**RHODES UNIVERSITY**

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY**

**DATE: 28 FEBRUARY 2017**

**TIME: 19H00**

**2017.M02.1 PRESENT**

President, Vice President, Secretary General, Students benefits, International, Community engagement, Environmental, Media, Projects Manager, SRC Advisor

**2017.M02.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

The Oppidan Counsellor apologized saying her mother came to fetch her and they went to King Williams Town to perform a certain ritual. The Vice president explained that apologies must be sent via an email as it was agreed on the previous meeting. He further suggested that the executive must recognize traditional ceremonies, adding on tests, field trips and illnesses. One cannot come at 15H00 and say the ritual will be the same day, therefore the leave of absence must not be accepted.

Secretary- seconded the proposal

President- emphasized that she will still be marked absent and will be announced as absent in the student body.

**2017. M02. 3 OTHER MATTERS OF THE AGENDA**

* Office furniture
* Give 5
* Hosting of other SRC's

**2017. 02. 4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Minutes were confirmed by the Vice President and International

**2017.M02.5 PURPOSE OF THE EXECUTIVE**

Vice president- said the SRC should all understand why there is an SRC in the first place. He further explained that it is there to give strategic direction and have a general consensus on issues and the executive makes suggestions that must be adopted by the full council. This is not only done by the Rhodes SRC but all other universities.

**2017.02.5 COUNCIL PHOTO**

President asked the Media counselor to clarify on the council photo issue

Media- explained that the council was going to have a photo shoot on Friday but she had a meeting, therefore she suggests that the photo shoot be done once the new yet to be elected SRC members are sworn into office to cut the costs.

President- said that is going to take forever because even after they are sworn into office, they will still need to wait for their uniform, and the SRC Facebook page still has the last year council, which is purely not acceptable.

Media- said she was on the process of fixing that and she has just started today. If the SRC wants an informal shoot, that can be arranged, she will put a banner at the back and have the shoot.

International- suggested that the ones that are still coming must be added when they come, for now the photo shoot has to be done.

Vice- Requested that the council resolves the time.

Media- suggested after 12 noon

President- pointed out that Vanessa is not going to be available

Student Benefits- Requested that the Media explains that when she means informal, does that mean with or without the SRC camera.

President- also needed clarity on whether it will be full photos or headshots

Media- It will be headshots

President- Consensus has been reached that the SRC will take headshots so that the student body can know its SRC.

**2017.M02.7 MEDIA ASPECT**

Vice- explained that this is regards to the media office not person. There are demands that the SRC must meet, that are overlooked in which SRC has no voice in them E.G Xenophobia, Hire a graduate etc. In terms of urgency, the SRC should not go a day without tweeting, or posting on Facebook just to keep the pages alive.

Students Benefits- pointed out that the things that are still there are from last year and therefore requested the media counsellor to look into that.

President- said on behalf of everyone the media counsellor should get those up and running and report back to the next meeting.

**2017.M02.8 HONORARY MEMBER ALLOCATIONS**

International- SRC members are allocated to societies, where they are honorary members. They are not running these but overseeing. Everyone will be allocated in a society soon.

President- requested that international emails a list of those if he has it. He further pleaded with the council to familiarize themselves with the constitution of each society and how they function.

Treasurer- enquired that is a person going to have more than one society? Is there a certain amount that will be deducted from their salaries and are they going to have access to their books or not?

President- Responded that nothing will be deducted from their salaries and yes they will have more than one society and access to their books.

**2017. M02.9 PURPLE THURSDAY INITIATIVE**

International- said two Thursdays a month they will have societies and they sort of present facts about a certain country.

SRC advisor- applauded the international counsellor saying he likes it when someone refers to his/her manifesto. He further said the idea is brilliant but enquired that is the international counsellor selling food or not.

International- responded saying no he will not be selling food

**2017.M02.10 EVENTS ATTENDANCE CLARITY**

International- There are some events that are not organized by the SRC in which the SRC members are expected to attend. Can it be made clear that everyone is supposed to attend because it is very frustrating when events are attended by only few people.

Vice- Broadly one cannot be obligated to attend when they have a valid reason like academics. E.g one cannot be obligated to attend an event on Thursday night if they have an assignment due on Friday.

Environmental- said he thinks attendance should be interest based not formal because he is not going to enjoy an event that he was forced to attend.

