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SRC

Students' Representative Council
Ibhunga elimele abaNtuli
Studenteraad

SRC TERM I REPORT

AAC CHAIRPERSON



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Foreword

The first term of any leadership is unique in its nature - taking over the role from previous leadership can be daunting, it's a legacy. It can also be exciting, in that your personal mission may want to evoke great change, but that comes with a caveat - it needs hours on unpacking what currently exists, establishing what can be done and what needs to be transformed.

It is my belief that there is a deep need for holistic transformation in the student leadership space to bridge the gaps between different structures to mitigate the silos currently used and use efforts collaboratively.

This was a term of starting at the gates, without a gunshot, just full-on sprinting and it has allowed me to dip my toes into relationships with a variety of people. It has allowed me to learn from my peers and to unpack my personal leadership philosophy. I am immensely grateful for the Vice-chairperson of the AAC, Miss Ila Alberts for being my pillar when life happened and I was hospitalized. This period taught me the importance of team work and relying on each other.

This past term has been a wonderful growth opportunity for the AAC, the SRC, the student body at large, and for me.

I am grateful for what has been and I am hopeful for what is to come.

Constitutional Responsibilities

As per the SU statute

Definitions

68. In this Statute, unless the context indicates otherwise —

“Academic Affairs Council” means a body established by the SRC to promote academic matters on behalf of students;

As per the SRC constitution

CHAPTER 4: THE STUDENTS 'REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

Part 4.1: General

25. Composition of the Students 'Representative Council

The Students 'Representative Council consists of the following members:

- (1) Nine (9) members are elected by the students in terms of the provisions of CHAPTER 3 of this Constitution.
- (2) The Chairperson of the Academic Affairs Council.

As per the AAC Constitution

Chapter 3: Duties and Functioning of the Academic Affairs Council

(8) Duties and Functions

- (1) The Chairperson of the Academic Affairs Council –
 - (a) Is responsible for the following administrative arrangements, including:
 - (i) Facilitating Academic Affairs Council meetings, in consultation with the Secretary-General;
 - (ii) All official correspondence to and from the Academic Affairs Council;
 - (iii) Passing on the minutes to the Students 'Representative Council Chairperson;
 - (iv) Compiling the annual report of the Academic Affairs Council.
 - (b) Is responsible for representing the Academic Affairs Council, either in their own capacity or by virtue of a representative if the Chairperson is unavailable, on the following committees:
 - (i) Timetable Committee of the Academic Planning Committee;

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- (ii) Academic Planning Committee of Senate;
- (iii) Committee of Learning and Teaching;
- (iv) Any other institutional committee which stipulates that the Chairperson of the Academic Affairs Council must act as a representative on said committee, and;

In fulfilling the duties in section 8(1)(b)(i)-(iv), the Chairperson is required to obtain input from the Academic Affairs Council and report back to the Academic Affairs Council.

- (c) Must meet with the Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Learning and Teaching on a monthly basis.
- (d) Must oversee the finances of the Academic Affairs Council, in consultation with the Treasurer.
- (e) Is an *ex-officio* member of the Students' Representative Council and, as such, is responsible for keeping the Students' Representative Council apprised of activities of the Academic Affairs Council.
- (f) Must write and submit a satisfactory term report.
- (g) Is responsible for convening special or emergency meetings where necessary.
- (h) During their term of office, may not be a member of a Faculty Student Committee or of the Tygerberg Academic Affairs Council.
- (i) Facilitates the discussion and addressing of academic and other matters of communal interest that fall within the sphere of academia at Stellenbosch University and empowers the members of the respective Faculty Student Committees, and the members of the Tygerberg Academic Affairs Council, to represent and inform students effectively.

Portfolio Overview

General-elect

As per the preamble of the Academic Affairs Council constitution, the Academic Affairs Council of Stellenbosch University commits to actively promoting the rights of students as contained in Chapter 2 of the Student Constitution, to quality education, academic support, and transparent and justifiable assessment procedures. Further, the Academic Affairs Council strives to protect and further the academic interests of all students, by promoting a transformative teaching and learning experience, enabling academic success, and developing graduate attributes, with the aim of establishing a thriving academic project which facilitates student retention. We dedicate ourselves to achieving this mandate, whilst setting an example of professional conduct in the pursuit of academic excellence for all students.

