



STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL  
IBHUNGA ELIMELE ABAFUNDI  
STUDENTERAAD



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STELLENBOSCH  
UNIVERSITY

100  
1918 - 2018

# SRC 2021/22 TERMREPORT I INTERNATIONAL

*saam vorentoe · masiye phambili · forward together*

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TAKADIWA CHIPFUMBU – STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL (SUI) – TAKADIWA@SUN.AC.ZA

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## Constitutional Responsibilities

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As a member of the SRC I am expected to honour the constitution governing it in sections 24 - 48.

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## Portfolio Overview

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The role of the SU International portfolio head is to Ensure accessibility of information and documentation related to being an International Student. We point of contact for all concerns raised by international students and liaise with the International Office for matters. Our role is to Facilitate projects to increase the wellbeing of International Students on campuses, as well as to facilitate engagement between various International Students. We ensure equality of offerings for all international students and promote pride of identities for international students.

The holder of the SUI portfolio is to prioritise all students, with further consideration being given to international students, in decision making. This entails finding ways to ease the lives of students including providing easier access to relevant documents and increasing the collaboration between international students.

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## Committees/Task Teams

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### Funding Operations - SDWG

- The SDWG is an initiative by the SRC aimed at assisting students with historic debt with registration for the new year. At the time of writing the group has been physically present daily from 0800 till 1700 in the SRC Boardroom, this to assist students with registration for the initiative. Students have also been able to register themselves virtually by sending their details and filing in their details in a provided link. The treasurer of the SRC, and the Financial Access portfolio holder chair the initiative.

### Institutional Advisory Committee on Internationalisation

- The Committee expressed its intentions to have Stellenbosch attract more intentional students. This includes more African students. The committee also plans on increasing partnerships with more Universities.
- A plan was announced for the university to build a hub that focuses on meeting the 17 United Nations sustainable development goals (SDG).
- Aligning with the goal to meet the SDG, the IACI announced a futures17 programme. This is short course presented by Exeter University (UK) and QS World University Rankings. It is set to take place on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February.

### Senate:

- Senate meeting was carried out on the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021. Senate members were provided access to share point on the 17<sup>th</sup> of November 2021.



## Term Overview

- We looked for the most common concerns faced by international students over the years. The first term of office was used to create plans to address these issues both in the long term and short term. Issues faced included assistance for late arrivals (usually due to VISA delays), lack of interactions with other international students, registration minimums and Isolation.
- Together with the Transformation portfolio holder we attended a dialogue aimed at educating leaders and various stake holders on issues faced by refugee students. This dialogue was titled 'The Rights of Refugee Children in Tertiary Education'. It was held on 6<sup>th</sup> of December 2021 from 1000 – 1500 at the University of Cape Town (UCT) in conjunction with Islamic Relief and (United Nations Refugee Agency) UNHCR.
- A link tree was created to guide students to SUI related websites, including social networks. All international students with access to these networks are encouraged to follow these websites for constant updates to the sites.

The portfolio has the following subcommittee positions:

- Treasurer
- Vice Chair
- Operations Manager and Statistics
- Marketing
- Project Coordinator
- Three other positions will be advertised and filled. These are secretary, ethics advisor and Refugee Relief.

A request was made to the IACI for an International Portfolio on the Tygerberg Students' Representative Council (TSR) to be reinstated.



## Budget Usage

<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount budgeted</u>	<u>Amount utilised</u>	<u>Amount available</u>
Attendance of "The Rights of Refugee Children" Dialogue	R700	R700	R700

Vehicle hire from the University = R450

Refreshments = R125 \* 2

## Plans for next term

The first term of 2022 will be used as a catalyst for long term visibility of international students, and integration with each other, and all students of Stellenbosch University. There are internal mixers planned. These are down to held on or close to campus. They will serve as spaces for international students to voice out their concerns. The other purpose will be for international students to meet each other and collaborate. These will be event-based mixers with dates, times and venues TBC.

The portfolio aims to find ways to relieve international student debt, and to assist with registration.