**UL Student Council 2021 / 22**

**Meeting 10**

# Minutes

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|  | **Meeting** | **:** | **UL Student Life Council** | | | |
|  | **Date** | **:** | **March 29th 2022 (Semester 2 - Week 10)** | | | |
|  | **Venue** | **:** | **Zoom** |  | | |
|  | **Time** | **:** | **6pm** |  | | |
|  | **Members: Cillian O’ Donohue, Alice Hynes, Seán Ó’ Maoilchiaráin, Rania Shadeed; Louis Pemble; Cían Ó’ Caoinleáin; Vishal Manuhar; Alan Enright; Deepak Venkatasuresh; Vivin Viswanath; Darren Heffernan; Karan Gupta; Denver Joseph Saldanha; Emily Timmins; Edel Straum; Ben Fitzgerald Kiely;**  **Izzabella Parkinson; Jeremy Pili; Mary O’ Donnell; Eoghan O’ Mahony; Karin Mason; Clodagh Campion; Sushmita Biswas; Manoj Aggarwal; Achran Jain; Prateek Singh Patel; Yi Qin Gan; Melwin Mathew; Abaigéal Drummy; James Conner; Eadaoin Keyes; Sherin Thomas Emmatty; Lokesh** **Kumar Rawat; Leanne Glanville; Boots Doyle; Niamh Hickey; James Whelan.**  **In Attendance: Gillian O’ Gorman; John McDermott.**  **Apologies: Vivin Viswanath; Niamh Hickey.** | | | | | |
| ***No.*** | ***Items*** | | | | ***Responsible*** | ***Time Allocation*** |
|  | **Welcome to New Members** | | | |  |  |
| **1.** | **Minutes and Matters Arising**  Minutes of Council Meeting – 15th March 2022.  Minutes of Council Meeting – 15th March 2022 were approved.  Proposed by: Alice Hynes Seconded by: Edel Straum | | | | Cían | **5 mins** |
| **2.** | **Meeting Business** | | | |  |  |
| **a** | **Resignation of LGBTQ+ Councillor – Joe Drennan**  Cían informed Council that Joe Drennan has resigned as LGBTQ+ Councillor. Joe’s great work at Council was acknowledged to the group. | | | | Cían | **5 mins** |
| **b.** | Executive Reports  President (Cillian)   * Elections : Social media promotion , highest voter turnout in the country : 3,331. Ice bucket challenge, Seán as wolfie etc. … updates on turnout throughout the day. * Met with UL Spar owner/ operator. Raised concerns over high prices. The operator offered to reduce prices of coffee by 10 cent, but we would like to see a larger drop. I am preparing a follow up letter and have told them that we could boycott the shop if changes aren't made. * GA : Issues raised include price of food/ healthy options, increase in student intake , UL Seanad Vote. Received support from Kerstin Mey and the GA. * Next week : Charity Week, ticket sales , fundraisers. Please help us :-). * Nearly naked mile... share the details. * PVA – Use of Heraldic Crest... UL said no, next steps?   Welfare (Seán)   * Happy Mental Health Week – Courtyard market tomorrow! * Met with Out in UL to see what more we could do as SL to support them. * Hosted a discussion around the University of Sanctuary Initiative. * Brendan from the Stables has agreed to train staff in the Ask for Angela initiative. * Sat on the new inclusivity working group. * Invited Jigsaw Ireland to mental health week as part of their new 3rd level campaign – First in the Country. * Blindboy in the UCH - Tickets still going. * Bothered the entire campus to get out and vote.   Academic (Alice)   * Exam timetable is now live. * Student concerns – meeting with a number of teaching staff. * Student Survey – midnight tonight is the last chance to take the Survey. * Elections – highest voter turnout in the country. * Chaired AICUR Live presentation session. * Class Rep Forum tomorrow evening. * Attended a Discipline Committee hearing.   PSU (Louis)   * PG Ball, tickets selling like hot cakes. * ​ GA support Seanad voting rights. * Teaching hours for PhD students a worry. * As per I Graduate International student barometer survey; Banking a worry, C&S a worry ''well used but low satisfaction'', Health Centre also a worry.     Student Council Chairperson (Cían)   * Chaired Council in Week 8. * ​ Supported the Student Officer Elections. * Attended Exec on Monday (Week 10). * Attended the Student Officer Election Results.   Clubs Officer (Mary)  No update    Societies Officer (Jeremy)   * The new C&S Branding format is being pushed out until later in   the semester.   * ​ Advising Societies on BICS Awards. * Working with C&S organising participation in Charity Week.   Experience (Deepak)  No update.  Equality & Diversity (Vivin)  No update.  Faculty Officer (Alan)  No update. | | | | Exec | **15 mins** |
