



# **Student Representative Council**

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarterly Report

## PORTFOLIO: President

PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Njabulo Sibeko

Initiative	Progress	Challenges	Mitigation
Provisionally Funded NSFAS Students	The SRC released a google doc that garnered nearly 2100 names from students that had not yet received their funding statuses from NSFAS. We sent the list to NSFAS through the Dep. President and received responses from there on funding statuses. This list has been confirmed by the university and the student who were yet to receive funding have begun the process of applying for funding.	Quite a few challenges such as a difficulty and lack of support with our communication with NSFAS officials. There is no transparency between NSFAS as well as UP FAO. This makes finding clear ground difficult.  NSFAS does not have time for us, and they are incredibly far.  There is a lack of technological support at NSFAS.	Writing to the portfolio committee on higher education on the failures of NSFAS as well as proposed solutions. UP must allocate funding to students who are provisionally funded by NSFAS. Decentralize NSFAS and open regional offices.  Regular meetings between SRC's, FAO's, Executive and NSFAS.

<p>SNAPP Donation</p>	<p>The SRC has contributed R100 000 from their cost centres to SNAPP to assist and alleviate the pressures that the program is facing. The program has been extremely burdened by students who were provisionally funded for some time. I envisage this will be the situation again with the 510 students and the SRC must be prepared to support the student body.</p>	<p>The money is not enough- the SRC is always looking for a buck or sponsors to assist with food packages and funds. Getting approval of the SRC fundraising proposals has been quite difficult. Being able to provide packages that can last students for a month.</p>	<p>The assistance and buy in of faculty houses, key committees, house committees and societies in budgeting a portion of funds that will be donated towards acquiring non-perishables.</p> <p>A collabo between my office and RAG which will try to collect non- perishables from UP Staff members that are willing to donate. This will run throughout the cooling off period. (a pilot)</p>
<p>LGBTQIA+ Visibility Activations (feat. The Queer Working Committee)</p>	<p>This is a plan that is still in its infancy. We have begun to get the ball rolling in preparation for Pride Month in October. We will be hosting activations in different campuses which will feature conscientizing students, celebrating the queer community as well as creating an environment where minority members</p>	<p>We have been pressed for time throughout this quarter due to the very pressing and unexpected issues that we are flung with.</p>	<p>The ball has begun rolling with the creation of the DSG and SC's Queer Working Committee who will work to ensure that these activations are a success.</p>

	of this community do not only feel seen during pride month.		
Anti Rape Facial Recognition Software	To increase security and make the university a safer space for students. My office (feat. FSS) is currently engaging with an aeronautical solutions company. The company has put forth a proposal to install a software that would allow for security to identify any suspect individuals on campus within a specified time. We are still engaging with the company to ensure the viability and safety of such a project.	Issues with the personal protection of information of students.	Still in engagements with the company.
RAG Food Donation	My office and RAG have put together a plan that will see us collecting non perishable foods and goods from members of the UP-staff community. This project seeks to go to those who <i>have</i> , to donate to those who <i>do not have</i> . The plan is still being finalized between myself and the RAG	Spreading the message effectively between staff members.  Finding adequate time to meet.	Making use of DIA marketing service.

	<p>committee and we hope to get it going during our cooling off period.</p>		
<p>Lease Cancellations</p>	<p>My office alongside the office of residences worked alongside each other to assist students that are in very horrible living conditions to cancel their lease agreements and move to more habitable spaces. This comes after calls of poor services from students at private accommodations. The SRC will continuously seek to assist.</p>	<p>Arrogant landlords. The fact that some of these buildings that have been accredited are subpar and do not care about the livelihoods of students.</p>	<p>The SRC has been cut out of the process of accreditation and that is very evident from the incredibly shoddy accommodations that students are staying in.  The SRC will force itself into the accreditation committee and we will ensure that compliance is upheld for as long as students pay.</p>

## PORTFOLIO: Deputy President

PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Neville Mupita

Initiative	Progress	Challenges	Mitigation
Deputizing the SRC President	<p>Over the past months I have actively engaged in various activities and fulfilled my responsibilities effectively. Here are the key highlights of my progress:</p> <p>Assisting the President:</p> <p>I have worked closely with the President to ensure smooth functioning of the SRC. We have maintained open communication channels to discuss ongoing initiatives, address concerns, and make informed decisions together.</p> <p>I have diligently deputized for the President in his absence, ensuring the uninterrupted flow of operations and representation of the SRC.</p> <p>By collaborating with the President, I have helped in coordinating and organizing SRC meetings, where we</p>	<p>Time Management: Balancing my responsibilities as the Deputy President with academic commitments and personal obligations has occasionally posed challenges. However, I have implemented effective time management strategies and prioritization techniques to ensure that all tasks are completed efficiently.</p> <p>Communication: Maintaining effective communication within the SRC and with external stakeholders can be challenging at times due to conflicting schedules and varying communication preferences. To address this, I have established regular communication channels, utilized technology platforms, and encouraged open dialogue to foster</p>	

