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| **Name and Surname:** | Ntsako Mtileni |
| **Portfolio:** | Tygerberg Student Representative Council Chairperson |
| **Subject:** | Second term report |
| **Email:** | *tsrchair@sun.ac.za* |



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 Tygerberg Student Council Chair serves as the highest institutionalized representative of the Tygerberg Student Union. The TSR Chairperson, as the CEO of the Tygerberg student Council, similarly chairs the executive committee of the TSR. The TSR Chairperson also forms part of the Stellenbosch Students representative Council.

In my capacity as the chairperson, I serve on the Faculty Board, the Dean’s Advisory Committee on Transformation, Strategic Committee on Recruitment, Selection and Admission (SCoRSA), the Deans Management Team (DMT) and the Rectorate.

# Portfolio Overview

Portfolio responsibilities overview:

1. Chief executive officer of the TSR and the TSR executive
2. Spokesperson for the TSR and Tygerberg campus students
3. Communication: Campus emails to Tygerberg campus students
4. Chair the general and executive meetings of the TSR
5. Sit on the Dean’s Management Team.
6. Sit on the Rector’s Management Team.
7. Sit on the SRC.

Portfolio objectives:

* To amplify the voice of Tygerberg Students across the institution by working closely with the Rectorate and the Deans Management Team.
* To empower all members of the TSR to infiltrate spaces within the university’s management and to increase their circle of influence, in order to advocate for Tygerberg Students to the best of their capability.
* To improve the visibility of the TSR on campus by working with other student leadership bodies as well as non-positional leaders.
* To promote transparent and accountable governance.
* To improve the relationship between the SRC and the TSR.
* To be a proponent of social justice on campus as well as within my circle of influence in society at large.

Portfolio committee:

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| Ntsako Mtileni | 19804660 | Chairperson, Executive Committee |
| Kristin Arends | 20964765 | Vice-chairperson, Executive Committee |
| Nqabayezulu Mngomezulu | 18955339 | Secretary, Executive Committee |
| Nikita Heneke | 20843690 | Financial Manager, Executive Committee |
| Sanelisiwe Kulati | 21167109 | Student Development, Policy Unit Chair, Executive Committee |
| Tasneem Atia (recently resigned)/  Keaton Harris (new member) | 20119488/  17528682 | Student Wellness |
| Marnus van Niekerk | 20080956 | Sport |
| Menzi Mathenjwa | 20957599 | Social Impact |
| Lebo Likole | 18998720 | Student Services |
| Lynette Classen | 19795858 | Tygerberg Societies Council (TSC) Chairperson |
| Abdul-mutakabir Aziz | 20878273 | Tygerberg Academic Affairs (TABR) Chairperson |
| Slindekahle Msane | 21080798 | Tygerberg Prim Committee (TPC) Chaiperson |
| Sandisiwe Matyesini | 19243006 | Tygerberg Post-graduate Student Council (TPSC) Chairperson |
| Okara Opara | 20762402 | Culture |
| Melvene Devenish | 21144532 | Kopano |
| Nitesh Dayar | 21101329 | Media and Marketing |
| Dharshana Moodliar | 20741456 | Green and Sustainability |
| Lebo Mothupi | 20303688 | Critical Engagement |

# Committees / Task Teams

1. Tygerberg Student Representative Council:

Ensure that the meetings are productive as that the council has been meeting their outcomes and that action points have been completed.

1. Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Dean’s Management Team and the Rectorate:

Ensure that the voices and concerns of students are addressed to the highest level of management.

1. Stellenbosch University SRC:

As the Chairperson of the TSR I sit as an ex-official on the SRC.

# Budget Overview

I have requested a budget for travel costs to and from the Stellenbosch Campus for SRC related business. This will be arranged with the treasurer and the rest of the SRC executive committee. I have not been allocated an amount and it will also depend of the number of times I have to drive through to the Stellenbosch campus.

# Term Overview

SRC Duties

As an ex-officio member of the SRC, I am expected to attend SRC meetings and I have done so whenever I was available. In those cases, I would send my vice-chairperson or another member of my council to attend on my behalf.

At the beginning of the year, our priority as the SRC was to work on the registration campaign to ensure that students do not get financially excluded. I was initially allocated to working on the finances of the project with Brandon. I attended the Student Governance registration workshop on the 20th of January on Stellenbosch campus where we were being given useful information regarding how to handle the issues that we were to face during the registration period. As time progressed, I soon realised that Tygerberg students were not being catered to by the whole SRC because their issues would almost always be deferred to me despite the SRC having delegated duties to serve all SU students. However, in terms of food security, we were assisted, and students were aware of exactly where to go. I then saw the need to find a way to have my council find a way to run the rest of the registration campaign for Tygerberg students. I was assisted by my vice-chairperson, the then acting Tygerberg Academic Affairs Council Chairperson, Ramone Comalie and Anele Mdepa and we did what we could. Before the end of the year last year, we were in the process of trying to set up a fund where donors would contribute towards our TygRegisterAll fund and help students register, but there was a lot of red tape when the deputy registrar on Tygerberg campus went on leave so we were unable to set that up. Therefore, the TSR was especially financially unprepared for assisting students during registration. I will now continue working on ways to set up the fund and ensure that my successor plans properly for the coming year.

I have brought up a few issues to the Rectorate during our meeting on the 29th of January 2020. Firstly, the lack of a running night shuttle service around Tygerberg campus like there is for Stellenbosch campus students. Subsequent to that, I was able to set up a meeting with the relevant stakeholders to discuss the shuttle services issue that Tygerberg students face and solutions were brought to the table. The TSR then worked on a survey and a proposal to present to the rectorate. We were meant to present this on the 17th of March but were unable to due to the coronavirus pandemic.

