



Stellenbosch

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SRC

Students' Representative Council
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Studenteraad



SRC TERM I REPORT

SRC Safety and Security Portfolio



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Foreword

Warm Greetings fellow Maties,

With a new year ahead of us, I am truly excited and filled with expectation about the year ahead. It has been so encouraging for me to welcome our new Maties to the family, and to share in the beginnings of a new adventure for them as newcomers to SU. What an exciting journey ahead, that I am sure will be filled with personal growth, exciting new adventures and experiences, and of course, new challenges. The welcoming period is always energised with a sense of expectation about the year ahead, with this year having a special buzz about things on the SU campus.

I am truly optimistic about some of the things we will achieve together as the SU student community, with many impactful projects already in motion within this , and more on the horizon, I am positive that this will be a meaningfully impactful year of collaborative efforts to improve and maintain the safety and security of all SU students on our campuses.

With that being said, I would like to wish all the newcomers and returning students the best of luck for the year ahead, may this year provide every opportunity that you are hoping for, may you be strong and resilient in the face of challenges, and may you celebrate with zeal your successes and small wins in the true spirit of a Matie!

Yours sincerely,

Tayo Allerton.

Constitutional Responsibilities

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

- 1) The Safety and Security manager has the duty of acting in the best interest of students by actively working with the relevant structures and stakeholders to ensure the Safety and Security of students at Stellenbosch University at both Tygerberg and Stellenbosch campus. This responsibility is fulfilled by facilitating projects and initiatives to the benefit of students and to inform students continuously, and obtain feedback, about its activities via the SRC (meetings and/or media platforms). Where possible this portfolio may formulate and maintain policy regarding Safety and Security in order to ensure that the SRC performs its functions and duties effectively

Portfolio Overview

- 1) The role of the Safety and Security portfolio head is to perform safety reviews of SU campuses and report to the SRC and relevant institutional structures there on. They Initiate projects to further increase the safety of students and facilitate safety training such as first aid training for student community leaders. They also coordinate with Faculty and Community leadership to ensure safety concerns are effectively dealt with at the relevant institutional structures, collaborating to ensure the safety wellbeing of all SU student. The mission of the portfolio is to work purposefully towards promoting and ensuring the safety and security of students at Stellenbosch University at both the Stellenbosch and Tygerberg campus. This while fostering a culture of zero-tolerance to GBV and empowering students with the necessary awareness and information to ensure their safety and wellbeing is looked after proactively.

Committees/Task Teams

I serve on the following Committees and or Task Teams:

The Safety and Security manager is part of the Stellenbosch Safety Forum consisting of SAPS Stellenbosch, Stellenbosch Municipality and Campus security, as well as the. This forum aims to collaborate with by disseminating pertinent information and organizing proactive campaigns to reach the relevant constituents of the student communities across the Stellenbosch campus. Additionally, the Safety manager assists with organising the University safety forum consisting of the Residence and P.S.O. safety managers This forum has the mandate of bringing safety issues affecting their constituents to the

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fore, so that the SRC Safety and Security manager can report these to the SRC and Campus Security. Mr Brandon Como and Ms Le Roux from Campus Security are also a part of the Safety forum and are thus directly informed of such incidents.

Term I Overview

Installation of Emergency Lights on Stellenbosch Campus

With the recent disruptions to the lighting on campus caused by loadshedding, Campus Security, alongside the Safety and Security portfolio endeavoured to install emergency lights on the Stellenbosch campus. This was in an effort to improve the safety of walking routes frequently used by SU students when travelling across the campus at night.

Well-lit areas is key in the ability of our security services to monitor key areas frequented by students by cctv footage, additionally playing a part in preventative efforts against robberies and property theft or vandalism (most often occurring at night) that are a reality on an open campus such as SU. These emergency lights are now operational around the “3 Sisters” residences, on Victoria, Bosman, Hofmayer and Clasen streets as well as the area behind the Dagbreek men’s residence. Further expansion of the areas where emergency lighting is operational will continue over the forthcoming months, as funding allows.

