



Stellenbosch

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SRC

Students' Representative Council
Ibhunga elimele abaFundi
Studenteraad



SRC 2024 TERM 3 REPORT
SRC TRANSFORMATION OFFICER

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**SRC Transformation
Officer**

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Foreword

Welcome back, students of Stellenbosch University!

We hope you had a restful and rejuvenating semester break, ready to tackle the challenges and opportunities of Term 3. Your dedication to academic excellence is truly commendable, and we applaud your unwavering commitment to your studies. Your hard work and perseverance are the cornerstones of our vibrant academic community, and we are grateful for your continued pursuit of knowledge and growth.

As your representative in the student council, I am honored to serve such a passionate and driven student body. Your trust and confidence in me inspire me to work diligently on your behalf. Together, we will strive to enhance our university experience, addressing your concerns and championing your interests. Here's to a successful and enriching term ahead, filled with new achievements and memorable experiences.

I am deeply grateful to the student community for entrusting me to serve during this challenging SRC term. Your support and confidence have been a source of strength and motivation. Despite the difficulties we've faced, your resilience and commitment to our collective goals have been truly inspiring. I am honored to represent such a dedicated and passionate group of students. Together, we have navigated obstacles and made strides toward a better future for our university. Thank you for your trust and collaboration; it has been a privilege to serve you. Let's continue to work together for positive change.

Let's make Term 3 our best one yet!

Yours in Excellence

Bradley Grovers

Constitutional Responsibilities

According to the student constitution by constitutional responsibilities are the following:

- 1) Transformation does not have any specific constitutional responsibilities outside of those stated in the
- 2) SU Student Constitution for the SRC in its entirety. Chapter 3(1) to act in the best interest of the
- 3) students and to actively promote students' rights under (11); (2) to represent students at - (a) the
- 4) University Council; (b) the Senate; (c) the Institutional Forum; (d) other committees, bodies and
- 5) functionaries of the University; and € national and international student bodies; (3) to evaluate the
- 6) university policy and give input in the formulation thereof; (4) to consider the advice of Student
- 7) Parliament; (5) facilitate projects and initiatives to the benefit of students; (6) to facilitate projects and
- 8) initiatives to the benefit of students; and (7) to formulate and maintain policy to ensure that the
- 9) Student Representative Council perform its functions and duties effectively.

Portfolio Overview

SRC Transformation's role is to create a diverse student experience that will best promote human dignity and justice. A welcoming campus that values the rights of everyone and appreciates the differences that exist amongst human beings is the greatest success of transformation. The portfolio offers the institution and the student body a greater understanding of justice. It is through it that discrimination is intolerable within the academic spaces. The portfolio advocates for equity for everyone. It offers persons an opportunity to be treated as human beings without fear. The Transformation Officer has a duty to represent all students on campus. It strives towards providing a student experience that is welcoming to everyone without discriminating. We are shaped by the environments that we originate from as students. It is therefore the responsibility of the Transformation Officer to bridge the gap by providing a global experience that will not violate the rights of others based on their language, gender, religion

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social class, and political affiliation. The goal is to create an environment that will offer students an opportunity to learn from one and another through embracing multiculturalism. Human dignity and justice guide the transformation agenda.

Committees/Task Teams

I serve on the following Committees and or Task Teams:

1. Transformation and Critical Engagement Forum

This forum equips House Committees with all the necessary tools to welcome a student in a way where all students feel welcomed and valued in our institution. This is done through Res-Ed and critical engagements to ensure we equip our students with the environment of Stellenbosch University, and how we can best be champions of transformation.

2. Student Institutional Transformation Committee

This committee is chaired by the Transformation Officer, in this instance, Bradley Groves, and the purpose of this committee is to bring student leaders together and create a platform of developing and enhancing transformation in our institution.

3. Institutional Forum (Executive)

The duties of this committee entail, planning the agenda for IF meetings; Logistics and the secretariat; Planning and organizing an annual planning session either after the last official meeting of the year, or early in the new year. Liaison with Management; Annual liaison with the Exco (C); Finalizing urgent matters in highly exceptional cases that cannot be held over until the next full IF meeting, and reporting in detail to the IF; and such other functions as the IF may delegate to the Exco (IF).