TSR Duties

To increase the visibility of the TSR on Tygerberg campus, part of my year plan has been to have monthly engagements. We had one successful one and I intent on having more because they were very beneficial.

As the TSR, we have meetings twice a month and my role is to chair these meetings. I have done that for every meeting except one where I was unavailable due to academic obligations and my vice-chair chaired on my behalf. I have successfully ensured that the format of our meetings is mainly for giving feedback on what the members are busy with at the moment, and ensure that we have discussions which do not need us to meet on the WhatsApp group chat in order to save time. This format has been helpful because it has allowed members to know what others in the council are doing and to help and collaboration when necessary. This space has been more productive than the former meeting format where it was mainly only discussion points and feedback from ex-officio members.

In terms of representing Tygerberg students locally with our faculty Dean’s Management Team (DMT), there was some misunderstanding during our first DMT meeting which I was absent from and the feedback which I received was that the DMT was unwilling to assist the TSR with any of our student-related matters. This conclusion was mostly drawn from the fact that we are only given 20 minutes to meet with the DMT, 3 times in our entire tenure. After putting this concern on our agenda for the Rectorate meeting, I had a meeting with Prof Blitz from the DMT and we cleared all the misunderstanding and a proposal was put forward to have the TSR meet with her and Prof Volmink (FMHS Dean) once every two months for a feedback and discussions meeting. I am still awaiting communication regarding this.

There are quite a few issues which we as the TSR are working on and I would not be able to mention them all. TSR members all must write their own reports and their projects are all on there.

My term in office has consistently been met with big institutional and societal challenges which have derailed me from my original year plan projects. However, I am grateful for these interruptions because they have led to conscientizing many constituencies of the institution to issues such as gender-based violence since last year and socio-economic inconsistencies during the registration period. The coronavirus pandemic has also changed the way we have been able to conduct business now that we have to work from home. I am obviously unable to work on most of my projects which include increasing campus visibility of the TSR, but I believe that the team and I have been doing our very best to work with the difficult situations we have been faced with.

Since the beginning of the term, 3 members have resigned from the TSR to date and we have been faced with the challenge of trying to replace them, but we overcame that too and the current team is working well together.

# Plans for Next Academic Term

1. Monthly Campus Engagements

This project is one that will improve the visibility of the TSR on campus. The TSR will host engagement sessions in different spaces around campus, including residence recreational halls and the hubs. During these engagements which will happen at the end of each month, we will ask students for feedback on the work that the TSR has done during that month. We have already had one engagement in February which was hosted in Huis Francie van Zijl’s Recreational Hall and it was quite successful. I look forward to hosting more around campus.

1. TSR Strategic Communication Committee

My vice-chair will re-open applications for sub-committees for TSR portfolios. The first round of applications was unsuccessful, but we hope for a better outcome. Hopefully this will be my sub-committee which will consist of non-positional leaders. These students will be from different communities and they will assist in gathering information from students regarding their experiences of campus life. They will also help me figure out why there is so much apathy regarding issues that affect students on campus, and together we will figure out a way to get everyone involved.

1. Priority Polls

Student participation in extra-curricular events and activities is low and despite great efforts from previous TSRs, the apathy persists. This project will hopefully assist us in finding out what makes students happy on campus so that we can continue doing that, and what they would like us to do that will make them even happier. The aim is to find student-driven ways to improve the student experience of the TSU.

1. Complaint and Suggestion Box In TSS

This project will work hand in hand with the project planned by the Vice-chairperson, to have a TSR stand in the TSS. My contribution to the project will be to put out suggestion/complaint forms that students can fill in. A TSR member will collect them at the end of every week and make a note of what was mentioned in the forms.

1. SRC And TSR Socials

To bridge the gap between the TSR and SRC. To ensure that the SRC is kept up to speed with what the TSR is doing, and vice versa. Building this relationship will be to the benefit of Tygerberg students in the long run.

1. SRC Meetings on Tygerberg Campus

I will be planning this together with the SRC chairperson and secretary, as they decide where SRC meetings are to be held. This is to increase the visibility of the SRC on Tygerberg campus.

# Recommendations for Portfolio Improvement

1. Registration period

Preparations for the registration period on Tygerberg campus need to be improved. I am currently writing a report for my handover period for my successor. Before finalising this, I will discuss with the SRC whether or not Tygerberg needs to work independently on our efforts to register all students, or if the SRC going forward will support Tygerberg students.

1. Work harder to encourage students to attend TSR meetings so that they stay informed.

# Important Contacts

* [deanfmhs@sun.ac.za](mailto:deanfmhs@sun.ac.za) – FMHS Dean – Prof Jimmy Volmink
* [tygstudpar@sun.ac.za](mailto:tygstudpar@sun.ac.za) – Tygerberg Student Parliament
* [ramone@sun.ac.za](mailto:ramone@sun.ac.za) – TSR Student Governance Coordinator – Ramone Comalie
* [anelemdepa@sun.ac.za](mailto:anelemdepa@sun.ac.za) – Student Governance Manager – Anele Mdepa
* [sn2@sun.ac.za](mailto:sn2@sun.ac.za) – Faculty management
* [khairoonisa@sun.ac.za](mailto:khairoonisa@sun.ac.za) – Manager Student Affairs: Tygerberg – Khairoonisa Foflonker
* [juliablitz@sun.ac.za](mailto:juliablitz@sun.ac.za) – Vice-Dean: Teaching and Learning – Prof Julia Blitz