

STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

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Minutes SRC Meeting

Date: 2023-03-15 | Time: 18:00 | Venue: [Microsoft Teams](#)

Attendance: SRC	
In Person	Ms Masilo Silokazi; Mr William Sezoe; Queen Majikijela; Mr Dylan Schmidt; Mr Banzi Bottoman; Ms Emma Swart; Mr Prince Qengqa, Ms Aphiwe Sithole; Ms Tebogo; Ms Simonet Kaap; Mr Tayo Allerton; Mr James Hansen; Mr Daniel Terblanche; Ms Elouise Van Wyk; Mr Victor Mouton; Mr Rudi Classen; Ms Sabrina Ditsela
Online	Mr Tshepo Modise (Military Academy Student Captain); Ms Kim Stoeffels; Mr Abongile Quthu; Ms Margra Wevell; Ms Vanessa Annan Dede.
Absent (Valid reason)	Ms Phiwokuhle Qabaka

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	Item	Responsibility
1.	Welcoming	Masilo
	Masilo the chairperson of the SRC welcomed all attendees and began the meeting.	
2.	Attendance and Apologies	Simonet
	The attendance and apologies tendered for the meeting are listed above.	
3.	Approval of previous minutes	Simonet
	The previous minutes were approved.	
4.	Setting of Agenda	Phiwokuhle
	The additional agenda points were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A discussion on the food prices. • A discussion on Budget • A discussion on the study spaces. 	
	Matters for Information	
	5. Internal affairs	William
	<p>Mr Sezoe provided the following input:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He indicated that the SRC boardroom 's access was still restricted as the work being done in the boardroom had only commenced in that week. • He further suggested that he would no longer have access to the boardroom and when students in the future, wanted to make use of the space, they needed to contract Simonet. • There was a brief meeting yesterday as an executive with Imbizo where they went through the SRC term report. <p>Ms Swart provided the following question:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether the SRC boardroom booking procedure to be followed would be the current procedure used until the access system has been installed. <p>Mr Sezoe provided the following response:</p>	

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- Since Emma had already booked her meetings in advance, those would still make use of the key system until the new system is implemented. The bookings would be communicated to Simonet.

Ms Majikijela provided the following input:

- For societies to clearly indicate that they are a society for payment purposes when booking the SRC boardroom.

Mr Sezoe provided the following input:

- The payment machines have not yet been arranged but once they have, the societies may refer to Queen.

Ms Silokazi closed the points on feedback by highlighting that Simonet should be approached in the future by students who want to book the SRC boardroom to get student card access. Societies should also approach Queen.

6. Institutional Committee Feedback

There was no SRC member that indicated that they wanted to provide feedback.

7. Portfolio Feedback

Masilo & Phiwokuhle

Ms Silokazi provided the following input:

- There was a conference that occurred over the weekend on the GBV topic. It was mostly panel discussions which did not directly refer to the University.
- The NSFAS officials did not pitch up on the second day so the SRC was asked to make a report on the issues the NSFAS students were experiencing which would be sent to the Executive Committee of SAZ (spelling for acronym). The committee would refer the information to NSFAS officials.
- There is a need to provide a solution for the food security issue. There were some committees that were asked to seek for donations.

Ms Silokazi closed the point by emphasising that food security was an issue that needed to be dealt with and that the NSFAS lists were sent out the previous day.

Matters for discussion

6. Residence Placements 2024

Margra

Mr Classens provided the following input:

