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**UL Student Council 2022 / 23**

**Meeting 3**

# **Agenda**

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|  | **Meeting** | **:** | **UL Student Life Council** | | | |
|  | **Date** | **:** | **November 8th 2022 (Semester 1 - Week 10)** | | | |
|  | **Venue** | **:** | **Library Boardroom** |  | | |
|  | **Time** | **:** | **6pm** |  | | |
|  | **Members: Maeve Rutledge; Maeve Gilmore; Kieran Guiry; Laura Corcoran; Eoghan O’ Mahony; Niamh Hickey; Ahmed Mirza; Amanda Moloney; Evan Mansfield; Ciara O Flynn; Ella Fay; Katie Martin; Ronan Cahill; Louis Storan; Drishiti Singhal; Kaustubh Katti; Edel Straum; Emma Wright, Amy Mc Guinness; Mohit Sadarangani; James Conner**; **Gareth Moore; Aldrin Sam William**; **Roisin Mitchell; Amanda Moloney**    **In Attendance: Jasmine Ryan; Siobhán Wilmott**  **Apologies: Roisin Mitchell, Maryam Rida Khan; Ella Fay; Katie Martin** | | | | | |
| ***No.*** | ***Items*** | | | | ***Responsible*** | ***Time Allocation*** |
|  | **Welcome to New Members**   * **Roisin Mitchell (Mature Student Councillor)** * **Maryam Rida Khan (Equality and Diversity Chairperson)** | | | | **Eoghan** | **5 mins** |
| **1.** | **Minutes and Matters Arising**  Minutes of Council Meeting – 25th of October   * Proposed: Laura * Seconded: Edel   **Re:** Pronouns  Laura advised that Exec discussed the possibilities around updating the student cards to allow for the use of students’ desired pronouns. A sticker was proposed as a flexible option.  Maeve R updated the room on the nominees from PSU. Due to a breakdown in the working relationship between the PSU and ULSL there has been a need to appoint a new nominee from PSU. Maeve R will update shortly on the appointment of a new member. | | | | **Eoghan** | **5 Mins** |
| **2.** | **Meeting Business** | | | |  | **5 mins** |
| **b.** | **Executive Reports**  **President**  Maeve R met with Andrew Flaherty, the Chief Operations Officer, around the possibility of a temporary carpark. There will need to be discussion around planning permission, but opportunities look positive as the President and Deputy President of UL are comfortable with the idea. Student spaces have been confirmed on the North Campus & PESS, will include a microwave and kettle. Will address infrastructure issues in the PESS building. Still working on procuring anti-spiking covers.  **Welfare**  Students are increasingly facing financial difficulty, as reported to Welfare by UL Eist and SISC. Went shopping with Kieran for shopping ideas on a budget. Working with BJJ and FemSoc to provide recurring self-defence classes in Semester Two. Is also planning a remembrance event in 2022 to remember those they have lost and is collaborating with the Irish World Academy to provide music. More funding has been secured by UL Eist and a new position is being created.    **Academic**  There are now 132 class representatives as of Week 9. He is preparing for the class rep forum which takes place next week. Working on an exam destress campaign which will take place in Week 12 and may extend to Week 14 to assist students facing difficulties. Attended the health sciences class rep forum which had a strong turnout of class representatives who shared their experiences and feedback.  **Communities**  Pride week is next week and she is working on encouraging engagement in the Out in UL Soc as well as a Drag Show and planning a Student Parent Santa event for the destive season. Working with the EDF for student listening spaces. Highlighted the success of the C&S Good News Stories and this matter is now a standing item. Working to create new methods of engagement and inclusion for Sanctuary students.    **Student Council Chair**  Chaired council in Week 8, attended Exec in Week 9 & 10, attended the Leaders for Life Launch. Reviewed the byelaws with Siobhan and learned more about Council governance.  **Faculty Officer**  Attended Council in Week 10 & Exec in Week 9 & 10. Will be attending the Class Rep Forum in Week 11 and taking Maeve R’s slot in her absence. Will discuss NStEP class training in the forum and invited all reps and interested parties to join. Facilitated the creation of Class Rep group chats and Department Reps can join if they wish.  **Events Chairperson**  Attended and ticketed the Ceili Band and Code of Behaviour gig in the Stables last Thursday, and the event went smoothly with good turnout.  Met with Jasmine and Maud to further discuss his and Maud’s roles to get ideas for what best to do. Posted on teams to get Feedback on possible Council outings.  **UL Experience Chairperson**  Met with Jasmine to discuss get guidance, review the byelaws and get an idea of the roles and responsibilities as part of her position on Exec. In the process of beginning a social media campaign that will include members of Exec and Council to demystify the functions and purpose of Student Council. Will be sending out a Google form. Contacted her relevant councillors. Working with Ronan and Jennifer on social media ideas. | | | | All | **15 mins** |
| **e.** | **EDF Student Voice Listening group**  The EDF functions to ensure that students from marginalised communities have an input and attempts to address issues of racial inequality. Laura highlighted that while she can help speak as a representative, she desires that students from marginalised backgrounds engage directly. She is collaborating with the PSU to try and create a Student Voice listening group and is asking for anyone interested in getting involved to contact her. It is antiracism week and there will be outreach in the courtyard to try and connect with students who experience racism and get their stories. She advised the EDF is actively looking for members.  Edel highlighted that there is lecturer involved in orientation who writes the policy around orientation who would like to participate in the development of the student voice listening group. | | | | Laura | **3 Mins** |
