**SRC Meeting Minutes**

**6 March 2020**

**Goldfields Residence**

**17：30 -19：00**

**Attendees**

Lewis Mboko

Jeff Ngobeni

Chloe Krieger

Wama Ngoma

Fadeelah Williams

Xola Njengele

Ntsako Mtileni

Grace Mngadi

Robynne Boonzaaier

Luigi Nicholas

Phillip Visage

Joconde Nsumbu

Nomzamo Buthelezi (Proxy for Yanga Keva)

Shilela Bopape

**Absent**

Eric Le Roux (Apologies)

Christina Brazier (Apologies)

Brandon Murray (Apologies)

Tebogo Ndaba (Apologies)

Ingrid Heydenrych (Apologies)

Michael Burke (Apologies)

Tembakazi Swaartbooi (Apologies)

**Late Comers**

Lwazi Phakade

Sifiso Zungu

1. **Welcoming Lewis**

Introductions

1. **Approval of the previous Minutes :** Anomalously Approved
2. **Feedback:**
   1. Prim Committee: Absent
   2. AAC:

* AAC day, an event-taking place on the “Rooiplein” to act, as an introduction of the AAC to the student body, was a success.
* Prof Schoowinkel and Prof. Ronel Retief have requested input from the AAC with regards to questions for a focus group on the language policy.
* The pilot project with students being on the readmission committee:

The AAC is currently waiting on reports from this pilot project in order to build a formal policy that will guide student representation on the readmission committee in the future.

* 1. Society
* The Societys’ councils’ audit has officially been made electronic.
* The Societys council hosted a PSO Symposium event with the purpose of working on how PSO’s and societies can work together. The event was a success.
  1. TSR:
* Tygerberg students who wrote exams in January have not yet heard the results of their NSFAS applications. Ntsako is waiting on feedback she is set to get on Monday 9 March on the actions Mr. Ahmad will take to correct this matter if these actions are not satisfactory she will approach the registrar to assist.
* The TSR is undertaking the rebranding of the TSR logo.
* The TSR pleas for improved accessibility for Tygerberg students.
* The TSR has a meeting with the Rectorate Management team on 17 Marchof which the following are issues she would like to address:
* The issue of free night shuttles, which, while Stellenbosch students are privileged to have access to is not provide to Tygerburg students; in fact the only shuttle service currently available to Tygerburg students imposes a cost on students. Secondly, the issue of inter campus shuttles between Stellenbosch Campus and Tygerburg campus. On both of these issues, the TSR would like the SRC’s support.
* The TSR will also note that campus health closes too early in the year in comparison to the general schedule of medicine students, which is a serious problem for these students.
* The Security issue on Tygerberg Campus
* The 2 month long waiting list to see the psychologist on Tygerberg Campus
* The TSR will request that the HIV free testing that the SUEquality Unit only made available to Stellenbosch Campus is made available to Tygerburg students as well.

1. **Lewis allows QueerUs to present**

QueerUs presents a recap of the incidents of Wilgenhof, as previously highlighted Dr Choices’ email titled **“Notice to temporarily relieve students implicated in alleged dehumanising practices from their roles in**Wilgenho**f men’s residence”** which was sent to all students.

Yestersday 5 March, a homophobic WhatsApp status implicating a mentor of Wilgenhof residence circled Stellenbosch students’ social media outlets.

Paul, Education Executive of QueerUs, attended an internal Cluster engagement of which the Residence Head of Wilgenhof also attended. The Residence Head made himself available for questions, however many student felt unsatisfied by his response and as and further interpreted them as acts of protection of bigots.

After Paul spoke with other residence heads whom refused assistance a march was planned.

QueerUs requests the perpetrators of the queerphobic and hateful speech to be held accountable. They further would like to enquire what bureaucratic processes are halting the processes of accountability。

QueerUs requests that the SRC places focus on these issues of queerphobic and hate-speech on campus。

***Point of clarity:*** Jeff requests clarity on the nature of the incident i.e. online or physical contacts.

*Response:* This incidence occurred online. Other verbal incidences have been recorded in residence. Paul is unaware of whether there any physical violence incidences have occurred however after the march at least 2 different groups of attendees were pelted with eggs by people in vehicles. Last year there was also an interaction between members of the queer community with another resident of Wilgenhof. The non-queer residence member mentioned the bible verse with regard to the stoning of queer people. This resident upon questioning later confirmed his support of this practice of murdering queer people obviously making the queer residents feel very uncomfortable and unsafe.

Lewis allows a student to ask a question: What exactly happened at Wilgenhof?

Paul explains the events as described in DR Choices’ email: A residence practice that dates back to 1930’s called Nagligter was identified and brought to management attention. Allegedly, the practice consists of members from an unofficial extrajudicial disciplinary committee whom dress up in garbs similar to the KKK garbs and “discipline” those students they deem worthy of discipline. Rumours of rituals involving nudity in relation to these practices were also brought up by QueerUs.

QueerUs notes that it was reported to them that, “Mr Wilson has no intention of suspending the mentor [in question]”

Lewis allows a question. Question: *How often is this practice actually put into practice?*

QueerUs notes that to their knowledge this practise has been consistently practiced

Lewis describes the SRC’s interaction with the case. Lewis and Wama were both informed of the Wilgenhof issue, prior to the official email of management’s stance coming out, after which they kept contact with student governance to make sure student governance, was responding and taking action against this case of queerphobia.

