

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE DROSTDY HALL COMMITTEE HELD ON  
MONDAY 16 APRIL 2018 AT 18:30 IN BARRATT LECTURE THEATRE 3, BARRATT  
LECTURE COMPLEX**

**2018.02.01 ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES**

**Present:** Catherine Deiner (Chair, *Hall Warden & PA Warden*), Adv Shuaib Rahim (*Hall Fellow*), Adam Butler (*Hall Senior Student*), Lewis Komu (*SRC Hall Rep*), Sylvester Jeffries (*Celeste Warden*), Tlamelelo Mothudi (*AG Warden*), Dr Albert Chakona (*Graham Warden*). Gladys Francis (*AG Sub-Warden*), Simphiwe Tshabalala (*AG Sub-Warden*), Sinazo Tshongweni (*AG Sub-Warden*), Zama Luthuli (*Celeste Sub-Warden*), Tadiwa Mutizwa (*Celeste Sub-Warden*), Rapula Diale (*Graham Sub-Warden*), Sheldan Dolf (*Graham Sub-Warden*), Tariro Mbiba (*PA Sub-Warden*), Namhla Tukulu (*PA Sub-Warden*), Siphiso Mthonti (*AG Head Student*), Fungai Musesengwa (*Graham Head Student*), Dimakatso Pitja (*PA Head Student*).

**Apologies:** Mr Edward Horn (*Drostdy Hall Fellow*), Mr Leon Coopasamy (*Drostdy Hall Fellow*), Mr Evert Knoesen (*Drostdy Hall Fellow*).

*Minutes taken by Adam and Cath in Candice's absence.*

Advocate Rahim and Natasha were welcomed to their first hall comm meeting.

**2018.02.02 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Hall Committee Meeting held on 20 February 2018 were confirmed by Sheldan and Sylvester, subject to the following corrections:

- Item 2018.01.11: Clause for “house comm resignations for hall constitution” to be changed to “clause for house comm non-performance for hall constitution”.
- Item 2018.01.08 Academics: Alteration of “marshalling” to “encouraging participation from”

**2018.02.03 MATTERS ARISING**

From minutes – speaking to Celeste re: incorporation of house into academic matters

**2018.02.04 OTHER MATTERS FOR THE AGENDA**

There were no other matters for the agenda.

**2018.02.05 REPORTS ON RESIDENCES BY HEAD STUDENTS**

**Prince Alfred**

- PA came 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> in all sports except chess
- Noncedo movie day at PA to be held
- Fundraiser for community engagement to be held
- 28<sup>th</sup> April – PA braai with Sobukwe in lieu of supper

**Allan Gray**

- Sports rep vacancy filled – Surprice Malatji
- 1<sup>st</sup> years have been assigned to mentors
- 1<sup>st</sup> res sister meeting has been held
- Will be regular feedback meetings with mentors
- 28<sup>th</sup> April braai in lieu of supper
- 22<sup>nd</sup> April fundraising event
- Opening lower common room with extra tables for exam prep
- 12<sup>th</sup> May bonding event – skills exchange event within res

**Graham**

- Water filter obtained, delivery pending
- Mixer for first years and seniors carried out successfully
- Mid-May dinner for top 10 planned
- 4<sup>th</sup> May fines night – subject to attendance of warden or Cath. Cath reminded them of rules regarding attendance of warden.
- Exam prep kicking off soon – next two weeks
- Wish to raise exam position
- Saturday conversations – to talk over exams
- Library runs begun

**Celeste**

- Natasha Belinda Bezuidenhout introduced herself as Celeste Head Student
- Give 5 accomplished, quite a step. Received well. Comm engagement and Head Student drove it forward with Dudu. Accomplished through selling easter eggs and running a raffle, with prizes sponsored by local business and res members.
- Celeste has reached capacity, full house
- Res braai 26<sup>th</sup> April
- Snake was collected and removed. Housekeeping was requested to remove dirty carpets under which snake was hiding.
- Candice is requested to follow up on cleaning of carpets, as some students are still waiting for carpets to be delivered to their rooms.
- Res hoodie to be discussed at next meeting
- Res photo to be taken in 3<sup>rd</sup> term
- Students not interested in International Parade – Cath suggested it be made clear that individuals are welcome to attend as individuals.

