 **UL Student Life Council**

**Minutes**

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|  | **Meeting** | **:** | **UL Student Life Council** | | | |
|  | **Date** | **:** | **12th October 2021 (Semester 1 - Week 6)** | | | |
|  | **Venue** | **:** | **Zoom** |  | | |
|  | **Time** | **:** | **6pm** |  | | |
|  | **Members: Members: Cillian O’ Donohue, Alice Hynes, Jordan Cassells, 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; Joe Drennan; Jeremy Pili; Mary O’ Donnell; Melwin Mathew; Ahana Maharaj**  **In Attendance: Gillian O’ Gorman; Siobhán Wilmott; John McDermott.**  **Apologies: Izzabella Parkinson** | | | | | |
| ***No.*** | ***Items*** | | | | ***Responsible*** | ***Time Allocation*** |
|  | Welcome to New Members  Cían welcomed Jeremy, James, Ahana, Melwin, Eoghan & Mary to Council. | | | | Cían |  |
| **1.** | **Minutes and Matters Arising** | | | |  |  |
| a | Review & Ratify previous mins (28th September – Week 4)  Minutes of pevious meeting were approved.  Proposed by: Ben Fitzgerald Kiely  Seconded by: Seán Ó’ Maoilchiaráin | | | | Cillian | **5 mins** |
| **2.** | **Meeting Business** | | | |  |  |
| **a.** | **Executive Reports**   * President (Cillian)   ○ Return to Campus for students  - Great atmosphere for Freshers Week.  ○ Accommodation crisis raised at GA.  - Cillian requested UL provide an accommodation plan  - Accommodation Office provide a report at next  meeting.  - PCC Board of Directors voted for twin rooms in 2022/23.  - PCC agreed to visit a student survey from 2019 where  92% voted against twin rooms in on campus  accommodation.  ○ Met with two Science students about creating a UL  Mobile App. Brought to Nigel Healey & ITD for feedback.  ○ Attended CAMPG & Academic Council meetings last week  - ULSL supporting continuation of COVID-19 I Grade. UL  are against continuation. More updates in the coming  weeks.  ○ Attended UL GAA Rainbow jersey launch.  ○ Delivered orientation sessions to first year students.  ○ Attended Community Liaison Committee meeting.  ○ Attended Governing Authority meeting in Week 5.  - Kerstin Mey confirmed as UL President for next ten years.  ○ Interviewed by RTE & Virgin Media.  Cillian was asked about changes on campus from 22nd October?  Answer: Changes will be discussed at a University meeting on Wednesday.  Action: Agenda item for next Exec Meeting.   * Welfare (Seán)   ○ Delivered in person consent workshops last week with AHSS first year students. A second workshop held today for SHAG Week  ○ Dealing with ongoing accommodation queries.  ○ Sexual Health And Guidance campaign taking place this week.  ○ Substance Abuse & Harm Reduction Week taking place next week.  ○ Mental Health Ireland held a Mindfulness event last Friday  ○ Attended Healthy UL meeting – Seán & Rania (PSU) will be  giving a cooking demonstration to students.  ○ Met with Lucy Smith from UL Ēist who are expecting funding from the government.  ○ Organising a mental health survey for students which will  determine content for Mental Health Week (Week 11).   * Communities (Jordan)   ○ Dealing with an issue on antisemitism / racism being  displayed in on campus accommodation. Raised at the Class Rep Forum.  ○ Attending the National Action Committee on Speak Out  tool. Launch to take place next week.  ○ Completing a proposal for Sanctuary students.  ○ GOSHH were on campus yesterday and met with the president of Out in UL about the LGBTQI+ community.  ○ Working on creating a prayer space for Islamic women on  campus.  ○ Working on accessible campus with Access Equality &  Student Affairs Committee.  ○ Liaising with UL Global around key international holidays.  ○ Liaising with the SSOs around student rep recruitment.   * Academic (Alice)   ○ First Class Rep Forum took place last Wednesday - Week 5  Feedback – library opening hours & microwaves on  campus.  ○ Drop Out / Drop in Campaign in Week 5 to advise students  who will be dropping out of college to seek advice,  support and information services on campus.  ○ Attended CAMPG & Academic Council meetings. Removal of Covid-19 I Grade. ULSL pushing it to remain in place.  Also raised the issue of lack of study space with CAMPG. UL has agreed to allow free classrooms to be used for study.  ○ Student Rep recruitment – two pop ups on North Campus last week. Also a pop up in the student courtyard last Wednesday. Very positive feedback.   * PSU (Louis)   ○ Still dealing with Accommodation & COVID I-Grade issue.  ○ Student queries around issuing cards has been resolved  with GPS.   * Clubs Officer   No updates   * Societies Officer   No updates   * Experience   No updates   * Events   No updates   * Equality & Diversity   No updates   * Faculty Officer (Alan)   ○ Meeting with Alice & Gillian O’ Gorman on Wednesday to  discuss ways to improve representation in AHSS  ○ Working on recruiting faculty reps to attend faculty board  meetings. | | | | Exec | **15 mins** |
