



**MINUTES OF THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL
OF STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY HELD ON 5 MARCH 2015
IN THE SRC BOARDROOM AT 21:00**

- IN ATTENDANCE** Stefan Laing, Rodé Brand, Wimpie Greyvenstein, Angelique Fouché, Arnim Ritter, Sasha-Leigh Williams, Tinotendaishe Muzofa, JC Landman, Kyle Anderson, Tarina Nel, Albert Coetzee, Noxolo Kubheka, Collen Mathieledza, Jacobus De Wet, Daniella Potgieter, Kayla Joubert, Murray McDonald, Caitlin Troup, Rika Botes, Sixolile Pani
- ABSENT WITH REASON** Dumo Majombozi (represented by Noxolo Kubheka)
- ABSENT WITHOUT REASON** None
- OTHER ATTENDEES** Brandon Como, Gérard Swart

	AGENDA	ACTION
1	CALL TO ORDER Mr Laing calls the meeting to order at 21:02.	None
2	WELCOMING AND PERSONALIA Mr Laing mentions that Noxolo Kubheka will stand in for Mr Majombozi, who is unable to attend tonight.	None
3	APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES The minutes are approved by Mr Coetzee and seconded by Ms Joubert.	None
4	ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES 4.1 SRC Buddy System Ms Brand notes that the Buddy System has been set in place and that all members have been informed as to whom their <i>buddy</i> will be.	



5	<p>SETTING OF AGENDA</p> <p>7.1 Opportunity to Address Mr Como 7.2 Good news on Fridays 7.3 Computer disc space 7.4 New Hope Summit</p>	None
6	<p>DISCUSSION AND FEEDBACK</p> <p>6.1 March for the Reaffirmation of Human Dignity</p> <p>Ms Williams describes the march as the student body and associated parties, taking a united stand against all forms of racism and tension, still present in our day to day lives.</p> <p>The SRC has joined hands with the Stellenbosch Municipality and Management in order to acquire all relevant permits. Prof Schoonwinkel is also very positive about the march.</p> <p>At the event on Friday, Mr Laing will be reading a letter to the students, while Prof Schoonwinkel will deliver a speech on the current and future plans and mechanisms with which the university will combat discrimination. Prof Schoonwinkel already announced the formation of a task team to consider the steps that need to be taken for the formation of a Discrimination Policy. This task team will include members of Management, SSG and the student body.</p> <p>Ms Williams asks the SRC to support the march by joining in and also to help by informing as many members of the student body as possible. She also notes that this march is of great significance and is very symbolic.</p> <p>6.2 Activism Campaign</p> <p>Ms Brand thanks everyone serving on the activism task team. She ensures the rest of the SRC that action is being taken and she encourages them to contact her should they have any questions.</p> <p>6.3 Weekly SRC meeting</p> <p>Mr Laing suggests that weekly SRC meetings may be more efficient as issues and agenda points tend to stack up over two weeks. He mentions that the lunch hour meetings in the</p>	<p>All members should gather in front of Irene, no later than 12:50 on Friday.</p> <p>All members are encouraged to check up on the words of the National Anthem.</p>



<p>SRC offices did not work, as these interfered with the academic timetables of various members.</p> <p>Ms Brand seconds the idea on the grounds that we are prone to forgetting some details if there is a two week gap between meetings. She suggests that this might be more thorough.</p> <p>Mr Laing says that it may be problematic, seeing that both Mr Majombozi and Mr Mathieledza need to travel from Tygerberg and Saldanha respectively. He says that they may be accommodated by making a provision that they would only have to attend every second meeting. He goes on to suggest that these meetings perhaps be moved to 20:00 in order to alleviate academic pressure and allow members to go home before it is too late.</p> <p>Mr Ritter suggests that it may be more effective to move the meeting to 22:00, as this would not split the study time of members in half. He says that it may also result in shorter meetings.</p> <p>Mr Landman says that he supports the idea of more frequent meetings, but that everyone should realise that this is no reason to make the meetings longer. We shouldn't feel obliged to have meetings that go on for various hours and should rather keep it short and efficient.</p> <p>Mr Landman also asks whether or not it would be constitutional. Mr Anderson says that the Student Constitution stipulates that a meeting be held at least every second week. This would therefore be constitutional.</p> <p>A number of rounds of informal voting now takes place, during which three times are considered. These are 20:00, 21:00 and 22:00.</p> <p>It is finally decided that meetings will be once a week and that the time will remain unchanged.</p> <p>6.4 Managerial honorariums</p> <p>Ms Kubheka says that the TSR is experiencing some confusion over the honoraria of managers. They want to know who will be paying is, whether it will be the TRS or SSG. She also notes</p>	
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that the managers' contracts are yet to be signed as a result of this confusion.

