

SUBMISSION TO STUDENT COURT OF STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

In the case of Du Toit and Others vs Links and Others.

Submission by Inge Odendaal in the capacity of SRC Candidate.

Outline of Submission:

SECTION A: Response to Election Convenor's Report

SECTION B: Effect of Actions of Respondents 1-8 on Elections

SECTION C: Remedy

SECTION A: Response to Election Convenor's Report

1

This section of the submission will be addressing aspects of the report submitted to the Student Court (SC) by the Election Convenor (EC) as on 8 August¹. Sections of the said report which will be addressed are Sections 3.1,3.5, 3.6, 6, 7, and 8.

2

The first section which I will be addressing is that of section 3.1 in the EC's report. I, as well as a colleague, Chad Fransman laid complaints pertaining to the event which took place in the Neelsie on 21 July 2016². As candidate I feel that an adequate investigation was not done and that the allegations pertaining to "Vote Afriforum" being broadcasted on the Neelsie screen was not investigated properly.³

3

Sections 3.5, 3.6 and 6 all address the notion that the convenor did not have adequate time to respond wherein he believes that the applicants had responded in a manner wherein they did not exhaust all internal remedies. This "haste" action by the applicants according to the convenor did give the EC adequate time to investigate these claims internally.

4

The student constitution states in section 26(2):

"Any complaint about the running of the election, including any aspect that may jeopardise the freedom or fairness of the election, and any decision or failure to make a decision by the Election Convenor(s), must be lodged with the Student Court –

(a) within a reasonable time;

(b) before the third (3rd) University day (inclusive) after the announcement of the results; and

(c) in accordance with the rules of the Student Court."

5

¹ Addendum A

² Addendum B

³ Addendum C

As candidate I would like to state that the EC in my experience has a history of not addressing complaints in a manner wherein the complaint feels addressed and resolved and that I support the actions taken by the applicants as the convenor has on previous occasions failed to make a decision which has jeopardised the fairness of the elections. I have attached countless addenda (Addendums D-E) pertaining to the convenor being vague in responses regarding claims and not specifically responding to complaints. All of attached addenda in this regard have gone unanswered by the convenor in terms of a formal response.⁴⁵

6

Section 7 of the EC's report addresses the powers of the EC with specific reference to the Student Constitution Section 22(3) and the investigation pertaining to campaigning irregularities as stipulated by the original court order by the Student Court in this case.

7

As candidate I feel that the convenor has not subscribed to the mandate of the order by Student Court in investigating the claims against Respondents 1-8 and therein ensuring fair elections. This can clearly be seen in the report, section 7, wherein he states "the EC is at this stage not in a position to conduct an investigation" and "the EC is not in a position to make any recommendations."

8

I also wish to note that in my opinion as candidate the EC cannot state that he cannot conduct an investigation as he has received a complaint pertaining to the issues addressed by the applicants by myself and also cannot state that he was not informed.^{6 7}The EC, in my opinion as candidate, was aware of complaints and that irregularities in campaigning could have taken place.

9

Lastly I wish to address section 8 in the EC's report. I do not support this remedy as it does not ensure that candidates whom have potentially broken campaigning regulations are dealt with in a way which is fair to the other candidates and students. Should elections restart, nothing

⁴ Addendum D

⁵ Addendum E

⁶ Addendum D

⁷ Addendum E

stops Respondents 1-8 from running again and then benefitting from their potential ignoring of rules.

Section B: Effect of Actions of Respondents 1-8 on Elections

10

The effects of actions of Respondents 1-8 has had countless detrimental effects on student governance and this SRC Election. I detail my opinion of the said actions in an open letter which is attached as Addendum F.⁸

11

In addition, within this section I would like to address the issue of the said party bus as arranged by Respondents 1-8. I filed a complaint with the convenor and was not satisfied with the investigation process which was followed to resolve the matter.⁹ On Friday 29 July the candidates and EC had an emergency meeting from 16:00 onwards at the SRC offices. At this meeting the convenor discussed the issue of the party bus with the relevant candidates. The problem is however that only one Afriforum member was present and could not with certainty state that the event had been cancelled. The EC took this uncertain word of mouth as answer and concluded that the event would no longer take place. It is problematic in terms that the EC did not consult the other relevant candidates in the matter, nor did he conduct an independent investigation to correlate the one candidate's statement.

12

I will continue to state that following the Student Court judgement wherein Respondents 1-8 was suspended, the EC decided that all candidates was to stop campaigning. Respondents 1-8 and their affiliated organisation ignored this ruling on Tuesday 2 August (Addendum E).¹⁰ The other candidates respected the decision of the EC. This led to Respondents 1-8 benefitting from their own suspension.

⁸ Addendum F

⁹ Addendum G

¹⁰ Addendum E

SECTION C: Remedy

13

Within this section I will be providing my interpretation as to the remedy for the said court case.

14

Firstly, I wish to state that I propose Respondents 1-8, if found guilty of campaigning irregularities, be suspended as candidates.

