

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE DROSTDY HALL COMMITTEE HELD ON
MONDAY 22 JULY 2019 AT 18:30 IN BARRATT LECTURE THEATRE 3, BARRATT
LECTURE COMPLEX**

2019.03.01 ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES

Present: Catherine Parkinson (*Chair, Hall Warden & PA Warden*), Tlanelo Mothudi (*AG Warden*), Dr Albert Chakona (*Graham Warden*), Lungelo Kubayi (*AG Sub-Warden*), Surprice Malatji (*AG Sub-Warden*), Thokozani Dladla (*Celeste Sub-Warden*), Adam Butler (*Graham Sub-Warden*), Sebe Nondima (*Graham Sub-Warden*), Dimakatso Pitja (*PA Sub-Warden*), Tapiwanashe Zinhumwe (*PA Sub-Warden*), Bennita Benza (*AG Head Student*), Tadiwanashe Murahwi (*Graham Head Student*), Keiryn O'Connor (*PA Head Student*).

In attendance: Candice Webber (*Drostdy Hall Administrator*).

Apologies: Adv. Shuaib Rahim (*Hall Fellow*), Mr Evert Knoesen (*Hall Fellow*), Sean Nkosi (*Celeste Warden*), Christine Roeber (*AG Sub-Warden*), Ashley Bristow (*Celeste Sub-Warden*), Retselisitsoe Ramoriting (*Celeste Head Student*). Nhlanhla Malisa (*Hall Senior Student*) – apology was not accepted.

The meeting started late at 18h34 as we had to wait for members who were late to arrive in order to reach quorum.

2019.03.02 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Hall Committee Meeting held on 29 April 2019 were confirmed by Adam and Albert, on condition that the following sentence be removed from the Sports Portfolio section:

“Graham House is participating, but shame they are not doing well. Cath reiterated that as long as they are participating and trying, that is all that counts.”

2019.03.03 MATTERS ARISING

2019.03.03.01 The Hall Warden reminded the Committee yet again that reports need to be professional and respectful.

2019.03.04 OTHER MATTERS FOR THE AGENDA

1. Elections/Leadership Positions (it was decided to make this item **2019.03.14**, and Recruitment & Selection of Sub-Wardens for 2020 became item 2019.03.15)

2019.03.05 REPORTS ON RESIDENCES BY HEAD STUDENTS**Allan Gray**

Bennita submitted her report in advance, which was circulated with the Agenda. *See Appendix 1.*

- It was confirmed that Ndimthandile Mfiki is both the Treasurer and Tuckshop Rep.
- Well done to Allan Gray on their tuckshop performance last term.

Celeste

Retselisitsoe submitted her report in advance, which was circulated with the Agenda. *See Appendix 2.*

- It was noted that if they have recycling that needs to be collected they can contact Rafeeq Sait of Grounds & Gardens to organise this to be done by Masicule Recycling. This also applies to the other residences.

Graham

Tadiwanashe submitted his report in advance, which was circulated with the agenda. *See Appendix 3.*

Their pool table and foosball table are broken and looking tatty and it was suggested that they maybe use res funds to fix or replace these. Graham House confirmed that they have been replacing items, e.g. pool cues and table tennis bats, but students keep on breaking these. They are trying to find the culprits and this has been raised at house meetings.

A dining hall rules revision hour still needs to be set up for Graham House. At the end of last term the Hall Warden was told by Graham students in the dining hall that they don't know the rules. It was reported that lab coats are not allowed in the dining hall, this is a rule from the Pharmacy Department.

In relation to Graham House not following the water crisis and grey water protocol in bathrooms, it was suggested to personalise it by bringing in the Graham Housekeeping Staff Member, and that intervention and buy in from the whole res is needed. It was confirmed that there is a lot of buy in from the majority of the residence. There are only a very few culprits, and they will hopefully be caught soon as other students become more disgruntled with the culprits.

The Graham House students would like to know why the Festival guests did not use the grey water system. It was confirmed that guests were not made to use grey water, as they were not provided with basins. The Hall Warden can raise this at the next Hall Wardens Meeting, however, it depends on what the argument is? Are the Graham House students raising this because they are concerned about the water crisis, or are they raising this because they don't like using the grey water system and because why should they have to? It was noted that Rhodes is still working on 50 litres per person per day, however, the Municipality has now brought it down to 25 litres. Allan Gray students also have questions and concerns relating to the Municipality and Rhodes about why Festival is still happening and why the University accommodated guests during a water crisis. It was suggested that the University send out some form of communication explaining everything to answer the many questions students have.