The IF (Exco) was bound to meet with management on 26 September 2024. This meeting will serve as my final meeting with the IF (Exco) since my SRC term and membership in the Committee will expire on 30 September 2024.

4. Institutional Forum

As per the SU Statute, the Institutional Forum (IF) advises the Council on various issues, including policies, conduct, and management policies. The IF comprises 23 representatives from multiple sectors, including governance and management, staff, students, and the community.

This Committee is set to meet on 5 August 2024 to discuss the nomination and appointment of a new dean for Arts and Social Science, as well as the Senior Director for CSCD.

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5. Institutional Transformation Committee

The Institutional Transformation Committee (ITC) is a committee mandated by, and reporting to, the Rector's Management Team (RMT) on matters relating to transformation at our university. The ITC's

role is to:

- Advance the implementation of the transformation imperatives provided by the Strategic Framework.
- Participate in drafting and regularly revising the SU Transformation plan;
- Participate in drafting key performance areas and strategic management indicators for transformation.
- Monitor and report progress on realizing our university's transformation imperatives; and
- advise the Transformation Office, the Senior Director: Social Impact and Transformation, the Vice-Rector: Social Impact, Transformation & Personnel and the RMT on transformation matters.

The ITC had its fourth sitting on Tuesday 23 July 2024 discussing and finalizing the program for the upcoming Institutional Transformation Indaba taking place in October. The Committee spoke on the resolutions and provided feedback on their report to rectorate as the Transformation Policy Task Review Team.

Student Achievements Committee

This committee is formed to reward students for significant achievements such as the rector's awards. The Student Achievement Committee is chaired by the Vice Rector (Learning & Teaching). The Senior Director: Student Affairs, Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the SRC, the SRC member responsible for the Rector's Award for Excellent Achievement and the Senior Director: Communication and Liaison form the core committee with the Chairperson.

As mentioned in my first term report, this Committee is yet to meet for its first sitting.

6. Honorary Degrees Committee

This committee aims to recognize those individual's that have been actively contributing to the promotion of SU's pursuit in excellence, compassion accountability respect, equity and inclusivity. This Committee consists of members of rectorate who receives advice from the Nominations Committee before a final decision is made.

This Committee is set to have its first meeting on August 14, 2024, discussing the nominations received from the Nominations Committee. This Committee serves as a sub-committee of the Honorary Degrees Committee.

Term 3 Overview

1. During my third term in office, I have launched the #BeYou Initiative in collaboration with Dr. Ronel Retief, the Registrar of Stellenbosch University, and the subcommittee of the Woman and Queer Empowerment Portfolio within the SRC. - The aim of this initiative was initially started by the former transformation officer, and former chairperson of the SRC 21/22, Viwe Kobokana. It is crucial that this initiative continues to ensure that students who identify as part of the LGBTQA+ community have a safe space where they can freely be themselves. This project aims to be a continuous initiative that would benefit all members of the LGBTQ+ community. The project will close for submissions on 30 May 2024.
2. As part of the 30th celebration of Transformation at Stellenbosch, and Stellenbosch Museum, the SRC got invite to partake in choosing painting that speaks to them, as to how far the university has come in terms of Transformation. Those selected members had to write a curatorial statement on the representation of their painting so that their work could be exhibition as part of this celebration. On 15August 2024 all leadership bodies on campus who formed part of the curation were invited to the opening exhibition of this project.
3. The SRC got invited to attend the CIRCOE Summit that focused on various topics that are dealt with in the Racial and Human Categorization workstream.

Plans for Next Term

I plan on doing the following -

1. As the SRC Transformation Officer I have an upcoming event titled: "Empowerment through Transformation: Leading the Future". This event is aimed at lived experiences of Student leaders at Stellenbosch University, and potential student leaders who are ready to take on the responsibility of forming part of House Committee Leadership. It delves into a diversified opinion, and seeks to address the lack of black, and colored students in leadership positions. This event is set to take place on August 1st, 2024.
2. The final event for my portfolio is the Student Institutional Transformation Indaba, which will be happening in October, more details to be made available closer to the time.