



Tygerberg Speaker Term Report 2

Tasks and Duties Outline

This report outlines the tasks and duties taken upon by myself, the speaker of Tygerberg Student Parliament, in fulfilling my mandate as the TSP Speaker. As per the constitution my role is highlighted as follows:

1) The Speaker-

- a) This role is fulfilled by the democratically elected Speaker;
- b) Ensures that Tygerberg Student Parliament takes place;
- c) To preside over meetings of Tygerberg Student Parliament impartially and in such a manner as to promote orderly and democratic debate ;
- d) Ultimately responsible to ensure that an agenda is compiled and marketed to all students at least one (1) week before Tygerberg Student Parliament takes place;
- e) Ultimately responsible to ensure that the minutes of Student Parliament are made available not more than two (2) weeks after each meeting;
- f) Acts as spokesperson for Tygerberg Student Parliament and the Tygerberg Student Parliament Committee;
- g) Is ultimately responsible for the finances of the Tygerberg Student Parliament;
- h) Attend all TSR meetings where possible;

- i) Meet with TSR Chairperson at least once a month;
- j) Attend Student Parliament Committee meetings.

In essence, my duty is to ensure Tygerberg Student Parliament is an operational structure that engages with both students and student leaders ensuring transparent governance for the students. This is achieved by creating a platform for orderly debates to take place, i.e. the first sitting. Ensuring the functionality and efficacy of the TSP by facilitating meetings amongst internal and external structures of the TSP as well as attending meetings in representation of the TSP.

2nd Term Report

Student Parliament Meetings and Sittings

- A good work ethic has been established between the TSP and SP.
- By sitting as an ex-officio during the Student Parliament meetings we have been able to establish good communication with events correlating both on Tygerberg and Stellenbosch. This was deemed to be most fruitful in instances whereby the TSP had required assistance or advice from SP.
- The hope that both the Speaker and I had to maintain a healthy relationship between Student Parliament and the TSP has deemed to be a success and I hope to continue to strengthen this relationship in the terms to come.

Student Parliament's 2nd Sitting (12th May)

- I have attended the Student Parliament Sittings with my committee in support of our fellow colleagues. By attending, this provides us with an opportunity to learn about the struggles that students face on Stellenbosch Campus and creates diverse room for conversation between both Committees.
- There is always something new to learn from a sitting and ideas that we can share to improve student engagement.

Meeting with members from North West University (12th May)

- Additional to SP's 2nd Sitting, a dinner had taken place with Student Governance as well as North West University who's intentions are to start up a Student Parliament on their campus.
- This was very engaging and a great way to share and receive different ideals from both our University and theirs respectively.

Indiana State University Study Visit (13th May)

Facilitated by Dr Choice, I represented the TSP and attended the Indiana State University Visit. It was a good means of gaining an International perspective of Student Leadership as well as the struggles faced by students overseas. This highlighted many flaws in our education system that not only affects us but students worldwide. The conversations brought forward shed light and provided insight to the ways in which we as a tertiary institution can solve some of the ongoing problems faced by students.

18th /20th May- Events that followed the Huis Marais incident

- Following the Huis Marais incident, the TSP and SP had released a joint statement condemning the acts of discrimination and racism.
- Within my capacity as a student and TSP speaker I had attended all rally's and critical engagements both on Stellenbosch and Tygerberg Campus.
- These sessions brought to light a number of issues that students have been facing on campus. It provided a platform for students to be heard and for Student Leaders to know what they need to focus on.

TSS Engagement with TSU (23 May)

- Following the events that had taken place on Stellenbosch campus, the Tygerberg Student Parliament hosted an informal communication session at the TSS for students to converse with us on a one-to-one level and share on what they would like to see change on campus as well as their general feelings towards the events that take place on campus.
- Snacks and cards explaining the role of the TSP and how to contact us was given.
- This was a productive encounter seeing as the more personal approach encouraged students to speak up on matters that had concerned them. We had student's email and show more interest in the TSP which was great.
- The points received from the students were noted and sent to the relevant TSR leaders to address.
- I would like to implement this engagement every term to allow the TSP to be more approachable to students.

TSR/TSP Teambuilding (27th May)

- Upon discussions with the chair and vice- chairperson of the TSR it was agreed that an informal setting to communicate outside of leadership would be a great means to strengthen the relationship between both the TSP and TSR.
- The TSR had set up the team building and it was a great way to formally introduce both of the committees seeing as most of our term was with online interactions.

Review of protest protocol (5 April)

- A meeting regarding the review of the protest protocol was held, I attended as a representative of the TSP.
- Input and comments of the draft document was submitted on behalf of the TSP.

