

# **SRC Ordinary Meeting**

3 March 2021 | 15:00 | Google Meets and Boardroom 1-7

# 1. Welcoming and Opening:

1.1 The President welcomes the council to the fifth meeting and acknowledge the two members that are joint in virtually.

#### 2. Attendance:

2.1 **Present:** (Abbreviations of each portfolio will be used for minute taking e.g. Office of Secretary will be SG Office.)

President (P)

Deputy President (DP)

Secretary General (SG)

Deputy Secretary (DSG)

Treasurer (T)

Facilities Safety and Security (FSS)

Marketing, Media & Communications

(MMC)

Study Finance (SF)

Day Students & External Campus Affairs

Societies (DSECA)

Transformation and Student Success

(TSS)

Academic Representatives 1 Ex-officio (A1)

Academic Representatives 2 Ex-officio (A2)

Residence Representatives 1 Ex-officio

(R1)

Residence Representatives 2 Ex-officio

(R2)

Sport Representative Ex-officio (Sport)

RAG Representative Ex-officio (RAG)

Lerato Ndlovu

Rameeza Abdool Sattar

Jaco van Jaarsveld

Thandi Mabala

Jozias Mahube-Reinecke

Njabulo Sibeko

Chanel Brown

Melvin van Rooyen

Nothando Ngubeni

Hannah le Roux

Thuto Mashila

Uwaiza Abdool Sattar

Stéfan Steenekamp

Chané Williamson

Wehan Viljoen

Tarik Lalla

Tshego Kgoele



Student Culture Representative Ex-officio (SC)

Thando Mtimkulu

## 2.2 Absent with apology:

2.2.1 No Member

## 2.3 Absent without apology:

2.3.1 No Member

# 2.4 Late without apology:

Postgraduate & International Student Affairs (PISA)

Thando Dhlamini

# 2.5 Late with apology:

Residence Representatives Ex-officio Chané Williamson Residence Representatives Ex-officio Wehan Viljoen

## 3. Acknowledgement of Other matters arising:

3.1 Financial Aid

- President

3.2 DHE Letter

- President

3.3 Uniform

- MMC

3.4 Presentation

- Student Culture

# 4. Acceptance of previous minutes and adoption of agenda:

- 4.1 Acceptance of previous Minutes Confirmed
- 4.2 Adoption of agenda Adoption of the other matters

### 5. Feedback from the Executive Committee:

5.1 None

#### 6. Portfolio-specific agenda points:

## 6.1 Constitution – Deputy President

6.1.1 DP – Every year the constitution is amended and we need to speak to the faculties so that they start thinking about amendments that they can send to the constitutional tribunal. If there are constitutions within your portfolio please amend that as well, look at it and if you have suggestions give it through.



- 6.1.2 SC We would like to change the constitution but we have not been assigned, judges?
- 6.1.3 DP CSG amendments have to start, by writing it down as to what we want to amend such as the Tukses policies. The constitutional tribunal must have sent judges by now so I will follow up in this regard.
- 6.1.4 P For now we are also focusing on the societies sub-council constitution because we move online and the constitution does not allow for the platform regarding this.
- 6.1.5 RAG What are the procedures that need to be followed to amend these documents and who in the SRC will sit and decide on this?
- 6.1.6 DP: The whole SRC sits on this, faculty houses also bring it to us and there must be a majority vote when we sit on this. It is usually a long sitting.
- 6.1.7 MMC When we submit such amendments must it be formal or can it be informal.
- 6.1.8 DP If it is for your portfolio write it down so that it is writing.
- 6.1.9 Societies We are in the last stages of presenting our website, would like to present this amendment to the council by next week so we can have advice on this and further inputs
- 6.1.10 P: Asked the office of societies to share it with everyone, because this is a pressing matter the university is opening soon and societies must be registered.
- 6.1.11 Rag: How does the procedure start so we can evaluate if it is fair?
- 6.1.12 DP: The constitutional tribunal will allocate judges and the process will go through the faculties and the key communities first. Still, I will get back to you on this because the judges had to go through the process with you already. And they have not yet done so.
- 6.1.13 Rag: Do we give the final say when it comes to the amendments of the documents?
- 6.1.14 P: All the documents will come through to the SRC so that we can review them. The SRC and the tribunal then go to the council because they have the final say.



