

President Report – Council 8

Name of Officer: Feargal Hynes

Position: President

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Date of Council: 30th March 2015

Official Meetings Attended

President Andrew Deeks
University Relations
Academic Council Executive Committee
Registrar
Director of Student Services
Governing Authority
CSL Board Meeting
UPB
Academic Council

Main Activities:

a. Marriage Equality Campaign

- i. The whole team has put a lot of effort into the marriage equality campaign. With our official launch on Wednesday 25th March with Colm O’Gorman, the #VoteforME campaign has been a very large but worthwhile part of our time. We will also do a postal voters campaign to follow up on efforts from Semester 1.

b. Preparing for College Carnival

- i. As I will present to you tonight, plans for the new ‘College Carnival’. This is a festival which will celebrate all aspects of UCD life and it’s something we hope will appeal to all audiences. I hope you like it.

c. Singapore

- i. Amy and I spent some time in Singapore as part of a Universitas 21 Global Student Leaders Network conference. This is a group of research intensive Universities from around the world. It was a good trip, we spoke in front of all the colleges and compared Student Union’s here to those around the world.

d. Sabbat Elections

- i. As an incredibly important part of our year, I was delighted that we increased voter turnout from approx. 2,400 to 4,500. I was also delighted to see so many candidates for the elections. Thanks to the returning office and everyone who played a part in the process.

e. SU 40

- i. This year, we celebrate the 40th Anniversary of UCDSU. To mark this, we held a special dinner on Friday last attended by UCD President Prof. Andrew Deeks and which also acted as the launch of the new SU40 archive compiled by former President Pat De Brun. Please do check it out at <http://su40.ucd.ie/> and thanks to everyone who made it possible. We have another event to reminisce on the event on Thursday 2nd April at 7pm in the Fitzgerald Chamber, you're all very welcome.

f. 3 Year Projections

- i. We have been working on a strategy document and doing some financial planning for the Union. While this is at an early stage, coming from a difficult few years, the future is bright for the organisation and we are budgeting to make sure that we're driving a Union that students want to see.

g. Student Services UCD Connect

- i. There will be an upgraded UCD Connect website planned for this coming September, we are hoping to have links to the wide range of student supports available as part of this. We will be working with IT Services to make sure the website is student friendly and easy to use.

Plans for Next Council

1. UCD College Carnival
2. Marriage Equality Referendum
3. Board Meeting & AGM
4. UCDSU Strategy
5. LeadUCD
6. Crossover

Welfare & Equality Report – Council 8

Name of Officer: Maeve DeSay

Position: Welfare&Equality Officer

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Twitter: @MaeveDeSay

Date of Council: 30th April 2015

Since the last council I have:

- Processed and attended welfare fund application meetings
- Sat on Governing Authority
- Arts Clinic (Theme: Welcome back & #VoteForME)
- SU40 anniversary celebrations
- Student services meeting
- Personal Cases
- Art in Science Committee
- Health Promotion Working Group
- Judged applications to the U21 scholarships.
- Sat on UCD Student Experience group.
- Had a meeting with the Montrose student accommodation
- Contraception Awareness event.
(and still haven't figured out how to use word format properly)

Main projects undertaken

#VoteForME

Wednesday last saw the launch of the UCDSU & UCD LGBTQ* Soc launch of the Marriage Equality campaign #VoteForME. A huge amount of work has gone into the campaign from the postering, to the social media, the videos and the launch night itself. Thank you so much to everyone who got involved. It's far from over yet and I hope we can keep #VoteForME in everyone's minds in the build up to May 22nd! The Launch night was a massive success with over 200 people there, actively engaged and ready to campaign about Marriage Equality! Thank you to all who came along and helped out on the night, it was a great success all round!

UCD Community Attitudes towards sexual assault and harassment study.