Prince Alfred

No report submitted.

2019.03.06 HALL SENIOR STUDENT REPORT BACK

The Hall Senior Student did not submit a report, and was not in attendance.

- Therefore, there will be no Talent Show.
- Members were reminded that events are based on student leadership.
- Students need to vote wisely during leadership elections.

2019.03.07 SRC

SRC nominations open soon, and students are encouraged to run. Ballot paper voting will take place in the dining hall during lunch and supper on the 13 and 14 August. The Drostdy Hall Committee student members were asked to start putting a schedule together of volunteers for this, which can include House Comm members. These need to be reliable students who will show up for duty and follow procedures correctly. The IEB will be in the dining hall on the 13 August for the first couple of hours.

2019.03.08 HALL COMM PORTFOLIO POSITIONS

Community Engagement – Internal

Bennita submitted her report in advance, which was circulated with the agenda. *See Appendix 4.*

- Bennita asked Noncedo to get a quote for the painting. It was suggested that it might be better if we purchase the paint ourselves from BUCO as we can then get a student discount, and possibly a discount for community engagement. Bennita will be having a meeting with Noncedo this week. It was noted that trolley begs at PnP in the past have worked well to raise funds for paint.

Community Engagement – External

Antonique, Prince Alfred Community Engagement Rep, submitted her report earlier today. *See Appendix 5.*

Environmental

- There are still no members of the Committee willing to take on this portfolio.
- It was suggested to have a Hall hike to Featherstone Brewery, maybe in the fourth term. Anyone with date suggestions to inform the Hall Warden.

Sports

Surprice submitted her report in advance, which was circulated with the agenda. *See Appendix 6.*

- Candice and Surprice will compare the points log that they have, as according to Candice Prince Alfred House is in fact in fourth position, and Graham House is tied in seventh position.
- Surprice was asked to send the Hall Committee the inter-res dates schedule for the remainder of the year.

Academics

Dee submitted her report in advance, which was circulated with the agenda. *See Appendix 7.*

- Prince Alfred was congratulate on their exam results, for being the top Drostdy Res.
- The Drostdy June exam results are a serious concern. We need to change the Hall/Residences culture. It was noted from a Faculty Report from the VC that the RU June exam results are a concern. Bad results stem from students' poor lecture attendance, not committing themselves, etc.

International

Tapiwanashe submitted her report in advance, which was circulated with the agenda. *See Appendix 8.*

- It was explained that the VFS comes to Rhodes just as an overall convenience, and to save students from having to go to Port Elizabeth. It is not exactly known why they only come in October, however, visas expire at different times, and they would be able to help those whose visas expire in November, and can give letters to those students whose visas expired and need to travel home.

Communications

No report submitted.

- As the Facebook status is still the same, and students are not reading their e-mail, Tadiwa plans to make posters to encourage students. The Committee was reminded that the official form of communication at Rhodes, and in the Hall, is e-mail.
- A couple of photos and a short write up for every single res event, activity, initiative, etc., must be e-mailed to Candice, or sent via WhatsApp to Candice.

Activism/Transformation/Awareness Raising

No report submitted.

- A Consent Pillow Case Design Worship will be held on Sunday afternoon, 04 August. Posters to go up tomorrow. Each Hall will have its own unique design and these will be printed out.

2019.03.09 REPORT FROM HALL WARDEN, FROM DSA/HALL WARDENS MEETING

- **Water Protocol**

- Faster taps for the grey water tanks have been ordered.
- Housekeeping have complained about students not flushing and making their work more difficult. The Drostdy Housekeeper also brought up this issue. It was suggested to bring in the Housekeeping Staff Member so students realise that the bathrooms are not self-cleaning, and to personalise it for the students.
- Some ideas from other Halls: once a month corridor bathroom clean by the students, only allow students to use their own corridor toilets, toilet 101 workshops and demos, etc. Each res is different and you need to make it work for your own res.
- Breach of the water crisis protocol rules will be an agenda item at the next Disciplinary Committee Meeting, to try make it and admission of guilt penalty, instead of having to have a hearing each time.
- The Hall Administrator reported that the bathroom grey water tanks were decanted and cleaned at the end of last term.
- Prince Alfred have found that shaving cream and hair removal products make the grey water stink.

- A reminder that incense and candles are not allowed, they are a fire hazard.
- Maintenance issues were discussed.
- The Committee Members were asked to be vigilant of their surroundings, e.g. reporting outside lights not working, turning off lights that are on during the day, etc. It is all of our responsibility.

2019.03.10 DSA DINING HALL VISIT

As nobody suggested a particular date, the Drostdy Hall Administrator will pick a date.

2019.03.11 HALL FELLOW NOMINATIONS

A nomination was received for somebody from Law, however we already have a Hall Fellow from Law and one from the Business School, so we need to pick someone from another Faculty. A nomination was also received for somebody in Pharmacy but that person is already a Hall Fellow in Hobson Hall. The Hall Administrator will send the Committee Members the list of current RU Hall Fellows who we cannot choose, and then members need to send in their nominations.

2019.03.12 RU JAMMING PRIZE MONEY (R3000)

This money has not been received yet from the SRC and the Hall Administrator is busy following up with them. It was agreed to split this four ways; between Allan Gray, Prince Alfred, Graham, and Drostdy Community Engagement as per proposal from Bennita.

The Committee Members were reminded that each portfolio does have a budget of R700, as per the Drostdy Hall Financial budget for the year.

2019.03.13 KAY MOSIANE AWARD

As there were no ideas for fundraising we will not have this award this year, and we will have a relook next year.

2019.03.14 ELECTIONS/LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

It was noted that there is a lot of apathy, nobody wants to run for leadership positions, and when somebody gets a leadership position nobody wants to work with them, and this seems to be a trend across Campus, and it is sometimes difficult to get good leaders.

Ideas Suggested:

- Appoint instead of vote. Each Res votes which student/s are to be on the appointments committee.

- We cannot take away this vote from students, otherwise both Sub-Wardens and Leadership students will be appointed. At least students can vote for their House Comm and Head Student.
- Leadership reflection halfway through the year.
- Change the eligibility.
 - If we make the eligibility more stringent, we will not find anyone to run.
- Candidates to submit a motivation, and short-listing is to be held before voting.
- We need to find out why students do not come forward, why students are discouraged?
- Incentives for leadership positions.
 - The current incentive is getting a good reference letter.
- Reduce number of House Comm Members and combine portfolios so these leadership students come out with more experience and skills.
 - Some portfolios you cannot combine, as it is just too much work.
 - Some portfolios are already combined.
- We just need to encourage those few, who would make good leaders.
- Put out a motivation that they do not have to pack up, and possibly have a cash incentive. Reduce the numbers of house comm and make it highly competitive, and then those leadership students will work hard and make a difference.

This all needs to be addressed at Board of Residences, and a Sub-Committee needs to be formed, as this is a Campus problem.

2019.03.15 RECRUITMENT & SELECTION OF SUB-WARDENS FOR 2020

The shortlisting meeting was scheduled for Monday 29 July at 19h00, venue to be decided. This will be for all four Drostdy Residences at the same meeting, and the Hall Warden agreed that we would start with Celeste first, at the meeting.

For shortlisting each candidate must be given a rating as follows, and this must be done before the meeting on Monday night:

- A – yes interview
- B – maybe interview
- C – No, do not interview

Shortlisting is based on the paperwork only, and prior knowledge is only brought up during the interview process.

The interviews nights were scheduled as follows, and the times will be decided at the shortlisting meeting:

- Celeste: 31 July
- Graham: 01 August
- Allan Gray: 06 August
- Prince Alfred: 07 August

The following student members will serve on each residence selection committee:

- Allan Gray: Tapiwa, Regina & Sisipho
- Prince Alfred: Adam, Tapiwa & Keiryn
- Graham: Keiryn, Adam & Sebe
- Celeste: Tapiwa; & two Celeste leadership students to be decided, between Thokozani, Ashley & Rets.

All paperwork etc., is highly confidential.