As per section 8 of the Academic Affairs Council Constitution, the Chairperson of the Academic Affairs Council is responsible for the following administrative arrangements, including,

- (i) Facilitating Academic Affairs Council meetings, in consultation with the Secretary-General;
- (ii) All official correspondence to and from the Academic Affairs Council;
- (iii) Passing on the minutes to the Students' Representative Council Chairperson;
- (iv) Compiling the annual report of the Academic Affairs Council.

SRC executive

The AAC Chairperson is an ex officio member of the SRC and thus, as per section 30 of 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.

The Executive meets on a weekly basis and has scheduled meetings with DSAF and Rectorate. Accurate detail hereof can be provided by the SRC Secretary-General, Miss Phiwokule Qabaka.

Committees/Task Teams

During my first term of office, I sat on the Academic Planning Committee, Committee of Learning and Teaching, Welcoming Planning Committee, Vice-Deans Forum, Co-Curricula Recognition Committee, and Quality Committee.

I also attended the Conceptual framework for the SU Graduate Attributes workshop, Admissions & Registration Progress Meetings, The Race and Transformation in Higher Education Conference, the rounding of marks working group, and the SU Registration workshops.

Academic Planning Committee

This committee is a standing committee of Senate that reports to the Executive Committee of Senate (EC(S)) chaired by Prof Deresh Ramjugernath. Its primary concern is recommending decisions around academic planning to the EC(S) and Senate. It primarily focuses on topics such as new research centres, programme changes, and so forth.

Date: **19 October 2022**

1. Programme renewal and transformation
2. Guidelines for cross-faculty disciplinary offerings promoting interdisciplinary scholarship: progress of Task team
3. Student Debt Working Group: Progress
4. Report from Previous Committee
5. APC report to Senate
6. Reports from Sub-Committees:
 - 6.1. Programme Advisory Committee
 - 6.2. Committees of Bursary and Loans
7. Language Implementation Reports
8. Constitutions of CIS
9. Request to increase the enrolment of students via Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for access
10. Request to shift ONT 112 module from Semester 2 to Semester 1 for the B.Th. ECP
11. Request from the Department of Information Science to change its name from "Information Science" to "Informatics"
12. Abstracts in Afrikaans
13. Overview of modes of academic offerings at SU and proposed oversight thereof
14. Approval required for new design and layout of SU's Short Course Certificates

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15. Success rate of undergraduate students by enrolled full-time equivalent credit load
16. Notice of SAQA Intention to implement a fee for services

Committee of Learning and Teaching

The Committee for Learning and Teaching (CLT) is chaired by Prof Deresh Ramjugernath and forms an integral part of the Learning and Teaching responsibility centre. It comprises all the vice-deans: learning and teaching, of each faculty.

Date: **5 October 2022**

1. Review of SU Student Feedback Practice
2. Review of the Regulation for internal and external moderation and the processing of results
3. Revision of Teaching and Learning Policy (2018)
4. Strategy for Teaching and Learning 2017 – 2021 (Graduate Attributes)
5. Extended Degree Programmes at SU
6. Student Success Rates
7. SUNStudent Project: Assessment and SUNSuccess
8. Longitudinal access to SUNLearn
9. Teaching Load Calendar Entries
10. Revision of the Regulation for the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) (2017)
11. Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences: Request to deviate from the Regulations for Peer-to-Peer Learning Support
12. Over-registration in credits of UG students
13. Religious/cultural days

Date: **2 February 2022**

1. Review of SU Student Feedback Practice
2. Review of the Regulation for internal and external moderation and the processing of results
3. Revision of Teaching and Learning Policy (2018)
 - 3.1. Task Team for the Promotion and Recognition of Teaching
4. Strategy for Teaching and Learning 2017 – 2021
5. Student Success Rates
6. Longitudinal Access to SUNLearn
7. Revision of the Regulation for the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) (2017)
8. Academic Renewal

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9. Regulation for the Committee for Learning and Teaching
10. ChatGPT: Feedback from VDs Forum
11. Teaching Load Calendar Entries
12. SUNStudent Project
13. MCQ Scanner
14. New Assessment Rules in 2023

Welcoming Programme Committee

This committee is chaired by Mr. Pieter Kloppers and meets to unpack the Welcoming Template and the logistics thereof.

