

SRC Ordinary Meeting

24 February 2021 | Google Meets |

1. Welcoming and Opening:

1.1 The Presidents welcomes everyone to the fourth SRC Ordinary Meeting

2. Attendance:

2.1 Present:

2.2 (The abbreviations next to the portfolio will be used throughout the meeting)

President (P)	Lerato Ndlovu
Deputy President (DP)	Rameeza Abdool Sattar
Secretary General (SG)	Jaco van Jaarsveld
Treasurer (T)	Jozias Mahube-Reinecke
Facilities Safety and Security (FSS)	Njabulo Sibeko
Marketing, Media & Communications (MMC)	Chanel Brown
Study Finance (SF)	Melvin van Rooyen
Postgraduate & International Student Affairs (PISA)	Thando Dhlamini
Day Students & External Campus Affairs (DSECA)	Nothando Ngubeni
Societies	Hannah le Roux
Transformation and Student Success (TSS)	Thuto Mashila
Academic Representatives 1 (A1)	Uwaiza Abdool Sattar
Academic Representatives 2 (A2)	Stéfan Steenekamp
Sport Representative	Tarik Lalla
RAG Representative	Tshego Kgoele
Student Culture Representative	Thando Mtimkulu

2.3 Absent with apology:

Deputy Secretary	Thandi Mabala
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UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

Student Representative Council 2021
Lynwood Road, Hillcrest, Pretoria, South Africa 0002

Residence Representatives
Residence Representatives

Chané Williamson
Wehan Viljoen

2.4 Absent without apology:

3. Acceptance of previous minutes and adoption of agenda:

3.1 Acceptance of previous Minutes

3.2 Adoption of agenda

4. Recognition of other matters arising:

4.1 Help Desk

4.2 Work Place and Safety Vote

4.3 Response of MMC

4.4 Proactive SRC

5. Feedback from the Executive Committee:

5.1 President – Executive Meeting should be by weekly. The executive will sit by weekly plus matters arising. The CSG gives executive meeting to make drastic decisions but we won't.

5.2 Deputy President – Personal/Professional Relations and Confidentiality

5.2.1 DP: Personal and Professional – As stated in the Code of Conduct section 3(8). Personal matters focus on relations that affect your work. If there are personal matters/conflict between council members it will happen that they will not agree due to that conflict. That is not allowed to happen because there must be professional conduct. What happens around the table stays at the table. If I dislike you it should not influence your work relationship. Should there be a vibe communicate? But it is NB to separate personal and professional. Our decisions should not divide us. We as the SRC serve the students. You are allowed to have just a working relationship with another member.

5.2.2 P: We all should read through the code of conduct (hereafter referred to as the CC). The way we dress or reply to emails etc. so I urge the council to go through the code of conduct.

5.2.3 DP: Confidentiality – Section 3(iv). If something is discussed amongst ourselves it stays here around the table. Unless an office is instructed to relate it to sub councils. The information's on the statutory structures are also confidential. You cannot send it to other SRC members unless a member sits in your place in that meeting. Otherwise, it remains confidential. Again, if there are instructions in the structure that state we



should discuss it amongst the SRC then it is allowed. I also assume that the council have read the CC to serve out their duties.

5.2.4 P: We are a safe place for each other.

5.3 Secretary-General – Statutory Structures Adaption

5.3.1 SG: We received feedback from Michelle on the outcome of the statutory structure voting. She made us aware that not all criteria's was met for different statutory structures. The Senate for Student Life and Teaching and Learning was effected. The Senate for Teaching and Learning requires only one representative of the office of the academic. We voted for two representatives meaning FSS must by default be removed. The Senate for Student Life requires DSECA and an Academics Officer and the other two seats must be 2 from the 4 representatives on Senate. This means Study Finance and Student Culture that were voted for must be removed and replaced by either the SG, DSG of Academics 1 or 2 Officer.

5.3.2 RAG: Should we not have had a revote amongst the council instead of unilaterally making the decision?

5.3.3 SG: There was no time to have re-election for the reshuffle of the statutory structures.

5.4 Treasurer – Financial Aid Criteria Feedback

5.4.1 T: Two things where asked. How does the council feel to take R 100 000 out of our budget and put in in the study aid fund? The study aid fund will change from then from R 300 000 to R 400 000 and assist 60 instead of 40 students.