| **b.** | **Rep Recruitment Brainstorming**  - 2 breakout rooms,  How to recruit Department Reps & Interest group reps  Feedback  ○ Ben was aware of Student Council from being a member of C&S  Exec. Department Rep awareness from UL Student Life website.  Action: Siobhán to promote positions at C&S Exec meeting.  ○ James highlighted more awareness of department rep positions from second year onwards. First years are unaware.  ○ Could testimonials work to promote department rep roles?  The following volunteered for testimonials;  - James - Cían  - Alan - Darren  - Karan - Ben  - Jeremy - Eoghan  ○ Alan suggested advertise roles on PVA.  ○ Advertise time commitment of roles.  ○ Maybe did not achieve the advertising balance between the class rep role & Council roles on social media.  Action: Bring feedback to Exec. | | | | Siobhán | **8 mins** |
| **c.** | **Exec Oversight Committee (recurring item)**  Siobhán asked for members of Council to join the Exec Oversight  Committee. The following volunteered;   * Denver * Ben * James * Edel   Action: Fifth volunteer to be recruited at next Council meeting. | | | | Siobhán | **10 mins** |
| **c.** | **Academic Advocates**  Group of UL Students who share their academic experiences. Alice is seeking department reps to join Academic Advocates this year.  Meetings will be held weekly, but may become twice a week.  Action: Alice to circulate a meeting times poll to department reps. | | | | Alice | **10 mins** |
| d. | **Student Council Leadership Training**  Cían will deliver Leadership Training at the Council meeting on 9th November (Week 10). Mandatory training for all Council members.  Cían delivered Leadership Training to Student Officer Team during handover week. Glowing feedback given by student officers.  Siobhán proposed that minutes of previous meeting & Exec Reports would be covered at the beginning with the remainder of the meeting given to training. Council agreed.  Proposed by: Jordan Cassells Seconded by: Seán Ó’ Maoilchiaráin | | | | Siobhán & Cían | **10 mins** |
| e. | **Class Rep Feedback**  Alice shared a padlet on screen containing feedback from the class rep forum. Main topics were;   * Library space * Commuter student space * C&S * Microwaves   Group discussion followed.  Louis said that the PSU have a microwave service. Undergraduates are using the facility but recommend UL Student Life try to organise a microwave facility. Cillian proposed to Patrick Ryan to make BOI a hub for commuter students. Waiting for response. Maybe the First 7 Weeks hub? Alice confirmed that First 7 Weeks will be running until Week 12.  Action: Put Microwaves as Exec agenda item at next meeting. | | | | Alice | **10 mins** |
|  | AOB  James asked who to contact within UL for an Award Proposal for students?  Suggested to contact the Office of the President.  Jordan to share a Commuter Student Survey in the Teams chat.  Alan asked department reps to make contact with Academic Deans, HODs & Course Directors and introduce themselves.  Action: Alice to create an email template for department reps.  Faculty Board Meeting – Louis will be attending S+E tomorrow.  Ben offered to attend KBS Faculty Board meeting next week.  Issue with Security entering on campus accommodation  Group discussion followed.  Action: Decision to bring accommodation to next Council meeting  Commuter Students – agenda items next Exec & Council  Meetings.  Legal online Q&A clinic for students on next Exec agenda  PVA Hours  John advised that eg if a volunteer does 1 hour 30 mins for PVA they should round it off to 2 hours.  Exec Reports  Cían suggested using slides when giving Exec Reports to save time.  Accommodation Crisis  Discussion item for next Exec meeting to then bring a plan to next Council meeting. | | | | James  Jordan  Alan  Eoghan  Darren  Cían |  |

**Duration: 70 minutes**   
**Next Meeting: Monday 26th October, 6-7pm Zoom**