

SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS: ROLE OF ACCREDITATION AND GRADING OF STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

Pieter Kloppers
ACUHO-I SAC
Stellenbosch University

HEFMA - ACUHO-I SAC

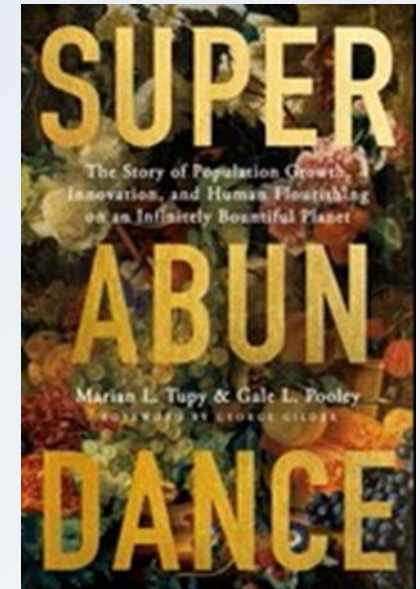
- Partners in improving HE through MOU
- Learning where working together will enhance the work we do
- Student Housing – only a part of HEFMA
- Thanks to DHET that got us together.

ACUHO-I SAC

- Association of College and Housing Officers International
- Est in 1951 to support professionals
- Began as platform for sharing best practices
- Promote professional development,
- Advance through research
- Provide networking opportunities.

ACUHO-I SAC

- Now a broader perspective on student accommodation challenges and
- innovations across the globe.
- Today, global leader
 - conferences,
 - publications,
 - training programs,
 - active community of members dedicated to enriching student living and learning experiences.



ACUHO-I SAC

- Southern Africa Chapter
- Est in 2008 to support professionals
- Began as platform for sharing best practices
- Promote professional development,
- Advance through research
- Provide networking opportunities.

ACUHO-I SAC

- Cultivates a Student Housing profession that is dedicated to delivering a transformative student experience*.
 - Develop student housing staff;
 - Sustain local and international community network connections;
 - Cultivate inter- and intra-institutional synergy;
 - Use innovative programs;
 - Advocate for student housing;
 - Promote diversity;
 - Create and share knowledge.
- **Transformative student experience* includes a mind's eye of a thriving future for humanity; safe; diverse and inclusive; listening, living and learning communities in university and private accommodation.

ACUHO-I SAC members

- Uni of Botswana
- Uni of Cape Town
- Uni of Pretoria
- Stellenbosch Uni
- Uni of Free State
- Uni of Western Cape
- Wits
- Vaal Uni Technology
- Rhodes Uni
- Cape Peninsula Uni of Technology
- Uni of Mpumalanga
- Sol Plaatjie Uni
- Uni of Walter Sisulu

Accreditation and Grading

- Shortage
- 2010 commission
- Norms and Standards
- NSFAS – wants to provide quality
- Accreditation according to MNS
- Need for Grading
- Review of MNS
- Opportunity for Sustainability mainstreaming



Accreditation and Grading

- Need standardize
- NSFAS wants to accredit for NSFAS accommodation payments
- Universities & Private Suppliers want to accredit for all students including NSFAS students

STANDARDIZED MODEL

- This model
 - 1st accredit
 - 2nd grade
- Start with good enough and then improve yearly
- Standardize instrument for use by all
 - (NSFAS, Universities and private suppliers)

THIS MODEL

- Developed for accommodation of 100 beds plus
- Currently busy with similar work for:
 - 51 – 100 beds
 - 21 – 50 beds
 - 10 – 20 beds
 - Less than 10

Three stages

- Stage 1: Compliance
- Stage 2: Accreditation
- Stage 3: Grading

STAGE 1: COMPLIANCE: DISQUALIFIERS

- 1. Proof of Ownership
- 2. Zoning Certificate
- 3. Occupancy Certificate or Equivalent
- 4. Fire Compliance Certificate
- 5. Electrical Certificate of Compliance
- 6. Health, Safety & Emergency Readiness plan.

STAGE 2: COMPLIANCE: INFORMATION

- Number of beds
- Configuration of the building – single, double, other, multiple
- Helpful documentation: PSIRA Certificates, Waste Management plan, etc

STAGE 2: ACCREDITATION –100 + BEDS

- Accreditation:

- Does the building and the management of the student housing complex comply with the norms and standards?

- Grading:

- Judges the quality
 - Introduce the nudge

STAGE 2: ACCREDITATION –100 + BEDS

- Checklist based on MNS & University Experience
- Determine a weight (importance) of:
 - Check listed item (1 – 5)
 - 1 bed per student in the room/ 1 Study lamp per student
 - Category
 - Locality; Material and Physical Aspects; Maintenance and Cleaning Services; Security Services; Management of SH; Quality of Student Life

WEIGHTING SCALE - CHECK LISTED ITEM

1	Desirable extras , may not be required, but they greatly enhance the experience, making it more enjoyable and comfortable for everyone.
2	Useful features and items enhance practicality and convenience and make life easier and more convenient.
3	Important items greatly impact residents' quality of life, and their absence may result in the building falling short of accessibility, and community engagement standards.
4	Necessary items are required for a student housing building to function properly. Without these items, the building would not be fit to live in or non-compliant with local regulations.
5	Essential items are absolutely necessary to ensure the well-being of residents and the building's compliance with health and safety regulations.

