

SRC Online Meeting Agenda

5 August 2020 | Google Meet | 16:00

1. **Welcoming and Opening:**
   1. The SRC President welcomed everyone at the meeting. The SRC Secretary mentioned that no excuses were submitted to the apologies Gmail account.
2. **Attendance:**
   1. **Present:**
      1. SRC President
      2. SRC Secretary
      3. SRC Societies
      4. SRC Student Culture
      5. SRC Deputy Secretary
      6. SRC Marketing, Media, and Communications (MMC)
      7. SRC Study Finances
      8. SRC Facilities, Safety, and Security (FSS)
      9. SRC Academics 1
      10. SRC Deputy President
      11. SRC Residences 1
      12. SRC RAG (due to technical difficulty, this portfolio holder frequently left and joined the meeting)
      13. SRC Treasurer
      14. SRC Day Student and External Campuses
      15. SRC Postgraduate and International Student Affairs (PI)
      16. SRC Academics 2
      17. SRC Residences 2
      18. SRC Student Sport
      19. SRC Transformation (joined at 16:41 without excuse)
   2. **Absent with apology:**

* 1. **Absent without apology:**

1. **Acceptance of previous minutes and adoption of agenda:**
   1. Acceptance of previous Minutes
   2. Adoption of agenda
2. **Other matters arising:**
   1. SRC Academics 2
      1. Sub council Matter
         1. SRC Academics 1 apologised for the late response.
         2. There was a meeting with the Academics Sub Council before the exam (cooling off) period.
         3. The Sub Council requested the SRC’s input.
         4. The minutes of the meeting (4.1.1.2) has been forwarded to the rest of the SRC.
         5. The SRC President recommended posting a deadline by when objections and queries could be raised in terms of the meeting minutes. These should be forwarded to both [src.academics1@tuks.co.za](mailto:src.academics1@tuks.co.za) and [src.academics2@tuks.co.za](mailto:src.academics2@tuks.co.za).
         6. Objections, questions, and queries must be submitted by **noon tomorrow** (i.e. Thursday, 6 August).
         7. The minutes (as requested by the SRC President) will be forwarded to the rest of the SRC again.
   2. SRC President
      1. SRC Elections
         1. The Director of the Department of Student Affairs (DSA) phoned the SRC Transformation representative to ask for suggestions on 2021 SRC elections.
         2. The Transformation officer recommended online voting poll(s) to gauge students’ stance on elections this year.
         3. The Deputy Secretary (assuming that this initiative is followed) added that we should evaluate the number of students voting in this regard.
         4. The SRC RAG Officer said that we must be realistic – the university will most probably appoint a TSC. UP Management must be honest about their view on SRC elections.
         5. The SRC PI representative agreed with the RAG officer but believes that UP Management is also unsure about what to do with this year’s elections.
         6. The Study Finance Officer opines that some students are not knowledgeable on the SRC and that it would be effective to have SRC elections.
         7. The SRC Deputy Secretary believes that the SRC should decide on their stance which they, in turn, would be able to communicate to university staff.
         8. The MMC officer agrees with the Deputy Secretary.
         9. The SRC Transformation officer has raised many of these concerns with the DSA. Dr Madiba advised that students generally do not take a TSC seriously.
         10. The FSS officer feels that a term extension is the best way forward.
         11. The SRC Secretary recommended that we obtain information on the options that we have before engaging students or deciding on our stance.
         12. The UP Executive [Council?] will decide on SRC elections.
         13. The SRC President explained our three options as follows:
             1. **Term Extension**: Requires approval op Council and our term will most probably be extended to January or February 2021.
             2. **Online SRC Election**: An online campaign platform will have to be adapted.
             3. **TSC** (according to the CSG): A temporary student committee comprising four members of the current SRC and eight members from substructures.
         14. The majority of the SRC favoured a term extension (7/11 members).
         15. The SRC Societies says that IEC and DSA should make this decision (step up). This is not our domain and we are wasting our time talking about it.
3. **Feedback from the Executive Committee:**
   1. N/A
4. **Portfolio-specific agenda points:**
   1. SRC Deputy President
      1. Laptop Task Team Grievance
         1. The task team voiced a grievance that the SRC President (due to his ability to develop and maintain good relationships) tends to overstep the rights and responsibilities awarded to him in terms of the Constitution for Student Governance (hereafter ‘CSG’).
         2. The SRC Deputy President added that the Laptop Task Team feels like they are being overlooked.
         3. The SRC Deputy President was imperceptible for the most part and for that reason the SRC FSS Officer (as the head of the task team) was asked to elaborate on the task team’s grievances.
         4. The FSS Officer reiterated the point made in 6.1.1.1 and that the task team is not taken seriously unless the SRC President is present.
         5. The SRC President apologised for occasions on which he may have overstepped his duties. He will be working on this. He pointed out that the UP’s view of the SRC (even though it should be with reverence) is outside of his control.
         6. The SRC President will be working with the Disciplinary Committee (hereafter the ‘DC’) to find amicable solutions moving forward.
   2. SRC Deputy Secretary
      1. Women’s Month Campaign
         1. The SRC Deputy Secretary planned this campaign as part of her term.
         2. She wishes to empower women in the commercial world by engaging Commercii (Faculty House of EMS).
         3. She invited the rest of the SRC to participate in this campaign and will be updating the rest of the SRC on her initiative.
      2. Second Semester Laptops and Data
         1. She recommended that the university make laptops available to students who will only be registering now (for the second semester).
