

## Academics Quarterly report

### University of Pretoria Student Representative Council 2017/18

#### YEARLY REPORT

*Drafted by: Mr Romario Roman  
In his capacity as: SRC Academics*



<b>Name: Romario Roman</b>		<b>Portfolio: Academics</b>		<b>Time Frame: September 2017 – December 2018</b>
<b>Project:</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Action/Activities</b>	<b>Outcome/Achieved Results</b>	<b>Recommendations/Implications for Policy/Practice)</b>
<b>SRC Meetings</b>	September 2017 to present	Attended and participated in SRC Meetings which are held every week where pertinent issues were discussed.	Success	
<b>General Academics queries</b>	September 2017 to present	Assisted students with academic related problems such as like student victimization, academic, academic irregularities, registration etc.	Success	Faculties need to communicate important information to students more often.

<b>SRC &amp; Faculty House Food Drive</b>	23 April – 4 May 2018	Collected food for the SNAP program through the assistance of various Faculty Houses.	Success	Food will be distributed through the SNAP program and not by the SRC. Policies regarding the SNAP program are available from the DSA.
<b>UP Graduation Ceremonies</b>	11 April – 8 May 2018	Attended various graduation ceremonies and congratulated students who graduated with distinction or who completed their PhD.	Success	Top achievers should be congratulated on their excellent academic performance.
<b>Institutional Forum Meetings</b>	10 Apr 2018 6 Mar 2018 24 Oct 2017	The Institutional Forum has been focused on the issue of Transformation at the Onderstepoort Campus. This matter has been investigated and changes enforced by the IF committee.	Success	Official documents released by the Institutional Forum detail all recommendations.
<b>Senate Teaching &amp; Learning Committee Meetings</b>	22 Mar 2018	In this meeting, teaching advancement at university was discussed as well as flexible futures. Feedback will also given regarding the appeals process after the final round of appeals.	Success	The students' needs were represented through the SRC representatives.
<b>Academic Sub Council</b>	16 Mar 2018 6 Feb 2018 20 Sep 2017	Issues that face students in the different Faculty Houses were discussed as well as the food drive initiatives. The most pertinent issue at hand is the fact that Faculty Houses are underfunded due to the fact that Faculty Houses have to fund all sub houses.	Success	More funds need to be allocated to Faculty Houses.

<b>Meeting with Vice Principal Prof Duncan</b>	14 Feb 2018	This meeting with Prof Normal Duncan was regarding more than 30 students from the Ondertsepoort campus who had to repeat modules for which they attained less than 65% according to the yearbook of the year in which they commenced their studies. However, this rule was changed in the 2018 yearbook and the Vice-Principal of Academics along with the Acting Dean of Veterinary Sciences made a concession for students to follow the new regulation and thus only having to repeat modules for which they did not attain a final mark above 50%.	Success	
	27 Feb 2018	This meeting with Prof Duncan was regarding a number of Bsc students who wanted to get into actuarial Sciences but could not because they were not aware of the required average for OBS. Negotiations are under way and the students will get into actuarial sciences but via a different route.	Success	The NAS faculty has to be more transparent with students and have to communicate more with the student body.
	14 May 2018	This meeting was held with Prof Duncan and Prof Wendy Kilfoil and the class representatives of the first semester. At this meeting various issues were raised regarding academic success and were dealt with in due course		
<b>External campus visits</b>	28 Feb 2018	Visited the Onderstepoort campus (along with the Societies Liaison Officer and the Facilities officer) in order to see how students are coping and to find out if there are problems students face on this campus.	Success	

	9 March 2018	Visited the Mamelodi campus (along with the RAG officer of the SRC) The SRC aims to visit an external campus every week.	Success	
<b>Senate Review Committee</b>	05 Feb 2018 12 Feb 2018 19 Feb 2018 06 Aug 2018	The purpose of the Senate Review Committee is for students who had unsuccessful Faculty Appeals to resubmit their appeal in order for the committee to check that due process was followed and to overturn the faculty ruling on the appeal in the case that due process was not followed.	Success	SRC members who sit in the appeals committee have to be allowed to raise concerns and fight for students instead of being silenced.
<b>Faculty Appeals</b>	Dec 2017 – Feb 2018	Assisted a large amount of students who were academically excluded through the appeals process in various faculties. Due to the system being offline, multiple university personnel were contacted in order to ensure that students were able to submit their appeal. A FAQ document was also created in order to help students better understand the appeals process, this was sent to students through the various Faculty Houses.	Success	Students in every faculty have to be made aware of how one gets excluded and the process to follow to appeal.
<b>Help Desk</b>	09 – 26 January 2018	To assist students with late applications, financial issues, residence issues as well assisting students with academic appeal exclusions by way of assisting with motivations and submitting appeal applications on behalf of students that were not in Pretoria during this time.	Success: managed to help a great number of students	More resources needed at the Help desks such as: printer, computer, the time at the help desk should have been extended. A lot of students who were not registered could not get onto campus in order to be assisted by the SRC
<b>Food Drive</b>	October 2017	The SRC together with all the Faculty Houses ran a food drive to collect non-perishable food items for hungry students on campus.	Success	Food was donated to the SNAP program.

I, Romario Roman in my capacity as the SRC Academics officers 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.

Romario Roman  
SRC Academics

Date: 01 October 2018