

# STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

forward together

## Minutes SRC General Meeting

Date: 2023-03-01 | Time: 18:00 | Venue: SRC Boardroom [Microsoft Teams](#)

Attendance: SRC	
In Person	Ms Masilo Silokazi; Mr William Sezoe; Ms Phiwokuhle Qabaka; Queen Majikijela; Mr Dylan Schmidt; Mr Banzi Bottoman; Mr Prince Qengqa; Ms Aphiwe Sithole; Ms Tebogo; Ms Simonet Kapp; Mr Tayo Allerton; Mr James Hansen; Mr Daniel Terblanche; Ms Elouise van Wyk; Mr Victor Mouton; Mx Abongile Quthu; Ms Margra Wevell; Mr Rudi Claassen; Ms Kim Stoffels; Ms Sabrina Ditsela; Ms Vanessa Annan Dede
Online	Mr Tshepo Modise (Military Academy Student Captain)
Absent with valid excuse	Ms Emma Swart

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	Item	Responsibility
1.	Welcoming	Masilo
	Masilo the chairperson of the SRC welcomed all attendees and began the meeting.	
2.	<b>Attendance and Apologies</b>	Phiwokuhle
	The attendance and apologies tendered for the meeting are listed above.	
3.	<b>Setting of Agenda</b>	Phiwokuhle
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There were no additional agenda points.</li> </ul>	
	<b>Matters for Discussion</b>	
	<b>4. Internal affairs</b>	William
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The progress can be read on the term reports available on the SRC (EC) website.</li> <li>If one fails to access the website, they should contact the SRC (EC).</li> <li>Despite some challenges, the SRC (EC) was resilient and as such had a successful term.</li> <li>It's a positive highlights that the Kayamandi taxis are now in operation.</li> <li>There is a different view of the SRC (EC) on campus as the body is providing a more proactive governance.</li> <li>A few items in the office were fixed. The collapsing ceiling issue is currently being addressed.</li> <li>The boardroom could not be accessed in the previous term as the system was stole. The matter was not reported to the police by the previous SRC (EC), however, it was reported to student governance and a system will be installed to keep people accountable.</li> <li>As a team, the SRC (EC) will have a first term reflection including a reflection of registration period the coming Saturday.</li> <li>The Registrar's office is in charge of registration and accommodation. The SRC (EC) has done its best to support. The issue of student debt will be discussed further.</li> </ul>	
	Ms Silokazi closed the point and asked for further feedback.	

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**Mr Bottoman** provided the following input:

- The Institutional Transformation Committee defined the term Africanisation for the Kampepe report. The team unpacked what it meant to be an African University.
- The Senate's recommendation, the ITC and Kuko will be a part of the task team.

**Ms Majikijela** provided the following input:

- There was a Senate meeting where they will have a discussion on unpacking the Kampepe report.
- The University suggested task teams be established so that some recommendations in the report which can be met before the year ends are met.

**Ms Qabaka** provided the following question:

- What has the team advocated for students ?

**Ms Majikijela** provided the following response:

- She did not put forward any recommendations as the SRC (EC) body is yet to discuss its mandate as far as the Kampepe report is concerned.
- As the SRC (EC) they should unpack the Kampepe report.

**Mr Bottoman** provided the following input:

- The ITC are specifically looking at definitions, in particular, Africanisation.
- He indicated that he had to do some research on the term before he could assist in defining the term.
- He suggested that Stellenbosch University should be regarded as an African University instead of a University in Africa to avoid distancing itself from Africa. Furthermore, the institution can be held accountable.
- They will work in groups to reach out to the university on an operational level.
- He suggested that workshops and further marketing should be conducted to bring awareness to the Kampepe report to the students.
- Every student community should make the report their own.
- He also asked for clarity on the rationale behind the university's fee increase in the Student Fees meeting last year.

**Ms Qabaka** provided the following input:

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- When the members of the SRC (EC) are uncertain about something, they should revert it back to the rest of the team before the matter gets to council.

