



DATE:

REPORT TO: COUNCIL

25 NOVEMBER 2021

1. ITEM NUMBER C 30/11/21**2. SUBJECT**

APPOINTMENT OF GARETH VAN ONSELEN TO REPRESENT THE CITY OF CAPE TOWN ON THE COUNCIL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN ("UCT")

NOTE: TRANSLATIONS WILL BE CIRCULATED SEPARATELY AT OR BEFORE COUNCIL AS ARRANGED

3. DELEGATED AUTHORITY

In terms of delegation

This report is for

Committee name :

The Executive Mayor together with the Mayoral Committee (MAYCO)

Council

4. DISCUSSION

Gareth van Onselen ("Van Onselen") has spent a professional career of 20 years concerned with mapping, understanding and analysing three issues namely:

First: public and political policy, the impact of both and how they relate to one another. Second, studying and assessing public sentiment; and, third, the general political landscape of South Africa. He has done this from inside a political party (not a member), as a senior reporter, columnist and member of the fourth estate (for the Sunday Times and Business Day), an analyst in the public sector (head of politics for the South African Institute of Race Relations) and in the private sector (as the CEO of a market research company).

Making progress possible. Together.

Underpinning this is a consistent core set of liberal beliefs which, with regard to higher education, revolve around a commitment to excellence and merit, a strong belief in academic freedom and, importantly, the understanding that social and economic freedom and prosperity rests, in turn, on the ability of any society to produce educated citizens, able to fully exercise their constitutional rights and freedoms.

Van Onselen is fiercely independent and able to talk truth to power, whomever wields it, a commodity in short supply today and often overlooked in favour of political deference or those more executive-minded.

Thus, he has a unique experience and skills-set that cover politics and governance, public policy and how both relate to public sentiment - all held together by the right values and principles. Together, these make Van Onselen ideally suited to serve on ~~the University of Cape Town's Council - a position which requires a deep understanding of government policy and how it relates to higher education, oversight and the ability to gauge performance against objectives, as well as perspective - the experience and understanding necessary to locate UCT in a broader environment.~~

A post graduate, with a personal background rooted in higher education, its governance and performance, he understands higher education, how it is structured, its import and its potential. All of which is well-evidenced in his public analysis.

UCT, like all universities, is central to South Africa's success. In uncertain times, and in a general national environment plagued by policy confusion and mismanagement, it is believed that Gareth van Onselen will provide UCT with a clear, principled and independent voice, built on understanding, evidence and reason, and wholly dedicated to augmenting and bolstering UCT's reputation as one of South Africa's premier higher education institutions.

Lastly, it is to be noted that there is no legislative impediment for the approval by Council. Put differently, there is no legislative requirement dictating that it must be a councillor.

- 4.1. Financial Implications None Opex Capex
- Capex: New Projects
 - Capex: Existing projects requiring additional funding
 - Capex: Existing projects with no Additional funding requirements

Making progress possible. Together.

IT MUST BE NOTED THAT THERE WILL BE NO REMUNERATION PAID TO MR VAN ONSELEN

4.2. Policy and Strategy Yes No

Legislative Vetting Yes No

4.3. Legal Implications Yes No

4.4. Staff Implications Yes No

4.5. Risk Implications Yes The risks for approving and/or not approving the recommendations are listed below:

No Report is for decision and has no risk implications.

No Report is for noting only and has no risk implications.

4.6. POPIA Compliance Yes It is confirmed that this report has been checked and considered for POPIA compliance.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

NOT DELEGATED: FOR DECISION BY COUNCIL:

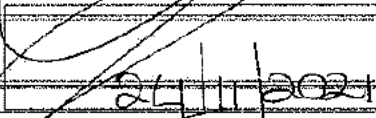
5.1 Council approve the appointment of Gareth van Onselen to represent the City of Cape Town Metropolitan Municipality on the Council of the University of Cape Town.

5.2 Council grants authority to the Mayor to provide a mandate to Mr Onselen on how to represent the City at relevant meetings of the Council of the UCT.

Making progress possible. Together.

ANNEXURES

FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT

NAME	Jana le Roux o.b.o the Executive Mayor: Ald. Hill-Lewis	CONTACT NUMBER	021-400 2020
E-MAIL ADDRESS	Jana.leroux@capetown.gov.za		
DIRECTORATE	Office of the Mayor	FILE REF NO	
SIGNATURE			

Legal Compliance LEGAL COMPLIANCE

- Report Compliant with the provisions of Council's Delegations, Policies, By-Laws and all Legislation relating to the matter under consideration.
- NON-COMPLIANT

Name **Zunaid Mohamed**

Comment:

Date

Legally compliant based on the contents of the report. Due to urgency, translations to be circulated per the note under the subject of the report (item 2).

Signature

Zunaid Omar Mohamed <small>Digitally signed by Zunaid Omar Mohamed Date: 2021.11.24 18:39:47 +02'00'</small>
--

Making progress possible. Together.