



**Stellenbosch**

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**SRC**

Students' Representative Council  
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Studenteraad



## SRC TERM 3 REPORT

### SRC INNOVATION OFFICER & INSTITUTIONAL PROJECT LIAISON



Students' Representative Council

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Simonet Kapp – SRC Innovation Officer & Institutional Project Liaison –  
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Foreword

Dear Maties Community,

I hope that you had a restful recess and that you are ready for the last semester of the 2023 academic year! I pray that it is fruitful and filled with success.

I cannot believe that as I am typing this, that the SRC nominations/applications for the 2023/2024 year has opened! I implore you to apply for (or nominate someone) SRC if you are a driven change agent. Serving on the SRC has been nothing short of amazing. This journey has been filled with growth, development and building a community with my fellow colleagues that I now consider good friends.

Being part of the SRC has been the most eye-opening experience and opportunity during my time at Stellenbosch University, and one I will always hold close to my heart.

I am proud to say, as a team, we have never been stronger, we are united in what we want to achieve and how we will go about it. Our continuous intentional commitment towards you, is evident in everything we have achieved thus far.

I want to thank you, our student community, for your continuous support in tackling widespread issues, affecting our students, together with us.

It has been incredible to witness my fellow SRC members' commitment to enforce change. We have been fiercely committed to achieve the goal we have set out for ourselves.

We are committed to showing up, speaking up and standing up for your best interests!

Yours in service

Simonet Kapp

## Constitutional Responsibilities

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According to the student constitution the **SRC Innovation Officer** has the following constitutional responsibilities:

The Innovation portfolio thus far has no constitutionally prescribed responsibilities. However, I am obliged to comply with the duties allocated to me by the general SRC which are:

As the portfolio officer for Innovation:

- a) Supporting student entrepreneurship
- b) Facilitating innovation in SRC projects
- c) Liaising with SU LaunchLab/Innovus
- d) Providing student input to SU structures planning entrepreneurship projects

As an elected SRC member, my constitutional responsibilities can be divided between the duties imposed on me as an SRC member, duties directly assigned to me by the Executive committee and my portfolio specific duties. As an SRC Member, sections 27 and 32 impose the prevalent duties. Accordingly, I must always act in the best interest of students and actively promote their constitutionally provided rights. Section 32 further obligates me to submit a termly report of all my activities during the academic term. Finally, according to section 44 I must attend an SRC meeting every week during the academic term.

According to the student constitution, the **SRC Institutional Project Liaison** has the following constitutional responsibilities:

The Institutional Project Liaison portfolio thus far has no constitutionally prescribed responsibilities. However, I am obliged to comply with the duties allocated to me by the general SRC which are:

As the portfolio liaison for Institutional Projects plan and execute the following events:

- a) SRC Inauguration
- b) Rector's Awards
- c) SU Open Day
- d) LSAL

- e) Rectorate photoshoot
- f) Welcoming Fair
- g) UASLS
- h) Rector's Dinner
- i) Rectorate & Chancellor Photoshoot

## Portfolio Overview

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### SRC Innovation Officer:

- 1) The Innovation portfolio of the SRC focusses on actively supporting student entrepreneurship on campus. The portfolio facilitates innovation in SRC projects. It also liaises with SU LaunchLab/Innovus. It ensures that student input to SU structures planning entrepreneurship projects is heard.
- 2) For 2023 my mission is working towards achieving sustainable projects and helping students produce at their premium best. In depth, the innovation portfolio broadens, promotes, and supports a culture of innovation & entrepreneurship as it drives creative thinking and advances efforts to extra economic and social value from knowledge. As a proponent for student innovation, it seeks to work with the Launch Lab to promote and facilitate entrepreneurial ideas from students which are aimed at socio-ecological challenges in their respective contexts.
- 3) The Innovation portfolio's 2023 mission is to focus on sustainable student founded businesses that empowers black, female, queer, disabled and disadvantaged communities with the aim, that that which they yield is ploughed back into the community.

### SRC Institutional Project Liaison:

- 1) This portfolio is responsible for liaising with institutional bodies, mostly Student Governance, on projects relevant to the SRC.
- 2) These projects include Rector's Awards, SRC Inauguration, Rectorate, Chancellor & SRC photoshoot, and any other relevant projects where assistance and insight is required.

## Committees/Task Teams

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I serve on the following Committees and or Task Teams:

## 1) Rector's Award for Excellent Achievement Team:

The aim of this committee is to plan and execute the Rector's Awards. The following duties have to be carried out; introductory meetings, planning the guest speaker for the event, determining the theme, briefing with CCMD team: production, communication and marketing, compiling a proposed budget, booking the venue, designing the invitation and programme, briefing the parties involved (Rector, DVC: Learning and Teaching, DSAF Director; CSLEEC, Chief Director Maties Sport, Guest Speaker, Deans, SRC, Chairperson MC), designing and translations, opening of nominations and applications (including branding), closing of nominations/applications, submissions, vetting, interviews, communicating outcomes to students, finalising the guest list for distribution and venue preparations.

## Term 3 Overview

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### 1. SRC Boardroom bookings:

I am now responsible for all boardroom bookings, access thereto and the management thereof. The boardroom has undergone some maintenance and card readers were installed. I remain responsible for boardroom bookings, after the booking has been completed, access will be granted by way of a new digitalised system. Access will be for a limited time, once that time period has lapsed, the person will no longer have access to the boardroom.

