**RHODES UNIVERSITY**

**STUDENT REPRESANTATIVE COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 13TH OF MARCH 2017**

**TIME:18 33PM**

**VENUE: RA ROOM**

**2017.M04.1 PRESENT**

President, Vice President, Secretary General, Treasurer, Student benefits, International Affairs, Projects, Oppidan, Media, Environmental, Community engagement, Advisor

**2017.M04.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

NONE

**2017.M04.3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The Vice President and the International affairs councillor rectified some errors made on the previous minutes and therefore the minutes will be confirmed in the next meeting.

**2017.M04.4 OTHER MATTERS OF THE AGENDA**

* Fees Must Fall

**2017.M04.5 FEES MUST FALL**

President- said there are delegated people who will be attending a conference Johannesburg. If the Rhodes SRC is expected to make a stance, what does the SRC think?

Vice President-said with the nature of such meetings, the will be a student caucus before the Higher Education Convention to discuss stances e.g free education for the poor, decolonising etc.

Environmental- asked that are the questions that are going to come up when they present the stance? He suggested that the SRC should consider those.

Treasurer- asked if this includes international students as well.

Oppidan- asked that who exactly is poor or defined as poor? Where do they categorise the missing middle and what about the international students because financial exclusion is real. She asked the council to be flexible around these questions.

Vice President- said “those who cannot afford” encompasses the working class and missing middle. He further said the question relating to the previous communication about international students: SADAC region students will be treated as locals, so does this apply to international students?

President- said if one cannot afford then that person is considered as poor. People who are considered as rich must pay educational tax.

Vice- Responded directly to the president saying the tax on income has increased of the upper tax bracket. In terms of creating mechanisms to distinguish between the rich and the poor, systems, which are reliable, need to be created.

Environmental- said he thinks if the rich leave universities and build their own, then that is their problem. He further asked if educational tax is going to be per student or per family?

Oppidan- said classism still exists, for the mere fact that there are those who can afford and those that cannot afford is classism. She said they should not sugar coat poor and say “those who cannot afford”. Free education should be for the poor.

President- asked the stance of the SRC

Council- Free education for the poor.

Student benefits- requested that when they engage they must not forget the issue of international students.

Oppidan- said even so they must bring it up and maybe present a case of students who could not be helped, maybe something might come up.

International- said the government offers a subsidy already

Environmental- said treating international students as locals is not going to work because in South Africa they already pay less.

**2017.M04.6 SRC BANNERS**

Treasurer- said they started off with three banners and two have already gone missing. When she checked last week, they had one. She said she flagged out that

whenever someone is taking out equipment he/she must sign them out so that it is easy to trace them.

Media said there are two banners, if they started off with three then one is missing. She checked in great hall and found nothing. The secretary said it might be at eden groove, so she will go and check tomorrow. The signing out sheet is used but on purple Thursday she was late and so she could no sign. Three tables clothes are being washed and she has no idea where the other two are.

Community engagement- said she was tasked and took out three cloths, two branded and one not branded. The treasurer is usually not around so she did not know how to go about signing. She said she then folded them and put them in the presidential office.

Secretary- suggested that if they have an event on Thursday for an example, he proposed that a person signs out all the equipment they will use on Wednesday afternoon.

Vice president- seconded the proposal

Student benefits- asked that if the cameras, cloths etc are going to be used by media, why are they signed from the Secretary?

Secretary- said before anyone signs out from the secretary, the person responsible for the facilities being used must first sign out and then take the papers, then other councillors must sign out from that councillor. He further suggested that he does office checks on Thursday so that a person can indicate what is in their office and not.

President- said the Media councillor must confirm that three banners were given to her.

Media- said she cannot confirm such because she cannot remember but since that is said to be so, she will take responsibility.

**2017.M04.7 FINANCIAL PROCEDURE AND PROTOCOL**

Treasurer- Said she has been repeating herself that people who want purchase orders must email her so that it can be easy for her to trace and request not send informal messages through social media.

**2017.M04.8 FUNDRAISING**

Cancelled

**2017.M04.9 PURPLE THURSDAY**

Projects-extended her gratitude to everyone that supported purple Thursday. She further requested that if she asks someone to do something and he/she is not able to do so, they must indicate on time that they will not be able to. She asked the media councillor to be always on events on time and if she cannot she can delegate someone.

