

Tygerberg Student Parliament

Student Parliament Sitting

Date: 5th May 2015

Time: 17:50 – 19:10

Venue: Teaching Block, Lecture Hall 4

Minutes: Ms CF Elliot-Wilson

Speaker: Ms LZ Letsoalo

Introduction:

Welcomed by the Speaker to the second Tygerberg Student Parliament sitting of 2015. Apology and clarification of the reason as to the agenda points being sent out late. Sitting commences.

Speaker introduces the rules of engagement, and the procedures for the evening. Everybody is free to participate and to propose motions. Enquiries can be made at any time. Speaker introduces the agenda points for the evening.

Agenda Points:

- TSR statement → XeNOphobia
- Sports
- Campus Safety

1. TSR Statement

Guest speaker: Mr Dumo Majombozi, TSR Chairperson

- TSR taken upon itself to adopt 3 words/concepts as pat of maxim:
 - support students
 - develop students
 - challenge students
- emphasise matters of engagement and solidarity of movements
- example of issues:
 - open discussion on language policy and inclusivity
 - Huis Ubuntu, 6pm
 - asks to support a group of students who would like to speak out against xenophobia
 - everyone to wear black tomorrow (Wednesday 6th May 2015)

2. Tygermaties Sports

Introduction of Guest Speaker: Mr Kiran Maharaj

- answer any questions that students may have about Tygerberg sport
- recreation and active lifestyles
- ensuring that there are more recreational sporting activities for students
- Residence league will change
- problems students may have with games' timings
 - o most commence later in the day

QUESTIONS ROUNDS:

Q: What is happening with regards to advertising for sports teams?

A: Streamlining something that will work better, want students know ahead of time at the beginning of the year of what is there on offer.

Q: Are you referring to campus or res sport?

A: Res sport.

ADDED ANSWER: Yourself or your resident head need to organise that.

Q: Who is in charge of transport from Tygerberg campus to main campus? Because at the moment we have to pay for ourselves.

A: Comes down to your HK, they have a transport budget. On main campus, we organise transport going to Tygerberg, so the Sports Office here needs to organise this. Communication needs to be open with us, and make use of your HK and SRC here.

POINT OF INFORMATION: We work under a brand of 'MEDIES', dealt with by the Sports Office and sports reps. TSR and HK more involved in 'fun' sports rather than competitive/Koshuis sports. TSR sport and HK sport have very little to do with this.

A: We need to look into this. They should be more involved with the process and communicate with the Sports Office. It is a concern. We aim to iron out all of the kinks to have a more inclusive Stellenbosch University.

Q: How do you decide how much to charge for the sport?

A: Usually based on a sliding scale. Also depends on the sport code. i.e. table tennis = R75 per person, because we can't provide numerous table tennis boards, no place to store them, the transport between residences, money really goes to person in charge of online registrations and results. Compared to chess there is boards, venues, clocks, etc. Thus they would have a higher fee. Depends on each code. Going forward we are looking for feedback from the Rector's team, to have

levy across the board, only one amount, only if it is approved by Rector's management team.

Q: How is the sports convener hired? Is it in their capacity to choose players during trials for the team alone?

A: Unfortunately, that is an internal question. How you do it in your residence... we can't answer that. We have no influence on that as to who chooses the players and what the internal processes are within the residences. But it's weird that you have sports conveners.

Q: In terms of sports awards, at Tygerberg we have a problem with collecting our awards. 2 years ago we won our soccer, but we have still not received our awards and nobody has gotten back to us.

A: Take it to Vernon at the office, he'll contact us and we'll sort that out from our side. If it's due to you, we need to know that you need it. Unless it's a floating trophy then it remains at the office.

POINT OF INFORMATION: Sports representatives don't have to play the sport, they liaise with the Sports Office.

A: That's why I'm confused, it should be a coach who has input.

Q: That's another problem, there are a lot of sports and teams here that don't have coaches.

A: Let us know and we can do our best to get you coaches. If you don't report it to us we don't know about it.

