**UL Student Council 2021 / 22**

**Meeting 3**

# Minutes

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|  | **Meeting** | **:** | **UL Student Life Council** | | | |
|  | **Date** | **:** | **October 26th 2021 (Semester 1 - Week 8)** | | | |
|  | **Venue** | **:** | **Zoom** |  | | |
|  | **Time** | **:** | **6pm** |  | | |
|  | **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; Eoghan O’ Mahony; Clodagh Campion, Ahana Maharaj, Manoj Aggarwal, Achrain Jain; Sherin Ematty; Gan Yi; Prateek Singh Patel.**  **In Attendance: Gillian O’ Gorman; Siobhán Wilmott; John McDermott.**  **Apologies: Cillian O’ Donohue; Cían Ó’ Caoinleáin;** | | | | | |
| ***No.*** | ***Items*** | | | | ***Responsible*** | ***Time Allocation*** |
|  | **Welcome to New Members**  Clodagh Campion, Ahana Maharaj, Manoj Aggarwal, Achrain Jain; Sherin Ematty & Gan Yi Qin were welcomed to Council. | | | | Edel |  |
| **1.** | **Minutes and Matters Arising**  Minutes of Council Meeting – 12th October  Minutes of Council Meeting – 12th October were approved.  Proposed by: Ben Fitzgerald Kiely Seconded by: Alice Hynes. | | | | Edel | **5 Mins** |
| **2.** | **Meeting Business** | | | |  |  |
| **a.** | **Executive Reports**  President (Cillian)   * Increasing Library capacity from 900 to 1600, 41% to 72%.​ * Brought the UL App, White Paper Proposal to the University.​ * Brought a proposal to the University for the BOI building to be used as a Commuter student hub.​ * Working with Alice on Academic issues / Exam accommodations.​ * Supported the University in their legal action against Irish Water. ​ * Attended numerous meetings. ​     Ahana to liaise with Cillian around Irish water issue  Welfare (Seán)   * S.H.A.G week (Week 7) and Drug and Alcohol Harm Reduction Week (Week 8) went well. * Made great progress promoting the Anytime of the Month Initiative to University Exec​ * Mental Health Survey to inform future campaigns and see how students are doing.​ * Planning for mental health and wellbeing week [suggestions welcome – ideas or offers of help] ​ * Continued rollout of Active\* Consent Training.​ * Took part in the national launch of Speak Out tool.   Communities (Jordan)   * Representing Communities’ needs and interests – How? ​ * Raising Issues for under resourced communities with President, Provost and VPs​. * Hearing from students through Pop-Ups, Student Support and Chaplaincy – more direct lines needed –> Outreach and Representation (Student Council)​. * Planning… needs more actions and less talking​. * Chairing C&S Council and Exec – Post Covid Recovery in these forums ongoing​. * Please read report to see who helps where, I can’t take credit on my own. * Academic (Alice)   Exam period: ​  ● Provisions for students with Covid, High-risk or issues during online exams. On-going discussion at CAMPG. ​  ● Study space - library capacity increasing to >70% in the next few weeks. ​  ● Proposal to have Bookable exam spaces so students can take online exams on-campus.  ● 24 hour lab – no longer 24hr and no alternative.  ● Campaigns – department reps shared ideas for awareness campaigns and useful info. I will hold a campaign in week 12/13.  PSU (Louis)   * Representing Postgrads' needs and interests – How? ​ * Raised international issues with upper management, eg visas, accommodation scams​ * Events, events, events ​ * Raised visa issues with local TDs ​ * Participated in launch of speak out tool ​ * Resolved student card printing issue with GPS​ * Liased with ITD to correct our mailing list ​ * Orientation with new group of research students ​   Clubs Officer (Mary)  No update  Societies Officer (Jeremy)  ● Opening communication lines within all societies.  ● Developing PR for committees on SLACK.  ● Assisting to get new societies set up.  Experience (Deepak)  ● Met with Jordan to plan Diversity Week.    Events (Vishal)  ● Working with Dara Fahy on the Christmas Ball.  ● Planning Diversity Week with Jordan, Deepak.  Equality & Diversity (Vivin)  Addressing concerns of Feminist and LGBTQ groups– How? ​  ● First round of discussion carried out with both groups​  ● Various feedbacks like all gender toilets, option to select names in Students ID cards etc. were highlighted.​  ● Further discussion in process regarding the feasibility of  the points put forward.​  Action:  Izzabella raised the issue that students from LGBTQI+ community are  upset that they can’t change their names on ID cards or change  pronouns. Izzabella was advised to link in with Jordan & Vivin on the issues  raised. Gather feedback for the Student Forum.    Faculty Officer (Alan)  ● Met with Alice, Siobhan & Gillian to  discuss ways to improve representation. Will be creating  student surveys.  ● Working with Alice on Academic Advocates group. | | | | Exec | **15 mins** |