International- clarified saying he was not saying it should be a rule hence he used give 5 as an example.

Student benefits- if they do not make it a rule, they will have the same faces in each and every event.

Media- suggested that the Secretary allocates people in each and every event to be attended.

International- said the SRC should understand that it has a social obligation to these things and people should not attend on an interest basis.

SRC Advisor- said the SRC is too early in the term and they need to trust each other E.g everyone went to the international event but no one went in community engagement because it was on an interest basis. So he proposed that the attendance must be formalized.

Environment- pointed out that SRC events are compulsory but vents hosted by other people should not be.

President- requested that the international counsellor formalizes it.

**2017.M02.12 OPPIDAN MEAL FUND**

Secretary- said the oppidan counsellor sent a request, which is from the Oppidan Committee stating that the SRC should pledge some money in the oppidan fund, and submit their pledge by tomorrow.

President- Oppidan has money more than them so they cannot expect them to pledge their little money and further stated that Council cannot re allocate funds as the budget has already been finalized.

Student benefits- enquired about the ice cream that was sold and wanted to know what happened to that money.

Treasurer- said the oppidan counsellor will report back on that..

SRC advisor- "You must pledge now and we want the response now" . He said this is so arrogant and not acceptable. The SRC needs to make it known that they are the head of the students and they must not allow anyone to make them feel less. They must just put the money that they have and tell them that, that is the only amount the have.

President- said they need a meeting as soon as possible with the oppidan committee and clarify this.

**2017. M02.13 FUNDRAISING**

TREASURER- referred to her manifesto saying as she has stated there, she will have people giving money every month and a person that gave most will be reimbursed with R1500 from the treasurers' pocket. She then said she is committing to R200 monthly.

Vice President- commended the treasurer and added that there are a lot of gaps in fundraising where they can sell snacks and make combos etc. Just things that are affordable and that can make a lot of money.

Secretary general- also commended the treasurer on her initiative. He then added that a person can set a target for him/herself and even call people back home and tell them about this initiative so that they can also contribute.

Students benefits- also commended the treasurer but enquired that what happens if a student can only afford R50 monthly? The prize would not be fair because it would be promoting those who are rich only..

SRC Advisor- suggested that she makes a ruffle and have a draw. He further said people can double book for an oppidan student, or donate the other one. The kaif/union lawns are a good place of fundraising, the SRC can pitch tents, have chairs and start selling at a good price.

President- said Dr Lange is in, they can have a meeting tomorrow and present these to him. Also ask dining halls to contribute and fundraise.

**2017. M02. 14 RESPECT**

Treasurer- appealed to everyone to please respect other people's property. If something does not belong to someone then they must not take it. E.g she left her phone on her desk and when she came back it was switched off and had a crack.

Secretary- Added on respect saying a lot of people drink coffee and leave their cups unattended, so people should wash their cups.

Student benefits- said there are students who feel like they are entitled to stuff in the fridge, so the SRC should note that if something is missing, it might have been taken by some random student.

SRC advisor- said when the SRC accounts such issues they must please inform him so that he can attend to them as soon as possible because taking stuff without the owner's permission is theft, therefore whoever does that will be charged for theft. He then added that the SRC is a good council but they are filthy, they do not clean after themselves. Maybe the president should talk to the people in the counselling center because they took their fridge, meaning they want nothing to do with the SRC.

International- pointed out that the counselling center also hosts events on weekends, eat cake and leave the dishes unattended and the kitchen in a mess. Again if someone has visitors in the office they must please attend them in the balcony not in the office.

**2017. M02. 15 STEVE BIKO LIFT**

SRC Advisor- said there is a lot that ha been done to fix the lift but the previous SRC' committed in raising funds to assist but it has done nothing. The current SRC must fulfill the previous SRC's promise. The lift will go up as soon as the funds are enough.

President- said it was going to be different if the previous SRC left a plan on how they were going to raise these funds, now it will take a while because the current council has to plan properly.

Ofei- the SRC did not say they will pay but they will help fundraise.

Students benefits- said she will follow up on Lindokuhle Zungu and hear what exactly was their plan.

**2017.M02.16 OFFICE FURNITURE**

Secretary- reported saying the finance division rejected some of the stuff that they bought saying they are small things and they can be easily taken home, so they said the SRC should meet and discuss this.

