

Student Parliament

*Accountability, Transparency and Consultative Governance*

UNIVERSITEIT iYUNIVESITHI STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY

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**MINUTES OF THE**

**CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**

**HELD ON** Tuesday 8 October **IN** Student Parliament’s Office **AT** 17h00

# ATTENDANCE

KEITUMETSE LEBESA SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT

NHLAKANIPHO MKHIZE DEPUTY SPEAKER

THATEGO SELAHLE DEPUTY SPEAKER

OS MOTALE 2ND YEAR LAW STUDENT

NTINA MTHOMBENI STUDENT NOT ON SPC

# ABSENT WITH EXCUSE

REGAN FRANCINE TYGERBERG SPEAKER

THULANI HLATSWAYO STUDENT AFFAIRS REPRESENTATIVE

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# CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

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## ATTENDANCE AT CRC MEETINGS

It is suggested by a member that attendance of all relevant parties in the Constitutional Review Committee is crucial to ensure the legitimacy of the committee because each person represents a vital voice which must be included in the process.

The Tygerberg Speaker has been contacted to include submissions on multiple occasions and to no avail. Although, it should be noted that he has provided legitimate reasons to the Speaker for his unavailability thus far.

The Student Affairs representative has also been unable to attend due to reasons provide to and accepted by the Speaker.

The Speaker states that there is no quorum requirement for CRC meetings, and he is satisfied with the persons present at the meeting.

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## PROCEDURE:

The committee will move down through the constitution and amend the relevant provisions as we give them our attention. This is to ensure that the process is as thorough as possible and that each provision is given the necessary consideration.

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## CHAPTER ONE: Basic Provisions and Definitions

Everyone is content with this section and the team decides to move forward. No amendment is proposed.

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## CHAPTER TWO:

### S1: No amendment

### S2: No amendment

### S3: (a) Remove “SRC” and insert Section 57 members

Engaging robustly with the [] and [Insert “extend an invitation where necessary and reasonable”] to management within our Matie community. This is because Student Parliament cannot and does not have the authority to summon management to present at our sittings. It must be clear from the document that management is not compelled to be present but invited.

The intention is to remove the notion that Parliament may directly summon or challenge management- which is not the case, but rather to clarify the relationship between Parliament and management. It shall read:

**S3. Operations § Student Parliament achieves its vision through:**

(a) engaging robustly with the SRC, the Academic Affairs Council, the Prim Committee, the Societies Council, House Committee members from each cluster, House Committee members from the Senior Prim Committee, a member from the Cluster Executive, the Tygerberg Student Parliament Committee, a member from each faculty committee; members of society committees appointed by the Societies Council and extend an invitation where necessary and reasonable to Management within our Matie Community;

(b) creating credible platforms where structural inequalities can be identified by Maties and communicated to relevant role players;

(c) collaborating and/or establishing national and international synergistic networks to strengthen constitutional democracy within student leadership;

(d) actively promoting accountable, transparent and consultative governance within Matie Community

### Insertion: Insert S52 of Student Constitution.

There is no other provision, in the opinion of the CRC, where this section may be inserted because they address similar concepts. It is important to integrate this section by insertion. The new provision should read:

**S4 Nature of Student Parliament**

(1) Student Parliament is an independent forum that seeks to facilitate discussion on student issues between student leaders and other students, and can take the form of public feedback or consultation. (2) Student Parliament also serves to ensure that the SRC, Prim Committee, Academic Affairs Council, Senior Prim Committee and Societies Council fulfil their constitutional mandate and to keep them accountable and transparent.

(3) Student Parliament facilitates cooperation in student leadership at Stellenbosch University and focuses on policy revision and creation as it pertains to student leadership.

S4: insert S57 members at **a)** all registered students then move every other provision down by one so that the document is still logical and easy to follow.

We recognized that S4(1) of the SPC and S57(1)(k) of the SC are similar and possibly redundant. The two provisions are worded differently and refer to similar but different groups of students, so the CRC opts to keep both provisions to ensure that all members are covered.

The new provision should read:

**5. Composition of the Student Parliament §**

(1) Student Parliament consists of

(a) all registered students enrolled at Stellenbosch University, for any course, program or short course, for the duration thereof.

(b) All SRC members;

(c) Eight (8) members of the Academic Affairs Council;

(d) Eight (8) members of the Prim Committee;

(e) Eight (8) members of the Societies Council;

(f) Two (2) House Committee members from each cluster;

(g) Two (2) House Committee members from Senior Prim Committee

(h) One (1) member from the Cluster Executive;

(i) One (1) member of the Tygerberg Student Parliament;

(j) One (1) member from each faculty committee;

(k) Ten (10) members of society committees appointed by the Societies Council; and

(l) all students who attend a meeting of Student Parliament

(2) No person can fill more than one seat at any time.

(3) If a member of Student Parliament can no longer fulfil their duties, the Student Parliament Committee must ensure the vacancy is filled.

(4) When a person(s) status as a member of Student Parliament is called into question the Speaker, in consultation with the Deputy Speakers, must rule on the matter immediately unless they require additional time to do so. A maximum period of forty-eight (48) hours is allowed. If the ruling should declare the person to not be a member, the person(s)-

(a) must be informed of their right to apply to Student Court

(b) may as recourse apply to Student Court.

(i) The decision of Student Court will be binding.

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# NEXT MEETING:

The Secretary General announces that the next CRC meeting will be on the 14th of October from 16h00 until 19h00. All members are to be in attendance and that all excuses are to be filed with the SG with a days’ notice.

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The Speaker concludes the meeting by thanking all the members present for their attendance and participation.

Meeting is adjourned at 18h00.