



Minutes

Students' Representative Council Meeting

Date: 2022-05-11 | Time: 18:00 | Venue: SRC Boardroom and
Microsoft Teams

Welcoming

Presented by **Viwe**.

Attendance and Apologies

Presented by **Alysa-Abby**.

Attendance:

- Viwe Kobokana
- Philip Visage
- Alysa-Abby Kekana
- Precious Nhamo
- Chris Briel (online)
- Takadiwa Chipfumbu (online)
- Christo Van Der Bank
- Eugene Nell
- George Van Dyk
- Tamara Wicomb
- Vhudi Ravhutsi
- Pule Lebaka (online)
- Wandile Sebothoma (online)
- Alok More
- Josiah Aiyer
- Gerrard Damons
- Thimna Sotyato (online)
- Anzel Pansegrouw
- Alex Vink
- Sine Dlamini (Second for Toni Solomon)
(Online)

Absent:

- Toni Solomon
- Tanyaradzwa Chiza
- Tessa Brooke
- Fadeelah Williams
- Andre Zander Niemand (without excuse)



Setting of Agenda:

- Presented by Alysa-Abby. An Agenda point regarding the Rectors Awards for Excellent Achievement was added by Alok.

Internal Affairs:

- Happy birthday to Tessa and Wandile.
- Applications for benchmarking close today at midnight.
- No late submissions will be accepted but if the situation is extraneous, you are more than welcome to reach out to Viwe or Philip, explain what happened and they will make sure your application is included.
- A reminder that Alysa-Abby will send communication on the WhatsApp group regarding her deadline as to when you need to let her know if you want to join the Executive meeting on Monday, just so that you are included in the email for the agenda and supporting documents.



Institutional Committee Feedback:

Philip Visage; Vice-Chairperson

- Institutional Forum met on the 10th of May.
- Three policies were discussed, the Intellectual Property Policy, the Consultation Work Policy and the Communications Policy.
- The Intellectual Property Policy and the Consultation Work Policy while they do not affect students in general, had some pushback from certain faculties as to open sourcing and how exactly the university is implementing their own intellectual property. It seems to be in the draft phase and is still being engaged upon at faculty board levels.
- Every recommendation given for the Communications Policy was accepted and incorporated into the policy.
- Student Fees Committee met on the 5th of May and majority of the meeting was spent in preparation for the actual meeting later in the term where students fees will be delved into. Alysa-Abby and Philip will liaise with as many AAC members as possible to find where the SRC may run interference with academic fees as it has been a longstanding practice for the Student Fees Committee to adopt the faculties' proposals and not really look into why student fees are being raised when there is not reason given for any more progress or any more assistance is given to students for it.
- A department has asked for concessions to allow for international students to make a split initial payment of 2 instead of the current 1.
- 82 students who have requested to split their installment up into 3 have not yet paid the first payment which was due in March. This is something RegisterAll may have to take note of next year given the fact the SRC assists in the breaking up and paying of these payments. This is noteworthy as they will not allow any student who has not paid the first installment to ever again split the payments.
- A task team has been established for the PSOs student levies and as to what extent it is relevant given the low participation in previous years. The task team is being led by Tonya and there is no relevant feedback at this point.
- Feedback will be available later as well as is PK if are aware of the task team and the progress with the situation.
- The RegisterAll students who were not given communication from the university as to their application status will be brought up at the next Student Fees Committee Meeting as to discuss the relevant procedures in this case.

Takadiwa Chipfumbu; *SU International*

- The International Office encourages students to apply to study abroad.
- There is an opportunity to study in Ghana which closes on the 15th of May.

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Eugene Nell; Chairperson: *Senior Prim Committee*

- The **meeting** with **Co-Curricular Fund** took place on the **11th** of **May**.
- They wanted to let students know the **definition** for **co-curricular** and **academic exchange programmes** may **not** currently be **clear** in the **guidelines**. I.E. If you are doing a short course in Economics, a month long course, and your current degree is listed under the BA Faculty, even though it is not a required part of your curricular, it is still an academic type of program. USKOF does not fund those opportunities as it is more for attending events, conferences and summits that are co-curricular than something that you would receive accreditation for.

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Portfolio Feedback:

Viwe Kobokana; *Chairperson*

- The SRC Exec and Rectorate Meeting took place on the 5th of May.
- Prof Eugene Cloete ends his term at the end of July and Prof Moyo starts on the 1st of September. Communication from the rector is being waited upon as to the procedures in August where there is no Deputy Vice Chancellor: Innovation, Research and Postgraduate Students.
- Guidelines concerning 2nd semester classes were engaged upon.
- Prof Stan has been asked what the procedures are if campus was to go back to 100% or 50% and for communication from his RC for these processes as well as reiteration of COVID regulations to be made available for students and lecturers.
- Alysa-Abby and Viwe will be taking part of benchmarking on the 13th of May with Indiana State University. Representatives who have requested to speak to DSAF are coming as well as other student leaders. Student Court, Parliament and the Election Committee will be in attendance.
- Feedback from the benchmarking will be given in the next SRC General Meeting.
- The final first draft of the Transformation Policy has been uploaded to the internal teams for the policy task team. There is a meeting next week to discuss the policy, start commenting and clarification will be given as to the consultation process and if not, there is as much communication from Viwe as possible with the team to still have some form of input from the SRC.