Mr Laing says that these honoraria need to be payed by the TSR themselves.

6.5 Internal and external communication

Mr Greyvenstein says that he and the SRC has come under fire lately for poor communication. According to Mr Geyvenstein, journalists with *Die Matie* were upset with him for not replying instantly to an email and he was told that they were going to make fun of him in the satirical section, *Gorrel*. This was indeed the case.

Furthermore, a number of primarii complained as they did not receive regular updates from the SRC. Mr Greyvenstein says that regular *House Communications* are no longer sent out, since some primarii felt that it was only spamming their mailboxes. It seemed as if the content of these documents wasn't applicable to what they need to know. They couldn't however, give a clear indication of what they wanted to know.

Mr Greyvenstein explains that his definition of good communication is neither too little, nor too much communication. It should then be determined what kind of information has to be communicated, which medium has to be used and how frequently these issues need to be communicated.

He also proposes sending out a brief description of the SRC meeting to all primarii, informing them of issues that were discussed that might have an impact on them. The minutes of these meetings are in possession of Miss Nel and she gives meeting feedback at each PK meeting. When the website becomes functional once more, these minutes will also be freely available. If they need this information, they are free to download it.

Another issue raised by Mr Greyvenstein, is lack of a direct channel to each individual student on campus. In past years, these emails were frequently used and it was decided to minimise the amount of mass emails, as many students