15

Thereafter, I propose that this election remains valid. Should this election be declared invalid due to any reason, it would entail that all processes start again. This would ensure that Respondents 1-8 are free to apply again, thereby benefitting from their potential disregard for rule. Should elections be restarted this would be unfair to the other candidates whom have followed the rules and would be detrimental to the overall confidence within student governance at Stellenbosch University.

16

After the proposed suspension of Respondents 1-8, should they be guilty, I as candidate propose as in line with the Student Constitution that nominations are opened for one week, 5 academic days, so that more candidates are able to run within this election.

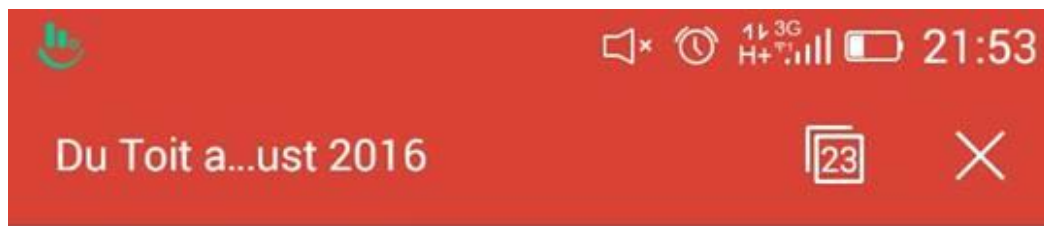
After the said 5 academic days, it would be recommended that elections and campaigning continue and that voting be opened as soon as possible, but also allowing adequate time for campaigning.

17

Additionally, I would like to state that the Student Court remind the convenor of his powers and obligations. I would like to implore the convenor to communicate more with candidates and students, be more transparent in his dealings and that he acts in a fair but serious manner to the breaking of any rules. I would also like to state that the convenor should additionally focus on the involvement of external organisations when it comes to candidates and their affiliated organisations and remember that the SRC is an unpoliticised body.

Or such relief as the court deems fit.

Addendum A:



REPORT TO THE STUDENT COURT RELATED TO THE INTERIM COURT ORDER HANDED DOWN ON 1 AUGUST 2016.

1. The Election Committee ("EC") appointed to execute the Student Representative Council ("SRC") election for 2016 hereby submits the report mandated by the student court in paragraph 8 (b) of the interim order handed down on 1 August 2016.
2. The complaints from Mr Neil du Toit with respect to the respondents (Ashwin Maloy, Nefarje van Niekerk, Bernard Pieters, Jacobus Maass, Francois Henning, Thea Bester and Selmie Crous) having contravened the rules of the SRC elections of 2016 were received on e-mail by the election Convenor (Mr Links) at 12:41 am and 12:51 am on the morning of 1 August 2016 whilst he was asleep. The Convenor also received on e-mail the Applicants' Student Court application from Mr du Toit on the same morning (1 August 2016) at 04:52 am – also while the Convenor was asleep. Consequently, the Convenor did not have the mandated 24-hour response time allowed/permitted to investigate a complaint, as stipulated in Schedule 1, Section 26 (1) of the Student Constitution ("SC"), before the Court hearing.
3. Before commenting on the events which occurred on 1 August 2016 and thereafter, the following events are highlighted:
 - 3.1. On 21 July 2016 a complaint was filed by a student indicating that (certain of) the Respondents had contravened certain provisions of the SC with regard to campaigning.
 - 3.2. After receipt of the complaint, the Convenor interviewed the party complained of (i.e. the respondents) to provide both parties with the opportunity to state their versions. The respondents were also requested to provide their written comments on the complaint after this interview had been conducted.
 - 3.3. Had the Convenor been provided with an opportunity to consider the complaint submitted by the Applicants on 1 August 2016 (within a reasonable time), the Convenor would have again interviewed all of the affected parties (being the Applicants and the Respondents) to ensure that the EC has a full grasp of the complaint submitted by the Applicants and the Respondents' response to the complaint.
 - 3.4. It has always been the Convenor's modus operandi to provide all affected parties with an opportunity to state their case to ensure that the EC gives effect



Mobile View



Tools



21:53

Du Toit a...ust 2016



to the principle of hearing the other side (also known as the principle of *audi alteram partem*).

