson of the TAAC cannot be the chairperson or the vice-chairperson of the AAC at the same time in the same way that a faculty can't.
 - **There was a unanimous vote of 13 votes to ratify the constitution.**

SRC Inauguration Ceremony:

Alok

- Mr Ainsley Moos, the current Council Chair, is the current speaker for the Inauguration ceremony.
- This ceremony serves an inauguration for the incoming SRC and a send-off to the current SRC.
- The topic Mr Ainsley Moos will speak about is **Institutional Change and the Role of the SRC therein, as voted on.**

Closing

- Viwe thanked all members in attendance and adjourned the meeting.

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