## **Ms Qabaka** provided the following **response**:

- There are only six members in the committee for student debt.
- The team had to go through each student number on a case by case basis, as such, the process takes time. Furthermore, there are many students that require assistance yet the funds are insufficient to accommodate every student.
- The team would not be finished with the work by the time registration closes on Friday so they would need to ask for an extension.
- The team is in the process of drafting a letter of emergency, however, they are not certain how much if at all, the university can contribute.
- Furthermore, the team is looking for more donors and kindly requests for patience from the students. Though, they understand the students' impatience.
- The team is also requesting to be established into a proper committee which starts its work in November.
- The university should provide further staff to assist in the process as there is only one staff member currently working.
- The team received numerous emails and as such, may not be swift with their responses.

## **Ms Silokazi** provided the following **input**:

- There was a meeting held the previous day by the Language Council committee.
- She has received complaints from students in private accommodation who felt victimised by language. The SRC (EC) should go through the points regarding the language policy, alumni problem, Huis Marais and the SRC and student spaces.

## **Mr Rudi** provided the following **input**:

- There has been good feedback on the projects on campus.
- The students who reside in Victoria hub should be able to utilise the spaces soon, in April.
- They seek to modernise the residence spaces, particularly the bathrooms by making them gender-neutral. It is a priority but not an immediate change due to budgeting.
- Providing generators for all residences is a difficult project but plans are being made for it.

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- The highest priority is for the university to install UPS units in the residences to give students access to lights, the doors and wifi.
- The university seeks to make the procedure of residences moving out during the A3 exam period in June/July more efficient as the income is directed back to the residences.
- The top floor of the Neelsie will be renovated once a budget and source of funding has been established by Student governance. Once this has been done, the societies will be accommodated in the future.

Ms Silokazi closed the points on feedback.

## 5. Portfolio Feedback

**Margra** provided the following input:

- The welcoming team would be formulating a procedure where student leaders would provide feedback on the Matie Shop.

**Abongile** provided the following input:

- The Reforming Student Constitutional Committee will be made up of six students.
- The committee would have a meeting to determine guidelines for transformation.
- The final meeting for exterior partnerships for gender equity will be held the following day.

**Sabrina** provided the following input:

- There have been enquiries from the Tygerberg campus for students to be part of the main campus.

**Victor** provided the following input:

- He indicated that Molassaser would be held in the coming week.
- The weekend of the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of a March, the Debate Society would be hosting an event.

**Elouise** provided the following input:

- She was kindly requesting students to be patient as there were experiencing an influx of emails.
- They aim to expand communication to all social media platforms.

**Ms Majikijela** provided the following input:

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- She indicated that she was in the process of receiving training on how to formulate a financial report. Once she has learnt, she would upload it on the website.

**Mr Bottoman** provided the following input:

- He provided most of his feedback in his term report.
- He intends on changing the wording of positions of some of the SRC titles such as the term Chairperson to President. More still, he intends on extending the change to Tygerberg Campus.

**Aphiwe** provided the following input:

- A social impact morning was hosted with the Social Impact Division where they went to PSOs and residences to attend initiatives conducted by the HKs.
- The division visited a pre-school in Ida's Valley.
- The committee is leasing with the TRSC to conduct a lab coat drive
- She would be sitting on the awards competition panel for the sustainability competition for the residences.

**Mr Sezoe** provided the following input:

- He appreciates the work done by the managers thus far.
- He had a meeting with the Co-curricular office to set up a SunLearn space for the SRC so that they have recognition on their transcripts.

**Ms Stoeffels** provided the following input:

- The Society's council had their first meeting.
- The alcohol policy was successfully implemented, for example, the beer and wine society had alcohol at the welcoming fair.
- KIKO offered to train society leaders in event management and planning.
- The welcoming fair was a success.
- A Vice-chairperson's day was successfully hosted to increase visibility of the Society Council.
- Pulp Cinema belongs to the Neelsie so the society is looking to open the membership to the public to help pay the pulp cinema debt.
- Amnesty Society is being de registered as they did not appeal the decision, the previous day.
- There will be a Societies' fair on the Rooiplein on Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 2023.
- The political societies were excluded, however, the Society's Council will discuss the matter with KIKO before Friday to overturn the exclusion.
- A chairperson appreciation day will be hosted along with the KIKO training, and a meeting for budgets for the general fair.

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Concerns were raised about KIKO's exclusion of political societies from the society's fair.

**Ms Stoeffels** provided the following **feedback**:

- That KIKO had its own policy, however, the Society 's Council would discuss the matter with them to resolve the issue as the fair would be an opportunity for all societies to get sign-ups.
- The SRC could request for a table if they wished to be present at the fair.
- Communication would be made to political societies once the matter has been discussed with KIKO.
- She also raised the issue of rental fees.