- 6.1.15 DP: On this matter, the constitutional tribunal must help with the wording and the legal aspects of the amendments. This is concerning as they must have assigned the judges by now.
- 6.1.16 SC: Can we be provided with a format of how we should go about making such amendments?
- 6.1.17 DP: Yes, the constitutional tribunal should do this when they allocate the judges.
- 6.1.18 TSS: When must all of this be done?
- 6.1.19 DP: By the end of March. I just want feedback between key committees and faculties and the suggestions at the end of May. All of this will only be implemented at the end of the year.
- 6.1.20 P: The first council sitting is on 17 March 2021, usually this is when we submit this amendment, but because of this year it will only be done by the end of June.
- 6.1.21 T: Is it a majority vote? P: Yes it must be a majority vote which is 12.5 so 13 or more members.
- 6.1.22 DSG: If I have a section in a policy where do you go for advice or input?
- 6.1.23 DP: You draft it through the DP's office and then it goes to the chief justice

## 6.2 Vision and Mission

- 6.2.1 DP: After the camp, we discussed that we as the council will look at the vision and mission again? Are we doing it and when are we doing it?
- 6.2.2 Sport: After the registration period because we are all busy and the priority right now is the registration period and assisting the students.
- 6.2.3 SG: Has the newsletter been posted that contains the current vision and mission? MMC: Yes it has been posted and it is out.
- 6.2.4 SF: We should take it off before we finalise that whole document so we need to do it latest next weekend.
- 6.2.5 T: We need to focus on students, yes, but we cannot lie to students, we are supposed to sit on it. Take of the newsletter and let us sit on this as soon as possible.
- 6.2.6 Rag: Us posting it and taking it off is going to look bad on the SRC.



- 6.2.7 MMC: Can we formulate a process, If an executive members say post it I take the order to post it. I want us to clarify a system to make it easier for my office. Give the MMC's office a guideline.
- 6.2.8 P: The media WhatsApp group was created to post motivations, it was not as the SRC's functionality. The serious matters have been posted to the SRC group for all council members to see. Now we can decide if we want to put out guidelines. In the system of approval, a lot of communication is posted on the group such as the newsletter the criteria, do we note objections on the group? We post the documents on the group if there are no objections, then we move to make it public.
- 6.2.9 MMC: I sent it then I post it, can we give a time limit to the object. We can make it three hours and confirm it on the SRC group and delete the Media group. Emergency cases and other posted documents can have different time slots for how long we should take to respond.
- 6.2.10 Rag: WhatsApp is also a part of social media everything is posted on social media but not on WhatsApp and the SRC WhatsApp group should be the first place to post new documentation that needs to be made public.
- 6.2.11 SF: The agenda point is to discuss the vision and the mission. On another point, there is a reason for the task teams. Once a document is finalised, say this is the finalised document. The Marketing team must say we note the finales document and then we will post it at this time.
- 6.2.12 FSS: May the council decide on the vision and mission as per the agenda topic please?
- 6.2.13 P: On the newsletter, there were no objections until now. If there where personal communications it is something else? We should put it on the group and see it as the opportunity of correcting it and amending it. The resitting was discussed but no particular date was set and we only received two suggestions on when we will do it. After the registration period, nest weekend or as soon as possible Friday or Saturday.
- 6.2.14 T: The newsletter did not make clear to make any objections. We should also just make it clear.
- 6.2.15 P: When a document is posted as a draft see it as an opportunity to bring about input and change.
- 6.2.16 SC: How long will we more or less meet for the vision and mission so we can make an inform decision as to when to meet?