- 3.5. Due to the Applicants submitting their complaint to the Student Court before the Convenor had sight of the complaint, the Convenor was deprived of the opportunity to investigate the matter and to hear both sides (without his judgement [possibly] being influenced by an interim court order). Had the Convenor been provided with an opportunity to investigate the matter, he would have followed the same procedure as he had followed on 21 July 2016, i.e. interviewing the relevant stakeholders to ensure that both parties' cases were heard. The Convenor would then also have brought out its decision after hearing both sides, as it had done on the previous occasion.
- 3.6. It is unfortunate that the Applicants escalated this matter to the Student Court prior to exhausting the (mandatory) internal remedies contained in the SC and thereby depriving the Convenor of a fair and reasonable opportunity to investigate the matter. Also, the version of events of the other eight Respondents was not heard at the hearing.
4. As indicated previously, the correct process as prescribed by the SC was not followed by the Applicants. The Convenor appeared before the Student Court where the application was heard at 16:00 on the afternoon of 1 August 2016. The Convenor was the only respondent present. The Student Court issued its interim ruling.
5. In terms of paragraph 8(b) of the judgment the EC is requested to file a formal report pertaining to, *inter alia*, campaign posters, electioneering, monetary limits and attendance of caucuses, compliance with election rules and the SC, to be compiled and presented to the court for ratification within five (5) academic days.
6. The Applicants should have to ("**must**") exhaust their internal remedies as required in Schedule 1, Section 26 (1) of the SC, before approaching the Student Court with a complaint. They did not. The EC could, for example, in terms of its powers, have delayed the commencement of the SRC elections pending the finalisation of the investigations into the complaint received from Mr Du Toit on 1 August 2016.
7. Due to developments the EC is at this stage not in a position to conduct an investigation in the midst of an adversarial court process. No finding made by the EC at this stage will be deemed as objective in light of the court having already been convinced "on a balance of probabilities" and without the Convenor being adequately informed, as he was not provided with an opportunity to hear the other side (before and/or during the





Student Court hearing). The EC is not in a position to make any recommendation as envisaged in section 22 (3) of Schedule 1 of the SC.

8. In the view of the EC the only way to remedy this (contaminated) process is to start the election process (referred to in the interim order handed down on 1 August 2016) afresh.

THE CONVENOR: C LINKS
ELECTION COMMISSION OF STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY
5 AUGUST 2016



Addendum B:

I, Alchadvon Fransman being a student at the University of Stellenbosch hereby swear that the content of the statement below is a true reflection of what has occurred. I am also prepared to state this in the presence of any official or court if they deem it fit to do so.

On 19 July and on 01 August 2016 have I emailed the Election convenor Mr Links with regards to the process which was not fairly followed. On both occasions have Mr Links the convenor emailed to say he would get back to me.

On 19 July 2016 Myself and two friends were having something to eat in The Neelsie by which an advert was playing saying students must vote for Afriforum. Just before we entered The Neelsie the candidates were on the Rooiplein campaigning as well. The Afriforum candidates came back and took a stand which was the emblem of Afriforum off the stage. I contacted Inge one of the SRC candidates as at the time she was the only one I had a contact number of and who I knew was running. I informed her of the advert and she told me to email the convenor. I did so and got a response stating that he had received the email and would get back to me. He still has not contacted me.

On 01 August 2016 I again email the convenor Mr Links with regard to the posters which was not prescribed by his office. The reason for me knowing this is because I had a copy of the rules for campaigning and the requirements. I informed him that again the Afriforums has gone against the rules of the election rules and has showed no regard to the office of the convenor. I also mentioned how many of the students did not reply to the questions or simply just left without apology to the students. I asked Mr Links to investigate this as this shows a lack of accountability. Mr Links again emailed me by saying he agrees and that he would investigate the matter as it has "escalated". He said he would inform me of the outcome.

On the day of the court hearing Mr Links has said that he only received complaints from candidates which I felt was no true as I have tried engaging with his office but he never replies. The day that students wanted to meet with him he was busy and said he wasn't in Stellenbosch and would come to meet with them. Students wanted to meet with him with regarding to the ruling that the court has issued about the posters which was still not removed at the Engineering building as well as Merriman and Victoria Street of which I saw.

The reason why I am so involved with this matter is because I feel we can't allow candidates who are not SRC members yet to show discontent to the rulings of the student court or the rules of procedure for elections and then they are the people who have to lead students. I believe in fairness and accountability and transparency which I believe the Afriforum candidates has not shown.



Alchadvon Fransman

11 August 2016

From: Odendaal, I, Mej <19126751@sun.ac.za> <19126751@sun.ac.za>
Sent: 19 July 2016 04:43 PM
To: Rudolph, MJ, Mnr <marcj@sun.ac.za>; SRC Election <srcelection@sun.ac.za>
Subject: Fwd: Advert on the big screen in the Neelsie(Afriform)

Dear SRC Election Convenor and Marc,
I have received the following from a friend, Chad Fransman.
I am sending it to you as Election Convenor and to Marc as Policy Officer of the current SRC.
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Chad.
Kind regards,
Inge Odendaal.
[Get Outlook for Android](#)
From: Fransman, AC, Mnr <18499112@sun.ac.za>
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 16:33
Subject: Advert on the big screen in the Neelsie(Afriform)
To: Inge Odendaal



Fransman, AC, Mnr <18499112@sun.ac.za>

2016-07-19

Inge Odendaal <ingeo47@gmail.com>; Odendaal, I, Mej <19126751@sun.ac.za>

Reply all

Sent Items

Dear Inge

On the 19 July 2016 as I was sitting in the Neelsie I saw an Afriform advert stating "Our Christianity, High Standards, My right.....Vote Afriform". This was televised our the Big screen with the banner standing on the stage. Just moments before that a group of Afriform people approach students on the Rooiplein with list.

