

# TSC General Meeting

| 12 February | DSA Building Room 2-20 | 17:00 to 20:00 |

# **Attendees:**

Name	Portfolio	Attendance
Khanyisile Mahlangu	Chairperson	Present
Nicole van der Walt	Secretary and Culture	Present
Karabo Mogale	Treasurer	Present (late,
		17:30)
Katlego Buda	Marketing, Media and Communication	Present
Okuhle Mpepo	Study Finance	Present (late,
		valid excuse)
Sicelo Mgwenya	Societies	Present
Hlulani Mawila	External Campus Affairs, Facilities, Sport	Present
Kamva Diko	Transformation and RAG	Present
Favourite Ntisane	Academics	Present (late,
		17h10)
Christiaan Bronkhorst	Academics	Present (late,
		17h10)
Conrad Grobbelaar	Residences	Present (late,
		valid excuse)
Hlumelo Mjikeliso	Residences	Present

# **Agenda Points:**



- 1. Attendance and welcoming
- 2. Signing of the previous meeting minutes
- 3. TSC Junior Tukkie Representative
- 4. Establishment of a task list
- 5. Welcome day
- 6. General Running, Roles and Responsibilities of the TSC
- 7. Sub-Council Feedback:
- 7.1 Sub-Council Meeting
- 7.2 Committee Assignments
- 7.3 Reporting and Monitoring
- 8. Appeals to Senate Review Committee
- 9. Correspondence of emails regarding student issues
- 10. RAG of Hope Day
- 11. Group dynamics and favouritism
- 12. Individual portfolio updates
- 13. Matters arising

#### **Detailed Minutes:**

Agenda Item	Discussions	Decisions
1. Welcoming	Khanyi welcomed everyone and	
	attendance was taken.	
2. Signing	Everyone was happy and the previous	
	meeting minutes was signed by Nicole	
	and Khanyi.	
3. TSC Junior	A TSC member is needed to represent the	Sicelo was elected to
Tukkie Rep	TSC at the Junior Tukkie Event on the	represent the TSC.
	16 <sup>th</sup> of February. The TSC member will	
	only have a slot of 3 minutes. Senate	
	members are not available to attend.	



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4. Task list	An action list can be created to avoid	Nicole will create a task list
	confusion due to the clear defining of	after each meeting and send
	different tasks and clear delineation of	it out to the TSC.
	who is responsible for what.	For the task list, unless a
	This is also a means of keeping people	task was already delegated
	accountable for their respective tasks.	to someone, people will
	It will ensure that we communicate more	nominate themselves to do
	effectively and clearly, because our	a task and if no one
	communication as a committee needs to	nominates themselves,
	improve.	Khanyi will delegate the
	Higher standards will be set. This, in turn	tasks.
	then, also improves planning.	
5. Welcome	Khanyi thanked the TSC members for	Communication needs to
day	their attendance and collaboration. Two	improve not only within the
	things were note by her:	TSC, but with everyone we
	Firstly, we were not guests at the event,	are working with.
	we were only there for students to see	
	who the TSC is. We were only invited to	The TSC needs to start
	fulfil our duties as a TSC. We were also	acting as the highest student
	only allowed to eat the food afterwards.	body and with the powers
	However, an issue was raised by Sicelo,	that a normal SRC has.
	that when Khanyi left, the TSC also left	
	and ate because the Registrar told the TSC	
	to eat. They did not just start eating	
	because they wanted to. There was clearly	
	miscommunication with regards to the	
	food. Khanyi did mention that the TSC	
	must not eat before the executives and	
	only after the second session.	
	Secondly, Khanyi noted that she explicitly	
	said that everyone must stay in the second	
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session until the end. However, no one was there on the inside after the second session and people left. She also noted that the reason for staying was also because pictures were taken after the second session and the TSC had to be there. Favourite asked who communicated this information because there was confusion from the TSC regarding this. Sicelo also raised the concern that Khanyi did not understand the correct protocols and that the SRC always leave when the procession leaves the hall. Sicelo then noted that, Khanyi was missing the point; that she is on a high horse, because how can she expect the TSC to stay behind when she leaves?

Clarification is needed to ask who gave the directive come to say that the TSC should stay behind when she can leave? Khanyi responded by saying that the DIA gave the directive to stay.

Sicelo furthermore noted that the whole TSC was wearing golfers, as communicated by Khanyi, when Khanyi was wearing a blazer and faculties (which she nor the rest of the TSC has received yet). She was distinguished from the rest of the TSC and separated. Other members felt disgraced because the TSC didn't look like a uniform committee.



Khanyi was told to wear faculties by the DIA and Doctor Jorissen, she was only following orders given by them. Khanyi did ask for everyone to wear a gown at welcome day, however, it was not ready and prepared in time.

