

## **Motivation for standing for Speaker of Stellenbosch University Student Parliament**

To whom it may concern

I, Johan Schoeman, hereby state that I adhere to all the necessary requirements as set out in Addendum 1 of the Student Parliament Constitution of Stellenbosch University in applying for the position of Speaker, with the exception of not having attended two previous Parliamentary Sittings. I was however assured by Keitumetse Lebesa, Outgoing Speaker, that this is not a problem and will not hinder my application process.

i. How I would position Student Parliament in terms of constitutional democracy

As speaker of Student Parliament, I would let myself be guided by the Student Parliament Constitution and by the members of the assembly in everything that I do in my official capacity. This is in itself what constitutional democracy entails. It refers to allowing the people to rule through their vote and the constitution providing boundaries to this freedom. I will thus be attentive to the issues raised by members of parliament, and will use the constitution as a starting point for any endeavor embarked upon by parliament.

ii. One aim Parliament should engage on and how this would be achieved under my leadership

I believe it is important to remember that the speaker, in their capacity as outlined by Chapter 2 of the Student Parliament Constitution, does not impose any specific agenda on parliament, and must remain impartial at all times. As Speaker, I will let members determine the direction Parliament takes on any issue through debate and will ensure that this takes place in an orderly and respectful manner. Flowing from this, my main goal as Speaker, should I be elected, will be to empower members of the Stellenbosch Student Body to affect the necessary change within their environment to move this university towards a more inclusive institution where all students can prosper.

iii. Why I should be Speaker and how I would contribute to realizing the the SP vision and Mission

I believe that my Curriculum Vitae and references attest to my qualities of leadership. I have often been described as having a very strong moral backbone, and will use this quality to cultivate a culture of order and respect within parliament. I will ensure that Parliament functions effectively under my leadership through working hard and through delegation. I do, however, take cognisance of the fact that the buck will stop with me, and will do everything in my power to affect true equality and transformation within Stellenbosch University.

Yours Truly

Johan Schoeman