ADDED ANSWER: It will be a 'MEDIES' coach though, not a 'Francie' or 'Meerhoff' coach. We don't have the money for that.

Q: We have a coach who is good and doesn't charge us, but we were wondering is there not something we can do for him in return?

A: We don't have a lot of money around, but we can maybe look at his CV, we can look at maybe possible employment, it's a lot of maybes but I would rather have the discussion with you and see what we can do.

Q: Logistically for Tygerberg students to go to Main Campus for 'Maties Monday' is just a nightmare. I wanted to know is there anything that you guys can do for us on Tygerberg Campus that serves the same purpose?

A: Trying to get something together. Will be on a Wednesday to suit your needs. Will be crazy enough but without causing disturbance/disruption to studies or hospital. It's coming. The idea is just before the exam, then come back in second

semester, a lot of marketing so when everyone comes back they'll know about 'Wacky Wednesday' or whatever is decided on the name.

Q: Also, often there is a large amount of money that can be won, but students here can't access main campus so easily to participate and also have a chance to win the prizes. So what can we do?

A: Once we get the logistics sorted out. SRC puts in large amount (10 grand) and we put in 10 grand, we could also put 10 grand in this, don't want to bleed the TSR dry. Still working out what to do for you guys on this campus, jumping castles, mechanical surfboards, trolley races – a lot of fun and social activities. For gees!

Q: Who pays the affiliation fees, the residence or the Sports Office?

A: At Tygerberg it is a controversial issue and we are trying to sort it out. Some residences have paid, and for some instances the Office paid. Unfortunately, this is not something that we implemented. We want to get 'MATIES' sports more involved. On main campus, each residence pays their own affiliation fee.

Q: Most of the teams that play soccer or rugby have to go through to main campus and sometimes main campus comes through to us. What can we do with regards to facilities to accommodate visiting teams?

A: Mrs Barnardo is the one has been working behind the scenes with regards to facilities. There is a huge plan to make it very inclusive. We want to see what your needs are so we can 'hit' most of those points brought forward.

3. Campus Safety and Security

Introduction of Guest Speakers: Mr Louis Fincham and Mrs Sanel Barnardo

First Guest Speaker: Mr Louis Fincham

NOTE: Footage from campus security cameras were shown during the presentation of this agenda point (concerning the mentioned incident) to raise awareness.

- Resident Head of Meerhoff Residence.
- Not here to talk about security on campus, but to talk to attendees in order to help him as a Residence Head to improve our safety.
- Going to show clip of how easily safety can be breached and the steps as students that need to or can be taken.
- Video is of one incident in particular that happened on campus, so students can see what they can do in order to prevent it from happening again.
- Background information of the incident:
 - o A month ago a Meerhoff vehicle was stolen. “Why we lost the vehicle?” Going to highlight the reasons as the security footage clips are played.
 - o “When you lose your card, you need to report it immediately”.
 - o When the missing card is reported, it gets deactivated.
 - o **COMMENT:** But it can cost [us] up to R95 to get a new one aside from the time it takes.
 - o **Mr L Fincham:** It might be R95 for the card, but its R3900 to replace your tablet.
- With car keys, keep walking around the parking lot until you hear the car unlock, and it’s that easy.
- From a Residence Head perspective, keep doors closed.
- “If you see tailgating out of the booms, report it. It may not be a fellow student”.
- Closing from [Mr Fincham’s] side, it is important. Incident and footage was shared it with Meerhoff residence. “I’ve walked around for nights after, and I’m pleased to see I have not seen a single door standing open”.
- Wherever valuables are left unattended, there is a risk it will be lost or taken.
- Leaving doors open, things like this puts everyone at risk in that environment.
- This is to create the awareness, when you see it happening for yourself it becomes a reality.

Q: What happens when there is load shedding? The revolving gates become accessible to all.

A: All of these gates or doors require scanning and have back-up battery packs. Sometimes the battery packs die or fail and it needs to be reported to Sanel (Mrs Barnardo).

