



Manifesto of the SRC Social Welfare Secretary Candidate 2022

WHO AM I

I am Bestman Mutsingo a 1.2 Student doing Bachelor of Science Honors in Social Work

WHY ME

He is self-assured, open, and friendly. He is a trustworthy and honest representative who has more than 'his' interests at heart: he is always willing to help. As a result, he was a viable candidate for Social Welfare Secretary in the 2022 SRC Election. Bestman Mutsingo is a trustworthy, quick-thinking character who despises disintegration. He works well with others and looks for solutions rather than procrastination as it is the thief of time. I will make sure that I also fulfill the promises that were made by the former Social Welfare Secretary and putting these promises into action and making sure that I lift your needs to your satisfaction. Make me your servant and I shall wipe off your tears.

The Secretary of Social Welfare has the following responsibilities:

"To promote the general welfare of the students in particular health and food services," the Social Welfare Committee's mandate reads. Receiving student complaints and making recommendations and representations to appropriate university authorities; Discussing and making recommendations to appropriate university authorities on matters of policy and procedure for the allocation of housing, living, and other conditions of students in halls of residence." (According to the S.U. Constitution)

MY OBJECTIVE

It's fundamental to understand that the vast majority of people who advocate answers to problems have either been in the situation or had a tremendous desire to fix it. I have witnessed, lived, and led, and I'm still doing so in a student society. After going through the same social experiences as the rest of the students, my term in office will be focused on accomplishing and developing the following:

Food assistance/quality: I will make food assistance services a reality not only because it is a constitutional right, but also because it is essential for human survival. Due to limited resources, only a few students may be qualified for this offer; nevertheless, in order to promote additional help for those in need, I will make room for groups and individuals who wish to provide any type of aid to those in need without difficulty. I am confident in this since I am aware of several willing persons and groups who are willing to help. In order to address food quality, I will enlist the help of numerous community leaders and food service managers. The goal is to make room for a wide range of foods.

Accommodation: Given the current developments surrounding the Covid-19 vaccination rollout, it is anticipated that all students will return to campus, where there are few places in the residence halls. To assist new students in particular, I will form a partnership with house owners who can provide affordable and secure housing. I'm also aware of students who live away from school. Collaboration with the warden in securing off-campus housing is also important. It will also allow us to learn where our pupils live so that we can assist them with all essential social services and also advocate for the construction for more hostels.

Health issues/collaboration: In order to supply vital health-preserving materials, various health services require collaboration. I am aware that the issue of condoms were by students are being exposed to expired condoms putting them at high risk of unwanted pregnancies. I will make sure that before condoms are distributed into the bathrooms they are properly checked of their expiring date. I will make sure that people are given sex education more often as clouding students from this kind of education will only put them at risk . All of these problems can be remedied by collaborating with groups like the School Clinic, Peer Network, and Say What. I'll also make sure that any difficulties that require special medical attention are dealt with as soon as possible. Also, because students are closer to community leaders, including them will make it easier to track down persons with social concerns, particularly those who require special attention from specialists, so that they can be directed to where they can get help.

Bus tickets: In order to make it easier for students to get around, I'll make sure that bus tickets are always available and affordable for each and every student and also fight a minimum number of tickets to be freely accessible to students.

Data: Online learning necessitates data, and I am aware that not all of our students, particularly those at home, can always afford it. I will prioritize data assistance for students, taking into account their needs. My pledges to fulfill this objective will include partnering with the appropriate University authorities to facilitate minimal charges on the cost of data. I will make sure that the university also donates some funds to those at home who are unable to have access to their lectures.

Wifi: I have noticed that around lecture time a lot of people mainly around the hostels, a lot of people will be facing network challenges. If you put me in power consider it as a walk over as I will insist and advocate for the installation of more wifi routers all around the campus so that different tasks and lectures are done successfully.

Student enlightenment awareness/campaigns: We occasionally find ourselves in situations where we are unfamiliar with the surroundings. Some of our students are unaware of the relevant university authorities who can help them with their problems. Several emails were sent to various offices throughout the Covid-19 time that had nothing to do with such matters. It is most common among new students, as well as some returning students. We also have health/hygiene concerns that must be addressed in order for us to remain fit and healthy. It is my responsibility to connect students with the proper offices and locations, which I may do via various internet media and live seminars/workshops. Other social challenges necessitate information from a trustworthy source. The covid-19 epidemic, for example, is a topic about which there is a lot of knowledge. As a result, we must be educated on these matters. Here, people will be made aware of the need of unity and aiding one another.

Decentralization of responsibility: This office will work with community leaders and other university groups to address social issues among students. This is to show our sense of belonging and the UBUNTU Spirit by supporting one another in challenging situations. Many students have lost loved ones while studying, and we have received Ecocash numbers for payments to be sent to them or their families by individual students on multiple occasions. It's an area I'd like to encourage by allocating a separate budget to it. Community leaders and legislators will be invaluable in reporting such incidents so that we may offer a consoling condolence program in the aftermath. It should be emphasized, however, that the offer is not unconditional.

Mental health issues: I believe that mental health is a hidden issue in the university that is not dealt with adequately. Psychiatric Morbidity Survey shows an increase in the prevalence of common mental health disorders for 16-24 years-olds which is having a detrimental effect on their education. This indicates that young adults are more likely to need mental health support while studying at universities. If elected I will ensure that people suffering from mental health issues are provided with more support by offering more counselling sessions.

Motivation: Statistics show only 67.5 per cent of University students complete their course. This suggests that a third of the students do not get the opportunity to complete their university studies. It is essential that students are motivated to carry on studying. This can be achieved by having more motivational speakers from other organisations attending university and giving speeches and also having one-on-one mentorship regularly to keep students motivated and focused.

Personal Development: Many students graduate having excellent academic knowledge but minimal development skills for the specified job role. The ideal solution for this is to provide training and mentoring in order to prepare students for work life. This can be done by creating closer links with employers.

Student Jobs: It is agreed that there are part-time job opportunities available for students, but not enough. The solution is to work closely with the employment team and create more job opportunities for students on and off campuses. I will direct this issue to the proper authorities so that students that are willing to do part time job opportunities can do so that they are able to fulfill their day to day activities on campus.

CONCLUSION

The reason why I should be elected as the SOCIAL WELFARE SECRETARY is that I strongly believe I can make a change in this area. It is a passion for myself to make changes and support the students on and off the campus. As well as successfully completing your studies, it is equally important to enjoy your experience in university. We as a community need to feel engaged, involved and noticed and if elected I will ensure this happens.

I have many transferable skills and excellent work ethics which will allow me to represent you. These skills can be seen in my work at church as an Usher leading the people and serving God. This shows that all your issues will be put in safe hands. I am the servant of the people the power I place it in your hands.

**VOTE FOR BESTMAN MUTSINGO
FOR SOCIAL WELFARE
SECRETARY**