Favourite furthermore raised the point that Khanyi must communicate through the executive and not through other TSC members. Hlulani raised the point that it was not her that said the TSC needs to stay behind, but Khanyi gave it outside to everyone. She only reiterated what Khanyi had said to everyone. Christiaan raised the point that our communication drastically needs to be improved and the situation could have been avoided if the directive given was communicated clearly and timely.

Sicelo found it troubling that we were given the powers of the SRC and is confused how a directive given by the DIA can override a procedure that has been a vested protocol for years. He disagrees that Khanyi must just follow directives given and she should act, because we have the powers of the SRC. We do not answer to the DIA. The VC had the expectation that the TSC should also leave with them.



Khanyi apologised for not communicating effectively.

Sicelo said that we were not invited – it is our event. We as the TSC is the highest student body and we represent the students. We are not guests; we are hosts just like the executive management.

# 6. TSC RolesandResponsibilities

Sicelo wanted more clarity on who decided on the weekly schedule, who decided on the hours, and who decided we are still going to be working at Hillcrest. Khanyi responded by saying that she wanted to ensure that everyone works the same hours, the decision to be at help desk was decided by JP and help desk takes precedent above the activations on campus. We as a TSC are needed more at help desk.

The actual question raised by Sicelo: why we did not agree as a TSC that we as a committee can decide on whether we should go to Hillcrest or not?

Khanyi then said that unfortunately, we were not afforded the opportunity to have another meeting to decide on the matter.

Nicole pointed out that the activation on Hatfield was something that we as a TSC decided on in the previous meeting and that we never planned on not working at help desk anymore.

The TSC needs to be more transparent, especially from Khanyi's side.

Khanyi can also not speak on behalf of the various TSC members.

Khanyi will escalate matters.

#### **SOLUTIONS:**

1. We want to extend the registration date, a vote of 12/12 was taken that we agree on this matter. If UP does not decrease the amount, then they must fund it.

The TSC is taking a stance on the extension of the registration fees.



Hlumelo pointed out that our jobs have been degraded to just be admin, we do not act as an empowered body. Our training lacked clearly defining what our roles and responsibilities are as a TSC and what we are empowered to do to help students. We were also promised assistance that was not given to us and no appointments were made.

Christiaan highlighted 2 central tensions:

- 1. Do we work for executive or for students?
- 2. What is the role as Chairperson? The CSG is not clear on the role of the TSC. Are we a top down or collaborative structure? This needs to be decided on quite quickly.

Kamva raised the concern that we had to help a student from the Eastern Cape with registration and with accommodation. The student was then told that he can sleep at the church. However, there were some serious problems. Thus, there must be one person that must be in contact with the TSC from the church. The student was luckily placed in residence. Kamva's problem is that referring students doesn't work. Karabo added regarding church and security that they do not do anything and only refer students back to us. They also

- Duration of the extension: 8<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> of March (especially regarding the NSFAS lists that are not sent out yet).
- 2. Khanyi will send out an email to the executive tonight to say that we as a TSC are meeting with them and should cc the whole committee.
- 3. When Khanyi meets with Prof. Flavia she needs to take a TSC member with to ensure transparency and accountability.
- 4. We need to communicate with JP that we all cannot work through him because it is taking too long, because we are not doing anything for students.
- 5. We should have an extraordinary



do not know what to do. Hlulani was supposed to follow up with security regarding this matter and should've communicated with them and with us. The problem is that the church had the impression that Khanyi is the only person that they can be in contact with. We have no relationship with the executive, and we also don't make things happen. Referrals are not working for us as the highest functioning body. We are not supposed to feel like we must assert things to make it happen.

Khanyi said regarding the church that she cannot be the only person of contact because it is not effective and that she did say that she doesn't want to be the only person. The church said they only wanted one person to avoid the problem of people impersonating themselves as SRC members.

Sicelo said we do not work for the DSA, we work for the students. We should be guided by the same legislative framework that governs the SRC. We should meet and discuss matters as a whole committee and not only with executives. We do not know with who Khanyi is working with and what she is doing. She cannot go alone to discuss matters regarding a

- meeting tomorrow
  night to decide:
  what are our top
  priorities, what
  needs to be done
  first, and how
  should we go about
  doing it and a set up
  a strategic plan. We
  should always
  remember that we
  are serving students.
- 6. We should issue a statement to students that we are going to management regarding our intentions and that we are meeting with the executive to find solutions.
- 7. It should be taken up that the price of the registration fee should be decreased, or half should be paid, and the rest can be paid later in the year. It should then be known that management refused



TSC's member's portfolio without that
TSC member's presence. There is no
transparency with what Khanyi is doing
with the executive. Khanyi claimed that
she is asking the executive if we can all as
a TSC have a meeting with the executive.
She says that she is not meeting with the
executive for our matters but only with
Prof. Flavia as her mentor. Furthermore,
Khanyi said that the executive had not
been communicating with her as yet, and
not coming back to her on important
matters.

this if it comes to that.