This committee met on:

- **6 October 2022**
- **18 January 2023**

Vice-Deans Forum

The Vice-Deans Forum is chaired by Prof Deresh Ramjugernath and forms an integral part of the Learning and Teaching responsibility centre. It comprises all the vice-deans: learning and teaching, of each faculty.

Date: **2 February 2022**

1. ChatGPT Academic Renewal
2. (EMS) Process for concessions: requisites and HEMIS
3. EdX feedback
4. Roles of class representatives

Quality Committee

The Quality Committee is responsible for reviewing and auditing every department within the institution towards a superlative degree of quality. Ultimately, the Quality Committee may recommend adjustments to each department, and request feedback on these adjustments by a prescribed date.

Date: **12 September 2022**

1. Peer Review Reports
 - 1.1. Transformation Office

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- 1.2. Centre for Health Professionals Education
2. Professional Bodies Accreditation
 - 2.1. Engineering
3. Two-Year Follow-Up Report
 - 3.1. Plant Pathology
4. Institutional Audit

Date: **21 November 2022**

1. Peer Review Reports
 - 1.1. Library and Information Service
2. Two-Year Follow-Up Report
 - 2.1. School for Science and Technology
3. Management of Fifth Quality Assurance Cycle
 - 3.1. Quality Assurance Schedule
4. Institutional Audit / Khampepe Report

Co-Curricula Recognition

The Co-curriculum Recognition Committee (CRC) accredits co-curricular activities and programmes at the institution.

Date: **22 September 2022**

1. Recognition of Renewal Applications toward Co-curriculum Transcript Recognition
 - 1.1. Natural Science Committee
2. Recognition of New Applications toward Co-curriculum Transcript Recognition
 - 2.1. Peer Undergraduate Ultrasound Tutoring
 - 2.2. Stellenbosch and Tygerberg Student Parliament

Date: **24 November 2022**

1. Recognition of Renewal Applications toward Co-curriculum Transcript Recognition
 - 1.1. Peer-to-Peer Facilitation of Learning: Training
2. Recognition of New Applications toward Co-curriculum Transcript Recognition
 - 2.1. Global Engineers
 - 2.2. Science Ambassadors Programme
 - 2.3. Siyakhula Diversity Programme for Staff

Term I Overview

AAC Executive

Portfolio appointments

As per section 15 of the Academic Affairs Council constitution, the process of appointing a Secretary, Treasurer, and Media and Marketing officer occurred. Firstly, these positions were advertised, with an application period of 7 days. Thereafter, applicants were asked to consent to a HEMIS check, as a mechanism to gauge if service to the AAC would not be a detrimental factor to students' academics. Thereafter, a shortlist of candidates was created based on the HEMIS check outcome. Candidates were asked to interview in front of a panel on the 6th of September, 2022. This panel consisted of Bernard Oosthuizen (outgoing AAC Secretary,) Cecile Bester (outgoing ASA Chairperson,) Masilo Silokazi (incoming SRC Chairperson), Ila Alberts (incoming AAC Vice-chairperson,) and Emma Bowers Swart (incoming AAC Chairperson.) Thereafter, the panelists cast votes for their preferred candidates and these names were taken to the AAC Executive for approval.

The successful candidates are Stefan Rossouw for Secretary, Rushay Shiba for Treasurer, and Kyle Duvenhage for Media and Marketing Officer.

Election of the Executive

As per section 14 of the Academic Affairs Council constitution, the election of the Executive took place on the 20th of September 2022. In this meeting, each candidate made oral representations on their suitability, after which Academic Affairs Council members were provided adequate time to ask the candidates questions. The questioning was followed by voting, wherein the three candidates who ran each received at least a two-thirds majority and were thus elected.

The successful candidates are Ané Murray (EBSK Chairperson,) Ernst Pieterse (JVS Chairperson), and Elzette van Schalkwyk (ASA Chairperson).

