

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN



STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTE

Date: Thursday, 24 August 2017

Venue: Mafeje Room, Bremner

Time: 16h00-18h45

Committee Membership

Council (Chair): Siphon Pityana (Chair) and Debbie Budlender (alt)

SRC: Rorisang Moseli (rep) and Nthupula Masipa (alt)

ShackvilleTRC/SRC Candidates: Mlingani Matiwane (rep), Sinxolo Boyi (rep), Sinawo Thambo (alt) and Lindokuhle Patiwe (alt)

Other Student Formations: Thembelihle Ncayiyana (rep) (alt not yet filled)

Deans: Penelope Andrews (rep) and Mills Soko (alt)

Senate: Nicola Illing (rep) and Jeremy Seekings (alt)

Academic Union (AU): Maanda Mulaudzi (rep) and Catherine Hutchings (alt)

HoDs: Hussein Suleman (rep) and Eric Van Steen (alt)

Black Academic Caucus (BAC): Khwezi Mkhize (rep) and Shadreck Chirikure (alt)

EDs: Russell Ally (rep) and position yet to be filled (alt)

Alumni: Nombulelo Magula (rep) Lorna Houston (alt)

Pass Forum: Sonwabo Ngcelwane (rep) and Edwina Brooks (alt)

Employees Union (EU): Andrea Plos (rep) and Samuel Chetty (alt)

NEHAWU: Lindikhaya Payiya (rep) and Noluthano Pawulina (alt)

Non-Recognised Unions: Portia Nyalela (rep) and Linda Maqasha (alt)

Executive: Max Price (VC) and Loretta Feris (DVC Transformation)

Committee Attendance

Apologies

Loretta Feris (Exec)
Eric Van Steen (HoD's)
Seipati Tshabalala (SRC)
Maanda Mulaudzi (AU)
Bulie Magula (Alumni) – on standby via skype

Attendees

Sipho Pityana (Council, Chair)
Debbie Budlender (Council)
Max Price (Executive)
Nicola Illing (Senate)
Jeremy Seekings (Senate)
Hussein Suleman (HoD's)
Naledi Mbaba (SRC)
Penelope Andrews (Deans)
Lorna Houston (Alumni)
Russell Ally (ED)
Catherine Hutchings (AU)
Sinoxolo Boyi (Shackville TRC)
Simon Rakei (Shackville TRC)
Andrea Plos (EU)
Samuel Chetty (EU)
Khwezi Mkhize (BAC)
Thembelihle Ncayiyana – (Other Student Formations)
Mlingani Matiwane (Other Student Formations)
Sonwabo Ngcelwane (Pass Forum)
Edwina Brooks (Pass Forum)

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The chair welcomed members of the Committee. Apologies were noted.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF

The revised minute of 18 April 2017 was approved. There were no further corrections.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Matters arising from the minute of 18 April 2017:

3.1 Status of the Workshop held on 20 May 2017

Prof. Seekings raised a concern as to why the minutes of 18 April 2017 were approved while minutes of the workshop held on 20 May 2017 were not. Dr Price referred to the approved minutes of 18 April 2017 which outlined the mandate of the workshop. The mandate of the workshop of the 20 May 2017 as referred to in the minute of 18 April 2017 was to work towards the provisional Terms of Reference (ToR) and the Criteria for Selecting Commissioners (CSC) for the IRTC. Dr Price indicated that he, and probably most others, understood that it was intended that the full-day meeting would be able to achieve what had not been possible in the two-hour meeting. There was therefore no need to approve the outcome of the workshop since it fulfilled its mandate given to it by the Steering Committee.

Dr Price stated that the way the Alumni attachment was communicated appeared to have given the impression that it was part of the Steering Committee's ToR and CSC. The communication did not clarify the status of the Alumni attachment as an annexure, and as one of several possible submissions to the IRTC anticipated from various constituencies and individuals. Prof Illing indicated that the decision to attach the Alumni document to the Steering Committee's provisional ToR and CSC commissioners occurred after the official time set for the closing of the workshop when many constituencies had already left. It was for this reason that she requested that the Steering Committee reconvene shortly after the workshop to ratify the decisions taken. However, the Steering Committee, by way of an online vote, did not support the proposal to meet but rather indicated approval for the outcome of the workshop.

Decision:

The Steering Committee resolved that the workshop outcome reflected the Steering Committee's mandate. The status of the Alumni attachment must be clearly communicated that this is an independent submission from a constituency and that all submissions received from other stakeholders willing also be tabled with the IRTC.

3.2 Grievance relating the Senate report on the workshop

Several members of the Steering Committee expressed the view that the Senate representatives report-back to their constituency misrepresented the workshop process thereby discrediting the work of the Steering Committee. Some members felt that the tone of the communication and personal opinions expressed therein were harmful to the professional integrity and reputation of the individuals and groups referred to. It was suggested that the portrayal of other constituencies was tantamount to racism.

Decision:

The Vice Chancellor, as Chair of Senate, was asked to relay the sentiments of the Steering Committee vis-a-vis the report submitted by their representatives on the 20 May 2017 workshop. The Vice Chancellor agreed to review the transcript of the meeting in light of the allegations of racism with a view to determining a way forward on the matter.

3.3 Steering Committee Voting –

The meeting noted that twelve of the sixteen constituencies were able to cast their vote. One constituency experienced technical difficulties. The reasons for the other constituencies not casting their vote were not known at this point. The Steering Committee decided that the voting will be redone to ensure full participation of all constituencies particularly the excluded student and worker constituencies.

Decision:

The Steering Committee requested the secretariat to follow up with the three constituencies who did not vote and were not at the meeting and to provide them with the necessary support. The vote will be redone and will be re-opened for one week. The Steering Committee will convene shortly after the closing of the voting.

The meeting closed at 6:45pm.

Approved:..... 8/12/2017

Chair:..... 