



Stellenbosch

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SRC

Students' Representative Council
Ibhunga elimele abafundi
Studenteraad



SRC TERM I REPORT

MILITARY ACADEMY STUDENT COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON



Students' Representative Council

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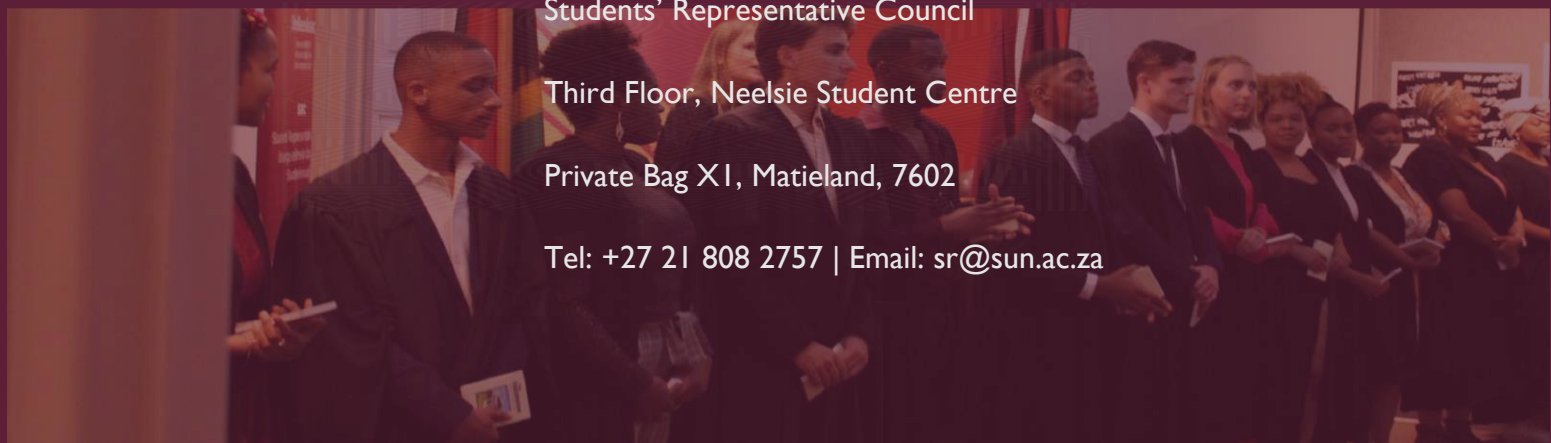


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Tshepo Modise – MASC Chairperson – modise@sun.ac.za

Foreword



My name is Tshepo Joseph Modise, and I am the chairperson of the Military Academy Student Council (MASC). The Military Academy Student Council is the highest representative and policy-making student structure at the Faculty of Military Science.

It is an honour and a privilege to represent the interests of all students who receive their training at the University's Faculty of Military Sciences in this capacity before the SRC and the university administration.

I believe that the MASC has a dynamic role to play in the optimization and development of the students' dual nature required to perform both militarily and academically.

Constitutional Responsibilities

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

- 1) Serves as the Chairperson at meetings of the MASC.
- 2) Acts as spokesperson for the MASC and Student Body.
- 3) Is responsible for the final decisions of finances of the MASC.
- 4) Ensures that the MASC fulfils its duties.
- 5) Is responsible for oversight over the activities of the MASC.

Composition

- 6) The Military Academy Student Council consists of:
 - I. The Student Captain
 - II. Any other members that are provided for in the Military Academy Student Council constitution.
- 7) The number of members that make up the Military Academy Student Council and the ways in which its members and Student Captain are elected is determined in the constitution of the Military Academy Student Council.
- 8) The election of the Military Academy Student Council must, unless extraordinary circumstances make this impossible, coincide with the SRC election on Stellenbosch University.

Duties and powers

- 9) The Military Academy Student Council represents the interests of all students who receive their training at the University's Faculty of Military Sciences, in that capacity, at the SRC, and the University management.
- 10) The Military Academy Student Council has the powers necessary for the performance of its duties.

Constitutional mandate

11) The Military Academy Student Council has a constitutional mandate to actively promote the rights of students contained in CHAPTER 2.

12) **Constitutions, rules, and regulations**

13) The Military Academy Student Council may, upon approval by the Student Court, accept any constitutions, rules, or regulations, or amendments thereto, that organises its activities.

14) The Student Court may refuse to approve new constitutions, rules, regulations, or amendments submitted by the Military Academy Student Council on the grounds of

I. Procedural fairness.

II. Incompatibility with the Military Academy Student Council's constitutional mandate or the constitutional framework of student leadership at the University.

15) The Military Academy Student Council may appeal to the Appeal Court against a refusal by the SRC under s113(2).

