**AGENDA**

**Students’ Representative Council Meeting**

**Date: 27 May 2019**

**Time: 17:00-19:00**

**Venue: Online**

1. **Welcoming Lewis**
2. **Attendance Fadeelah**

Lewis

Wama

Fadeelah

Yanga

Xola

Philip

Tebogo

Brandon

Chloё

Jeff

Sifiso

Ntsako

Xola

Ingrid

Micheal

Luigia

Grace

Christina

**Apologies**

Eric le roux

**Absent**

Shilela

Joconde

Tembakazi

1. **Approval of previous minutes Fadeelah**

Previous meeting minutes approved

1. **Setting of the Agenda Fadeelah**

Student Governance added by Brandon

1. **Term Feedback** 
   1. Prim Committee

The Prim Committee has been virtually involved with almost every structure in the university and thus has had to be very busy during these times. The collaboration they had with various entities has allowed for effective and good problem solving such as practical challenges arising with Covid-19 relating to residences and other communities, as well as with constant communication to the Centre for Student Communities, reporting to Student Affairs through the SRC.Thus much of their focus this term was on crisis control. The Prim committee has also been dealing with community building and addressing the alcohol policy issue. The goal currently set for the community specific drafts (each environment respective drafts) to be available is before the beginning of third term. The Vice Chair raises that in his respect community building within a virtual space has been a focus point. A strategic conference on skill and leadership development occurred online and was very successful, also the first of its kind. Other attention was paid to focusing on transitional plans to achieve community building goals in a virtual space

*It is also raised that the prim committee has gotten questions about residence fees and returning processes and thus requests any information from SRC positions on business continuity workstreams to be shared. Miss Williams notes that residence fees is an issue currently on the agenda for her next workstream and invites the prim chair to attend as well as commits to sharing any other relevant info. She also notes that as of, yet no definite decisions have been made.*

* 1. Senior Prim committee

Many of the Senior Prim committees Term 2 plans especially engagements were derailed however they have taken the time to begin planning for alternative methods in online times due especially to the low number of senior students currently on campus. The previously agreed upon joint alcohol document plans has also been postponed until further notice.

* 1. Academic Affairs Council

Amongst the uncertainty brought about by the Covid-19 outbreak, the focus then became the transition towards online learning. Cognisant of the many concerns arising about the transition mainly concerning access; it is important that students understand that the AAC is doing all it can to ensure that no student is left out when the transition comes to fruition. The AAC Chairperson serves on the Institutional Business Continuity Subcommittee for Online Learning & Assessment – championing all the concerns that students have raised thus far such that laptops are accessed by students and data for online-learning has been distributed to students.

* 1. Societies Council

In response to the pandemic the Societies Council executive declared a suspension of all contact activities of the Societies Council and Societies. Further measures were taken to ensure that no society would be able to continue with contact activities. In that regard. The Societies Council executive will release its long-term strategic plan that will ensure that the Societies Council continues to operate far beyond the crisis. The challenges that has been faced are that SU management has taken decision on the matter of societies fees that has affected societies negatively however the executive committee is currently looking into this matter.

* 1. TSR

Final year medical students had to return to campus and there were no answers nor clarities from the faculty regarding observations of Covid-19 strategies of student traveling and which students must return to their residences and which to quarantine. Further their election and evaluation with regard to handover is currently on-going through initiating online interaction to keep students informed

* 1. Military Academy

*Removed due to absence of Tembakazi*

* 1. Managers feedback

KUKO Arts and culture Philip

This term will not have any in person events due to the current Covid-19 outbreak. however, some events have been moved to online platforms such as debates moved to Zoom/Microsoft teams. Other events have been pushed to the 3rd and 4th terms. Importantly the variety show has been moved to an online platform and the KUKO committee is currently planning for it. There will be no entry fee and all entries will be available for viewing purposes on online platforms.