Philip Visage; *Vice-Chairperson & Policy Officer*

- 78% of the constitutions are in the repository.
- Approximately 118 are processed and ready while 34 are still missing between the societies and communities.

Alysa-Abby Kekana; *Secretary-General, Student Financial Access*

- The Action for Inclusion Fundraiser has been moved to the 2nd semester.
- Consultations with the ex officio structures will still happen so please expect communication if you have not yet been communicated with.
- Another Action for Inclusion project will be happening towards the end of May with a Twitter space for universities in Africa. The official invitation to the SRC will go out once the other universities have confirmed.
- A meeting with Van Schaik will happen on the 12th of May to finalise details for the Stationary and Textbook Drive Initiative.

Precious Nhamo; *Treasurer, Social Impact & Innovation:*

- The Innovation Talk for the SRC and TSRC was attended with Prof Eugene.
- The Volunteering programme is continuing with Maties.

- There was R35000 donation from MGMMD which was in support of the project as it is a 5 year long project and can be evaluated every term.
- The Social Impact Week will be hosted from the 18th to the 25th of July. There has been communication with the societies and the communities. Formal communication will be presented to the SRC where you select where you see fit in the Sustainable Development Goals and which date you utilise in the Social Impact Week.
- Budget amendments were received for five portfolios; Student Wellness, Sport, Marketing, SU and Leadership and Development.

Chris Briel; *Student Wellness*

- Student Parliament had a meeting this week to check on certain projects which were cancelled due to lack of funds.
- Chris and Gerrard will be working together for the Scream sessions. Thimna will be contacted in terms of security with loadshedding.

Takadiwa Chipfumbu; *SU International*

- An Outlook Group has been created for the international students.

Christo Van Der Bank *Vice-Chairperson: Prim Committee*

- Toni is in the hospital for an undetermined amount of time with Christo stepping in as Chairperson for the Prim Committee.
- Next week is the last PK meeting, please direct any questions to Christo via WhatsApp.
- There has been a spike in COVID cases in the communities, please be safe in the exam season.

George Van Dyk; *Chairperson: Academic Affairs Council*

- The AAC's constitution has been approved unanimously and will be presented for ratification and will be an agenda point next week.
- Communication regarding the ratification will be made available by Friday.
- One additional venue will be added for studying purposes in the engineering faculty with a centralised spreadsheet to accommodate all students. This has gotten the go ahead from Prof Stan and Prof Deresh to implement institutionally where possible.

Tamara Wicomb; *Chairperson: Societies Council*

- A meeting with Thulani takes place on the 14th of May to discuss the co-curriculum.
- Training took place on the 7th of May. 35% of the chairpersons attended.
- The constitution is being reviewed.
- A meeting on the 12th of May is taking place to discuss finances and approvals of money that has to be paid.

Vhudi Ravhutsi; *Chairperson: Tygerberg Students' Representatives Council (TSRC)*

- There will be feedback forum on the 12th of May for the TSRC. It will be hybrid and Vhudi will share a link on the group if you are interested in joining.

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- Invitations for the honorary awards evening were sent to the special guests approximately a week ago.
- The Tygerberg constitution was approved.
- Last week there was a meeting with IT, Facilities Management and Student Governance to iron out the issue of the societies room at the Tygerberg campus. The Tygerberg Prim Committee Chairperson was also in attendance. The atmosphere was hostile with accusations of the TSRC stopping the progress of internet at the Tygerberg campus. All parties are able to proceed amicably and peacefully. More feedback will be offered once facilities management has presented the approach on moving forward.
- The Shuttle Proposal meeting was postponed.
- The Pap Smear Project run by TSRC Student Wellness is a project the SRC is encouraged to partake in.

Pule Lebaka; Student Captain: Military Academy

- Military Academy Student Committee (MASC) is finalizing the MASC Constitution
- Exams starting this weekend at the Military Academy so all official sporting activities have been paused.
- From 6 June to 15 July the Military Academy students will be on recess to different Mil units to do other Leadership causes.

Wandile Sebothoma; Branding

- There is a bit of a catch up with things that the Branding Department is assisting with, which is the brochure and finalising consultations for the branding for the SRC.

Alok More; Communications Officer

- The mass mailer has a slight delay as not all the translations were received on time. The Afrikaans and Xhosa translations have been received with the mass mailer expected to be finally sent out at some point this week.

Josiah Aiyer; Marketing

- The SRC will be having a TikTok/Instagram giveaway.
- There is a collaboration with WAQE and more information regarding this will be made available soon.
- African month is being acknowledged this month, a collaboration with SU International for this, is being discussed.