2018.02.06

**HALL SENIOR STUDENT REPORT BACK****Oppidan Partnership**

Possible partnership Adam has spoken to Leroy, who has spoken to his committee and their committee, they are very enthusiastic, excited by potential. Could be carried out in a number of ways:

- Using them for our round the block relay, given the issues, reach out to the Oppis, they are excited – pending approval from Hall Comm, it will go forward – consensus that we are happy to include Oppis and Oakdene
- Buy-in from Oppis, to include them in other events
- Fundraising – nice to have assistance from Oppidans to raise funds. Drostdy space, one or other of the parties have plans and make use of those plans, by allowing the other people to join in. If we have a Give 5 event planned, we could mention that to the Oppidan Committee. We are limited by what we can do by the number of the people. The vision is that at every point it's an active point. Operating at a rate where we can just maintain ourselves. VAT has gone up. We can do a lot more in terms of fundraising. R100 000 is not an unreasonable objective. A lot of the time we are relying on funding that is not ours. Res upgrades comes from some special budget. Adam highlighted that we are quite a light-hearted group, laughter is because we know each other, not as a matter of disrespect, hence the informality. Issues in residences are not big enough for university large enough so we can do it. Fundraising is a niche. Adv. Rahim requests a list of outstanding maintenance issues that are essential, e.g. lights not working outside Graham and road. Rank these. No reason we can't find funding.
- Exams – less tangible benefit to Drostdy than Oppidans, advantages, mentoring systems, request dining hall to stay open, common rooms, particularly exams, extending that – allow Oppidans to use facility – makes partnership – shows we are willing, support between students.

Logistically – wondering, safety thing – similar to way it operates during graduation.  
Access on basis.

Dining hall more plausible than residences. Something that can be regulated better.

- Clout/power – sharing votes and power together, working together on issues.

### **Role of Hall Fellows & filling the remaining Hall Fellow post**

- Adam welcomed Adv Shuaib Rahim & Evert Knoesen, no doubt they will be invaluable
- An underutilised structure as the hall comm. Voices of wisdom in times of need.
- Advice – primary use, able to have people from different parts of the University who can assist us
- We can make increased use of Hall Fellows when it comes to fundraising – niche, expertise is invaluable, looking at fundraising, we do have Hall Fellows, not obligated at any point to run your event but who are willing to provide advice in that situation.
- List of various structures, have different idiosyncratic functions, equally similar specialisations, obligations are due to us in processes
- Leon's term shortly comes to an end – possibly. Matter of replacing a hall fellow deferred until it is necessary.

### **Report back on Welcome Dinner**

- Held under budget by R17.00
- By and large enjoyed
- No bowls to wash hands (ribs)
- No music
- Second time having ribs- cut up was nice for bite—sized eating

### **External structure accountability (Board of Residences, Student Parliament, SRC etc.)**

- Institutional Forum, Board of Students, role of hall comm on these bodies
- Unaware of the bodies their peers sit, members act as individuals rather than as a hall, impairs the potential that we have, so for example raise issues that are in my mine, don't have a mandate, that's a bit of an issue. In these meetings discuss issues among ourselves. Following request from Adam:
  1. Request those who have a position disclose that.
  2. If you have an issue – send it to the relevant person
  3. Provide feedback from the meeting
  4. Useful in terms of long term goals – deal with issues long-term
  5. Example, there are certain issues, Oppis afforded very few seats. This number of students. Representation, greater strength in numbers.
- Candice to send a list – all the committees that Hall Comm sit on
- Depending nature of board, not able to divulge info, certain nuances,
- Adv. Rahim offered to run a workshop on legal administration on conduct of proceedings – Candice to set a date for this in discussion with Advocate Rahim.

### **Dining Hall Staff relations**

- One individual must be disciplined
- Older students know names of staff, people you see three times a day are important. Nice if we could more and more acknowledge the fact that we are important to each other. Ways to make that relationship more meaningful. Get first years to meet dining hall staff, something we must do in future years. Last years wanted better working wage, most students struck as callous if students attended meetings. As Drostdy go out of our way to make staff feel valued. Discussion as to how we can affect that. Some people don't greet, don't have the common decency, lack of service is not justifiable to be rude. Extend it to everyone, culture we encourage, recognise people, simple thing of greeting. Day to day basis. Not segregate it to one area.
- Foster a culture of appreciation.

**2018.02.07 SRC HALL REP REPORT BACK**

- Lewis and a SRC Councillor are going to house meetings to talk about the Great Field Party including a talk on safety at the event.
- Food changes proposal is still on the cards and being worked on to get the numbers correct.
- SRC would like to encourage students to attend Student Body Meeting on Wednesday 18 April 18:30.