5.4.2 P: We can take a vote on it we meet.

5.4.3 Open for the floor.

5.4.4 MMC: Where would the R 100 000 have gone? T: It would have been in the SRC members budget.

5.4.5 Sport: Better to allocate the funds to the study aid fund.

5.4.6 FSS: What are the criteria?

5.4.7 T: Read through the Study Aid Fund Application Criteria Document that was drafted by the Treasurer, Study Finances and the Secretary-General. This is the proposal and waiting for confirmation on this from Dr J. This was read to answer the office of FSS.



5.4.8 Student Culture: There is a problem to say only summer school. We should add Winter and Summer school not to create loopholes. Extra modules as well that created historic debt out of subjects that are not a prerequisite.

5.4.9 Societies: How were the criteria established. Who did it and what are the opportunities from the council to add to the criteria.

5.4.10 P: The financial task team drafted it. If you want to add this is the platform and put input on the criteria now. Societies: just wanted to know if it is our members that make it since it is our money.

5.4.11 P: Again do not share this document with friends.

5.4.12 DP: Will special exams also be included in the criteria?

5.4.13 P: Can we not just assist them with registration and call it for what it is. What is the point on Historic Debt in the criteria?

5.4.14 T: It was added because people have a historic debt and now cannot register due to the hold. So if they have an R 10 000 debt we can still at least assist such student to register at the end of the day as well.

5.4.15 RAG: When will the document be released. P: It is now being edited and should be released by the end of today.

5.4.16 T: The review committee and some individuals will be involved such as the P, T, SF, Sport, Rag, Culture and the DP.

5.4.17 A2: The committee should include an officer of academics for academic guidance as well.

5.4.18 T: We dividing the money by 10% for Postgrad, 45% for First years and 45% for undergraduates.

5.4.19 SF: It Will be valid for a council member to join and to add a third person.

5.4.20 DP: The time the committee will sit in the second week of March. If you guys are to busy the academic officer can help.

5.4.21 P: Hear the A2 point, there is, however, required academic criteria, we can just submit this list to the DESA. It does not specifically need an academic rep because the list will be sent be back to us.

5.4.22 A2: Not a problem if we do not sit on it. There is no use to add the student to the aid where it could have gone to other students that would have used it responsibly. The most vulnerable students must be assisted



5.4.23 Societies: If someone would like to review they should. If it is R 100 000 of our money the council should have a little bit of a vote despite only the task team.

5.4.24 T: The case we are going to deal with will be very emotional and the task team has already been dealing with these issues. It is sensitive work, so if you do not have time do not sit on this committee, we can deliberate if someone wants to sit on it.

5.4.25 A2: Everyone is more than capable. It is going to be one large sitting but rational is at the end of the day just as important.

5.4.26 P: It is in the jurisdiction for the T and the SF to make this choice and whom they want to add. It is also in their office to decide now if they want to vote on this? I think we should not allow too many people to sit on it.

5.4.27 SF: We do not need to stretch out the process but if someone wants to sit on the committee it is fine. T: Depends on how urgent it is, however, I am against it but endorse a democratic society. Keep in mind that times running out because this document needs to be released at the end of the day.

5.4.28 P: Is there someone that desperately want to be on this committee?

5.4.29 FSS: I would like to be on the committee my portfolio is not busy so I can.

5.4.30 T: If FSS can fill in the time the office of SF cannot sit then it is fine. The council will then have 8 people on the council.

5.4.31 Societies: Thank the panel who will sit on this. Select people that will be able to do it. In the future, we should leave such a decision open for the council if time allows it.

5.4.32 P: Can we take $\frac{1}{4}$ of our budget. It will go to help students register as per the criteria. The original point is if we are comfortable taking an R 100 000 from our budget toward the study aid fund?

5.4.33 Societies: I have not seen peoples POA. 25% is too little but because we are online it is too little. A suggestion is that we take more and even push to 50%. P: That was the original proposal.

5.4.34 T: Fully agree because it is something I wanted to do. If we take 25% that money will be raised and replaced again. My office will actively do fundraising to do top-ups throughout the year. Can we also 50% of the budget?

5.4.35 P: The voting option are as follow:

5.4.35.1 Do not take money at all,



- 5.4.35.2 25% of the budget = R 100 000
 5.4.35.3 50% of the budget =R 200 000
 5.4.35.4 Abstain to vote

5.4.36 13 Members voted for 5.4.34.4. Thus we will have R 200 000 for SRC operations and R 500 000 for the Study Aid Fund.

5.4.37 TTS: How will we determine the portfolio budget? T: Will sit with everyone to give an account for the budget they request.