Lewis notes that the HK of Wilgenhof was served with a notion of suspension from the day after DR Choices email was sent out.

Lewis also spoke with Prof Wim de Villiers whom assured him that three processes are currently taking place simultaneously: The CSCD is currently looking into the matter, An Investigation into the culture and practices of Wilgenhof is taking place as well as another process of which Lewis could not at the time recall.

Lewis further notes that discussion to send out a communication noting our stance of support with the Queer community had already begun before the meeting and will through our communications officer be sent out.

*Decision*: As the SRC, we would like to support residence education on issues of LGBTQI education. We encourage our transformation and safety portfolios to collaborate with QueerUs as well as the transformation office and the prim committees.

Sifiso enters meeting

1. **Tygerberg RegisterALL campaign.**

Ntsako requests clarity with regards to the register all fund and whether or not it will include Tygerberg in funding relief to include to Tygerberg Students as the confusion she experienced led to further confusion in the processes of seeking assistance for students. She further requires this clarification to guide her successor through the registration period 2021 via her handover report.

Ntsako further request that the SRC notify the TSR if the SRC wishes to have a distinction between the Tygerberg students and Stellenbosch campus students. As during the registration period, a distinction was made apparent through the registration process, which took place during January, and February wherein there was much uncertainty concerning who will be organizing access to the same forms of assistance that SRC was providing to Stellenbosch students for Tygerberg students. Ntsako notes that TSR does not appreciate that they left in the dark when it comes to these matters and expects that the src will in future be more organised when it comes to equal access to Tygerberg students.

Jeff notes the issue of information communication experienced at the time. He continues noting that he suspects that had the TSR communicated with the SRC that there was issues in service provision of the registration assistances on Tygerberg the SRC would have assisted in this issue however, this communication was not given to the SRC at the actual time of registration. Declaring that Tygerberg has a leadership crisis in insensitive.

Lwazi notes that we should be considerate of the fact that Tygerberg campuses and other campuses are a peripheral and thus Stellenbosch students on these campuses do not receive the same privileges that student on Stellenbosch campus does, and that further we as the student representative council represent all Stellenbosch students on all campuses.

Ntsako refocuses the discussion to the question at hand, which is her asking what information with regard to src assistance during registration period she should give her successors in her handover report that will guide them in these processes next year.

Lewis sincerely apologises for any stress the TSR and Ntsako felt during the registration period that was caused by the uncertainty and notes that moving forward he will make a concerted effort to be more considerate of Tygerberg campus.

Fadeelah notes that Dr Ronel Retief’s task team is set to outline the registration process for all student structures. Through this process, clarity will be gained for all SRC Successors, including Tygerberg when it comes to the registration process however, a representative from the TSR on this team would greatly assist in these efforts especially considering Tygerberg registration and classes start much earlier the rest of Stellenbosch University.

Further, with regard to the register All Funds; Prof Thuli Madonsela did not donate to Stellenbosch Students. Rather a contract was made binding Prof Madonsela as well as the SRC to be responsible for the student debt funds o those students who will be allowed to register despite historical debt. This bond is a safety measure in the case that Prof. Madonsela along with the SRC is unable to fundraise for the total amount required by all the students with Historical debt. The donation announcements that was previously made to the SRC was with regard to donors within the fundraising efforts of the SRC and Prof Madonsela. These funds assisted students who were documented by the Historical Debt Task Team. The documentation of Tygerberg students was also sent to this team, thus, they would also be covered by the fundraiser.

1. **Student access “Scraping”**

For context, the SRC Executive made the decision to dissolve the Student Access portfolio for the remainder of their term as:

* 1. Nobody wanted that portfolio and it would be ill advised to appoint someone to take on a portfolio as widespread as this if they vehemently do not want it, which was the case for the SRC member up for consideration for appointments, by the executive.
  2. The executive came to the decision after revising various reports of previous portfolio holders that post registration there was not much need for a single person to hold this portfolio as issues of student access as whole cover a broad variety of issues that. Technically should be the purpose of the student representative council thus it would be unfair to unload such a large mandate on one person. Instead, the responsibilities of student access should be shared amongst the entire SRC.

As per the constitution, Chapter 3 Subsection 35 point (3) *Decisions taken by the Executive Committee in terms of subsection (2) will be of full force and effect unless set aside by the SRC at a later meeting.* However as quorum (11 voting member) is not met no voting can occur in this meeting.

1. **Grace Mngadi requests for an addition to the agenda as we now have quorum.**

Motion denied as Grace was confused, as we currently do not have quorum.

1. **Code of conduct**

Code of Conduct Voting in pushed to our next meeting to allow managers the opportunity to make edits and additions. Monday 9 March is the deadline for these additions, which are only open to managers.

1. **Election Convenors**

The election convenors will be announced by tonight.

1. **Disciplinary committee**

Disciplinary committee proceedings cannot move forward until after the code of conduct is adopted.

1. **The Next SRC Meeting**

The next SRC meeting will be communicated this weekend over email.

**Closing of meeting.**