It is the election period and I am worried that they may be breaking of the rules with regard to SRC elections and just wanted to know if what they did was legal. Can you please advice or help me refer the matter to the appropriate convenors to investigate.

Best Regards
Alchadvon Fransman



Fransman, AC, Mnr <18499112@sun.ac.za>

2016-08-01

8 |



2 attachments (234 KB) Download all Save all to OneDrive - Stellenbosch University

Dear Convenor

It is with great disappointment that I, Alchadvon Fransman addresses you. Firstly for the past weeks since campaigning has begun I feel that Afriform has showed how they can constantly disobey and break the rules. They have firstly showed at numerous caucuses that they do not need to answer questions which I understand as they have that right. Two of this candidates failed to uphold the rules by not participating and by not attending these debates meaning they left which I feel is wrong and should be addressed. They have also put up posters which was not provided by you as the convenor which is to illegal and unfair.

Previously I have addressed you on the matter that an advert was playing in the Neelsie saying Vote Afriform which I still haven't received an answer on. I would also like to point out that we have an unpoliticised SRC meaning that the posters put up are the colours of their organisation. I feel you have tolerated to much of this and that by allowing this to happen would cause that this elections be unfair. I therefore propose that these students be removed as candidates has they have already showed that they do not respect or uphold the rules of the SRC.

Lastly could caucus please be hold on places where all students can attend during the day and not residence as many have to travel to classes and the Neelsie and Rooiplein would be central.

I hope you address the above issues before the elections.

Best Regards
Alchadvon Fransman



SRC Election <srcelection@sun.ac.za>

2016-07-19

Odendaal, I, Mej <19126751@sun.ac.za>; Fransman, AC, Mnr <18499112@sun.ac.za>; Rudolph, MJ, Mnr <marcj@sun.ac.za>

Reply all

Good Day

I have received the complaint and will investigate this matter, I will come back to you on this issue by 20 July 2016 at 19:00.

Regards

ELECTION CONVENOR STEMBUSKONVENOR

Universiteit Stellenbosch University
srcelection@sun.ac.za

Colmnet Links
14550911@sun.ac.za
0738514884

www.sun.ac.za/elections
facebook.com/matiselections
www.twitter.com/matiselections

From: Odendaal, I, Mej <19126751@sun.ac.za> <19126751@sun.ac.za>
Sent: 19 July 2016 04:43 PM
To: Rudolph, MJ, Mnr <marcj@sun.ac.za>; SRC Election <srcelection@sun.ac.za>
Subject: Fwd: Advert on the big screen in the Neelsie(Afriform)

Dear SRC Election Convenor and Marc,
I have received the following from a friend, Chad Fransman.
I am sending it to you as Election Convenor and to Marc as Policy Officer of the current SRC.
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Chad.
Kind regards,
Inge Odendaal.
Get Outlook for Android
From: Fransman, AC, Mnr <18499112@sun.ac.za>
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 16:33
Subject: Advert on the big screen in the Neelsie(Afriform)
To: Inge Odendaal



Fransman, AC, Mnr <18499112@sun.ac.za>

Mon 08-01

SRC Election <srcelection@sun.ac.za>

Reply all

Sent items

Thank you I'll wait the response and action.

Alchadvon



SRC Election <srcelection@sun.ac.za>

2016-08-01

Reply all

Hi Mr Fransman

I take note of your complaint and I am busy processing it. I did make a decision earlier on this matter and the complaint was dealt with. I will send the response urgently. I do however, agree that the situation has escalated and will treat it as such. I am also playing a caucus in the Neelsie this week.

Regards

ELECTION CONVENOR STEMBUSKONVENOR

Universiteit Stellenbosch University
srcelection@sun.ac.za

Colmnet Links
14550911@sun.ac.za
0738514884

www.sun.ac.za/elections
facebook.com/matiselections
www.twitter.com/matiselections



Fransman, AC, Mnr <18499112@sun.ac.za>

2016-08-01

Reply all



Addendum C:



Odendaal, I, Mej <19126751@sun.ac.za>

7/19/2016

Rudolph, MJ, Mnr <marcjr@sun.ac.za>; SRC Election <srcelection@sun.ac.za> ✉



Reply all | ▾

Dear SRC Election Convenor and Marc,

I have received the following from a friend, Chad Fransman.

I am sending it to you as Election Convenor and to Marc as Policy Officer of the current SRC.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Chad.

Kind regards,
Inge Odendaal.

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Fransman, AC, Mnr <18499112@sun.ac.za>
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 16:33
Subject: Advert on the big screen in the Neelsie(Afriform)
To: Inge Odendaal



SRC Election <srcelection@sun.ac.za>

7/19/2016

Odendaal, I, Mej <19126751@sun.ac.za>; +2 more ✉



Reply all | ▾

Archive

Good Day

I have received the complaint and will investigate this matter. I will come back to you on this issue by 20 July 2016 at 19:00.

Regards

Re: Final decision on complaint laid



SRC Election <srcelection@sun.ac.za>

7/22/2016

Odendaal, I, Mej <19126751@sun.ac.za> ✉



Reply all | ▾

Archive

Dear Ms Odendaal

Thank you again for your complaint. I applaud active student participation.

