



# SRC 2020/2021 Term 2 Report

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## Constitutional Responsibilities

Transformation does not have specific constitutional responsibilities outside of those stated in the SU Student Constitution for the SRC in its entirety. Chapter 3 (1) to act in the best interest of students and to actively promote students' rights under (1) to (7); (2) to represent students at – (a) the University Council; (b) the Senate; (c) the Institutional Forum; (d) other committees, bodies and functionaries of the University; and (e) national and international student bodies; (3) to evaluate the University policy and give input in the formulation thereof; (4) to consider the advice of Student Parliament; (5) facilitate projects and initiatives to the benefit of students; (6) to facilitate projects and initiatives to the benefit of students; and (7) to formulate and maintain policy in order to ensure that the Student Representative Council performs its functions and duties effectively.

## Portfolio Overview

SRC Transformation's role is to create a diverse student experience that will best promote human dignity and justice. A welcoming campus that values the rights of everyone and appreciates the differences that exist amongst human beings is the greatest success of transformation. The portfolio offers the institution and the student body a greater understanding of justice. It is through it that discrimination is intolerable within the academic spaces. The portfolio advocates for equity for everyone. It offers persons an opportunity to be treated as human beings without fear.

The Transformation Officer has a duty to represent all students on campus. It strives towards providing a student experience that is welcoming to everyone without discriminating. We are shaped by the environments that we originate from as students. It is therefore the responsibility of the

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Transformation Officer to bridge the gap by providing a global experience that will not violate the rights of others based on their language, gender, religion, social class, and political affiliation. The goal is to create an environment that will offer students an opportunity to learn from one and another through embracing multiculturalism. Human dignity and justice guide the transformation agenda.

## Committees / Task Teams

1. Transformation and Critical Engagement Forum – Head
2. Student Institutional Transformation Committee – Chairperson
3. Institutional Transformation Committee
4. Institutional Forum
5. Division of Student Affairs Transformation Forum
6. Institutional Advisory Committee on Internationalisation
7. RegisterAll task team – Main campus and Tygerberg campus
8. Matie-to-Matie Financial Assistance Committee
9. Unfair discrimination, HIV and GBV Policy task team
10. Campus and Residence Life and Culture Review – LGBTQ+ community working group

## Term Overview

The second SRC term being the first term of the 2021 academic year meant we had a very busy term ahead.

1. Mine began long before pre-welcoming, as I formed part of the Register-All task teams for Stellenbosch and Tygerberg campuses. Being that most of the work of the task team was done during the holiday, most of the work at this point was finalising the lists to be sent to the Registrar's Division and to CUBL as well as Post Graduate office. There were some last-minute decisions that needed to be made, however because I was running the newcomer transport initiative, I was unable to attend some of those emergency meetings.
2. I conceptualised and ran a very new and exciting initiative during Welcoming Week with the help of Gina Sibanda – Student Financial Access. This was the newcomer transport initiative that transported newcomers arriving in the Western Cape from the airport, bus stops, and various other locations to Stellenbosch. This was a logistical nightmare, but it was ultimately worth it when we received all the thank-you's, not just from the newcomers, but from their worried parents as well. Gina and I planned this from when we arrived back in Stellenbosch, which was the middle of February. We communicated with the Vice Prims of the houses to get house-specific details and sometimes members of the particular communities the newcomers were part of joined the trip to welcome the newcomer with open arms. We contacted the newcomers through Google forms that we created and asked the VPs to share as they were given the contact details of the newcomers. It was then a lot of late-night phone calls to the newcomers and sometimes the VPs that finalised the arrival details. Organising the transport was probably the easiest part, I opened a call for volunteer drivers who would receive lunch and dinner packs as well as snacks, but would not get paid. I then sent their details to Sharine who booked the varying sizes in vehicles, 5, 7, 10, 11 seaters. This was probably top 2 of the most rewarding projects I ran.

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3. I was invited to be part of one section of the HC training during pre-welcoming, where the focus was on the importance and relevance of critical engagement. I really enjoyed doing that training and would like to be given that opportunity again (well, for my successor). From the feedback I received from some HCs, my session was one of the ones that felt relevant and informative to their role as HCs and I think this is something that should be taken into consideration for future HC trainings
4. This has been a very exciting term for the CEFCP! Delecia David played a very big part in developing the programme further and we hope to launch it in August, if all goes well with our timeline. Babalwa has since left the university, and Delecia is being replaced by another member of CSLEEC so our timeline pay shift to accommodate the new changes however I am confident that the programme can still be launched on time if we work harder than we were working before.
5. The end of the first academic term marked the first submissions for the students who are part of the BeYou initiative. I have been in communication with Helene from SISS and the changes might be done by the end of this week, after which all is left are the new student cards and I am very excited about this. I have not yet been able to figure out a payment arrangement between the SRC and IT HUB for these student cards but will note it once everything has been arranged. I hope to have some group psychology sessions this term as we were not able to plan any last term.
6. I have been doing some work on the other institutional committees I sit on, but I think one thing I want to note in this report is what I presented at an SRC Exec-DSAf and SRC Exec-RMT meeting – which is the lack of diversity but particularly the lack of black psychologists at CSCD. This is an issue that has continuously been raised over the years and after meeting with Charl Davids, the Deputy Director and Head at the Unit for Psychotherapeutic and Support Services, he gave me a better understanding of why this issue has been so ongoing which allowed us to investigate realistic and possible solutions. The presentation was well received by Rectorate and Prof Deresh Ramjugernath said that this was something he has been looking into himself since being appointed the DVC of Learning and Teaching. This is something I will continue to engage with him on and hope to leave office with a concrete way forward as opposed to promises.