This is an in-depth study based on a similar study developed by MIT. It looks at both students' experiences of sexual assault and harassment but also at behaviors and attitudes towards sexual assault and harassment. The purpose of the study is to gather data to inform future SU campaigns on the issue and where people need to be further educated on issues of consent. The survey is due to be rolled out in the next two weeks as it is currently undergoing the process for ethical approval in UCD. It is a massive body of work but will provide data that has never before been gathered in UCD to this depth.

Sexual Assault & Victim Support Training

Before the mid-term I attended a full days training with the Rape Crisis Centre on how to support victims of rape and sexual assault. It was an excellent course, that unfortunately wasn't offered earlier on this year.

Plans for next council:

- Continuation of #VoteForME
- Continuation of the UCD Community Attitudes towards sexual assault and harassment survey.
- Personal Cases
- Revision Roadshow
- RoeBuck Castle & Belgrove Res visits Tues 7th Apr @5pm

Please Note:

I was on annual leave on March 12th & 13th and also on March 26th, 27th, and 30th.

Education Report – Council 8

Name of Officer: Amy Fox

Position: Undergraduate Education Officer

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Date of Council: 30th March 2015

Main work since last Council

Academic Meetings

- UCD Academic Council - New UCD School structures
- ACCE - Academic council committee for examinations.
- Governing Authority
- ACCQ - Reviews of UCD Student services, UCD Library & IT services.
- University Management Student Experience Group

UCD Quality Reviews

- UCD Library
- UCD IT Services
- UCD Student services

AIB LeadUCD update

- Final LeadUCD event planned for Friday of Week 10. Will include site visits to local businesses and a speaker event in AIB. More details to follow.

Programme Boards

- Science
- Arts
- Health Sciences

Student Personal Cases

- 20 approx student cases per week, mainly relating to mid-term exams and assignments which will continue to be the topical issue for the next 2 weeks.

Election advice and support - Lots of you have popped into my office to ask for election advice. Congratulations to everyone who ran for election, and particularly next years Exec.

Academic Ethics (Plagiarism) hearings - 10-15 meetings. Many in the Newman building.

#VoteforMe & SU clinics

- Arts and Health Sciences clinics
- Taking photos with the #VoteforMe picture frames to promote the launch lounge and the beginning of the campaign

Arts Repeat Study Groups

- 100+ participants
- Positive help from the Dean & school also

Students Union 40th Anniversary

- Assisted hosting the celebration dinner last Friday evening. Pleasure to have been a part of the lovely evening.

Plans for next council

- Annual Leave
- Revision Roadshow
- SU clinics
- UCD Undergraduate Research conference - pitch to UCD T&L & Research
- Summer jobs fair
- Programme boards
- #VoteforMe
- BA graduate speakers

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ACEC: Academic Council Executive Committee

ACCQ: Academic Committee for Control & Quality

RIOG: Registration implementation & oversight group

ACCE - Academic council committee for examinations

UPB - University Programme Board

HEAR - Higher Education Access Route

DARE- Disability Access Route to Education

Graduate Report – Council 8

Name of Officer: Anabel Castañeda

Position: Graduate Education Officer

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Date of Council: 30th March 2015

Regular Meetings attended:

Personal cases, Graduate School Boards, RIOG (Registration Implementation Oversight Group), University Programme Board (UPB), Exec, and Sabbatical/Staff meetings.

Since Last Council

Research & Innovation Conference

Amy and myself attended this conference. It was focused around different ways companies and universities could work together to push Ireland to be at the top tier of research and innovation around the world. A professor from UCD Smurfit School spoke about how we need to move away from looking at output and focus more on impact and this was extremely emphasized.

Library Quality Review

This was the review done by external team and was very constructive. The students brought many areas such as open spaces, JSTOR access, fines, journals that have been cut, more linkages between the courses (librarian studies), signage that states I've left-I'll be back, and more.

Postgraduate Open Night

There were many prospective postgraduate students looking to gather some more information. All the colleges participated, but it was noted that there was a larger attendance during the fall.