- 6.2.17 P: If we limit ourself we are also capping our creativity that may come and that will also limit our input. So we cannot put a time stamp on this. Considering how long it took us on the camp, it took us the whole day.
- 6.2.18 A2: The repercussion is too severe we need to do it ASAP.
- 6.2.19 P: The following suggestions that we still have is wither next weekend, after the registration period, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
- 6.2.20 FSS: We have the helpdesk so we cannot do it Thursday and Friday.
- 6.2.21 P: We have responsibilities so the week is out. I agree with that point.
- 6.2.22 MMC: We have personal matters as well, we cannot take the whole day so we cannot do it on the weekend.
- 6.2.23 The options are as follows:
- 6.2.23.1 1. This week
- 6.2.23.2 2. Next Week
- 6.2.23.3 3. After Registration Period
- 6.2.24 Vote: The Majority vote for 2. Next Week.
- 6.2.25 Which Day Next Week:
- 6.2.25.1 1. Week
- 6.2.25.2 2. Weekend
- 6.2.26 Vote: The weekend was the majority vote.
- 6.2.26.1 Saturday
- 6.2.26.2 Sunday
- 6.2.27 The majority vote stated that we will commence on Saturday next week to discuss the Vision and Mission stamen of the SRC. We remove the newsletter now but because the news is important we must post the new one as well by the end of tonight.
- 6.3 Academic Academics 1
- 6.3.1 A1: In the academics sub-council we changed the weekly report to a weekly report. Meetings will take place once a month. The next meeting will be scheduled and the SRC President will join.



- 6.3.2 A2: We had a meeting with Prof Duncan, where we brought up the matters that have been brought up by the council including challenges and concerns. The main concern that was discussed was the poor communication from faculties to the students. We proposed to have a one day turnaround time so students must receive a response the next day. Prof Duncan is arranging an emergency meeting with the Deans and the SRC academics officers. We will have a by monthly face to face meeting with him as well. He is active to collaborate with the SRC and we must reach out to him. Another matter was mental health and he is focussed on this and to assist.
- 6.3.3 P: I will thank them as well for their support regarding these pressing matters.
- 6.3.4 A1: Will graduation be taking place this year?
- 6.3.5 P: Last time no guests will be allowed but there will be physical graduations for the students.
- 6.3.6 A1: What requirements do the academics officers have regarding the graduations?
- 6.3.7 P: The SRC must be a presence at the graduation. The Office of academics must figure out who goes where during these times.
- 6.3.8 A2: Last year was only a short video to congratulate students. We should push that last year's graduates must also have graduates and ceremony.
- 6.3.9 DP: You will work with the graduation office especially Mum Rebeka regarding these matters.

#### 7. Other matters arising:

#### 6.4.1 Financial Aid

- 6.4.2 P: Two days ago we received an email from Prof Mosia that there was an increase in funds for the financial aid. We should get more students to apply for financial aid. Some students did give feedback that they received assistance. Mainly students that got unfunded last year or have historical debt.
- 6.4.3 Sport: So for the Nsfas students yet to receive confirmation, do we can refer them only to the study aid fund.
- 6.4.4 P: They are the prioritization but all students can apply for this.
- 6.4.5 SF: Make sure the students are applying for 2021 and also please refer the international students that struggle with such applications to me. Also, encourage students to apply for this aid so they can apply for ours as well. We will be sending



the responses after Monday and then we will start processing them. We will try to finish it on Wednesday latest Thursday so they should have their responses by Friday.

- 6.4.6 Rag: Can we finalise it earlier because it takes days to process the money and to reflect it in the student's accounts. Can we make the process faster?
- 6.4.7 SF: Once we have confirmation of the list we can inform students already that they will be able to register. T: Adding to this he money is not external it is in the universities accounts so it will not take days and we have already started to speed up the process.

