



UNIVERSITY SPORT SOUTH AFRICA



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**MINUTES OF THE USSA STUDENT FORUM MEETING HELD AT SOUTHERN SUN
HOTEL, O.R TAMBO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
ON FRIDAY, 5 OCTOBER 2019**

PRESENT: (See Attachment A)

APOLOGIES: None

1. WELCOME, ATTENDANCE REGISTER AND APOLOGIES

- 1.1. The Convenor welcomed all present and apologized for the delayed commencement of the meeting. The meeting was declared quorate at 15:20 with 23 members registered
- 1.2. Upon the motion by WSU and seconded by WITS the agenda was recommended for adoption. The meeting accepted the motion.
- 1.3. While acknowledging the acceptance of the motion, 10-member institutions noted that they had not received the invitation to the meeting: WSU, CUT (Bloemfontein and Welkom), UWC, NWU (Potchefstroom), FHU, UKZN, RU, UCT and CPU. The Convenor explained that there are a number of reasons including changes in institutional leadership structures and the introduction of new mentors. All members were encouraged to check their details on the register particularly email and WhatsApp details for communication purposes.

2. ACHIEVEMENTS, CONGRATULATIONS AND NOTICES

2.1. ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2.1.1. ZweliHlatshwayo (USSA NEC: Student Assessor) awarded Fulbright Foreign Student Scholarship to study the Chemistry PhD programme at Ohio State University.
- 2.1.2. KgweranoMpamonyane (USSA NEC: Student Assessor) appointed by MEC office to serve as the parliamentary liaison officer.
- 2.1.3. Nqobile Gama (USSA NEC: Student Assessor) appointed as the Account Manager for Sasol.

2.2. CONGRATUALIONS

- Gordon Dodge (USSA NEC: Student Assessor) recently married.
- 2.2.1. USSA Netball (Captain: TshinaMdau (UP)) won silver at the World University Netball Championships.
 - 2.2.2. Other international achievements: USSA cross-country; Beach Volleyball; Cycling; Golf; Rugby; Karate; Squash



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2.3. NOTICES

- 2.3.1. ZweliHlatshwayo has vacated his position in the NEC, he will be replaced by Rubina Valodia (WITS) who will also serve as the Eastern Cape mentor. The Convenor encouraged Eastern Cape USSA members to assist with the hand over.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Upon the motion by RU and seconded by WITS the minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a correct reflection of the meeting.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (20 APRIL 2018)

- 4.1. Purchasing of Voice Recorder: The Convenor confirmed that a voice recorder was purchased and that the meeting was being recorded.
- 4.2. Working Committee: Student Forum Terms of Reference (see Attachment B): The secretary of the Working Committee presented a brief summary on the efficacy of the Working Committee.
 - 4.2.1. UJ suggested that the full report should be part of the 2nd Vice President's Address as the Convenor of the Student Forum.
 - 4.2.2. Kgwerano requested more detail on the relations between working committee members as a way to understand why the committee did not function as expected.
 - 4.2.3. Nkosikhona (Working Committee member) required clarity on the duties of the committee.
 - 4.2.4. Shonisani (CUCSA) cautioned that clarity was required on the intention of the committee and its terms of reference. She further stressed the need for a more detailed report to assist the Student Forum to make an informed decision on the continuation of this initiative.
 - 4.2.5. Gordon reminded the meeting of the resolutions taken in the previous meeting which provided clarity on the questions being posed regarding the Working Committee.

RESOLUTION 1: Review the Terms of Reference under which the Working committee was constituted. This includes reflecting on the model itself and its applicability to the SF and USSA. The deadline for the feedback will be March 2019 before the election of the 2019 Working Committee.

5. CHAIRPERSON'S ADDRESS



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5.1. FISU AMBASSADORS REPORT

Shonisani (FISU Student Ambassador) and Rodwell (2nd VP) made a presentation to the meeting to create awareness about FISU and to advocate for participation.

5.1.1. Nqobile reiterated the need to circulate the information to students and not only through the heads of departments.

5.1.2. In response to questions regarding involvement and funding, the presenters clarified that the USSA supported students and paid the expenses for them.

5.2. FISU FORUM REPORT

Kgwerano (Student Assessor) presented on the 14th FISU FORUM attended by four (4) selected members of the USSA Forum. She noted that the Forum is an important opportunity for student leaders to develop and connect to the global network of athletes and administrators. She encouraged the meeting to show interest in international representation not only as a patriotic exercise but as a way to (re)assert the voice of the student forum.