First Aid Course for Safety Managers

Between the 23rd and 26th of January 2023 the Safety Managers of various members of the SU residences and PSO’s were invited to attend a first-aid workshop. 2 workshops were held over the 23rd to the 24th of January (hosted at Stellenbosch Town Hall) and the 25th to the 26th of January at the Tinie Louw Hall, located at the amaMaties hub. Stellenbosch Municipality, under the Wardenship of Councillor Carli Van Wyk were very kind as to sponsor the residence safety managers to attend these courses. It is an essential aim of this portfolio to ensure residence and PSO spaces are safe and that there are people at hand that can assist with first-aid if necessary should an incident occur at a residence or PSO spaces. The course was presented by Mr Deon Alberts from He & She Training Academy, which is a SACA-accredited company.

Safety and Self-Defence Workshops for Newcomers and Student Leadership

Safety and self-defence workshops were held at various residences, clusters and PSO venues during the welcoming period, commencing on the 1st of February and concluding on the 11th of February 2023. More than 20 different residences and PSO’s were visited over the welcoming period in a joint collaboration between the SRC’s Safety and Security portfolio, Campus Security, as well as SAPS. The aim of these workshops was two-fold. Firstly, they comprised of an information session to educate students on the specific needs and challenges facing SU as an open campus and how to best conduct oneself on a campus in terms of personal and property safety, to inform students about how to contact and report incidents to campus security, as well as advocating for the importance of making use of the walk-with and shuttle services on offer to students travelling across campus or to outlying areas of campus after dark. The second component of these workshops included a practical self-defence

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workshop hosted by the Safety and Security portfolio manager, with assistance from Mr Jon Williams from SA JKA Karate, an internationally qualified and acclaimed self-defence instructor. These sessions received fantastic engagement and feedback from students, who all left empowered with new knowledge and skills to be able to look after themselves and their possessions on campus.

Budget Usage

Campaign	Forecasted Cost to Portfolio	Cost to Portfolio	Context of Expenditure
First Aid Courses	R 0.00	0.00	The courses were sponsored by the Stellenbosch Municipality, and thus there was no cost to the portfolio necessary to cover the safety managers to attend the course.
Safety and Self-Defence Workshops	R 10 000	+/- R 6000.00	After a negotiation process with the consultant brought in to conduct the self-defence courses, the instructor Mr. Williams agreed to a reduced cost for the campaign. The final invoices at the time of writing have not be attained, as the course is still currently under-way.
Gift for Workshop Instructor	R 250.00	R 250.00	A thank-you gift will purchased from Maties shop to be presented to the self-defence instructor o be presented on the final day of the workshop.
Emergency Lights Installation	R 0.00	R 0.00	The funding for emergency lights on campus was provided solely by Campus Security.

Plans for Next Term

Pepper Spray Handout

For the upcoming term, the portfolio is planning a hand-out of pepper-spray units at residences and PSO for students to carry with them when on campus.

Additional First-Aid Training

There are additional First-Aid courses being planned for the upcoming term to reach some of the leaders in the student communities that were unable to attend the previous round of courses. This will once again be done in conjunction with the Stellenbosch Municipality, with the additional goal of opening up the course to other leaders of residence and PSO spaces besides just the safety managers.

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A21 Human Trafficking Campaign

Currently in the planning process is a campaign in collaboration to raise awareness around as well as educate student on the realities around Human Trafficking globally and in South Africa. This is a part of the Safety and Security portfolios goals of addressing issues of Gender-Based Violence on campus and within SU spaces, which is part of not only a national, but also international epidemic.

Update on Crime and Reporting Trends on Campus

The portfolio aims to keep a constant finger to the pulse on trends of crimes committed and the reporting of these incidents on campus throughout the year. The portfolio manager will meet regularly with Mr Como and Mrs Van Zyl from Campus Security to get an update on the latest incidents as well as trends seen on campus, so that the necessary interventions can be implemented to ensure a proactive stance towards addressing safety issues on SU campuses.