

# STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

forward together

## Minutes SRC Meeting

Date: 2022-09-21 | Time: 18:00 | Venue: VV Hall (Neelsie) & [Microsoft Teams](#)

### 1. Welcoming

Masilo

Masilo welcomed everyone with an opening quote and started the meeting.

### 2. Attendance and Apologies

Phiwokuhle

#### Present in person:

- a. Masilo
- b. William
- c. Phiwokuhle
- d. Queen
- e. Prince
- f. Aphiwe
- g. Takadiwa
- h. Rudi
- i. Margra
- j. Dylan
- k. Emma

#### Present Online

- a. Vanessa (Valid excuse)
- b. Kim (Valid excuse)
- c. Tshepo (Valid excuse)

#### Apologies

- a. Banzi (Valid excuse)

### 3. Setting of Agenda

Phiwokuhle

Additions to Agenda:

- a. Rape Culture
- b. Feedback on loadshedding from AAC

Masilo  
Emma

## 4. Internal Affairs

**William**

William mentioned that the SRC had their strategic conference on the weekend of the 9<sup>th</sup> of September 2022. The weekend was to map out the SRC vision and mission for the 2022/2023 academic year. He further commented that the SRC has committed itself to intentional student servitude, social impact, transformation, mindfulness, transparency, and accountability.

The SRC had their first week in office last week Monday. The SRC has an open-door policy feel free to come to the office. If anyone is in need of assistance office hours are between 8am to 5pm and if student community has any recommendations or complaints an email can be sent to at [sr@sun.ac.za](mailto:sr@sun.ac.za). The SRC Offices are on the third floor in the Neelsie.

The SRC held an internal meeting last week and where the SRC code of conduct was rectified. The SRC code of conduct is a document that guides the SRC when it comes to its responsibilities and duties. Ultimately which is linked to our student constitution that keeps us accountable to our constitutional mandate. The SRC will release a document of what our mandate will be for our term to the student communities. With regards to SRC meetings the council adopted the resolution to hold them in residence spaces, reason being for visibility. The reason why the meeting was held at the VV hall was because of the load-shedding.

For those who are not aware, there was a break-in in the SRC boardroom, and it is currently unavailable and some of the equipment was stolen. Currently no internal or external stakeholders have access to the boardroom when it is available the public will be notified and the SRC will longer be in-charge of the bookings Student Governance will be handling it.

The SRC had their institutional committee elections last week Sunday and the SRC budget and year plan strategy weekend will be taking place on the weekend of the 7<sup>th</sup> of October 2022. The final budget will be made available on the 12<sup>th</sup> of October 2022.

## 5. Institutional Committee Feedback

Please clear [here](#) to access the document that details which committee each SRC member sits on.

### Rudi- Prim Committee Vice Chairperson

Rudi provided brief feedback on the first meeting they had with the Student Communities Advisory Committee. They received a report on some of the developments that are currently on going on campus. Further facilities management gave feedback on most current projects and renovations. Most notable they had a side visit of the Victoria Hub which is moving along nicely. Everything seems to be on schedule, and they hope to stay on schedule. Also looked at the 2023 Student housing budget the budget will be sent out for approval.



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sonke siya phambili  
saam vorentoe

### **Emma- AAC Chairperson**

Emma mentioned that in week 1 she attended her first committee meeting with the Quality Committee along with Phiwo. The quality committee unpacked quite a few revisions and proposals. There were six agenda points but nothing further than that can be said because all meetings are confidential. The agenda points were transformation office, centre for health professions education, engineering faculty, plant pathology, management of quality assurance cycle and the institutional audit.

- The rest of the council had no feedback on the institutional committees because they have not had their first sittings.

## **6. Portfolio Feedback**

### **Sabrina- SPC Chairperson**

The Senior Prim Committee had their first meeting the previous night where they elected a Vice-Chairperson and discussed the SPC constitution. Sabrina further mentioned that they would be holding their year planning meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 2022.

### **Rudi – Prim Committee Vice-Chairperson**

The Prim Committee had its first meeting last week and where they went about starting task teams and there are 4 task teams currently open to the rest of the campus and will be open until the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 2022. The task teams will operate throughout the rest of the year. The Prim Committee is currently liaising with the Maties shop with regards to the pricing of clothes and especially that of the housing communities.

### **Margra – Prim Committee Chairperson**

Margra mentioned that it is really lovely to see all the Prims engaging the committee is very optimistic about their term. The Prim committee will be having their Vice Prim camp on the weekend of the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September. The committee had its PSO Prim Strat com this past weekend. The purpose was to look at their strategy plans and kind of see what each community needs. The weekend was successful. Currently all residences have Annual Conversations so far there has been 4. 3 residences and 1 PSO. Feedback will be given once all the committees have finalised their conversations.

