My name is Shannel Ziki. I am a 2.2 Agribusiness Management student, and I am running for the post of SRC president. I reside in Mutare, I am a patient, hardworking and attentive person eager to learn, implement and stand for change for the greater cause with honor and respect.

Why do I want to be president?

- Because I envision an Africa university student’s union consisting of national and international students eagerly looking forward to meeting, knowing, living, learning, and representing each other in a more harmonious, respectful, and welcoming environment with a much stronger brotherhood and sisterhood bond.
- Because I envision a more informed, well connected and more financially literate Africa University student graduating and leaving this institute with more than just their degree certificate, but their partners for their first business endeavor, directors of their companies and vital stakeholder in whatever they are interested in pursuing after university.
- Because I envision a more honorable representation of the student’s body on their needs and requests in regard to academics and legal affairs, social welfare and on all other aspects that affect the student’s body, to the administration and petition for them to be honored.
- Because I envision a growth within the union, that is not entirely dependent upon the compliance of the administration, thus giving room for true accountability by our Union leaders.

Main agenda

- As president, it is understood that representing the matters concerning the students to the administration and getting meaningful and constructive feedback in order to honor these in every respect is a top priority.
- Taking up and fulfilling my official duties including but not limited to; coordinating all the activities of the council
members, being in charge of information and publicity, seeing to the proper discharge of conduct by council members as well as presiding over all union general meetings, are of paramount importance to me.

**Academics**

- I will petition for the university to avoid implementing new online learning facilities on students before fully testing their effectiveness to alleviate the program’s negative effects on student’s coursework. These include the SEB software.
- Petition that the university set a minimum number of days a lecturer is allowed to be absent, beyond which a replacement is secured, or a replacement course is introduced. This is to avoid lost time and pressure on students towards examinations.

**Minority groups of the student’s union**

- It has come to attention that minority groups such as the master’s student couples and the disabled are neglected, as such I want to lobby for their needs in terms of living conditions. Having a “sign language club” for students to learn how to communicate the basics of sign language for communication purposes is also vital.

**International Students**

- Liaising with university authorities to help ease the acquisition of student permits.
- Cultural exchange events and exhibitions can be done in which each nationality can showcase their culture and learn from others too.
- Solicit for improvements on the terms of the Vacation Relief Program for international students during the holidays concerning the benefits they are working for. This includes diverse food options.

**Sports and Entertainment**

- In light of lifted restrictions, some activities can be hosted on campus and others in areas where we have the highest student population.

**For those currently on campus**

- I will petition for Wi-Fi facilities to be improved in order to...
effectively support online learning.

- I will also appeal for proactive response from the authorities to the student needs on campus.
- I will help further developments with the authorities on the new SU building from where the previous team has left.
- I will petition for the lifting of some restrictions for on-campus students.

Female students' body

As part of the female student’s body of the university, I want to encourage and inspire women to take on more active roles not only in clubs and projects but also overall leadership roles through webinars for women empowerment and support.

How to make the term more effective online?

- While the Covid 19 restrictions have been lifted, we have continued to learn online. The administration has not made it clear of the next step for next semester.
- The only way we can be sure of our return to campus is if we all get at least our first dose of the vaccination. With the hope that we return therefore, I will ensure that the services that need addressing will be well addressed.
- As such the majority of the aforementioned issues can be done online. What I can assure is my availability and presence to students in need of my services.

However, in addition to the above, I want to

- Boost relationships between national and international students through implementing a “Sibling adoption program” in which a willing national student adopts an international student and has the responsibility to each other, of incorporating the other into their communities, through learning their language, socializing and being a point of reference and clarity when needed, just like siblings.
- This gives each one a chance to learn, understand and appreciate the other on a more personal level, their language, their culture, their values, and beliefs, accept and embrace our differences and appreciate how much we are all one people. Appreciating our diversity as a universi-
This gives room for each to have differences and know they can agree to disagree and still love and accept each other with no rivalry. Our future depends on the relationships we make today.

This allows us to pick the best of the people to represent us in different aspects based on competence and not for nationality representation.

This gives room for the representation of all student grievances as there is a need to serve all and less focus on one particular group as each and every group is valued and can be heard.

The generations to come will only know of this unity and will look forward to this arrangement and carry it forth.

Introduce a Business and Financial Literacy Forum

In the world that we live in, academic literacy is vital, but that alone is not enough to prepare students for life after graduation. Many of our students are aware of this as such some have started small businesses, some are pondering potential projects, some are combining their efforts to make partnerships. Some have talents that they need to sell, and some have skills that will serve well.

This platform will be an assembly for all those entrepreneurial minds to meet, sell their products or services, receive, and give constructive advice, and encourage each other in their endeavors.

On a set interval, a professional or business person will address the students and give their advice and share experiences and knowledge on how to grow as entrepreneurs through seminars or webinars. The guests will be from different business disciplines.

Now I understand that my goals may be too big to achieve, but I am determined and willing to take the small and necessary steps in order to make this vision a reality.
SHANNEL ZIKI FOR PRESIDENT

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