



Stellenbosch

UNIVERSITY
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UNIVERSITEIT

SRC

Students' Representative Council
Ibhunga elimele abaFundi
Studenteraad



SRC 2024 TERM I REPORT

SOCIETIES COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON

Students' Representative Council

Third Floor, Neelsie Student Centre

Private Bag XI, Matieland, 7602

Tel: +27 21 808 2757 | Email: sr@sun.ac.za

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Foreword

Hello fellow Maties,

My name is Thandile Ngxikwe and I serve as the Societies Council Chairperson. I regard being the Societies Council Chairperson as my primary role because I also serve as an ex-officio member of the SRC (this part came as a surprise to me or maybe I didn't read that part of the constitution but whatever it is, this is a reminder to you to read the student constitution). This term report will be a combination of the work I do for both these roles, I have learnt and how I am managing these roles and their responsibilities.

Firstly, leadership is hard. You have to make executive decisions, manage working in a team with people with different personalities, make uncomfortable choices that may not always be what you want to do and you have to be able to account for your actions and decisions. In theory, this is a task that very few would undertake because of the immense responsibility it comes with, especially not as a student with academics to juggle as well. I am a bit adventurous then most so I have been a student leader since my first year. This is a combination of having a big personality, a passion for justice and a curious mind and spirit.

My leadership journey has not been easy nor linear. I have made mistakes and I will probably still make mistakes this year too but if there one thing being a student leader has taught me, is that, failing/ making mistakes is a part of learning, growing and becoming a better leader. Making mistakes does not have a good reputation however so it is easy to take the mistakes you make personally, especially if you take leading seriously.

Coming into a leadership role, there is an expectation on you to know what a chairperson does, is supposed to do and is supposed to know but in reality, a chairperson is a young girl from Delft that believes in herself, her capabilities and what she has learnt so much, that she wants to test herself to see if she can lead and hold a team together in pursuit of our constitutional mandate and collective vision for the structure.

For now, so far so good.

saam vorentoe · masiye phambili · forward together



– SC Chairperson
22846921@sun.ac.za

Constitutional Responsibilities

According to the student constitution by constitutional responsibilities are the following:

- 1) Societies Council constitution: The Chairperson of the Societies' Council is responsible for:
 - 2.1.1. Serving as Chair at meetings of the Societies' Council and Executive Committee.
 - 2.1.2. Representing the interests of all societies' on the Students' Representative Council.
 - 2.1.3. Ensuring that Societies' Council adopts the Code of Conduct.
 - 2.1.4. Oversight over the activities of Societies', the Societies' Council, and the Societies' Council Executive Committee.
 - 2.1.5. Holding the Executive Committee accountable.
 - 2.1.6. Assigning responsibilities and projects to the Executive Committee.
 - 2.1.7. External correspondence on behalf of the Council to other Student Leadership Structures.
 - 2.1.8. Responsible for oversight of the Societies' Council funds.
 - 2.1.9. Calling the referendum when necessary.

Portfolio Overview

- 1) According to the student constitution: An ex officio member of the SRC – (1) May, in addition to their ex officio position, only accept one other portfolio on the SRC, whether that portfolio is compulsory or not.
 - (2) May not accept any other portfolios if they serve on the Executive Committee of the SRC.
 - (3) May not hold the position of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, or Treasurer of the SRC.

Committees/Task Teams

GBV committee

Term 3 Overview

Term 3 is an interesting term in student leadership because your academic obligations are getting more demanding, and the year is starting to take shape in your personal life that you can neglect your leadership obligations. I feel like I neglected my leadership duties this year especially my SRC duties. I am realizing that I have a different relationship to my SRC duties than to my Societies Council Chair. There are multiple reasons to this; my role in the SRC to my understanding is clear but in terms what the duties entail I am not sure I understand much. I participate where I can and when I am asked too by my colleagues, but I have not needed to do more than that. My role in the SRC feels like a badge of honour for me which I wear with pride when I can use the power it comes with in certain spaces for good. I am always sure if that is what I am supposed to do or if the badge even has the power, I think it does, but I try to contribute nonetheless.

This term I wanted to ensure that we put structures in place that will ensure the Council functions well. The group chat description box has important contact details of the council and our Student Governance interns. The interns are a great addition to help us with council operations. This year we had great difficulties with the new admin system, so they assisted us in alleviating the pressures. We ensured that all societies have keys to their offices this year and the rule is that they all have to register their keys as a societies and the office they are assigned in that way we can ensure all the keys of the offices return and keep track of which societies lost the keys because getting keys replaced in such an expensive hassle. I am still working well with my team and because we work well together, we are able to keep the council afloat and well running. I love that for the structure, and I am proud that my team and I have managed to do what we have done.

Plans for Next Term

For the upcoming term, I plan on continuing to learn, grow in my capabilities to lead others as well as my ability to inspire. I hope to inspire good Black leadership, team building and collaboration amongst leadership structures and societies.

