



11 February 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Stellenbosch SRC statement on the alleged rape incident

The Student Representative Council has been informed of an alleged rape on campus. It has been reported that a female student has been raped at a men's residence on Thursday, 29 January 2015. After the incident she approached a confidante and was taken for a medical assessment. The incident was also reported to the SAPS and the accused has subsequently been arrested on Monday, 9 February 2015.

We want to make it clear that we do not condone any form of sexual violence. It is a criminal offence, as it violates the integrity and dignity of a human being. The SRC therefore welcomes the investigation of the SAPS and urges the public to respect the privacy of the involved parties.

The Primarii Committee and the SRC are looking at concrete action for the prevention of similar incidences in the future. A discussion is currently under way regarding the enforcement of curfews and visiting hours at university residences. Additional measures will also be considered to prevent an environment that would be conducive to similar incidents.

Awareness on the issue also needs to be raised. The SRC aims to break the stigma of shame and guilt, along with the silence of sexual assault victims. Society has to realise that no form of sexual violence can be justified.