### **Emma- AAC Chairperson**

In week one the committee facilitated a handover to ensure that there is continuity in the governance of the AAC. They also had an internal meeting and a meet and greet with rectorate. Emma represented the AAC at the Curriculum Recognition Committee in their first meeting which was about do's and don'ts. Further AAC had their first meeting which Emma chaired and they elected their executive team as per their constitution. The previous constitution was indicative of how they elect so the AAC set up a new procedure, minutes will be sent to the SRC Chairperson.



### **Takadiwa- Innovation**

The approach Takadiwa will be taking this year is understanding the campus, its students and the atmosphere in different residence spaces. Has started off his term by attending different residence meetings, events and HC meetings. On Friday he will be attending Irenes Annual Conversation. This term will be for meeting and getting a better understanding of how each residence to be better plan for next year.

### **Prince – Student Wellness and Leadership Development**

Prince had his first meeting with Charles Davids who is the director of CSCD. Meeting was based on how to find ways in deal with mental health issues on campus. Prince mentioned that students have no interest in critical engagements and perhaps new ways need to found to articulate our problems. There is a mental wellness week coming up in the last week of the term. Prince would like to incorporate more physical activities for our students. He had a meeting with the social worker Lizzie the day before this meeting to discuss food security. He then questioned how they will be able to work together on how to secure food for next. The response was that they will be able to help out students that are registered and the SRC can help those that have not been registered.

Leadership development met with Hiedie October the Deputy Director of FVZS institute of student leadership development the meeting resulted in that there will more collaboration in terms of discussion panels. Further encourages students to participate in the masterclass hosted by CSCD.

### **Queen – Treasurer General**

Had a meeting with the SRC Policy officer on some of the changes she would like to make in the internal financial policy which will be shared with the rest of the group. There is a meeting set up with Mr Sauls where Phiwo will be joining in for the next week. The meeting is just a meet and greet and to find out what they are currently doing for the registration period next year and what they will like from the SRC.

### **Aphiwe – Social Impact and Sustainability**

Recently had a meeting with Mrs Show which was a meet and greet. The meeting resulted in that Aphiwe was given the suggestion to start a Social Impact and Sustainability committee to collaborate with other societies on campus to get more hands-on board. Precious has also added her the previous group with past volunteers. Plans on using this platform for her projects

### **Dylan – Sport and Innovation**

Last week attended a South African sport event which involved networking. Has met with Maties sport and will be meeting them soon again, will also be attending a council meeting in Durban in October.

### **William- SRC Vice Chairperson**

There are quite a few vacancies and those will be advertised by mass mail tomorrow and all of our social pages. The SRC will open up nominations for students to sit in CDC. The current students that sit on the committee, term ends at the end of this year. Nominations will be up soon for the next academic year.

### **Phiwo – Secretary General and Student Financial Access**

Proposed that Queen and herself start compiling an excel spreadsheet of the students that will need assistance when it comes to clearing debt so that the list is there. Further mentioned that the SRC does not have the financial capacity to clear debt but will work with the relevant structures that can assist. Further interested working with Alumni office for some of the interesting ideas in mind to raise more money. As for the up-coming meeting with Mr Sauls and Queen, wants to find out on ways how we can make bursary's more accessible to our students. (Perhaps have a separate folder on our website). Because the SRC has just received access to the social media pages the tree links will be uploaded where students will find the link to submit any agenda points.

### **Vannesa – TSRC Chairperson**

TSRC is in the process of interviewing members of TSU for their vacancies and will be having their camp from the 30<sup>th</sup> of September – 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

### **Kim – Societies Council Chairperson**

Re-registration for old societies has closed, registration for new societies is open until the 12<sup>th</sup> of October. They have set dates for treasurer training coming up in October and have opened applications for Scat. The council has two disciplinary matters one involving SASCO and Palestine forum where the chair will have to provide a report on the failing of governance by the end of the month

### **Masilo – SRC Chairperson**

The SRC recently had their strat planning, two weekends ago where they spoke of their vision and mission as an SRC. A mission statement was created which will be shared at the closing of the meeting. The SRC does not have managers yet, in the interim the chair has been and helping out with the Transformation Forum which was attended last week and then also with the social media. If there are any announcements that want to be shared send them to the chairperson and then that can share. Transformation Forum has been concerned about the current culture in our residence spaces. From the chair's side she's a bit worried about the fact that the university staff (academics) have no access to unions more discussion will be had on that. Further had a SAUS meeting the past week. It was disappointing that many universities did not show up which resulted in the program being cut short. The topic was about Protests in Universities.

## **7. Matters for Information**

### **Communication Policy**

Tertia Kruger

The content of Tertia's agenda point included Recap on process and timeline, recap on scope, institutional communication clarified, institutional communication governance system and relevance to the student community. She mentioned that SU as institution and communication as a discipline are both complex and multi-faceted.

