**MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6 APRIL 2021 IN THE RA ROOM.**

**STARTING TIME: 18:10**

**TIME ADJOURNED: 21:09**

**CHAIRPERSON**: Leboghang Nkambule

**MINUTE TAKER**: Mitchelle Makokove

**2021.03.01. Present**

- Ms. Leboghang Nkambule - Ms. Chiedza Mude

- Ms. Hlumela Mpiti - Ms. Vuyelwa Moyo

- Ms. Mitchelle Makokove - Mr. Njabulo Mkhulisa

- Ms. Lindi Gqamana-Mngeni - Mr. Mpho Khopeli

- Ms. Taonga Phiri - Ms. Lerato Leboho

- Mr. Lukhanyiso Cezula - Ms. Isipho Ngutyana

- Ms. Zandile Gcumisa - Ms. Milca Matariro

- Ms. Tinashe Hlako - Ms. Nyasha Mwenye

**2021.03.02. Leave of Absence**

* No apologies were submitted by any councillor.

**2021.03.03 Conflict Declaration**

* No councillor declared conflict in this meeting.

**2021.03.04 Matters Arising.**

**4.1 Tall Trees Presentation.**

* Presented by Marius and Didintle.
* “How to craft the most efficient first year”
* Needs and awareness
* It was expanded to seniors as well
* Some 2020 SRC were included in the book.
* Question and Answer session between the SRC and the authors of the book:
* Q: Are they going to reference and acknowledge to prevent plagiarism?

A: yes, they would.

* Q: What is the intention of the book was and the means of presentation?

A: it was intended to be a survival guide for students.

* Q: Who is going to bear the cost implication and the onus of editing?

A: there are no cost implications. Edits are welcome but we would have to run the edits by them and vice versa.

* Q: How sustainable is this? Will it continue over the years?

A: ideally, it would be for it to continue.

* Q: What was the idea behind the name “Tall Trees”?

A: It is a leadership concept, taking into account the saying that “The tallest tree catches the most wind”.

* Q: What does a successful book launch look like for you?

A: Launched with the SRC booklet. Have zoom meetings, webinars etc. in which the key themes are discussed.

* Q: The book is somewhat outdated. How will this be mitigated?

A: respective portfolio councilors can fine tune it.

* Q: How did you ensure a diverse covering of the student body?

A: It was experience based.

* It was highlighted that caution must be placed on what is termed as a “Rhodent” we could rather say that it aims to build the “ideal Rhodent”.
* Suggestion to have it published and have various segments discussed during Purple Thursday. The SRC would get a directive from the authors on how they want the launch for their book.
  1. **Graduation Reconsideration.**
* Task Team met.
* Proposal will be given to the rest of council before the end of the week to be sent out by Monday.
* The proposal is also to be sent to the DSA.
* Ideas this far:
* During September Vacation, from Wednesday to Saturday.
* The Postgraduate graduation ceremony is to be maintained at its set date.
* Proposed venue is Great Field. Take into account the unavailability of WIFI
* Task team is to benchmark with other universities.
* Task team will speak to Deans
* Tickets will be limited to one parent and extra tickets will be sold.
* Question and Answer between the task team and the rest of council:
* Q: Does it take into account 2020 graduates?

A: No. Due to capacity restrictions.

A suggestion was made to remove the extra ticket option as a means to mitigate this.

* Q: Is it possible to have two events simultaneously?

A: It is not possible because of speakers.

* Q: What is the purpose of consulting Deans?

A: Research and hear reasons that may contribute to proposal.

* Q: What happens to the April and September graduation?

A: The planned virtual graduations will go ahead.

* Submit to the DSA then it will be followed up from there.
  1. **Oppidan Bus.**
* Put Pressure to the DSA to put out the tender process.
* Mr. Jabavu spoke to Ma’am Noma.
* Budget for the buses is coming from the Oppidan Union.
* The President will speak to the DSA in their meeting scheduled this coming week
  1. **Oppidan Mentorship Programme.**
* SRC members must avail themselves.
* Still awaiting feedback from those who need mentors.
* Have more mentors than mentees.
* Have posters showing collab between SRC and Oppi Union.
  1. **Student Debt Relief Fund.**
* Pending meeting with Nkanyiso who is the initiator of the project.
* Feenix meeting pending. The Student Benefits and Sponsorships Councillor will have training with Ms. Veronica Israel.
* Questions were raised on the continuity of the project.
* Fundraising ought to be the main driver of the fund but this does not disregard the donations element.
* It is an external project.
  1. **Office Demands.**
* Swinging chairs.
* Touch Screen Computer.
* Air Conditioners.
* Blinds
* Printers
* Internal and external phones that work
* Software updates
* Sufficient Furniture
* Fridge
* Microwave
* Earphones/Headphones
* Kitchen
* Lockable Cupboard
* Filter Tap
* Storage

**2021.03.05 Matters arising from Exec**

* There were no matters arising from exec.

2021.03.06 Other matters arising

**6.1 Data for societies**

* + Society chairs requested that data be purchased for the purpose of training.
  + R4000 that was previously spent came from the societies council.
  + The Sports and societies councillor will look into the society funds.
  + The President, Treasurer and Sports and societies councillor will discuss this in detail after the meeting.

**6.2 Treasure Hunt (Disability Awareness).**

* + Several talks on disability with Enable and SAUS.
  + Prof Rod Walker will speak on the abuse of medicines.
  + Disability structures will have the treasure.
  + Proposed date is the first few weeks of the second term
  + Proposal to paint stairs white
  + Reminder to apply for a contact event to the university.
  + Madam Activism is to send the proposal by the end of the week and there was a suggestion for the stairs by the library to be painted white for people with visual impairments.

**6.3 Data for Oppidans**

* + Take into account the capacity of JAC Labs and Union labs.
  + The library closes early and the 24-hour section closes at 23 00.
  + There is no oppidan bus.
  + Data will mitigate this crisis.
  + A proposal is to be drafted with the above and will be raised in the Student Services Committee scheduled for 13 April 2021.

**6.4 April Plans.**

* + Motivate me Monday.
  + Study Tips.
  + Discussion groups to be facilitated by Class Reps.
  + Notes from students to be accessible via Google docs.
  + Progress reports from academic reps on the last day of term.
  + Brother/sister programme.
  + DHL Gradstar.

**6.5 Purple Thursday.**

* + Dingaan’s video is to be played first.
  + A background of what Purple Thursday is and its origin.

**6.6 Feedback from Board of Residences**.

* + Energy conservation by use of heaters that will automatically turn off after one hour.
  + Installation of more water tanks around campus: Task team will meet later on in the year.
  + Question on the vouchers and why it is R80 per day and why Pick n Pay.
* It was said that the total cost of meals per day is R65.
* Pick n Pay is the only one that heeded to the call of a partnership.
  + Vacation accommodation is R220 per day.
  + Security issues.
* Keep doors locked
* Students must use the blue route, which is functional.
  + DSTV will only be in use when residences have 80-90 % capacity back on campus.
* It was argued that is detrimental to people’s mental health, because they are confined to their rooms.
  + NSFAS Accreditation.
* There has been a hold up on the process. Students must submit their leases.

General feedback

It was noted that going forward, the minute taker should note peoples names/portfolios when they speak.