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| **Portfolio:** | Student Wellness |
| **Subject:** | *First Term Report* |
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# Constitutional Responsibilities

Student Wellness is not listed as a compulsory portfolio within the Student Constitution (2018 version) but is an important portfolio as it previously formed part of Student Success which comprised of Student Access and Student Wellness. My predecessor did not have much to work with has this portfolio was relatively new and specifically focused on Mental Health. Chapter 3, section 21(1), (2), (3), (5) and (7) of the student constitution is where the portfolio to be and to draw its responsibilities from. Namely to (1) to act in the best interest of students and to actively promote students’ rights under (11), to represent students at – (a) the University Council; (b) the Senate; (c) the Institutional Forum; (d) other committees, bodies and functionaries of the University; and (e) national and international student bodies; (3) to evaluate the University policy and give input in the formulation thereof (5) facilitate projects and initiatives to the benefit of students and to (7) formulate and maintain policy in order to ensure that the Student Representative Council performs its functions and duties effectively.

# Portfolio Overview

With a bit of guidance from my predecessor and what they did with the portfolio, I could see that it was surrounded by mental health but the campus context has since changed and this required that the portfolio deal with more than just mental health. For example, Food insecurity and safety and health because of COVID-19. It is still important, however, to raise awareness around the issue(s) of student mental health on our campuses, normalise the conversation on the topic, work towards the creation and implementation of a student mental health policy document (in conjunction with University management). But also, to deal with general student wellbeing especially during this time.

# Committees / Task Teams

## Institutional Forum

There have been no meetings to date and the meetings seem to have been postponed until further notice.

## Other Committees / Task Teams

Anti-GBV Processes and Procedures Task Team

# Budget Overview

There is no budget overview for term one as our budgets were only approved at the end of Term 1 due to late appointment of Chairperson and Executive members which is out of everyone’s control. I I have indicated that the Student Wellness portfolio would fund for some of the expenses of the Clean Campaign. Please note that these amounts are not finalised an

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| **Expenses** |  |  |
| **Clean Campaign** | 2583 |  |
| Resisdence CC posters [1] | 2268 | 36\*9\*7 (Tygerberg included) |
| PSO CC posters [2] | 210 | 10\*3\*7 |
| Milacc CC posters [3] | 105 | 5\*3\*7 |
| CleanCare Package Fund [4] | 396315 | This amount is to be confirmed, and will be allocated from the Short Term Strategic Fund |
| \*stickers | 3450 | 7500\*0.46 |
| \*Graphic Fee for Brochure | 1600 |  |
| Brochure printing |  |  |
| Tissues | 63333,33333 | [(7600/24)\*600]/3 |

# Term Overview

In terms of events my hands were tied because I could not access my budget. I have however sat in on most of the Anti-GBV meetings with rectorate to try and find a way forward. And I sat on the Procedures and Processes Task team where we tried to look at Legal Services and the Equality unit and their processes with specific regard to the requests made by the Anti-GBV movement.

I also attended a meeting headed by Dr Munita Dunn-Coetzee about the Mental Health Policy which was drafted by my predecessor and the student mental health task team last year. She has noted that they are working towards getting it implemented.

I have not sat on any Institutional Forum meeting due to late appointment, there have been future dates set out but given the current national context around COVID-19 and the decision by the university to only open on the 20th of April, the dates have been moved.

I am also in a Clean Campaign initiative which is currently creating a pamphlet on how to stay clean and protected during this time. We were looking into making a packet that would’ve consisted of a hand sanitizer, a packet of tissues and the pamphlet but hand sanitizer has been out of stock for weeks now so we will be distributing the flyer and as soon as hand sanitizers are in stock again we will look into it again.

# Plans for Next Academic Term

Given the current context around COVID-19, there is a lot of uncertainty with regards to when students can return to classes or whether they can return at all. I have, however, planned a COVID-19 debriefing session, where students will be able to talk about what they difficulties they experienced during this period and how they can be assisted better by us.

I also have an Exam and Stress management session planned for the week before exams start but if we are not allowed to go back to campus, I will look into an online information booklet to be made.

# Recommendations for Portfolio Improvement

N/A, I finally have access to my budget so things should run a lot smoother from now on.

# Important Contacts

Anele Mdepa (Student Governance Manager): [anelemdepa@sun.ac.za](mailto:anelemdepa@sun.ac.za)

Dr Munita Dunn-Coetzee (Director for Student Counselling and Development): [mdunn@sun.ac.za](mailto:mdunn@sun.ac.za)

Mrs Van Rooi (Head of Student Discipline): [feliciavr@sun.ac.za](mailto:feliciavr@sun.ac.za)