



STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL
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SRC 2021/22 TERMREPORT 2 POLICY OFFICER

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Constitutional Responsibilities

As the SRC Policy Officer my constitutional responsibilities can be split between the duties imposed on me as an SRC member, a member of the SRC 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 to actively promote their constitutionally provided rights. Other specific duties include to represent students on institutional committees, to evaluate and give input on institutional policies, to facilitate projects to the benefit of students and finally to formulate policy in order for the SRC to perform their duties effectively. Section 32 further obligates me to submit a termly report of all my activities during the academic term to the Secretary. Finally, according to section 44 I have to attend an SRC meeting every two weeks during the academic term.

As an Executive Committee member, section 41 and 42 imposes additional obligations. This includes setting the agenda for SRC meetings, managing the day-to-day activities of the SRC, compiling the SRC budget and deciding on portfolio allocations. Finally, I am required to attend weekly meetings.

As the Policy Officer I am constitutionally mandated to ensure SRC policies are formulated correctly and to assist other members in evaluating institutional policies. I am further required to assist the SRC with interpretations of the Student Constitution and other policies where it is requested. Finally I am mandated to safe-keep all student-related constitutions.



Portfolio Overview

The Policy Offer portfolio is responsible for ensuring the SRC deals with policies appropriately. This includes:

- Ensuring SRC policies are formulated in terms of the Student Constitution
- Assisting other members evaluating institutional policies
- Developing new SRC policies where needed
- Curating and supporting SRC policymaking
- Reviewing institutional policies
- Facilitating training on policymaking to members

Further duties of this portfolio revolve around the accessibility of existing policies. Exact duties include:

- Developing accessible processes for students to find institutional and student policies
- Safekeeping and creating a repository of all student-related constitutions



Committees/Task Teams

Academic Affairs Council Constitutional Review Committee

This committee was convened by the AAC to review and propose a revised constitution to the AAC. The AAC Vice-chairperson chairs this CRC, and it further comprises of members from the AAC, TSR, and SRC. The committee met numerous times during the term and submitted a final draft to the AAC to be voted on.

Council

Refer to Vice-chairperson term report 2

Council Language Committee

Refer to Vice-chairperson term report 2

Institutional Forum

Refer to Vice-chairperson term report 2

Student Achievement Committee

Refer to Vice-chairperson term report 2

Student Parliament Rules Task Team

In accordance with section 129(1)(c) of the Student Constitution, the SRC must convene a task team to draft the rules for the newly structured student parliament. As Policy Officer I have convened this Task Team. The objectives of the task team are to draft a Constitution for Student Parliament and rules for the Student Imbizo and Student Assembly. The task team will attempt to conclude its duties within the first academic term of 2022. At the end of the first academic term, the majority of the work have been completed. The Task team will submit the final rules in the first part of the 2nd academic term to Student Court for approval.

RegisterAll Task Team

Refer to Vice-chairperson term report 2



Term Overview

As is required by the new student constitution, I have to create a repository of student related constitutions. I initiated this process by drafting a memo to all the ex officio structures of the SRC to mandate their constituent structures to provide us with their constitutions. To this date I have received the majority of constitutions and created a database of consistently named constitutions. The next step will be to upload this database to Sharepoint on the SRC website.

I have taken over writing the SRC's Communication Policy after the resignation of the Communications Officer. This process has been slow and a final policy has not yet been finalised. This process is aimed at creating a policy for future SRC's to utilise and as such the delayed process will not be finalised in vain.

I was requested to join the AAC's Constitutional Review Committee and assist with their new constitution. This process has been described above.

I further worked on the concern of high venue tariffs being charged for student events on campus. In this endeavour I engaged with institutional stakeholders and student structures on the issue. The final resolution has been to submit our concerns and proposals to Division Student Affairs to take up with the COO's RC.

General duties throughout the term included providing ad hoc interpretations of the Student Constitution and other policies as it is requested of me.



Plans for next term

Next term will be spent working on the following projects:

1. Finalising the Constitutional repository
 - a. Uploading and structuring the constitutions on the SRC's website
 - b. Printing and having a hard-copy version of each constitution in the SRC's office
2. Assisting Ex-officio structures with creating their constitutional review committees
3. Providing a training session to SRC members on policymaking
4. Interpreting and formulating policy as the situation to do so arises