ALLAN GRAY HOUSE REPORT

- We have a house meeting on the 21st of July
- Our events from the last semester were all a success that is from the sports, academic, community engagement, entertainment and all other portfolios in the house. Even attendance has improved significantly especially in sports and community engagement
- Notable events for this semester are a braai upcoming on the 9th of August 28th of September and an Award Night which will be finalized closer to the 4th term.
- Res hoodies have already been made and awaiting collection.
- Fundraising projects to be done this term, to continue raising funds for the GIVE 5 and a meeting will be held on the 23rd of July and specific house reps will attend this allocated meeting.
- The treasurer resigned for personal reasons that is Esona Rozani and the second runner up who was Ndimthandile Mfiki was selected by default to run the vacant portfolio and is now the new tuck-shop rep for Allan Gray House as she accepted to take part in this portfolio.
- Looking forward to a great semester as well .

Report Compiled by :Bennita T Benza (AG Head Student) .

Second Term Report as at 18th July 2019

Highlights

- i. House Comm meetings on: 22 Feb 2019; 03 Mar 2019; 21 July 2019; 08 Sept 2019
- ii. First House Braai on 26th April 2019
- iii. Second House Braai on 03 August 2019

Portfolios

i. Community Engagement

Our CE rep **Vuyelwa** has resigned and was replaced by **Zintle**. Celeste sponsored Noncendo with Snacks (Sweets, yoghurts, etc.), provided certificates of participation, and helped with the packaging of the meals for the Sports Day event with other preschools. Currently, we have a Clothes Drive box placed on the main entrance of Celeste.

ii. Sports

Male and female teams represented Celeste for the Pool tournament. The ladies' team was knocked out on the final stage, while the male team was knocked out on the first round. Celeste currently has **10 points** on the sports log.

iii. Environment

Plastic, paper and glass recycling boxes were also placed at the inner entrance of the Res. Hopefully during third term there will be enough to call for the recycling van to collect them. A weekly water delivery from Aqua Pure to Celeste House was organized for Tuesdays.

iv. Treasury

The aim was to raise funds for the Give5 campaign and the House. This was done by **reducing expenditure** from house events and fundraising through **muffin sales** and the **sale of old items from the box room**. The fundraising began in second term and is expected to continue in third term. Regarding the box room items, Thokozani has made an inventory of old items and is yet to email the owners before we sell them. However, the challenge was that not every box and items are marked or labeled.

v. Entertainment

Braai with Oakden House on 03 August 2019 has not been finalized and will be discussed in the coming house comm meeting.

vi. Academic

As a Res, we managed to acknowledge academic excellence by celebrating student's achievements such as published articles and other similar accomplishments. During exam periods, common rooms are used as study rooms as a way to improve academic performance.

Student Networks: Currently nothing to report.

Drostdy Hall-Comm Meeting

22 July 2019

Graham House Briefing

1. Mentorship Program (Academic Rep)

Our Internal Mentorship program for the first years will commence in the second week of the term. This is meant to boost the academic performance of our first years and to align with the Hall's strategic thematic area (Academics).

2. Entertainment

We successfully hosted our house braai with Walker House last semester. The participation from the house was good. We are grateful for the support from the Hall Warden and House Warden as well.

2.1 Notable dates for this semester

- First Years Party 8 August
- House Braai 9 August
- Awards 4 October

3. Community Engagement

The Budding Q Community program is open for students who are interested, who missed the deadline. We will be encouraging Graham House students to join this initiative. There is training this coming week for students who are doing nineTenths and Gadra matric school volunteer programs. All students involved in all Community Engagement programs are to submit their feedback to their representatives.

4. Sports

Sports has become a common ground in the residence, whether through soccer, pool, table tennis, hockey or gaming. It has resulted in integration as well as competitiveness, from within the res to inter-res weekly activities. On some occasions participation in inter-res activities is low; this has led to us not participating at all as a House due to not having the required number of participants. However, the inter-res activities do not truly reflect how important we, as Graham House, value sports as pool, table tennis and gaming which a good number of students play in-House against and with each other.

5. Other Matters

We have made a design for our res hoodie. The hoodie itself is yet to be made as we are waiting to have a reasonable number of students interested in having the hoodie.