**2017.M04.10 GIVE 5**

Projects- said since the kaif is closed she thought of a quick way to make funds at the same time meeting the students’ needs by selling quarters. She asked the oppidan to join her and sell cooldrinks. For capital, she can take some from her office. She asked the council to say what they think about the proposal and if there are any members who would like to join her.

Environmental- suggested that they use kaif lawns/union lawns

Media- asked if she must be there physically

Projects- responded saying if she can she must be there physically, if she cannot, she must delegate someone in her team.

Oppidan- requested that they sell hot dogs as well

Vice- said this is a great initiative. He also added that this will not be a once off event and he volunteered to assist in anything that needs a helping hand.

President- requested the treasurer to visit the petty cash issue and report back in the next meeting.

**2017.M04.11 TELEPHONE POLICY**

President- said the telephone bill was too high because individuals were making personal calls. They called students during the time of appeals which made the telephone bill to be high but from now onwards the bill must not be extremely high.

Community- suggested that personal calls should not be permitted because they are in a professional space.

President- said if anyone is found guilty he/she will be charged

**2017.M04.12 COUNCIL SEAT ALLOCATION**

President- said him and the Vice president met the registrar. Two students sit in the council, one from SRC and the other one from the postgraduate liaison. According to the statute, it is up to the SRC to keep the seat. He asked suggestion on who can occupy that seat.

Advisor- said it is their seat and they decide who occupies it; he further advised that the seat must not be occupied by the Vice President every year

President- said that the proposal that he has put forward is that the Vice President occupies the seat. Any objections?

Council- no objections

**2017.M04.13 REPORT BACKS**

Vice- said he is still receiving academic appeals. He is in the process of consolidating co-objectives of the SRC.

Community- Said the residences took back the clothes and they are continuing with the drawer system. There was also a word that went out saying they are giving out clothes and she has no idea who said that and they are not yet giving out clothes to the public.

Media-everyone got the business cards, door signs and note pads but there are few with errors and she will go and print when by elections candidates are in office.

International- proposal that was made two weeks ago, they will only start next week than the current week.

Projects- said purple Thursday was better than other days

Oppidan- said she has nothing to report back on

Environmental- people in residences said they have a problem of not having recycle bins. On the 29th of March, he has an environmental committee meeting.

Student benefits- attended a meeting the activism and transformation and discussed the plan of having first things first campaign, which tests the health of students and it will be on the 27th – 29th of March. Three activations were successful.

Treasurer- said she is looking at buying speakers instead of paying R150 weekly. She is still waiting on the counselling centre for milk details.

Secretary- said he followed up on locks to be fixed.

President- said he attended a senate this afternoon. He also received an orientation email.

Advisor- said in orientation they will have a debrief of what needs to be improved in orientation week.

President- requested that the delegated five people must meet with others on Thursday so that they go with one voice.

**2017.M04.14 ADVISOR**

Advisor- said people must speak to the chairperson and not respond directly to other people. Chairperson to please keep an eye on the table. Thursday there will be inauguration and the council must attend in their uniform. The council is supposed to give everyone a fair chance and not show any favouritism. The SRC has been very good in their transparency with the students though they have not told the students yet that they are going to the summit. In SRC events it will be easy if they put dates and times so that if a certain councillor cannot attend they can just amend that. Starting on April, they will have a presenter, someone will present to them to ensure ongoing training. The unions are looking at striking because the percentage that the university is giving them is too low and not accepted and the SRC needs to have a stance on that. They must take off the approval of posts and re-instate it when times are tough. Please make sure that the student body knows what they are doing every time. SWOT analysis has been moved because of the training on the 7th – 9th April.

**2017.M04.15 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Environmental- said if they called a meeting, they must not make suggestions via social networks but should meet and state reasons.

International- said as much as there is hierarchy, they need to have a way of talking to each other and clarity on how does the SRC work together.

Student benefits- said the president mentioned bring Dr Nhlapho, he asked that does he give people agenda items without discussing such with the council first?

President- responded saying he said he will bring her to answer questions on transformation in the student body meeting.

Treasurer- said she sent an email with the furniture list and there are things which have been automatically removed.

President- said the language committee needs a representative from the SRC.

**2017.M04.16 UPCOMING EVENTS**

* Purple Thursday
* Inauguration Thursday
* Tomorrow give 5 meeting at Alumni house

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 20TH March 2017 at 18H30 RA Room

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 21H00**