RHODES UNIVERSITY

students’ representative council

**MINUTES OF a meeting held On Monday 16 may 2011**

**AT 18:30 IN THE R.A. ROOM**

**2011. M15.1 WELCOME**

The SRC President and Chair welcomed everyone to their fifteenth meeting and apologized for the confusion and short notice, given for the meeting.

# 2011. M15.2 PRESENT

President, Academic, Benefits, Community Engagement, Activism & Transformation, Projects Manager, Societies, International Affairs, Environmental and Residence.

# 2011. M15.3 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from the Vice President External, Vice President Internal, Treasurer, Media and Oppidan.

**2011. M15.4 OTHER MATTERS FOR THE AGENDA**

**4.1 Internal LOA’s** *(2011.M17.08)*

**4.2 There were no other matters for the agenda.**

**2011. M15.5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**5.1** Council **agreed** that the minutes of the meeting held on 3 May (M16), would be approved at the next sitting of Council.

**5.2** Council NOTED the Liaison’s apologies (see Doc 1) for meetings M.15 and M16. ***Doc 1***

*(In the interests of the environment, Doc 1is lodged with the President, for perusal, and shall be filed with the published version of the minutes arising from this meeting).*

**2011. M15.6 MATTERS ARISING**

**6.1 SRC 101 Centenary** *(2011.M16.00?)*

* International Affairs and Chair: 101/Centenary Organising Committee, reported as follows:

thanked Council for their public acknowledgement of her contribution to the celebrations; the tree planting would continue until all 101 trees had been planted; the time capsule would still have to be buried, and it was agreed that on Purple Thursday’s students would be given an opportunity to make further contributions to the project, and “burial”/installation would take place in the Third Term 2011 and all students would be invited to participate; it was further agreed that Environmental would follow-up with the photographers, and a wide selection of photographs would be forwarded to Alumni Relations for distribution to SRC Alumni with letters of appeal for donations; all Cllrs who worked with student helpers were encouraged to forward the names of the helpers to International Affairs, for inclusion in the report.

* President, reported as follows:

The financial reports for the whole event were being finalised (at this time it appeared that “The Bash” was within budget); SRC Alumni who had attended the event had subsequently been in contact with the President the Alumni Relations Office, offering congratulations on a successful celebration and thanked the SRC for giving them an opportunity to be a part of it.

* It was agreed that individual reports would be forwarded to the Chair: 101/Centenary Celebrations, by individual Cllrs. Cllrs were requested to highlight, in particular, problem areas so that these could be addressed in future.

*The Chair: 101/Centenary, then led Council through a “blow by blow” analysis of the event. This part of the meeting will be included in the final report.*

**6.2 SRC Academic Concessions** *(2011. M13.11)*

Council **noted** minute item2011.1.12.1from the Student Services Council minutes, dated 16 March 2011, and **agreed** that a recommendation to make the mentorship programme compulsory for all SRC members, would be put forward at the next meeting of the Student Services Council (26/05), in light of the fact that the programme had not yet been proven ineffective. Mentors would also be in a better position to determine/support an LOA application. The Dean of Students had also reported at the recently held SRC colloquium on Student Governance, on the failure of successive SRC administrations to take full advantage of this programme.

**6.3** **There were no other matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda.**

**2011. M15.7 STUDENT FORUM**

Council **agreed** that Student Forum would be convened on Thursday, 26 May, and that the following matters would be placed on the agenda:

* The terms of reference of the Constitution Review Committee should be amended to extend membership to two consecutive years in order to provide much needed continuity;
* Community Engagement portfolio amendment: to include that all candidates must have a proven track record in CE activities and must be endorsed by the Director/nominee of the Rhodes University Community Engagement Division.

**2011. M15.8 INTERNAL LOA’S**

**8.1** Council **agreed** that in all cases where a member of Council is unavailable, for a disclosed or undisclosed reason, that this must be communicated to all members of Council. This measure would also improve communication amongst Cllrs.

**8.2** Council **agreed** that the SRC Executive would convene as soon as possible, to determine the way forward in respect of those Cllrs who appeared to be missing in action.

**2011. M15.9 SRC EXECUTIVE**

**There was nothing to report on at this time.**

**2011. M15.10 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE EXECUTIVE**

**There were no matters arising at this time.**

**2011. M15.11 REPORT BACKS**

**11.1** *Community Engagement:*

* ACODTLI conference was held in Stellenbosch on weekend of 6-8 May, and a presentation on what CE was doing at RU was made; the Community Engagement Cllr. was elected to serve as the provincial liaison for Walter Sisulu University and the University of Fort Hare; there would be HE site visits; they wish to extend their reach into SADC.
* Selection committee: the first black male nurse had been appointed to work in the Health Care Centre.

**11.2** *Societies:*

The second Societies Council meeting was held (dates please?); bureaucracy and general inefficiency of key role players on the committee was highlighted as an impediment to the work of the council.

Council **agreed** that the Societies Cllr. would alert the Society Chairs to the matter.

**11.3** *President:*

* **“**Viv’s Variety Show” issue had been raised with the VC and a meeting with all the heads of religious societies on campus would be held where the adoption of “secularism” at the University would be explored; the meeting was scheduled for the first week-end in the second semester 2011.
* University *Imbizo* (27-28 June): the President requested that 10 Cllrs. be invited to attend; important aspects of institutional culture would be investigated.
* Selection committee: the candidate for the post of Deputy Dean of Students would be screened on 20/05/11.
* “Level 0”: the matter had been taken to the University Council and was **referred back** for further investigation into why undergraduates should be catered for elsewhere.

**11.4** *Academic:*

* Faculty Boards: the recently elected Faculty Board Representatives (03/05/11), attended their first round of faculty board meetings; HEQC pilot testing was approved with exception of the Humanities Faculty Board.
* A proposal had been tabled for all honours students to do research as part of their programme.

**11.5** *Societies:*

* Community Team (?) would be set-up and it would take the Student Volunteer Programme into the 21st century; it would take RU a few steps closer to having service learning recognised as credit bearing; every RU society will also be brought on board; the Community Engagement Cllr. had also sold the idea to national Department of Education.

**11.6** *Residence:*

* Ministerial Committee site visit took place on 05/05/11, as part of a national investigation into residence facilities provided by HE institutions.
* Board of Residences took place on 04/05/11, and the Drostdy Hall requested that provisions for the SRC Hall Rep be removed from their Hall’s constitution.

Council **agreed** as the way forward, to request the Residence Cllr. to be more strategic and investigate the Terms of Reference of both the Hall Committees and the Board of Residences, for possible resolution of the matter.

**2011. M15.12 UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES**

**12.1 Institutional Forum (17/05)**

Council **noted** that the meeting papers had already been delivered and **agreed** to attend the meeting in their blazers.

**12.2 Student Services Council (26/05)**

Council **agreed** to finalise the following by the due date, 20/05/11:

*Constitution of the Students review;*

*Societies Policy (in exhaustive consultation with the Societies Cllr.);*

*Class Representatives Policy (in exhaustive consultation with the Academic Cllr.)*

**2011. M15.13 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday, 23 May 2011, in the R.A. Room at 18:30.

*/ma*