



# TSC General Meeting

| 27 February 2024 | Student Affairs Building Room 1-7 | 19:00 to 20:30 |

## Attendees:

Name	Portfolio	Attendance
Khanyisile Mahlangu	Chairperson	Present
Nicole van der Walt	Secretary and Culture	Present
Karabo Mogale	Treasurer	Present (late 19:04)
Katlego Buda	Marketing, Media and Communication	Present
Okuhle Mpepo	Study Finance	Present (late 19:19)
Sicelo Ngwenya	Societies	Present
Hlulani Mawila	External Campus Affairs, Facilities, Sport	Present
Kamva Diko	Transformation and RAG	Present
Favourite Ntisane	Academics	Present (late 19:04)
Christiaan Bronkhorst	Academics	Present
Conrad Grobbelaar	Residences	Absent (no excuse)
Hlumelo Mjikeliso	Residences	Present (late 19:08)

## Agenda Points:



1. Attendance and welcoming
2. Signing of previous meeting minutes
3. NSFAS Feedback
4. TuksRes Meeting
5. Protest
6. Matters arising

**Detailed Minutes:**

Agenda Item	Discussions	Decisions
Attendance and welcoming	Khanyi welcomed everyone and attendance was taken.	
Signing of meeting minutes	The previous meeting minutes was signed by Khanyi and Nicole for approval.	
NSFAS Feedback	<p>Karabo provided feedback for what happened at the meeting last week Thursday with NSFAS.</p> <p><u>NSFAS Bursary:</u></p> <p>NSFAS mentioned that higher certificates that are repeated will not be funded. Direct payments to students are also behind and therefore it was asked that UP covers for 2 months the allowances that should be paid, half of the allowance book allowance as well as the first month's rent. The outstanding payments will be paid out soon.</p> <p><u>Appeals:</u></p> <p>215000 Students are still waiting for confirmation. Appeals are still in progress and the only appeals were the ones of financial suitability, but other options</p>	

	<p>were also opened. The students have 30 days to appeal and will send students reminders to appeal their cases. This only applies to notifications sent in the new year 2024. This does not apply to notifications sent last year.</p> <p>Death certificates are only valid for persons who were your guardian on your application form. The reason why the feedback is also delayed is because SASSA is also delayed. Students doing their final year should also send their propensity letter. Girls who birthed a child should provide the birth certificate of their child. Students can only be allowed to appeal once.</p> <p>Students will receive the outcome of their appeals within 18-45 days. Khanyi asked what happened to students who still not have not received their outcome since last year, but Karabo said that nothing was said with regards to that matter.</p> <p>With the higher certificates and extended programs, it was asked if the n+1 rule applies, and it will still apply. NSFAS will count that year as one of your study years. The issue is also that they want to encourage students to study mainstream degrees.</p> <p>Furthermore, provisionally funded doesn't mean that they can fund you. This is not a guarantee. If NSFAS does not have funds</p>	
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	<p>anymore, those students will not be funded. The budget was also cut by 10% which has a detrimental impact on the funds available.</p> <p><u>NSFAS Loan:</u></p> <p>With the applications 29 000 applications was received and 27 000 was evaluated and about 10 000 was given.</p> <p>The reason a lot of loan students has not received any feedback is because the forms were not valid. The SARS forms were an issue because people had to go back to get that form to apply.</p> <p>The annual income amount is R360 000 (undergrad and postgrad students). They will give you the loan again for honours, however, not for masters. You need to study the same degree, otherwise your funding will be cancelled, and you need to start with a new application to get the loan. The beneficiary is required to pay back the loan.</p> <p>The loan is interest free while you study. It will only start one year after you start working, only then you will be required to pay it back. It includes all forms of fees. They give you a year also after that to pay it back.</p> <p>If you get 70% average and you finish your degree in in time, you only need to pay 50% back of the loan.</p>	
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	<p>NSFAS is prioritising STEM degrees, they are still considering degrees in the EMS and Commerciil faculties. 70% is STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and 30% is in humanities. You do get qualifications that are no longer approved by the HPCSA; therefore, the degrees need to meet a certain standard. There are certain bodies that have the authority to determine whether certain degrees are accredited. For continued funding you need to pass 60% of your <b>credits</b>. Not your pass rate. They are also looking at funding more post grad programs.</p> <p><u>Accommodation:</u></p> <p>They are going back into the old system and using old platforms and banks like Capitec. NSFAS will ask external stakeholders and service providers to handle this. They are looking into this, and it is a month-to-month process. They will ask the University to cover for the payments. Okuhle asked what if other Universities cannot cover the fees. Only 6 universities said they are not able to support and provide the funds. Therefore, they are going to continue with this plan. Christiaan asked what happens if NSFAS does not pay in time and universities still need to cover the fees. It was then said that NSFAS does not have a plan. We will</p>	
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	<p>have to wait and see. However, NSFAS needs to make a plan as soon as possible.</p>	
<p>TuksRes Meeting</p>	<p>Khanyi thanked everyone who attended and who voiced out their thoughts.</p> <p>Khanyi addressed the fact that no one made any edits to the document, except Okuhle and Sicelo. However, this was only done a few moments before the meeting. Yes, everyone knew what they wanted to be addressed, however we were not prepared, and we were managed.</p> <p>The document is to ensure that we are ready and have answers to give them.</p> <p>Khanyi asked that for the future that we should all contribute to the document.</p> <p>Everyone should add their opinion or give their input that we want to communicate to management.</p> <p>Favourite raised that the document method does not work because we have meetings in order to discuss what we want to raise and speak to management about.</p> <p>She feels like it is not going to work because the whole purpose of a meeting is to take our discussions to management.</p> <p>We cannot just refer to the document.</p> <p>Khanyi said the reason for the document was because the TuksRes discussion was off record in the previous meeting. This was then to inform other TSC members and to confirm the points that we wanted to speak about. Khanyi said in the future it</p>	<p>When an opportunity is given, we should take it.</p> <p>Everyone should contribute.</p> <p>Nicole will take notes during executive meetings.</p> <p>Everyone agreed that Khanyi will represent and speak on the behalf of the TSC and should additions be made, then other TSC members can voice their concerns. A document will still be created.</p>