# 6.4.8 DHET Letter and Management Letter

- 6.4.9 P: It was posted on the group and I want us to discuss it. We tend to talk about things but not getting to them. This is open for suggestions so we can move with it. Please make additions or take things off. Please read through the document.
- 6.4.10 R1: Just a note the TuksRes residences agreed that Nsfas students will have a place to sleep until their funds are confirmed but private accommodation has not yet done the same.
- 6.4.11 Floor is open for Suggestions on the proposed Letter.
- 6.4.12 P: We had a meeting on this, the letter is a rough draft so it will be edited. In the previous meeting regarding this, we said we will have one for the institutions/management and one letter for DHET. After this, we must have a deadline for it to be drafted, edited and when we will submit it.
- 6.4.13 DSG: What we can add to the letter going to management is that we require the extension of the administration period because still Nsfas has been back and forth and 15 March 2021 is not realistic and it is to close registrations. A suggestion is for the first of April. The request is for an extension date of the registration period.
- 6.4.14 SF: Management should correlate the dates with Nsfas communication. Can we communicate that the previous letter or notification of Nsfas has been leaked? Can the university update the portal of the Nsfas students statuses?
- 6.4.15 T: Letter to DHET we can add that this matter is creating homelessness.
- 6.4.16 FSS: The part that students are getting unknowingly into debt calls on us to have a firm stance that these students cannot be financially excluded. The Click up page that they created for the postgrad should also be available to undergraduate. The University is not following up on our firm stance against no financial exclusions and we should push for this.



- 6.4.17 P: DHE should also find the means to get these students out of debt. We may have a stance but what if they do not do anything about it. What would we like to see the council do if we are not heard?
- 6.4.18 FSS: We say we demand but there is nothing we do to demand it. There is no if not then 1, 2 or 3 will happen.
- 6.4.19 Sport: Suggestion is that we use a more radical approach. Is it a plea or a demand?
- 6.4.20 FSS: Can the statements at least show that we are a revolutionary student council and reflect the situation so the language should be strong.
- 6.4.21 P: We need to express the urgency but also I noted what the office of sport said. The DHET letter can be demanding but looking at how we work, are we working towards something or are we just demanding? This can prolong the process to assist the students. The majority of our students are "privilege" we are looking at the minority that is impacted by Nsfas. Can we mobilise enough retaliation in this regard? If they do not meet our demands and we retaliate. The risk we will face is the students that are excluded goes online which only impact them negatively. The privilege students will not be touched but the people that need campus will be excluded. We need to be strategic in our demands.
- 6.4.22 Sport: I do not see the benefit to be radical with DHE. Our biggest advantage will be social media. In our language, we need to shift from being radical because we do not have the resources to mobilise thousands of students. The risk is still that this is futile and put it out on media like a newspaper could be beneficial to get public opinion behind us. We cannot afford to antagonize them but rather a progressive approach.
- 6.4.23 DP: We should politely tell the university what will happen if they do not meet our demands.
- 6.4.24 T: If we ask other universities or institutions to join us them they will know we do not have the numbers, we will have to know how to convince them to join us.
- 6.4.25 Rag: The Institutional letter, we can also work with student letters and make a greater impact to get student leaders to stand with us and voice their concerns.
- 6.4.26 MMC: Freedom of association to get people together with a common goal. Numbers at the end of the day is better.
- 6.4.27 P: We should not threaten them with social media but use it because it has been a while since we last used it. Now the execution of this needs to be done. The secretary will draft the institutional letter and the external letter will be drafted by the



deputy secretary-general. The office of the treasurer will be in charge of the communications with other institutional and their student leaders.

- 6.4.28 DSECA: What are we going to tell them, that we are protesting on media or physically? We need to know in ourselves what we are doing before we are doing it and asking others to join us.
- 6.4.29 P: We are walking to DHE but also including them and their matters within their institution. Having a collaboration. Also would like to change the CSG because the external campus is not another campus of other institutions but our different satellite campuses. The wording of the CSG should be amended and we must take note of this. But we can also grow this portfolio of DESECA as a portfolio in that direction of communicating with other institutions.
- 6.4.30 Responsibilities For Finalisation. (This needs to be done by Friday morning).