| **b.** | Student Forum Format  Poll circulated on Instagram for student feedback.  Majority voted to hold the Student Forum in the evening online on 3rd November.  Looking at using 4 separate breakout rooms on Zoom. | | | | Seán & Siobhán | **10 mins** |
| **c** | Exec Report Delivery Feedback  Powerpoint presentations was used to give key points;  Very positive feedback to new Exec Report delivery. | | | | ALL | **20 mins** |
| d. | Student Forum Topics (discussion)  Topics;  Accommodation – Cillian Mental Health – Seán  Academic Issues – Alice Minority / under-represented Groups – Jordan  Exec members and Council members should attend the breakout room they fall under. Students that attend the forum can self-select the breakout room they wish to attend. Students can give feedback and ask questions. They can also leave one room and enter another room if they wish.  Alice said she would use a padlet for feedback.  Feedback  Council were in favour of the format.  Each topic should be clearly advertised in advance of the forum.  Action  Council to email ideas for topics to Student Officers. | | | | Seán | **20 mins** |
| e. | Use of outdated pre-recorded Lectures  Eoghan raised issue of pre recorded lectures. Lack of interaction. Some lectures have been put on You tube and are outdated and no longer relevant.  Alice advised that some lecturers were advised to use pre-recorded lectures from 2019/20 where they couldn’t record present lectures for students that are high risk. Pre recoded lectures should be an additional resource to live lectures. Affected students should email Alice or their Department Rep. Feedback will need to be given to the lecturers in question. | | | | Eoghan | **5 mins** |
| f. | Lack of Bins on Campus  Eoghan emailed Buildings & Estates about the lack of bins on campus. Received an email stating your request has been closed.  Ahana advised that the same issue was brought to Council two years ago and received a similar response from Buildings.  Action: Eoghan to liaise with Jordan & Alice to tackle the issue. Support from  PSU with this. | | | | Eoghan | **5 mins** |
| g. | Lights on campus from ERB to PESS  Eoghan emailed Buildings & Estates about the lack of lighting issue. Still waiting for a response. Similar issue with broken lights on main avenue that Alice & Jordan had a separate discussion about last week.  Action: Jordan, Eoghan & Seán to meet to come up with a plan to bring the issue to Buildings & Estates. | | | | Eoghan | **5 mins** |
|  | AOB  Exec Oversight Committee Membership  Clodagh Campion volunteered to join the Exec Oversight Committee.  Faculty Rep Election  Siobhan sought clarification on the election process from Gillian. The following Council members were elected Faculty reps unopposed.  James Conner (EHS)  Ben Kiely (KBS)  A vote was held for Science & Engineering. The following Council members were elected Faculty reps after hust.  Ahana Maharaj (Science & Engineering)  Alice thanked Edel for Chairing Council this evening.  Christmas Ball  Are Balls authorised to take place this year?  Alice said that the Christmas Ball follows government guidelines.  Seán confirmed that there will be both a Law Ball & Engineering Ball this year.  James was advised to contact venues that would hold Balls / events as the venues must follow the guidelines.  PESS Department are looking for first year students to take part in a department project.  Action: James to liaise with Achrain Jain (Sports Councillor). | | | | Siobhán  Siobhán  James |  |
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**Duration: 85 minutes Next Meeting: 9th November 2021**