

Student Parliament

*Accountability, Transparency and Consultative Governance*

UNIVERSITEIT iYUNIVESITHI STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY

**MINUTES OF STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY’S STUDENT PARLIAMENT:**

**TREASURERS FORUM**

**HELD ON** Thursday 16 May 2019 **IN THE** SRC Boardroom **AT** 16h00

**ATTENDANCE:**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

K LEBESA Speaker of Student Parliament

N MKHIZE Deputy Speaker Internal (Accountability Chair)

T SELAHLE Deputy Speaker External (Secretary General)

P SHONGWE Student Parliament Treasurer

T NTWAGAE Student Parliament Deputy (Accountability Chair)

A DE WAAL Academic Affairs Treasurer

K SHARPLEY Prim committee Treasurer

M MARE Societies Council Treasurer

R BOTHA Tygerberg Student Representative Treasurer

**ABSENT WITH EXCUSE:**

N DLAMINI Military Academy Treasurer

L STEVENSON Student Representative Council Treasurer

D STRYDOM Tygerberg Student Parliament Treasurer

NL MAKAMO Tygerberg Post Grad Student Council Treasurer

**ABSENT WITHOUT EXCUSE:**

N/A

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**AGENDA:**

1. Welcoming Philasande Shongwe
2. Attendance Thatego Selahle
3. Order of Proceedings Philasande Shongwe
4. Feedback from Treasurer (or their delegate):
5. Prim Committee
6. Societies Council
7. Academic Affairs Council
8. Tygerberg Representative Council
9. General points and feedback Philasande Shongwe
10. Next Meeting Thatego Selahle
11. Closing Philasande Shongwe

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**Discussion:**

1. **WELCOMING:**

Thanked and welcomed to the Second Treasurers Forum.

1. **RELEVANT INSTRUCTIONS TO ENSURE ORDERLY PROCEEDINGS TO HOUSE BY TREASURER OF STUDENT PARLIAMENT:**

The House is made aware of the fact that the meeting will proceed in terms of Addendum N of the Student Parliament Constitution. The Speaker of Parliament refrains from having the house from speaking through him.

1. **FEEDBACK FROM TREASURERS:**

**Prim Committee**

PK fund has policy document has officially been voted in. From previous budget, didn’t include contribution of prims, this is indefinite so we are not sure if that will come in this year. Not all prims will contribute this year- took a while to get it going. The R1 000 from the cost centre is the money that is in the fund right now, no new developments.

**Societies Council**

The transfer of funds. Deficit of about R30 000 missing totally from society. When new members sign up, cost centre takes time to move the funds. Lost of losses ensued 31 The university systems close in August and funds can’t be transferred anymore. There is a policy to increase the absolute availability of that money. Most societies don’t really check that they have received all the money. A month before closing date, apply auditing funds that all funds in the cost centre will be checked and available before the accounts closed.

Non-payment / lags from the university/ when university closes the student accounts? They didn’t pay the total amount from student members. They realise only after the August once the closing date has passed that the money isn’t received by the society.

Part of the 2040 vision is to ensure sustainability more. An idea to motivate that culture is to start a policy to ensure a more sustainable use of funds. I.e. a sustainable tax system and throw it in a fund pool. To create a staple fund project that can eventually create a more society office spaces.

Suggestion: You should maybe pitch this issue to the head of these societies.

Response: They approached Student Governance to inform them that there was nobody helping societies. They generate so much income but there is little support for them.

According to the constitution, every society must have a chair, treasurer and secretary. The problem is that most don’t have a treasurer- a require that you must study a BCOM or have a financial background. If this was true, funds wouldn’t be losing funds. The bigger problem is there are 64 societies, so there is no control in funds. The system is so outdated, its archaic and there’s no control. They have no idea how the university regulates the societies. In first year, the members had to be paid directly. But in all societies, the previous treasurers leave with all the society’s info. All treasurers have training, but personally, the training doesn’t help very much.

It is difficult to trust the university’s side of finances, because when treasurers leave, they aren’t informed about what happens to the left-over profit of societies. When teams leave and have 10-year profit, but the next year, societies don’t know that there is no information of how much was left behind. They don’t know if the university take it. Taking over is hard because there has a lack of information transparency/ information over the years. Training is not efficient. So many treasurers fail to use the training programme and leave it for year-end and then its so late so much of the funding gets lost.

One suggestion is to create a Google Doc form on how to do basic things like hire a bus etc. but this is the 21st century so we need better information handling.

**Academic Affairs Council**

Not much has changed. The council has sent out quotes and are waiting for payment from the different councils. One dean asked why they should pay fees; they didn’t know that a certain budget is allocated to the AAC.

**Tygerberg Representative Council**

The new critical engagement portfolio manager was called so budget was adjusted and increased by R3 000.

Regarding the accumulated funds in the cost centre, they have been in talks with Student Government about what to do with that. They must meet with them again and they will discuss that with them again.

1. **GENERAL POINTS AND FEEDBACK:**

Thank you everyone for presenting. It takes time to get this. We now need to assure the efficiency of the system.

1. **NEXT MEETING:**

31 July is the next meeting.

1. **CLOSING REMARKS:**

 Thank you for attending.