The 18TH SRC MEETING HELD ON THE 22ND OF APRIL 2024 AT 18H30 IN THE RA ROOM.

**AGENDA**

2024.18.01. APOLOGIES

1.1. Madame Projects

1.2. Mr. Student Benefits and Sponsorships (hereinafter Mr. SBS)

2024.18.02. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

2.1. Mr. Activism and Transformation (22nd-24th April 2024)

2024.18.03. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Conflict of interests declared for all named in concept document, to be excused when agenda item reached.

2024.18.04. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1. Confirmed by Madame Academics with amendments.

4.2. Seconded by Mr. Vice President (hereinafter Mr. VP)

2024.18.05. MATTERS ARISING

5.1 Purple Thursday

5.2 Leadership Week

-The Chair introduced the tabulated item and clarified that Leadership Week was still on presently with the VP spearheading the project as the only instructor. Council to decide if continuing with standing theme or adopt changes.

-Role of the alumni solely advisory, still SRC project.

-The floor opened to motions:

Motion 1, continue with Leadership week as originally planned with intended days, raised by Mr. VP, and seconded by Madame Residence.

Motion 2, revisit concept of Leadership Week, raised by Mr. Treasurer-General (hereinafter TG), and seconded by Mr. SBS.

Council voted and the Chair announced Motion 1 passed.

-The VP expressed dissatisfaction in councilors work ethic in project, reporting missed deadlines of concept documents, poor sponsorship lists and no submissions of speakers list. 1 sponsor had been approved. Mr. SBS to inform Council of the type of sponsorship to receive.

-Day leaders and office heads were called to look for sponsors.

-Meeting with all SRC substructures 18h30 2nd May, Madame res to invite Hall Senior Students to attend alongside their Hall Reps.

-Alumni update postponed from 25th to 30th of April due to clash with Student Parliament seating.

-Meeting to be held between Madame Secretary-General (hereinafter SG), Mr. SBS and Mr. International to discuss their division of duties on matter.

-Council heard a suggestion from Madame Community Engagement (hereinafter CE), on the establishment of a sponsorship committee. The suggestion was approved by the VP and Mr. SBS nominated Madame Projects in absentia, Madame Residence, Madame Post-Graduate Affairs (hereinafter PGA) and Mr. TG. Madame PGA and Mr. TG accepted the nominations.

-Day leaders were encouraged to send letters directly to sponsors/speakers instead of through the SG however cautioned to confirm with SG to avoid double emails. Council heard a suggestion from Madame PGA on using Comms Division to send emails to sponsors, leveraging pre-existing relations.

-Mr. SBS and Madame PGA to meet with Comms Division pertaining suggestion.

-Mr. SBS apologized for his non-attendance in the previous meeting with the Comms Division due to a bereavement and requested a briefing of the meeting.

-On the progress of local SRC, the Chair announced the University of Pretoria, University of Witwatersrand, Nelson Mandela University, Walter Sisulu University, University of Fort Hare, University of Free State, University of Western Cape, University of Cape Town, Durban University of Technology and Mangosutho University of Technology have been invited with 2 confirmations.  
-On the progress of international SRC, Mr. International announced the University of Lusaka, another university in Lesotho and University of Belgium were invited. It clarified that the envoys from University of Belgium will be catered for, but travel and accommodation would normally be at their expense however sponsorships are being sought to cover as many costs as possible.

-The Chair noted a potential sponsorship with ENCA.

-The VP asked Council for suggestions to assist in councilors’ adherence to deadline. Deadlines: Outstanding documents to be in by Friday 26th of April; Follow ups on speakers and sponsorship to be done 3 weeks after initial message. Madame PGA suggested deadline be placed on a Google Calendar available for councilor.

5.3 Stance on deduction

-The Chair read a segment of Mr. Ofei’s written response to the Letter of Concern, particularly on the honorarium document which Mr. Ofei reportedly wrote that the honorarium document not to be abolished under any circumstance of pressure.

-Importance of uniformity highlighted as the SG asked the way forward. Council reaffirmed their decision to reject honorarium document.

-Council heard from Mr. TG that Mr. Ofei didn’t sign the document and therefore compliance can be refused. Suggested getting official communication from the Director of Student Services and Development formalizing individual councilor honorarium amounts.

- Mr. International raised a concern over how accountability will be enforced without the honorarium document.

-General consensus on council not paying deduction as per honorarium document.

-Chair to set up meeting with the Director of the Division of Student Support and Devopment, SG, TG and VP after meeting.

2024.18.06. BUSINESS OF THE DAY

6.1. PG Forum

-Madame PGA took all documents as read and opened the floor for questions.

-Council voted and there was a general consensus. Project adopted by council.

6.2 Church Revival

-The VP took all documents as read and opened the floor for questions.

-It was clarified that local Christian groups, not affiliated with the University, approached Madame Projects for a collaboration with the SRC involving councilor visibility at the event and financial assistance of an undisclosed value.

-Madame Sports and Societies (hereinafter Madame Sports), concurred by other councilors, questioned how a project could be approved without a specific amount, stating SRC can’t provide financial support.