Gerrard Damons; KuKo (Culture Committee)

- Palesa's Festival Final took place last weekend. Ticket sales were good and a report was done by Die Matie Online.
- The Glitterball has been moved to the 1st week of the 3rd term as there was lack of feedback due to the document that was sent out to the relevant portfolio holders and more feedbacks required from the Tygerberg campus.
- A meeting with the Tygerberg HCs will take place this weekend to discuss the responsibilities as well as a general collaboration.
- The Variety Show: the music category winner will be announced at the end of the week.

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- In terms of Scream, a document plan will be sent out by the end of the week and all relevant portfolios will be notified.
- Training with the sub comm went really well.

Thimna Sotyato; *Safety & Security*

- As from the 10th of May, in regards to the evening shuttle, an update from Pieter Wever (Director of Transport Services) is that talks with the relevant university roleplayers and the taxi associations are taking place and are awaiting formal approval to resume the shuttle services.
- The Prevention of Human Trafficking Talk takes place on the 12th of May. Student leaders and all students are invited.

Anzel Pansegrouw; *Special Needs (Disability Justice)*

- Safe Space takes place on the 13th of May. An invitation was sent to many student groups with disabled students. It will be put up on Instagram too.
- Anzel has been invited to speak at a symposium at Nelson Mandela University. They are having a revamp of their disability unit.
- There is a meeting with the Disability Unit on the 13th of May to discuss how a forum for disabled students can be found.
- Anzel would like to talk to UCT about this and they have one starting on the 12th of May.
- The service dogs are writing exams and have to be postponed.

Alex Vink; *Womxn and Queer Empowerment (WAQE)*

- Episode 2 of Stay WAQE was released last week. The SRC has been employed to listen. The topic is Sex and Sexual Health.
- Pride Week has been moved to scattered days in May and July as June is taken up by mostly exams and there is a want for the number of events not to decrease.
- The KuKo Culture Evening takes place on the 16th of May at Minerva.
- The Pride Picnic will happen on the 20th of May during lunchtime on the Neelsie Grass. SRC members are encouraged to come.



Matters for Discussion:

Policy Officer Presentation on Ratification

Philip provided a brief explanation on the process of Ratification in which he highlighted the following:

- Ratification is, as mentioned in George's AAC feedback, not a rubber stamp.
- It is not substantive analysis. It is not the SRC's job to delve into the intricacies of a document.
- The job is to determine whether the Constitution is in alignment with what the SRC considers to be correct for the student populace.
- A brief from George explaining the major amendments to the Constitution and what the processes up to now have been that have been followed, will be sent.
- The SRC is to read the documents and read through the Constitution. The main document is the brief explaining the major amendments.

Poster Stamping Protocol

Philip

- There was some hesitancy expressed a few weeks ago by the SRC in a DSAF meeting regarding the way in which posters are used across the Stellenbosch University Campus.
- This is specifically in regards to what the SRC is stamping and what is being put up where on campus.
- A US Stamping Protocol was created by DSAF after a poster which was perceived to be offensive was put up and stamped.
- The following was asked: What does it mean when the SRC stamps a poster? When does a poster need to be stamped by the SRC? Where is it placed once it is stamped?
- When the SRC is referred to, the TSRC is also being referred to.

The SRC provided the following feedback:

- To possibly be added: the guidelines or protocols as to the length of the poster staying up. The regulation of that and the management of that. A new protocol for how those dates work is necessary to consider.
- Who in the building where the poster is being put up should be made clear as well as the extent of the power. Student leaders especially need to be informed on this.
- Regarding the language of the poster, if one is to stamp the poster in a language that they do not speak, how is one to know what is being said? Perhaps a document of the poster in English may be presented for submission.

- If the situation arises where one is unable to understand the poster and unable to make contact with anyone able to translate the poster, ask the person if a photo may be taken or for them to come back later unfortunately.
- It was also suggested with regards to point 5 of the document that language is not a consideration for posters.

Rector's Award for Excellent Achievement:

Alok

- A meeting with Student Governance took place and everything underway to proceed with the Rector's Award.
- They have reached out to Alok to bring it to the SRC to start thinking of industries or people to nominate for SRC nomination for the board. This year's preliminary theme is Sustainable Innovation, Pursuing Excellence Together. This was done in line with the brand values after the rebranding.
- Philip suggests asking the Alumni Office for suggestions for nominations.
- George has suggested the SRC nominate people.
- Viwe suggests a combination of the two ideas and a discussion following the suggestions.
- Thulani from Student Governance has said If there are specific names you can reach out yourself. If it is industries, Alok will email it to Thulani who will communicate it to the Alumni Office.
- Philip has suggested nominating someone young for the award.

In terms of Industries, the following were suggested:

- The medical and health industries have been suggested.
- engineering and technology.
- education.
- Innovation business.
- Environmental Science.

Matters for Resolution:

SRC Evaluation Panel:

- Anyone who wants to be part of the discussion is welcome at the Executive meeting.
- Philip and Viwe agree that this should not take place during a SRC General meeting.
- Voting took place for delegating the powers to the executive committee and the result was being 11 in favour, none against and 2 abstaining from voting.
- Powers will be delegated to the executive committee.

Closing

- Presented by **Viwe**.

Meeting Adjourned at 20:22.

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