Second Guest Speaker: Mrs Sanel Barnardo

- Apologises for being unable to attend previous Sitting.
- Wishes to add to Louis' [Mr Fincham's] presentation, and to confirm a few points.
 - When the guy got in the gate at Francie, someone else helped him in.
- Part of Facilities Management, but staff of Campus Security report directly to her.
- "We need you as part of the team".
- Either someone was robbed, and thus the guy got their card and access to campus, or someone helps them in. Can monitor this on the cameras.
- Have to work as team as a Residence.
- Now to make attendees aware, it is not USBD on our campus – it is Campus Security, who work in shifts.
- It is a big challenge working 6:30am to 7pm, then the next shift starts.
- Security on this campus is a combination of G4S (via contract) and the staff members of Stellenbosch.
- What has been done to address some of the campus security issues:
 - Kerkies
 - Shuttle bus from residence to campus.
 - Negotiated with faculty, cut off time now extended to 1am [for journey between campus and residence].
 - Contractors now involved with regards to travel between residence and Tygerberg hospital. They have different contractors on their side, not like our G4S.
 - If there is a further need for an extension to 2am, come forward with initiatives.
 - The walkabout between the hospital and campus, and with campus security walks back to the residences. That includes all residences, not just Kerkenberg. We know that sometimes the team on that side don't want to walk with the students back to Kerkenberg, we have addressed it, but again it's a team effort. Needs to be reported.
 - The 'selling' of Huis Kerkenberg. Is on the agenda, don't want to discuss this here tonight. Not on my level, on level of Professor Volmink. Had meetings with Kerkenberg and faculty are aware it's a huge risk. Any questions, please come forward.
 - Francie
 - New entrance door.
 - At the moment with the load shedding, have to report everything.

- Meerhoff
 - Again, report everything when there is load shedding.
 - Good relationship with Mr van den Heever (Meerhoff Onderprim and Safety HK) with regards to residence safety and procedures.
- New residence
 - Construction progressing and expanding.
 - Request for more cameras in the parking areas.
 - Happy to listen to any new initiatives.
- If it is a challenge for to pay R90 or R95 for a new card, “please come to my office” and will solve it for you.
- Got the funding for the new fence, end of May contractors will be on site.
- Had meetings for the possibility of more cameras on parking areas.
- Have a meeting every term, discuss issues about campus, incidences and initiatives, and invite hospital and all residences at the meeting.
- Have meetings with Parow police once a month.
 - Better involvement now.
 - Challenge is that they are short of people.
- Discussion with VRCID.
 - University has given funding.
 - They will move in and resolve problems outside the campus.
- Opinions of the residences, any ideas or initiatives, students, bettering transport, come forward and voice initiatives.

QUESTIONS ROUNDS:

1st Round

Q: Driving home to Osler, Cadaver drive, watched 2 girls get mugged at gunpoint. Difficult for campus security to go after him as they need to stay on campus. But can we improve safety with regards to shuttles and reduce walking?

A: Transport for residences to various shopping centres. Also transport from campus to their accommodations. Will be taken back to Main Campus (investigation). Students need to report incidences to USBD.

Q: Adding to question about the mugging under the bridge. What does USBD or the campus itself planning to do, as this is happening so frequently? It’s mugging now, what if it comes to stabbings at a later stage?

A: We are planning to put up a camera under the bridge, in consultation with the Municipality and Parow police station. From our side that is all we can do. Following up with VRCID we are busy looking into that matter. We did address it 2 months ago. Everybody again to report any incident, inside or outside campus.

Q: How much thought was put into those front gates after midnight? There was an incident where an unauthorized car entered. You show a white card and you get access as they think it is a students card.

A: I will get feedback from Campus Security. The concern now is that its closed in front but open at the back, so sorry about that and I will address that.

Q: With regards to student cards, and with regards to the Dean and faculty looking for alternative for Kerkies. Hospital staff also have cards that are scanned and have access to all gates. Could someone not have access to campus also through them?

A: Faculty wants faculty to move through one area to hospital, but we are going to have another gate put in place for the staff only and they won't be allowed in the student area. It should have been underway already, but I will follow up.

2nd Round

Q: Could the guards not check the student card with the driver as a form of verification?