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- 6.4.31 MMC: What will be the legal implications be since we still fall under the University of Pretoria and is this an open letter?
- 6.4.32 P: It is an open letter yes it is a stamen it will be posted. The DP will also post this logistic of the legality on Friday.
- 6.4.33 DESECA: Can the DP also report that the university and the SRC is one in the same thing so we can know what we are getting ourselves into. How long will communication take with other institutions?
- 6.4.34 FSS: The final demand, how far are we going to involve student leaders? P: Are we considering this? If student leaders will have input. We as the SRC will be in our uniform and the other people can wear what they want.
- 6.4.35 SF: Can we have a big collaboration with the Tuks Confession. Can we get in contact with the residences? To get students involved.
- 6.4.36 DSEACA: Can we have a to-do list? On the matter of student leaders that only specific people will contact the media and address the masses to maintain that part. To avoid a political party hijacking this opportunity.
- 6.4.37 MMC: It goes through the media marketing and communication but the president is the voice.



- 6.4.38 DSG: Pose a question for the council? In the letter we send to management are we getting students input?
- 6.4.39 SF: We already have the relevant issues we do not need to go through a process to get more input.
- 6.4.40 P: Do we give student leaders input? Yes nor NO. A vote was taken and the majority of the council agreed it is not open for students to give input.
- 6.4.41 P: Final draft to be finalised on Friday 11:59. The police task team needs to report how it works by tomorrow. Ask that we will be 100 people. And ask for the application of three days.
- 6.4.42 DP: During Afrikaans must fall there was an interdict that you cannot meet in a certain manner at the university? We should also look into this.
- 6.4.43 P: Covid-19 task team: Procedure of how we doing by the regulations by Friday. The medial logistic plan must also be submitted by Friday this will include possible hashtags, whom we contact and the information from legalities.
- 6.4.44 P: When can we walk to DHE? The provisional dates are:
- 6.4.44.1.1 1. Wednesdays 10 March
- 6.4.44.1.2 2. Friday 12 March
- 6.4.44.1.3 3. Monday 15 March
- 6.4.45 Majority voted for 1 and the alternative date is 2.

#### 6.4.46 SRC uniform

- 6.4.47 MMC: I am responsible for clothing, brand and the name of the SRC. The s code needs to be uniform from belt, shoes and socks. It is an honour to be on the SRC but we should also look at the part. I will speak to the disciplinary committee about measures that will be taken if you do not comply with them.
- 6.4.48 P: With the heals what will be the colour and we should give inputs on that as well.
- 6.4.49 Rag: We were not consulted if we want to wear heels or flats. So can you just speak to us about that?
- 6.4.50 TSS: Can we get those thingies to make it comfortable for the shoes?
- 6.4.51 MMC: Yes we can get that.
- 6.4.52 SF: Funky socks are not damaging the image of the SRC.



- 6.4.53 DSG: Are we getting money for hills or flats?
- 6.4.54 SC: We must project professionality but we should also not limit the individuality of each person.
- 6.4.55 P: Protection of the office, is a thing of order, funky socks under your uniform can be distracting. Individuality is a thing so let us not discuss things that we must note and we can discuss this another time.
- 6.4.56 PISA: Suggest UP striped socks.
- 6.4.57 P: Let us try to stick with what the MMC Office has given us for now.
- 6.4.58 MMC: I will take note of individualism but the uniform does limit your individualism to an extent. It is not about limiting you, but getting to look similar. I do not want to limit anyone. For the ladies try to make it work if you are going to be busy we can discuss alternatives.

## 6.4.59 Presentation

6.4.60 This matter will be discussed as a portfolio specific agenda point in the next meeting. SC requested to send out the details with the minutes before the meeting next week.

# 8. Time and date of next meeting:

8.1 Next meeting will be next week Wednesday.

#### 9. Closing:

9.1 The meeting is adjourned.

I, Lerato Ndlovu and Jaco van Jaarsveld, hereby declare that these minutes serve as a true reflection of what transpired during this particular SRC meeting.

Lerato Ndlovu SRC President Jaco van Jaarsveld SRC Secretary