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- He could not answer questions on suggested solutions to the placement process but he could provide the students with a procedure that had been followed thus far.
- Background: The university aimed to provide more beds for students, particularly for female students, as the statistics suggested that there was a need for more spaces. The statistics are different for the Tygerberg campus.
- In a meeting that took place two weeks ago, the Student Communities Advisory Committee was informed by the Rectorate that the University would move to a 60/40 split.
- A working group headed by Dr Choice would be set up to implement the Rectorate's decision.
- A meeting would be held on the 12th of April 2023 where the committee would present their ideas on how to implement the Rectorate's decision. From that meeting the committee would be informed whether the ideas would be taken to the Rectorate for consideration or not. If taken up to the Rectorate, then they would have to wait for feedback on the matter.
- There is a short time frame because placements for 2024 are done in September so the University would need to know the number of spaces available.
- The residences were notified about the placement decision. They were further informed that some residences may be turned into co-ed spaces and the others into all female spaces.
- Two new structures will be built at Goldfields Residence for 444 new spaces.
- The Prim committee were asked to give feedback on the matter.
- Another meeting was held two days ago to receive concerns and give clarification to the Prim Committee.
- The students and prims should not rely on the media for communication but on the University's official communication.

Ms Silokazi provided the following **question**:

- Is the placement decision there to make more space for co-ed spaces or spaces for females?

Mr Classens provided the following **response**:

- The placement decision is to provide more spaces for females.

Ms Silokazi provided the following **input**:

- Whether the SRC is required to provide proposals?

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Mr Classens provided the following **input**:

- At the moment the SRC is not required to provide any proposals as the groups still need to draft up proposals for the Rectorate. Once the proposals have been sent to the Rectorate, the SRC might be required to provide some feedback on the proposals.

Ms Silokazi provided the following **question**:

- Whether the proposals are received from each student community or whether the prim committee are discussing the proposals together in one sitting?

Mr Classens provided the following **response**:

- The proposals will be worked on by the working group only. However, the committee has opened by a enquiries system where they receive feedback from the student community on the matter.
- The student communities might have access to provide feedback once the proposals are available.

Ms Silokazi provided the following **question**:

- What has been the general feelings from the prim committee, regarding their spaces potential being co-ed or female spaces.

Mr Classens provided the following **input**:

- He acknowledged the fears of the residence individuals that their space may not exist in 2024.
- He indicated that the change also has an implication on the clusters' diversity and male-female ratio. A cluster may be made up of only one male residence and 4 female residences next year due to the change.
- He also noted that the 60-40 split may be difficult to achieve as some senior male residences may opt to remain in their residence next year which means they may need to be moved to achieve the 60-40 split.
- He indicated that there is a need pace slowly with the change.

Ms Majikijela sought the following **clarity**:

- She wanted to know how the new structure would affect the leadership structures, particularly with the voting in of a new committee.
- She is concerned that the new leadership would not be balance and diverse as the new leadership would come from the old residence structure.
- Would the Prim Committee take a stance on the proposal?

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Mr Classens provided the following **response**:

- These issues would hopefully be addressed by the working group.
- He suggested that the University would potentially have to move senior students from another residence space into another to promote the diversity.
- He indicated that once the proposal had been drafted, it would be taken to the prim committee to take a stance on the proposal. They would need to consider whether they take the proposal to the student communities for their stance.

Mr Allerton provided the following **question**:

- Would the 60/40 split also accommodate males into the female spaces?

Mr Classens provided the following **response**:

- He could not provide a clear answer, however, he did note that the placement aimed to provide a 60/40 split in residence spaces.

Mr Terblanche provided the following **suggestion**:

- He indicated that the student communities should also be given an opportunity to provide proposals and not just queries. They should be informed of the 60-40 split policy of the university so as to furnish their proposals against the background of the policy.

Mr Classens provided the following **response**:

- He indicated that the students need to be consulted, however, the time line is a factor working against this need for a consultation.
- As such the Prim committee has been involved to try and involve the students as much as possible.

Mr Schimdt provided the following **input**:

- Is an SRC member needed to represent the students on a broader scale?

Mr Classens provided the following **input**:

- He understands Dylan's point, however, he indicated that the advisory committee is made up in a manner that accommodates students.

Mr Terblanche provided the following **input**:

- He suggested that the student communities and not just the prims should be provided with some time to meet up and provide their input before the final proposal is drafted.

Mr Classens provided the following **input**:

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- He indicated that he would take up the suggestion.