	<p>discuss important matters, review progress, and plan future activities.</p> <p>Supporting SRC Functions:</p> <p>I have actively participated in SRC meetings and contributed valuable insights to discussions and decision making processes.</p> <p>Together with the President, I have represented the SRC at various events,</p>	<p>clear and transparent communication.</p> <p>Managing Expectations: As the Deputy President, I have encountered situations where managing expectations from different parties can be demanding. It is essential to ensure that all stakeholders have a clear understanding of the SRC's capabilities, limitations, and timelines. Regular updates and proactive communication have helped in managing expectations effectively.</p>	
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	<p>meetings, and conferences, thereby ensuring effective communication and networking with external stakeholders. I have assisted in maintaining and strengthening relationships with other student organizations, academic departments, and administrative bodies to promote collaboration and address student concerns.</p>	<p>Conflict Resolution: Dealing with conflicts or differing opinions within the SRC can occasionally arise. However, I have fostered a supportive and inclusive environment where open discussions are encouraged, and conflicts are addressed constructively. Mediation and compromise have been instrumental in resolving any conflicts that have arisen.</p> <p>Despite these small challenges, I remain committed to my role as the Deputy President and continue to navigate through them with resilience and determination. By addressing these challenges proactively, I aim to ensure the successful execution of my responsibilities and the overall progress of the SRC.</p>	
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<p>Amendment of The SRC Code of Conduct</p>	<p>As the Deputy President of the Student Representative Council (SRC), my duty has been focused on reviewing and amending the SRC Code of Conduct. I am pleased to provide a progress report on this task.</p> <p>Since assuming this responsibility, I have collaborated closely with the SRC members to identify the sections of the Code of Conduct that require amendment. We conducted thorough</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
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	<p>discussions and consultations to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the necessary changes.</p> <p>To ensure adherence to the relevant procedures, I have diligently followed the established guidelines for amending the SRC Code of Conduct. This has involved consulting with the appropriate stakeholders, such as the SRC Executive Committee and the relevant authorities within the institution.</p> <p>Our collaborative efforts have resulted in a comprehensive SRC Code of Conduct.</p>		
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<p>Reviewing of Constitutions of DSA Structures (Faculties, day houses, societies, key committees, etc)</p>	<p>Over the past few months, we have made significant progress in this endeavour. Our primary objective has been to ensure that all DSA structures align their constitutions with the overarching Constitution of the Student Government (CSG). By doing so, we aim to establish a cohesive framework that promotes transparency, accountability, and effective governance throughout the student body.</p> <p>To accomplish this task fully, we will work closely with the Constitutional Tribunal, a specialized body responsible for interpreting and amending the CSG. Collaborating with the Constitutional</p>	<p>While we have made significant progress in this endeavour, we have also encountered some minor challenges along the way. These challenges include:</p> <p>Time Constraints: The review and amendment process require careful consideration and consultation with various stakeholders. As a result, finding mutually convenient time slots for meetings and discussions has been challenging due to conflicting schedules and academic commitments of the involved parties. However, we have been proactive in scheduling flexible meeting options to accommodate everyone's availability.</p>	
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	<p>Tribunal has been instrumental in guiding the review process and ensuring its compliance with legal and procedural requirements.</p> <p>We have commenced with comprehensive review of the</p>	<p>Resistance to Change: Some members within the structures have expressed resistance to certain proposed amendments, particularly when it involves altering established practices or modifying existing</p>	
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	<p>constitutions of Faculty Houses, Day Houses and Societies, this process involves examining the existing constitutions, identifying areas that require updates or modifications, and drafting proposed amendments. Our objective is to streamline the constitutions, remove inconsistencies, and incorporate any necessary changes to align them with the CSG.</p>	<p>power dynamics. Overcoming this resistance requires effective communication, highlighting the benefits of the changes, and addressing any concerns or misconceptions that arise. We have been engaging in constructive dialogue to foster a better understanding and encourage acceptance of the necessary amendments.</p> <p>Legal and Procedural Complexity: Ensuring that the reviewed constitutions align with the overarching Constitution of the Student Government (CSG) involves navigating legal and procedural intricacies. The complexity arises from the need to strike a balance between consistency and the unique needs of each structure. To address this challenge, we have closely collaborated with the Constitutional Tribunal and sought their guidance to ensure that all amendments</p>	
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		adhere to legal and regulatory requirements.	
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		Despite these challenges, our progress remains steady, and we are actively working towards resolving them. We are committed to fostering a transparent, inclusive, and effective governance framework within the DSA structures. By addressing these challenges head-on, we believe that we can overcome them and achieve our goals.	
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<p>Registration funding for Postgraduate Students</p>	<p>My duty was to secure funding for postgraduate students. I achieved this by engaging in meetings with the Postgraduate support office. These discussions resulted in the successful funding of a significant number of postgraduate students' registration fees.</p> <p>At the start of the year, I compiled a comprehensive list of students who required financial assistance. This list was submitted to the Postgraduate funding offices for consideration. Approximately over 60% of the students on the list, who met the criteria of having no historical debt and being accepted into their respective programs, received funding and were able to register for their courses.</p> <p>Overall, my efforts as Deputy President of the SRC in facilitating meetings with the Postgraduate support office have</p>	<p>Despite the overall success in securing funding for postgraduate students, there were a few small challenges encountered during the process. These challenges included:</p> <p>Limited funding availability: The availability of funding resources was limited, which meant that not all deserving students could be supported. It was challenging to allocate funds fairly among many applicants with varying financial needs.</p> <p>Administrative delays: The administrative processes involved in reviewing applications and disbursing funds sometimes caused delays. This led to a longer waiting period for students, causing them additional stress and uncertainty.</p>	
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	<p>been fruitful in supporting postgraduate students' educational pursuits by securing the necessary funding for their registration fees.</p>	<p>Eligibility criteria: Some students who needed financial assistance did not meet the specific eligibility criteria set by the Postgraduate funding offices. This posed a challenge in advocating for their inclusion and finding alternative sources of funding for them.</p> <p>Despite these challenges, concerted efforts were made to navigate them effectively and ensure that as many postgraduate students as possible received the necessary financial support for their registration fees.</p>	
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<p>Planning of International Students Day</p>	<p>I am responsible for overseeing the planning process of International Students' Day. Although we have just begun the planning phase, there is not much to report at this early stage.</p> <p>Our initial efforts have focused on forming a dedicated committee consisting of representatives from various international student organizations. This committee will play a vital role in coordinating and organizing the event. We have also begun brainstorming ideas for activities, workshops, and cultural performances that will enrich the celebration.</p> <p>In the upcoming weeks, our primary focus will be on developing a detailed event timeline, establishing partnerships with relevant stakeholders, and securing necessary resources and funding. We aim to create a vibrant and inclusive environment that celebrates the</p>	<p>None as we are still in the process of planning.</p>	
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	diversity of our international student community.		
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## PORTFOLIO: Secretary-General

### PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Pheny Matabane

Activity/Project:	Timeframe:	Description:	Outcome/Achieved Results:
Administrative Duties	From January 8 <sup>th</sup> till current	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minute Taking and sending agendas on time.</li><li>• Drafting statements</li><li>• Maintaining SRC Achieves</li></ul>	I was successfully able to fulfil the duties however with regards to communicating to the student body, it has not been possible due to the President not signing the minutes.
Helpdesk period	From January till March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Working with the Finance and Fundraising Task Team in assisting students with their issues</li></ul>	I was able to successfully work with the team members where a lot of students were assisted through in person contact and answering emails and phone calls.
Office hours and SRC Meeting Attendance	From January to Current	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Office Hours attendance and working after hours.</li><li>• Attendance of SRC Ordinary Meeting and Special Meeting.</li></ul>	I have been able to attend all my office hours where I offer in person consultation to students in my office during my designated office hours and after hours. Regardless of my self-arriving late for my SRC Meetings, I have been able to attend all SRC Meetings with a late excuse, here I was able to give my input into points of discussion and debates.

Meeting with the University Executive	From January till Current	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accepting invites to meeting the university Management on different issues and occasions</li> </ul>	I have successfully been able to meet with the university management and their stake holders in discussing issues such as accommodation, academic appeals and financial appeals together with NSFAS related. I manage to provide solutions and also report back to the SRC.
External Campuses Activities	Marketing week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attending scheduled visits organized by the SRC Day Students and external Campuses Officer</li> </ul>	I went together with my SRC colleagues to the Veterinary Sciences campus, where we spent the whole day engaging students on different issues and marketing the SRC as a structure.
Attending Meetings with internal departments and creating healthy relationships	From January till current	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting with the Fly@UP coordinators on how to make the programme more sustainable.</li> <li>Meeting with the DIA (Department of Institutional Advancement) Directors on how to grow the relations between them and the SRC.</li> <li>Meeting with the internal department within the DSA (Department of Student Affairs) Counselling Unit for student wellness and Disability Unit.</li> </ul>	I was successfully able to engage all the described internal stakeholders in creating a more sustainable and healthy relationship for students. Students are well represented.
Meeting with external stakeholders	From January till current	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet with local business stakeholders within Hatfield and</li> </ul>	I was able to engage different private stakeholders on the need for assisting

		<p>Brooklyn who are in the real estate business.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NSFAS Meetings hosted on our campus</li> </ul>	<p>students when coming to accommodation and funding. Student issues were successfully raised in those NSFAS gatherings</p>
Accreditation Site Visits	From January till current	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site inspection for accreditation of Avida, Campus Key and Brooklyn Studios.</li> </ul>	<p>I was able to do some side inspections on these listed accommodations.</p>
External Media Engagement	From January till current	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responding to questions by local media outlets on both newspaper and online news.</li> </ul>	<p>Through out well written statements, questions of them were well responded to and proper engagement with the inquirers.</p>
SAUS Representation	From January till Current	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engaging with SRC Secretary-Generals from other universities such as NWU SRC, UL SRC, Wits SRC and NMU SRC.</li> </ul>	<p>This was a successful engagement as it allowed exchange of ideas with people of the same portfolio governing in different environments or institutions. Sharing of thoughts and solutions took place as well.</p>
Working with the Deputy Secretary-General	From January till current	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delegation of minute taking earlier in the meetings</li> <li>• Delegation of announcements to the SRC</li> <li>• Delegation of giving a Secretariat Update on our weekly SRC Meetings</li> </ul>	<p>I manage to delegate some of my tasks to the DSG were they assist in taking minutes in SRC meetings. Some of the duties are having to send regular updates to the SRC and announcements via email and on our official what's app group.</p>

Engaging with the presidency in assisting with their duties	From January till current	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking regular administrative request from the President and Deputy President.</li> </ul>	I have been to take tasks from the president through acceptance of additions and suggestion into my portfolio related responsibilities.
Care over of Responsibilities from the Head of Governance and the Deputy Director of the DSA	From January till current	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communication of announcements and deadlines to the SRC requested by the DSA.</li> </ul>	I have been successfully able to update the SRC on what is expected from the DSA and also well represent the view of the council to the department.
Meeting with students on campus and off campus and participating in student life activities.	From January till current	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engaging students on different opinions related to governance and student life.</li> <li>• Participating in functions and events by different student structures on and off campus.</li> <li>• Attending Sport related events</li> </ul>	I was able to take time and support student initiatives and show support to the student population and also engaging on the view of the SRC and the student population.