A: Noted and will be looked into.

Q: 2 questions. Footage around new lecture halls, are they working? Also about the new entrances, what are the benefits?

A: Before being involved in security, I was not aware of the functioning of the cameras. There are a lot of cameras in that area, but it still comes back to us who opens the doors next to turnstiles – staff, students, and letting others in. We have put up signs and close it at night, but still they are opened. We have to plan again and it costs money. We don't know why the students or whoever don't use the turnstiles.

Q: But there has been an incident and there was no footage on the cameras in the area.

A: Sometimes something goes wrong with the cameras – was this the incident with the cell phone?

Q: Yes.

A: Yes, I'm aware of that.

Q: Why is the turnstile by the hospital not working anymore? I think it's safer because you have more control of who comes past that point.

A: It's been taken away as it is not property of this campus, but of the hospital. Seeing Mr Phillip Wolfaardt from Tygerberg hospital management and I will address that as well.

Q: With regards to deactivating student cards. Saw the guy and he had mugged a girl and stolen her card. Went to USBD said they it was after 4 nobody would be available until Tuesday.

A: We have seen to that. Sorry for that.

Q: Also, maybe a project for the future of using our fingerprints to gain access?

A: That is a case for technology.

Q: Last question, what to do with the case of being dropped off at the booms at the main gate to walk in?

A: Request so far from students and faculty is to have a line for smaller vehicles and for people to walk. Unfortunately we cannot cut the boom shorter, but we did discuss it this morning.

Final Round

Q: With the turnstiles downstairs (by Lecture Halls 11 and 12), the cameras can pick up detail well. Can we not put a fine in place for those who use the fire door?

A: I can look into it.

Q: Because we have this in Kerkies and it is effective.

A: We have fines in place for contractors who get in without signing in or stealing some of the items on our campus. We will address possibility of fine of R1000 or those coming forward to the office to report.

Q: Regarding the construction, there are new people coming onto campus, what is being done with safety?

A: We have a process in place, looking at it again. There is fining of contractors, links/networks with those who do steal to better understand why and how they do it. It is Campus Security and G4S that need to carry this out.

Q: IT failing and having to compromise security because USBD now needs to let everyone in, what can be done?

A: They are not allowed to do that. Everything is on camera, people moving through turnstiles in 2s or 3s are on record.

Q: With the new system employed at main gate (the scanning and keypad numbers for 'guests'), what are the benefits?

A: What is the benefit? Faculty wanted it. [Passes on to Louis Fincham].

[Mr L Fincham]: A lot of things have been implemented on campus. It's a 'schlep' to stand in a queue as I hear from others, but it increases awareness of who is on campus and where and when. We mustn't allow inconvenience to affect our thought pattern of safety. Might take longer to get into campus with the scanning of cars, but we know

where they are and when they came in and have a copy of their driver's license. It creates chaos with events like Open Days, but it does improve security.

[Mrs S Barnardo]: And we are also aware that there are 350 people who don't want to pay for parking so need to come in from off campus each day.

[Mr L Fincham]: We always ask 'what is faculty doing and campus security or USBD doing?'. But I ask myself 'what am I doing?' So if we have 500 eyes in Meerhoff, 500 in Hippo, and Francie and Kerkenberg, we are aware and we report what we see (to Mr Fincham or Mrs Barnardo), and we prevent these incidences from happening. You can ensure to keep this campus safe with the small things like cards going missing.

[Mr K Maharaj]: "The question you asked 'How does it benefit you?'. Ask yourself this: 'What would we do if we didn't have it there?'" Incidences from Main Campus of girl being held at gun point, another student attacked. It is there for protection. "Just a comment from us guys at Main Campus".

Madame Speaker announces that the Tygerberg Student Parliament Constitution has been submitted to Student Court for finalisation. Office hours are Mondays and Wednesdays 12-1pm, and there is a TSP board in the TSS – updates and feedback will be posted here, and any questions or concerns raised by students to be written up on the board. Facebook and Twitter addresses put up for attendees to follow to keep updated.

Sitting concluded.