After speaking to all parties concerned and weighing up my options I find the following:

No clear breach of the following could be found:

(1) Candidates may campaign in any way that does not violate the law, University rules, this Constitution, Student Representative Council regulations or such rules as may be laid down by the Election Convenor(s).

or

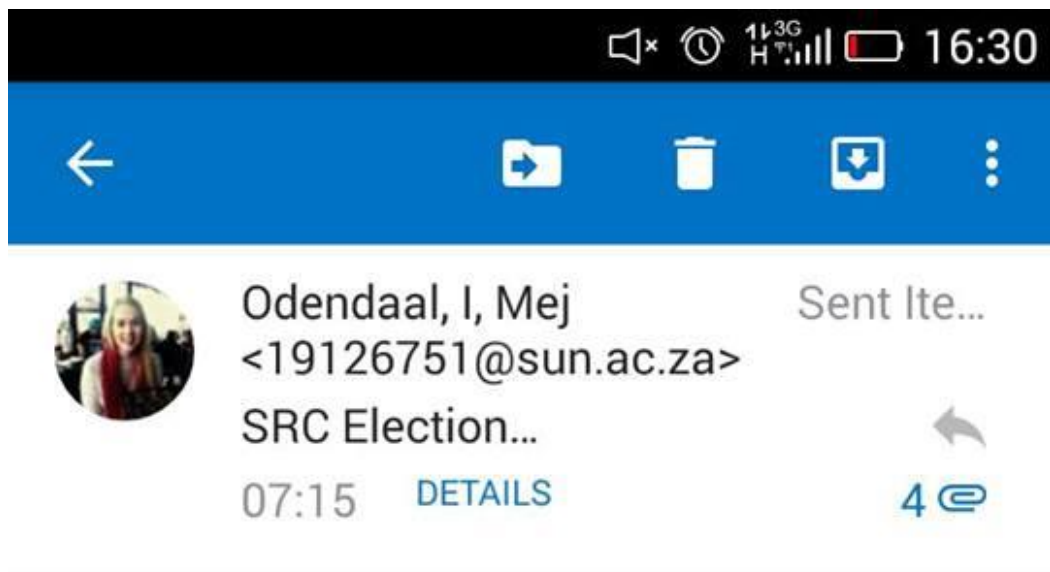
(3) If a candidate or the helpers or supporters of a candidate act in violation of sub item (1), the Election Convenor(s) may instruct said candidate to remove or destroy election material, or to abandon the activities in question, or, where the conduct constitutes a misdemeanour or is seriously detrimental to another candidate(s), declare the candidature of said candidate invalid.

At this point Afriform did not mention any student campaign directly. I do acknowledge that students who stand under the umbrella of Afriform now have a slight advantage in terms of marketing. The event was marketed as a bursary awarding ceremony. Secondly, with respect to students obtaining signatures on the Rooiplein. It is within the rights of these students to do so and is tantamount to any student gaining student signatures at any public place - a residence or LLL house. No rules of the game were violated here. Moreover, students who pass by have the right to reject to sign.

I will issue a warning to Afriform related students with regard to the marketing materials and state that no such materials as was used before may be used again unless it remains within a candidates allotted budget. I will therefore not be recommending a judgement by student court.

Regards

Addendum D:



Dear Cal,

I trust you are well.

I am sending this email to lay a formal complaint against several candidates who associate themselves with running for Afriforum, namely Bernard Pieters, Francois Hening, Selmie Crous, Cobus Maass, Thea Bester, Ashwin Maloy and Neta van Niekerk.

The reason for the complaint are the posters (pictures attached) which they have been seen putting up on campus. In the rules it states that we are only allowed to use designs which you have provided us with. If we should use additional poster designs then it should be approved by you, as convenor. With this I ask if you have approved these posters?

These designs are also problematic in terms of



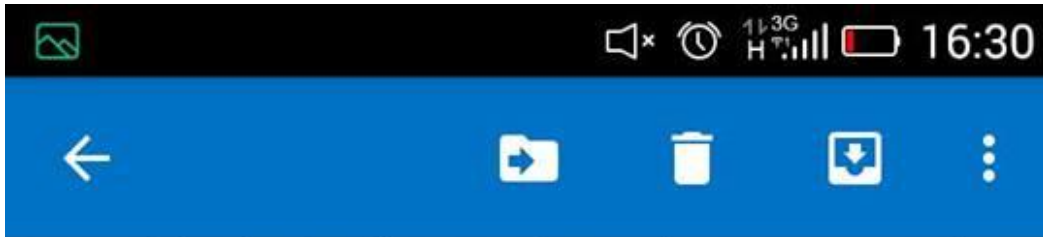


These designs are also problematic in terms of what they state: "Vote/Stem Afriforum." This brings me to a point which I have raise countless times in meetings and via WhatsApp. This SRC is unpoliticised, why are they therefore running under the banner of an organisation which aims in promoting its own agenda once it takes office. These candidates have also stated that they are not running for AfriForum (please see attached proof), why then are messages of them as Afriforum being broadcasted? This shows dishonesty not only with their fellow candidates, but also their dishonesty to the entire student body.