<p>started complaining about what they considered to be more spamming. This should however be revisited.</p> <p>Mr Laing mentions that he spoke to Mr Como with regards to sending out campus wide emails. This will hopefully be done soon.</p> <p>Mr Greyvenstein also mentions an initiative planned by Mr Como and himself, in which a bi-weekly newsletter will be sent out to campus, containing information pertaining to the SRC, management, societies and individual residences.</p> <p>Ms Nel proposes making such newsletters visually pleasing in order to attract more attention from HK's and students. Mr Greyvenstein says that the descriptions will also be kept very short, as not to flood the reader with text. A link will be included for people who are interested in finding out more.</p> <p>Mr McDonald asks whether it may not be more efficient to send communications regarding certain issues directly to the HK members of the relevant portfolios. Mr Greyvenstein confirms that and says that it has been decided at a meeting in 2014 that members should liaise directly with their HK members, wherever their portfolios are the same. He says that it will be very inefficient for members to send him portfolio specific information, which would then be passed to the primarii who will then send this information to the relevant HK members.</p> <p>Mr Coetzee suggests that SRC members meet more regularly with HK members with similar portfolios. This is seconded by Mr McDonald and Ms Botes, who both have frequent meetings with the respective HK's of Sport and Culture.</p> <p>Mr Greyvenstein stresses the need for members to contact him whenever issues need to be communicated to campus.</p> <p>Mr Laing asks that everyone works harder to make communication more efficient. Mr Greyvenstein says that he will henceforth have a more aggressive approach on communication.</p> <p>6.6 Bureaucratic lag with regards to communication at SU</p>	
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<p>Mr Muzofa raises a major concern regarding what he regards to be a bureaucratic lag on the side of the university. He says that a certain apathy exists because the SRC and university divisions are aware of the crucial issues faced but the university and by students, but that the views of the regular student is formed by what they read in the media. He proposed restructuring the SRC in such a manner that it would be more accessible to students and therefore more engaging.</p> <p>He notes that the majority of incidents and problems faced by the SRC to date, has in fact been either alongside a political organisation or against it. He proposes adding two positions on the SRC that are political in nature.</p> <p>He describes the role of these political organisations as representing the voice of the students, which is also the mandate of the SRC. He proposes bringing all these voices together at one table in order to ensure more efficient and effective representation.</p> <p>In his opinion, this could also be used to beat the large scale of student apathy. He stresses the point that this proposal does in no way imply that the SRC will be politicised.</p> <p>Mr Ritter says that it is a good idea, but that he has some preliminary criticism. If two political parties were to be given seats at the table, what would be done if a third political society were to be registered (as may soon be the case with the EFF?) He also wants to know how it could be established whether or not a political society is actually big enough to justify a seat on the SRC.</p> <p>Mr Ritter also raises the concern of his position being potentially undermined by the chairpersons of societies sitting on the Societies Council, but also on the SRC. Mr Ritter suggests that societies maybe get involved in fielding candidates and endorsing them.</p> <p>Ms Williams says that the idea seems to have a lot of merit as she has seen the presence they have done on campus, however after working with these political societies she has found that their allegiance is to their provincial executive committees, as opposed to the students which they claim to serve. Many of the members of these political societies were</p>	
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<p>chosen or elected by their provincial executive branch, after which they were given specific agendas to fulfil.</p> <p>She suggests that we should push for candidates in these societies to run for SRC, but that they be elected by the students as independent candidates. This way they will be forced to act in the best interest of students, as opposed to being appointed to an already reserved SRC seat by their provincial executive.</p> <p>Mr Greyvenstein says that a very big advantage in at SU, in comparison to UCT and UFS, is that its SRC isn't politicised. He says that the politics on those campuses do not focus as much on university related issues, but instead it becomes a proxy war between political ideologies and national politicking.</p> <p>He goes further to suggest that political parties may give its full endorsement to a candidate, but that said candidate would still be required to run as an individual.</p> <p>Mr Landman explains that we are a student union. We have our portfolios, but we remain first and foremost, a union for students. He demonstrates this by comparing the Ms Botes, as the SRC member in charge of culture, not as a union for culture, but of the student union. He explains that the same cannot be achieved when certain positions are of a political nature.</p> <p>Mr Landman also explains that many of these students may not run for SRC because they do not get along with management.</p> <p>Mr McDonald raises the possibility of a conflict of interest arising between political parties and the SRC in instances of controversy. He suggests maybe having one representative on the SRC, in charge of representing the entire political spectrum.</p> <p>Mr Ritter says that this already falls within his role as Chairperson of the Societies Council. The problem however, is that these societies do not want to work through him. They want to go to management directly.</p> <p>Mr Anderson recalls the rigidity of the SRC's of other universities at the Student Charter deliberations. He says that</p>	
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<p>it was blatantly clear that these students were given a strict set of rules and outcomes, leaving them no room for debate or negotiation. He says that political affiliation can pose a danger to the SRC.</p> <p>Ms Nel mentions that students tend to associate with societies. She suggests that it may be an alternative way of addressing the apathy.</p> <p>Mr Muzofa will form a task team. Mr McDonald volunteers and Mr Laing nominates Mr Anderson. He will not serve on the task team, but will consult wherever necessary.</p> <p>6.7 Campus safety</p> <p>A <i>WhatsApp</i> line has been set up, giving students another direct line of communication to the operations room at Campus Security. Various other issues were also discussed at the AKSS, including safety procedures.</p> <p>A whistle initiative has also been launched, by which all female students will be given whistles. He explains that this will be of use whenever a student is under threat, but that it will also serve as a broader deterrent.</p> <p>He asks of all SRC members to distribute these whistles among female students and to pay a special visit to these residences where their house meetings have already passed.</p> <p>Mr Greyvenstein asks Mr Coetzee to forward any information relating to the case studies used in deciding on this strategy.</p> <p>Mr Anderson proposes that the SRC encourages all men on campus to stand up for safety and that men could take the role of guardian on campus.</p> <p>Mr Ritter asks if we could move the whistles from facilities management to the SRC offices. Mr Coetzee says that he will enquire as to whether this can be done.</p> <p>Mr Landman says that the notion of men looking after the safety of women is rather old fashioned. Mr Laing says that there is no obligation on all men to put themselves in harm's</p>	<p>Mr Coetzee will send out a document, explaining the role of these whistles on campus.</p>
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	<p>way and that the primary goal of the whistle will be to act as a deterrent.</p> <p>Mr Greyvenstein says that Mr Van der Walt promised whistles also for the men on campus, but stated a general shortage of whistles in the country as the reason for delay.</p> <p>According to Mr Muzofa, the feedback was positive at a residence where he recently handed out whistles.</p> <p>6.8 PK feedback</p> <p>Ms Nel expresses the need for a restructuring within the PK. A task team has been giving feedback to management about the way in which student leaders experienced welcoming. These included the way in which information was communicated to student leaders, the justification of certain traditions and creating a better understanding and interpretation of structures and official documents by both student leadership and management. This ultimately serves to empower student leaders and will be presented to management.</p> <p>Another task team has been established to look at the rules pertaining to the welcoming period. Senior residences proved to be a problem during welcoming, as more newcomer students now move into senior residences.</p> <p>Ms Nel says that rumours about primarii wanting to organise their own MAD ball is untrue. They want a dance where they can celebrate their achievement. Ms Potgieter took this up with the prim of Metanoia.</p> <p>Ms Nel thanks Mr Laing, Ms Brand, Ms Williams and Mr Greyvenstein for attending the previous PK and encourages SRC members to do so in the future.</p> <p>She explains that this is a very difficult time of the year for all prims, as people start asking questions about the direction in which the residence is moving. She urges all SRC members to support their guardian houses and specifically the prims.</p> <p>6.9 TSR feedback</p>	
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	<p>Ms Kubheka says that a new Halaal food vendor has opened on the Tygerberg campus. The general food supplier on the Tygerberg Campus, is <i>Fedics</i>. Students are increasingly unhappy with the food supplier and has started calling for a new supplier to be appointed in its place. The TSR is in a process of informing students about the tender procedures followed.</p> <p>The EC of the TSR met with the Registrar of the Tygerberg Campus. This was with regards to students who couldn't register as a result of outstanding debt.</p> <p>The short term solution for this problem was to issue all non-final year students with bursaries to the value of their outstanding debt. All final year students received loans instead.</p> <p>The long term solution for this will be the establishment of a Bursaries and Loans funds. Another fund will also be established to help students with the payment of textbooks and medical expenses.</p> <p>She thanks Mr McDonald on behalf of Mr Majombozi for attending the <i>Tygerberg Sports Day</i>. She also thanks invites all SRC members to attend the <i>Straatfees</i> on the Tygerberg campus. This will be held on 11 March.</p> <p>6.10 Mzolis Tour Feedback</p> <p>The Mzoli's tour has been rescheduled. Mr Muzofa had trouble contacting Mzolis. It has then be decided that the Mzoli's tour will be held next term and that students from Tygerberg and Saldanha also be given an opportunity to partake.</p>	
7	<p>GENERAL</p> <p>7.1 Opportunity to Address Mr Como</p> <p>Mr Como says that he is aware of certain shortcomings in the support structures of the SRC. He says that this will be addressed in two phases.</p>	

