



**STUDENTERAAD**  

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**STUDENTS'  
REPRESENTATIVE  
COUNCIL**

**Term report for the following reports:**

# **MASC Student Captain**

***Tumelo Molefe Motse***  
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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	Page
<b>1. INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2. THE ELECTIONS OF THE CURRENT COUNCIL .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3. HERITAGE DAY CELEBRATION .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4. TRANS-ENDURO EXERCISE.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>5. MILITARY ACADEMY'S INVOLVEMENT WITH MAIN CAMPUS AND MILAC CHOIR.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>6. MASC BALL .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>7. CONCLUSION .....</b>	<b>4</b>

# **REPORT TO STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY SRC ON MASC ACTIVITIES FOR PERIOD 01 SEPTEMBER TO 10 DECEMBER 2015**

**AUTHOR: TUMELO MOLEFE MOTSE**

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. The Military Academy Students Council (MASC) has a responsibility to ensure that optimal conditions are created for the development of officers in military and academic aspects of the Military Academy. Other responsibilities of the council include the promotion and protection of the students' interests, thus ensuring that challenges are adequately mitigated. The council also strives to ensure that a favourable environment for academic and military excellence is created and maintained at the Military Academy.

2. As mandated by the Constitution of the MASC, the council is responsible to represent the students at all levels and on all committees where required, to ensure effective communication of orders to students. The Council has to liaise with the Faculty and Section Military Development (SMD) on day to day activities of the students and to provide feedback on all appropriate aspects to the student body. The council is also expected to promote student interaction with other tertiary institutions and faculties to ensure that officers of the South African National Defence Force are groomed to be knowledgeable on all aspects of life.

3. The purpose of this report is to provide feedback on activities that have taken place at the Military Academy as a measure to assess, evaluate and monitor the work of the Military Academy Students' Council; led by the Student Captain; in fulfilling their duties and responsibilities. In essence, this report affords the SRC with an opportunity to understand the activities carried out at the Military Academy as a satellite campus of Stellenbosch University.

## THE ELECTIONS OF THE CURRENT COUNCIL

4. The elections of the council commenced with the election of the Student Captain. After a month of campaigning by the three candidates it was now all up to the student body to elect their new Leader. The election date was on 11 August 2015 and after the counting of the votes Captain T.M. Motse had the highest votes, followed by Candidate Officer E.M. Motsamai. The two were sworn in as Student Captain and Vice Student Captain respectively.

5. After the Student Captain was appointed it was now his turn to be in charge of the appointment of the rest of the council members with guidance from the MASC Constitution. All those who showed interest to serve came forth and through a voting method the following members were chosen;

- a. Secretary – N.M. Dhlalani
- b. Sport Representative – R.N. Matlou
- c. Regimental Member – C.C. Malgas
- d. Social Representative – E.M. Makola
- e. Faculty Representative – J. Le Roux
- f. Logistics Representative – C. Simpson
- g. Finances Representative – D.M. Morapedi
- h. Media Representative – P.B. Tembo
- i. Diversity Representative – V.M. Kgomo
- j. 1st Years' Representative – G. Muvhango
- k. 2nd Years' Representative – T.O. Teane
- l. 3rd Years' Representative – M. Madondile
- m. Masiza Representative – N.C. Seziba
- n. Trans-Enduro Commander – B.B. Senoamadi

o. Mess Representative – F. Van der Berg

p. Disa Social Societies Chairperson – M.M.D. Maletse

q. Signal/communications Representative – D.C.Z. Maqashela

6. Please note that members in paragraph 5 (j) to 5 (p) are ex-officio members of the Council and their elections are done at the beginning of the year.

7. After some discussions and debates with the new council a new post of a policy member was introduced to the council after noticing the need of it in the council. V.A. Nkhumeleni was elected to be the occupant of this post.