Additionally, I query the price of these posters as I doubt wether or not these candidates have honoured the R650 budget allocated.

Throughout this entire election I have sent you various complaints pertaining to this group and how they blatantly disregard rules and use their organisation to campaign for them. This has not only been unfair, but an insult to those who have respect for this election process and its rules. Their disregard for rules, dishonesty and unwillingness to partake in election events such as caucuses has





to partake in election events such as caucuses has had very detrimental effect on student governance at Stellenbosch University.

On Friday, 29 July you stated that you work with a three strike policy. On Friday, 29 July, Afriforum already stood on two strikes. This will be the third.

I look forward to hearing from you and how this matter will be handled.

I will also be publishing this complaint on social media for transparency. If you have any objections, please let me know by 13:00 today.

If you have any queries, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Kind regards.
Inge Odendaal.

Get [Outlook for Android](#)



Odendaal, I, Mej
<19126751@sun.ac.za>

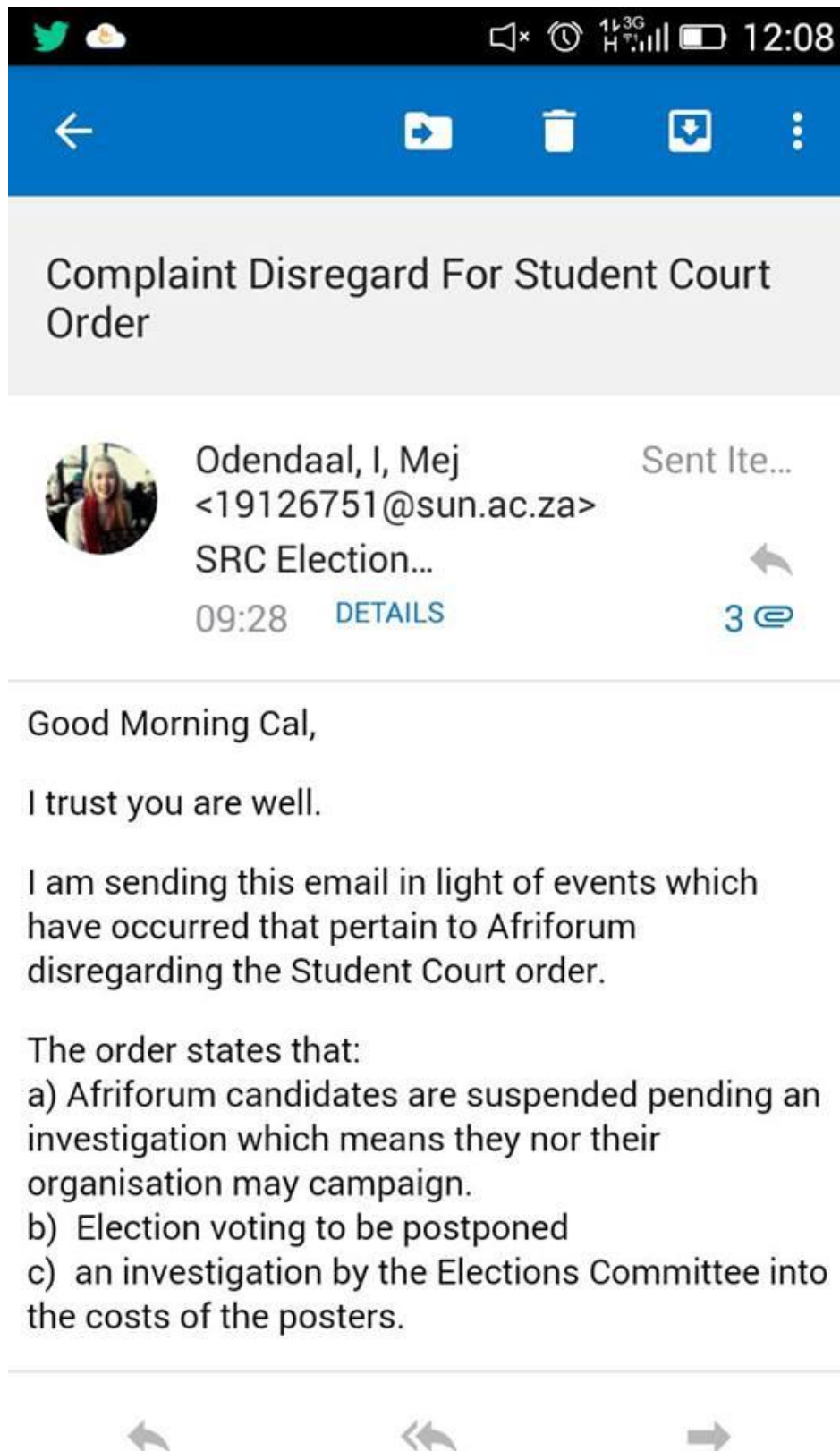
Sent Ite...







