

MINUTES | Rhodes University SRC General Meeting

DATE: 17 September 2018

TIME: 18h35

VENUE: RA Room, Steve Biko (Union) Building

CHAIR: Madam President

Commented [WU1]: Meeting began 5 minutes late

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- INCOMING SRC 2019 JOINS MEETING

ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES & ABSENTEES

- APOLOGIES:
 - o Vice-President: Kudakwashe Chingono
- All other Council Members were present. No further apologies.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 10 SEPTEMBER 2018

- Secretary General flagged the Leavers agenda point, noting that any matters arising in that regard be directed to Projects Manager
- Projects Manager noted that her title is not “Projects Councilor” as reflected in the minutes. Instead her title is “Projects Manager”
- President noted that in future confirmation of minutes will be done on a page-by-page basis

MATTERS ARISING

- Rules of Residences during Supplementary Examinations
- Pride Week
- Nkoli-Fassie
- The Wall
- Radio Voice Notes
- Adelaide Tambo Quiz Night
- Green Pop Presentation
- President requested that Councilors be diligent about sending agenda points to the Secretary General

PRIDE WEEK

- Sports Councilor reported that two students came to him complaining about Nkoli-Fassie citing that they had banned someone from the society for an undisclosed reason
- Sports Councilor reported that the individual in question told him that the chairperson of Nkoli-Fassie had a personal vendetta against this individual, and that screenshots exist which corroborate this
- Sports Councilor reported that there now exists a strong case against Nkoli-Fassie, and requests that Councilors submit their own information of misdemeanors on the society's part by Friday, 21 September 2018
- President suggested that the Council also look at Nkoli-Fassie's own Constitution, and requested that the Sports Councilor compile reports on all societies
- President also urged the Council to exercise caution, noting that it must not come across that the Council has a personal vendetta with the society. She urged the Council to be responsible, and noted that the Council is not targeting the society, rather it is ensuring compliance with disciplinary policy etc.
- Secretary General asked what the Council will be doing for Pride Week, noting that the Council in whatever it does must not detract from the work already being done by Nkoli-Fassie

- President noted that Pride Month was in June earlier this year (2018), and asked why September is relevant as a time-frame in which to hold LGBT++ Pride events
- President also noted that the Council's involvement must be genuine; she noted that she does not want the Council to "follow" societies
- Student Benefits Councilor noted that all societies do not comply with the advertising policy; he noted that official stamps must appear on society posters advertising events; he also noted that societies are obliged to do community engagement work
- President noted that the present conversation ought to be specifically about Pride Week
- Media Councilor suggested that a reconnaissance meeting be held with Nkoli-Fassie so as to ascertain what the Pride Week observations will entail and what the Council's involvement should be
- Projects Manager noted that even though Pride Month was officially in June, it was also during exams, and thus posed a time inconvenience in whatever observations could have been held then
- President asked again if the Council is doing anything to observe Pride Week and what the logistics will be in respect thereof
- Sports and Societies Councilor noted that the Council should partake in the Pride Week observations
- Oppidan Councilor concurring with Sports and Societies Councilor, echoed concerns in respect of "following" societies; he noted that the events for the week to which the Council is already engaged had been planned well in advance and advised against the Council over-subscribing itself
- Community Engagement concurring with the Council partaking in Pride Week, noted that their role could possibly be to rally attendance and to gather numbers
- Projects Manager noted that the Council had already done something to observe Pride during June with a social media campaign centered on Trans Visibility
- Projects Manager further noted that given the strained relationship between Nkoli-Fassie and the Council, the latter's involvement in the Pride Week observations would be awkward

- President noted that there is a difference between supporting the principle under which the society operates and the support for the society itself; she noted that it must be made very clear that Council's involvement in Pride Week be about the event itself and not a show of support for the society; she urged that this distinction be made very clear
- Media Councilor concurring with Projects Manager noted that a barrier to their relationship with Nkoli-Fassie is that the latter lacks professionalism
- International Affairs Councilor noted that she indeed has a personal problem with Nkoli-Fassie, as she had felt hostility within their ranks; she echoed the President's view that their support be made very clear in respect of the initiative itself and not the society
- President noted that the availability of Councilor's to attend the Pride Walk would be discussed further, and urged those who were able to attend to do so
 - Councilors available to attend Pride Walk:
 - Community Engagement
 - Treasurer General
 - Sports and Societies

INTERNATIONAL SPORTS DAY

- Sports and Societies Councilor reported that a program exists to observe the abovementioned event, and that the relevant stakeholders have been spoken to (the International Office; Sports Admin; HKE Department)
- Sports and Societies Councilor reported that:
 - Two events would take place
 - Thursday, 20 September 2018: compulsory run/walk at 07h00 including SRC-elect
 - Saturday, 22 September 2018: starting at 10h00 a series of sports events would take place; there will be prizes for the top 5; prizes have not yet been finalized
 - He has spoken to the co-ordinators; conferred with the Projects Manager and Media Councilor
- President requested that Sports and Societies Councilor send the program to the rest of Council

