

# University of Pretoria Temporary Student Committee

## Minutes of a meeting as held on 27 January 2010 at 17:30 in the Committee Room, Tukkieurf

### 1 Opening and welcome

The chairperson opened with prayer.

### 2. Attendance

#### 2.1 Present

Marius Ellis	Chairperson
Armand Goutondji	International Students & Relations & External Campuses
Natasha Gresse	Secretary-General
Megan Howard	Marketing & Projects
Tiyani Majoko	Deputy Chair, Service Providers & Com. Development
Zwelakhe Makuhleni	Student Affairs, PRO & Internal Projects
Hanri Niemand	Residences
Michael Shackleton	Safety, Security & Facilities
Dineo Siko	Treasurer
Tiyani Sithole	Justice & Constitutions

#### 2.2 Absent with apology

Mario Fasondini	Academic Affairs & Honorary Colours
Niyasha Kuzinya	Societies

### 3. Announcements and correspondence

- Remember the breakfast with the principal on 1 February 2010 at Burgundys – please be there by 07:45 (TSC clothing).
- Office hours must be in by 5 February 2010 (will start checking on 8 February 2010).
- Report to Mrs. Botma about your plans of actions.

## TSC 3/2010

### 4. Confirmation of agenda

The following points were added to the agenda:

6.8 Internet (Michael).

6.9 13<sup>th</sup> Member (Tiyani).

6.10 Budget (Marius).

## 5. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 January 2010 was approved as a true account of the meeting.

## 6. **Matters discussed**

### 6.1 **Prof. M. Speckman, Dean of Students**

#### 6.1.1 **MPC**

- To ease the pressure on the TSC (which does not have the capacity to organize the MPC), the MPC Organizing Committee has been reactivated.
- Representatives of the different structures were invited. The TSC must decide how many of their members must attend.
- Pasma and Cope did not hand in their proposals (TSC to follow up with them if not received soon).
- In order for a new constitution to be legal, the duly constituted meeting of the Council would have to approve whatever constitution comes out of the MPC process. Council only meets in June. Thus, no election could take place before August and in any case, it would be too costly in terms of time and money to hold two elections in one year.

Marius indicated that the Constitutional Tribunal is willing to hand in a proposal. Tiyani S is looking at last year's proposal by the SRC and will compile a proposal on behalf of the TSC.

#### 6.1.2 **General**

- The Desmond Tutu Trust offers one student the opportunity to attend a leadership conference.
- Students may have two student cards due to the new card system that is being introduced.
- The residences will be closed during the Soccer World Cup because it will be used for accommodation. The Clinic will also be closed down as there will too few students will be on campus. Activities in the area of the campus will be kept to the minimum.

- May visit Mapunbukwe this year.
- One of our students won a competition for students who excel in leadership, academics, etc. that was hosted by Eduloan.
- There will be a handing over ceremony and he wanted to know if the Executive Committee will be there.

Armand wanted to know whether the members who are currently serving on the TSC and who were part of the MPC last year will again represent the groups they represented then. According to Prof. Speckman it is up to the TSC to decide but they must please keep him informed. According to Dineo the service providers wanted to know why they were excluded from the MPC. According to Prof. Speckman some members of the service providers were very reluctant to be involved before so it was decided not to involve them as they only represent a small group. The students involved in the discussions believed that it was not necessary for them to be there.

Zwelakhe wanted to know what will happen to the proposals after the MPC and if it will be presented to the Standing Committee of Council. Prof. Speckman responded by saying that the Standing Committee will then hand in suggestions for a mandate that will then have to be approved by Council before any action can be taken. Megan represented the Student Assembly on the MPC last year and she wanted to know whether this will be the case again. Prof. Speckman suggested that she should discuss this with the TSC. Dineo wanted to know whether another MPC will take place if the document from the MPC is not approved by Council. According to Prof. Speckman all raw information is recorded and in this case they will look into all the proposals that were received as it is too much work to organize another MPC.

Marius suggested that the number of members who will represent the TSC on the MPC should be discussed. Dineo suggested that, in order to give other members the opportunity to serve on the MPC, members from other structures currently serving on the MPC should not be allowed to attend the MPC on behalf of the TSC.

It was decided that the TSC will appoint four members to represent them at the MPC.

Armand suggested that, rather than starting all over, the previous representatives should hand over their suggestions to the new representatives. Marius suggested that those members who wish to serve on the MPC should be allowed to do so. Tiyani S agreed with this and suggested that apart from them other members can then be elected but Megan wanted to know how they will be able to separate the two structures as the TSC is supposed to be unbiased.