Hlumelo says that she wants to know and have proof that the executive is not communicating back to Khanyi. The SRC needs to demand meetings and not wait for their directive. We are doing too little and not asserting anything. We should not wait for any responses but just act. There are huge problems with various matters regarding registration that should have already been sorted out. Okuhle asked if Khanyi has escalated any matters that she had been faced with and what efforts has been made to take things further?

Christiaan asked with the problems that we are facing with the appeals why the matters are not being escalated to the registrar. Khanyi noted that she has not escalated any matters yet and will do so.

Hlumeo also raised the concern that everything should not go through JP's office. He also does not get back to us as a committee and cannot communicate to the executives on behalf of all of us. If we wait for JP, nothing is going to be done. Furthermore, Khanyi is not delegating work to the rest of the TSC. We should have solutions prepared and ready when we meet with the executive. Okuhle also noted that the chairperson should clearly shed light on her directive as a Chairperson. We should not be silent, and it will be said that we are not bridging the gap for students if we stay silent. We are the ones who are supposed to shed light on certain matters. We should be sending out statements to students. Students are assuming that we are happy with certain matters such as registration. Important points raised:

- Khanyi should LEAD us as a TSC and be assertive and take control.
- 2. Hlulani's response of the Security is awaited.
- We should should address the problem of students who cannot get a refund for their registration fee from NSFAS.



7. Sub-Council	1. Sub-Council Meeting	Academics officers will
Feedback	Will happen after orientation week.	come back with the
		reporting and monitoring
	2. Committee Assignments	systems in two weeks'
	Faculties are not sure what their roles are	time.
	as student representatives. Favourite and	
	Christiaan wants to develop and train the	
	EC member.	
	3. Reporting and Monitoring	
	This isn't efficient from the Faculty	
	Houses side. Christiaan and Favourite	
	cannot escalate matters if there is no	
	appropriate reporting. Therefore, a proper	
	monitoring system needs to be set in	
	place.	
8. Appeals to	Karabo noted we are supposed to have	Okuhle raised that in our
Senate Review	access to the appeals and that Faculties	extraordinary meeting we
Committee	are changing their dates to when they are	should table our
	going to conclude their sitting and giving	suggestions. We will bring
	students their responses. Students don't	this matter up with the
	know where they stand, which most of	executive.
	them don't even have the funding to	
	register and know whether they will be	
	readmitted or not. They might not be able	
	to pay the registration fee in time because	
	of this. There is a lot of uncertainty and	
	students are getting more stressed about	
	this.	
	Secondly, we do not have access to	
	appeals because they are sitting on	
	Wednesday. When Karabo asked Leonie	



about this she only sent the manual to her to go work through it. This will not help. There is nothing to prepare for or to stand on. The previous academic officer suggested that we send an email to say that we are not going to sit in that meeting if we don't get access and we need the dates to be extended. The problem is that if only 4 people attend including the Chairperson, the meeting will proceed. An email will therefore not work. Dr. Kgadi also doesn't know what to do. We are not given respect as a TSC.

Enough time wasn't allocated to the appeals, especially for the bigger faculties. Leonie isn't using the correct email address for Hlumelo, although she has been communicating this.

Sicelo asked 1. What is the composition of the sentate 2. Can we not directly go and see the VP for teaching and learning and the registrar.

Composition: 12 People - VP of academics, the Registrar, DESA, Dr Kgadi, 3 senate members, 2 Members of the Student Community out of TSC Conrad also noted that he has received no communication. They do not cc the correct people.

Christiaan:



- It was communicated by the NAS
  faculty that students can submit
  extra documentation and reasons
  for their appeals; however, they
  cannot do this and it was changed.
- 2. Senate has certain dates that are published on the website. The 7<sup>th</sup> of Feb was the deadline; however, certain faculties were still sitting way past that date. We need to fight this, because it is procedurally unfair.

Students do not have enough time to go through the cases. The Senate date should be extended.

Favourite did go to EBIT because there was an extension of the dates to give students more time. Therefore, some faculties did change their dates to help students.

Correspondence of emails

9.

