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| **Portfolio:** | Sustainability and Innovation Manager |
| **Subject:** | Third Term Report |
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# Constitutional Responsibilities

The Sustainability & Innovation Portfolio thus far has no constitutionally prescribed responsibilities however, this portfolio is of great importance for the student body in order for the University to be able to cultivate a culture where students engage with issues of sustainability and which areas the Stellenbosch University has made progress in its effort to create a more sustainable institution.

As managers are constitutionally required to attend one meeting per term, I will be attending an online meeting in the coming weeks.

# Portfolio Overview

The role and function of the Sustainability and Innovation portfolio is to broaden student engagement and knowledge on issues pertaining to sustainability.

**Portfolio Description**

For the year 2020, this portfolio is responsible for creating a socio-ecologically aware student body, especially regarding the sustainability principles and initiatives already undertaken by SU.

Furthermore, it is responsible for the encouragement and facilitation of sustainable practice by the SRC, student body and University as a whole.

**Vision**

My vision for the portfolio is for it to serve as a vehicle for increased student awareness and engagement of issues pertaining to sustainability, both in their university context and beyond.

In addition, the Sustainability portfolio should foster a process whereby the University maximises on its efforts to be environmentally conscious and eco-friendly. In this case, my ultimate goal is moving towards a system of digitising submissions of student assignments as the University currently contributes to the unsustainable use of paper at a mass scale. However, remote learning for the year of 2020 has meant that the process of digitisation has already taken place.

Also, exploring the scaling up of recycling initiatives by the University, and use of the recycled material, by encouraging more students to deposit their used notes is of concern. Due to COVID-19 and the fact that a majority of students have not been on campus this year, this initiative has not been possible.

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# Committees / Task Teams

## I solely serve as Sustainability Manager for the Student Representative Council – after two recruitment attempts. In working with various constituents including DACES, Facilities Management and more recently with TSR, the portfolio has thus focussed on collaborative efforts.

# Budget Overview

# During Term 3, no funds have been used. This is due to the fact that COVID-19 has made events on campus impossible. Furthermore, in keeping to sustainable usage of funds, the portfolio has opted to spend minimal funds except for an online event in August if need be.

The Total Budget Value of this portfolio is still R11 000.

# Term Overview

So far in Term 3, I have undertaken the following activities:

**Enhancing Student Access to Information:**

* This portfolio has compiled and issued a “Sustainable Living Off and On Campus Resource Pack” – in collaboration with DACES on Tygerberg and SU Facilities Management
* The resource pack includes:
* Sustainability Events and Petitions
* Food and Waste Management Tips
* Energy and Water-saving Tips
* Sustainability games and media
* Miscellaneous resources
* Planning a Sustainability Digital Event in collaboration with TSR. This event will be aimed at raising awareness on sustainable menstruation products and practices; during the Women’s month of August.
* Gathered information on the Food Waste system of all university campuses and explore feasibility of integrating all campuses in the food waste management system. As currently, only the Stellenbosch, Tygerberg and Bellville campuses make use of the food waste management system. The result of this was that Facilities Management of Stellenbosch University is currently exploring this as part of its long-term (between 5 to 10 years) plan to broaden sustainable campus practice and overall functioning.

# Plans for Next Academic Term

**Enhancing Student Access to Information:**

* Carry out the digital event which is aimed at raising awareness on Sustainable Menstruation practices and products during the month of August.

# Recommendations for Portfolio Improvement

This portfolio can be improved through the building of a network of contacts which will be able to assist with the various initiatives and projects which are being embarked upon.

Furthermore, a deepened working relationship with bodies such as EcoMaties and the Sustainability Institute would be beneficial in the future.

# Important Contacts

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