         2. The question of data has been answered on the group by the SRC President (i.e. the COO will be raising this with the UP Executive).
         3. The SRC PI Officer asked that international students be accommodated during this period (in terms of data).
         4. The Student Culture representative added that all international students in the country have been considered during the laptop project, provided they were within the South African borders.
         5. The SRC FSS Officer added that courier services are limited and for that reason, students outside the country were not considered. She suggested (inquired) whether the university should provide written reasons for not considering students not in South Africa.
         6. The SRC President recalls the issue being addressed (possibly in the most recent MOU). He thanked the PI Officer and the rest of the members for their input.
   3. SRC Marketing, Media, and Communications (hereafter ‘MMC’)
      1. Q&A Live Video
         1. The MMC Officer thanked the [marketing task team?] for their assistance.
         2. In his POA, he included a Tuks FM interview to explain to students what the SRC is and what they offer to students.
         3. Seeing that 6.3.1.3 is no longer feasible, live videos should be conducted on our social media platforms (Instagram and Facebook).
         4. Each live video contains a pinned section that could explain the purpose of the video.
         5. He suggested that we use this platform to account for what we have done during the first semester.
         6. He drew an analogy that these sessions could be like the RSA President addressing the country after which there could be a Q&A session.
         7. He disclosed that his phone has broken.
         8. The RAG Officer asked whether the initiative would be communicated to students in advance (particularly of the purpose of the video e.g. academic related matters being addressed in a session). She further asked whether members responsible for the content being discussed (presented) during a session, would be able to attend (or be part of) the session. She also added that the frequency of such engagements is contingent on data and connectivity.
         9. The MMC Officer acknowledged that this agenda point is an open discussion and that he has not yet figured all things out.
         10. The Deputy Secretary expressed her appreciation for the initiative after which she recommended that a task-team system is followed instead of a portfolio-specific system in terms of the sessions.
         11. The SRC Deputy Secretary (due to disapproval by the Constitutional Tribunal, hereafter ‘CT’) is currently working on an appropriate online platform for Student Forum.
         12. The Student Sport member highlighted that students should be able to (required) send questions in advance to allow SRC members to prepare adequate responses. She also suggested recorded videos instead of online videos.
         13. The SRC Academics 1 Officer suggested questions being answered on a weekly basis, after which responses could be shared on social media platforms.
         14. The SRC Deputy Secretary reminded the SRC that we have done a live Q&A (where Study Finances and Residences went live) and recommended that we hear their experiences and recommendations.
         15. The Residence 1 member said that students were not joining the live video in a timely manner or in great numbers.
         16. The SRC Deputy Secretary thanked her for her response and said that the sessions should be marketed properly.
         17. The SRC Study Finance Officer sought clarity – some financial issues cannot be responded to or resolved on the spot due to uniqueness, confidentiality, etc.
         18. The MMC Officer suggested that questions (from students) be submitted by Mondays to which SRC members (after four days of contemplation) can respond on Fridays.
         19. PDBY recently contacted the SRC President for the purpose of hosting an accountability session to which he responded that the process cannot take place without oversight on behalf of the CT.
         20. The SRC President suggested that this initiative is left in the hands of the MMC and that he keeps the rest of the SRC in the loop.
         21. The Deputy Secretary asked whether it should be handled by the MMC representative or the MMC task team.
         22. The SRC President recommended a live Q&A that would cover general issues. Besides that, we have interactions via direct messages, written responses, etc. by means of which we can respond to students and address issues. This mechanism is more for interaction and not so much accountability.
         23. The FSS representative opposes the idea that the SRC President will be the sole member responding during interactions.
         24. The Study Finance Officer recommended that all SRC members should be part of those interactions (and not just the SRC President). The Residences 1 member shared the same sentiments.
         25. The SRC Deputy Secretary believes that we should establish a way forward (by voting).
         26. The SRC President asked that those comfortable with going live should unmute their devices and (conversely) those opposed should remain muted.
         27. Interactions will be taking place in a written format (as decided by means of the vote). The SRC Deputy Secretary will still decide on an appropriate platform for Student Forum (within constitutional as well as any other relevant confines).
         28. The SRC Deputy Secretary advised that we brainstorm more (comfortable) ideas to engage students. She added a suggestion that we start interacting with societies.
         29. The Residences 1 members is concerned that the SRC does not (due to inconvenience, comfortability) want to have live sessions for the purpose of engaging students.
         30. The SRC President recommended that task team leaders will interact during these sessions (on behalf of task teams).
         31. He asked that the MMC representative (in the coming week) brief us on which task teams should prepare when.
5. **Time and date of next meeting:**
6. **Closing:**

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



