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Subject:	Second Term Report
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STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL IBHUNGA ELIMELE ABAFUNDI STUDENTERAAD





UNIVERSITEIT STELLENBOSCH | STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY





Contents

Constitutional Responsibilities	3
Portfolio Overview	4
Committees / Task Teams	5
Institutional	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Other Committees / Task Teams	5
Budget Overview	6
Term Overview	
Plans for Next Academic Term	
Recommendations for Portfolio Improvement	
Important Contacts	





The start to the second term of the University calendar proved to be a learning curve for many students and staff as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Constitutional Responsibilities

I have attended meetings for the SRC this term, these meetings have been held by the SRC and management. I have attended meetings on behalf of the SRC on the following dates:

- 21 April 2020 (Safety and Security think tank with campus security)
- 29 April 2020 (Executive meeting)
- 5 May 2020 (Safety and Security think thank session 2 with campus security)
- 11 May 2020 (CSLS Check-in with the SRC)
- 12 May 2020 (SRC Consultation session: Group 2)
- 13 May 2020 (Safety and Security think tank with regards to the Clean Campaign)
- 16 May 2020 (SRC Self-care session: Check-in-phase)
- 20 May 2020 (Clean Campaign meeting)
- 27 May 2020 (SRC)
- 3 June 2020 (Clean Campaign discussion)
- 29 June 2020 (Meeting with management with regards to the Substance abuse Policy)
- 2 July 2020 (anti-GBV discussion Group A)
- 9 July 2020 (meeting with risk management and campus security)
- 10 July 2020 (meeting with the TSR, SRC and management with regards to the incident at Tygerberg)







SRC:

The Safety and Security portfolio aims to assist the SRC in any capacity with regards to safety on campus and to inform the SRC of any feedback obtained by the students. This portfolio aims to attend as many meetings as possible and provide solutions to any problems encountered. Weekly office duties were not able to be fulfilled this term(due to the pandemic), however weekly Microsoft Team's meetings were held with management (campus security) and the SRC. The portfolio remains in communication with Campus Security and Facilities management. Relevant information will be relayed via the appropriate channels to the SRC and the students. The COVID-19 pandemic required that the students be educated with regards to the virus, whereby emergency information was provided. With the rise in Gender Based Violence, the portfolio aims to equip students with the skills to defend themselves should they be approached and be put into a situation in which they are not comfortable.

This portfolio deals with the concerns relating to the safety and security on campus. This includes:

- 1. Informing students with regards to obtaining emergency numbers and making these emergency numbers accessible to them (via posters, emails or social media platforms)
- 2. Hosting virtual events (talks on safety, self-defence classes, First Aid/emergency training)
- 3. Ensuring that the campus is safe and accessible for all students catering for students with disabilities. This can be done via a virtual tour for the third term.
- 4. Ensuring that all emergency exit doors are seen to and work by the person in charge of facilities on campus. This can be done via virtual tour for the third term.





- 5. Considering hygiene safety on campus (approaching potential sponsors for hand sanitisers) I will be in communication with Facilities management with regards to the returning of students and their safety
- 6. Informing students on how to be vigilant on campus and how to report any suspicious cases (such as assault)
- 7. Approaching 'Die Matie' to put a 'safety' section in their newspaper, such as hygiene tips or self-defence tips
- 8. Organising drop of points to assist the Clean Campaign
- 9. Placing a suggestion box in the Nellie as an opportunity to listen to the student's concerns on safety
- 10. Ensuring that campus is neat and accessible
- 11. Providing emergency information to the students

Committees / Task Teams

The vision for the Safety and Security Committee would be to improve the current safety protocols on campus and to ensure that no harm comes to any student or staff member. This was made clear during the COVID-19 pandemic, whereby the safety of the students was of vital concern. The mission of the Safety and Security committee is to ensure that all Maties have access to a safe and secure environment whereby they can excel academically and prosper in all aspects of life. The portfolio would like to provide an inclusive environment for all students, irrespective of their race, language, culture, religion or sexual preference.

Other Committees / Task Teams SRC Safety Manager.





Budget Overview

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The below was the proposed budget for the year before COVID-19

	R
Expenses	45,427.00
Martial arts engagements	R
[1]	27,380.00
First Aid engagements [2]	R 1,600.00
Die Matie safety section	
[3]	R 4,500.00
Packages for HITFIT	
classes [4]	R 9,247.00
Talks on safety [5]	R 1,400.00
Discretionary fund	R 1,000.00
Safety Box	R 300.00
Calculations	
[1]	
Guest speaker gift	250
Venue (Neelsie)	3500
Security bags	
Pepper spray	
(150*140p/u)	21000
Paper bags	390
Safety stickers	(0.6 *150)
Safety brochures	1250
Brochure printing	900
[0]	

[2] Guest speaker gift

250



STUDENTERAAD STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL



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Venue (Monica)	free
donuts (300 for first comers)	300*4,50
[3]	
Price per article	500
Number of articles per	

Number of articles per	
term	3
Number of terms	3

[4]

Security bags

Pepper spray (50*140p/u)	7000
Paper bags	267
Safety stickers	0.6(50*6) once off
Safety brochures	once off
Brochure printing	1800

[5] (two critical engagements)

	Residence
Venue	(free)
Speaker gift	250*2
100 donuts for each	
engagement	2(100*4,50)

Budget for the second term:

The budget above was aimed at equipping students with information and knowledge regarding safety and security. However, this term the budget had to be adjusted due to the pandemic.