5.4.38 P: POA needs to be submitted by Monday 1 May 2020. SG: I Will attach the new POA on the minutes.

5.4.39 T: Notify me if there are any ideas for fundraising and include the treasurer.

5.4.40 P: There needs to be respected for each other's offices. Let is not overstep portfolios. Again read the Code of Conduct and communicate with the different offices if the matter falls within their jurisdiction. Also, please cc the office of the president for knowledge and context.

5.4.41 MMC: The Social media task team to revere a matter better, can you voice note information to the MMC to add the context of content that needs to be posted.

5.4.42 DSECA: Communication on Social media that students have email ethics not to cc everyone. P: People are desperate so they will continue to do this.

5.4.43 DP: If you see it is an academic matter and we can assume they see this email and that they will respond.

5.4.44 Rag: Matter of fundraising, some structures have their fundraises and that will not necessarily go through the office of the treasurer.

5.4.45 P: That is true but if we use the SRC logo the treasurer must be alerted of such.

5.4.46 T: If the individual offices ask another office for help does it constitute SRC Matter.

5.4.47 Student Culture: If a key committee comes to the SRC and use the SRC resources then it is a collaborated partnership. But if it has nothing to do with the SRC it is not within the SRC. I cannot use my committee's resources for SRC matters and like versa.

5.4.48 Sport: Specifically working with SRC resources. We will need a joint operation officer and procedure or committee to sit on it. That will fall on both the treasure of the SRC and the independent committee treasurer.



6. Portfolio-specific agenda points:

6.1 NONE

7. Other matters arising:

7.1 Helpdesk – President

7.1.1 P: We do not have a physical helpdesk. We did say we want some sort of presence. Respublika has opened up its labs for assisting students with registration.

7.1.2 Floor is open

7.1.3 FSS: Is the University okay to use Respublika labs. P: They have their labs open, with us being at LC that has not been confirmed. The CC can say we, in our uniform, cannot be at places? FSS: If we go to Respublika, what contingencies do we have? P: They have an isolated facility, sanitising facilities and will shut down if someone catches covid-19.

7.1.4 Student Culture: As much as we protect the people we also need to protect ourselves. We also need to give an account to the university to say we add additional measures. Also, who carries the cost of isolation facilities? Is it open for public or only residences?

7.1.5 MMC: If it is Respublika's project it is on them not us.

7.1.6 DP: In the executive meeting the SRC will be working online only, should we help at the helpdesk we should inform them.

7.1.7 TSS: Is it open for all student to go to Respublika. P: Yes.

7.1.8 Societies: We need to make sure that we stand on the PPE. We need to be aware of what we are doing to protect each other.

7.1.9 P: Wherever we go as the SRC we should provide for PPE. Three people will draw up and formulate how we will do it.

7.1.9.1 We state why we want to be present?

7.1.9.2 Acknowledging it is a risk and state how we can prevent the risks.

7.1.10 Societies, FSS and the Student Culture will draft this document ASAP and by Friday. We will not assist people without the Covid-19 alert app.



7.1.11 P: On Friday we convene and send it to the group and input must be given. We should submit this on Friday and send it to the DSA and by Monday we should get feedback on the way forward.

7.1.12 DP: Is Respublika accredited? If they are they should be in contact with management and ask that this is what we want from the SRC. We do not ask for permission, we should ask Respublika that their safety procedures are in place. Does the student population be made aware of this? SRC members cannot be forced to be there, we can allocate them then online?

7.1.13 FSS: Can we not take a step further with Respublika that there is not a surplus of students at Respublika, and ask other facilities to be open as well to prevent the student from flocking to one location?

7.1.14 P: Friday the document will be submitted to DSA. Further, I am concerned and we are reaching the climax of the registration period and we are not fully aware and prepare for this. Suggestion, we have our online helpdesk. Then we can put hours into our work and keep disciplined.

7.1.15 Open for the floor

7.1.16 DSECA: How is this going to work?

7.1.17 P: Selected people will go out and some will sit and work online. We can sit in our task teams, work through our emails together in workstations.

7.1.18 DP: Some students have been calling some numbers and there has been no answer. Can we refer them to a number?

7.1.19 P: Ask IT to make office telephones available. MMC: Have four numbers available at certain times that students know.

7.1.20 P: What does the council think about having set hours?

7.1.21 T: Can we sleep in our offices? Yes

7.1.22 PISA: Landline calls are more expensive, have one cell phone or have it call free?

7.1.23 SF: I will not be able to work every day because I also work in the hospital. Can we have shifted?

7.1.24 MMC: Workaround each other's schedules.

7.1.25 T: We are in leadership for the students, we got elected for a reason, even though it is horrible hours you did sign up for it.