## Budget

### Budget & Reasoning

1. The first thing in my budget was the #Action4Inclusion campaign transport. As the SRC member on the #A4I team, I budgeted for transport that would allow students to participate in the various hikes planned to raise funds for student fees issues.
2. The BeYou initiative is an initiative that allows students to change their titles on the university system to their correct gendered or ungendered titles. The money I availed for it was to pay for their new student cards, as the system change will allow them to also receive new student cards.
3. My discretionary funds were spent on a team building event for my newly appointed transformation committee. We did not have an opportunity to bond and form strong team dynamics as the committee was appointed during the term, so the event would have been helpful in that regard.
4. My member expenses were budget for data costs so that I could attend online meetings and workshops when I could not be on campus and have access to the Wi-Fi.
5. Myself and WAQE are planning on having at least one safe space a term for marginalised students, focusing on particular themes so the budget allocated is for refreshments and

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transport either for Tygerberg students to attend on Stellenbosch campus or for Stellenbosch students to attend on Tygerberg campus.

6. Student ITC development was for the meetings I had in the first SRC term, to plan the development of the SITC. The meetings had to be off-campus as we did not have access to the SRC office at that time.
7. The Transformation Committee is going to have an end of the year dinner to thank everyone for the hard work that they put into the committee as they do not get paid for being in the committee.
8. There are two programmes that will be proposed to the institution at the end of our SRC term, and we are dedicating a weekend to thoroughly planning what needs to be done for the proposals to be ready by the end of our term.

## Transformation Budget

Project	Description	Budgeted Amount	Amount Spent	Amount Available	D
				<u>R13 419,73</u>	
Action4Inclusion Campaign				-R1 071,27	
	Pniel Walkathon	R876,00	R941,07	-R65,07	8
	Table Mountain Transport	R876,00	R1 929,74	-R1 053,74	8
	Weekly summit transport	R3 340,00	R3 292,46	R47,54	8
Be You Initiative				R2 400,00	
	Student Card costs	R2 400,00		R2 400,00	8
Discretionary Funds- Transformation				R0,00	
	Discretionary Funds	R1 000,00	R1 000,00	R0,00	8
Member Expenses				R726,00	
	Data Costs (4GB)	R1 312,00	R586,00	R726,00	8
Safe Spaces (Collab with WAQE)				R3 115,00	
	Transport	R3 115,00		R3 115,00	8
Student ITC Development				R0,00	
	In-person Meetings	R540,00	R540,00	R0,00	8
Transformation Committee				R2 250,00	
	End of year Function for c	R2 250,00		R2 250,00	8
Transformation Review programmes				R6 000,00	
	Food and Drink	R6 000,00		R6 000,00	8

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## Plans for next term

1. Getting the new student card photos taken and printed for the BeYou initiative as well organising the group psychology sessions
2. Further developing the CEFCP and getting ready for the launch in August
3. Successfully planning safe spaces with WAQE
4. Pride Week in June
5. Transformation workshop for the SRC – looking into having the workshop for more structures

## Recommendations to improve portfolio

1. The planning for the newcomer transport initiative needs to take place thoroughly during the first SRC term. If the incoming SRC Transformation Officer wants to handle the admin for the initiative then others from the team need to be doing the physical collections. This initiative should also be a lot more collaborative with the different houses' VPs or just a representative.
2. Planning for BeYou also needs to be done the year prior, during the first SRC term. There needs to be communication between Registrar's Division, SISS, and the IT Hub to ensure that everyone is on the same page about what needs to be done for the roll out of the changes to be done timeously.

## Important Contacts

1. Yeki Mosomothane – [yekim@sun.ac.za](mailto:yekim@sun.ac.za) – Multicultural Educator and Coordinator at Centre for Student Communities
2. Helene Nieuwoudt – [hj@sun.ac.za](mailto:hj@sun.ac.za) – Business Specialist at Student Information System Support
3. Charl Davids – [cdavids@sun.ac.za](mailto:cdavids@sun.ac.za) – Deputy Director and Head: Unit for Psychotherapeutic and Support Services
4. Munita Dunn-Coetzee – [mdunn@sun.ac.za](mailto:mdunn@sun.ac.za) – Director: Centre for Student Counselling and Development