University of Pretoria Student Representative Council 2017/18

YEARLY REPORT



Name: Mamello Molotsi		Portfolio: Deputy President		Time Frame: September 2017 – December 2018
Project:	Timeframe	Action/Activities	Outcome/Achieved Results	Recommendations/Implications for Policy/Practice)
Election of the Constitutional tribunal 2017/18	26 -27 September 2018	 The successful chairing of the Judicial Service Commission during selection or interview process and ensuring that competent, fit and proper Constitutional Tribunal Judges for the 2017/2018 term. Successfully hosting the inauguration ceremony of the Constitutional Tribunal 	The Constitutional Tribunal 2017/18 was duly and successful constituted.	All the recommendations have been amended and rectified during the process of amending the Constitution of Student Governance and the constitution of the Constitutional Tribunal during the March - May 2018 period.
The SRC Food Drive	September – November 2017	 Collecting and receiving non-perishable items to help assist student whom have run out of food by the end of the year. Working with DSA staff members in ensuring that once the food is collected, it is made accessible to all students in need. Relevant stakeholders were also approached to try and address the issue of student hunger. 	A large number of students were assisted with food packages which managed to assist	It would be a great step in the right direction if this food drive can be made accessible and functional at all UP campuses.

			them during the last exams. Funding and donations were given to the SRC by different Stakeholders.	Collecting and drop-off points need to be established at the respective campuses. The biggest challenge is making this project sustainable, which could entail getting a long-term sponsor to support this initiative.
The First Mass meeting	September 2017	 The arrangements of the Mass meeting was organised by the office of the secretary The entire SRC attended the mass meeting and noted all the concerns students had at the time. 	The mass meeting was a success.	The structure of a mass meeting should be relooked to ensure that all concerns raised by students are duly noted and taken seriously.
SRC Help Desk 2017/18	3 January – February 2018	 Received training from the UP Enrolments Department with regards to the functioning of the Help Desk and which relevant staff members to consult or approach regarding specific matters. Established a system that was favourable to the SRC 2018/19 by laying out which members would be responsible for certain parts of the functioning of the Help Desk. A schedule was drawn up by the office of the secretary specifying and regulating the shifts of SRC members. I specifically dealt with Admissions, partly Financial, Academic and Residence/Accommodation cases. A meeting hosted by the Department of Higher Education and Training with all SRC presidents and the CEO of NSFAS, was held in Joburg, where important issues such as the slower processing of NSFAS applications since the announcement of free tertiary education, the critical issue of historical debt and registrations. 	Up to 90% of the Admission cases we dealt with that met all the admission requirements of the university were successfully assisted, due considerations were given to circumstantial evidence. Due to the challenges we experienced during the help desk, such as NSFAS being slow in processing applications and responding to students, the high	It would be imperative to have a laptop at the help Desk to manually and electronically capture all the cases the SRC has handled throughout the help desk program for book keeping purposes. Restructuring the role of societies during the SRC help Desk. Planning of the SRC Help Desk should take place once the new SRC has been elected as it is one of the most challenging programs of the SRC.

			number of students with historical debt trying to fix their financial affairs and requesting the help of the SRC, we found it fit to request for the extension of the registration period and extended the SRC help desk accordingly. At the beginning of January 2018, we manged to place a large number of students into the UP Residences, but later in the year the residences could no longer take in more students. Thus, we had to look at negotiating with persons with private accommodation to	
			accommodation to assist students were accommodation.	
The Constitution of Student Governance Amendments	March 2018 May 2018	 I setup a timeline for the CSG amendments with the assistance and advice of the Chief Justice of the Constitutional Tribunal 2017/18. Chairing the entire amendment process and laying out the process to be followed 	The proposed amendments were approved with a few minor changes being made to the	The biggest recommendation would be making use of all the SRC and University platforms to bring awareness regarding this process and ensuring that students participate through sending submissions to the