Special needs portfolio Luiga

Facebook and Instagram accounts for the portfolio have been created to share regular relevant information and experiences during lockdown on social media. The portfolio is working towards getting all online learning platforms to be inclusive and successful. The committee finally got the captioning option on MS teams online through collaboration with IT, but they are still struggling with the captioning function for MS streams. They are also making sure that all necessary information and assistance is available to students. It is also working close with IT for assistance when it comes to online activities issues and resolutions. Further collaboration so far includes working with PULP on accessible film streaming’s, plans in the works to collaborate with both the TSR and SRC on both campuses on a sign language campaign. The committee has also worked with the Africa Network for Evidence in Action for Disabilities and the 2020 year of disabilities planning committee and student governance on various projects including a universal access campaign. More details will be available in the Special needs term 3 report and on their Facebook page.

Womxn and Queer Empowerment Grace

The portfolio’s Instagram page was initiated to share information with students with a focus on education, inspiration and celebration. Funding has been refocused, thanks to the new guideline as most plans are now focused on online critical engagement and safe spaces. Costs include for example costs related to using a book for one of the critical engagements wherein in doctor and the author of the book will participate. The team has collaborated with the debate society to discuss how to move the queer community forward. A lot of other plans like pride month and womxn week has taken more time to plan as the team has faced issues with regard to planning safe online celebrations for pride due to the potential for virtual spaces to become hateful, but the team is focusing on the best and safest way to have celebratory events. With regard to anti-gbv working groups each member of the WAQE committee has been assigned to an anti-gbv working group. Stagnation occurred in the groups’ meetings due to COVID-19 however meetings restarted this week. Groups are starting to face a problem with regard to student engagement. Students feel slightly drained as COVID-19 and academics have taken up most of their energy. The committee is also working on a list of communities that have shown to be unresponsive in attempts at engagement this term so that next term the committee can find alternative forms of engagement and or accountability for their apathy with regard to womxn and queer empowerment in their communities.

1. **Voting**

Code of Conduct Amendment on the regulation of meeting recordings

SRC members voted that the amendments will not be made on the code of conduct in regard to sharing recordings of the SRC executive meetings.

1. **Discussion** 
   1. Constitutional Amendments Sifiso

Sifiso raises constitutional amendments he plans to propose with regard to carrying the 2020/2021 SRC elections out under Covid-19 circumstances. Election conveners has been in contacted to find a way to carry the 2020/2021 elections. Sifiso wishes to gain the SRC’s support in this amendment however this cannot be done without a written version of the amendment as a vote of support needs to occur with regard to a written amendment. It was decided that another special meeting would occur at this meeting all amendments discussed in the meeting will be voted on (with relation to support) only if they provide written forms of the amendment. Some votes will not only be with regard to SRC support of the amendment moving to student court but that can immediately be adopted in the constitution such as the amendments raised by Yanga and Ingrid (of which, again, need to be provided in written form before the meeting in order to be considered for a vote) relevant to their bodies elections and their election deadlines.

Other Constitutional Amendments

A platform to other SRC members to raise constitutional amendments of interest. SRC Members will send their proposed amendments to the policy officer for consideration.

Ingrid and Yanga raise constitutional amendments; however, a decision is taken that both amendments would be addressed at another special meeting before there’s elections (5 June Friday in order to allow for a vote).

1. **General Points**

Student Governance added Brandon

The department of Alumni relations requests feedback with regard to who should manage and report on donations in the MoveforMaties relief fund for students, of which the SRC utilizes for students, specifically for registration purposes. Governance for the cost centre has not been great under the department of alumni relations since there has not been any clear explanation for who’s responsible for this cost centre. The request for feedback with regard to who exactly is and should be responsible is necessary so that there is efficacy of how the funds are utilized as well as with regard to reporting to relevant stakeholders. Importantly, it cannot be governed by the SRC alone due to the nature of the cost centre and the short terms of SRC members especially the treasurer. The proposed managers include the bursaries office, student governance or the department of alumni relations.

Lewis recommends feedback to be given in the next SRC meeting.

1. **Next Meeting Fadeelah**

**5 June 2020 17:15-18:30 – Special SRC meeting**

1. **Closing Lewis**