<p>The first phase will look at the role of academic mentors and the manner in which this can be implemented as soon as possible.</p> <p>The second phase should be investigated by Ms Brand, Mr Landman and Dr Van Rooi.</p> <p>Mr Landman asks if there is any reason why these programs have not yet been implemented. Mr Como replies that there really is no reason.</p> <p>Ms Fouché says that both she and Mr Ritter approached lecturers personally to ask whether they will be willing to provide academic mentorship.</p> <p>Ms Williams says that she struggles with the fact that management does not seem to know how to support its leaders. She says that student leaders need to be given more from management.</p> <p>7.2 Good News on Fridays</p> <p>Mr Landman suggests that we also communicate our successes and not only crisis and problems. He suggests that everyone reviews their weeks on Fridays and think of one positive thing that happened during that week and then submitting it.</p> <p>He asks everyone to send their good news to him. He will then distribute it, compile it or take which ever action is appropriate.</p> <p>7.3 Computer disc space</p> <p>Mr Landman says that some computers can no longer function as a result of people saving documents on computer hard drives, as opposed to their network clouds.</p> <p>He asks that everyone backs up their information before IT clears the hard drives, the next Friday.</p> <p>7.4 The New Hope Summit</p>	
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	<p>Ms William gives a brief overview of the New Hope Summit. She describes it as a platform where one specific theme that affects all universities is discussed.</p> <p>She mentions that it did not take place last year and that it will be our turn to host the next one.</p> <p>Approval is needed from the SRC in order for it to be hosted in Stellenbosch this year. She proposes that Mr Laing and Ms Nel join her in an in depth discussion about the summit.</p> <p>This is something that Stellenbosch launched and that could have a significant impact.</p>	
8	<p>QUESTIONS AND VARIA</p> <p>Mr Greyvenstein says that he will be on personal leave from Friday at eleven, until Sunday afternoon at two.</p> <p>Mr McDonald proposes that the SRC lunches together once a month in order to promote student unity.</p> <p>Mr McDonald also proposes following up on the success with the UCT rugby interaction by perhaps inviting their SRC over.</p> <p>Mr Anderson urges everyone to send descriptions of their agenda points to Mr Greyvenstein, in order to improve on meeting efficiency.</p> <p>Ms Joubert says that she would like the SRC to have lunch or dinner at the Woordfees in the following week.</p> <p>Mr Pani requests access to the Dropbox folder, which will give him access to all the contact details of other campus leadership structures.</p> <p>Ms Williams thanks everyone for their support in organising the march. She also requests that members participate in the <i>Woordfees Diskoers Reeks</i> next week. It will be in <i>Die Khaya</i> daily at five.</p> <p>Brandon reminds everyone of the SSG's commitment to hosting a weekly lunch for the SRC and that it has to be arranged. Ms Brand says that she will facilitate it.</p>	