	<p>will save time in our meetings to prevent this.</p> <p>Christiaan asked why this was not in the minutes. Khanyi said that this is because a lot of things were personal matters, and we want to prevent it being availed to the public. Some things are and should stay private to the committee.</p> <p>Favourite suggested that when we have a meeting with management, we should have a system where one person chairs the meeting and speaks on behalf of the TSC. This is to prevent certain people from being targeted and personally attacked. She also said that we should take turns to speak about certain matters, in a sort of schedule. This is also to prevent people from carrying the TSC on their back. Also, recordings of the meetings should be shared.</p> <p>Khanyi said that last year Njabulo spoke on behalf of the SRC and then Prof. Mosia would then open the floor to the rest of the SRC. But we can for future work meetings work out how we want to handle it. Nicole started to record the meetings to ensure that she does not miss anything. However, recordings can be leaked and things that were said off the record can cause trouble for certain people and matters. This is to ensure that the TSC members are protected.</p>	
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	<p>Kamva said that he is not comfortable with speaking in front of people because his anxiety is not something that he can control. Kamva can express himself better with writing, therefore he prefers a document.</p> <p>Okuhle said that it is out of turn to say that is a portfolio matter to add their input, because everyone should be able to make a contribution. She also agrees that recordings should not be shared, especially because stories easily spread. The main enemy is already just sitting in this TSC. The reality is that we should all help communicate, if on paper or group chat or in a discussion. Unfortunately, what we do and say in our meetings are not truly reflected when we are sitting at the meetings.</p> <p>The expectation that Okuhle and Sicelo will speak needs to end.</p> <p>Nicole said that Khanyi should keep everyone accountable and also make contributions if she expects everyone else to do so.</p> <p>Khanyi apologised and said that she did not want to micromanage everyone, but she will take another approach.</p> <p>Hlumelo also agreed that there is definitely a tendency that the people who speak are picked on and perceived in a</p>	
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	<p>certain way. Even if your strength is not to speak, nothing prevents you to add something in any form. The only people who remember of what was said are the people who engaged. We cannot grow as a TSC like this.</p> <p>Khanyi said we should not be passive, but actively engage. The vocal ones are seemed like the ones who are fighting.</p> <p>Karabo said that in meetings we have with executive that Khanyi does not take lead and she place that responsibility on other TSC members. She does not seem interested in the matters. Karabo says that how we present ourselves during the meetings carries weights and we should present ourselves in a professional matter. Favourite says that if she is actually not interested in the matter then she is not interested and does not have to be forced to look interested if she does not feel so. If Kamva is accommodated, then why is she not also accommodated.</p> <p>Okuhle said that being singled out should be a top-down approach. There are forms of non-verbal forms of agreement. If you cannot contribute to our meetings then how are you expected to represent us in your other portfolios?</p> <p>Christiaan said that Khanyi should appoint certain people to speak on a specific point.</p>	
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	<p>Sicelo said that we should first make our contributions and voice out our concerns in our meetings and only thereafter we should choose who should say what.</p> <p>Okuhle said that even saying “I agree” is a form of a contribution. The people who initially brought up the points are the only ones who contribute at the end of the day in any case.</p> <p>Khanyi asked that TSC members should not be on their phones during meetings.</p>	
Protest	<p>Khanyi will send everyone the document of the agreement that the executive has with the staff so that we are all informed.</p> <p>Khanyi said that we should be cognisant of the seriousness of the matter that we are facing. Khanyi will also send a document for everyone to raise out their concerns.</p> <p>Favourite raised that there is a misunderstanding and miscommunication with what we as a TSC agreed on, because we agreed that we will protest with the staff, however this is not the outcome. Only some TSC members are joining the protest.</p> <p>Sicelo said that when we have a resolution and confirmed what we agreed on, we should take a firm stance on that matter.</p> <p>Okuhle said that there should be repercussions for TSC members who go against on what we voted in the meetings.</p>	<p>Everyone should send their office hours to Nicole and their timetables.</p> <p>Nicole will table for the next agenda on what the repercussions will be when a TSC member goes against what was decided on.</p>

Matters Arising	TSC members will send an email to inform other members of important matters.	
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**Approval:**

We, the Chairperson of the TSC; Khanyisile Mahlangu, and Secretariat; Nicole van der Walt, hereby declare that these minutes are an accurate and true reflection of this general TSC meeting.




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Khanyisile Mahlangu  
Chairperson




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Nicole van der Walt  
Secretary