- International Affairs Councilor asked if there would be any specific roles the Council would have to play on Saturday
- Sports and Societies Councilor noted that there would be no specific roles, and that facilitators from the Projects Team already exist
- *COUNCIL REQUESTED THAT SPORTS AND SOCIETIES COUNCILOR REMIND THE COUNCIL OF THE RELEVANT LOGISTICS VIA THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL*

HERITAGE DAY

- International Affairs Councilor reported in respect of tickets:
 - o Council would not be paying for tickets
 - o The logistics for the day had been revised, no tickets would be for sale
 - o 50 tickets available for students at large
 - o Event takes place 24 September 2018, at 13h00 in the Oppidan Dining Hall
- President noted that a lot would be happening on the coming Thursday
 - o CrimeWise Campaign, an SRC brainchild would be launched
 - o Requested that the Union Lawns be the central hub of activity
 - o Shift Purple Thursday to the Union Lawns
 - o Multiple stalls must be set up for the multitude of things taking place
 - o Dining Hall visits would have to be cancelled
- Projects Manager asked if it would be possible to the pad drive on Friday, 21 September instead of Thursday, 20 September
- Student Benefits Councilor suggested that brochures for the pad drive be distributed on Thursday
- Community Engagement Councilor requested that the program for the day's events be documented and disseminated to Council at large
- International Affairs Councilor reported further that #ShowYouRoots would be taking place, passports would be handed out once they are ready

RES PROJECTS

Commented [WU2]: Spelling?

- Treasurer General reported:
 - A pad drive would be taking pace, and that she was working with the Student Benefits, and Sports and Societies Councilors to ensure accessibility
 - Meal Review would be taking place in the present week, and requested that Councilors encourage res students to participate
 - A hygiene campaign would be taking place, and that this would be done in conjunction with Residence Operations, from 01 October 2018 to 05 October 2018
 - A noodle drive would also be taking place, and the sooner it starts the better
 - Promoting times for the above events
 - 13h00 – 14h00
 - 17h00 – 18h00
 - 21h00 – 22h00
- Student Benefits Councilor requested that a formal poster from the Council be disseminated regarding the Meal Review
- President requested that the above events be focal points on Lalelani
- Projects Manager suggested that the workload for the above projects be split and shared among fellow Councilors
- TASKING TO HEAD UP PROJECTS (*Council Resolved*):
 - CrimeWise PRESIDENT
 - Pad Drive TREASURER GENERAL; STUDENT BENEFITS COUNCILOR; ACADEMIC COUNILOR
 - Heritage Day PROJECTS MANAGER
 - Sports Day SPORTS AND SOCIETIES
- Media Councilor suggested that she change the topic for the radio show so as to market the events this week

HALL REP ELECTIONS

- Treasurer General noted that there were irregularities in the last election cycle; she requests that the Council task Councilors to work with Hall Representatives so that any irregularities are reported to the IEB
- Media Councilor availed herself to take responsibility for the former Secretary General's dining halls
- President noted the need for re-allocations of Councilors to dining halls
- International Affairs Councilor requested that once this is done a comprehensive list is made (TREASURER GENERAL CONSURRING)

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

- Projects Manager reported that this issue was spoken about in the Cluster Meetings, and that this serves to make the Council aware of the following
 - o During Wellness Week, a Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign would take place and that this would be done in conjunction with Mr. Mzizi across the whole week
 - o Suggestion to change Purple Thursday to Pink Thursday
- Council expressed support for the campaign

GREAT FIELD PARTY REPORT

- Student Benefits Councilor noted that this serves to follow up on the Great Field Party report, and requested that Council be made known of what is taking this report so long to compile
- President noted that there are two parts to the report, a financial part and a substantive part
 - o As regards finance, the DSA has received Great Field Party report this morning; the Treasurer General is to follow this up with Noma
 - o As regards substance, the report has been sent to the relevant people, but it has hitherto been incomplete – hence it has not been published; now that both components are ready the full report can now be compiled

LEAVERS

- Projects Manager reported that places have been looked at and considered, however there is no point in going ahead with bookings if the Council has not yet decided what it is actually going to be doing for Leavers
- Projects Manager reported that only two Councilors have given feedback in the above regard
- A form indicating various options is to be circulated and completed by the Councilors

THE WALL

- Media Councilor asked in connection with the Council's first preference, what happens if another institution on campus has booked the wall, and only afterwards does the Council resolve to use it for some purpose
- President clarified that first preference would go to whomever booked it first

VOICE NOTES

- Media Councilor made a call for voice notes to be sent, and requested that these be up to 30 seconds in length, and only 1 minute in very extraneous circumstances
- Media Councilor reported that only 10 Councilors sent voice notes the last time a call was made
- Media Councilor reported that the voice notes must be sent to the WhatsApp number of RMR, given that her cellphone is not working, and that they be sent to the Secretary General by 18h00, for the Secretary General to send them all through at once to the RMR WhatsApp account
- Projects Manager asked:
 - o Briefly, what happens on the show
 - o What was the situation regarding the R500 prize
- Media Councilor explained that the show is to get the student body involved in and to update them on the goings-on at the University, and that guests are invited for profiling
- Media Councilor further explained that the R500 prize is actually something she wishes to adopt in the future to encourage listenership; she reported that initially it was not planned and that Mr. Rolihlahla Mabaso who had been profiled on the show wanted to see if anyone was listening to the show and offered from the R500 from his own pocket