## PORTFOLIO: Deputy Secretary-General

### PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Christo Pretorius

Initiative	Progress	Challenges	Mitigation
(Non-portfolio specific initiative) Queer-Working Committee:	I am currently in the process of finalizing a special project called the Queer-Working Committee. This committee aims to bring together various stakeholders to represent the broader queer community at our university. By creating a platform for dialogue and collaboration, we hope to promote inclusivity and advocate for the rights of LGBTQ+ students on campus.	The challenges have been one or two of the societies involved was participating in the PSC protests against the SRC, and to reach out to the various entities is challenging.	The protest is a separate issue and must not distract us from helping queer students. I am also waiting for societies to be officially registered so that I can send out the new memorandum for this working committee.
Assisting special needs student with transportation	Transportation has been settled. The student who studies on Mamelodi campus, now has the bus stopping in front of their residence.	Finding the people responsible for buses, seeing that at the time even Facilities and Safety did not know how to assist in the matter.	I had to physically go to every possible department to find a solution, and thankfully facilities was able to assist.
Registration Assistance:	I have also been involved in assisting students during the registration period to get registered for their degrees. This has involved providing guidance	The difficulties of understanding yearbooks and other registration guidelines.	Faculty departments are more than willing to assist when we refer students to them.

	<p>on the registration process, resolving registration-related issues, and ensuring that students are able to enrol in their desired courses smoothly. The registration period is now over.</p>		
<p>Social Media Management:</p>	<p>As part of my responsibilities, I have been actively involved in managing the Student Representative Council's social media platforms. This has involved creating and scheduling content, responding to inquiries and feedback from students, and promoting events and initiatives organized by the council. I am still currently overseeing various of the SRC social media and communications channels as per my duties in the Social Media task team.</p>	<p>Communication from the other task teams so that we can answer the questions from students who ask on social media.</p>	<p>We have resulted to refer the students to the relevant portfolios, and also as for updates in the ordinary meetings.</p>
<p>Sexual Harassment Case:</p>	<p>I aided the Transformation Office in handling an accused sexual harassment case that was reported to the Office of the Secretariat. This involved providing administrative support,</p>	<p>The discreetness of the matter was of concern, due to how many people knew about the case.</p>	<p>The transformation office took over the issue and had professionals investigate the matter and was solved thereafter.</p>

	<p>coordinating with relevant stakeholders, and ensuring that the case was handled in a sensitive and confidential manner.</p> <p>The case has now been settled.</p>		
Accommodation Task Team:	<p>I temporarily assisted the Accommodation Task Team with pressing accommodation matters to ensure that students had a place to stay. This involved coordinating with relevant authorities, liaising with accommodation providers, and finding temporary solutions for students facing accommodation challenges. The task team has now gone back to its original numbers.</p>	<p>It was difficult to balance the duties of this task team while being in the social media task team as well.</p>	<p>When the task team was cut back to its original members I could start focusing on the social media task them again.</p>
Student Forum:	<p>I successfully organized the first quarter student forum and ensured that it was decentralized for ease of participation. Unfortunately, the forum was disrupted by some societies present, leading to its collapse as</p>	<p>The Chief Justice that collapsed the forum without consultation and the EFFSC society distrusting proceedings.</p>	<p>The current agreed mitigation is to counter arguments with the CSG.</p>



	<p>per the directive of the Chief Justice of the Constitutional Tribunal of the University. However, a follow up student forum has been organised for the SRC to be held accountable.</p>		
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## PORTFOLIO: Treasurer

**PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Lauren Thabethe**

Initiative	Progress	Challenges	Mitigation
Finance Task Team	<p>The office of the Treasurer was a part of the Finance Task team where finance related queries were resolved, and the disbursement of the Study Aid Fund took place.</p> <p>217 Students were assisted with the Motsepe Foundation donation.</p> <p>R1039656.24 is the total amount which went towards assisting students with registration fee.</p>	<p>The disbursements of funds took some time which delayed the whole process resulting in the extension of the registration period. Some faculties were not willing to register students after the 03<sup>rd</sup> of March.</p>	<p>The Study Aid fund applications should open early in the year so there is enough time for the selection process and the disbursements of funds to students' accounts.</p>

Allocation of funds to portfolios	The total amount received by the 2023 SRC was R470000, I requested for R300000 to be donated by SRC members to the SRC Study Aid Fund in which they did however, The SRC received R1.1 million from the Motsepe Foundation and I took a R100000 back to the SRC operational funds. By the end of the allocation each portfolio received R15294.	The Department of Student Affairs did not allocate the R200000 which is received every year for the Study Aid Fund. This caused members to donate to the Study Aid Fund from their operational funds.	The Department of Student Affairs should provide financial support to the Study Aid Fund as there is a need each year. Especially with the increment in the registration fee.
Establishment of the Treasurer's sub-council (Fundraising Committee)	I have established a sub-council which is had its first meeting on the 10 <sup>th</sup> of May 2023. The fundraising committee is chaired by the SRC Treasurer and consists of the SRC Study Finance Officer, SRC Postgraduate and International Officer and nominated members from each of the faculty houses. The President of the SRC will form part of the sub-council to oversee things as the committee is in its formation stage.	I could not get one faculty to join the committee. This is a problem because the purpose of this committee is to cater to all students hence faculty houses are needed because they are much closer to the students.	All faculty houses should join the Treasurer's sub-council as no faculty is better than the other. True leaders should serve students and put their egos aside for the benefit of the students.
Study Aid Fund donation to SNAPP	Some of the remaining amount from the Study Aid Fund will be donated to SNAPP so more food	There are quite a lot of students who do not have funding and some who are experiencing problems with their bursaries.	More sponsors and donations for SNAPP means there will be enough food for students who need food. The university should

	can be bought for students in need.	The biggest worry is if the money donated to SNAPP will be sufficient to cater to all students in need.	also provide support to SNAPP as it plays a major role in students' lives.
Fundraising for Save the Semester	The office of the Treasurer is still in the process of fundraising for Save the Semester.	Quite a lot of companies take time to respond. Save the Semester usually has a huge turnout and less food to serve the students	Approaching potential sponsors and donors early in the year.

## PORTFOLIO: Facilities, Safety and Security

PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Captain Shongwe

Initiative	Progress	Challenges	Mitigation
First Year Security.	The office has taken proactive measures to enhance security within and around the main campus, recognizing the vulnerability of incoming first-year students at the beginning of the year. These measures have been implemented to facilitate the smooth transition of first-year students into campus life and their utilization of bus services, while providing them with an additional layer of protection.	Participation from first years	
Safety Activation	To address the historically low interest and lack of engagement from the student population due to factors such as a lack of stimulation, creativity, and information overload, a safety activation event was organized in collaboration with a well-known artist. The presence of the artist was intended to boost participation and create an		

	<p>engaging environment for the students. By incorporating the artist's influence and creativity, the event aimed to captivate the students' attention, inspire their involvement, and provide valuable safety information in a more compelling and memorable manner.</p>		
<p>Apollo light</p>	<p>In an effort to address the issue of inadequate lighting at the TMM lofts and festivals edge, the former FSS initiated a campaign for the installation of an Apollo light. To tackle this matter efficiently, I have established direct communication with the Gauteng MEC of Safety. I firmly believe in avoiding redundant escalation procedures involving councillors and mayors. Instead, by directly engaging with the MEC, we can expedite the process and ensure that the matter is promptly conveyed to the appropriate authorities for action.</p>	<p>Lack of interest from ward councillor</p>	
<p>Gautrain assistance</p>	<p>Through collaborative efforts with external organizations committed to assisting disadvantaged students, I have successfully</p>	<p>The process needs a lot of verification that I cannot assist with</p>	

	<p>secured 60 free rides on the Gautrain for the academic year. I have diligently submitted the names and student numbers of these individuals who rely on the Gautrain for their daily commutes. The next step involves the assistance providers contacting the university to verify the existence of these students. Once the verification process is completed, the students will be directly contacted and provided with the necessary information regarding the terms and conditions for accessing the free rides.</p>		
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## PORTFOLIO: Marketing, Media and Communication

PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Thokozane Zwane

Initiative	Progress	Challenges
Help desk	As the marketing officer I assisted students on our social media platforms (Instagram, twitter and Facebook) by directing them to the relevant departments and giving them general guidance on registration.	The main challenge was ensuring that all students are helped in time as I was attending to the physical help desk at Hilcrest campus.
Societies Marketing week and external visits	I created posters for the external visits that the SRC went on and also for marketing week which helped in keeping students informed on where the SRC would be and when.	Getting all the posters done on time.
Social Media engagement	The social media platforms continue to be the best platform for students to seek information, as a result I have been working timeously to ensure that relevant information is relayed on time and that the concerns that come through the inbox are responded to in time (within 24 hours).	Responding to all the inboxes. (Sometimes student do not provide all details)
Photoshoot	I organized a photoshoot for the SRC, we are still awaiting photos since they went for editing, but we should have them soon.	The main challenge was getting a date where every SRC member was available because of other arising issues (e.g., accommodation issue) and getting them to choose their photos as soon as they became available.
SRC website and CLICKUP	The website is up-to-date with the details of the current SRC and has the task team reports for quarter one. The click up page is also up-to-date and	Updating these pages in time.

	has all the necessary information and announcements.	
Posters	I worked with the residences office to create and circulate a poster about students that were facing accommodation issues. Created the poster for the LGBTQI+ working committee as well as a poster to inform students on the student forum. Furthermore, another various posters were created.	Time given to create a poster.
FLY@UP Thrift shop	Coordinated the activation for the SRC and ensured that there is SRC visibility on the day of the thrift shop activation which was held on the 25 <sup>th</sup> of April 2023.	Availability of SRC members.
World Malaria Day	Worked with the UP Institute for Sustainable Malaria Control on raising awareness about malaria, the research that the institute does and celebrate the world malaria day which was on the 25 <sup>th</sup> of April. Furthermore, the aim was to inform the student body of the existence of such an institute here at UP.	Availability of SRC members because there were two activations that needed to be attended on the same day.
Social media management	I have been managing the social media accounts and responding to DM's that students send to ensure that the students are assisted as quickly as possible.	N/A



## PORTFOLIO: Study Finance

PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Khanyi Mahlangu

Initiative	Progress	Challenges	Mitigation
Helpdesk	Complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Helping students get placed in their 2<sup>nd</sup> choice of study should their 1<sup>st</sup> applications be rejected</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Liaising with the Academics officers to communicate directly with the respective Faculties to get students placed</li></ul>
Finance related matters (excluding NSFAS matters)	Most initiatives are still ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Getting into contact with Fundza Lushaka to assist B.Ed students specifically</li><li>- Students not being able to afford the amounts they needed to pay to cover 50% of their historical debt in order for them to register</li><li>- Most students do not follow the SRC's social media pages leading to them not receiving information pertaining to, but not limited to, NSFAS related matters or registration if they have historical debt</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Liaised with the Financial Aid officers on the Hatfield campus to help in reaching out to the officers on the Groenkloof campus</li><li>- Negotiated individual cases of students with Student accounts and managed to get many registered without paying the required 50% but a portion thereof</li><li>- Joined multiple WhatsApp groups to reach the students that do not have access to other social media platforms to ensure that</li></ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Most students were not in the city in the beginning of the year leading to them being unable to attend meetings with Student accounts</li> <li>- Finding help for Postgraduate and International Students</li> </ul>	<p>they are aware of what is happening + Shared links to Google sheets and Forms to ensure that I had the details of the students that could not reach me via email or had enough funds to call me</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Students were encouraged to get affidavits which permitted me to act as their proxy during negotiations. In most instances, I would call the students should their verbal consent be needed for some matters</li> <li>- I requested the help of the Deputy President who help the PISA office in 2022 for how best to assist the students</li> </ul>
<p>Finance related matters (including NSFAS)</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Current policies that are in place at institutions do not take into account the financial situations of missing middle and self-funded students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Attended a SAUS finance indaba where comments were given on the recommendations brought forward by the Ministerial Task Team</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NSFAS is also not functioning efficiently resulting in students being rejected based on false reasons</li> <li>- NSFAS: issues with the N+1 rule</li> </ul>	
NSFAS related matters	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Students still do not have the results of their application, funding and appeal statuses</li> <li>- Cancellation of meetings by NSFAS representatives</li> <li>- Students having debt due to NSFAS shortfalls</li> <li>- Provisionally funded students not knowing if they are truly funded</li> <li>- Transferring students who aren't receiving clear answers when we call NSFAS directly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Direct calls were made to NSFAS to get clarity on each student's case</li> <li>- With the help of the Financial aid officers, I managed to get the cell phone numbers of some NSFAS officials to contact them directly for assistance</li> <li>- Had weekly meetings with Ms. Ronel Dijkman and Ms. Marilyn Abrahams to go through each list of students that I compiled on a weekly basis</li> <li>- Help to compile a list of names that the Deputy President managed to</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The R45000 accommodation cap</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- submit to NSFAS directly for clarity</li> <li>- With the help of Ms. Marilyn Abrahams, she is able to help track the funding information of the students' from their previous institutions, helps to allocate their funds to them</li> <li>- Attended various meetings with NSFAS officials as well as officials from the Department of Higher Education and Training to make them aware of the challenges that our students are facing</li> <li>- A demonstration was held by the SRC to bring attention to the accommodation crisis that students were facing</li> </ul>
Facilitation of the Study Aid Fund	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Procuring funds so that the need was met for the amount of applications received</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The President helped to establish task teams. The Finance task team, which I was the head of, dealt with each application for all the</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Thousands of applications were received- the available funds weren't going to cover all the students</li> </ul>	<p>three rounds that the Study aid fund was opened to ensure that the correct amount was given to each student to ensure that they were able to register</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- With the help of the Finance department, specifically the Financial aid office, students with a debt less than R5000 were permitted to register</li> </ul>
Engagement with the Finance department	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Students unable to register due to historical debt</li> <li>- NSFAS and Fundza Lushaka students being uncertain about their funding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Biweekly meetings were held with Mr. Ayanda Simelane from Student accounts to argue the cases for students who needed Financial arrangements in place that would permit them to study. The information for the next steps to get the holds of students lifted was then communicated to students ensuring that they managed to get registered.</li> <li>- Triweekly meetings were held with Ms. Ronel</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- First years not being able to afford the registration fee</li></ul>	<p>Dijksman and Ms. Marilyn Abrahams from the Financial aid office for NSFAS and Fundza Lushaka related matters. The main issue was that some students had shortfalls from the previous academic years that was causing them to have financial holds on their student accounts preventing them from registering. A solution was then being brokered as to how best these students can be helped so that they be allowed to register. Other individuals that also assisted with NSFAS related matters were Mr. Elias Nthlane, Ms. Happy Ramoake and Ms. Gugu Ihenacho.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Regular meetings pertaining to NSFAS, financial aid payouts to students who received confirmation in the 2022</li></ul>
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			<p>academic year that they were recipients as well the payouts for the SRC Study Aid fund (the list of students that were recipients were sent to Ms. Ihenacho and she assisted in loading the funds to the students' accounts)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The President and I had meetings Ms. Motlalepula to submit the names of first years that were in need of the registration fee</li> </ul>
<p>Site visitations of buildings that wanted to receive accreditation as private accommodations with the institutions</p>	<p>Complete</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A student's perspective is never taken into account when accreditation is given</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recommendations were given from a student's perspective as to what the certain buildings lacked that students may need</li> <li>- Building visited include Avida, Brooklyn House as well as Campus Key</li> </ul>

## PORTFOLIO: Day Student an External Campus Affairs

PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Karabo Lefete

Initiative	Progress	Challenges
Lease agreements	Assisted students who reached out to my office with getting their deposit refunded from their prior accommodations and advised students on lease agreement cancellations.	Service providers took a while to attend to these issues especially pertaining to refunding deposits.
NSFAS funded students	Collaborated with office of residences, transformation and student success and sports on engaging with day students who were rejected or were appealing NSFAS but faced accommodation issues. my office arranged for posters with QR codes to be taken to external campuses to increase the student reach especially for students residing at private accommodations that are centred around external campuses.	This matter was urgent and time constricting therefore not all students who faced this issue was able to respond in our time frame.



	This matter was taken to the TuksRes private accommodation committee.	
External Campus Rotations	Held 4 activations at external campuses, where SRC members were present and students were able to engage with members.	There were clashes with some campus timetables, so student reach was limited but this was noted for future rotations.
Day House Constitutions	Requested day house constitutions and reviewed 1 day house thus far. I notified them of their potential errors and they are currently in process of rectifying them.	Difficulties occurred due to predecessors of some houses not providing full information regarding constitutional amendments.
Private accommodation sport teams	This initiative is in collaboration with the SRC sports officer and is an on-going effort for future UP leagues.	Funding for participation in leagues has hindered this process.
Private accommodation sub-council	An informal sub council was created in 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter and currently my office is drafting a document stipulating all the terms and conditions that will be set once this subcouncil is formalised.	Some private accommodations do not have leadership structures within their residences so representation of those accommodations pose a challenge.

## PORTFOLIO: Societies

PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Karabo Mogale

INITIATIVE	PROGRESS	CHALLENGES	MITIGATION
<p>Societies Registration – Documents Review and Approval Process</p>	<p>The process took place from the 17th of April until the 21st of April.</p> <p>All required documents submitted by societies had to be reviewed before they can be approved.</p> <p>The process was facilitated with the assistance of the SRC Treasure, the SRC Media, Marketing and Communications Officer and The Constitutional Tribunal.</p>	<p>Ensuring all required documents were submitted and in proper format.</p> <p>Coordinating schedules and availability of team members</p> <p>Managing a large volume of documents and ensuring accuracy</p> <p>Verifying if new societies' constitutions align with university</p>	<p>Created a checklist to track document submission and followed up with societies for missing or incomplete documents.</p> <p>Scheduled regular meetings and maintained effective communication channels for smooth collaboration.</p> <p>Developed a systematic approach to review and cross-reference documents for</p>

	<p>Assistance from the TG - The TG provided assistance in going through the Plan of Actions and Minutes, submitted by societies.</p> <p>Alignment Check by the Constitutional Tribunal - reviewed constitutions of new societies.</p> <p>Discrepancy Check by the MMC - The MMC and I checked for any discrepancies in the application forms, membership forms, as well as the excel spreadsheets</p>	<p>guidelines within a week.</p> <p>Identifying any discrepancies or errors in the provided forms and data.</p>	<p>consistency and completeness.</p> <p>Created a spreadsheet to track the progress of the ConTri on giving feedback on time.</p> <p>Implemented thorough validation checks and cross-referencing of information to minimize errors</p>
<p>Disputes Week - Feedback and Rectification</p>	<p>Feedback was communicated to</p>	<p>Lack of response or compliance from some societies.</p>	<p>Followed up with non-compliant societies,</p>

	<p>societies on the 24th of April.</p> <p>The checklist spreadsheet was shared with societies, which contained feedback and suggestions for rectification.</p> <p>Societies were given a week to rectify errors in their documents.</p> <p>Failure to rectify within a week resulted in rejection of the society.</p> <p>Contributions from the TG and MMC were added onto the spreadsheet</p>		<p>provided additional support if needed.</p> <p>Offered guidance and clarification on the feedback, emphasized the importance of rectification.</p>
<p>Management Report – checking the</p>	<p>Verified submission of management reports by returning societies</p>	<p>Ensuring compliance with the requirement to submit previous year's reports</p>	<p>Clearly communicated the re-registration criteria and deadline for</p>

<p>submission of management reports</p>	<p>Societies that did not submit a managerial report in the previous year were rejected.</p>	<p>resulted in +40 societies being rejected.</p>	<p>management report submission.</p> <p>No exceptions were made for not no submission of reports.</p> <p>Societies had to provide proof of submission if they were mistakenly on the list of societies that did not submit reports in the previous year.</p>
<p>Internal SRC Members Disputes</p>	<p>Addressed disputes among internal SRC members regarding approved societies and approval process</p>	<p>Differing opinions and conflicts arising from the approval process.</p>	<p>Facilitated discussions, encouraged open communication, and sought consensus through democratic decision-making processes</p>

<p>Missed New Constitutions</p>	<p>Discovered that some new constitutions were missed during the document reviewal process.</p>	<p>Overlooking new constitution submissions during the document reviewing process.</p>	<p>Implemented a double-check system to ensure all new constitutions are thoroughly reviewed and sent to the Constitutional Tribunal for alignment check.</p>
<p>Society Sub-Council Meeting</p>	<p>The sub-council had a meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> of May, the following matters were addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Election of sub-council deputy chair and secretary</li> <li>Registration Process</li> <li>Constitutional Tribunal Amendments</li> <li>Societies Website</li> </ul>		

	<p>Training</p> <p>Student Forum</p> <p>Funds allocation</p> <p>Events and Venue booking</p>		
<p>Election of Societies</p> <p>Sub-Council Deputy</p> <p>Chair and Secretary</p>	<p>The election took place after the meeting</p>	<p>Coordinating the election process and ensuring fair representation</p>	<p>Established clear election guidelines and procedures, conducted the election via a Google Form to streamline the process and ensure transparency.</p>
<p>Constitutional Tribunal</p> <p>Recommendations</p>	<p>New societies were sent recommendations for aligning their constitutions.</p> <p>Providing guidance to new societies for aligning their</p>	<p>Difficulties faced by societies in understanding and implementing the recommendations.</p>	<p>Provided clarifications and guidance to the societies to assist them in aligning their constitutions.</p>

	<p>constitutions with university guidelines.</p> <p>Societies were given until June 30th to fix the alignments.</p>		
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## PORTFOLIO: Transformation and Student Success

### PORTFOLIO HOLDER: S'phesihle Makhanya

Initiative	Progress	Challenges	Mitigation
Accommodation Task Team	The office of TSS was included in the residence task team where the office aided in accommodation related issues such as negotiating with accredited private accommodations to lower their rental fee in order to accommodate the NSFAS price cap. The office further assisted in visiting buildings that had requested accreditation.	NSFAS remained adamant on the rental fee cap. There were students who needed to terminate their lease agreements but could not afford cancellation financial obligations. Students who are provisionally funded and are being evicted from accommodations due to NSFAS not making payments.	The task team made good relations with some of the staff in Duxbury 90 in order to receive assistance with dealing with some of the private accommodations. We championed the interests of our students the best we could under the circumstances.
Health Screening Events	In attempt to promote a healthy lifestyle as a fundamental	The number of students who participated in comparison to the	We therefore opted to increase advertisement of these events,



	contributor to student success, the SRC Transformation office in collaboration with student health and other relevant stakeholders provided health screening at all campuses. The Health screening consisted of an HIV rapid test, STI screening, BMI, pap smear booking and other services.	number of students in these various campuses was not fully satisfying.	increase the frequency of these health screening events, add more service providers and also to offer these services to private accredited accommodations through the guidance of HCs from various accommodations.
Tuks accredited private accommodations' transformation orientation	The office of TSS has made considerable progress. The first phase has been initiated through participating in various accommodations' set group talks and through facilitating health screening for students within their respective accommodations.	Not all accommodations have responded to the email sent by the office of TSS aiming to gain all HC members contact details from all the TUKS accredited private accommodations.	The TSS office has reached out to the relevant DSA staff for assistance in communicating with the accredited private accommodations to get contact details for their HCs.
Formation of a TUKS Accredited private accommodations sub-council	18 January 2023, an email from the TSS office to all accommodations within the accredited list was sent requesting their HCs contact details.	Some of the email addresses were not found therefore the email bounced back. Some accommodations responded stating the POPI Act clause thus not wanting to provide email addresses. Others had automated response systems which even after responding to the automated response it was still unfruitful. Most chose to ignore the email. Amongst those that replied some were yet (in April) to have their 2023 HC elections.	The TSS office has reached out to the relevant DSA staff for assistance in communicating with the accredited private accommodations to get contact details for their HCs.
Transformation sub-council meeting	On the 28 <sup>th</sup> of February 2023, the TSS office hosted the first SRC Transformation sub-council meeting.	The turnout was not as good as it ought to be considering the constituency/component of the sub-council.	Over and beyond using the Whatsapp group chat as the means of communication, the TSS office

