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| **Name and Surname:** | Luigia Nicholas |
| **Portfolio:** | Special Needs Manager |
| **Subject:** | *First Term Report* |
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# Constitutional Responsibilities

As an SRC manager for the Special Needs Portfolio, I have attended the SRC meeting on 6 March 2020 as the first Managers meeting and the online meeting on 20 March 2020. I have also attended an emergency meeting on 17 March 2020 to discuss the work of SRC with regards to COVID-19.

# Portfolio Overview

**The vision of this portfolio is to be a support system for students with disabilities whether social or academic. It strives to create a space for students with disabilities to express themselves, advocate for their issues and to act as a secondary advice forum for Stellenbosch University structures. It also seeks to promote awareness of people living with disabilities, furthering their integration into Stellenbosch society, and consequently, the world. The portfolio also aims to form relationships with various stakeholders at Stellenbosch University as well as the Stellenbosch greater community. The portfolio is to serve as a representative body for students with disabilities to senior leadership and management.**

# Committees / Task Teams

**As Special Needs manager, the potfolio is involved in the following committees:**

## Institutional

**- BSC for Online Learning: the committee is involved in organising the online platform for students and staff.**

**- Year of Disability planning committee**

**- AFRINEAD planning committee**

## Other Committees / Task Teams

**- SRC Disciplinary Committee: the disciplinary committee is there to ensure that the SRC abides to the SRC Code of Conduct.**

**- Clean Campaign Task Team: the clean campaign helps to educate students and staff on the COVID-19 pandemic.**

**- Stellenbosch Disability Network**

**- Western Cape Network on Disabilities**

# Budget Overview

**The budget for the Special Needs portfolio has been approved by the SRC executive committee, however, due to the late appointment of managers and the COVID-19 pandemic, nothing has been used from the Special Needs budget.**

# Term Overview

**The Special Needs portfolio has formed a committee during the term. The committee consists of a secretary, financial manager and public relations officer. As manager, I have been involved in meetings with organisations relating to disabilities and disability awareness and I am involved in the AFRINEAD planning committee for the AFRINEAD conference which will take place in November 2020. I am also involved in the Year of Disability planning committee which organises events relating to the university on disability awareness. I have also been attending meeting with the Stellenbosch Disability Network and the Western Cape Network on Disabilities. I am working on a partnership for a parking campaign with an organisation that focuses on educating people on the value of disabled parking and working on an initiative with blended teaching and learning to raise awareness on disabilities on campus. I have attended several Disability Unit meetings as well as been involved in their accessibility projects.**

**I have also been assisting facilities management on accessibility projects like developing accessible walking paths and buildings and represent students at the monthly Disability Unit meetings as well as mentoring students with different disabilities.**

# Plans for Next Academic Term

**The portfolio aims to have a bigger online presence by creating a social media platform for the portfolio and post regular articles and seminars on accessibility to educate students on different disabilities. The portfolio also plans to train student leaders on accessibility awareness for events and gatherings through an online platform.**

# Recommendations for Portfolio Improvement

**Recommendations is to implement a long lasting administration system for other managers to follow and to form strong relationships with other organisations.**

# Important Contacts

**Dr Marcia Lyner-Cleophas(Disability Unit) cleophas@sun.ac.za**

NB: Please remove all text written in grey italics and replace it with your own text. These should only be used as a guideline, and it is advised that a copy of this be kept as a guideline throughout an individual’s term in office as an SRC member