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| **Name and Surname:** | Luigia Nicholas |
| **Portfolio:** | Special Needs Manager |
| **Subject:** | *Second Term Report* |
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Contents

[Constitutional Responsibilities 3](#_Toc532636068)

[Portfolio Overview 3](#_Toc532636069)

[Committees / Task Teams 3](#_Toc532636070)

[Institutional 4](#_Toc532636071)

[Other Committees / Task Teams 4](#_Toc532636072)

[Budget Overview 4](#_Toc532636073)

[Term Overview 4](#_Toc532636074)

[Plans for Next Academic Term 5](#_Toc532636075)

[Recommendations for Portfolio Improvement 5](#_Toc532636076)

[Important Contacts 5](#_Toc532636077)

# Constitutional Responsibilities

**The Special Needs Manager has the following constitutional commitments:**

**- Compile the yearly portfolio budget**

**- Attend at least one SRC meeting per term**

**- Attend office duty sessions allocated by Secretary General**

# Portfolio Overview

**The vision of this portfolio is to be a support system for students with disabilities whether social or academic. It strives to create a space for students with disabilities to express themselves, advocate for their issues and to act as a secondary advice forum for Stellenbosch University structures. It also seeks to promote awareness of people living with disabilities, furthering their integration into Stellenbosch society, and consequently, the world. The portfolio also aims to form relationships with various stakeholders at Stellenbosch University as well as the Stellenbosch greater community. The portfolio is to serve as a representative body for students with disabilities to senior leadership and management.**

# Committees / Task Teams

## Special Needs Committee

**At the end of the second term, the Special Needs Manager sent out a request for students to join the committee. The committee consists of the following positions**

**- Secretary**

**- Financial Manager**

**- Public Relations Officer**

**As Special Needs manager, the portfolio is involved in the following committees:**

## Institutional

**- Division os Student Affairs Universal Access Camapign**

**- Centre for Student Leadership and Structures Leadership Summit**

**-BSC for Online Learning: the committee is involved in organising the online platform for students and staff.**

**- Year of Disability planning committee**

**- AFRINEAD planning committee**

## Other Committees / Task Teams

**- SRC Disciplinary Committee: the disciplinary committee is there to ensure that the SRC abides to the SRC Code of Conduct.**

**- Clean Campaign Task Team: the clean campaign helps to educate students and staff on the COVID-19 pandemic.**

**- Stellenbosch Disability Network**

**- Western Cape Network on Disabilities**

# Budget Overview

**The budget for the Special Needs portfolio has been approved by the SRC executive committee, however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and online platforms, the budget has been used mainly for data or wifi purchases and for transcription software used for online campaigns in order to make the social media for Special Needs more accessible.**

# Term Overview

**The Special Needs manager, has been involved in meetings with organisations relating to disabilities and disability awareness and is involved in the AFRINEAD planning committee for the AFRINEAD conference which will take place in November 2020. IThe manager is also involved in the Year of Disability planning committee which organises events relating to the university on disability awareness and promotes the Year of Disability. The manager has been attending meeting with the Stellenbosch Disability Network and the Western Cape Network on Disabilities.**

**The manager also assist facilities management on accessibility projects like developing accessible walking paths and buildings and represent students at the monthly Disability Unit meetings as well as mentoring students with different disabilities. Due to lockdown, the projects had to be stopped until level 3 and the progress was delayed but projects are moving forward after level 3.**

**During the term, the Special Needs committee had established an Instagram social media page and has been keeping the Facebook and Instagram pages updated with disability related news. The Special Needs committee also hosted a SRC 2020 Tear of Disability Campaign with SRC members discussing disabilities.**

# Plans for Next Academic Term

**The portfolio is aiming to launch an online TSR and SRC Special Needs Sign Language Campaign to promote Sign Language and Deaf Culture.**

**The manager is involved in a Division of Student Affairs Universal Access Campaign that is aiming to launch in September.**

# Recommendations for Portfolio Improvement

**Recommendations is to implement a long lasting administration system for other managers to follow and to form strong relationships with other organisations.**

# Important Contacts

**Special Needs Manager: Luigia Nicholas** [**specialneeds@sun.ac.za**](mailto:specialneeds@sun.ac.za)

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NB: Please remove all text written in grey italics and replace it with your own text. These should only be used as a guideline, and it is advised that a copy of this be kept as a guideline throughout an individual’s term in office as an SRC member