			has opted to also use emails to reach out to the student leaders.
Transformation sub-council training	On the 17 <sup>th</sup> of April 2023, the TSS office through #SpeakOutUP facilitated a transformation sub-council training. The training was mainly focused around the dissection of the anti-discrimination policy and other areas of transformation on an operational basis.	My predecessor had offered a training similar to this towards the end of her term last year, so a large number of student leaders had already received the training whilst a small portion had not yet received any training. At the time of the training no society had yet been registered so transformation officers from societies never got to receive training.	Despite some having received the training we opted to re-offer it and it was made open to all students to participate. The TSS office aims to also host another training specifically for the transformation officers in societies as they missed the first training.
Save The Semester Campaign	This initiative is aimed to commence on the 12 <sup>th</sup> of June 2023 and it the TSS office in collaboration with the office of RAG. We aim to visit numerous campuses over the period	We have not yet been able to secure an adequate number of sponsors.	The TSS office has opted to consolidate funds through requesting SRC members for sponsorship.



## PORTFOLIO: Academics

### PORTFOLIO HOLDERS: Zeenat Patel and Sandile Manoni

Initiative	Progress	Challenges	Mitigation
Appeals, readmission and academic success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Statement released explaining appeals process in full.</li><li>● Posters created with summarised information from appeals statements.</li><li>● Answered queries from students regarding academic appeals e.g. reviewing of appeals, consultation after dismissal, information on escalation etc. This includes at the SRC help desk on Hillcrest campus.</li><li>● Communicating with the academic sub-council regarding faculty specific matters e.g. due date for appeals per faculty, when outcomes would be released etc.</li><li>● Communicating with the relevant faculty administration regarding issues arising in the appeals process.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Very high volume of queries resulted in longer waiting periods for responses and less than ideal time spent on each query.</li><li>● Difficulty in obtaining information from some faculties.</li><li>● Unprecedented number of appeals from the EBIT faculty.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Each faculty house has been requested to put together a report on the appeals process in their faculty. This will be sent to the Deputy Deans through the office of the Vice-Principal: Academics to resolve some of the issues from the faculties side.</li><li>● Posters created and information released so students were not solely reliant on direct communication with the academic officers.</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Communicating with DESA regarding campus and clickUP access for students awaiting appeal outcomes. This involved compiling and sending lists of students who did not have access when they were supposed to.</li> <li>● Statement released explaining campus and click-up access and the process to escalate appeals to the Senate Review Committee on Readmission.</li> <li>● Communicating with the Senate Review Committee regarding issues raised by students e.g. checking that students' appeals were on the list.</li> </ul>		
<p>Pathways project (Academic Toolkit)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● This project aims to put together a 'toolkit' of information and resources to assist students with finding alternative directions after exclusions and/or when they are not happy in their current degree program.</li> <li>● The idea has been discussed with the FLY Committee and Vice-Principal: Academics.</li> <li>● Communication to relevant parties to begin gathering information for the toolkit is being drafted.</li> </ul>		

<p>Answering academic queries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Answering of queries via email, whatsapp, phone call and in person (help desk and office hours).</li> <li>● Queries were largely related to academic appeals (detailed previously in this report), summer school, chancellor’s exams, admissions, applications, academic complaints, registration and graduations.</li> <li>● Given the high number of queries on varied platforms, information on the exact number of queries attended to is not available, however, each academic officer has attended to at least over a 1000 queries.</li> <li>● The office has also referred a number of queries to relevant offices and task teams within the SRC.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● High volume of queries at the beginning of the year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Posters created and information released so students were not solely reliant on direct communication with the academic officers. In future, the resources released can be expanded upon to further mitigate against this challenge.</li> </ul>
<p>Quarterly meetings with vice-principals and deans/deputy deans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Quarterly meetings with the vice-principal of academics have been secured. They will take place on 3 May, 25 July and 8 September.</li> <li>● The first meeting, scheduled for the 3rd of May, took place. At this meeting admission of students into different degree programs after exclusion, feedback on exclusions, sub-house elections and project pathways were discussed.</li> </ul>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Have engaged with deputy deans in several of the Committees that the Academic Office sits on (FLY Committee and Senate Teaching and Learning Committee)</li> </ul>		
Academic Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Information was released regarding opening of applications, the last day to register modules, academic appeals (Explained previously), access for students awaiting appeal outcomes (Explained previously) and the Senate Review Committee on Readmission (Explained previously).</li> <li>● This is being performed through the aid of the secretariat and MMC office with the release of statements and posters on all the communication platforms (Clickup, Instagram, Twitter and Facebook).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Posters were created regarding campus access and the Senate Review Committee on Readmission but were not posted due to miscommunication.</li> </ul>	
Academic sub-council meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Five academic sub-council meetings have been hosted on the 4th of February, the 15th of February, 27th of March, 24th April and 3rd May.</li> <li>● The minutes for the meetings on the 4th of February, 15th of February and 27th of March have been approved and sent to the SRC secretariat as per the requirements in the CSG.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The first few meetings were conducted on short notice given that sub-council members did not have regular academic schedules yet.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Post-recess, the academic schedules of all sub-council members were requested and a regular meeting time set.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● At the time of this report, the next academic sub-council meeting is scheduled for the 22nd of May and will be held at an external campus.</li> </ul>		
Faculty House query reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A Google Form was created for this purpose which required faculty houses to provide an overview of the academic queries and challenges they were aware of in their faculties within the specified dates.</li> <li>● A trial run over a week was conducted from the 27th of March to the 2nd of May.</li> <li>● Responses were, thereafter, collected every two weeks.</li> <li>● Feedback has been provided to faculty houses based on their responses.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Some faculty houses faced difficulties filling out the form due to some aspects of the form. As a result, not all faculty houses have filled out the form for all of the two-week cycles.</li> <li>● Feedback has not been as regular as planned due to the initially low response rate.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Based on the recommendations from the academic sub-council members, the SRC academic office edited the form and created a Google Calendar reminder system. The form has, thereafter, been receiving more responses, however, some challenges still exist.</li> </ul>
Assist faculty houses with academic queries and related matters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Queries escalated by the faculty houses were attended to.</li> <li>● Questions regarding academic queries were also addressed in academic sub-council meetings.</li> <li>● Assistance was provided with regards to faculty house constitutional amendments. This included assistance such as consultations regarding the amendments process and guidance on specific</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A meeting between the chairpersons and academic officers was, unfortunately, not hosted in the first quarter due to time constraints.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The SRC academic office is planning to host this meeting in the 3rd or possibly the 4th quarter with the new faculty house EC members).</li> </ul>



	<p>aspects such as the submission of an advisory opinion application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A meeting detailing the election process for faculty houses was attended by the SRC academic office to ensure the office can provide faculty houses with support leading up to and during the elections.</li> </ul>		
<p>Assisting faculty houses with student life events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Practice venues for 1nSync were booked for the faculty houses.</li> <li>● A practice schedule was created for 1nSync practices.</li> <li>● A inter-faculty house mock debate was hosted where faculty houses were provided with feedback in order to improve their debating for STUKU's Debate Tournament.</li> <li>● Practice venues for Step it Up were booked for the faculty houses.</li> <li>● A practice schedule was created for Step it Up practices.</li> <li>● The SRC academic office was available to provide advice and support to structures while planning and participating in student life events.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A joint Step it Up practice session between faculty houses was planned to allow faculty houses an opportunity to perform for each other before the Step it Up preliminary rounds. This, however, did not occur due to a number of faculty houses pulling out of the joint session due to time constraints and tests.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● This can be mitigated in future by pitching the idea well in advance to ensure all structures can make contributions on what aspects may be challenging to them and to ensure they can plan well in advance.</li> </ul>