Co-Curricular- TSP Speaker + SP Speaker

1st Meeting (16th May) - This meeting served as an introduction to co-curricular. Here we established what is required for the executive committees of both T/SP to do in order to be recognised on our transcripts after graduation.

- The DTEL module was discussed as an option to complete the co-curricular for parliament in a timely manner.

2nd Meeting (24th June) - This meeting served to shed more light onto the DTEL module and the process going forward for co-curricular.

- The DTEL module begins on the 28th of July and ends in September. Both the speaker of SP and I will be completing this course and aim to have the co-curricular document approved by the end of our term.
- A meeting between the TSP Deputy speaker and the co-curricular office will be held to discuss if there's a faster means of achieving this goal.

Tygerberg Student Parliament 2nd Sitting (30 May)

- The 2nd Sitting had taken place in a hybrid fashion, whereby we had attending in-person with us, UCT's Student Parliament as well as Stellenbosch Student Parliament.
- The Sitting engaged on points brought forward by the TSU and had a healthy environment for debate.
- Prior engagement with students, vouchers, kp points as well as advertising on Instagram were all used to promote the attendance and input of students to the sitting.
- What I would like to improve on for the next sitting is to have more informal engagements with the students and encourage them to join and participate in our sittings.
- Following the sitting, a dinner with UCT's Student Parliament and Stellenbosch's Student Parliament had taken place. This dinner had served as a means to collaborate with UCT in the hopes to build a network with other Student Parliament's to work together to student leadership in tertiary institutions.

TSR Chair Meetings:

7th April/25th May/3rd June

- All meetings held with the TSR Chair is fruitful, it provides me with an opportunity to follow up on points discussed at the Sittings and to bring up other smaller matters that need to be discussed.
- It is always vital to keep myself updated with the TSR's activities to ensure that the needs of the students are being put first, and each time I am not disappointed to hear the initiatives being put in place to benefit the TSU.
- Every team has it's weak points and being able to discuss the TSR's weak points on a one to one helps bring to light the struggles that the TSR faces and the hard work that is put in to improve the efficacy.
- There were many points and concerns that had been brought to my attention by students and was able to be dealt with appropriately, all thanks to the healthy line of communication between the TSR Chairperson and myself.

Arbitration

- The TSP had received a document concerning a motion of no confidence against a TSR member from the TSR. Upon consultation with Student Court, this had to be put on hold seeing as one of the constitutional requirements for the TSR motion of no confidence had not been met and was therefore deemed not valid, until this requirement had been met.
- A follow-up regarding this incident included a change of stance from the TSR's side with the defendant not pleading guilty.
- Upon consultation with SP's Accountability chair and the Speaker it was decided that the arbitration would be the best way forward to handle this matter.
- After receiving evidence from both parties, the arbitration had taken place on the 20th of June.
- Following a discussion regarding the evidence and the TSP putting forward their concerns and question, the arbitration was chaired by the Accountability Chairperson of the TSP.
- There was conducive engagement which brought to life more evidence.
- A meeting discussing the outcome of this arbitration will be followed with shortly.

Student Assembly Rules

- The Student Assembly currently has a draft that was worked on by 2 members in particular. I acknowledge my limitations in the sense of drafting the policies but still attempted to provide input and work towards these rules as best as I could for Student Parliament.
- There is much that I have learned from my colleagues
- A meeting regarding the draft had taken place on the 4th of July and discussed the basic framework of what has been done and what still needs to be done.
- This process had been one that was prolonged due to academic constraints but we still have the hope of completing these rules by the end of our Term.

Honorary Awards Committee

- I had the privilege of sitting on the TSR honorary awards committee as TSP Speaker in 2 meetings, discussing the service and leadership awards for students on Tygerberg.
- It was great to see the achievements and impact that Tygerberg students are making for the TSU and greater community.
- There were some improvements that were noted to be made on this process to improve the efficacy.

TSP Quiz

- I compiled a quiz for the TSU to partake in, whereby 2 winners would be allowed to have lunch with 2 of our executive committee members and ask them any questions that they may have about TSP and student leadership as well.
- I thought this to be a fun and interactive means to reach out to the TSU and encourage them to be part of decision-making processes of student leaders and not to be intimidated.
- The quiz thus far has also highlighted some confusion amongst the TSU about the TSP which we can now work towards correcting by sharing more content on social media and sharing with friends.
- The participation thus far has been good, the winner is to be decided on the 22nd of July and the dinner will take place on the 23rd

Conclusion

To conclude, it has been a successful Term with many challenges that we've had to work through but there were also many things that were learnt. Building on the knowledge of the second term I hope that the 3rd term we can complete more of the tasks that were set out to build a stronger foundation for the new term of leaders to come.

Kind regards,

Speaker Naidoo



Kaitlyn Cassidy Naidoo

Tygerberg Student Parliament: Speaker/Chairperson