7.1.26 P: According to the CC you only need to work for 6 hours a week. I do not think it is reasonable or fair for the students that we serve.

7.1.27 DP: The SRC does come first so make sure you do not have something during the time.

7.1.28 SC: Point of operation that we will behave this and agree on this.

7.1.29 P: This is the proposal and we will have working hours working from the Student Affairs Building.

7.2 Work Place and Safety Vote

7.2.1 P: Committee that deals with everything Covid-19 related matters in the university. Should we park the vote? They never go more than 10 days without sitting.

7.2.2 The FSS will sit on this committee with the SRC President.

7.3 Response from the MMC

7.3.1 MMC: The task team receive DM's that Study Finances is an online whole day and not responding. We want to strengthen your hand to not get a backlash from your end. Help us to help you.

7.3.2 TSS: Share contacts with the task team.

7.3.3 FSS: There are minor issues, so we can share the load.

7.3.4 P: Sitting together at the Student Service Building and going through all the emails will help also to have everybody in the know.

7.3.5 MMC: If the task teams head can formulate contact information can we then post it on social media?

7.3.6 A1: When we direct students to admin they are not answering. Answering messages just say you are in a meeting and will get to them shortly. Just mark it that you acknowledge their message.

7.3.7 PISA: Could we post in different languages?

7.3.8 DSECA: Communications need to flow between us effectively and there must be urgency in responding to each other.

7.3.9 P: You send the email last night, we cannot put pressure on SRC members but we need to be urgent in each other's messages.



7.3.10 SF: Can there be too much information to be shared with the group.

7.3.11 P: Weekly we need to give updates of your task team on the main SRC group so that everyone knows what problems are being faced.

7.3.12 A1: It helps to say to the students, keep me updated, if someone still does not respond.

7.3.13 FSS: We must pose different task teams information on social media. However, no we on social media are sitting on the outskirts. The problem I have is that we need to be equal that we know what is happening so that we are not only a referral system but also capable to help students.

7.3.14 MMC: We post the task team but we also get the knowledge of what is happening so if they contact us we will know how we respond. Keep us in the loop of what is happening if you are too busy to respond.

7.3.15 TSS: Can we have something stating what is happening with the Nsfas students that seek accommodation.

7.3.16 FSS: People need letters because people are starting to move in by Monday.

7.3.17 P: Nsfas gives students confirmation if they are funded and they have not yet done that.

7.3.18 SF: There is a list of other staff that can respond.

7.3.19 DSECA: Can you speak to George that he notices other SRC members? On the portal, it says if you are funded or not?

7.3.20 P: The portal is not updated Nsfas and UP portals. It is outdated which is why the accommodations is a pressing issue. Nsfas are slow in communication.

7.3.21 Sport: We walk past his office, through an informal conversation he has been responding to. We must consider the personal connection.

7.3.22 DP: that should not stop them to respond to emails. What can we do is to say here is my task team and they are dealing with the same matter a well.

7.4 Proactive SRC and Ex-officio matter.

7.4.1 Treasurer: On the camp, there has been a matter of conflict between the SRC Ex-officio and the SRC elect. In the executive meeting, we decided that we will not



refer to the Ex-Officio as Ex-Officio but to their office that they hold. This is to avoid possible division within the SRC.

7.4.2 P: If you sit at the table you are an SRC member and our votes weigh the same. Ex-Officio will never give you a different rank.

7.4.3 Sport: It is nice it has been brought up early in the year.

7.4.4 Treasurer: take constructive criticism from the council do not take it personally.

7.4.5 Student Culture: Thank the T to note the tension. Let it not be a change by name but a tangible action. If we need to speak in a corner it is a mere fact that there is a problem. Certain ex-officio feel like they have to overcompensate to be noticed. In our structure, we were not just voted we had to climb the ranks. The truth of the matter is that we did not just appear. Please respect that we have experience and things to add and useful networks that we have made over the years. If you do not respect how I got here give respect to what I am bringing.

7.4.6 Rag: This needs to be changed by actions. The chief justice forgot to add us to the affirmation ceremony last year. I feel like I have to fight for something that is rightfully there.

7.4.7 P: Other things rub people differently. We need an informal setting where we can just speak to each other. We need to make an effort to do so and it is not always easy. Create a culture of approach, when someone does something you approach them and say I did not like what you did. Then we create a personal relationship. Our Action should kill the culture of ex-officio. Voices and votes are the same.

7.4.8 A2: If there is a division it will rot from the inside out. We are the ground forces and know what happens in the spheres of their structures. Without this information, the executive might not have informed information to make decisions.