To date, no money has been used out of the budget. However, R10 000 was reallocated to assist the Clean Campaign with care packages, by doing this, aligns the portfolios vision to assist students during the pandemic. The care packages are made up of a carrier bag, mask and a pamphlet with information regarding COVID-19.

R3000 of the budget is reallocated towards paying for online self-defence material for the online safety course. This will be done with the assistance of a qualified self-defence instructor. This is a vital task for the safety portfolio as there is a rise in Gender Based Violence and the portfolio would like to equip the students with the skills to defend themselves in an uncomfortable situation. This was something that I felt needed to be implemented due to the increase in Gender Based Violence in our community.

I have been in communication with a company known as Pro Events to obtain pepper spray for the students in need. More information regarding this will be communicated and reported in the third term report.

For the third term, I would like to implement the placement of the suggestion box in the Neelsie and Tygerberg Campus. This would allow students to relay any concerns with regards to their health(COVID-19) and safety on campus. The feedback gained from the students can assist in improving safety measures on campus. The use of the suggestion box has already been budgeted for the year.

Term Overview

This term has been a very unique and interesting term, whereby for the first time in history, the SRC portfolio's had to adapt to an online approach.

Throughout the term, I have attended the scheduled SRC meetings and have contributed to the meetings. I have also sent a report to the Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretory updating them with regards to the progress of the portfolio during the term via Microsoft Teams. Weekly meetings were held with Mr Como and Ms Le Roux to discuss the safety of the students. During these meetings, I was





informed that campus security was working on rotational basis to patrol the campus. The meetings that I have attended are stated in the constitutional responsibilities section above.

I have contacted staff to inquire as to how I can contact the students on campus as to assist them and ensure that they are safe. However, I was made aware that unfortunately I am not able to be given the contact details of the students. Therefore, I approached a residence head and am awaiting a reply. I have been informed from campus security that the students are safe at the moment.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many students had to adapt to a new lifestyle and studying approach. The safety portfolio aimed to assist the students during this time by ensuring that they are safe and aware of emergency numbers in the event of needing them. Therefore, I compiled a list of emergency numbers given by government that was distributed on the SRC Instagram page and website.

Following the need to assist the students with their safety, the safety portfolio joined the Clean Campaign. The Campaign was launched by the SRC, TSR and MASC to equip students with masks, sanitisers and a brochure. The aim of joining the campaign was to assist them with acquiring and distributing masks in order to assist the students. I emailed various mask suppliers to inquire about masks and have been in communication with the Clean Campaign. I sent a letter of motivation to the treasurer to request a budget reallocation of R10 000.00 to purchase re-usable masks for students and am awaiting a reply as to whether it will be approved or not. I am aware that the University does intend on purchasing masks for the returning students and therefore the Campaign might not be purchasing masks.

A Microsoft Teams meeting was held with Campus Security, particularity Mr Brandon Como, Ms Melany Le Roux as well as the Clean Campaign organiser (Mr Brandon Murray), the Vice-prims and myself to discuss the campaign and the distribution of the care packages. The result of the meeting was that there would be collaboration between the safety portfolio, campus security and the Clean Campaign to distribute the care packages.





Contact has been made to various SRC members to inquire if my assistance is needed as the safety manager. SRC members have informed me that they will contact me should they need my assistance. I contacted Ingrid Heydenreych, Michael Burke, Ntasko Mtileni and Themabkasi Swartbooi with regards to the safety on campus.

I have availed myself to assist the Move4Food initiative and have been informed that I will be contacted by Ms Bruns if the need should arise. I have also been in discussions with the Substance Abuse Policy officials to discuss the implementation of a revised policy via the Microsoft Teams platform. I emailed my feedback of the policy to Ms Briedenhann and await the information regarding the next meeting.

With the move to studying online and using social media platforms for leadership, the safety portfolio entered discussions with management with regards to launching a safety portfolio online presence. An Instagram and Facebook page for the portfolio was set-up and ready to launch. However, after speaking to Facilities management and Ms Van der Berg, it was decided that it would be best to continue using the established platforms as they have already gained followers and support. (Such as the Instagram page/Facebook page of the SRC and University)

Equipping students with the knowledge and skills to protect themselves was something that I planned on achieving in the second term by organising selfdefence classes on campus. A collaboration was discussed with HIITFIT with regards to hosting the self-defence classes, which were postponed. However, I have planned that for the third term, an online approach is achieved.