<p>Quarterly academic and faculty house activations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● FLY@UP was approached to discuss the possibility of including faculty houses in their activations.</li> <li>● Faculty houses based on Hatfield campus were invited to the FLY@UP thrift activation on the 25th of April which served as the first instalment of this initiative. Four faculty houses participated in this initiative and the SRC academic officers were available to provide support where necessary.</li> <li>● All faculty houses were invited to FLY@UP's Ready 4 Exams activations. A document with tips on how to host activations and a pamphlet with each of the faculty house's details (accessed via a QR code) was created by the SRC academics officer. A set number of pamphlets was printed, prepared and distributed by the SRC academic office and the academic officers were available to assist and provide support during the activations. Seven faculty houses have participated in this set of activations at the time of this report.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The SRC academic office was unable to be present at the Groenkloof campus activation due to overlapping SRC and academic commitments.</li> <li>● The Onderstepoort activation was postponed on account of the weather.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The assistance of other SRC members was sought where the academic officers could not be present to ensure the faculty houses received their pamphlet allocation and support if need be.</li> </ul>
<p>Graduation ceremonies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Facilitated the allocation of SRC members to the different graduations for the autumn graduation season.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Minor challenges related to availability for some graduation ceremonies.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Matters were resolved through consultation with SRC members on an individual basis.</li> </ul>

<p>Meeting attendance and participation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Senate Review Committee on Readmission: Between the two academic officers, all 12 meetings of the Committee were attended. The academics officers prepared for meetings of this committee by reviewing appeal documentation prior to meetings and participated fully in the Committee’s discussions.</li> <li>● FLY Committee: Attended a meeting of the Committee on the 7th of March. A report detailing the activities of the SRC Academic Office and potential ways in which the Committee could assist was prepared and presented.</li> <li>● Senate Teaching and Learning Committee (Academics 1): Attended a meeting of the Committee on the 8th of March. A report on activities on the activities of and challenges noted (largely related to academic appeals) by the SRC Academic Office was prepared and presented.</li> <li>● Customer Experience Project (Academics 1): Attended a meeting on the 8th of March where the SRC members represented on this Committee were provided with the necessary background on the project. Attended a meeting of the Steering Committee on the 28th of March.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Overlapping academic and SRC commitments have resulted in some meetings being missed by one of the members.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In all cases up until this point where one of the academic officers were unable to attend a meeting, the other academic officer or other relevant SRC representative was present.</li> </ul>
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	<p>Currently discussing the best possible mechanisms to best represent student interests on this Committee with the rest of the SRC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Acknowledging Student Success Task Team (Academics 1): Attended a meeting of the Task Team on the 30th of March.</li><li>● The Language Policy Committee (Academics 2): Attended a meeting on the 28th of February, specifically on the language policy in the Institution and the One Year Development Plan. The idea of quick wins was shared with the Committee by the representatives.</li><li>● Senate: Academics 1 attended a meeting of Senate on the 18th of May.</li><li>● Tshebi Teaching and Learning Data Analytics Committee: Academics 1 attended a meeting of the Committee on the 17th of April.</li></ul>		
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## PORTFOLIO: Rag

### PORTFOLIO HOLDERS: Pule Nkadimeng

Initiative	Progress	Challenges
Save the semester	<p>Together with the office of Transformation and Treasure, we are searching for donors to sponsor the initiative. Donations include but not limited to; energy drinks, energy sachet, bread etc.</p> <p>I will, however, make use of my cost centre to ensure that this initiative is a success. Further, I will ask for donations from different student structures so that everyone will have a chance to part take in the initiative.</p>	<p>Main challenge encountered is donors and donations.</p> <p>Further, with the current NSFAS cap issue, student are reluctant to make donations as they are faced with debts and lack of food security.</p>
Task team (Marketing, Media, Communication)	<p>The office of RAG served in the Marketing and Communication task team. Since the establishment of the task teams, the office of RAG was entrusted with the SRC Instagram page. To date, the office of RAG has been timely responding and helping students with relevant information regarding their queries.</p>	

RAG Rag of Hope Day	The office of UP-RAG (Reach Out and Give) donated non-perishable items to the SNAP-Program which were received from the Rag of Hope Day.	
Office of RAG SRC duties (Campus activations)	The office of RAG has been active in campus activations and visits hosted by the Transformation and External Campus offices.	Challenges met included student turnover, goods to provide students.

## PORTFOLIO: Sports

### PORTFOLIO HOLDERS: Katlego Modise

Initiative	Progress	Challenges
Inclusivity/Unity Project	<p>I with the help of student sport committee have been Encouraging and ensuring a more inclusive and diverse representation in Students Sports Campus leagues. Campus Leagues have started and TUKS residences, Some of Day Student Residence, faculty houses and Day Houses are aware and they are participating in the events.</p> <p>The office of SRC Sports together with the Student Sports Committee hosted an event at the Hillcrest Sports campus on the 22th of April 2022. The event aimed at reviving student culture at the University of Pretoria. The event was a spirited Olympics style event where students participated in various sporting items like track, shotput, discuss, javelin, long jump, high jump. The Office of SRC Sports was involved in the planning together with the Sports Committee and responsible for the VIP function, hosting the event, tallying of the scores and the distribution of the awards.</p>	<p>Some of the Societies wanted to participate and it was an issue when it went to TuksSport because the societies were not yet registered.</p> <p>At first the UPlympics was supposed to take place in March 2023 but due to other TuksSports commitments we had to move our date to April .</p>
Student Sport Calendar	Established the student sports calendar for 2023 regarding Tournaments and campus leagues with	Dates are changing due to the effect of loadshedding which results in extending the

	the assistance of TuksSport, The preliminary Calendar is already out and we were informed that the calendar is subject to change due to loadshedding and other TuksSport activities	leagues for different sporting clubs, dates have to be changed because we cannot do any sports while there is loadshedding in the evening.
Varsity Sport	Engaged with Tuksres to provide Tickets for All the Tuks Residences. Engaged with TuksSport to provide students with complementary Tickets. Tuksres provided all the Residences with tickets for all the Home matches. Student Sports through Varsity Sport Rep gave away a certain number of complimentary tickets to the student body every Monday during the Varsity Rugby Campaign with the help of TuksSport.	Not all students are receiving tickets , due to Budget from different stakeholders.
Sub-Committee Extension	The office of SRC Sports together with the Student Sports Committee met with the Sports Sub-council to launch the student sports events plans and its calendar. Furthermore, issues were raised by sub-council members of which were successfully resolved by the Student Sports Committee and the Office of Student Sports. The Sub- council consist of private residences, Tuks Residences , Faculty Houses , Day Houses and Societies .	None

### Roles Outside Student Sports

As a member of the SRC, I was a member of the Residence Task team and assisted with issues ranging from accommodation to residence.



## PORTFOLIO: Residences

### PORTFOLIO HOLDERS: Vhutshilo Muambadzi and Francois Du Plessis

Initiative	Progress	Challenges	Mitigation
Summer school accommodation (23 January-4 February)	<p>An issue arose with students who stayed in private accommodations and students who were still on the waiting list to be accepted into TuksRes during this summer school period. There were several reasons for this:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="689 820 1093 1262">1. NSFAS and bursary funded private accommodation students were only receiving funding in February when university started therefore, they could not afford to put themselves in accommodation debt that they were going to be unable to pay personally.</li><li data-bbox="689 1267 1093 1370">2. Self-funded private accommodation students were not in the</li></ol>	<p>This left us with a huge influx of students who had no accommodation for the summer school period. It was at this point that we reached out to TuksRes and asked if they could accommodate this group of students on a case-by-case basis for the duration of summer school and bill them on their UP student account</p>	<p>We worked together with TuksRes as we forwarded any cases brought to our attention to them. Through this system we were able to accommodate around 50-60 private accommodation students for the summer school period and permanently place a few students who were currently on the waiting list.</p>