	<p>Mr Mathieledza thanks the SRC for the discussions surrounding the Mask Ball funding.</p> <p>Mr Mathieledza says that the printer in the military academy is currently broken and he would like to know if there is any dockumentation surrounding the status of the printer, along with the responsible parties. Mr Laing will enquire.</p> <p>Ms Potgieter thanks everyone who has donated anything to the MGD Gumtree competition.</p> <p>Ms Troup asks that people take their office duty more seriously. An SRC member has to be within the office at all time.</p> <p>Ms Nel suggests that when on office duty, SRC members go sit with Ms Dowries. This will make office duty more efficient.</p> <p>Mr Greyvenstein encourages people to open the door and let students with enquiries in and talk to them. He suggests that members interact with students on a personal level.</p> <p>Mr De Wet says that a report on the overly full classrooms has been made available to him by Prof Schoonwinkel and that it be circulated to the SRC after it has been discussed internally.</p> <p>Ms Brand says that she will be in Johannesburg from Friday until Monday.</p> <p>Mr Laing says that UCT would like to interact with us on the 28th of March. It will probably be in the form of a wine tour. This date does not suit a number of SRC members, due to test week taking place.</p> <p>Mr Laing says that the weekly meeting will be considered and members will be informed about the logistics of this meeting closer to the time.</p> <p>Mr Laing finally proposes incorporating <i>Feesgees</i> into the SRC meetings, in which everyone will gather afterwards in a social setting. This will be a teambuilding exercise.</p>	
9	NEXT MEETING	



	The next meeting is to take place on 19 March 2015 at 21:00 in the SRc Boardroom.	
10	ADJOURNMENT Mr Laing adjourns the meeting at 22:59.	