

MINUTES | Rhodes University SRC General Meeting

DATE: 01th October 2018 SRC Council Meeting

TIME: 20h20

VENUE: RA Room, Steve Biko (Union) Building

CHAIR: Madam President

ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES & ABSENTEES

- APOLOGIES:

- Vice President: Kudakwashe Chingono
- Media Councilor: Phumla Myeni
- Sports and Societies: Khaka Mpofo
 - Secretary General reported that Sports and Societies Councilor was absent from this meeting owing to the need for him to study for tests he was writing
 - President objected to the legitimacy of this excuse because all other Councilors also had academic commitments which were forgone for the purposes of the present meeting
 - Student Benefits Councilor noted that Sports and Societies Councilor had information to submit for the present meeting related to the disciplinary procedures to be instituted against Nkoli-Fassie

- PRESENT:

- President; Secretary General; Treasurer General; Academic Councilor; Community Engagement Councilor; Environmental Councilor; International Affairs Councilor; Projects Manager; Oppidan Councilor; Student Benefits Councilor; Mr. Eric Ofei

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 27 SEPTEMBER 2018

- Student Benefits Councilor noted that the vote in respect of Nkoli-Fassie reflected an inaccurate outcome: the Council had NOT voted to disband the society; instead it had voted to SUSPEND the society
- Mr. Ofei requested that the minutes be sent 24 hours before the commencement of the next meeting
- Student Benefits Councilor requested that the minutes be published as and when they are confirmed by the Council
- Minutes confirmed pending correction of errata by Student Benefits Councilor, with Treasurer General concurring

MATTERS ARISING

- Khensani

RUCE Fun Day

- Community Engagement Councilor reported that RUCE will be holding a Fun Day on 10 October 2018 at 14h00 – 15h00 with venue to be confirmed; she requested that Council members attend if they are able to do so; she noted that it would be a good opportunity for the Council to network and establish good public relations

LEAVERS

- Projects Manager began by recapping the decision taken by Council in the previous meeting; she reported that the departure time from campus to East London would be 09h00 on Saturday 20th October 2018, with return at 15h00 on Sunday 21st October
- Secretary General announced that owing to other commitments he might have to travel separately and join the Council in East London
- Projects Manager reported that Executive had proposed not to hold the leavers function with the DSA and Council substructures owing to lack of funds
- Student Benefits Councilor noted that while some Council substructures have met with their different coordinators, they are nonetheless substructures of the entire Council
- Treasurer General reiterated the financial situation citing that there were insufficient funds to hold a leavers function with the entire Council, the DSA and its substructures
- **Council resolved for Treasurer General to speak with the DSA to fund the leavers function which includes the Council substructures**

KHENSANI

- President reported that she was approached by a friend of the late Khensani Maseko requesting information on the progress of the case
- President noted that she was not sure that it was the Council's job to communicate such information; nonetheless a follow-up would be done on the case
- President reported that most of Khensani's friends are not coping or being helped at the Counselling Centre

- Mr. Ofei reported that the last thing he had heard in respect of the case was that the accused had been served papers of suspension; the DSA was in the process of compiling a report in the week or two prior to the present meeting
- Mr. Ofei noted that the case was a very complex one; he noted that the NPA would only proceed with a given case if there exists prima facie indications of success, and in respect of the case of Khensani, nothing had come up so far
- Mr. Ofei noted, in respect of the Counselling Centre, that they are inundated, and that the best thing that the Council can do is to guide students to the Counselling Centre if they require help
- President also noted that the Counselling Centre is for short terms support
- Student Benefits Councilor suggested that the students in question meet with their Deans for academic support
- International Affairs Councilor asked what the Wardens of the various residences are doing to support the students
- President noted that Wardens are not trained psychologists, however Wardens are in the position to offer intermediary support and to give supporting documentation for students who need it
- President also noted that need for the Council to visit Allan Gray residence
- Mr. Ofei noted that the Council ought to speak with the Senior Student/Sub-warden
 - o Treasurer General to assume this responsibility and to communicate the relevant information on the Council's WhatsApp group

STUDENT DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT OFFICER

Comment [WU1]: Spelling?

- Mr. Ofei reported that the coming week would be a joint meeting with the incoming Council of 2019
- Mr. Ofei reported further that he has an appointment with the lawyers in town in respect of the case with Nkomozakhe
- In respect of SRC photos, Mr. Ofei noted that the Council would have to update the collection of photos in the RA Room, and that this would have to be the duty of the Secretary General; there would have to be a day dedicated for the Council to take a photo as a group

- Mr. Ofei also noted the need to refurbish and spruce up the RA Room

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Treasurer General
 - o Hygiene week is underway; emails to be sent out every day; a hygiene talk would be held on the upcoming Thursday, 04th October 2018
 - President noted the need for the event (the talk) to be advertised, and for the event to be compulsory for House Committees to attend
- Projects Manager noted the upcoming meeting with the provincial head of Nando's

REPORTS BACK

- International Affairs Councilor
 - o Conducted hand over session
- Community Engagement Councilor
 - o Held a meeting with RUCCE
 - o Conducted hand over session
 - o Reported that there were no further spaces available for the Community Engagement Awards
- Oppidan Councilor
 - o Reported that there have been complaints from students regarding the Oppidan Bus Service; he is trying to ascertain further information in this regard
 - o Reported that PGV students have not been able to use the bus service as they do not have the Oppidan stamp on their student cards yet; this issue is currently being resolved
- Treasurer General
 - o Held a meeting with Hall Representatives
 - o Needs assistance in respect of the talk to take place on the upcoming Purple Thursday
- Secretary General
 - o Attended the Dr Oosthuizen Memorial Lecture
- President
 - o Still following up on dresses from Assupol

- Calling NYDA to confirm their proposal
- In terms of the Constitutional Review, it was reported that the submission date was 28th September 2018, but the perusal of the amendments can only be done by 4th November 2018 by the Council's associates in the Linguistics Department
- **RESOLVED: Council to advertise for help in respect of the perusal of the reviewed Constitutional amendments**
- **RESOLVED: The report from the Sports and Societies Councilor would be due on Wednesday, 03 October 2018 by 12h00**

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 21H27

NEXT MEETING ON 08th OCTOBER 2018 AT 18H30