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SRC

Students' Representative Council
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Studenteraad



SRC 2024 TERM 3 REPORT

Prim Committee Chairperson

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Foreword

Dear Maties,

I am in awe of how fast term 2 of 2024 has gone past! Thank goodness I managed to pass all of my modules while balancing the packed leadership term. I hope you have also steered clear of the HEMIS-monster...

This term was a bit of a blur to be honest with you. I think when you have been in leadership for a while and you have the rhythm of it, it is easy to forget how much you have gotten done. We are trying to get as much done as possible before third term starts, because once you are in your final term, the focus shifts from progressing to concluding and handing over.

Thank you for your unwavering support and accountability – I cannot tell you how much hope it gives me to know we have students who are brave and courageous.

I hope all of you rest well after this busy first semester and come back ready to study, lead an run for various positions on campus during the election season!

Kindest regards,

Andri Malan

Constitutional Responsibilities

According to the Student Constitution, the Chairperson has the following responsibilities:

Chapter 9 of the Student Constitution is dedicated to the Prim Committee and outlines the various powers and responsibilities vested in the Prim Committee.

Section 98 of the Student Constitution elucidates the composition of the PC, emphasizing section 98(1)(a), which stipulates that the Prim Committee comprises the chairperson and the executive committee, endowed with rights granted by the Prim Committee Constitution. Section 99 details the duties and powers of the Prim Committee, emphasizing its role in representing the interests of residents and members of CSCs to the SRC and University management. Additionally, decisions made by the Prim Committee hold binding authority over all House Committees.

Section 100 of the Student Constitution defines the constitutional mandate of the Prim Committee, emphasizing its duty to actively advocate for the rights of students outlined in Chapter 2 of the Student Constitution, with specific reference to section 8(1). Section 101 addresses the constitutions, rules, and regulations of different communities, asserting that the Prim Committee Constitution binds all community constitutions within the Prim Committee. Notably, Section 101(5) grants the Prim Committee the authority to establish a committee for approving constitutions, rules, regulations, or amendments by House Committees.

According to the Prim Committee Constitution, the Chairperson has the following responsibilities:

- i) Serving as the Presiding officer at meetings of the Prim Committee and Executive Committee.
- ii) Being the Spokesperson of the Prim Committee.
- iii) Representing the interests of all Communities on the Students' Representative Council as an ex officio member.
- iv) Oversight over the activities of Communities, the Prim Committee, and the Executive Committee.
- v) Holding the Executive Committee accountable.
- vi) Assigning responsibilities and projects to the Executive Committee.

- vii) External correspondence on behalf of the Prim Committee to other Student Leadership Structures.
- viii) Responsible for oversight of the Prim Committee funds.
- ix) Representing the Prim Committee on various institutional bodies as determined by those structures.
- x) Being the Caretaker PSOs and fulfilling all the duties necessary for that representational capacity.
- xi) Ensuring that the Prim Committee fulfils its mandate.

Prim Committee Chairperson



Portfolio Overview

The Prim Committee Chairperson bears the responsibility of overseeing various activities aimed at ensuring the efficient functioning of the committee and its contribution to the development of student leaders and the campus community. These activities are specifically aligned with four key pillars or university structures: the Prim Committee, Student Representative Council, and the Centre for Student Life and Learning. The Prim Committee serves as a platform where any student in a community space may raise a query through their respective House Committees and Prims, who then reports it to the Prim Committee meeting. The Prim Committee Executive will then deal with the matter directly or refer it to the relevant structure where appropriate.

1) The Student Representative Council (SRC)

Working alongside the Prim Committee Vice-Chairperson, Courtney de Klerk, the Prim Committee Chairperson holds the responsibility of nurturing and maintaining an effective relationship with the Student Representative Council (SRC) for the benefit of Student Communities. In instances where student concerns emerge within community spaces, the CSC Representative or Residence Representative is able to bring them up for discussion during SRC meetings or highlight them specifically to the SRC Executive Committee. This streamlined communication process plays a valuable role in keeping the SRC informed about developments within community spaces.

2) The Centre for Student Life and Learning (CSLL)

The Prim Committee Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson engage in meetings with the Director and Deputy Director of CSLL to address issues relevant to Student Communities. Additionally, collaborative efforts are invested in the development of Student Leaders through initiatives such as the annual Prim Conference and other significant engagements.

3) Residence Representative

The Chairperson's duty for 2023/2024 is to ensure that all queries in the residence spaces are heard and then resolved as expeditiously as possible. If the matter can't be resolved on PC level, the matter will be referred to either the SRC or CSLL.

