



SRC 2020/2021 Term 2 Report

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Constitutional Responsibilities

The Special Needs Manager has the following constitutional commitments:

- Compile the yearly portfolio budget
- Attend at least one SRC meeting per term
- Attend office duty sessions allocated by Secretary General

Portfolio Overview

The vision of this portfolio is to be a support system for students with disabilities whether social or academic. It strives to create a space for students with disabilities to express themselves, advocate for their issues and to act as a secondary advice forum for Stellenbosch University structures. It also seeks to promote awareness of people living with disabilities, furthering their integration into Stellenbosch society, and consequently, the world. The portfolio also aims to form relationships with various stakeholders at Stellenbosch University as well as the Stellenbosch greater community. The portfolio is to serve as a representative body for students with disabilities to senior leadership and management.

Committees / Task Teams

- DSAF Res/Campus Life and Culture Review Team: Universal Access Member

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- Division of Student Affairs Transformation Charter Sub-Committee: Member
- Disability Unit: Member
- Stellenbosch Disability Network: Member
- South African Union of Student Disability Sub-committee: Deputy Chair
- Universal Access Campaign: Member

Term Overview

During the term, the Special Needs committee participated in the following activities on campus:

1. Special Needs Sub-Committee

The Special Needs Sub-Committee was formed at the beginning of the year. An advertisement was sent out to all students to apply for the Special Needs sub-committee and was filed in March 2021. The committee currently consists of 7 members with the following positions:

- Secretary
- Financial Manager
- Workshops and Engagement officer
- Marketing and Media Officers
- Events Manager

The members will assist the Special Needs Manager in achieving the year plan set out by the Special Needs Sub-Committee

2. Workshops on Campus

The portfolio set out during the term to have workshops during the term for student communities on campus. The workshops aim to create awareness on disability issues faced by students with disabilities on campus and to open the conversation of accessibility. The committee hosted 3 workshops during welcoming week and 2 workshops during first term. The special needs manager with the assistance of the Prim Committee presented at a training for Prims and HC members prior to welcoming week.

3. SRC Accessibility Audit

The Special Needs manager created an accessibility audit document of the SRC office highlighting the accessibility issue of the office that students with disabilities may face when using the SRC office and other SRC venues. The document was accepted by the SRC and sent to the Disability Unit as well as facilities for discussion.

4. SRC Lead with Disability

The special needs portfolio with assistance from the SRC Vice-chair, assisted the Disability unit in setting up a lead with disability course specifically designed for the SRC.

5. TSR Lead with Disability

The special needs portfolio with assistance from the TSR student wellness officer, assisted with the set-up of the TSR lead with disability course specifically designed for the TSR needs and time.

6. SRC Special Needs Safe Space

The portfolio created a safe space group for students on campus to discuss issues of disabilities and to create a space for students with disabilities to share their experiences of campus.

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7. Dis-maties return

The portfolio has been assisting with the return of the Dis-maties committee. The portfolio will assist the committee with events and restructuring of the committee.

Budget

Budget & Reasoning

Expenditure so far

Due to the nature of the project during the term, none of the money allocated in the budget has been spent.

Plans for next term

During the next term, the portfolio has the following events planned

1. Safe Space
2. Workshops
3. Special Needs Social
4. Walk with Accessibility
5. Disability Indaba
6. Dinner-In-The-Dark
7. Accessibility Videos

Recommendations to improve portfolio

Important Contacts

Special Needs email: specialneeds@sun.ac.za

Disability Unit: disability@sun.ac.za

Special needs manager: 18342078@sun.ac.za

Dis-maties: dismaties@gmail.com

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