Ms Swart provided the following input:

- She indicated that she disagreed with the position of further representation.
- She suggested that further representation from the SRC was unnecessary as there was already an ex-officio SRC member to represent the SRC and provide feedback.

Ms Silokazi closed the point by highlighting that the placement decision was to accommodate more females not to create more Co-Ed spaces, that the working group would draft the proposal for the Rectorate to review and that the Prim Committee would arrange for feedback from the student communities on the matter.

7. Food prices

Masilo

Ms Silokazi opened the point by indicating that some students were complaining about the prices for food and snacks in the residence spaces' delis. She wanted to know if there were any SRC members wanted to find out the prices of the foods to determine whether the prices were high and there was room and need for a price change.

Mr Bottoman provided the following input:

- He indicated that the prices in his residence are highly priced.
- He wanted to know what the SRC's way forward would be once they receive the prices. He suggested the SRC establish reasons why the delis charge high prices.

Ms Silokazi indicated that the majority of the SRC members agreed that the prices were high. She requested the members to provide solutions to tackle the matter.

Ms Majikijela provided the following input:

- She noted that the government does set a minimum price for certain goods, however, she does acknowledge that these goods, have been overly priced.
- She suggested that the SRC seek clarity on whether the prices are unlawful.
- She indicated that the newcomers should be taught to not overspend their COB but instead, to balance their finances.

Mr Bottoman provided the following input:



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- He indicated that the argument that the money in the student account belongs to NSFAS does not suffice as there is a cap. When a student goes above this, they are charged.

Ms Majikijela provided the following input:

- She indicated that the previous SRC may have started on the matter, so the current SRC should look for that information, before starting the work completely afresh.

Ms Silokazi closed the point by suggesting that James would do research on the NSFAS cap, the current prices of goods and how far the previous SRC went with the query of the pricing. SRC agreed that the research compiled by James would be forwarded to Student Governance. Prince would arrange for meetings with Student Wellness and Bursary groups to request them to assist the University in teaching students about budgeting and using COB.

The students indicated that they did not want an NSFAS protest but instead wanted an alternative method.

8. Budget

Queen

Ms Majikijela provided the following input:

- The meeting with the SRC managers was successful.
- They noted that the budget made for the year and the funds available in the cost centre were not coinciding. There was a need to analyse the budget and remove certain activities from the initial budget to balance the funds.
- Each member should submit a scrutinised budget should by Friday the 17th of March 2023 at 12pm. She would send communication to remind each elected member to do so and where to submit the budget.
- She indicated that if the budgets are submitted on time, the funds would reflect in the respective cost centres by Monday the 20th of March 2023 at 9am. KUKO had already received its funds.

Mr Qengqa provided the following input:

- He would like more clarity on the financial system of the University.

Ms Majikijela provided the following response:

- That each elected member or manager would have a cost centre where funds would reflect in the cost centre.

Ms Silokazi closed the point by indicating that the members had to submit their scrutinised budgets by Friday to receive the funds in their separate cost centre.

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<p>9. Study Spaces</p>	<p>Emma</p>
<p>Ms Swart provided the following input:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ASC structure is a council representative for academic accessibility. The council noted that in the second week of the academic year, the students struggle to access the academic spaces due to inadequate space or failure to access the spaces. • It was suggested that some study spaces should be open for more hours to accommodate more students. There has been a suggestion of making the facilities 24/7 study spaces. • She indicated that the wifi was also an issue, mainly due to load-shedding and construction. She would communicate with IT to understand why the wifi was an issue and for a possible solution. • Chair of ASC would request a meeting with the facilities management for clarification and possible extension of the Jan Mouton study times. • She would discuss with senior management of the library to try and extend the study hours of the library. <p>Ms Silokazi closed the point as there were no questions.</p>	
<p>10. Closing</p>	<p>Masilo</p>
<p>Masilo thanked everyone for being there and participating and thereafter adjourned the meeting.</p>	