

SRC Meeting with DSA

13 January 2020 | Roosmaryn Building | 8:30

1. The Department of Student Affairs (moreover the Director) advised against the curtailment of operational funds which will limit us in terms of our responsibilities and duties.
2. The amendment of the *modus operandi* requires of the **Project Pool** Funds require extensive negotiating and meetings. The DSA opines that this is not a viable solution. It is therefore not viable, at least for the period 2020.
3. The SRC may not fetter the DSA’s funds or make demands in any manner that compromises the accountability of the DSA.
4. In conclusion the SRC is significantly limited in terms of its ability to assist students financially.
5. The SRC President mentioned that the SRC has deliberated and debated this matter extensively and that the SRC will be **moving forward with the SRC Study Aid Fund** in a pragmatic manner.
6. The DSA Director recommended focussing on other avenues to assist students e.g. TuksRes providing temporary accommodation during the registration period.
7. The SRC Study Finance Officer inquired about point 2, and why this proposition is impractical/impossible for this year.
8. The Director stated that any amendment made to the execution of Project Pool Funds is an issue of policy and principality. The Project Pool Fund is governed by strict institutional rules and utilisation of these funds would require consultation with UP Executive.
9. The STUKU Representative stated that the SRC Study Aid Fund is an integral part of the SRC and that the SRC has a duty to assist students in need.
10. The Director responded that there is a perception that SRC has funds to assist students in need. This is not a principle or obligation. The Director mentioned that the SRC should be engaging in fundraising initiatives.
11. The RAG Representative compared last year to the current academic year and that the SRC has come up with a legitimate proposal without squandering away funds without permission and resources. The SRC is being placed in a really difficult position if the DSA rejects every aspect of this proposal.
12. The SRC Secretary highlighted that the SRC might not have a legal obligation to assist students financially, but without a doubt has a moral obligation, especially in context of current affairs in South Africa, to assist students where they can.
13. The Deputy Director of the DSA stated that the SRC will be creating an opportunity for a lot of backlash if it decides to move forward with the SRC Study Aid Fund. A very small portion of applicants thereto will be assisted.
14. The Transformation Officer suggested that the SRC come up with innovative ways to raised funds and make donations during the registration period.
15. The Deputy Secretary reiterated the SRC’s moral duty to help students and that consideration should be given towards putting it in black and white to ensure a sustainable way forward.
16. The Study Finance Officer wants to know with whom the SRC can schedule a meeting to discuss utilizing the Project Pool.
17. She also mentioned that the SRC will be releasing an official **statement** by tomorrow declaring that the SRC will be implementing the Study Aid Fund. The Director asked that the SRC do not bank on more than the 20% of operational funds when drafting and releasing the statement i.e. that the SRC exclude the Project Pool as a source of funds.
18. The SRC Study Finance Officer will be drafting another proposal to be sent to the DSA.

***I, David Kabwa and Ryan Haines, hereby declare that these minutes serve as a true reflection of what transpired during this SRC meeting.***

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