

DRAFT Council Four Minutes
6pm, 17th November 2014
Fitzgerald Chamber

Council begins at 6:25pm.

Stephen Whelan	Chair of Council	Chair
Conor Rock	Arts Convenor	CR
Sam Blackensee	LGBTQ+ Coordinator	SB
Maeve DeSay	Welfare & Equality Officer	MDS
Emma Delaney	Stage 1 Physiotherapy	ED
Joseph Kelly	Stage 4 Nursing	JK
Lexi Kilmartin	Stage 1 History & Archives	LK
Tom Williams	Stage 4 Engineering	TW
Grace Williams	Gender Equality Coordinator	GW
Éanna Ó Braonáin	Oifigeach na Gaeilge	ÉÓB
Magnus Heltne	Stage 1 Commerce	MH
Anabel Castañeda	Graduate Education Officer	AC
Christina Foran	Production Coordinator	CF
Sinead Gaughan	Disabilities Coordinator	SG
Sean Van Haaster	Stage 3 Law	SVH
Maeve Kelly	Doctorate Human Science	MK
David McElliot	Science Convenor	DME
Bill Thompson	Stage 3 Languages, Literature & Music	BT
Michael Goldsworthy	Stage 3 History & Archives	MG
Sean O'Doherty	Stage 2 Science	SD

Directors

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Company Secretary

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Feargal Hynes	President	FH
Paul Dockery	Stage 2 Politics & International Relations	PD
Amy Fox	Education Officer	AF

(a) The declaration of quorum by taking attendance.

- Quorum declared by the chair.

(b) Minutes of the previous meeting.

Minutes were accepted.

(c) Matters arising from the minutes.

No matters were arising from the minutes.

(d) Motions on notice

- Blood Donation

CR - In Ireland you are banned from giving blood if you are a man who has had sex with another man. Basing issues which aren't just subject to a gay man means that the actual ban doesn't achieve anything as you can still lie. I'd like to mandate the Union to take a stance on the issue.

SB - Could I propose an amendment to add 'sexually' before the 'active gay men'?

MDS - I would propose another amendment ' However the fact a (person...)'.

Amendments Passed

ED - The facts are in the blurb, as seen in a medical light the prevention is due to safety.

SB - A lot of research is being done to find a new way at looking at sexual behaviours in relation to giving blood because if two partners are having sex but both are free from HIV

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they should be allowed to give blood.

JK - The ban exists due to health risks.

LK - A lot of people in straight relationships have HIV so why should we exclude anyone with regards to sexuality.

VOTE: Passed.

- **Rescind of previous motion**

Chair - Previously it was not possible to put a motion forward to rescind another motion just passed in the council before.

CR - I do not wish to rescind the spirit of the motion. However, the motion previously mandated to bring the flag to events where appropriate and that is what I want to change. Equality of everyone in the Union should come before views as not every member of the Union should be expected to agree.

TW - I wish to propose 9n (question not be put).

CW - Seconded.

TW - Amendment was praised in college so why would you allow the media to pick at the SU?

CR - The majority of the media attention was due to the topic of marriage equality. We should not be alienating people we are trying to help.

TW - Yes I agree but I believe it should be only when it suits.

CW - Bear in mind we are going straight into a rescind, more effort should be put in so that rescinds will not be a common occurrence.

GW - I understand that the motion was passed but a lot of people were not happy with the wording. It was passed because it we were under time pressure and needed to start campaigning.

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9n Opposed

ÉÓB - I can't think of any event in which the flag would not be appropriate as it represents equality.

VOTE: Passed

- **Marriage Equality**

CR - Just to confirm that we will have this stance and that we will support promotion for marriage equality.

TW - That is contradicting.

ÉÓB - With reference, any person organising an event is responsible for ensuring the flag is present, it is in order to create accountability.

MH - Does this include all societies?

Chair - It only includes the Union.

VOTE: Passed

- **Class Reps**

CR - This motion will officially recognise the Class Rep of the Month award.

ÉÓB - Propose an amendment; take out 'Council Also Mandates' paragraph as this is childish and unnecessary.

AC - It doesn't say we have to frame and hang it up.

CF - Propose and amendment; remove 'unless they have permission from the class rep'.

SG - Include that if a student misses Council on more than three occasions.

Chair - We will discuss that after.

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Amendment defeated.

SVH - What is the selection process?

CR - I will talk to you after Council or I can take it in AOB.

TW - Change Council Also Mandates section to 'corridor with permission from Class Rep'.

Amendment passed.

9a proposed.

VOTE: Passed

- **Drug Pricing**

MK - Legislation has been passed to make generic drugs more readily available and cheaper across the counter which helps us move in line with the rest of the world. Chemists get savings from the brand which they don't pass on.

DME - I've been to the UCD Pharmacy and they always suggest the cheaper alternative and I don't think this motion will make a difference.

MK - That is valid but it is up to the Chemist/GP/Patient whether they use specific brands but chemists are still not passing on the savings.

ÉÓB - I feel that they are already doing what the motion is setting out to do.

CR - There is potential that or certain drugs that this will just endure that everyone is getting the saving.

MDS - How will the Welfare Officer and President make sure these cost savings are taken on board?

MK - I didn't want to use lobbying I just wanted for you to make sure they pass on the savings.

BT - Cheap alternatives are already being suggested so there is no point interfering in the free market with other businesses.

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GW - I want to counteract the previous speaker as it is not a valid point.

MG - How can we discuss and make an informed decision when we don't have the facts?

Chair - Great point and it should be taken on board.

SG - No evidence was given so why not request some facts and let the market react?

ÉÓB - Could we defer this motion to next council? We do not have any stats and people aren't informed!

MK - They don't have to give us the information so it will be hard but I would still like the President and Welfare Officer to work with the Student Centre.

Motion Deferred to next Council.

- **Mental Health Coordinator**

MDS - The campaigns forum exists in order to look after different aspects of student health and wellbeing, this is why it is very important for this motion to be passed.

Chair - Nobody wants to speak against so we will put it to a vote.

VOTE: Motion Passed.

- **Vending Machine**

SD gave a brief description of the motion.

TW - How would you propose getting a vending machine?

SD - I'm not entirely sure but we could look at moving one which isn't being used where it is at present.

MG - Not sure that this is practical, there must be a reason why it is not already there?

SD - I spoke to the Head of Computer Science and he is in favour.

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FH - Currently moving some vending machines, hopefully we will get one in.

VOTE: Motion Passed.

(e) Items for Discussion.

(f) Items for Noting.

- Semester One Ents Manager Report

Chair - Email Paul or ask Feargal now if there are any questions.

- Ents Forum Resignation

FH - Wanted to notify Council that Becky Gilmore has resigned from the Ents Forum due to time commitments and Gavin Ho, an incredibly active and committed member of the Ents Crew has taken her place.

- SU Shop Update

FH - The shops have let us know that hoodie orders have been low recently, please let us know if you need any help or if there are any issues.

- Staff Restructuring

FH - Due to a delayering of management in the company, the role of general manager has been eliminated. A number of steps are currently being taken in order to work towards the improvement of the Union's agility, effectiveness and engagement. I cannot make any further comments due to legalities.

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- **Audited Accounts**

FH - The accounts have been audited but they have not been signed by the partner as of yet, they will be circulated immediately once this is done. I will bring it as an item for discussion to next Council.

(g) Items for Approval.

- No items for approval.

(h) The reports of each Executive Officer.

President - Accepted

TW - Why is the president not on FRAMC this year and was before?

FH - There has been a restructuring of all of the boards and the student seat has been taken away. I have just submitted reasons for why there should be a student representative to the new chair.

BT - Given the circumstances, why was the position of GM removed?

FH - I cannot comment due to legalities at this time.

TW - Can you comment on who takes on the roles the GM previously had?

FH - No comment.

Undergraduate Education - Accepted

BT - There have been further SUSI delays and I was wondering what was being done?

AF - Maeve and I have been working with them since the summer. UCD have already given extensions as we hadn't heard and a lot of students hadn't heard. We are still working on it and will give updates as appropriate.

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SG - Is there a choice for people with disabilities to sit their exams in the RDS? Is the shuttle bus accessible?

AF - The buses we are using are double deckers and have a wheelchair ramp.

Graduate - Accepted

MK - I found that the study guides were more focused on the undergrads in comparison to postgrads but I don't want to speak for everyone. I want to ensure that you are postgrad driven.

AF - A lot of postgrads do have exams.

Welfare - Accepted

TW - Just noting that you were sick, I was wondering what arrangements were made during this time?

MDS - Amy is SafeTalk and Assist trained whilst Anabel and Feargal are SafeTalk trained.

Whenever I received an email, my out of office response detailed various contacts to help in the majority of situations.

MK - Have the condoms arrived?

MDS - Yes!

PD - Are you aware of the final total of students who registered for voting?

MDS - I will be able to give approximate numbers at a later time.

Agriculture & Veterinary –

Accepted

Arts and Celtic Studies –

Accepted

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<u>Business & Law –</u>	Accepted
<u>Engineering & Architecture -</u>	Accepted
<u>Health Science -</u>	Accepted
<u>Human Science -</u>	Accepted
<u>Oifigeach na Gaeilge -</u>	Accepted
<u>Science –</u>	Accepted

(i) Questions not on notice.

CR - Can we receive an email to remind us that motions are due?

FH - Not a problem, the secretary will send one out!

SG - When is the Res Coordinator election taking place?

FH - It is my fault, it will take place the second council after Christmas.

BT - Can you take questions for Campaigns Forum?

Chair - They are not required.

(j) Motions not on notice.

No motions not on notice.

(k) Submission of motions to be on notice for the next meeting.

No motions were submitted.

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(1) Any Other Business.

SB - Trans Week is this week and there is a vigil on Thursday evening at 6pm.

MDS - There is also Ally training taking place.

AF - Exec nominated class reps for the Class Rep of the month and those elected were: Emer Murnane, Catherine Galvin, Caoimhe Morris, the 2nd Comm Reps, Lexi Kilmartin, Conor Jones and Maeve Kelly.

The winner this month is - Lexi Kilmartin from the Arts Faculty.

Chair - Going forward just to let you know that this should be an 'Item for Noting'.

Next Council: Monday, 26th January at 6pm in the Fitzgerald Chamber.

End of Meeting: 7:40pm

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