

RHODES UNIVERSITY

STUDENTS REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

A MEETING WAS HELD ON MONDAY 09 MARCH 2020

AT 18:30 IN THE RA ROOM

AGENDA

The Meeting was called to order by Madame President at 18:30. Madame Environmental opened in a word of prayer.

2020.M5.1 PRESENT

President, Vice-President, Secretary General, Treasurer General, International Affairs Councillor, Media Councillor, Projects Manager, Community Engagement Councillor, Academic Councillor, Student Benefits and Sponsorships Councillor, Environmental Councillor, Activism and Transformation Councillor, Oppidan Councillor, Sports and Societies Councillor.

2020.M5.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE/ APOLOGIES

Excused: Residence Councillor

2020.M5.3 STUDENT DEVELOPMENT & SUPPORT OFFICER

Mr Ofei requested and recommended the following points:

Secretariat to contact the Vice Chancellors office and secretaries to book Directors, Deans, Senior executive, Registrar, Vice Chancellor and Deputy Vice Chancellors for inauguration and diarize with their administrators.

Leadership Summit in August: Invitations to SRC (Top 2/3) in other institutions must be sent by end March.

Invitations must be sent to the guest speakers on time as they have a lot of engagements.

All suggestions about the leadership summit must be sent to the executive as soon as possible.

Communication must be made with potential partners (e.g. partnering with Sports admin for sport related presentations, partnering with Economics/ Business School department for business speaker, partnering with Makana Municipality for government officials etc.)

SRC is requested to avail themselves and assist with intervarsity planning

Asked what the progress is on benchmarking with regards to gender neutral residences and that the Activism Councillor be assisted in finding out which university have undergraduate gender neutral residences and for SRC to make use of sub-structures for consultations on gender neutral residences.

Mr Ofei gave recommendations to conduct research on other universities which have successfully implemented gender neutral residences.

On the SRC Policy Conference, Mr Ofei stated that the Policy Conference may be postponed to a later date. Stated that Vice President was struggling to get the required documents from student parliament and other substructures. Do we need to postpone?

Media Councillor stated that she understands why it may be postponed and that she is not confident on how to structure her portfolio for the conference.

Vice President stated that he had sent out emails and has not received any response from other substructures. Substructures which are expected to submit documents are societies' council, student parliament, Adhoc committees and Academics. Vice President mentioned that it may not be possible to host the conference because of the reception and suggested that the conference date be moved. He mentioned that the constitution must be read by the other constituents regarding their roles.

Mr Ofei was excused.

2020.M5.4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Vice President proposed the confirmation of minutes, seconded by Academic Councillor.

2020.M5.5 OTHER MATTERS FOR THE AGENDA

1. Sports Admin LOC- SRC representation
2. Shadow the leader

2020.M5.6 Matters arising

1. SRC Policy Conference

Vice President mentioned that constituencies were not responding to his emails. We need constitutions to be aligned with 2020 Constitution of Students. There can't be a conference where nothing is being reviewed. VP proposes that Policy Conference be moved (postponed).

It was agreed that the constituents need to be held accountable. The Vice President is requested to send an email with a deadline so that measures may be taken.

Secretary General suggested new dates for the conference being the 18th or 25th of April 2020 as alternative dates.

2. Cluster Meetings

Vice President expressed that since year plans are submitted, targets on how to achieve goals will be discussed in cluster meetings. Meetings are compulsory and will be once or twice a month and councillors will be informed 2 weeks in advance.

President asked when will cluster meetings start and suggested they start as soon as possible.

3. Institutional Forum Meeting

Vice President stated that the meeting is on Wednesday at 14:15 and that the 2019 SRC had put forward two issues: same-sex residence and how the water situation is affecting the students in residences. Vice President expressed that a report is to be submitted by the 2020 SRC.

Secretary General asked for clarity on the same-sex residence issue and International Councillor expressed that there is a booklet available on health awareness and gender neutral residences.

Transformation Councillor asked the Vice President what kind of report and budgeting is expected and that it is hard to provide any information without a benchmark.

The President asked the council how far are we on the report with regards to dates of benchmarking and progress if council is to submit a report. Madam President mentioned that if report has to be submitted we can just give feedback/ update in the meeting.

The computer lab issue: Secretary General expressed that there has been a proposal to the Union Labs and Eden Grove Labs open for 24 hours. There is uncertainty if the Eden Grove Labs fall under the Registrar's division and to consider the security issues with the proposal. Mrs V. Israel will speak to IT Department about it as they are responsible for labs.

On the same note, Secretary General mentioned that the urgent call for now is to have Union labs open while we continue with the conversation of having the Eden Grove Labs open as well as converting part of the housekeeping units uphill to be made into a mini-lab.

4. Sports Admin LOC- SRC Representation

Sports Councillor stated that he was supposed to have attended the student sports council executive meeting, today at 18:30 regarding the intervarsity.

International Councillor proposed that council votes regarding the sports LOC admin. Madam President expressed that LOC is only

organising sport-related events and any after-party is organized by SRC. Madam President tallied the votes by council to form part of the LOC.

For: 6 votes

Against: 4

Abstaining: 4

Madam President concluded that based on votes, council will not be forming part of LOC. Secretary General expressed a general comment that council has been advocating to be involved in Sports but that does not reflect that in voting.

5. Shadow the leader mentorship program

Community Engagement Councillor noted that Friday 15th March, 2020 will be the training launch which will run simultaneously with the training of the LRC from Ntsika High School. Councillor explained that each member of the SRC will be allocated a mentee based on a personality test which will be sent to councillors by tonight which council needs to complete so that allocation is done by Wednesday. Councillor mentioned that on the event that Ntsika High School cannot make it Friday, the training will continue and meet and greet with mentees will be done at a later stage.

Community Engagement Councillor expressed that the SRC led mentorship concept is under Vuka Makana and certificates from RUCE are received individually and the SRC cannot be processed under RUCE because council did not participate in RUCE mentorship training.

Community Engagement councillor expressed that she will push for the VC mentorship recognition. She also stated that criteria will be set for the month according to a theme and that mentors and mentees may meet once a week or once every 3 weeks and will have autonomy when meeting mentee.

2020.M5.7 UPCOMING EVENTS

Secretary General asked Community Engagement to get back to council if Ntsika High School will be here for community engagement and requested that council wear their golfers to Shadow the leader

Institutional Forum at 14:15 on Wednesday, 11 March 2020, and full uniform is to be worn there as previously stated.

2020.M5.8 ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 20:17