Compiled by Tadiwanashe Murahwi

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT

COMPILED BY BENNITA : CE HALL REP INTERNAL

- ❖ The sports day for the children was a success .
- ❖ Celeste CE REP resigned and has been replaced by Zinhle as the new celeste CE REP.
- ❖ The painting goal is to be fulfilled in this term and a quotation is yet to be done by the school so that we can see availability of funds and fundraising methods to make the goal a success.
- ❖ Trading lives for Mandela was also a success as we were joined by the Makana Municipality . They donated some items at the school like chairs and desks whilst we contributed in the painting activities with them [the children]
- ❖ Movie night was cancelled .
- ❖ a talent show for the children is yet to be done but dates will be communicated once finalized .

Semester 1: Drosty Hall and Noncedo Pre-school has built a strong, personal relationship with one another. Despite being unable to meet a few of our goals our main aim was to ensure we have a personal relationship with the educators and the children.

We were hoping to host a movie night and donate the money to the pre-school after their break in but we were unable to.

We are still planning on hosting the movie night in the near future as well as host a jumble sale.

From: Surprice Malatji <malatjisurprice@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, 18 July 2019 16:18

To: Candice Webber <C.Webber@ru.ac.za>

Subject: Hall Sports Rep report

Good day Candice.

For Inter-res sports, AG house is still neck and neck with Walker house in Position one with 22 points. While PA is in position 7 with 10 points and finally G house is in position 12 with 4 points. I did speak to the sports rep in terms of participation. They said they will work twice as hard this semester.

Other than that there is nothing much for me to report.

Kind regards

Malatji Surprice

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Dimakatso Giovanah Pitja

Drostdy Hall Academic Rep Hall Portfolio:

The academic rankings after the June exams are as follows:

Hall Performance:

As a hall, we had a 75,6% pass rate and were ranked 9th out of 15 halls.

First Year Subject Performance:

Allan Gray: 20th with a pass rate of 78.8%.

Prince Alfred House: 26th with a pass rate of 77.0%.

Graham House: 46th with a pass rate of 70.1%.

Allan Gray had the best overall first year pass rate.

Second Year Subject Performance:

Prince Alfred House: 5th with a pass rate of 82.6%

Allan Gray: 27th with a pass rate of 71.4%

Graham House: 39th with a pass rate of 66.1%.

Prince Alfred House had the best overall second year performance.

Third Year Subject Performance:

Prince Alfred House: 5th with a pass rate of 88.4%

Allan Gray: 27th with a pass rate of 75.4%

Graham House: 39th with a pass rate of 73.5%.

Prince Alfred House has the best overall third year performance.

Fourth Year Subject Performance:

Graham House: 1st with a 100% pass rate.

Allan Gray: 16th with a pass rate of 73.3%.

Prince Alfred House: No data available.

Overall Undergraduate Reses Performance:

Prince Alfred House: 9th with a pass rate of 81.0%.

Allan Gray: 24th with a pass rate of 75.8%.

Graham House: 46th with a pass rate of 70.1%.

Prince Alfred House had the best overall undergraduate performance in Drostdy Hall.

Goals for second semester:

- To encourage students that have not performed as well to consult with their relevant heads of departments/deans so that tangible solutions can be thought up to assist the students.
- Encourage the students to attend the study skills workshop at the counselling centre so that they can work on what worked last semester as well as improving what did not work.
- Can hall comm suggest if the board in the dining still needs to go up as Allan Gray and PA have submitted the relevant information but Graham has not even after giving their academic rep extensions. If hall comm prefers I can have the board done with just PA and Allan Gray details.
- Any suggestions hall comm has regarding the academic portfolio are welcome.

Hall Fellow Nomination:

I nominate Dr Nosiphiwe Ngqwala as a hall fellow.

International Rep Report: By Tapiwanashe Zinhumwe

To all international students who want to renew their permits, VFS will be coming in October to assist with the whole process. This is cheaper than going to Port Elizabeth for visa applications, the whole process takes about 8-12 weeks, if the students want their visa ready by December then they need to go to PE. Visas are renewable 60 days before the expiry or even earlier, at home affairs or via VFS. Prices and dates will be communicated to students some time in the semester. They are still drafting the calendar for the semester, if we have any events, they will send out information. We will probably have more international summits this semester.