**Vanessa** provided the following **input**:

- The TSRC had been conducting bi-weekly meetings since the 19<sup>th</sup> of January 2023 where they suggested some recommendations on welcoming and registration.

**James** provided the following **input**:

- Feedback from the surveys taken by students was given. Students could refer to the website to view the specific feedback.
- The committee is looking into using different social media platforms as Instagram stories are temporary and as such may not have a greater and lasting reach to the masses.

**Tayo** provided the following **input**:

- There were a number of safety and self-defence campaigns.
- They would conduct a gender-based violence awareness campaign along with SAPS and A21.
- The issue of accessing gates during load-shedding was taken to the facilities management and they are aware of the matter and are working on it.

**Ms Silokazi** provided the following **input**:

- Some unregistered students have received access to SunLearn. They should communicate this to their lecturers so that they gain access to group allocations and assignments.
- There is a need for the university to provide clarity to students on the reason for the rejection of their re-appeal.
- The university had not provided a solution for food access to unregistered students.

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- A survey was sent out to determine the number of students who needed food, however, only a few students could be accommodated as the resources were scarce.

**Ms Majikijela** provided the following input:

- She noted that the SRC (EC) was trying to assist though the funds for food security were limited . She would table the issue again at the next Rectorate meeting.

**Mr Sezoe** provided the following input:

- He indicated that the SRC (EC) could receive donations and fundraise for the food security initiative.
- Furthermore, as a body they could request that the funds be used to provide food for unregistered students.
- He indicated that there was need for more social workers.
- The sport portfolio was vacant and communication on filling the post would be posted.

Ms Silokazi closed the point by indicating that there was need for the SRC (EC) to provide ideas to solve the issues and for Prince to follow up on the concerns regarding the food security.

**Daniel** provided the following input:

- He would be attending a meeting for special needs to finalise the discussion.
- The disability access was passed.
- A new committee was formed.
- He noted that disabled students were getting trapped in elevators and lifts and there was no one to assist them with the lifts.

**Mr Sezoe** provided the following input:

- He indicated that the specific feature on the lifts required the security to assist the students.
- There was need to have a meeting to ensure disabled students can easily manoeuvre on campus.

**Ms Majikijela** provided the following input:

- Students should be informed that certain facilities are for disabled students.

**Tayo** provided the following input:

- All students have been informed not to use elevators during load-shedding, however, disabled students require the elevators so the disability Unity and the facilities management will have a meeting.

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- He suggested that UPS systems be linked to elevators. Though he is not aware of the costs.

**Mr Schmidt** provided the following input:

- There will be an International food event on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March 2023.

Ms Silokazi closed the point.

## 6. CDC Panel

William

Mr Sezoe indicated that the SRC (EC) made it known to students that a seat on the panel was available to students. There were no students interested. A day after the deadline, they received one application which was sent to the Student Discipline. The invite was further communicated to postgraduate law students. More still, there is a seat available for one postgraduate SRC (EC) member. One should be able to read through lengthy documents and write them. They offer remuneration for the work.

Ms Silokazi closed the point.

## 7. NSFAS Cap

Phiwokuhle &amp; William

Ms Qabaka indicated that the link would be re-opened so that an accurate number of those affected by the NSFAS capping could be established. The re-opened link would not be a guarantee of assistance as there are many students who require assistance. The money that was made available by NSFAS for the shortfall would mainly be for private accommodation students. NSFAS and the University to discuss other accommodation alternatives for students.

**Mr Sezoe** provided the following input:

- Before Covid, the university would reserve accommodation for NSFAS students, which was not done this year.
- The university will revert to that practice next year so that backpackers is not flooded again next year.

**Ms Majikijela** provided the following question::

- NSFAS provided provisions for private accommodation students, what would happen to the residence students who would fail to register next year due to have debt ?

**Ms Qabaka** provided the following input:

- The Institution would revert the money back.
- There would be a need to hold NSFAS accountable for their statement that residence students would not be affected.

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Mr Sezoe closed the point by indicating that food security would also be an issue due to the NSFAS capping, so there would be need for the committee to look at the issue for a solution.

## 9. Closing

Masilo

Masilo thanked everyone for being there and participating and thereafter adjourned the meeting.