Members of the Executive

As per section 11 of the Academic Affairs Council constitution, the Executive Committee consists of:

- (a) The Chairperson of the Academic Affairs Council - Emma Bowers Swart
- (b) The Vice-Chairperson of the Academic Affairs Council - Ila Alberts
- (c) The Treasurer of the Academic Affairs Council - Rushay Shiba
- (d) The Secretary-General of the Academic Affairs Council - Stefan Rossouw

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and

- (e) Three (3) additional members of the Academic Affairs Council - Ané Murray, Ernst Pieterse, and Elzette van Schalkwyk.

Meetings

Since the start of their term of office, the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the AAC have met weekly, on Fridays, to unpack the week that has been, what needs to be discussed and deliberated on for the coming week and to ensure they have efficient communication and a healthy working relationship.

As per section 15 of the Academic Affairs Council constitution, the Executive met once per week during the Academic term, but not during the Examination period.

Dates: 20 September 2022

30 September 2022

4 October 2022

11 October 2022

20 October 2022

Budget

The AAC's budget is two-fold, with one component coming from an SRC subsidy and the other component coming from Student Levies. Figure 1 below shows the proposed expenditure presented to the SRC Executive for approval. Figure 2 indicates the draft expenditure of the AAC, based on an estimated amount of levies that the AAC will receive from student levies.

SRC Subsidy				
Expense Description	Expense Type	Quantity	Price per unit	Amount Budgeted
#1: Leadership Development				
Facilitation by FVZS Institute for Student Leadership Development	Training	25	R 925,00	R 23 125,00
#1: Total				R 23 125,00
#2: Honoraria				
Vice-Chairperson	Remuneration	1	R 16 000,00	R 16 000,00
Treasurer	Remuneration	1	R 5 000,00	R 5 000,00
Secretary	Remuneration	1	R 6 000,00	R 6 000,00
Media Officer	Remuneration	1	R 4 000,00	R 4 000,00
#2: Total				R 31 000,00
Grand total				R 54 125,00

Figure 1: SRC subsidy - AAC

AAC Levies							
Expense Description	Expense Type	Quantity	Price per unit	Amount Budgeted	Amount used	Budgeted Balance	
#1: Honoraria							
General Members	Remuneration	20	R 1 000,00	R 20 000,00		R 27 000,00	
Executive Members	Remuneration	3	R 1 500,00	R 4 500,00		R 4 000,00	
#1: Total				R 24 500,00	R 42 500,00	R 2 300,00	
#2: AAC Reserve							
AAC Reserve Funds	Reserve	1	R 15 000,00	R 15 000,00			
#2: Total				R 15 000,00			
#3: AAC Strategic conferences							
AAC Handover	Refreshments and Other	25	R 100,00	R 2 000,00			
Transport to Strategic conferences	Transport	2	R 1 000,00	R 2 000,00			
Strategic conference	Refreshments	2	R 913,55	R 1 827,10	R 913,55	R 913,55	
	Thank you gifts	2	R 644,93	R 1 289,86	R 644,93	R 644,93	
Team building	Activity	1	R 5 000,00	R 5 000,00			
#3: Total				R 12 116,96	R 17 548,12	R 2 451,88	
#4: IT Services							
Email Changes	Email & Internet	25	R 300,00	R 7 500,00			
AAC Email	Email address	1	R 300,00	R 300,00			
#4: Total				R 7 800,00			
#5: Merchandise							
AAC Merch	Member Merchandise	25	R 500,00	R 12 500,00			
	Welcoming hats	25	R 200,00	R 5 000,00			
#5: Total				R 17 500,00			
#6: Task Teams							
Functionality of team	TBD - Case by case	5	R 500,00	R 2 500,00			
#6: Total				R 2 500,00			
Grand total				R 79 416,96	R 75 048,12	R 19 751,88	

Figure 2: AAC Levies - Budget draft

AAC

Hand Over

As the AAC transitioned from the 2021/2022 Council to the 2022/2023 Council, an informal handover was held on 13 September 2022, for outgoing and incoming members to meet and socialise. Outgoing members were thanked and incoming members were welcomed. Shortly thereafter, the outgoing AAC held its final meeting, wherein the reigns were handed over formally.

Meetings

As per section 10(2) of the Academic Affairs Council constitution, the AAC met once every two weeks during the Academic term, but not during the Examination period.