Marius suggested that only four members should be appointed to represent the TSC and if members who represented other structures on the MPC are elected as one of the four members they should then step down as a representative of the other structure they represented and represent the TSC.

Dineo suggested that, as the TSC came from the MPC, four members should be appointed and that the other members should be given the choice to represent the

structures they previously represented on the MPC keeping the needs of the structures they came from, in mind.

⇒ **It was decided that the 4 representatives will be elected at the next meeting.**

## 6.2 Traditions at Maroela

Zwelakhe requested Hanri to give feedback about the enquiries he made with regard to the traditions at Maroela. According to Hanri she heard different stories and the person he suggested that she should talk to refused to talk to her. According to Zwelakhe the first year students are afraid of the seniors but Hanri informed him that first year students have a choice whether they want to take part in the traditions or not. She needs the contact numbers of the complainants so that she can follow up on their complaints. According to Zwelakhe the deputy chairperson has resigned but according to Hanri the chairperson does not know anything about this. Dineo suggested that the deputy chairperson, the complainants, the house father and the executive committee of Maroela should meet with the executive committee of the TSC to discuss the matter.

⇒ **Hanri must follow the matter up and organize a meeting between the relevant people.**

## 6.3 Enduro Varsity – Marius

This will take place on 5 - 7 March 2010. TSC members must let them know whether they will attend or not. Those attending must please fill in the disclaimer forms.

⇒ **Marius will find out the exact times.**

## 6.4 Rag Update - Megan

- Everyone should meet in Lynnwood Road at 16:00 (by the Admin building on the outside of the campus) to hand out ice suckers (as soon as the procession has passed they may leave).
- Dress: Golf shirt and jeans.

Zwelakhe asked her to explain the ice sucker idea. Megan explained that the original idea was to donate money by throwing it into the collection tins of passing students but as they cannot prove what the students did with the money, she thought it a good idea to hand out ice suckers to the passing students.

Marius requested Zwelakhe to keep everyone informed about tickets for the upcoming Rag events.

## 6.5 Soccer World Cup

According to Megan the idea is to do something special for the students. Dineo suggested the following:

- Intensify the Soccer Friday Initiative (maybe organize official Bafana Bafana shirts and try to get them signed and then auctioned/raffle them). Part of the money should go to charity.
- Get a T-shirt with the logo: **Bafana Bafana rocks!**
- Get a T-shirt with the logos of all the participating teams and the Bafana Bafana/South Africa logo in the middle.

According to Marius a large amount is available in the budget. He also suggested the handing out of vuvuzela's. Armand suggested that tickets for opening or final matches should be obtained and Zwelakhe suggested to obtain 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> stage tickets and then raffle them out (especially Bafana Bafana games). Hanri suggested handing out lollipops with soccer ball wrappers.

## 6.6 Increase in food prices in residences

According to Zwelakhe the food prices in residence dining halls were increased by R7,00 whilst the quantity decreased. There are however, rumors that the prices will drop. Marius suggested that Hanri should arrange a meeting with Prof. Visser to follow it up. According to Dineo food prices were increased regularly in the past whilst the quantity decreased. The increase last year was 100% but the booking system that was reinstated, helped a bit (some residences do have stoves but some not). Due to the increase in food prices some students do not have enough food money for the year.

It was suggested that Hanri should obtain Hector's research and proposal. According to Hanri this is one of the things that are set out in her plan of action and she will address it in due course.

## 6.7 Diminishing of languages at the University of Pretoria

According to Zwelakhe some students have a problem with the removal of certain language modules whilst Megan reported that they are not being taught in the language of their choice and that textbooks are also not available in their language of preference. According to Natasha the problem lies with international text books but lecturers should, where possible, try to translate the books written by them into other languages.

## 6.8 Internet cost

Michael followed this matter up and according to the IT Department the TSC should either have a special password and username or their internet credits should be increased.

## 6.9 Appointment of 13<sup>th</sup> Member

The following names were suggested: Kevin Marincowitz, Nerima Were, Awie Erasmus and Millet Nkanyane. One of the two remaining portfolios will be filled once Mario is back. Zwelakhe wanted to know whether the TSC has the authority to appoint the 13<sup>th</sup> member and according to Marius they may.

6.10 **Budget**

Dineo suggested that the budget should be approved. All the portfolio budgets (except Mario's) were handed in. Some do not correlate with her budget but she will discuss the matter with Marius and the relevant member. Members will be able to access funds once the budget is in the system.

7. **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will take place on 3 February 2010 at 17:00.

8. **Closing**

Marius closed with prayer and the meeting adjourned.

**CHAIRPERSON:** .....

**SECRETARY-GENERAL:** .....

**DATE:** .....