Addendum E:





This morning Afriforum were again seen with a bus dressed in green overalls distributing pamphlets informing students how to vote and stating "Vote Afriforum". Again the costs and designs of these pamphlets are to be investigated because they do not meet design requirements.

These pamphlets additionally portray Rector De Villiers which I experience as very disrespectful.

Please see attached proof of activities and the pamphlets.

This shows that the court order is being ignored. I feel that this must please be addressed as it is not only bringing Student Governance at Stellenbosch into disrepute but also shows a blatant disregard for rules and arrogance from Afriforum.

I find it sad that the entire election rhetoric has again shifted to focusing on Afriforum instead of giving all the other candidates an opportunity to display what they have to offer for the student body as potential SRC members.

Please respond in an adequate time as to how this will be dealt with, by whom and when.



Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Kind regards.
Inge Odendaal.



WIMPIE UNDER PRESSURE



WIMPIE IS UNWILLING

Wimpie is a naughty little boy.
Wimpie doesn't want Afrikaans friends playing at Maties.
Wimpie only wants to be friends with OpenStellenbosch.

Solution?

Come share in the sweet taste of victory:
Vote AfriForum!

How to vote electronically:

On the first day of the election you will receive an email/SMS/WhatsApp with a link. This link will direct you to the US SRC's website.
If necessary, log in with your student number, etc.
Read the instructions on how to vote.
A voting ballot will then appear on screen.
Vote for the eight AfriForum candidates that will stand up for your rights.

How to vote at a campus station:

1. During the elections there will be a voting station at each faculty.
2. Ensure that you have your student card with you.
3. Follow the election officer's instructions.
4. Complete your student number etc. on the ballot.
5. Vote for the eight AfriForum candidates that will stand up for your rights.
6. Be sure to personally place your ballot in the voting box.



Addendum F:

Dear Respondents 1-8 a.k.a. Afriforum Jeug Maties SRC Candidates also known as:
Bernard Pieters,
Selmie Crous,
Neta van Niekerk,
Ashwin Maloy,
Cobus Maass,
Francois Hening,
Thea Bester.

I have decided to write an open letter to you the Afriforum Jeug Maties' SRC Candidates regarding the recent events pertaining to the SRC Election. I am writing in my capacity as a fellow SRC Candidate, an office holding leader and concerned student at Stellenbosch University. I have decided to write this letter in English not to disrespect you as Afrikaans speakers, but in the spirit of inclusivity.

Ek self is ook trots Afrikaans, nie net julle nie.

The issues which I aim to address in this open letter are firstly that of the election rules which have been compromised by all candidates publicly identifying themselves as being affiliated with Afriforum and Afriforum Jeug. The second issue being Afriforum's blatant ignoring of the Student Court judgement as passed down on 1 August 2016 and the final issue being the effects Afriforum's actions has had on not only on the elections, but on the student body and the future of student governance at Stellenbosch University.

Rules and legislation are implemented for a reason. You as Afriforum Jeug state that you are an "organisation" who respects the law and you support this by even stating in your slogan "Your right." I then question why you blatantly ignored the election campaign rules regarding poster designs and the R650 allocated budget as stipulated on the nomination form and by the convenor, on our first meeting on Friday 22 July. You have been made aware of these rules, therefore ignorance is not a defence. I feel that you have blatantly and arrogantly ignored the rules set in place which is aimed at instilling fairness and equity in this election. I continue then to ask: "How can you expect to be part of a student body which writes and implements rules, if you did not even follow them to obtain that position?" This is hypocrisy and dishonestly in the highest level and Stellenbosch University and its students does not need *leaders* like this.

The next issue which I am to address is that of caucuses' attendance. Again, in the rules it states that "all caucuses are compulsory" and that "there are only two circumstances in which a caucus won't be compulsory: if the candidate can prove, by means of sick note, that the candidate is sick or if the caucus clashes with the candidate's class time table".

Dear Mr. Pieters and Co. the majority of you may have attended both official caucuses but not all Afriforum candidates have attended and some left halfway through certain caucuses. This pattern has not only been occurring for caucuses, but general SRC Candidate meetings such as the meeting on Friday 22 July and the

emergency meeting on Friday 29 July. Some of the candidates cited academic reasons and not living on campus as reasons for not attending. I want to state very clearly that if you cannot even attend the few meetings during your candidacy, how on earth will you be there when the students need you during your term?

I have had the experience of working with the SRC as a positional leader this past year and I have seen the hours which is required. The SRC is a body which represents 30 000 people across four campuses, therefore its decisions are not made lightly and in effect with this being said its members needs to be available for students' issues regardless if they have to prepare for a test or live far away. In the week of the first caucuses I myself wrote four tests and Mischka Lewis another candidate also does not stay on campus, yet we both attended everything and participated 100% I ask you to truly question whether or not you are fit for this office.