Dates: 20 September 2022

4 October 2022

20 October 2022

Members

As per section 7(1)-(2) of the Academic Affairs Council constitution, the AAC comprises of 25 members. These members are either Executive members and/or the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the relevant Faculty Student Committee or Tygerberg Academic Affairs Council, unless the structure in question provides otherwise.

The members are as follows:

3. Ila Alberts
4. Zöe-Grace Bennett
5. Celia Britz
6. Kyle Duvenhage
7. Siphe Giba
8. Chloë-Mae Laubscher
9. Tshogofatso Matlala
10. Ané Murrey
11. Asanda Mkhize
12. Humbulani Gilbert Ndou
13. Lindokuhle Nkume
14. Siviwe Ntshololo
15. Ernst Pieterse

16. Libonge Potelwa
17. Risuna Risimati
18. Reece Roberts
19. Stefan Rossouw
20. Kayla Ruiters
21. Rushay Shiba
22. Norshya Sonjani
23. Emma Bowers Swart
24. Matt Tate
25. Valeriia van der Westhuizen
26. Elzette van Schalkwyk
27. Kay Vanwollegghem

Task Teams

By definition, task teams are group of people joined to accomplish a task or to be engaged in collective action. Within the context of the AAC the task teams are created to unpack and address issues that our communities face, with the intent of finding a solution.

As per section 24 of the Academic Affairs Council constitution, the AAC has created the following 5 task teams to unpack issues within their specific scope on a continuous basis. These task teams are led by members of the Executive and are accountable to the AAC at large,

28. Branding led by Kyle Duvenhage
29. International and Post-Graduate Students by Ila Alberts
30. Academic Accessibility by Ernst Pieterse
31. HEMIS by Elzette van Schalkwyk
32. Safety by Ané Murray

IF, Senate and Student Imbizo representatives

As per the SU Statute and Student Constitution respectively, the AAC is represented. This representation has been appropriately elected and is as follows:

33. Student Imbizo: Ila Alberts (AAC Vice-chairperson) and Victoria Jumeth (from the ranks of the AAC, namely the OSK, as a non-AAC member)
34. Senate: Risuna Risimati
35. Institutional Forum: Matt Tate

Cluster guardians

The introduction of AAC Cluster Guardians came about in efforts to empower the Student Communities with awareness of the AAC's role and thus it is the vision to introduce AAC Cluster Guardians. The respective guardians will each be the go-to person should any community or person from the respective cluster need guidance on matters relating to the function of the AAC.

The appointment of these roles was based on a volunteer system from members of the AAC and are as follows:

- 36. AmaMaties - Asanda Mkhize
- 37. Victoria - Elzette van Schalkwyk
- 38. Wimbledon - Risuna Risimati
- 39. Validus - Emma Bowers Swart
- 40. Rubix - Zöe-Grace Bennett
- 41. Vicmeyer - Ila Alberts

It must be noted that SLS and TygerMaties will have an ad hoc guardian, based on SLS having representation within other clusters and TygerMaties having the TAAC respectively,

Readmission

The Readmission period speaks to the academic exclusion of students based on the HEMIS requires outline in the SU yearbooks. Herein, the AAC has facilitated a working relationship with the Deputy-Registrar and the CSCD. In support of students facing the Readmission, the AAC's relationship with the CSCD ensured that the support mechanism accessible via studysuccess@sun.ac.za was functional. Furthermore, the AAC also published an informative Instagram post discussing the Readmission notice. This does not include the supportive efforts taken by the SRC,

The AAC chairperson also compiled the following information, which was shared with the SRC so that the representative body could best communicate to students when queries are raised.

