



STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL
IBHUNGA ELIMELE ABAFUNDI
STUDENTERAAD



UNIVERSITEIT
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1918 - 2018

SRC 2022/23 TERM REPORT 3: SENIOR PRIM COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

saam vorentoe · masiye phambili · forward together

Students' Representative Council
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SABRINA DITSELA – SENIOR PRIM COMMITTEE – SABRINADITSELA@SUN.AC.ZA

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Constitutional Responsibilities

The Senior Prim Committee (SPC) has a constitutional mandate to actively promote the rights of students contained in CHAPTER 2 of the Student Constitution, and specifically the right to an enabling campus environment in which student success and academic excellence are encouraged and pursued.

The SPC's duties and powers are:

- (1) The Senior Prim Committee represents the interests of the residents of senior residences, in that capacity, at the SRC and the University management.
- (2) The Senior Prim Committee has the powers necessary for the performance of its duties.

The SPC this term exercised its mandate of representing senior students in various committee meetings and engagements which shall be elaborated on in the section dealing with committees and task teams.

As an ex-officio member of the SRC, it is my responsibility to represent students' interests and advocate for their legal rights as set forth in the Bill of Student Rights.

I achieve this through representing students on different university committees, organizations, and departments, which will be covered in more detail under Committees/Task Teams. I analyse and provide feedback on university policy at these forums to make sure the rights of the students, whom I represent, are prioritized.

In addition, I support activities and programs that I think benefit the student body. Finally, I utilize my platform to tell the students I speak for about the SRC's activities and to solicit their input, which I can then use to help the SRC determine the effectiveness of its programs and efforts. Throughout the academic year, I am required to attend an SRC meeting every two weeks.

I explicitly occupy the position of highest authority on the Senior Prim Committee as Chairperson. I represent the Senior Prim Committee on several university committees and make sure the committee abides by the rules set forth in the Senior Prim Committee Constitution and the Student Constitution.



I am responsible for chairing bi-weekly Senior Prim Committee meetings, where the Senior Prim discuss potential policy and regulation changes which could be advocated for the serve residents of senior accommodation at the university. Additionally, collaborative projects and initiatives are also proposed at Senior Prim Committee meetings.

As the Chairperson I am accountable to members and senior accommodation residents to ensure that the decisions taken at Senior Prim Committee meetings are implemented effectively and timely.

Portfolio Overview

The Senior Prim Committee consists of a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, Secretary and the Prim, or their nominee, of each senior residence, as well as any other members that are provided for in the constitution of the Senior Prim Committee.

The Senior Living Spaces (SLS) cluster convenors and the new Rubix.net, amaMaties.net, and Wimbledon.Net structures for senior students living outside of dormitories are additional members included in the SPC constitution.

The Senior Prim Committee at Stellenbosch University oversees representing and promoting the interests, wants, and rights of all students residing in senior housing. We meet often to discuss and solve important concerns encountered by the students we represent in order to realize our objective. Additionally, we start joint initiatives that benefit our constituency, promoting cooperation between other residences and towns nearby as well as with the Senior Living Spaces Cluster.

Through the chairperson, the Senior Prim Committee is also represented at the SRC. This makes sure that senior students' views are reflected in this forum and that the effects of all SRC decisions on senior students have been taken into account. The SRC also keeps up with what's happening in senior housing, and vice versa.



Committees/Task Teams

Student Communities Advisory Committee:

- Advise DVC on ways to effect coordination between residences, cluster, and hub processes as they align to the University's strategic planning.
- Advise on clusters as an organizing principle for student life, academic affairs, and delivery of services.
- Ensure that University infrastructure enables holistic integration and coordination of all student-related housing, cluster, and hub activities.
- Act as a communication agent and consultation forum for the various divisions involved in the Committee for matters relating to student communities and student housing.

USKOF:

- Committee in the office of Senior Director: Student Affairs
- Dispensing financial support for students who seek to improve their co-curricular competencies.
- Includes but not limited to conferences, meetings, workshops, and non-academic exchanges.

SPC Constitution Committee:

- Committee chaired by SPC Chairperson
- Reviews all constitutions, rules, or regulations of house committee constitutions.
- Reviews SPC Constitution every three years



Term Overview

The third term of the SPC, I mainly concentrated on providing specialized assistance to the Senior Communities as needed and the commencement of the #Maties Have Drives Initiative.

I am pleased to report that the #Maties Have Drives project has proceeded successfully in the second term. The project's initial phase included reviewing applications from senior students, interviews, arranging meetings with the traffic department and finally starting the learner's license exams. We have received more than 90 applicants for learners and only 20 students were selected to part take in the initiative. 15 out of 20 individuals have already finished their tests (passed), while the other have dates and are prepared for evaluation. The third academic semester is when driving lessons begin, with final driver's tests taken at the end of the third term.

I, along with other ex-officio members of the SRC met the Electoral Commission to discuss the election process that it is Consultation meeting regarding the preliminary SRC General Election timetable. I can confirm that applications for the vacant SPC chairperson will be accepted starting on July 12 and that the appeals procedure will run from July 25 to August 1. The candidates will be announced on August 1st, followed by the caucuses and elections on August 3rd.

General duties in the term included chairing Senior Prim Committee meetings throughout the term and regularly engaging with the Senior Living Spaces Cluster Coordinator and Resident Heads that it is check-in meetings. Further, I attended all SRC meetings possible and participated in the various institutional committees (student Imbizo) as outlined under Committees/Task Teams. Also, I attended regular meetings with Bridge the Gap and Tygerberg committee.

Institutional Committees

- Honorary Degrees Committee -N/A
- Student fees-



- Student Affairs Selection Committee- N/A

Other Committees

- Student Communities Advisory Committee
- Senior Prim Committee Constitutional Review Committee

Bridge the Gap Committee

- Committee in the office of Senior Director: Development and Alumni Relations.
- Advise on the fundraising initiatives of various institutional projects that fall under the Bridge the Gap Annual Fund umbrella.
- Promote the #matieshavedrive project which is administered by the Senior Prim Committee and its constituents for the benefit of senior students.

Budget Usage

Project	Amount Budgeted	Amount Utilized	Amount Available
#Maaties Have Drives Initiative	R15000.00	R15000.00	

Recommendations

Some of the recommendations include encouraging more participation and engagement within the senior living space.



Plans for next term.

In the next term the following projects will take place:

1. Ensuring that the Senior Prim Committee's Constitution Committee attends constitutional literacy training presented by Student Court.
2. Monitoring the review of the Senior Prim Committee Constitution.
3. Monitoring the progress of the #matieshavedrive project.
4. Initial succession planning which includes the development of an improved House Committee Leadership Development program.
5. Establishing the Senior Prim Committee's Electoral Committee
6. Ensuring that the Senior Prim Committee Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson elections take place.
7. Monitoring the planning of the incoming HC training programme.
8. Orientation and handover to the incoming Senior Prim Committee Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson