

SRC Ordinary Meeting Minutes

13 May 2020 | Roosmaryn Building | 8:30

1. **Welcoming and Opening:**
2. **Attendance:**
   1. **Present:**
   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. **Facilities, Safety and Security (hereafter ‘FSS’ Officer)**
      1. Google Hangouts and all other relevant communication matters
         1. The FSS officer has received concerns from students who are not happy with this platform.
         2. She is concerned that students might not be under the impression that is zero-rated.
         3. The SRC Study Finance officer does not respond to any messages or emails or phone calls over the weekend for the purpose of her own well-being.
         4. The FSS officer is aware that a few students have been compelled to make use of Google Hangouts. She thinks it should be optional rather than compulsory, especially if it counts towards marks.
   2. Deputy President
      1. Constitutional Tribunal
         1. We will be having a meeting on Friday with the Tribunal regarding approval of amendments to their Constitution.
         2. The Student Culture member asked that the document be forwarded first prior to the constitution of the Tribunal.
         3. She added that there are matters far more important than this issue. She inquired about whether any urgency exists to approve amendment of the said document.
         4. The Deputy President responded that it is not necessarily urgent but that it falls within his portfolio and that (for that reason) he saw it fit to attend thereto.
         5. The Deputy President also inquired about the reason for this rush.
         6. The Academics Officer (in the comment section of the meeting) responded that the term of the Tribunal ends in December.
3. **Feedback from the Executive Committee:**
4. **Portfolio-specific agenda points:**
   1. **Residences 2** 
      1. Update of Residence Affairs and FAQ’s
         1. There have been various engagements.
         2. There is no date for set for when students will definitely be allowed back into residences.
         3. Students will be prioritized according to a system, e.g. postgraduate students and students who are in desperate need of returning.
         4. TuksRes circulated a survey in terms of the Laptop Project and 200 laptops were disbursed accordingly.
         5. All international students currently hosted by UP residences are being checked up upon by the SRC Residence portfolio holders. They have been assisted with food etc.
         6. She briefly discussed several other FAQ’s.
         7. She is primarily concerned that the meal account cannot be paid out to personal bank accounts (included in the memorandum of concerns). She is not content with this issue.
         8. She did email them to raise this issue with them. She informed the SRC that she will be advocating this issue strongly moving forward.
         9. **325** Students have been assisted with the TuksRes Solidarity Fund.
         10. She highlighted that it is imperative for portfolios to support one another during lockdown.
      2. Private Accommodation Engagements
         1. Some accommodations have been accommodative of students whilst others haven’t been.
         2. TuksRes is not involved (does not give directive) to these private accommodations. It only expects these residences to comply with the accreditation policy.
         3. The Deputy President asked about students that have left their belongings behind.
         4. The Head of different residences may use house funds to courier such essential items (also decided in the Head’s discretion) to students.
         5. The FSS Officer inquired about students receiving threats of eviction if rent is not paid.
         6. The President responded that (pursuant to engagement with private accommodations) students after negotiation will be reinstated through the office of the VP for Residences. The point of departure is to contact the relevant accommodation.
   2. **Facilities, Safety and Security**
      1. Update on Laptop meeting
         1. Only six people work at the call centre.
         2. MTN has capped their zero-rated services.
         3. If you have an internet connection on your laptop (e.g. hotspot with your phone), the URL link will work.
         4. The President shared the minutes of yesterday’s meeting (on which the agenda point is based) with the rest of the SRC.
         5. The Deputy President asked whether the university will still take in applications.
         6. The link is working (but there is a delay in response after applying). She recommended not taking in anymore applications.
         7. The minutes of Monday (with the Executive) have not yet been shared.
         8. The Residences 2 portfolio holder asked when the next meeting with the UP Executive will be held. She is concerned that the rest of the SRC is not included in engagements sufficiently.
         9. The President stated that the Executive confirmed that the supply is enough to cover the demand in terms of the Laptop Project.
         10. The SRC President emphasised that SRC members will be held to account for what they have being doing during this lockdown period.
         11. The Student Culture member recommended realizing the task team initiative that was discussed during last week’s meeting.
         12. The Day Student & External Campus Affair member stated that the FSS member’s comments and initiatives are being overlooked.
         13. The SRC President stated that we will be creating those task teams today. He will be putting it in writing on WhatsApp and on email.
         14. The Deputy Secretary opines that we owe the FSS officer an apology for not taking her seriously. She went on to suggest that the FSS officer reiterate her initiative and that the SRC take it seriously.
         15. The Residence officer asked whether there is recourse in light of members are not attending online meetings.
         16. The Student Culture member recommended putting the task teams into formal writing.
         17. The Student Culture stated that David, as a member of the Executive, should not be slotted into a specific task team. Instead, David should find someone that helps him with emails etc.
         18. The SRC President asked the SRC to please check the group.
      2. Enquiry on Exclusions
         1. The FSS Officer wanted an update from the Academic officer on the way academic exclusions will be dealt with.
         2. Professor Duncan has previously stated that he will be engaging with Deans in terms of online teaching and learning.
         3. Change to academic exclusions will probably be attended to by Council of UP.
         4. The only current confirmation that we have is that exclusions will not be handled in the same manner as has been done during contact classes.
         5. The FSS suggested drafting FAQ’s that could be combined in one post on social media platforms that would address the questions that students have.
         6. The SRC Study Finance Officer has drafted a list of NSFAS related issues that she has forwarded to the Director of Student Finances. She is awaiting a response.
      3. Suggestion for portfolio specific feedback
         1. Covered in the previous points.
5. **Time and date of next meeting:**
   1. N/A
6. **Closing:**
   1. N/A

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