**2018.02.08 HALL COMM PORTFOLIO POSITIONS****Community Engagement – Internal – Simphiwe**

- Use events internally to fund goals externally.
- Clothing we have, give the clothes to Ubuntu Fund. Open sale when staff can attend. Tea time on a Saturday.
- Drostdy Lawn sale, R5 upwards – in conjunction with – event – selling muffins – time.
- PnP trolley beg – book a slot – Simphiwe
- PA – invited Noncedo kids to come watch a movie
- AG – take Noncedo to Albany Museum, Fire Station, Botanical Garden

**Community Engagement – External – Namhla**

- Three goals in collaboration with Noncedo are: School readiness, gardening and painting.
- Tackle school readiness and gardening at the same time.
- Samples for school readiness packs have been discussed. There are 8 learners in this age group.
- Gardening – be someone from the site's side to teach us gardening on 20 April.
- The parents who aren't working. They also have to do fundraising.
- Approximate amount – R120 per pack (x 8 kids)
- Painting – during Trading Live – drawings outside.

**Environmental – Tadiwa**

Student by-in with environmental issues is difficult, trying to get resolved by enviro reps making themselves more visible. The Uni has had a number of events. Water crisis issue. Three or so different workshops. Like to organise something within in the hall. A couple of ideas: the garden, bringing it up as students volunteering. Instead of having it as a single res. Allan Gray garden is not an option.

**Sports – Sipiwo****Inter Res Sport**

- The Undergrad Female Teams have been performing very well
- According to the logs points, positions are as follows:
  - Allan Gray 2nd in female pool with 12 points
  - Graham House tied for 7th in male pool with 4 points
  - Prince Alfred 1st in female pool with 16 points
- Anticipate that Celeste will be more active this term now that a Sports Rep has been elected

**Round the Block**

- Allan Webb Hall declined invitation to collaborate with Drostdy on Round the Block
- We are now proposing to work with the Oppidan Hall
- Members present at Hall Comm meeting voted and agreed on the motion
- Proposal will be given to Oppidans at the Extraordinary Hall Meeting scheduled for 23 April 2018.

**Academics – Adam**

- Noticeboard of mentors. Academic Reps to ask Wardens. Supply them with students whose subjects fall into the same category. Adam to explain this process. Voluntary and available.
- Encourage house reps about the initiatives to share ideas. Graham things are very positive this year. Learn about what others are doing. Being in those spaces.
- First meeting this year – raising the profile of academics in the hall – exam prep.
- Make Exam prep visible. Begin doing disseminate info about academic processes in the university. Discussion on take-home exams, moratorium, something that students care about. Like to correct. On this issue, submissions from students have closed.

**International – Tariro**

The International Parade starts at 9:30 am on the first Saturday of international week (19-27 May) and ends at 12 noon. There are a number of events and activities during and after the parade which include but not limited to; language carousel, Live band, Poems, Live performances, etc. The parade will start at Steve Biko lawns going down New Street, takes a right turn along Hill Street towards the Cathedral, right turn to Rhodes University Arch to assemble by the mosaic. At the mosaic the Director of the International Office will address the students and there will be a few performances and activities.

Head Students to email their chosen country, as emailed to them, tomorrow. A suggestion to not choose glamorous countries but those experiencing difficulties, Syria etc.

**Communications – Zama**

- Zama has lost her phone
- Photos - send photos of events to Zama, not only res events, comm engagement events, sports events. She's available on Facebook.
- Instagram page – ru\_graham

**Activism/Transformation/Awareness Raising - Sheldan**

- Tut groups. Impressed by involvement from students. Impressed with first years brought issues in e.g. Being a man and crying. South African males having high rates of suicide. What they get told to do with their gender. How we interact with women. Defining characteristics. Interactive nature.
- For this term, not be as active. Privilege due to race and colour. Exam term. Activism groups to do one thing with their house. Depends on that rep.
- SRC involvement, screening, Mama Winnie, Inxeba.
- Activism Reps are going to start preparing for Freedom Day.
- Vigil for Palestine tomorrow night, 17 April 2018, organised by the Palestinian solidarity Group.

**2018.02.09****01 MAY E-WALLET MEAL MONEY PAYOUT**

Communicate that students need their updated cellphone number in order to get a pay-out on 1 May.

**2018.02.10****CLAUSE FOR NON-PERFORMANCE OF HOUSE COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR HALL CONSTITUTION**

Concern that too punitive, so other ways to award people. Certificates you served well, as well as a reference letter. Email clause to members to engage with and then on agenda for next hall comm.

**2018.02.11****MISSING MICROPHONES**

When the PA system was opened at welcome dinner, microphones were gone. Cath to send an email to the hall. Look to fundraising to replace them.

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*The meeting ended at 20h45*

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