**Rhodes University**

**Minutes for SRC Council Meeting that took place on Google Meets on the 25th of January 2021**

**Starting Time:** 12:00

**Time Adjourned:** 14:00

**Chairperson:** Ms. Leboghang Nkambule

**Minutes:** Ms. Mitchelle Makokove

**2021.01.01. Present**

* Ms. L Nkambule - Ms. N Mwenye
* Ms. M Mpiti - Ms. T Hlako
* Ms. L Gqamana-Mngeni - Ms. B McLean
* Ms. L Leboho - Ms. M Matariro
* Mr. M Khopeli - Ms. T Phiri
* Ms. I Ngutyana
* Ms. V Moyo
* Ms. Z Gcumisa

**Late Attendant:**

* Mr. N Mkhulisa

**2021.01.02. Leave of Absence**

* Ms. M Makokove
* Mr. L Cezula

**2021.01.03. Conflict Declaration**

Zero conflict was declared on all agenda items.

**2021.01.04. Issues to be discussed**

**4.1. Societies Extravaganza**

Mr Societies requested for his proposal to be distributed for council’s engagement. This document is available upon request.

* The society videos will be facilitated through the issuance of data which will be used both the purpose of committee training as well as the society virtual showcase.
* The training of these set was suggested to be run over a period of three days with three days per hour.
* - Oppidan Students will be allowed to watch on the various social media pages which need to be set up by the different societies. Each bio ought to have the mission, vision and objectives of that society.
* Suggestion was for the SRC RUConnected page to also be used to assist the different societies in advertising their meetings. The format suggested was to have two different folders. One for new societies and another one for existing societies and then the details will be found under each title heading. The benefit of using RUConnected is that it is now zero-rated.
* Links to these societies’ social media pages will also be made available on the RUConnected page.
* Mr Societies was asked to draw up a proposal for the training programme to be used for the sports and societies committees. This will allow us to get speakers.
* Sporting codes are also to be accounted but the issue is that Mr Societies is yet to have a meeting with the sports council and sports representative council.

**4.2. Engagement on UCKAR**

* Madam Media requested for council to revisit the decision made by council not to interact on non-Rhodes pages.
* This is because students feel that the SRC by not engaging on these platforms is ignoring them.
* Suggestion was that we comment in a manner that lets students know that we’ve acknowledged their cry.
* Pro UCKAR point is that it is considered a safe space for students.
* Anti-UCKAR point was that it had been an occupational hazard in the past and would continue to be so.
* Suggestion was that we educate students on the reasons why the SRC is not permitted to comment on UCKAR.

**4.3. Statement on accreditation policy**

* Task teams will analyse the policy and provide feedback to the president who will then compile a report and send it to the DSA.
* Policy will stand and therefore, the recommendation made by us will only be taken into account after 3 years.

**4.4. Issuance of temporary permits**

* There was a plea that students be permitted temporary permits to allow them to return to campus to collect their study material for their supplementary exams.
* Another suggestion was to have wardens send students their study material at the students cost.
* Mr Res was advised to send the issue forth to the DSA.

**4.5. Laptop issues for postgrads**

* Charging laptop cost to the student account (For NSFAS Beneficiaries only) was seen to be exclusionary in that it does not accommodate the “No Student Left Behind” movement.
* Communication that NSFAS students would be the only ones to have this charged to the student account was from Ms D Wicks through Madam SG.
* A suggestion was to send as email to Natalie to enquire about this, but a point was raised in the RROCA meeting and was contested, we await feedback in the next RROCA meeting.
* Madam President said she would raise this issue in her meeting with the DSA.

**4.6. Plagiarism Hearing Feedback**

* In the hearings had, no student was excluded (a development took place and one student was excluded, on the 3rd of February).
* Madam Academic was advised to speak on the topic of academic integrity especially because of the transition to remote learning.
  + Campaign on academic writing
    - Seminar
    - Infographics
    - Sources of Information
    - Plagiarism Awareness
    - Another recommendation was for each faculty and/or department.

**4.7. Orientation week**

* 75% virtual and 25% contact.
  + Contact: Presidential speech and meet your SRC.
  + Second meeting is yet to be decided.
* Mr Residence was asked to draw up a contingency plan for students with no accommodation.
  + - Daily rate
* Mr CE, Madam Media, Madam Environmental and Madam PGA.
  + - Were asked to start working on the contents of the SRC booklet.
    - Mr Sports was requested to send through applications of the society applications. These will be discussed in the next council meeting.
* Madam Environment was requested to submit a proposal on the recycling competition
* Madam Projects ought to submit a draft of the O-week plan by a date to be determined later.

**2021.01.05. Issues arising from Secretariat**

**5.1. Uniform**

* To be discussed in the O-Week meeting.

**5.2. NSFAS Accredited Accommodation**

* Statement to be released on the matter.
* Any suggestions and recommendation from council are welcome.

**5.3. SAUS Affiliation**

To be discussed after council has engaged with the relevant document

**2021.01.06. Other matters for the agenda**

**6.1. Feedback from Madam Oppidan about Accreditation**

* Leases signed before the 1st of March do not need to be NSFAS Accredited, however anything signed after the 1st of March would need to be Accredited.
* List of accredited places will be made available from the first of March.
* For rentals that are not under an agency, the owner ought to get an affidavit explaining that they are renting out a portion of their house and to who they are renting it to.
* These documents need to be sent out to financial aid (finaid.ru.ac.za).

End of Meeting.