



**Stellenbosch**

UNIVERSITY  
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**SRC**

Students' Representative Council  
Ibhunga elimele abafundi  
Studenteraad



## SRC TERM 2 REPORT

### SRC STUDENT WELLNESS AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT



Students' Representative Council

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## Foreword

**Molweni Bafundi!**

I would firstly like to thank everyone that partictapated in the SRC Elections. The second term has been challenging as exciting at the very same time. I belive in taking a stand, leading through action rather than romatising our real struggles.

**The mandate is Clear!! Sisayibambile!**

## Constitutional Responsibilities

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

The core functions of the Students' Representative Council include – (1) To act in the best interest of students and to actively promote students' rights under CHAPTER 2. (2) To represent students at – (a) The University Council. (b) The Senate. (c) The Institutional Forum. (d) Other committees, structures, and functionaries of the University. (e) National and international student structures. (3) To evaluate the University policy and give input in the formulation thereof. (4) To formulate and maintain a policy to ensure that the SRC performs its functions and duties effectively. (5) To facilitate projects and initiatives to the benefit of students. (6) To inform students continuously, and obtain feedback, about its activities

The portfolio has gone through many evolutions over the past few years, the most notable occurring in the 2018/19 term when a committee was created to draft the Mental Health Policy. The policy draft was both influenced by and influenced discussions around mental health at Stellenbosch University (SU).

The 2018/19 term was unfortunately heavily impacted by the global coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic. It is however evident through her plans, and her speeches during the caucuses, that she had a great motivation to broaden and destigmatize the conversation around mental health. – Chloe Krieger (Student wellness 2019/20).

I am of the strong opinion that there are many factors that affect one's mental wellness, besides obvious mental illness, and it is for this reason that the 2020/21 plan for this portfolio is to spend at least a month specifically focusing on the different aspects of the Wellness Wheel in an effort to improve overall well-being-(Makabongwe Chido Kasek)20/2.

In 2022 I am happy to announce that the mental health plan was finally approved. In my term I want to build on what Makabongwe had started and that is why I am continuing with the wellness wheel. I also want to be more visible on campus to make it easier for students to reach out to me. I have realised that we cannot fight the mental health problem alone and that is why collaboration between me and CSCD is going to be the core of my term- (Chris Briel) 2021/22

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An alternate viewpoint on mental health awareness is being introduced in the current year (2023), allowing for more psychical activities, initiatives, and programs with the support of all pertinent stakeholders. Due to its nature, the portfolio has historically partnered primarily with the Centre for Student Counselling and Development (CSCD), which is a division of the Division of Student Affairs. Once more, the portfolio has restricted its ability to collaborate with social worker offices as it did before the COVID-19 outbreak. Fighting the real challenge of food security on campus is the mandate of this connection. The portfolio's affiliations go beyond campus-only relationships to welcome several national institutions, such as Higher Health to bright light, ease the stress and most importantly ensure student success through student servitude.

## Portfolio Overview: Student Leadership Development

The role of the Leadership Development portfolio head is to facilitate non-SRC leadership development for positional and non-positional leaders. To liaise with Centre for Student Leadership, Experiential Education and Citizenship (CSLEEC) and Frederik van Zyl Slabbert Institute for Student Leadership Development (FVZS) regarding Masterclass, LSAL, LiC, and short course offering and to liaise with the Leadership development members of the faculty and community structures. Their role is to improve accessibility of leadership development and facilitate leadership collaboration on campus. In the current year the portfolio is constitutionally mandated to facilitate active intervention in different leadership structures on campus due to real student issues that seemed to be left behind closed doors of the SRC. Critical issues one being the accommodation crisis. This will be facilitated through engagement. Shortly the portfolio is ready to hold student leaders accountable according to different positions in occupation. Amandla!!

