



STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL
IBHUNGA ELIMELE ABAFUNDI
STUDENTERAAD



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1918 - 2018

SRC TERM 2 REPORT SENIOR PRIM COMMITTEE

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Students' Representative Council
Third Floor, Neelsie Student Centre
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SABRINA DITSELA – CHAIRPERSON OF SENIOR PRIM COMMITTEE – SABRINADITSELA@SUN.AC.ZA

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Constitutional Responsibilities

The Senior Prim Committee (SPC) has a constitutional mandate to actively promote the rights of students contained in CHAPTER 2 of the Student Constitution, and specifically the right to an enabling campus environment in which student success and academic excellence are encouraged and pursued.

The SPC's duties and powers are:

- (1) The Senior Prim Committee represents the interests of the residents of senior residences, in that capacity, at the SRC and the University management.
- (2) The Senior Prim Committee has the powers necessary for the performance of its duties.

The SPC this term exercised its mandate of representing senior students in various committee meetings and engagements which shall be elaborated on in the section dealing with committees and task teams.

Portfolio Overview

The Senior Prim Committee consists of a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, Secretary and the Prim, or their nominee, of each senior residence, as well as any other members that are provided for in the constitution of the Senior Prim Committee. Other members provided for in the SPC constitution are the Senior Living Spaces (SLS) cluster convenors and new structures for senior students residing outside of residences – Rubix.net, amaMaties.net and Wimbledon.Net.

Committees/Task Teams

Student Communities Advisory Committee:

- Committee in the office of Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Learning and Teaching
- Advise DVC on ways to effect coordination between residences, cluster, and hub processes as they align to the University's strategic planning.
- Advise on clusters as an organizing principle for student life, academic affairs, and delivery of services.
- Ensure that University infrastructure enables holistic integration and coordination of all student-related housing, cluster, and hub activities.

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- Act as a communication agent and consultation forum for the various divisions involved in the Committee for matters relating to student communities and student housing.

USKOF:

- Committee in the office of Senior Director: Student Affairs
- Dispensing financial support for students who seek to improve their co-curricular competencies.
- Includes but not limited to conferences, meetings, workshops, and non-academic exchanges.

SPC Constitution Committee:

- Committee chaired by SPC Chairperson
- Reviews all constitutions, rules, or regulations of house committee constitutions.
- Reviews SPC Constitution every three years

Term 2 Overview

In the second term 2022/2023, I mostly concentrated on the SRC and specific Senior Communities that needed help with certain difficulties. This involves attending all Senior Prim Committee Bi-Weekly meetings, with the Primarius of Senior Living Space, that it is Lobelia, Huis Mac Donald, Huis Russel, LLL Village, Concordia, and Huis de Villiers. This meeting is to find out and to ensure that everything in Senior Living Space run smoothly or if there are any misfortunes that needs to be addressed. All the Prims of the Senior Living Space have indicated that their official house meetings were held there.

In addition, The SPC Bi-Weekly meetings are to lay out on the themes such as management, maintenance, effective communication, and weaknesses in senior residences and to find out what can be done to prevent this from occurring in the future. Most of the issues brought up were institutional, training related and information on the role of senior residences as it is so vague with no guiding documents for incoming leadership which creates an atmosphere of confusion and blurring on lines with senior leadership and Res Heads.

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I have also engaged in several meetings with involving the general SRC Meetings held Bi-Weekly, also attended meetings with Postgraduate Office/ alumni office (Bridge the Gap), Tygerberg Student Communities, PSO Coordinators and a small number of Residence Heads (SLS and .Net community) to explore the possibility of incorporating students that fall under the banner of the Communities in the general. The possibility of organizing a similar program parallel to the existing program has also been discussed. Such as #Maties Have Drive Initiative.

This term SPC is focused on Planning and/or commencement of #Maties Have Drives initiative. This initiative is aimed to assist students in need with obtaining both their learners and driving licenses. Partnership between SPC, SLS, .NET Community and Bridge the Gap. We had several meetings with relevant stakeholders, Key stakeholders within the senior space are SLS – Senior Living Space Cluster, SPC – Senior Prim Committee and the Alumni Relations Office - Bridge the Gap Fund/ Committee. This year we will also be partnering with Tygerberg Committee to ensure that all Maties students are catered for. Within this initiative we formed a committee, between SPC, SLS and .NET community.

The #Maties Have Driven committee oversees and making sure that everything goes without any difficulties throughout the procedure. The #MHD committee is made up of the following individuals: the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Financial Convener, Driving School Liaison, Beneficiaries Liaison (I), Beneficiaries Liaison (II), and Marketing Executive.

I am pleased to report the commencement of #matieshavedrive project has started in the first academic term. The first phase of the project involved opening (28 March 2023) applications to senior students, screening the applications, and commencing the learner's licence test.

I, along with the other leaders, also participated in the breakfast with the Rector at Gold Field residence. I also participated at the SCAC meetings, Transformation Workshop with Student Leaders, where Student Leaders were cordially invited to join the transformation workshop hosted by Student Affairs in collaboration with the Transformation Office. I also attended the student Imbizo meeting and Chancellor, Rectorate Photoshoot with the SRC 2022/23.

General duties in the term included chairing Senior Prim Committee meetings throughout the term and regularly engaging with the Senior Living Spaces Cluster Coordinator and Resident Heads regarding the updates from these meetings and anything concerning SPC.



Further, I attended all SRC meetings possible and participated in the various institutional committees as outlined under Committees/Task Teams.

Institutional Committees

- Student fees
- Honorary Degrees Committee -N/A
- Student Affairs Selection Committee- N/A

Other Committees

- Student Communities Advisory Committee
- Senior Prim Committee Constitutional Review Committee

Budget Usage

SPC

Project	Amount Budgeted	Amount Utilized	Amount Available
None			

Recommendations

Some of the recommendations include the needs to involve more cooperation between residences and include a required element that deals with reoccurring residence-based problems. The SLS Cluster will benefit from increased cooperation as it works to ensure synergy. To also encourage participation from leaders.



Plans for next term.

In the next term the following projects will take place:

1. Ensuring that the Senior Prim Committee's Constitution Committee attends constitutional literacy training presented by Student Court and other bodies.
2. Making sure the Senior Prim Committee's Constitution Committee attends the constitutional and institutional meetings.
3. Keeping track of the Senior Prim Committee Constitutional Review.
4. Keeping track of the #matieshavedrive project's development and distribution of the Application link for Driver's license.
5. Events from the Senior Prim Committee will be added to the Centre for Student Communities' 2023 calendar.