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Committees/Task Teams

I serve on the following Committees and or Task Teams:

In my capacity as SRC member:

Institutional Forum: The Institutional Forum (IF) plays a crucial role in advising the Council on a variety of issues, including policies, conduct, and management policies. Comprising 23 members representing governance, management, staff, students, and the community, the IF, as per the SU Statute, is mandated to provide guidance to the Council on diverse matters. These include the implementation of race and gender equality policies, the selection of candidates for senior management positions, fostering an institutional culture that promotes respect for human rights, and creating a conducive environment for learning, teaching, and research. Additionally, the IF offers advice on institutional transformation matters.

I was appointed by the SRC to serve as its representative on the IF. Due to the confidential nature of IF meetings, I am unable to disclose specific details. Something I can, however, disclose is that I was part of the representatives of IF that met with the Council to discuss the competencies we believe the new Rector should have.

In my capacity as Prim Committee Chairperson:

Student Community Advisory Committee: The SCAC, previously known as the 'Student Housing Committee,' serves as a platform for discussing various matters related to student communities, such as maintenance, upgrades to residence spaces, and the construction of Cluster HUBs. Chaired by Prof Ramjugernath, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Learning and Teaching, the committee includes members from facilities management, the finance department, SUNCOM, the Centre for Student Life and Learning (CSLL), and student leaders.

One meeting took place during the third term in office. The meeting began with facilities management providing reports on upgrades and maintenance in various residences. Discussions were had around green spaces for students and how it boosts mental health and recreational activities. Further topics

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that were included were the next stage of the generator projects as well as the bathroom shower stall installations in men's residences.

Residence Head Appointment Committee: I sat as part of a panel in CSLL to appoint two residence heads at Tygerberg – one for a junior residence and one for a senior residence.

Monitors' Advisory Committee: Although no meeting took place this term, the Monitor's Report was released and sent to student communities. Discussions of the report will follow in Clusters next term.

Term 3 Overview

The Prim Committee continued with our commitment to excellence in the first term of 2024. Planning, communication and crisis management were important in this term. I highlighted a few of our main activities this term:

1) Open Meeting for Prospective Prims

The Prim Committee recently held a successful open meeting for prospective Prims at the Metanoia Residence. This session offered the candidates a valuable opportunity to observe the workings of an internal Prim Committee meeting. During the gathering, we prompted the prospective Prims to consider their potential leadership roles and provided insights into the importance of external relations within the Prim Committee framework.

2) Matie Shop Discussions

Following the establishment of the Merchandise Advisory Committee and the adoption of the Selective Purchasing Plan, a second meeting was held to discuss the Prim Committee's petitions and the potential solutions to the petitions. After the petitions were discussed and solutions were found, the selective purchasing plan was voted out by the Prim Committee. Training will also be offered to merchandise leadership members in future so that they are prepared on how to work with the Matie Shop.

3) House Committee Dance

The Prim Committee planned the House Committee Dance in the second term. The intention was to allow for a space to reconnect with leaders that were met in Welcoming and to reward the student leaders for the challenging Welcoming period. The evening was a great success and the theme, a fairy tale dream come true, allowed for a creative outlet.

4) Prim Committee Meetings

In the second term of 2024, we had ordinary meetings only. The most prevalent Agenda Points in the second term included:

- Campus Rugby
- Matie Shop
- Connect

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Additionally, I attended the STAND initiative and signed the accord. I also had the privilege of attending and being a judge at the annual Miss Isa pageant. I also attended open day. It remains an honour to support our student community's initiatives.

Plans for Next Term

The Prim Committee has detailed our initiatives for the upcoming term, aimed at concluding on a high note:

Open Meeting for Prospective Tygerberg Prims

We will invite prospective Tygerberg Prims to an open meeting where they can learn more about the Prim Committee's objectives and role in representing student communities. This meeting will allow them to observe the committee in action and decide if they want to participate and contribute to its mission.

Prim Committee Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson Elections

On 30 July 2024, we will elect our successors as future ex-officio members of the SRC. The Vice-Chairperson has worked closely with the Election Commissioner to ensure a fair and equitable election process for all applicants.

Prim Committee Handover

The Executive Committee has prepared comprehensive reports for a smooth handover to the newly elected and appointed Executive team. The handover process will include:

- 1. One-on-One Meetings:** Outgoing Executive Committee members will meet individually with their respective counterparts from the new team to provide focused information and address specific concerns.
- 2. Report Overview and Discussions:** The outgoing committee will present detailed reports, allowing the incoming team to ask questions and gain a thorough understanding of their roles.
- 3. Informal Dinner Handover:** An informal dinner will be organized to encourage team bonding and open communication, fostering strong relationships between the old and new members.

Prim Gala

The Executive Committee is responsible for organizing the highly anticipated Prim Gala for 2024. This event is a significant occasion for the Prims to celebrate the past term and bid farewell to their roles. The committee is dedicated to creating an unforgettable experience that will leave lasting memories.

SUBMITTED BY:



Andri Malan

Prim Committee Chairperson

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