DETERMINE WEIGHT (RELATIVE IMPORTANCE)

I. ROOMS - Must have the following:	5's	4's	3's	2's	1's	Weight
a) Are there study chairs in proportion with the number of beds?		8		0	0	4
a) Are there beds (1 per student in sharing rooms)?	8			0	0	5
a) Are there study lamps?		6	2	0	0	3,8

STAGE 2: ACCREDITATION SCORE

Room Furnishings	Weight		
1 bed per student	5	yes	5
Good quality mattress	5	yes	5
1 Lockable wardrobe per student	4,5	yes	4,5
1 study desk per student	5	yes	5
Paper bin per room	2,5	yes	2,5
Study lamp per student	3,5	yes	3,5
1 Towel rail	2	no	0
Total	27,5		
Subminimum required	25,5		
Subminimum achieved			25,5

STAGE 2: ACCREDITATION - ACHIEVED

- Subminimum reached in all of different aspects.
 - Room, kitchen, passages, bathroom etc
- All essential items (weighted 5) are present

STAGE 3: GRADING

- Once accredited also graded
- Differs from tourism grading where stars are determined mostly by different offerings
- Student Housing – minimum offerings to be accredited – now determine quality

STAGE 2: WEIGHT OF CATEGORY

	Weight
1. Locality	10
2. Material and Physical Aspects	35
3. Maintenance and Cleaning Services	20
4. Security Services	10
5. Management of SH;	15
6. Quality of Student Life	10

STAGE 2: WEIGHT OF ITEMS IN A CATEGORY

Material and Physical Aspects (illustration)

	Weight
Services	10
Room size	3
Room Furnishings	10
Bathrooms	8
Common rooms	6
Passages	3
Total	40

STAGE 3: GRADING

- Descriptors of quality for grading linked to categories
- The accreditation score is individualized.
 - Grading is determined in comparison to your accreditation score.
- Opportunity to introduce Higher Health and Sustainability measures

STAGE 3: QUALITY DESCRIPTOR: MATERIAL AND PHYSICAL ASPECTS

- **A** Like-new condition with no visible signs of wear and tear and all original components intact.
- **B** Minimal signs of wear and tear and no major defects.
- **C** Minor signs of wear and tear such as a few scratches or scuffs.
- **D** Still functional but shows significant signs of wear and tear such as scratches dents or discoloration.
- **E** Multiple visible defects and signs of heavy wear and tear

QUALITY DESCRIPTORS FOR EVERY ASPECT AND ITEM

- Also for:
 - Locality
 - Maintenance and Cleaning Services
 - Security Services
 - Management of Student Housing
 - Quality of Student Life

STAGE 3: PRELIMINARY WEIGHTS

- A 120%
- B 110%
- C 100%
- D 90%
- E 80%

STAGE 3: GRADING

Room Furnishings	Weight			Grading	Grading score
1 bed per student	5	yes	5	a	6
Good quality mattress	5	yes	5	c	5
1 Lockable wardrobe per student	4,5	yes	4,5	c	4,5
1 study desk per student	5	yes	5	d	4,5
Paper bin per room	2,5	yes	2,5	c	2,5
Study lamp per student	3,5	yes	3,5	a	4,2
1 Towel rail	2	no	0		
Total	27,5				
Subminimum required	25,5				
Subminimum achieved			25,5		
Grading score					26,7
Grading % (26,7 / 25,5 x 100)					105%
Grading	Silver				

USE OF GRADING

- Gives information about quality to students, parents, DHET, Universities, NSFAS
 - Improve decision making
- Very poor quality – below standard - loses accreditation
- Might be used for incentives to improve –
 - Bronze – standard fee minus
 - Silver – standard fee
 - Gold – Standard fee plus
- Creates a race to the top

BELOW STANDARD – LOSE ACCREDITATION

Room Furnishings	Weight			Grading	Grading score
1 bed per student	5	yes	5	e	4
Good quality mattress	5	yes	5	d	4,5
1 Lockable wardrobe per student	4,5	yes	4,5	e	3,6
1 study desk per student	5	yes	5	d	4,5
Paper bin per room	2,5	yes	2,5	c	2,5
Study lamp per student	3,5	yes	3,5	d	3,15
1 Towel rail	2	no	0		
Total	27,5				
Subminimum required	25,5				
Subminimum achieved			25,5		
Grading score					22,25
Grading % (26,7 / 25,5 x 100)					87%
Grading	Below standard				

WHERE ARE WE?

- NSFAS decided on one instrument across the sector
- Workshop and training in next month
- Certified training for accreditors
- Continuous improvement – yearly after each accreditation
- A voluntary board
- Practice runs to see whether grading is pitched correctly

WHAT TO BE DONE?

- Adapt for 50 -100
- Develop for:
 - 1 – 10
 - 10 – 20
 - 20 - 50
- Continuous improvement – yearly after each accreditation
- Contribute to the new MNS before end of November