| h. | **Commuter Hub**  Following on from evidence gleaned from the Accommodation Survey, it has been brought to light that many students have to commute and therefore need a space to relax and fuel up before lectures without needing to buy a coffee. On the first day, there were 31 students and as of this morning there were over 80 attendees who availed of free teas and coffees. Due to the success, they have the capacity to expand it following the feedback of Students. Patrick Ryan, UL Management, is looking to fund the space following its success.  Katie asked if there is a possibility to continue it into next semester. Maeve R advised that there may be potential to expand and improve it and, hopefully, make it more permanent. Maeve R, Laura and Maeve G highlighted how it is a space that allows for students to become more familiar with each other and the officers.  Edel queried if there is an opportunity to leave behind food for those who may not be able to access. Niamh asked if it could be opened from 8-10. Maeve R replied that there is scope to hopefully improve it. She asked the room for their suggestions and recommendations. | | | | Maeve R | **5 Mins** |
| h. | **Stables and Scholars**  Maeve and the PSU have had numerous meetings with UL management in relation to this issue and highlighted the importance of Stables and Scholars to the UL Community. It is now reaching closer to the decision time, and Maeve R is awaiting feedback. A list of ideas and requests have been presented to the UL management such as maintaining the student environment, cheap and accessible food, more diverse options, etc. She opened the floor for feedback and advice.  Maud advised that the same standards and practices in use currently should remain to not alter vital aspects of the Stables/Scholars experience. Niamh advised the Ask Angela scheme should remain in place. She has also received feedback from students requesting more healthy, vegan, and vegetarian options. Laura noted that it must remain affordable and not over commercialised. Doing so would alter the ambiance of Stables/Scholars. Edel queried why it isn’t open on weekends, which Maeve R replied that it has never really been open on the weekends as the Stables/Scholars management have declined to do so unless it is for a student event. In the upcoming proposals, there is a hope that there may be an opening during the summer. There should be a continuation of the fundamentally UL events, such as Techno Tuesdays and International nights and so on. Maeve recounted a lovely anecdote of prior students and she has brought this to management as a means to remind them of the sentimental value Stables/Scholars has for both students and staff. | | | | Maeve R | **5 Mins** |
| i. | **Car Parking**  Reiterating the management is willing to explore the idea of a temporary car park to alleviate issues faced by students. She was also asked to address problems with the set-down area outside of the library, which has now been turned into a disability car parking space, however this makes it difficult for cars to just pull in and interferes with buses. She has received reassurance that there will be work done on the issue. | | | | Maeve R | **5 Mins** |
| j. | **Student Engagement on Social Media**  Maud is working on a social media campaign in an attempt to highlight the everyday goings-on of ULSL Exec and Council. She discussed her own prior lack of knowledge about how Exec and Council functions. Maud highlighted that there is so much that occurs in these meetings and she would love to show that to students.  Siobhan highlighted that we need specific assistance with electing more Student Council members and increasingly the plurality of representation.  Laura had an idea for a TikTok that is about a student discussing an issue in Stables, and then all of a sudden the matter made its way to Exec and Council as a means to highlight how strong the student voice is. Maeve G reiterated that students voices are strong and do get heard and this fact should be highlighted to students on social media.  Edel had an idea about creating a profile for Council members to represent Council. Maud had an idea about a Meet the Team format. Ronan offered to help. Almost all members of Exec and Council are interested in taking part. | | | | Maud K | **5 Mins** |
|  | **AOB**  Kieran is part of a quality review group for Academic Registry. He is looking for nominees for two first-year undergraduate students and a third-year undergraduate student.  James is querying about Faculty Reps and curious about where they are coming from. Siobhan advised that ULSL was waiting for more representation in the faculties via department reps, however at this stage we will need to move forward and start making decisions around the recruitment of faculty reps. James queried about the establishment of the Student Support Officers and Siobhan detailed the functioning and responsibility of the Student Support Officers. Edel is suggesting that the Faculty Rep is a separate election item. Niamh advised that that bringing on more Faculty Reps may upset the balance between Academic representatives and Interest Group Councillors.  **Emergency agenda point: COLC**  There is a protest of the Limerick Cost of Living Coalition which is a non-partisan community activism group taking place this Saturday. Maeve R advised the room that due to the last minute nature of the protest, a motion would have to be passed in order to take part in the coalition in official capacity. Laura advised that there would be a need to sit down and discuss this matter, and that is why the motion is available, but due in part to not having the regulated time to pass the discussion and the motion now may not be the correct time to take part in the official UL capacity.  James asked that if there is a new owner of Stables/Scholars will there be an overhaul of the inside. Maeve R advised that this matter is still up for discussion, and she is unsure. Edel advised that she is going to contact a lecturer who has been in UL since he was a student for his input. Laura asked that others also give ideas for positive changes.  Siobhan highlighted the Class Rep Forum next week and that the new format allows for even more discussion and engagement. | | | |  | **5 mins** |

**Duration: 70 minutes Next Meeting: 22nd of November 2022**

**Actions**

* Many of the representatives advised they would be interested in taking part Maud’s social media campaigns. The follow ideas were discussed.
  + Making TikTok Videos, Instagram Takeovers, Profiles of Council Members.
* Maeve R will be looking for spaces that could work as a permanent place for the Commuter Hub.

**Next agenda points**

* Edel will add the Faculty Rep discussion to the next Council agenda and Siobhan will participate and provide context.
* What is our action for cost of living – 15/20 mins