



YOUR UNION. YOUR VOICE.

UCD Students' Union Limited

Student Centre,
UCD, Belfield,
Dublin 4.

Tel +353 1 7163108
Fax +353 1 7163109

UCDSU Council 1
Monday, October 10th 2016
Agenda

Meeting starts: 6.20pm

Stephen Devine	Chair of Council	Chair
Conor Viscardi	UCDSU President	CV
Lexi Kilmartin	Education Officer & Deputy President	LK
Luke Fitzpatrick	Campaigns & Communications Officer	LF
Cian Casey	Graduate Officer	CC
Liam Brady	Arts & Human Sciences Officer	LB
Lida Petra O'Shea	Engineering and Architecture Officer	LPOS
Rebecca Hart	Health Sciences Officer	RH
Sean Kilgarriff	Science Officer	SK
Roisin O'Mara	Welfare Officer	R'OM
Francis Roche	Arts and Human Sciences Officer	FR



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Joseph Millerick	Agriculture and Vet Officer	JM
Jonathan Byrne	Business & Law Officer	JB
Eoghain Mac Domhnaill	Irish Languages	EMD
Joshua Gorman	Engineering Stage 2 Rep	JG
Kimberley Modica	Masters in Human Sciences	KM
Niall Torris	Mature Students Coordinator	NT
Mary Haasl	Masters in Human Sciences	MH
Nandini Jayanthinathan	Grad Med	NJ
Luke Doyle	Engineering Stage 2	LD
Eamonn Maloney	Architecture Stage 1	EM
Shane Grogan	Environmental Coordinator	SG

a) The declaration of a quorum by roll call.

Quorum Declared by the Chair

Chair:



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- Explanation of motions – email to Secretary@ucdsu.ie – propose and second -noted that motions are in effect for three years
- Speaking during motions – must announce year course and stage
- Order 9 motions explanation
- Reaching quorum – attendance, please try to attend council.

b) Minutes arising of the previous meeting.

Will be circulated at next council.

None

c) Matters arising from these minutes.

None

d) Motions on notice.

None.

e) Motions not on notice.

None.

f) Items for Discussion.

i) Student Fees and University Funding - The Three Options of the Cassell's Report

[LK]

- Intro
 - Brief presentation – report out over summer on funding and fees – unsustainable
 - Falling resources since 2008 -cuts made in college
 - Increased demand not supported
- Option 1 – Free Fees -Contribution abolished. Will require an 80% Government investment. Where will money come from? There will be less available for maintenance grants.
- Option 2 – retain contribution but increase state funding, stick with status quo



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- Fee waivers kept
- Increase student support system
- Option 3 – full fees via loans, unpopular with students, keep maintenance grants,
- Asking what action SU should take on funding -March on 19th

[CV]

- Intro – Higher education funding in report
(Opens floor to discussion)
No contribution from wider council

[JG]

Professional courses -should pay college fees from money you make during career you got thanks to your course; you should accept that this is not given to you for free – pay for a degree that will pay you back well. Important to pay your share.

[LPOS]

Scotland has free fees for all – course not discriminated, all free – fees should not limit you developing your passion or area of interest - discrimination against people with lower incomes

[JG]

The gov says they will loan, may inc with inflation, to pay off when you have the money there. If money is not there – written off, easily economically reported system, less risk.

[EMD]

Not financially manageable, people not trustworthy, people will leave the country or find a way to not pay back loans.

[KM]

Public service jobs – should be considered, base off USA model, Government could take money out of wages automatically, scaled to income to avoid swamping people with debt.



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[MH]

Holland – loans worked well there, doesn't appear on records when you go to bank, doesn't affect credit score, if you do not get a job after studies you don't pay it, makes college more accessible.

[NT]

Status Quo doesn't work, no guarantee you will get a job when you take on loans, life situation may stop you doing degree, still burdened with loans. Shouldn't trust banks again, Scotland and Germany do this – was in act here a decade ago. SU stands in constitution for equality. Ability to pay loan should not affect ability to go to college. We should be standing up for free access for everyone. Should be Government funded. Shouldn't affect anything less.

[NJ]

International, finance own education when you are a graduate, as student access to education is farfetched, price very high even when working, trying to get on board is difficult. I second Niall Torres. Should be equal. People from lower backgrounds trying to compete with individuals with wealthy parents/family.

[JM]

Free fees is ideal but can't expect things to be handed to you, nothing's for free, people going to attend college for the culture instead of education.