5.2.1. Asked to explain the selection process for international participation, the Convenor outlined the following:

5.2.1.1. The decision of who must attend rests on the Managing Committee of USSA.

5.2.1.2. Generally, 2 students and 2 staff members are selected

5.2.1.3. Gender balance is considered

5.2.1.4. It was a strategic decision taken by USSA MANCO to send the 2nd Vice President to majority of the international events. He is ideally placed as a representative of the students and a key NEC member.

5.2.1.5. All international engagements are fully paid for besides the FISU FORUM

5.2.1.6. UWC and UJ advocated for a re-evaluation of the selection process. It was suggested that 2 CVs/names of students, who are not in the NEC, should be endorsed by the Student Forum for international representation.

RESOLUTION 2: Communication regarding opportunities for international representation (e.g. FISU volunteer programmes and Forums) needs to reach all students. While students are aware of certain restrictions on who can apply or be selected information must not be limited to NEC members. Sharing of information will increase the awareness of FISU, its events and programmes.

6. SECRETARIAT REPORT



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6.1. POA ACTIVITIES REPORT (See section B of Attachment C)

6.1.1. It was noted that the mandate of the working committee was to assist in driving the POA. Provincial Mentors would provide detailed reports on the success of each event in their province.

6.1.2. Members were encouraged to feedback to provincial mentors about events that took place at their institution so as to have a more detailed report.

6.2. CUCSA GAMES REPORT

Nqobile (Student Assessor) presented a report on the CUCSA games that took place on 18-22 June 2018 in Botswana, Gabarone. She noted that Team South Africa performed well in all the events.

The meeting was requested to give input on the following points for the presentation to Council:

6.2.1. Reducing the maximum age of participation in CUCSA to 21 years

6.2.1.1. It was noted that the recommendation was biased and disregards varying circumstances of students such as their age when entering university and the time it might have taken to transition to high performance.

6.2.1.2. It was further noted that there are already limited opportunities for students to participate internationally. As such no student should be excluded.

Resolution 3: The recommendation of reducing the age of participation at CUCSA to 21 has been questioned. The recommendation does not take into consideration the diverse backgrounds of student athletes and the opportunities that they may have had to develop their talents. 6

6.2.2. GDM and medical team to serve for two consecutive tournaments

6.2.2.1. The recommendation was unanimously accepted by the meeting granted that the intention was for continuation and smoother transitions from one tournament to the next.

6.2.3. Allowing non-South African staff to represent South Africa on administrative or support staff.

6.2.3.1. Background of the item: Nqobile took the meeting into confidence to explain that a USSA manager was seen wearing attire of another country during the CUCSA tournament. It was discovered that the manager is not a South African. Although the manager was reprimanded, there was a call for a more general way to address such issues.



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- 6.2.3.2. Kqwerano (Student Assessor) reminded the meeting that there is a level of patriotism expected of all delegates of Team SA. She further noted that finances are spent on individuals to participate. In that view, there is no justification of what happened.
- 6.2.3.3. UWC argued that the international rules on participation for non-South Africans must apply broadly to managers as well.
- 6.2.3.4. In agreement, UJ noted that preference must be made to SA nationals for all international participation.
- 6.2.3.5. RU cautioned against a preference becoming the basis for a bias or oppression. RU recommended that USSA draw from the rules of participation at provincial level. RU further noted that the database of high performing athletes be shared between countries so that high performing students can represent their country of birth.
- 6.2.3.6. Gordon (student assessor) informed the meeting that a database has been created.
- 6.2.3.7. WITS cautioned against the xenophobic tone of the discussion.

Summarising the debate, the meeting resolved on the following:

Resolution 4: The forum understands and submits to the international guidelines regarding citizenship and national representation for players. These rules have not extended to team officials. As such SF calls for a review of the appointment processes of team officials to ensure that all managers and coaches understand their obligations as pseudo-citizens of a country, while travelling with a team.

Resolution 5: Regarding the incident that took place at CUCSA, the SF calls for an investigation to be launched that ascertains the entities/individuals that must be held accountable. The outcome of that investigation must inform the new processes for appointing managers for international participation.

6.3. FASU GAMES REPORT

Gordon (Student Assessor) reported that the 9th FASU - All Africa University Games were held in Mekelle, Ethiopia, between 2 and 8 July 2018. Codes offered at the tournament were Athletics, Badminton, 3x3 Basketball, Basketball, Chess, Football, Volleyball, Handball, Table Tennis and Tennis.