-The VP noted that Council can give conditions for their acceptance of the project and exclude the financial aspect- which the organizers reportedly accepted.

-Council deliberated on the decision hearing arguments that the document was no clear on the exact expectations of the SRC and support for the project citing its potential to bring student Christians on together and involve Christians societies in event.

-The decision moved to motions:

Motion 1, Accept to promoting event and link with Christian societies with no financial input by SRC, raised by the TG and seconded by Mr. International.

-The SG announced that Motion 1 passed. Project accepted by council.

6.3 Food Survey

-Madame Residence took all documents as read and opened the floor for questions.

-It was reported that all timelines had been met and survey was ready to be launched as intended.

-Project approved by council vote.

6.4 Bootcamp Training

-The SG took all documents as read. Need list of volunteers to be on 2-day bootcamp.

-Absolute consensus achieved. Project approved by SRC.

-Clarity sought on how many volunteers were wanted. Madame SG to submit list of volunteers and confirm.

-Interested councilor to interact with poll on WhatsApp group.

2024.18.07. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

2024.18.08 OTHER MATTERS OF THE AGENDA

8.1 Grievance from Dysfunctional Societies Chairs

- Madame Sports introduced to council the various chairs of newly dysfunctional societies: Beautiful Gates, Dog Lovers, DYN, Bana bapitori and Basotho society. Council’s decision was reiterated and explained to the chairs in attendance.

-The various chairs rose dissatisfaction on decision, citing that dysfunctional societies were not offered fair and enough opportunity to sign up. An enquiry was made into using leftover society funds from 2023 so societies could reach threshold required to avoid dysfunctional status. Mr. SBS provided clarity stating the threshold was based on number of members, not funds.

-The chair of Beautiful Gate raised a question on whether university staff, who were members of the society, could fulfil the minimum member requirement. She also argued the week extension by the university was not adequate and meant some societies only had that week to get their sign-ups during a time of academic stress and travel.

-Amidst confusion, it was clarified that members of societies were staff and/or students at the University and had to total the 20-member threshold to be active.

-Council heard a complaint of the deadline of the 18th being unfair to staff employees who are members as they must pay upfront to sign-up and get paid on the 25th.

-Madame CE asked for clarity as to if the staff member situation was disclosed to Madame Sports or the societies SRC honorary member prior to deadline for payments. It was noted that due to pressure, assistance was only sought from the SRC Financial Administrator.

-There was a misunderstanding of section 4 SRC Societies Policy, and it was determined that SRC honorary members can not qualify as members.

-The Chair of the Societies Council told the SRC that they vehemently disagree with the decision to dissolve societies citing that circumstance precedes policy. A discussion took place on policy changing with key arguments concerned of the implications and new precedent ignoring policy would bring and another highlighting how policy should not be fixed and reflect reoccurring issues.

-It was noted that: societies reopening would have a knock on effect on sports due to being interlinked- a relation criticized by the Chair of Societies Council; the SRC, despite not having direct control, will hold IT department accountable and ensure their preparedness for 2nd semester sign ups; members of dysfunctional societies and their information could not be retained on system for the next semester without being charged as an active society in May.

-The Chair thanked the chairs of the various societies and excused them for further deliberation by council. Item tabled.

8.2 Differently abled students dealing with management.

-The TG reported to council that he had been approached by a student who was differently abled earlier that afternoon asking for assistance from the SRC. The student was told she’d be moved to Phelps House to accommodate her mobility, however there is no progress. Oppidan Hall Warden and office slow and unresponsive. No clear timeline given to her. Accessing venues is a consistent challenge which is greatly affecting her mental health.

-It was proposed that the Motsepe Fund be used to assist the student. There was a general consensus by council.

2024.18.09. HOUSEKEEPING

-The SG urged councilors to refrain from calling her and to instead use messages for communications.

-Requisition for Purple Room key has been lodged.

-Councilors asked to return kitchen key immediately after use.

-Mr. VP reported to the SG that extensions are needed in his and the President’s office and heaters should be allocated to offices.

-Clarity was asked as to where SRC Hall Representative meeting minutes should be sent and if society minutes should be sent to the honorary member or Madame Sports. Councilors directed to enquire with Mr. Ofei.

-Agenda announced for the Student Body Meeting:

* Coinvest
* RU Counselling Centre
* Motsepe Fund
* NSFAS
* Oppi comm
* Dining Hall system.

-Coinvest representative is not coming to the university and the list compiled by Student Bureau of the 150 students facing complication is to be sent to Coinvest.

-There was a suggestion that the Motsepe fund be used to provide relief to students through food parcels. A discussion ensued and was tabulated.

-All communication on coinvest/NSFAS and RU Counselling Centre to be emailed to president.

-Madame SG warned the Chair on time and general conduct in the meeting.

-Media Councilor, Siyabulela Hlebani, filed his resignation with immediate effect. Council awaiting communication from IEB.

-The Chair adjourned the meeting at 22:47.

2024.18.10. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

10.1 **29TH OF APRIL 2024 AT 18H30 IN THE RA ROOM**