Favourite noted that in the group chat it was requested that we shouldn't forward our emails, however we still do it because we all received the same training. We are taking longer to solve problems if we continually forward emails to each other is we should be able to answer the questions ourselves. It's rubbish and unfair. She noted that the TSC should empower themselves with knowledge to help students instead of just forwarding

Suggestion was made by
Nicole to also make a FAQ
for the academic queries.
However, Favourite raised
the point there is not a lot to
discuss, and the answers are
simple and short. This was
turned down.



	the emails to her. You must answer the	
	questions yourself.	
	Hlumelo was given Kelly Hand's number	
	to help place students because she gets	
	students placed. Hlumelo also cannot	
	answer everything, therefore give her	
	number to students or even Mr. Sono's	
	email. We should, once again, have	
	knowledge on all important matters.	
	Karabo raised the point that the TSC does	
	not have bursaries, nor the study aid fund.	
	We should first also ask relevant	
	questions before we make promises.	
	Khanyi said we should create no	
	expectation for students that they will	
	automatically be assisted if we refer them	
	to people, we should not do it.	
	You are first a TSC member before you	
	your portfolio. You cannot act with power	
	without any knowledge, therefore, educate	
	yourself because this will make things so	
	much easier. If you also don't know,	
	rather be honest and say that you do not	
	know than creating an expectation.	
RAG of Hope	Kamva said that we should give feedback	A vote was taken (6 to 5)
Day	to RAG because they do not know that we	and we are participating in
	are planning to do. The directive needs to	the tug of war.
	be given from Khanyi with what is going	
	to happen. We need to be plan and	1. Okuhle will
	execute on what we are going to do.	organise the Henna.
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Hlulani asked if we are going to participate in Sport at RAG of Hope Day. This will just be for student engagement and for fun.

Alcohol is prohibited, and the event is cashless. Speed points must be organised. This will be done by Kamva. Kamva also noted that we are not allowed to sell food because we are not a registered vendor.

The activities that we are planning on doing:

- 1. Henna
- 2. Pay to play: Water balloons
- 3. Pay to play: Hula Hoop
- 4. Pay to play: Spin the wheel
- 5. Follow to claim initiative. This can also be a separate activation.

Katlego is responsible for decorating the stall. Combinations/packages can also be packages.

- Christiaan will
   organise the water
   balloons and Conrad
   will bring a
   container.
- Kamva and Okuhle will organise Hula Hoops.
- 4. Nicole will organise the Spin the wheel and find out on Step It Up Tickets, Katlego will speak to TuksFM, and Conrad will get around the world tickets. (Other event tickets can also be sold)
- 5. Katlego will decorate the stall.

Group

Dynamics and

Favouritism

Favourite noted that personal information must be respected and protected. Khanyi did not communicate her swops at Help Desk but expects everyone else to do it. Everyone should be treated the same. However, we need to help each other and work together. Sicelo added that some people have institutional commitments

Khanyi must take control and communicate clearly. She must delegate and follow up.



	and must be accommodated. We still have	
	the numbers to maintain the	
	commitments.	
	The main thing on speaking on the group	
	must be addressed. Everyone must be	
	aware of your whereabouts and this needs	
	to be communicated to everyone.	
	Communication between the TSC	
	members can be better as well as	
	accountability.	
Individual	Hlulani – did follow up with security and	Katlego should email Rikus
portfolio	claimed that they did know what to do and	directly instead of waiting
updates	said we should contact Mr. Sono, however	for JP.
	there is still a back and forth between	Save the semester should be
	people	brought up in the
	Kamva – meeting with transformation	Governance meeting.
	office and disability office, Fly@UP with	Hlulani will send an email
	save the semester.	to Security Services and cc
	Christiaan – appeals, no appeal to senate	JP.
	after being dismissed, admissions and	Karabo will set up a
	internal problems, not meeting	fundraising plan.
	qualifications, helping students with Key	
	Committee events (RAG of Hope Day and	
	STUKU), pre-save the semester initiative.	
	Karabo – nothing due to postponement	
	from JP due to information not being	
	given to her or final budgets not being	
	submitted	
	Conrad – placement for students, private	
	accommodation visits, attending	
	meetings, working on improving personal	
	student situations	



	Katlego – busy with website update, posts	
	will go out on 13 <sup>th</sup> February	
	Favouritve – appeals, queries, advocate	
	for students, help with administration.	
	Okuhle – spreadsheet for students created,	
	quick Q and A, statements proposals,	
	finance queries	
	Nicole – agenda and meeting minutes	
	compiling and sent out, create letterheads	
	and busy with google drive, sending	
	letters, setting up a calendar, helping	
	STUKU with 1nsync event and UP's Got	
	Talent	
	Khanyi – meeting with funders and other	
	universities for possible collaborations,	
	freshers was denied, mostly finance	
	related issues.	
Matters arising	Lunch with Lanche: must happen in the	Hlumelo will let everyone
	week of the 19 <sup>th</sup> of February. Date and	know when the meeting
		İ



Any foundations that we can reach out to,	
should be communicated to Nicole and	
Karabo.	

# 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.

All lay

Khanyisile Mahlangu Chairperson Nicole van der Walt Secretary