### 2. Rector's Awards for excellent achievement

Duties and responsibilities tasked with in the execution and planning of this event includes, but are not limited to, arranging the guest speaker for the event (the selection of the speaker takes place in consultation with the SRC executive committee), arranging the transport, accommodation and gift of the speaker; establishing the theme for the event, opening the nominations/applications (including the branding thereof), administration of compiling and merging of nominations/applications of leadership, service to students, culture and social impact categories, finalising guest list for distribution, venue preparations: including but not limited to venue, decorations, arranging the podium, flowers/plants and branding. As well as preparing the programme, certificates and artwork, and the translations thereof. in terms of marketing, I am responsible to collaborate on the marketing and artwork (which includes, the countdown, applications, social media posts etc.). The event date is set for the 5<sup>th</sup> of October 2023.

It was my responsibility to construct a theme for the event and was approved by the Executive committee: "Empowered through resilience and reinvention: overcoming hardships and challenges".

The contextualisation for the theme is as follow: in a world that is constantly evolving, facing change and adversity has become inevitable part of life. Challenges can test our

limits and shake our confidence, but with the right mindset, we can not only navigate through difficult times but also emerge stronger and more resilient. Building a resilient mindset is the key to thriving in times of change and adversity. Resilience empowers us to face challenges head-on, bounce back from setbacks, and seize opportunities for growth. Stellenbosch University endorses change and adversity as catalysts for personal and professional growth.

Resilience is the ability to adapt, bounce back, and recover when experiencing hardships. It enables us to remain optimistic and continue moving forward despite the obstacles we encounter. Resilience empowers us to learn from setbacks, embrace change, and seize opportunities for growth and transformation.

A growth and purposeful mindset are the foundation of resilience. It is the belief that our abilities and intelligence can be developed through effort and learning. Embracing a growth mindset allows us to view challenges as opportunities for growth, rather than as roadblocks. We can cultivate a growth mindset by reframing failures as learning experiences, embracing new challenges, seeking feedback, and focusing on continuous improvement.

Change is inevitable, and setbacks are a natural part of life. By viewing change and setbacks as steppingstones rather than stumbling blocks, you can develop resilience and thrive in times of adversity.

### 3. SRC Inauguration

Duties and responsibilities tasked with in the execution of the event include, but is not limited to, planning the venue, the photographer and videographer, stage flowers, oath books, certificates (the printing thereof and the necessary translations), arranging the guest speaker (their transport, accommodation and their gifts), printing the certificates and the completion thereof, marketing and artwork, as well as finalising and printing the programmes. I am also involved in the design of the certificates and ensuring translations are effected, designing and translating of the invites, and the designing and translation of the programmes. This event is currently in the planning phase.

### 4. Entrepreneurship Development in Higher Education Events SU:

#### 4.1 EDHE Student Entrepreneurship Intervarsity:

This is a nationwide pitch competition between all 26 public universities. Students from all over can enter their existing businesses or business ideas for a chance to compete in the national final, where they have the opportunity to win R100 000, as well as being crowned to be SA's Student Entrepreneurship Champion.

### 5. Launchlab

Together with Launchlab, I collaborated on the following entrepreneurial opportunities, this includes marketing of the events, via all platforms.

#### 5 1 How investors & financiers approach the entrepreneurial scene:

The aim of this session was to provide students with an overview on how they can approach the startup scene, what they should look out for. The aim was to equip students with the ability to find suitable investors to finance their idea, as government policy has been deemed rather insufficient. This was hosted at SU LaunchLab's event area, where we hosted between 120 – 150 guests.

This event was extremely successful, and students showed a keen interest in obtaining specialised knowledge when it comes to planning and executing a business idea.

#### 6. The Financial Roundtable: Financial Independence and Wealth Planning

Prospective date: 11 August 2023

In collaboration with Golden Key, we will host some of South Africa's leading financial experts as our panellists who will share their expertise on financial matters.

#### Plans for Next Term

SRC Inauguration planning	This event is currently in its planning phase.
Rector's Awards Planning	This event is currently in its planning phase.
The Financial Roundtable: Financial independence and wealth planning.	Planning of event is finalised.

#### Plans for the rest of the year:

Employability & bursaries (still has to take place)	<p>Part of the Innovation portfolio is not only just entrepreneurial endeavours, but also how to improve employability.</p> <p>I want to collaborate with (<a href="mailto:Stellenbosch-csm@symplicity.com">Stellenbosch-csm@symplicity.com</a> &amp; <a href="mailto:careerservices@sun.ac.za">careerservices@sun.ac.za</a>) by hosting a career campaign – that includes a LinkedIn Workshop, a CV &amp; cover letter writing session, as well as how to prepare for an interview session.</p> <p>I also want to do an information session on</p>
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	<p>where to find bursaries – how to look for a job (websites where one can look and how it works).</p> <p>Information session on: How to improve your employability &amp; short courses accessible to SU students.</p>
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**Budget Use:**

Up until the submission of this term report, I have made use of the following funds as provided for in my Cost Centre.

How investors and financiers approach the entrepreneurial market in collaboration with Launchlab.	R5000
Financial Roundtable event in collaboration with the Golden Key.	R4000