		Making the reasonable food arrangements for the amendment meeting.	submissions we had sent.	SRC as to what should be amended within the CSG to make student life better.
The Disciplinary Committee	February – December 2018	 I consulted the SRC Code of Conduct and discovered that it did not provide for an internal disciplinary committee and the composition thereof. This meant that it had to be amended to address such problems. We consulted with the Constitutional Tribunal and amended the code of conduct in an official SRC meeting. The SRC now has an official internal process of disciplining its members. The purpose of the committee is to ensure that every SRC member is disciplined not for retributive purposes but for restorative purposes. This not only strengthens the entire team but ensures that the reputation of the structure is respected by SRC members and the students they represent. The SRC Disciplinary Committee had to be selected at an official SRC meeting and this process was duly followed. Improvements were made with regards to the functioning of the disciplinary committee. Due to the different cases that the Committee gets to deal with constant amendment is to take place by the end of this year to improve the functioning of the committee. 	The disciplinary committee has been functioning as best possible as it can. However, there has been challenges of which have been or will be addressed through the process of amending the code of conduct to ensure that it functions more effectively and efficiently.	The committee is not a place to be used for vengeance purposes and members of the committee need to at all times uphold the principles of natural justice, stress the importance of discipline within the SRC and its relationship with other structures.
Academic cases	September 2017 – September 2018	 Worked with the SRC Academics representatives to assist with the high volumes of academic cases they deal with. Respond and communicate effectively with students that send through their cases. Forming healthy relationships with all UP-staff members. 	We managed to assist students with their cases where possible. Since most of the SRC members of 2017/18 are law students, we even took it further in applying the law to ensure that students	All student cases should be dealt with by all SRC members and not only the SRC Academics or Residence representatives. This is all due to the high volume of cases that come to the SRC at the beginning and end of the year

			are adequately assisted in their financial, academic or residential cases.	
SAUS Conference	July 2018	 Attended the South African Student Union National Elective Conference which took place at North West University. The intention behind this was to work with the union to help assist in alleviating and stressing the serious issues of historical debt, student accommodation, gender-based violence on campuses and mental health. 	The event was poorly organized and used as a political tool to advance personal motives. As UP SRC we withdrew our affiliation with the structure.	The UP SRC should refrain from affiliating itself with the structure until such a time that the structure is recognised in the university statute and thus have more authority to actively and effectively assist students from all universities and the SRC's of all universities. The affiliation fee stands at R30 000 at the moment and it would be unfair to spend such large amount of money on an organisation that does actively benefit students of our university.
SRC Transformation Talk	30 -31 July 2018	 Assisted the office of Transformation and Student success in successfully hosting the Transformation Talk. The purpose behind the event was to bring issues of gender-based violence, safety on campus and mental illness to the student body, to not only bring awareness but also solutions where possible 	The event on the first day had a low attendance turnout but improved vastly the following day.	This kind f event needs to be hosted twice during the year and adequately marketed for as it is crucial.
Choose UP Day	August 2018	 Making adequate arrangements as to the functioning of the SRC desk at the event Ensuring that all SRC members are present and have a role to play at the event. 	The event had a low attendance turnout, due to the shift from the normal UP Open Day.	The university should combine the old UP Open Day and the shift of the fourth industrial revolution.
Approval of Constitutions of student	July – August 2018	 Due to the recent approval of the CSG amendments by UP Council it was imperative for all student governance structure to get their constitutions aligned with the amended CSG. 	Only a small number of constitutions were aligned, amended and approved by the SRC.	To encourage most student governance structures to align and amend their constitutions earlier in

governance structures		 The Constitutional Tribunal assisted with the alignment and amendment of most of the student governance structures. Most of the structures only attended to this when their election process was to take place and due to the introduction of electronic voting. This put too much pressure on the SR as this all occurred in a short space of time, all with the aim of holding constitutional, free and fair elections. 		the year. The importance of this need to be expressed.
Election of the Constitutional Tribunal 2018/19	10 - 12 September 2018	 The successful chairing of the Judicial Service Commission during selection or interview process and ensuring that competent, fit and proper Constitutional Tribunal Judges for the 2018/2019 term. Successfully hosting the inauguration ceremony of the Constitutional Tribunal 	The election process and the inauguration ceremony was executed successfully.	There are no recommendations as all the proposed constitutional tribunal amendments were handed over to the incoming Chief Justice of the Constitutional Tribunal by the outgoing Chief Justice. The SRC should, at all times maintain a healthy relationship with the Constitutional Tribunal.
Supporting all Structures falling under the jurisdiction of the SRC	September 2017- September 2018	 Attending most students structure events where possible and offering advise at to the properly functioning of those structures. Sitting in their interview processes at the ned of the year when new leaders are elected. 	Healthy relations were made and proper leaders were groomed whom now happen to be part of the incoming SRC.	maintaining and improving healthy

I, Mamello Molotsi, in my capacity as the SRC Deputy President hereby confirm the contents of this report as a true reflection of the action(s)/activities(s) that were completed during my SRC Term of Office for the 2018 Academic Year.



Mamello Molotsi 30 September 2018

SRC Deputy President 2017/2018 Date