[LD]

everybody should have equal opportunities for all courses, imbalance if price of courses are different, leaving cert point system works well and gives all a fair chance.

[LPOS]

Mustn't forget point system, money shouldn't establish access to a course it is about ability.

ii) Resit Fees

[LK]



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Mandate from 6th Jan 2016 – lobby and campaign to get resit fee reduced, get opinion on where to move next. Resit or repeat 230 euro with ucd. (notes will be circulated by Sec)

There is a cost price to repeat modules in most universities. On mandate – call registry on 26th July – emailing since. 23rd sept met with Andy Myler, talked about resit fees, large fluctuations of cost, depends on if exam is lab/paper. UCD set flat rate of 230euros. Has not risen with inflation in last few years. Do we want to stick to flat fee or do we want to reduce resit fee (that will end up increasing repeat fees) or cap all resit fees but will have huge increase on repeat fees.

[JG]

Lexi could you repeat the options?

[LK]

Stick to status quo, reduce resit fee and bring repeat fee up, cap resit fees eg. at 500 but will drive up repeat fees. (will send out docs to explain)

[EM]

resit/repeat explanation?

[LK]

explained

[SG]

What is meant by cost price?

[LK]

cost price is raw price it costs uni

[NT]

repeat fees were flat at 230 to balance out labs/papers. 1.8mil seems like a large figure to be making from resit fees,

[LK]

I don't have info on previous years.

[NT]

can we get data on previous years. Surely it should be same as previous years with flat fees, ensure there isn't a profit.

[LK]

I will try find that out for you



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{to be readdressed Dec council/two councils time}

g) Items for Noting.

None.

h) Items for Approval.

None.

i) The reports of each Executive Officer.

Stephen Devine – explanation of reports

[JG]

Sabbats need to give short summary of reports.

[CV]

Good Evening, introduction. Union is key decision making body. Plans to place emphasis on class reps. Reps link between students and union. Class rep training – events and workshops.

- Budget presented at next council
- Consent workshop – initially run 2013 to now. Funded by SU not uni. Consent cards to be handed out at ents events, classes with B&L
- Busking – launched this weds, music societies, open to all musicians, trad Tuesdays is monthly, contributions welcome
- ENTS forum – UCD night out Zulu on weds
- Campaign for def & high education budget submission – Looks at cuts in higher education sector. 38% since 08 despite inc student nos. deficit in



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system. Postgrads – intro of maintenance grants – must incl postgrads.
Undergrads have more support. Budget sub sent to Dail committees.
Investing in higher education is sustainable.

- Demo on 19th in relation to highlighting Deficit. USI president has invited UCDSU to protest. Blurb sheet with info has been handed around to pass onto classes.
- Trans policy working group – looking at mandates. Recent mandate to establish a trans policy. Working with UMT who have begun policy.

(Report approved)

[LK]

- attended meetings
- brief update on mandates and manifesto – now up online.
- Resit fees
- Erasmus mandate sorted. Said I would do blog, updates on FB instead.
- SU hubs next week onwards.
- Registration help.
- Careers fair – with Jobio did not work out.

(Report Approved)

[LF]

Wrote handbook, campaigns – democracy focused, campaigns forum – facilitate members, ENTS forum, class rep campaign

(Report Approved)

[ROM]

Finished placement, will take report as read, open meeting this Thursday on UCD for choice. Welfare crew, mind body soul, restart a heart Thursday.

(Report Approved)

[CC]



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Built comms with university, met with TCD Grad, mandated to be down at Blackrock for some time (tues 10am-1pm), grads connect, met with other college grads.

(Report Approved)

[NT]

Congrats on meeting space in Blackrock, v important

(Report Approved)

[JM]

Ag radio station plug

(Report Approved)

[JB]

No report to be approved.

(Report Approved)

[RH]

On placement for first semester.

(Report Approved)

[EMD]

Irish language day event in Global Lounge plug.

(Report Approved)

j) Questions on notice.

None.

k) Questions not on notice.

None.

l) All discussions deferred to the instant meeting from any previous meeting, which discussions shall include the hearing of the report of any committee of Council and



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the taking of any vote consequent upon such report or discussion.

m) Submission of motions to be on notice for next meeting.

All motions, reports and agenda items are due before 5pm Monday, October 17th.

n) Any Other Business.

Ellen Massey nominated as secretary (*approved*)

Meeting ends: 7.43