- 6.3.1. Gordon noted that even though some universities attended the games there is still a need to increase the participation numbers of South African institutions.
- 6.3.2. It was noted that more games need to be hosted by FASU, to allow for more opportunities for participation.



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6.3.3. The meeting recommended that the timing of FASU Games must align with university calendars.

6.4. WUNC REPORT

Nobubele (Working Committee: Secretary) reported on the World University Netball Championships that took place on 17-22 September 2019 in Kampala, Uganda.

6.4.1. RESULTS:

6.4.1.1. Team South Africa finished second after losing 42-43 to Uganda in the finals.

6.4.2. TRANSFORMATION:

6.4.2.1. The team consisted of 4 Black players and 8 White players. The management team had 1 Black representative in the Assistant Coach position.

6.4.2.2. Only four (4) universities were represented (management and players combined).

6.4.2.3. Only one male formed part of the team, the physiotherapist (UP).

6.4.3. FINANCIAL FEASIBILITY:

6.4.3.1. It was noted that Universities are struggling to fund selected players, as a result the team that travelled was not representative of the initial selection.

6.4.3.2. It was noted that the cost of participation has had a negative impact on the transformation of the national netball team because selected Black players were unable to participate in the tournament.

6.4.4. FUTURE OF WUNC

6.4.4.1. It was noted that this was the last WUNC due to low participation from other countries.

6.4.4.2. Nobubele recommended that the Students on international committees need to raise this issue as Netball is the biggest women's sport in the World.

6.4.4.3. It was noted that USSA netball is engaging different structures (domestic and abroad) to find a feasible solution.



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6.5. PROVINCIAL REPORTS

6.5.1. WESTERN CAPE

- 6.5.1.1. It was noted that the WC conducted a sanitary towel drive.
- 6.5.1.2. WC universities successfully hosted the annual intervarsity tournament.
- 6.5.1.3. It was noted that the PEC was now fully formalized.
- 6.5.1.4. It was noted that the Women in Sport Seminar was successful.

6.5.2. NORTH WEST

- 6.5.2.1. The NW hosted a successful Women in Sport event.
- 6.5.2.2. The NW collected sanitary towels as part of the sanitary towel drive.

6.5.3. NORTHERN CAPE

- 6.5.3.1. It was noted that the Northern Cape hosted a successful men and women in sport seminar. Regardless of the challenges.
- 6.5.3.2. Northern Cape also noted the collection of sanitary and towels.
- 6.5.3.3. Thabo (provincial mentor) further noted the growing support of the MEC and the Dean of Students (SPU) in the USSA initiatives.
- 6.5.3.4. NC hosted a joint International Day of University Sport (IDUS) in collaboration with TVET colleges in the province.
- 6.5.3.5. Thabo also noted that there are more exciting initiatives that will be coming from the NC such as *talk with a player* and *Sport Transformation Summit*.

6.5.4. KWAZULU-NATAL

- 6.5.4.1. Unizulu noted that communication was not reaching their campus.
- 6.5.4.2. Rodwell noted that KZN has many initiatives planned, these will be reported on in the next meeting.

6.5.5. MPUMALANGA AND LIMPOPO

- 6.5.5.1. Kgwerano noted that it has been difficult to coordinate programmes in MP and LP. She sited financial and political challenges that are hindering the success of programmes in these areas.

6.5.6. EASTERN CAPE



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- 6.5.6.1. It was noted that the PEC has not been constituted, which was causing difficulty in getting and giving information.
- 6.5.6.2. It was noted that RU is currently running a successful Mbhogodo Caucus.
- 6.5.6.3. RU and MandelaUni hosted the 2nd IDUS in the province.
- 6.5.6.4. The EC institutions are collaborating on the Long Walk, a fundraising initiative based on Feets4Fees.
- 6.5.6.5. Sport events were hosted on International Week, Africa Day and Diversity Week.
- 6.5.6.6. The province has hosted a number of ant gender-based violence campaigns centred on women's physical empowerment and alternative forms of violence.

6.5.7. GAUTENG

- 6.5.7.1. TUT hosted a sports Funday for first year orientation.
- 6.5.7.2. UJ hosted an impactful sanitary towel drive, coordinated by Nqobile (provincial mentor).

6.6. DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFORMATION POLICY

- 6.6.1. It was noted that the Varsity Sport Transformation document is available on the USSA website.
- 6.6.2. The draft transformation document will be circulated to member institutions. All input on the document must be forwarded to Kgwerano.