After seeking clarity from the Registrar and Deputy-Registrar, please note the following:

- *Around the mid to end of December students received either a warning regarding Academic Exclusion or received notice of Academic Exclusion and the Readmission Appeal process.*
- *Herein it must be noted that the Readmission is the appeal process.*
- *From the SRC's side, we went to lengths to unpack the Readmission process and to direct students to assistance from the University's CSCD when completing the Readmission application. It must be noted that we could not fill in forms on the student's behalf – this needed to be done by the student, as each situation is unique and has its own complexities.*
- *Once the deadline for the Readmission appeal arises the SRC's supportive role ends, as the duty to ensure due process is under the Readmissions Appeals Committees. These committees are held within each faculty respectively, wherein these committees process each application with sincerity, respect, and confidentiality. It must be noted that the SRC does not participate in this part of the Readmission process and in no way has the jurisdiction to further support the students herein. This is where we as the student body have to trust in the due process undertaken by the Registrar's division as well as the Readmissions Appeals Committees (RAC).*
- *Based on the aforementioned process, queries regarding the outcomes of Readmissions Appeals could perhaps be directed to the student's faculty, as the RAC is faculty-dependent.*
- *It must be noted that the RAC's decision is final.*
- *It must further be noted that RAC outcomes can be expected by the 7th of February 2023.*
- *Information arising from a query directed to a RAC regarding a possible further appeal states that the Readmission consideration is done holistically, and one factor is not viewed in isolation from others, including but not limited to the academic record of the applicant, the relevant programme enrolled for, reason(s) for academic non-performance (including mental wellness), academic progress marks throughout the year, changing circumstances and continuing circumstances and academic demands going forward. It can furthermore be mentioned that the majority of the RAC members have served in this capacity for several years, and accordingly have substantial institutional memory (in terms of prior applications processed) which should not be readily discounted.*
 - *If anything aforementioned is unclear, students are welcome to contact Ms Bomi Kohli at the Registrar's Division (kholi@sun.ac.za or 021 808 9111) for more information. Please note that there are several processes simultaneously happening at the Registrar's Division (admission, registration, and readmission) so responses might be slow.*

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- Students are also welcome to contact the Centre for Student Counselling and Development in Victoria Street for support on the way forward. Their email address is studysuccess@sun.ac.za.
- In the instance that the student's readmissions appeal application was unsuccessful, they, unfortunately, cannot be readmitted nor transfer to another programme offered by Stellenbosch University in the 2023 academic year.
- However, the student can again apply for readmission for the 2024 academic year. It is important that a readmission student can show evidence that he/she can study at a Higher Education institute. The credits received at another Higher Education institute in the 2023 academic year can potentially be transferred to his study record.
- If any student wishes to address an unfair process taken by the RAC, they may address it via the SU Ombudsman. Their email address is <mailto:ombudsman@sun.ac.za>. Please note that the Ombudsman is not an appeals mechanism.

As this process can be a difficult one, please note that it is in the intent that each query is given appropriate empathy and support.

*The AAC is here to serve the academic interests of students at SU and should any student need support, we are contactable via **academicaffairs@sun.ac.za***

*Kindly,
Emma Bowers Swart
AAC Chairperson*

After the Readmission period, a Readmission feedback process is underway and will take off in Term 2 (Term 1 2023) so that the most appropriate feedback can be taken to the Deputy-Registrar.

Welcoming

SRC

During the Welcoming and Registration Period, the Admissions & Registration Progress Meetings enabled communication to occur, wherein issues could be raised to the Registrar's division. These meetings occurred weekly during the Registration period.

I was a part of the SRC Roadshow Working group, and was a presenter at numerous Roadshow presentations.

AAC

Members of the AAC took part in numerous activities outside of their FSC roles.

The schedule is as follows:

Monday, 23 January 2023.

Time	Event	Participants	Venue	Note
9h00 - 17h00	Training with mentors	AAC	Amamaties Hub, Nerina Rec Hall, Heemstede Ditsem, Academia Hall	Presentations by Elmarie, CSCD Specialis, Delecia Davids, Pierre Kloppers, Dr Choice Makhetha, and other various campus stake holders. <i>This is a step towards collaborative engagement between the CSC and the AAC.</i>

Wednesday, 25 January 2023.

Time	Event	Participants	Venue	Note
19h00 - 20h00	Planning meeting - Leadership conference	AAC Executive & Media manager	Teams	

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The AAC Chairperson presented a session what the Institutional leadership offering is and the AAC's role therein.

Thursday, 26 January 2023.

Time	Event	Participants	Venue	Note
11h00 - 12h30	The role of faculties in facilitating a Welcoming Culture for Student Success	Transformation monitors & AAC	SRC boardroom	A hybrid option via Teams is available for the AAC members at Tygerberg and Saldanha.