7.4.9 MMC: How do we not overstep the disciplinary committee?

7.4.10 P: Two categories of personalism cannot move to disciplinary such as mannerism. If people are late for the meeting you can report it to the DP.

7.4.11 DP: The only time we saw each other was at the camp. The disciplinary committee will ask have you if you first tried to resolve the conflict personally. If this does not work come to us as well then we can mediate.

7.4.12 SF: Be humane to each other make sure the offender know what they did wrong. Use the disciplinary committee for advice to see what steps to take further.

7.4.13 Societies: Code of Conduct with persons within the SRC being in relationship within the SRC.



7.4.14 T: The DP did speak on this with personal and professional. If we are informal we still represent each other.

7.4.15 Student Culture: We are grown, I agree with what the office of societies is saying, restrain yourself. But until which point do we police?

7.4.16 T: Proactive SRC, writing a document to Higher Education, Nsfas are not funding certain degree's in a statement, what as the SRC are we doing about this? We will be writing a document, to SAUS on national matters to call people to a meeting for us to engage on that platform, to Nsfas. The second one was delivering a memorandum to the department of higher education stipulating that they should fund students. Even though they send a clarification document we as the SRC still represent the student. If they think about defunding students it is problematic. It is not to say that next year they might try to do the same. But, we can get the publication to standing stern in this matters standing for students. What is the consensus from the council?

7.4.17 P: They stipulated that this was not meant for the public. They are changing names so they are now not funding NQF 7 but that they are funding only funding NQF 8. Read the document sent to the group.

7.4.18 T: Look at it deeper they are doing it because Nsfas do not have money. They are filtering it out, they cannot be defunded now.

7.4.19 P: If the new NQF you only pay for three years and not four, because they do not pay for honours. In this, they are saving money.

7.4.20 P: We can still be proactive for the students that Nsfas defunded last year and are now in debt. We can still be pro-active. We can still make it a DHE problem.

7.4.21 DSEC: They have not said anything about LLB. With the demand, we must give context that will look at why a student is under Nsfas.

7.4.22 P: 5000 students were defunded and 83% got their Nsfas back. Some students say they did not have the opportunity to see the appeal and now they are still defunded.

7.4.23 DSEC: are we going to partner up with other Tshwane institutions.

7.4.24 T: Do we agree on this? P: when the executive agree we had demanded and not the clarification we have now that cancel out but also add more.

7.4.25 Sport: Point of the procedure, not all of us are fully prepared and what resources we will need. It is a pressing meeting so we should give it the respect it deserves and have a meeting for this alone.



7.4.26 P: We do not have time to have a separate sitting but we can give time for people to submit what they want to see on the memorandum.

7.4.27 T: Regardless, if we want a meeting to end we are the SRC. It is a matter of students life and is serious. I suggest making a task team to draw up the demands and send it to the group and then next week somewhere we deliver it.

7.4.28 Student Culture: Do not like the task team thing. If you want people's buy to put it on the table. This is pressing so we can sit and discuss.

7.4.29 P: we need someone to do research and get tangible grounds.

7.4.30 DP: We do not have enough time, with regards to task teams. The urgency we have now is to vote so we can start the draft. MMC: We cannot vote if we do not have enough information.

7.4.31 P: Are we willing to walk to DHE and submit a memorandum: Majority support to walk to DHE. We will officially vote on this if it is on the table because there is a hesitation for what we are marching for.

7.4.32 T: Regardless of how far it is, we cannot put students life's on how far it is.

7.4.33 P: Who will get more information regarding this? Go to DESA and she will refer us to someone. The Treasurer and the Office of TSS will get the information.

7.4.34 DP: Get a list of all the degrees that have been listed just to be safe.

7.4.35 P: Also please find out at the Ship how many students have been unfunded by bursaries and where are they now.

7.4.36 T: The bridge courses mean that there is a large number of students in our societies that will be unfunded. Mamelodi campuses and BA extended students.

7.4.37 P: What time is comfortable to give feedback:

7.4.38 T: Will give feedback by tomorrow or on Friday.

8. Time and date of next meeting:

8.1 Next week Wednesday

9. Closing:

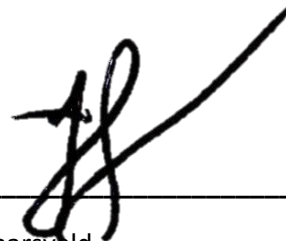
9.1 President close with announcement and you phone must be off or on silent. We must wear full uniform for meeting for meetings as per the code of conduct.



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 Secretar