Values which I, as SRC candidate have promoted since the start of the election process is that of respect, mutual understanding and cooperation between the candidates. With this I am stating that yes, we as the candidates have different opinions and perspectives, but this should not be allowed to dominate the functionality of the future SRC. This functionality of the future SRC starts with dynamics between candidates in the election process. I along with Reggy Kgatle have from the first day tried to foster good working relations between the Afriforum group and the rest of the candidates. Unfortunately, you did not return the sentiment and kept othering myself and the rest of the candidates which I perceived as being very rude. This brings me to question: should you be elected to SRC how will you deal with adversity and people who have different opinions than you- you can't take everyone to court?

I also want to touch on an argument by many of you in which you state (and have stated in caucuses) that you do not want to politicise the SRC. Yet, all eight candidates of Afriforum publicly identify themselves as Afriforum and want to take office to put forward to agenda of Afriforum J eug and its limited supporters. Is this not the same as a political party mandating a member to push a certain agenda on the SRC? Please be honest with yourself, with fellow candidates and the students of Stellenbosch University.

I now move onto my second issue which is that of the Student Court Judgement as served on 1 August 2016. On the morning of 2 August 2016 I was alerted by the fact that even though a court judgement (remember you claim to respect the law) has been handed down, you and your organisation blatantly chose to ignore this order. This is arrogance. Today for the second day flyers, rumoured advertisements in the Neelsie and supporters prancing around in green were seen again. This continued despite the fact that other candidates had stopped campaigning in light of the Student Court order. In addition, the convenor had emailed you to inform you that no campaigning may take place, especially from you. Whatsapp messages were also sent. And still you continued- why?

The flyers which you and Afriforum J eug handed out today I feel has portrayed the

rector in a very disrespectful manner. I have had the privilege of meeting personally with the rector occasionally in my year while serving campus. One thing which I can state, that even though the rector has received some critiques, some of which I agree with, I can honestly say that Rector De Villiers is trying to better Stellenbosch University for all.

On another matter I only wish to state on thing today one of your minions in green lied to me when I questioned him about whether or not he was allowed to keep distributing flyers. This shows that the members of your branch, Afriforum Jeug Maties are guilty of unethical conduct and I question what is to stop you to continue lying to the students of Stellenbosch?

We *deserve* honesty, we *deserve* better.

I now want to shift away from everything which you have done and focus on the effects of your actions. This SRC of 2017 is taking office at a time which will either make or break student governance at Stellenbosch University. The actions of this SRC will either unite campus, build an inclusive environment and work together for reconciliation and prosperity for all, *or* regress everything which have been done over the past years to improve the lives of students.

Student governance in itself has been a widely debated issue and faith in structures has seen a rapid decline, especially in light of what happened with Student Parliament. Now, I wish to state, I have already worked tirelessly the past two months to reinstate Student Parliament, where we will hopefully have a sitting this term. I want to say: I will not allow you or any other group to shut down and overshadow student's voices and dear Mr. Pieters and Co. this is exactly what you and Afriforum has been doing by not respecting the system. You have turned this election into a joke with no credibility, you have selfishly taken all of the attention for yourself and not focused on creating dialogue on how we can work as a united student body to be and do better.

Instead you have ignited racial tension, cultural divides, fear and you have in effect polarised an already separated campus even more. This is irresponsible leadership. Please take a look at yourself before you criticise others. In my opinion as a fellow candidate, you have successfully derailed this election which I take as an insult to all those who want to make sure that they leave Stellenbosch University a better place for all when they leave and who see the importance for student leadership.

This will be my last address to you and last material which I publish about the events which have taken place these last couple of day on campus. My reason being that firstly I am tired of your political games, secondly I have better things to do with my time. My last reason is I feel it is time that you have received enough airtime and that focus should be put back where it righteously belongs: on the students of Stellenbosch University. In addition, we as candidates should continue to be humble in finding out how we can be better servant leaders for students.

I truly hope you do understand the effects of your arrogance, disregard for others and actions throughout this election period and that you will one day to be able to

apologise not only to fellow candidates, but the students of Stellenbosch University as you have taken away and limited their rights to participatory democracy and fair and honest student governance.

Power to the people. Amandla!

Should you have any queries, please feel free to send. I doubt I will have time to answer them, as I will be too busy addressing *real* issues and making *real* change for all, not just some at Stellenbosch University.

Kind regards.

Inge Odendaal.

Addendum G:



Odendaal, I, Mej <19126751@sun.ac.za>

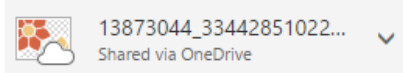
7/29/2016

SRC Election <srcelection@sun.ac.za> ↵



Reply all | ▾

Sent Items



Download

Dear Cal,

I have sent you on 28 July an inquiry regarding the Afriforum Party Bus event taking place tonight. I question whether this falls within the rules as the event is clearly marketed as SRC Campaigning. Additionally I doubt if a party bus falls within the R650 budget allocation provided.

Please see attached the poster promoting the event from Afriforum's Facebook page.

I ask that you urgently look into this matter.

I look forward to hearing from you.

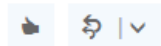
Kind regards.

Inge.



SRC Election <srcelection@sun.ac.za>

7/29/2016



Hi Inge

I appreciate. I will take this up with the candidates involved.

Regards