In summary Institutional communication encompasses communication on behalf of the institution. It occurs based on/as regulated by mandate as per the delegation framework and roles and responsibilities as defined within this policy. Appointed or elected leaders are at liberty to talk on behalf of that entity and are only limited by directives of that entity.



It does not limit expert opinion expressed personally, professionally or as an academic specialist or thought leader on a particular topic, provided it is accompanied by a clarifying disclosure. Freedom of expression by an individual is not regarded as institutional communication and is not governed by this policy. However, staff and students should be cognisant of other University policies, guidelines, codes of conduct or disciplinary codes in this regard. The Communication Policy is relevant to the student community and applies to all staff members, all students and staff mandated to speak on the behalf of the university, chairpersons and members of governance structures and students elected to positional leadership.

The CP does not restrict academic freedom or freedom of expression. Expression of professional opinions and personal views, irrespective of the platform or channel being utilised, may be subject to other institutional rules, policies, protocols, or codes of conduct listed under the supporting and related documents. Values of SU are applicable to communication.

Please click [here](#) to access the presentation.

## 8. Matters for Information

### Kayamandi Shuttle feedback

### Phiwokuhle

The SRC has been getting many questions with regards to the shuttle service which we had no answers to. Phiwo mentioned that they had asked for updates from the previous SRC and were told that there was conflict with the Taxi Association. That answer did not satisfy the SRC, they embarked on a journey to try and find answers. Phiwo and Prince then visited the association in Kayamandi on Monday to find out the reason behind why they were not allowing the university shuttle in the area. The association mentioned that they had no problems they have been waiting for the university to contact them. Thereafter the university's Director of Transport Services was contacted and a meeting was had people in the meeting where Phiwo, Masilo and Takadiwa. The resolution taken at the meeting is that they will again try to negotiate with the association and provide feedback. Further that they will help the association apply for the tender that will be opening in October. Phiwo then mentioned that a form would be sent out to check how many students were affected. And that hopefully a solution will be found by the following week.

## 9. Matters for Discussion

### Rape Culture

### Masilo

Masilo mentioned that she had been receiving quite a few messages from particularly women in residence spaces and PSO spaces about the issue of rape culture because it is becoming warmer and people are dressing in such a manner that they are showing more skin and they're concerned about the snide comments that girls have been getting from people on campus and just a general feeling of discomfort. Although the SRC does not have Wage or a Transformation officer at the moment, it was proposed that a discussion be had on what the SRC can do.

Queen proposed that the conversation about topics such as GBV and rape culture be included in the annual conversation that are currently taking place residence spaces. Margra mentioned that residences have critical engagement HC and that she would be meeting with Yeki to discuss the RedEd programs will be work for this year and next year. She further mentioned that she will use that as an opportunity to include such topics as it will be easier if it comes through their office. She will further take it up with Rudi and they will table it with CSC because these are valuable conversations to have. Masilo further requested the feedback.

Phiwo proposed that we partner up with the equality unit and have a campaign which will also be advertising their App were students and staff can report any form of harassment. Masilo further added that it would be a good idea to work with the equality unit and perhaps host a panel discussion that will include students outside of the residence space.

Emma mentioned that she thinks a large feature about rape culture is blatant ignorance. Often, it's locker room talk. It is, you know how guys are. Further people are unaware that those kinds of comments are actually the beginning of rape culture. She suggested an awareness campaign that is simple and informative. Such as posters in bathrooms that will make people aware of the kind of comments they make.

Masilo mentioned that general consensus is that the SRC should have an awareness campaign.

## 10. Matters for Discussion

### Loadshedding

Emma

Emma spoke about how her vice chairperson informed her on Sunday that there was not much being done to hold the facilities management accountable for an announcement that was made in July with regards to a potential policy regarding generator loadshedding in the event of stage 5 or 6 of loadshedding. She then requested that the vice chairperson be the one to head on the enquiry. The vice chairperson then contacted Prof Deresh just to find out more information. Emma then mentions that this sparked a conversation in the SRC Executive. She then mentioned that the discussion that should be had is what should be done about holding facilities management accountable and the academic consequences due to load-shedding.

Masilo mentioned that each structure especially the Prim Coms and AAC use their platforms to put on more pressure on the facilities management. Some of the suggestions that were given are as follows, more study spaces in Jan Mouton, Scheduled Walking buses for students to walk with campus security to and from study venues, academic concessions for students affected by loadshedding off campus, more security presence on campus during loadshedding, greater access for Tygerberg students to the educational and clinical building when loadshedding happens. Lights be turn on in spaces that use the generators for light. The Dagbreek and Wilgenhof generators might still be out on, so students have access to Wi-Fi from there. More charging points to be made available on campus aside from at Jan Mouton and the Neelsie.

## 11. Closing

Masilo

Masilo closed off the meeting.