- Media Councilor wishes to make it very clear that this R500 was not from the Council's budget
- Student Benefits Councilor complimenting the abovementioned situation, concurred with the idea of adopting prizes to encourage listenership

ADELAIDE TAMBO QUIZ NIGHT & GREEN POP PRESENTATION

- Environmental Councilor reported that Adelaide Tambo residence would be having a quiz night, and that the Council is welcome to attend to show face, and that it would be taking place from 18h30 to 19h30
- Environmental Councilor also reported that an organization called Green Pop would be delivering a presentation which is mainly geared at children between the ages of 10 and 16, on Thursday 20 September 2018
- Projects Manager Elect reported that the quiz night will require R5 entrance and that the 17 September is the closing date; she reported that the relevant information about the quiz night has already been released
- Secretary General, Environmental Affairs and International Affairs Councilors showed interest

Commented [WU3]: On what date?

RULES FOR RESIDENCES DURING SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS

- Academic Councilor reported that he had attended a meeting at Alumni House which was about moving Supplementary Examinations to November instead of having them in January
- Academic Councilor reported that Residence Operations and DSA expressed concerns regarding the rules in residences given that students finish writing at different times, and that students cause chaos if left idle
- Academic Councilor reported that he was instructed to ask the Council to think of creative ways to control the environment
- President asked if this matter be deferred as an agenda point for the next Council meeting
- Projects Councilor Elect sought clarity in respect of the issue at hand
- Academic Councilor explained that the main concern is that students who break rules would only be punished for those infractions the following year

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Thursday, 20 September 2018: Run/Walk at 07h00
 - o Compulsory
 - o 10% deduction in honorarium for failure to attend
- Saturday, 22 September 2018: International Sports Day at 10h00
 - o Non-compulsory
 - o No penalty
- Purple Thursday: 11h30 to 13h00
 - o Compulsory
 - o 10% deduction in honorarium for failure to attend and/or not wearing purple
- Adelaide Tambo Quiz Night
 - o Non-compulsory
 - o No penalty
- Media Councilor expressed the concern that in general there are too many events requiring too much deduction in honorarium
- Secretary General noted that this is fine and reiterated the importance of heavy honorarium deductions as an incentive for attendance
- President noted that she has been subjected to deductions but that these have not precluded her from doing her job
- Academic Councilor expressed the view that the Council is becoming apathetic and urged people to revisit page 37 of the Code of Ethics
- Media Councilor maintained that the deductions are too high, citing that in general something about the current arrangement in respect of honorarium deductions does not bide well with her
- President raised a point about competency, citing that avenues are available for people who have legitimate reasons for not being able to attend Council engagements, and that excuses must be sent to the Secretary General
- President noted that it is not possible to deal with each individual's excuses in meeting; she noted that if there are queries that these be made known to the Secretary General
- VOTE:
 - o 10% deduction 7 **RESOLVED**
 - o 5% deduction 0

Commented [WU4]: There was a lot of back-and-forth about honorarium under this agenda point which I did not document because most of it was repetitive

REPORTS BACK

- Student Benefits Councilor
 - o Meeting on 17 September 2018, regarding Isivavane Fund, went well
 - o To set up meeting on 18 September 2018 with Phoenix
- Treasurer General
 - o Hygiene campaign
 - o Drafted thank you letters
 - o Conducted hand over session
- Oppidan Councilor
 - o Worked on CrimeWise campaign, in particular organizing self-defence classes
 - o Hi-Tech is to start at an app
- Academic Councilor
 - o Had O-Week Committee meeting
 - o Had meeting with Supplementary Exam Task Team at 14h30; so far positive results
- Community Engagement Councilor
 - o Conducted hand-over session
 - o Held meeting with RUCE
 - o Is busy with final event planning
 - o Could not distribute clothes, owing to hectic schedules; however, this will still happen
- International Affairs Councilor
 - o Conducted hand-over session
 - o Planning Heritage Day event
 - o Was involved with the Constitutional Review
 - o Worked on Ubuntu Fund Concert last week
- Projects Manager
 - o Conducted hand-over session
 - o Attended VOG AGM; reports that it went well
 - o Attended O-Week Committee meeting
- Media Councilor
 - o Had radio show
 - o Held meeting with Media Team

- Requested the “thank-you’s” of the incoming Council; still awaiting
- Held meeting regarding the website at Alumni House
- President
 - Worked on CrimeWise campaign
 - Regarding the Mbokodo Caucus, proposal has been emailed to the NYDA
- Environmental Councilor
 - Reported that Environmental Awards are coming up; RSVP to be sent by Wednesday, 19 September 2018

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 21H32

NEXT MEETING ON 27TH SEPTEMBER 2018 AT 18H30