Sunday, 29 January 2023.

Time	Event	Participants	Venue	Note
19h00 - 21h00	Executive team-building	AAC Executive	Emma's apartment	

Monday, 30 January 2023.

Time	Event	Participants	Venue	Note
9h00 - 12h00	FVZS Training session 1	AAC	GGCillie 3008	Please bring a notebook and pen.
12h15 - 13h15	Lunch	AAC	SU Botanical gardens	Please bring your own lunch.
13h15-16h00	Free time	AAC	N/A	
16h00 - 18H00	Vision building	AAC	SRC Boardroom	A hybrid option via Teams is available for the AAC members at Tygerberg and Saldanha.

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18h00 - 19h00	Team building	AAC	Park opposite Stellenbosch HS	Comfortable clothing, something to sit on and a non-alcoholic drink.
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Tuesday, 31 January 2023.

Time	Event	Participants	Venue	Note
9h00 - 12h30	Leadership conference	AAC + faculty student committees	Old Main Building 2027	Please bring a notebook and pen.

AAC Training

Co-curricula

The AAC's co-curricula recognition allows for AAC members to receive transcript recognition for their leadership term, on the basis that their learning is set into curricula and is substantive. This year the AAC is receiving tailored training from the FVZSI, namely the AAC Leadership Development Programme.

This takes place both through online activities and 3 in-person sessions throughout the first semester of 2023. The dates are 20 January 2023; 25 February 2023 and 25 March 2023

Overview:

The Academic Affairs Council (AAC)'s Leadership Development Programme, developed by the Frederik van Zyl Slabbert Institute for Student Leadership Development (FVZSI), within the Centre for Student Leadership, Experiential Education and Citizenship at Stellenbosch University, in partnership with the Stellenbosch University Academic Affairs Council (AAC). The AAC Leadership Development Programme is developed specifically to create a platform for all members of the AAC Executive to develop a contextual understanding and framework for sustainable leadership, and to identify and unpack the contribution of each member of the AAC in developing and growing the work and objectives of the AAC, for the benefit of all students.

The objectives and outcomes of the AAC Leadership Development Programme are as follows:

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Objectives:

- To identify and unpack the various elements that contributes to the identity of an individual (and within a team), and how those elements contribute to the way individuals perceive the world,
- To discuss the meaning and understanding of sustainable leadership within a South African context, as well as within the Academic Affairs Council, and the various principles that forms its foundation;
 - o identify and analyse the challenges related to sustainable leadership within various contexts (focus on the AAC), and to create a platform for students to brainstorm various solutions that can be implemented.

Outcomes:

- Upon the completion of the *AAC Leadership Development Programme*, participants will:
- Have an in-depth understanding of their strengths and shortcomings in relation to leadership development as individuals and within a team, so that they can align the needs identified with their individual and collective strengths;
- Have a common understanding of the meaning of sustainable leadership within the AAC and within South Africa, so that they can identify the challenges and opportunities related to the development of future-focused leaders;
- Develop and create possible solutions to fast-track the progress and growth of the challenges pertaining to challenges in leadership that have been identified within a local (AAC) and South African context.

The Leadership Conference

It was my immense honour to host the first-ever AAC Leadership Conference, where members from all 10 faculty-student committees were invited to learn from fellow student leaders, refine their knowledge of the institutional leadership offerings at Stellenbosch University and largely unpack areas of concern that we as the AAC can be looking to when ensuring that our service holds students' academic interests at the fore. To hear what student leaders are thinking of and to unpack how we can work together brings me such hope.

Plans for Next Term

For the first term of 2023, the AAC aims to:

1. Deep dive into its aforementioned task teams
2. Ensure cluster guardians are accessible and empowered
3. Provide Readmission and Registration feedback to the Registrar's Division
4. To unpack the Class Representatives' role and work towards a guideline for all faculties.

The Academic Affairs Council strives to protect and further the academic interests of all students, by promoting a transformative teaching and learning experience, enabling academic success, and developing graduate attributes, with the aim of establishing a thriving academic project which facilitates student retention. We dedicate ourselves to achieving this mandate, whilst setting an example of professional conduct in the pursuit of academic excellence for all students.