Portfolio Overview

The student captain oversees the Military Academy Student Committee (MASC). The Student Captain's role is to ensure that the SRC is aware of all developments at the Military Academy and that any concerns from the Military Academy are raised in SRC discussions. They also ensure that SRC decisions/information is communicated with their campus.

Committees/Task Teams

I serve on the following Committees and or Task Teams:

MASC Disciplinary Committee

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MASC Executive Committee

There are two committees under the Disa Society Social Council (DSSC) portfolio, which forms part of the MASC: the Men's Forum and the Women's Forum. The purpose is for both forums to have a platform to address gender-based violence and other gender-based issues that may arise.

Term I Overview

During my first term in office, I have planned and overseen:

- 1) The MASC Ball: October 23rd, 2022. A formal gala evening took place to reflect on and conclude the office term, and to bid farewell to the outgoing Military Academy Student Council by thanking them for a job well done.
- 2) MASC Training and Team Building: November 19th and 20th, 2022 The MASC has undergone committee structuring training, which will be facilitated by various professionals. The training was of the utmost importance as it aimed to build cohesion within the MASC, outline the roles and responsibilities of the Council per portfolio, and provide a plan for the MASC's term in office. After the conclusion of the training, the MASC returned to the Military Academy to implement all the learning that had taken place.
- 3) Exercise Trans-Enduro: From November 26th, 2022, until December 3rd, 2022, it is the tradition of the Military Academy to do a community outreach project at the end of the year. The exercise is planned and organised by the Faculty of Military Science students, through which they develop multiple skills such as leadership and diversity, enhance their understanding of civil-military relations and different issues relating to community services. The Exercise Trans-Enduro events entailed a wide range of teams divided into the endurance (physically active and attracting the attention of the public), the support (assisting other teams with supplies, raising funds, and doing community work, called MASIZA), and camping in different towns from Qheberha to Saldanha.
- 4) Awards Evening: December 7th, 2022 the student and staff members of the Faculty of Military Science who excelled in their academic development were awarded with certificates, trophies, and gifts from the different services in the Department of Defence and sponsors.

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- 5) **Passing Out Parade:** December 8th, 2022 the parade took place to bid farewell to the graduates and congratulate them on the completion of their 30 months of training at the Military Academy.
- 6) **MASC returned** January 4th, 2023 the student council arrived early for the preparations of the first-year administration, residences, and orientation.
- 7) **Induction Week:** January 8th, 2023 to January 3rd, 2023 the week contained various activities requiring late nights and early mornings to prepare the newcomers both mentally and physically for what they will endure for the duration of their studies.
- 8) **Exercise West Coast:** On January 14th, 2023, first-year students embarked on a walk with a route stretching for about 25 kilometres along the coast from Jacobsbaai to Tietiesbaai, supported by senior students, MASC, postgraduates, and faculty staff.
- 9) **Bootcamp:** January 16th–20th, 2023 Orientation of first-year students with regards to their fields of study, programmes, aptitude tests, and registrations.
- 10) **Sea Adventure:** January 16th–20th, 2023 Second-year students were taken for an exercise evaluating leadership skills, endurance, and teamwork. During this week, students experienced low and high tide expeditions and survival, river crossing and swimming with the current, scuba diving, the rocky sea exit at Kleinmond, team building health and safety, and climate change.
- 11) **Equine Facilitated Leadership Training:** January 16th–20th, 2023 The West Coast Military Equestrian Club (WMEC) played host to the third-year students, who participated in the Equine Facilitated Leadership Training (EFLT) as part of their personal and communication development. EFLT is not a new phenomenon as far as the education and development of soldiers are concerned. Horses have always played an important role in the development and preparation of the armed forces.
- 12) **Investiture Ceremony:** February 4th, 2023, also known as Family Day, is another tradition of the academy where the four societies, namely, BlueBerry, Juicy, Medical Board, and Pain, got the opportunity to recruit and formally install the newcomers. This family exists in the form of a supportive structure and mentoring to assist first-year students in adjusting.
- 13) **E-silva E-Silva Athletics:** On February 8th, 2023, participants from various residential year groups and postgraduates competed in the sporting event. The event hosted numerous activities such as track running (100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, and relay races), field items like javelin throw, discus, shot put, and long and high jump.



Plans for Next Term

I plan on doing the following:

- 1) Saldanha Town Clean Up Campaign
- 2) Mr & Mrs Academy
- 3) Variety Show
- 4) MASIZA community outreach.
- 5) Third Year Students visit to SU Main Campus.
- 6) Inter Year Group Drill Competition
- 7) SRC visit to Military Academy
- 8) Quiz Night
- 9) E-Silva Military Games