I participated in a Gender Based Violence training session that was hosted by the transformation office on the second of July 2020. The safety portfolio felt that due to the increase in Gender Based Violence that students needed to equip themselves with the necessary skills to defend themselves. Therefore, an 8-week online self-defence course was planned to be launched in the week of the 13th or 20th of July 2020. However, due to the past interactions with the instructor and the university, the course will be launched in the third term as a new instructor is





needing to be scouted. I have contacted Ms Monique Strydom, who works for a biokinetics practice and has training in self-defence. She is interested in assisting the portfolio in providing videos for the self-defence online course. This course will be run under the safety portfolio with the assistance from a qualified self-defence instructor. A contract will be made with the qualified instructor with the assistance from the legal office.

Communication between the branding and marketing manager, Robynne Bonzaaier has been ongoing with regards to the sharing of the material for the course. During the second term, a formal letter requesting the use of the SRC's Instagram page. The course will consist of a series of live question and answer sessions. A formal letter of motivation requesting the reallocation of R3000 to the treasurer for the course has been accepted.

Part of the self-defence initiative is to provide students with pepper spray. I have been in communication with Pro events security company and campus security with regards to obtaining pepper spray for the students. Pro events have communicated with me and are willing to assist. Further communication will be ongoing.

The portfolio aimed at launching a fun and creative online mask creation competition for the students. There has been communication with management and the Ms van der Berg regarding this initiative. I am waiting for the approval to launch an online mask creation competition with the help of Facilities management and Social media personnel. Students would have four weeks to submit entries via the SRC's Instagram page and the winner will receive data. This competition hopes to centre around the importance of wearing face masks, while engaging with the students.

I have been in communication with Ms Kok and Ms De Klerk with regards to the 'liggietoer' that is needing to be completed for this year. Campus security has informed me that there the possibility of having the 'liggietoer' is difficult. However, campus security officers have been looking at the lighting on campus.

A collaboration between the Women empowerment portfolio and the safety portfolio will be taking place. The collaboration aims at assisting students with





regards to online safety and the dangers of misusing social media during a time of a dominating social presence.

I have emailed 'Die Matie' in connection with the possibility of writing a Safety article for the student weekly or monthly. Such as *safety protocols, hygiene practises as well as self-defence descriptions could be included.* I have not received any feedback to date and therefore will be using the social media platforms that the University already has in place to share safety tips with the students.

I would like to use a portion of the Safety portfolio's budget to purchase Frist aid kits for the university, particularity in the SRC office and departments that may be needing them. I have emailed Ysterplaat Medical Supplies with regards to purchasing First Aid Kits on the 12th of March and the 23rd of June 2020. I am awaiting a reply from the company with regards to a quotation. However, during this time medical supplies are in short supply.

On the 10th of July 2020, I attended a meeting to discuss the case of Lebo Masinga, a third-year medical student who was allegedly attacked on the Tygerberg campus. I have sent an email to the Rectorate's office and management to inquire as to what assistance was given to Lebo on the evening of the alleged attack. A memorandum was shared during the meeting. I have been in communication with campus security regarding the incident. The Director of campus security has replied to the memorandum and has launched a formal investigation as to the events of the evening. I will be assisting with the outcome and way forward. Following the incident, I have been in communication with Lebo and have offered my assistance as the safety manager.

I am planning for the upcoming academic term, which will be discussed below.

Plans for Next Academic Term

During the third term, I am going to continue with the ongoing work of term two, such as the:

- Implementation of more lighting on campus via virtual tour or in person





- Meet with Facilities Management and Campus Security to continue the discussions regarding the safety of the students and what can be done to improve the current situation
- Implementing a Suggestion box in the Neelise for feedback on safety to be finalised and provide a platform for student feedback
- Continue the implementation of online safety posters and information regarding the wellness of the students (Example: self-defence demonstrations/hygiene safety/emergency response techniques)
- Check on the order for the First Aid kit for the University and email departments to ensure that they have a First Aid kit
- I would like to work with the Clean Campaign in packaging and distributing the care packages for the students in need
- Investigate safety measures for the return of the students
- Launch the mask competition/online safety competition(Planning has already begun)
- Follow up with the Treasurer with regards to the re-allocation of the budget for First Aid kits and pepper spray.

Recommendations for Portfolio Improvement

I would recommend that the Safety manager meet with staff that are involved in discussions with regards to the phased-in approach allowing for the return of students. I recommend that the portfolio investigate unique ways in which the safety of the students can be upheld upon their arrival back to campus(whenever it may be). I would recommend that the portfolio continue to be in communication with Risk management and Campus security. Vital information and goals are communicated and achieved when there is ongoing communication.







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Important Contacts

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Mr Brandon Como (Events and Security Operations Office	er- RISK MANAGEMENT
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Ms Melany Le Roux (Manager of Security systems and intel	ligence)
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Ms Rene van der Berg (Digital Channels co-ordinator: Socia	l media)

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Ms Ingrid Heydenrych (Prim committee Chairperson)

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Mr Brandon Murray (Treasurer and Clean Campaign Associate)

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Ms Monique Strydom (potential self-defence instructor) Monique.meyer.bio@gmail.com

Ms Caitlin Briedenahnn (Administrative officer and communicator for the substance abuse policy) <u>caitlinb@sun.ac.za</u>

Safety and Security Team

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