SRC Advisor- said the SRC should have shown him the list before they submitted it because he could have advised them on some of the things. He further said he was asked what does he think about those items that were in the list and he said he knew nothing about them. He added that the occupation was not their fault so they cannot be punished for that. Nothing will go missing without being accounted for. If the finance division does not give them what they want, they can boycott the offices, he will fully support them on that.

President- said they will have a meeting with them.

**2017.M02.17 GIVE 5**

Students benefits- pleaded with the council to take give 5 as an initiative. She surged people to look deep into detail of the business people around Grahamstown. She requested the give 5 committee to please respond to Allens' email.

**2017. M02.18 HOSTING OF OTHER SRC's**

Student benefits-said there were Fort Hare SRC members during the rugby match yesterday, and the SRC did not even go and greet them. She requested that let us acknowledge them when they are in their premises because they already think that the Rhodes SRC are elites or better than them.

President- said they could have welcomed them if ever they announced that they were coming and there was no need for the SBS to apologize on their behalf..

SRC Advisor said when the Rhodes SRC is going to other institutions, they must send them emails and announce that they are coming but if the other SRCs' do not do that in return then they must not feel obligated to do so.

**2017. M02 .19 ADVISOR**

SRC Advisor- commended the council on going into dining halls but said some went in different times and some were sitting but nevertheless they must continue with that the student body likes it. He requested that they please have an O-week report by the end of the week. There is a team building weekend. He enquired if they want a bonding session or chill session.

President- responded saying it would make sense if they can have team building because they are still new and there are other new members that are coming.

Advisor - said the other thing is honoraria and further said they are getting more than what they are supposed to get and they had to vouch to do something. The secretary will be submitting office hours and who does not attend council meetings. If any of these take place, there are some deductions that wil be done on that particular person's salary and she will be given what is left. The procedure is that, that person will be sent an email, and appeal if the appeal is not successful then they will go ahead.

Media- asked that where do the cut-offs go?  
Advisor- responded that they will be in the SRC account and they SRC can do whatever they want to do about it. Society council has been elected and it is advised that the SRC has variety of people in it.

Vice- Said the faculty representatives have not been elected yet so the SRC has to facilitate that.

Advisor- said student parliament will be elected on Thursday. He said they will need the SRC t elect the sports council, hall reps and faculty reps. Everyone needs to do a SWOT analysis.

Secretary- said it is anonymous.

Media- enquired that are they going to write it down or talk because she does not trust the advisor with the information.

Advisor- retaliated saying that the media counsellor has to understand that he is very professional in his work and he knows what confidentiality means. He further said one of his job is institutional memory, therefore when he tells them of what happened in the previous years, he is just merely doing his job, it does not mean that they have to do what he is telling them. By the following week Monday they have to be handed in.

President- said when their payslips came they were all amazed and seeked for clarity.

Advisor- Responded saying that in December in their last pay, they get a lump sum only if they bring the universities laptops, keys etc back.

Treasurer- said Executive members get R5000 and Non-executive members get R4000

**2017. M02. 20 Report Backs**

Vice president- said out of 30 appeals: 17 were successful, which is more than 50%. The unsuccessful ones were due to dismal fail for a long time or due to them not writing motivations. He further explained that the university commits to re-admit a student if they did a UNISA course, that has been documented. Masifundisane NGO requested co-objectives and those are due on Friday at 16H00.

Environmental- said there will be monthly water tests and a green fun run.

Projects- said she has a meeting at 11H30

Student benefits- said she got Television and Tinashe bought pads.

Media- said she does not have any report back.

Treasurer- there is R23 962 from R70 000. Travel is R39 000 from R50 000. She said she has already reported on salaries.

Secretary- there were SDV and SDB interviews today. He also reminded council about mentors.

Vice president- said Saturday at 13H00 they will have a reflective session and get to understand what exactly is expected of them in their respective portfolios.

Environmental- said he has no motivation of coming to the office because he has no convenient place to work.

Vice said – engagement officer must remove the clothes in the purple room because they are cleaning it.

**2017. M01.21 UPCOMING EVENTS**

Projects- said people just come for cake and leave and suggested that the SRC re-imagines what purple Thursday is.

President- said there is an Institutional forum on the 14th of March.

International- Dinner with the Vice Chancellor

Advisor- requested that the SRC has sign ups in the great field not great hall.

President said moving forward they will try and keep their meeting short.

Date if next meeting : 06 March 2017

Meeting adjourned at 22H00