	<p>financial position to pay for an upfront fee for the summer school period and staying in a TuksRes did not require that of you.</p>		
<p>Help Desk Period and Post Help Desk Period</p>	<p>There was an influx of students during this period who were awaiting placement from Tuks Residences. We approached TuksRes with this issue and creating an excel spreadsheet was proposed where we could note all emergency cases and first years who were still on the waiting list. TuksRes assessed this on a case-by-case basis and assisted where placements were available. We were able to assist +/- 100 students through this process. We continue to try and assist students everyday who are still on the waiting list for Tuks Residences or who have unique issues within their respective residence.</p>		<p>We took the escalation policy a step further and at times went directly to Duxbury where there were cases of students who showed up in Hatfield with bags and no place to stay or had to be accommodated quicker than the excel spreadsheet process and we were able to place them permanently in TuksRes</p>

<p>Private Accomodations</p>	<p>We assisted the Transformation and Student Success Office with establishing a private accommodation sub council. This sub council was created to better communication between the SRC Residences Task Team private accommodations and their respective UP students.</p> <p>We were involved in inspecting three private accommodations with TuksRes that applied for accreditation. These accommodations included Avida, Campus Key Glen and Brooklyn Studios.</p>		<p>We have been and still are assisting students who have requested to cancel their lease agreements for several reasons being that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. They are academically excluded after appealing Senate.</li> <li>2. NSFAS funding has been rejected.</li> <li>3. NSFAS rejected after appealing.</li> </ol> <p>We have also assisted students who have been held hostage by their respective private accommodations.</p>
<p>TuksRes</p>	<p>Issues that were raised and dealt with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organising more busses that run later in the evening from external campuses to attend events in Hatfield and Hillcrest.</li> <li>• Residences requested card machines for their everyday operations as students have</li> </ul>		

	<p>decreased the use of cash.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Hillcrest residences requested WIFI during loadshedding for academic purposes.</li> </ul>		
<p>NSFAS Accommodation Rental Fee Allowance Capping</p>	<p>The accommodation crisis began on the release of the 2023 NSFAS Funding eligibility criterion. The changes made to the criterion were not feasible and meant that a large portion of the NSFAS recipients could therefore not be able to afford accommodation in Hatfield without having to contribute high top up amounts. This updated criterion stipulated the following in accordance with accommodation allowance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- For <b>university managed and catered accommodation</b> the cap was stipulated to be R 60 750 (Which includes the dining hall meal allowance)</li> <li>- For <b>university managed self-catering</b></li> </ul>	<p>The above allowance changes were insufficient to fully pay for a basic room in both the private and the TUKS owned accommodation in Hatfield as the general prices were said to be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- For <b>UP owned accommodation</b> in 2023 prices were between R 52 700 – R 81 900.</li> <li>- For <b>Private accommodations</b> in 2023 prices were R 65 000+</li> </ul>	<p>We along with the accommodation task team went on a series of engagements with numerous service providers in hope to persuade them to meet the NSFAS recipients 'halfway'. We also consulted TuksRes, The Financial Aid office and the Executive Management of the University of Pretoria and engaged with them on the proposed possible solutions that that we, along with the SRC drafted.</p>

	the cap was stipulated to be R 45 000.		
Lease agreement cancellations	<p>Several students have approached our office requesting us to assist in cancelling their lease agreements without paying penalty fees or cancellation fees due to the service providers failing to fulfil their contractual obligations such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adequate Wi-Fi</li> <li>• Safety and security</li> <li>• Operating laundry facilities</li> </ul>	Due to a lease agreement being a binding document, it sometimes proves challenging as a third party to get a student out of their lease agreement without paying the necessary fees attached to the cancellation.	
Provisionally Funded NSFAS students and transferring NSFAS students	Students who are provisionally funded by NSFAS have faced eviction issues and threats due to not paying rent from February. This has resulted in us pleading and requesting private accomodations to give us an extension as we wait for NSFAS to reply to the students regarding their funding	Several private accomodations have started switching student's Wi-Fi off and blocking/restricting their biometrics due to rent in arrears	

## PORTFOLIO: Culture

PORTFOLIO HOLDERS: Jay Grobler

Initiative	Progress	Challenges
The Archives Project: UP SRC Archive	In the process of creating bookings to view the University, SRC and Student Committee Archives that already exist.	The initial idea of this initiative was to create an Archive for the SRC's history; however, such an archive already exists. The plan has thus changed to view this archive, see where it can be improved and have an easily accessible digital variation created.
Student Life Tips	Ongoing Project that will have students react to the SRC on social media and provide tips for Student Life and various aspects thereof.  The initial post for this will be exam prep tips prior to the June exam season.	N/A
Student Life Survey	Project has not yet been initiated but will begin in Quarter 3.	N/A
Indigenous Games Day	Project has not yet been initiated.	This event is collaborative, and date is determined by the date of another event.

Heritage Day Culture Showcase	Project is a Quarter 4 event and has not yet been initiated.	N/A
Visibility+ Committee	<p>The final proposal has been drafted and sent out to bodies that we intend on working with.</p> <p>The first Activation is due to take place on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May 2023.</p> <p>The Student Culture Officer is the Committee's acting secretariat.</p>	N/A
STUKU Events	<p>STUKU has conducted the following events since quarter 1:</p> <p><b><u>1nSync:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The event was held on the 18th of February. It is the annual '1st year concert' for the university, and first years from societies, faculty houses, day houses and residence can partake in it, with approximately 30</li> </ul>	<p>The only major challenge that appeared with STUKU pertains to Blossom's Delight and their theme and costume choice in Step It UP.</p> <p>Although this costume and theme was approved by the SRC Transformation Officer, many students were still upset.</p>

	<p>structures taking part in the event overall. It was a successful event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- It was primarily conducted through STUKU's Office of External Culture and Chairperson, though assisted by the STUKU EC and GC.</li><li>- The event complied with the CSG.</li></ul> <p><b><u>UP's Got Talent:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The event was held on the 25th of February. It serves as an annual talent show and any student can participate in it. There were over 25 participants in various categories ranging from musical instruments, singing, drama and bands. The event was ultimately a success.</li><li>- The event was primarily conducted through the UPs Got Talent Officer, though assisted on the event by the STUKU EC.</li><li>- The event complied with the CSG.</li></ul> <p><b><u>Debate:</u></b></p>	<p>It was ultimately decided that for future events, a guide on how to avoid cultural appropriation will be created as to avoid this type of occurrence in the future.</p>
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- The event was held on the weekend of the 31st of March to the 2nd of April. It was a World School's Style Debate Tournament that had 4 preliminary rounds and 3 knock out rounds. The tournament was open to university structures, and over 40 teams participated in the tournament. The event was ultimately a success.
- The event was conducted primarily through my office, with great assistance coming from the tournament's Co-hosts, the University of Pretoria's Debating Union (UPDU).
- The event complied with the CSG.

**Nothing but Vernac:**

- Nothing but Vernac (NBV) is an annual culture showcase event that takes place on the piazza.

- All students were welcome to participate, and the theme of the event was space.
- The event took place on the 25<sup>th</sup> of April 2023.
- The event complied with the CSG.

**Step It UP:**

- Step it Up is an annual sing and dance competition that takes place in two phases: the prelims, hereafter known as the “Step Outs”, and the finals which takes place in the Aula and Amphitheatre.
- The Step Outs took place at the various residences, with different structures (societies, residences, faculty, and day houses) acting as hosts in the different venues.
- Structures went from residence to residence to perform their dances to them.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The finals took place on the 13<sup>th</sup> of May, and the Step Puts took place on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> respectively.</li> <li>- The event was ultimately very successful and massively improved from the 2022 variation.</li> <li>- The event was primarily conducted through STUKU's External Culture Officer, however, my office assisted greatly with the administrative aspects of the event.</li> <li>- The event complied with the CSG.</li> </ul> <p>The remaining STUKU event, Sing It Acapella is being planned, with a new event currently also in the works.</p>	
General SRC Duties	<p>The Office of Culture conducted its general SRC duties throughout the two quarters, which includes, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Weekly Office Hours</li> </ul>	N/A

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Attendance of Activations</li><li>- Attendance of UP Events</li><li>- Assisting Students with General Queries.</li><li>- Assisting with SRC administration in some cases</li></ul>	
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