

1

**University of Pretoria
Student Representative Council**

**Minutes of a meeting as held at 19:00 on 7 May 2012 in the
Dean's Boardroom, Roosmaryn**

1. Opening and welcome

The chairperson opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

2. Attendance

2.1 Present

Mthokozisi Nkosi	President
Gerbrand Lindeque	Deputy President & Service Providers
Kleinbooie Legoabe	Secretary-General
Angel Bolosha	Community Engagement
Pierre Cloete	Safety, Security & Facilities
Thinus Dicks	Day & Faculty Houses
Simóne Engelbrecht	Residences
Jordan Griffiths	Transport, Justice & Constitutions
Tiaan Koen	Projects
Jozua Loots	Technology Development & Sponsorships
Thobekani Malatula	Culture & Language
Mpume Mbongo	Study Finance
Atlegang Mogale	Marketing
Chris Pappas	Academic Affairs & Honorary Colours
Camille Pienaar	Projects
Busisiwe Radebe	Student Well-Being
Nic Stead	Residences
Simba Tavuyanago	International Students
Claudette Veldhuizen	External Campuses

2.2 Absent with apology

Tsatsi Chauke	Societies
Tebogo Twala	Treasurer-General

3. Announcements and correspondence

- The date for the Life Skills training was set for 16 May 2012 but some SRC members are unable to attend and it was therefore decided to change the date to 23 May 2012.
- Tsatsi is ill and the SRC wishes her a speedy recovery.
- The chairperson thanked Chris and Jozua for keeping up with their POA's and their hard work

4. Confirmation of the agenda

SRC 7/2012

The following points were added to the agenda:

6.4 UP Mobile

7.9 Marketing date

5. **Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 April 2012 was approved as a true account of the meeting on condition that Paragraph 7.9 be amended to read “External Communication” and not External Compensation.

6. **Matters forthcoming**

6.1 **Feedback on various constitutional provisions in the constitution for Student Governance**

Observers in SRC meetings – Observers are allowed to actively participate in SRC meetings, can ask questions but cannot vote.

Portfolio committees – There is a contradiction in the constitution for Student Governance regarding this matter but it was accepted at SRC members will act as chairpersons of portfolio committees.

6.2 **Student Disciplinary Advisory Panel (SDAP)**

In the last meeting it was agreed that Jordan should e-mail the relevant documents with regard to the SDAP to everyone so that the matter can be discussed at this meeting. The following concerns were raised about the issue:

- Not all students (and especially the students on the external campuses) are aware of the services rendered by the SDAP.
- There was no consultation with the students to find out whether or not they regard the SDAP as a service provider or not.

According to Jordan, one of the reasons why there is an SRC in place is so that it can take decisions on behalf of the broader student community.

Jordan proposed a motion that the SRC should recommend to council that the SDAP should be registered as a service provider. The matter was put to the vote and the results were as follows:

FOR: 11
AGAINST: -
ABSTAIN: 5

▶ **The motion was approved.**

6.3 **Petrol compensation**

According to the chairperson the executive committee of the SRC must look into the matter of the medical students who have to travel to the Hatfield campus using their money for fuel. The executive committee resolved that those SRC members will be able to claim from the Petrol Fund for the fuel they use to travel to the Hatfield campus.

▶ **The treasurer-general will meet with them to discuss the matter.**

6.4 **UP Mobile**

According to Jozua, UP will be the first in the country to launch what will be known as the "UP Mobile". Students will be able to access all the library services, maps, Google, etc via their cell phones (the launch will take place this week).

7. **New matters**

7.1 **Progress of the SRC Study Aid Fund**

According to Mpume the SRC Study Aid Fund faced quite a few challenges which have since been resolved. The textbooks will be delivered on 8 May and will then be handed out to the applicants. She requested the help of SRC members to package the books. The launch of the SRC Study Aid Fund will take place next semester.

7.2 **Exclusion Campaign**

The SRC will launch an Exclusion Campaign before the exams. The Campaign will consist of two phases i.e.

- It will deal with providing students with information on how to prepare for the exams
- It will furthermore deal with all the information and the process with regard to academic exclusion

7.3 **SRC Award for the Top Performing Student in each Faculty**

According to Chris there are currently no awards for the top achievers in faculties and he suggested that the SRC should recognize those students who excel academically (achievement per faculty and per level of study).