### **HERITAGE DAY CELEBRATION**

8. Our first event for the new MASC was to organise the Heritage day celebration. During September, South Africa celebrates its heritage and braai day on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September. On the 24<sup>th</sup> of September 2015 Military Academy celebrated the diversity of South African Rainbow nation. The day was divided in two phases: the heritage phase which entailed the cultures to showcase their traditional expertise and dances. All South African cultural groups that are at the Academy were featured during the day and each presented a little insight of their respective cultures to all the members of Military Academy. The second phase was all about the 'braai'. Military academy members were gathered together at the Sports club and everyone enjoyed the braai and all other foods that were presented by different cultural group. It is our wish to extend this heritage day in year 2016 so we can come over to the main campus to showcase our different cultures and also invite members from main campus as we celebrate at the Military Academy campus.

### **TRANS-ENDURO EXERCISE**

9. This is an annual event that is held after the students are done with their exams. The aim of this exercise is community outreach while student get to improve on their leadership skills. The exercise is planned and executed by students. The students are divided into teams that work hand in hand to promote the exercise and assist team MASIZA with fund

raising and spreading the word while they go from town to town and assist were help is required. The exercise started on the 27<sup>th</sup> of November 2015 in Port Elizabeth and it ended on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December 2015.

## **MILITARY ACADEMY'S INVOLVEMENT WITH MAIN CAMPUS AND TYGERBERG**

### **MILAC CHOIR**

10. From 2014 Military Academy had been involved with Tygerberg Choir and was invited a couple of times to perform at their functions. On the 26<sup>th</sup> of September 2015 the Military Academy choir for the first time had a concert in Saldanha, where surrounding school choirs were invited including the Tygerberg Gospel Choir. This was a day filled with fun and melody and songs from different cultures and was the best way to end our heritage month.

### **MASC BALL**

11. The MASC hosted the annual MASC Ball on the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016. The theme for event was the 'Masquerade, in which the students dressed-up for the occasion and to an evening filled with fun. It is during this function that the official handing of certificates and rewards take place. The event was fully organized by the MASC members. The function was not attended as expected by the Military Academy students, but it is our goal to motivate them attend as these type of function are made for them. Although Military Academy would like to have everyone from both the SRC and TSR to be invited, only two representative were invited to the event. This is due to lack of funds from our side and working on a tight budget to make such functions happen.

### **CONCLUSION**

12. The MASC carried out their duties and responsibilities with dedication, enthusiasm and hardworking acumen up to this point. They did everything in their ability to obtain their objectives and uplift the mandate granted to them by the students of the Military Academy. Each individual within the Council tried his/her level best to reach the objectives set in their

respective portfolios. Irrespective of the challenges encountered, the MASC is trying to advance the measures that would upgrade and emancipate the students from anything that might deter them from attaining their goals individually and as a collective.

13. We have been encouraged by the support received from the management of the Military Academy. However, the most daunting challenge is that the MASC is currently operating at close to zero budget, mainly because the only reliable source of income is the R1, 50 that is paid by each students every month. There is also outstanding loans which were made but previous MASC's that management say it is expected to be paid by the current MASC because it cannot be written off. This forces the MASC to arrange activities to raise funds and this at times restricts events that could have been planned and arranged for students.

14. The MASC has been successful in advancing increased student participation within the Maties Community; however we would still like to see improvements and integration of MILAC into all University of Stellenbosch events. This is still a challenge due to the students of the Military Academy being employees of the DOD and with that meaning there are some tasks that they are expected to do while studying which tightens their schedules. If this comes right it will would help ensure increased awareness of the MILAC as a faculty of Stellenbosch University amongst the entire Maties community. We hope the SRC can help us ensure that all future events can run concurrently or that means will be made to invite the MILAC to participate in events held on main campus.

15. Currently, the support of the Military Academy management plays a huge role in the success of the activities of the MASC and the student body. Several challenges have been raised by the Council and the management looked into those matters with aptness hence a number of projects are currently underway at Military Academy. These projects involve the renovation of our accommodation buildings, revamping of our sports facilities and academic environment which are expected to be completed by July 2016.