

### SRC

Students' Representative Council Ibhunga elimele abaFundi Studenteraad



## SRC TERM I REPORT

## SRC Treasurer





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# Queen Majikijela – SRC Treasurer – queenmaj@sun.ac.za



Commented [SW[1]: Add your details here. This space is



To the Stellenbosch community:

I would like to extend my appreciation to everyone for their partictapation in the SRC electoral process. It brings joy to  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{my}}$ heart knowing that the student body has faith in my leadership abailities.



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### Constitutional Responsibilities

According to the student constitution by constitutional responsibilities are the following:

As the SRC Treasurer, the Constitutional Responsibilities imposed on me can be subdivided between that of a general SRC Member, a SRC Executive member, and my portfolio as the Treasurer. Section 27 of the Student Constitution provides the core functions of the SRC, and as the overarching provision of responsibilities, it trickles down to all its members.

I, as an SRC Member, am thus trusted with serving in the best interest of the students at Stellenbosch University (SU) in general and specifically by evaluating and deliberating on university policies, formulating and maintaining internal policies, and serving on Institutional Committees for the betterment of the student populace.

As the SRC Treasurer, section 28 imposes on me the responsibility to ensure the transparent, responsible, and sustainable managing of the SRC's financial resources, to formulate and amend financial policies which assists in the aforementioned, to prepare and draft the SRC's Budget, and finally to compile financial reports which illustrate the spending history of the SRC up until a point in time. In layman's terms, the Treasurer can be regarded as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO). As an SRC Executive Member, section 41 imposes on me the responsibility to assist in managing the day to-day matters of the SRC, approving and amending the SRC Budget, and assisting in important decision-making under urgent circumstances.

### Portfolio Overview

Although the Student Constitution provides a broad description of the duties and responsibilities imposed on the SRC Treasurer, it does not necessarily provide for all of the functional day-to-day duties and responsibilities. The exact role and functioning of the SRC Treasurer derive from precedent and traditional workings and can therefore be divided into 4 main categories. Firstly, the SRC Treasurer is solely responsible for compiling the SRC's Budget – final approval and amendments are performed by the whole Executive Committee, but the Treasurer is also responsible for its actual drafting and upkeep.

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**Commented [SW[3]:** You can copy and paste your portfolio overview form previous reports.



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Secondly, the SRC Treasurer is ultimately responsible for the transparent, responsible, and sustainable managing of the SRC's financial resources. This includes assisting all the various portfolios with drafting and approving their relevant transactions, formulating and updating internal financial policies, and adhering to institutional financial policies to ensure that all transactions and financial happenings successfully meet certain criteria in order to be regarded as legit. Thirdly, the SRC Treasurer is responsible for the financial reporting aspect of the SRC – not only with regards to term reports distributed to the student populace, but also with regards to internal financial reporting to the Chair, Vice-Chair and Student Governance.

Committees/Task Teams

I serve on the following Committees and or Task Teams:

### Student Debt Working Group:

The Student Debt Working Group (SDWG), as it currently stands, is merely an institutional task team and not yet recognised as an Institutional Committee but will be subject to formal legitimisation later in the year and is therefore included in this section. The SDWG is drafted each January with the aim to assist students struggling to settle their historical debt from previous academic years and therefore unable to register for a new academic year. The SDWG has certain criteria but mainly looks at the merits of each case - such as household income, household circumstances, academic performance, etc. The team was formally drafted in January 2023 and comprised of myself, together with various stakeholders from relevant University structures – such as the Centre for Bursaries and Loans (CUBL), Postgraduate Office, Stellenbosch University International (SUI) service centre, the Alumni Office, and the Student Fees Department. My involvement in the SDWG involved the responsibility to act and serve as the median between the students and the SDWG, to facilitate all formal communications to the students, and finally to capture and present each student's case. The formal workings of the SDWG during the 2023 Registration Period will be depicted in the SRC's report on Registration 2023.

#### Senate:

As an elected member, I serve on the Senate of the University. The role of this Statutory body is to be responsible for being accountable to the Council for the academic and research functions of the University and to perform such other functions as may be delegated or assigned to it by the Council. The Senate is recognised by Chapter 2 of the SU Statute as a governance structure. In essence, it is the highest academic decision-making body of the institution. It is chaired by the rector and vice-chancellor of SU, Prof Wim de Villiers, and is most notably comprised of all full professors, deans, and vice-deans, as well as the Rectorate of SU. The Student Representative Council SRC is afforded four representatives on Senate. The powers and functions of the Senate are derived from the SU Statute.

### **Bursaries and Loans:**

Commented [SW[4]: Add the committees and or task teams you sit on here. For example: Council: also add a short description of the committee and then elaborate on meetings you had on those committees and or task teams underneath - without breaching any privacy/confidentiality clauses of the said committee(s) or task team(s).



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The institutional Bursaries as Loans Committee aims to deliberate and discuss matters pertaining to Bursaries and Loans of both Undergraduate and Postgraduate students. A meeting for this committee was held on 5 September 2022, when my term in office haven't started. A meeting for this committee was not held this term.

## Term I Overview

During my first term in office, I have amended the internal financial policies of the SRC. I amended these policies so that they fit the reality of the 22/23 SRC. I have done this with the assistance of our SRC Policy Officer, Mr Banzi Bottoman.

I held an SRC Financial Literacy Presentation during our SRC Camp. During this presentation, I informed the SRC members & managers what their financial responsibilities of each member, what is required of them to do financially in their portfolio's.

Plans for Next Term

My plans for this term are as follows:

- I want to establish a financial committee to help regulate the internal financial policies of the SRC.
  This committee will be responsible in holding SRC members and managers accountable in how they are using their budget.
- I want to host a financial literacy workshop for treasurers of the ex-efficio structures on the SRC, to equip ourselves on how to formulate a financial report. I am planning to collaborate with Student Governance and the Financial Division of the university in facilitating the training.

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**Commented [SW[6]:** This is where you can share your plans for the next term.



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