## Committees

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I serve on the following Committees and or Task Teams:

- **Student Achievement Committee**  
The committee participates in the procedure for presenting students the Rectors Awards for Excellence.
- **Student Affairs Selection Committee**  
The committee is mandated to preside over developments, reviews, and recommends policy for student activities and services such as housing, health, food, athletics, financial aid, campus events, and student behaviour
- **Gender Based Violence Monitoring Group**  
The group is mandated to overlook, to take and tracking down progress pertaining GBV on campus

**! All the committees haven't yet meet.**

## Task Teams

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The registration Champions

- The mandate of the task team was assisted students with registration process as well other concerns that resonates with the registration. This group was split into two group other SRC members like me were stationed in the office while the rest of SRC members and volunteers from SASCO and EFFSC stationed in outside Admin A.
- From the 30 January until 13 Feb I was assigned to Emergency accommodation placement, (backpackers).

## Term 2 Overview: Student Wellness

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Recovering from registration period has been a challenging to extend whereby I have attended my lectures in the third week of the academic year. Speaking of term two academics has something I had to prioritise given the fact that I'm student before I am the student leader. Due to this term looking at long list of my year plan I had to run applications for Student Wellness subcommittee, which now is currently working on few events which will take place during this term (3d Term). This subcommittee is made of two students, one female and a male, interestingly that both of them are studying B Social Work. A reason to that It has come to my attention that delegation is important as to divide myself with other student issues that normally comes up to my attention. We are meeting every Friday from 1 pm until 2:30pm.

A process due selection of this subcommittee, I personally appointed them in the expense of their degree, passion and their work ethic. Moreover, we had few meetings engagements with the CSCD as to improve our approach to mental wellness. Referencing from my previous term report the events/programme 'Public conversation with the students" and Mental Health Physical Activities programme". They are still on their way given the recovery I had to face and the organising the event solely. I'm confident to say fun time is upon us know I'm working with a brilliant team. Conversely food security still remains a serious issue in our campus which we are still trying to find a more sustainable and concrete solution to handle it. However, we are working closer with the Centre for Psychotherapeutic and Support Services in handling food insecurity, student can always feel freely to email [supportus@sun.ac.za](mailto:supportus@sun.ac.za). . In overall we have managed to submit a proposal of an event which we believe it will be a milestone to Equality unit, as proposed through our delegations with Michelle Munro late February.

### Subcommittee Members:

- Amahle Sityata (Portfolio co-ordinator)
- Xolisa Mdzoyi (Events manager)

## Term 2 Overview: Student Leadership Development

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The student leadership development is happy that to inform you that it has established a subcommittee that entails with the group of four amazing individuals. The applications were opened on the 17<sup>th</sup> -19 March the link was distributed via SRC social media. This subcommittee is formed by two males and two female students. Most importantly we had our first official meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> March, given that they are recurring. We are meeting every Tuesdays from 6pm to 7:30 pm in the SRC offices. However, so far, we have improved the traditional ideas in my year plan as to more interesting mode. Few initiatives are on their way (term 3) to serve the student community as called upon. The plans for this term were delayed through registration period being extended and accommodation crisis we had to handle as I was personally deep involved.

Subcommittee Members:

- Hlumelo DwaDwa (Events Co-ordinator)
- Nicole Nzama (Social media and Marketing)
- Thandolweth Khumalo (Portfolio Co-ordinator)
- Siphephelo Mhlongo (Finance)

## Plans for Next Term: Student Wellness

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Initially to launch the events that were delayed from this term.

Followed by:

### **Special Gender Based Violence critical event**

This particular event initially was supposed to be hosted under Student leadership portfolio, but through deliberations from both my sub committees we scathed it to Student Wellness. This particular event is now finalised and it will take place on the 04<sup>th</sup> of May.

## Plans for Next Term: Student leadership development

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Continuation of delayed events

Followed by;

### **Student leadership Structures Meet and Greet Social Evening**

The aim is to close the gap between student leadership structures on campus by bringing all of the under same roof and to make it fashionable.

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