| **c.** | **Student Officer Election Results**  Gillian shared the photos of the newly elected officers on screen.  Full-time officer team;  Student President - Maeve Rutledge.  Welfare Officer - Maeve Gilmore.  Academic Officer - Kieran Guiry.  Communities Officer - Laura Corcoran.  Part-time officers  Student Council Chairperson - Eoghan O' Mahony.  Faculties Officer - Niamh Hickey.  3,331 votes (19.6%). 75% female representation in 2022 / 2023.  There will be a Handover document for both full-time & Part-time officers. | | | | Gillian | **10 mins** |
| **d.** | **Motion**  John shared the two motions on screen.   1. UL Student Life against discrimination based on nationality. 2. Updating Community Officer Job Description to remove Postgraduate students from list of student groups.   Louis explained the background to the motions.  A group discussion / debate took place around the second motion.  Gillian set up an online voting poll for each motion.  Motion 1 Vote Result = 100% in favour of changing Bye law 1 – Rights of Students to include Nationality.  Motion 2 Vote Result = 88% voted not to remove Postgraduate students from the Communities Officer list of student groups. | | | | Louis | **15 mins** |
| **e** | **Review of Number of Positions on Council**  Gillian shared the list of most unfilled Student Council Positions across three academic years;  2018 / 2019, 2019 / 2020 & 2020 / 2021. Gillian stated that Leadership & Representation will be reviewing to consider removing the most unfilled positions. Gillian asked Council for their thoughts & feedback.  Council Feedback  ○ Council felt a review of the positions would be positive.  ○ Maybe look at pairing some departments as some courses study same  modules – eg Science & Engineering.  ○ Look at engaging with faculties to find out what suits them best.  ○ Some students may not join Council as some positions may not suit or  appeal to them.  ○ Set up working groups within Department roles.  ○ Create a Generic Council Role (PSU Have a Generic role on their Council).  ○ More blended working between reps in departments.  ○ Create an LGBTQ+ working group.  ○ STEM Student Newsletter for Department?  ○ Mature & Parenting Rep positions could possibly be combined?  ○ Are all Department Reps affiliated with their department? (KBS / EHS)?  ○ International Business Student would suit KBS department rep role as it breaks the line on all disciplines.  ○ Entertainments Rep could fall under Student Engagement Coordinator?  ○ Decision to leave Chemical & Biological Sciences separate due to beyond  First year Chemical Sciences – distinct entry path. | | | | Gillian | **10 mins** |
| **f.** | **Final Class Rep Forum – Wednesday, 30th March**  ○ Class Rep Forum taking place on Wednesday at 6pm.  ○ Reflection & feedback on the year – (Beak-out Rooms).  ○ Career Audit with Patsy Ryan (UL Careers Office).  ○ Prizes. | | | | Alice | **5 mins** |
| **g.** | **Dept. Rep Report (Standing Item)**  ○ PESS Department are organising a Fitness Test in Week 12. Setting an  endurance course with Healthy UL. | | | | Dept. Reps  James Conner | **10 mins** |
| h. | **Interest Group Rep Report (Standing Item)**  ○ Nothing to Report. | | | | Interest Groups | **10 mins** |
| i. | **Thank You & well done All**  ○ John thanked Council for their work in 2021-2022.  ○ Highest number of Council membership ever - 43 members.  ○ Certificate of Recognition to be given to each Council member. | | | | John | **5 mins** |
|  | **AOB**  **Online V. Offline Feedback**  Gillian asked Council to vote whether to hold Council meetings online or in-person. Results of online poll  ○ Online Meetings = 17%  ○ In Person Meeting = 27%  ○ Blended Meetings = 56%  Library Boardroom has hybrid facility. | | | | Gillian | **10 mins** |

**Duration: 85 minutes Next Meeting: TBC**