▶ **Everyone present supported this initiative and Chris will e-mail the proposal to everyone for their input.**

7.4 Culture Portfolio and Student Culture Duties

7.4.1 Duties of the SRC Member for Language & Culture

Thobekani stated that there is confusion between his portfolio and the Service Provider portfolio (especially with regard to Student Culture). He asked the meeting for guidance as to what the portfolio for Culture is supposed to do.

- ▶ **Different viewpoints were raised but in the end it was resolved that Thobekani is in charge of Culture and Gerbrand will be in charge of the Service Providers but that they must work together as both their plans of action indicate that they will work with Student Culture.**

7.4.2 Complaints about Student Culture

According to Nic and Simóne the following concerns about Student Culture were raised at a Residence Sub-Council meeting:

- Student Culture will be taking a trip to Stellenbosch using more than a third of their budget for the trip.
- Student Culture unilaterally increased the price of the tickets for the Sêrie from R30 to R40 after posters were put up.
- The ticket sales were disorganized.
- Later on the year 35 members of Student Culture will also go on a trip to Cape Town.
- There are complaints that the Student Culture Committee on occasion uses official funds to buy drinks at the Square.

After hearing the above concerns raised by residence students, it was resolved that the SRC must have a meeting with Student Culture as soon as possible (Gerbrand to inform Student Culture of the meeting).

Jozua also stated that the rule under 5.1.7 of the constitution of the society subcouncil the states that 40% of members may not be members of another registered society. It does not say 40% of members may not be members of any other society. The Student Parliament debated this point at length last year, and ratified an amendment to the clause to limit it to another society of the same type

It was noted that some SRC members are also serving on other student governance structures and according to the constitution for Student Governance and the opinion obtained from the Constitutional Tribunal, these members must resign as soon as they assume their seats on the SRC.

7.5 Open Day

Open Day will take in less than two weeks and Jozua wanted to know if the SRC will have something on that day. According to Atlegang all she knows is that Open Day will take place on 19 May 2012 and according to her, is very important for the SRC to take part in Open Day.

7.6 Societies

Jordan will handle this point because Tsatsi is sick. According to him the registration of more than 50 societies was declined registration. Mostly because they do not meet the requirement that not more than 40% of the members of one society may also be members of other societies. He wanted to know what the SRC must do if these societies lay a complaint with the Constitutional Tribunal.

- ▶ **It was resolved that Tsatsi and Jordan must use their own discretion whether or not to oppose any application brought against the SRC.**

7.7 Weskoppies Hospital Project

Claudette wants to launch a project to provide bedding for the children at the Weskoppies Hospital. According to the chairperson the SRC will support this initiative but she must work closely with Unathi (Angel) to come up with a proposal.

7.8 Community Engagement in Pretoria Prisons

Unathi stated that she had a meeting with the Department of Community Outreach. According to her they (the Department of Community Engagement) are looking for students will be able to assist them to provide anger management training to prisoners (some of them were pardoned by President Jacob Zuma) and she requested the assistance of the SRC to publish this initiative. Students who participate in this program will receive credits for their community engagement modules and they will also receive certificates of service from the SRC.

7.9 Marketing material

Atlegang had a meeting with staff members from Education Innovation who will provide the SRC with marketing material. They requested that the SRC should notify them at least two weeks in advance if marketing material is needed.

8. General

8.1 SRC budget

According to the chairperson the SRC's budget has been approved and it will be distributed to everyone.

8.2 Social before exams

Thinus stated that the Day Houses are planning a pre-exam social and wanted to know if there is a policy in this regard.

- ▶ **Kleinbooi will provide Thinus with the necessary information after the meeting.**

8.3 SRC Social

According to Gerbrand there will be a SRC social on 18 May 2012. He will e-mail the information to everyone.

8.4 Academic Support Program

Chris has a meeting with Drr Madiba and Wilken in this regard. They are in a process of obtaining lecturers from faculties to act as mentors for the SRC to provide emotional and academic support to SRC members.

9. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Monday 14 May 2012.

10. Closing

The meeting adjourned.

CHAIRPERSON:

SECRETARY-GENERAL:

DATE: