

12th February 2018 SRC Council Meeting

Venue: Purple Room.

Participants :

Nhlakanipho Mahlang

Kuda Rejoice Chingono

Nondu Mashoba Msezane

Syabonga Malaza

Phelisa Yoyo

Bulelani Mvenganya

Tebogo Molatlhegi

Phumelele Nkomozake

Asephelele Shabalala

Naledi Dlulisa

Austin Mtole Ndyetabula

Unathi Mabukane

Khaka Mpofu

Erc Ofei

Regrets :

Due to rugby practice and varsity shield Mr Lukhanyiso Tshogweni was unable to attend the entire meeting, it is noted however that he was present after practice.

Welcome :

- Welcome by the chairperson, Nhlakanipho

Resignations:

- There have been three resignations by Sports and Societies, Environment and Secretary General Councillors of the SRC 2018.
- **Action Required:** According to the universities constitution the runner up is the following successor when resignations occur. The Environment councillor runner up still needs to be contacted and an answer from them still needs to be obtained. The runner up for the position of sports and societies councillor has been informed (Khaka Mpofo) who has gladly accepted the position of sports and societies councillor. The voting process for the position of Secretary General (from here on referred to as SG) is conducted by the executive members of the current SRC councillors.

Voting process for position of SG :

- The IEB was called into the meeting to coordinate the vote as per the constitution. Persons who came from the IEB were Heather and Noku who were there to ensure that the process went accordingly and that the SRC had fair and untampered elections.
- An executive voting process firstly needs to occur, it is then after that vote (if unsuccessful) shall the position (SG) be opened to the public.
- The first round of the voting process was for nominees for the position of SG, the results are as follows:
 - **Results :**
 - Lukhanyo Tshogweni : declined
 - Phumelele Nkomozake i: accept
 - Nondu Mashoba Msezane : accepted
 - Non executive member were asked to leave the room as it was up to the executive members to make a decision.
 - **Results :** One abstaining and one person was nominated which was Nondu Msezane.
 - **Action Required:** It was then decided through a fair election that Nondu Msezane is now the new SG of Rhodes University 2018.
- The position of Oppidan Councillor is now available. The runner up for Oppidan councillor is not a registered student and therefore they cannot be the successor of this position.
- Therefore the Media Councillor is required to announce (From Thursday the 14th of February) that this specific position if opened.

Voting Process for an executive member:

- The whole council returned and nominations were done for position of an executive member. Votes were tallied up by IEB members
- Five people that were nominated for the position of executive

Nominations for position of Executive member:

- Asephelele Shabalala : Accepted
- Tebogo Molatlegi : Accepted
- Siyabonga Malaza : Declined
- Phelisa Yoyo: Accepted
- Unthi Mabukane: Accepted
- Unthai Mabukane and Phelisa Yoyo had really close votes of (6 , 5) , a re-vote was taken because of this.
- After tallying up the votes it was then decided upon that Phelisa Yoyo is now an executive member

Mr Siyabonga Malza - Academic appeals :

- Academic councillor announced that in total 38 appeals were received , of those 38 five have been pending ,
- Three more students still need to appeal, of the three, two have appealed by themselves.
- In total the councillor has received 30 responses and of the 30 25 have been successful.
- There has been three students who have been dealing with supplementary exam issues , two of those students cases' have been successful.
- Mr Eric Ofei had an additional six academic appeals to deal with, of which 2 are still pending.

Should the academic councillor be allowed to sit during appeals as part of the committee?

- **Action :** It was collectively decided that this would not be beneficial to the SRC and it would be better if the academic councillor will not sit as part of the committee to remain impartial, fair to also protect the SRC as a body.

Faculty board meetings.

- There has been a request for members to bring through points that will be discussed at the coming faculty board meetings
- Should public submissions be made for this particular meeting?
- A suggestion was made that if a student body meeting could be held before the actual faculty meetings to ensure that there is more input from the student body.
- Eric suggested that it be opened to students as the SRC ‘
- **Final decision:** It was decided through the coming class reps, students will be asked to make submissions, which will be publicised by the media councillor.

Class Representatives elections :

- A question was raised whether the SRC should conduct the class representative elections.
- **Action :** The SRC has decided to conduct some of the elections , due to the lack of human capital the bigger classes will be dealt with by the SRC, this includes the following classes Chem1 , Psyc 1 , Education department, Ecos 1 , Comsci 1 , Stats 1, Journ 1, Law 1 , Man1, Ecos 2.
- SG is required to get the timetable and where councillors have frees they need to avail themselves for those specific classes.

Common issues with finance, registrations and accommodation.

- It was noted during the meeting that councillors have limited powers in terms of what they can and cannot do for students who are in need of help. Many students have been on campus without accommodation due to appeals and it should be clear that the first priority of the university is first year students. Returners should either stay home while they appeal or find accommodation elsewhere as recourses are limited.
- **The situation with 74:** This particular residence was not utilised properly by the students who were living there, at the moment two students are currently staying there.
- **Action :** keys needs to be taken from the students , Phelisa, Naledi and Asphelele needs to go get the keys at 74 in the morning (Tuesday 13th of February).

International student fees - Zimbabwean students.

- It was highlighted by Austin Ndytebula that the issue of fees for Zimbabwean students should not be dealt with in the same regard as all international students. As a country they have financial difficulties, specifically on the issue of being able to transfer large sums of money to other countries. The university still expects these particular students to still pay 50% of their fees (upfront) in the beginning of the year which is not possible for all students. Therefore it was suggested that a solution be devised for these scenarios across the board and not on a case to case basis.
- **Action** : SG is then required to send emails to the DVC and DSA pertaining to this issue , to see if a solution can be devised.

Student Benefits and Sponsorship Report:

Attached

Media Councillor report:

- First show on RMR will be on Monday (19th February 2018).
- Feedback on the “know your SRC campaign”, the Media councillor will meet up with members to start on the campaign, availability must be communicated to the Media Councillor to set up a private time and day.
- Spar hampers that were no carried through, a solution needs to be made as to how spar will receive recognition through the coming campaign.

Additional Items:

- Naledi needs people who will help her out with drawing up thank you cards for all the sponsors that helped out during O-week.
- Reports and Objectives (By Kuda) needs to be done by the following Friday.
- Academic Councillor is planning on having a meeting with all the academic reps on the 17th of February. What will be discussed is the mentoring programme and the book drive, councillors are urged to attend.

- A meeting needs to be held and minutes be sent to Veronica (Alumni) on the ubuntu fund. Their Constitution includes meeting people with the Alumni house and various groups.
- Students that are differently abled are required to go the extra mile in informing the university about their specific needs, even after those specifications have been expressed in their applications to the university.
- There is going to be three hall reps in the dining halls, SRC councillors are required to make dining hall visits and are encouraged to speak to students about what they plan to achieve and what they have achieved so far.
- Oppidan speed dating event is happening on Valentine 's Day (support from members would be appreciated).
- SRC Hogsback trip is happening on the 9th to the 11th of March, latest that councillors should leave is by 3pm. If LOA's are needed it should be for anything after that time, not before. It is up to the members to ensure that they respective departments are informed and that their work is up to date.
- Strength and weaknesses reports will be conducted and done by Eric Ofei as he has done with the previous councillors.
- Office hours need to start as soon as everyone receives their timetables and schedules the SG needs to be informed ASAP.
- Dinner with the VC , SG is required to contact his office to allocate an appropriate time.
- Community engagement item is cancelled on the agenda.
- IT solutions agenda item will be discussed at the next meeting
- Monday 19th is varsity shield SRC members are urged to attend.
- Away game to East London on Thursday the 1st of February 2018.
- Proposed new time for the meeting since Treasurer will be away for most of his rugby season.

Next meeting will be on Tuesday 20th of February RA room at 6:30pm.