Believing in the Tradition Archive International Symposium Address

This was a symposium with guest speaker President Michael D. Higgins. It was focused around the national folklore collection archives that UCD holds.

Graduate Education Forum

This was the first forum that brought together many heads of graduate programmes, graduate school managers, and any other individual involved with postgraduate education. This forum

aimed to discuss key issues such as the structured PhD, orientation, diploma supplement, and much more.

ACCE (Academic Council Committee on Examinations)

There was an ACCE report made to Academic Council and Governing Authority in which the new thesis submission form was included.

Residence Review Oversight Group

The review group presented their first draft report to UMT SEG, but the process of reviewing residences is still on going.

Academic Council

Many reports ranging from ACEC (Academic Council Executive Committee) and other committees were approved. A large issue here was the college and school structures.

UMT Student Experience

This subgroup has taken many of reports and approved them to be considered at UMT. Reports containing information ranging from the student mental health policy to residence draft reviews.

Academic Council Committee on Quality

The quality reviews of the various departments such as the library have been conducted and they are just waiting on the written reports for each of the departments. One of the school quality reviews was postponed due to the fact that external examiners could not be brought in.

Marriage Equality Launch

Wednesday the 25th we held our Marriage Equality Launch to promote via social media the #VoteForME Campaign. Already the colorful presence on campus has been well received.

Enhance Horizons Workshop

This was a workshop attended by many of the senior academics in regards to where the focus will be for the future of the UCD Horizons with aims to enhance the curriculum and more.

Plans for next council

By next council I will be attending a CPD Forum, Revision Roadshow, Residence Review Group, residences visits, AIB LeadUCD leadership day, Mixer Number 2, and a screening of A Thirsty World.

Ag & Vet Report – Council 8

Name of Officer: Padraig Curry

Position: Agricultural and Veterinary Convener

Email: padraig.curry@ucdsu.ie

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Date of Council: 30th March

Hope you're all well rested from the 2 weeks off and ready for the last leg of the college year! Take it easy and give yourselves plenty of time to finish projects and all that! 😊

Since Last Council

Marriage Equality Campaign Launch:

- Happening Wednesday the 25th. Spent a lot of time promoting it among students and reps.
- Poster run also done for the print campaign.
- Really need a big push from everyone.

Relay for Life:

- Getting teams from Food Science and Ag and Vet, Thanks to Karina and Emer for all their work in getting people involved
- Fundraising for this over the next couple of weeks.

Elections:

- Helped out at the elections and encouraged students to vote. Answered questions from candidates. Congrats to all the newly elected Exec!

Academic Council:

- Attended academic council on the 10th of March. Missed the follow up meeting on the Friday due to other commitments.

SU40 Archive Launch and Anniversary Dinner:

- Attended the anniversary dinner on Friday the 20th March, which also served as the launch of the SU40 archive.

Other stuff:

- 2nd year class trip was on during the break.
- Ag and Vet mystery tour happening Thursday 26th; sold out event. Good job to all involved!
- Personal cases and follow-ups.
- Peer mentor awards on Tuesday 23rd.

Plans for next council

- Marriage Equality promotion.
- Promoting Ents events.
- Coffeehouse sessions.
- SU clinics and revision roadshow.
- Cross over guide completion.

Arts Report – Council 8

Name of Officer: Conor Rock

Position: Arts and Celtic Studies Convener

Email: conor.rock@ucdsu.ie

Twitter: @Rock2Conor

Date of Council: 30 March 2015

Since Last Council

1. Attended UPB:
 - No issues pertaining to Arts and Celtic studies came up at the meeting
 - There were no difficult issues arising for other faculties either, the content mainly revolved around other faculty programs, particularly master /diploma programs.
2. Attended Academic Council:
 - Issues raised were debated and looked into as impartially as possible.
3. Organise social for reps:
 - For the last council of the elected year, we hope to have a social night for all the elected representatives.
 - Looked for a location, will definitely be somewhere on campus.
 - Trying to gauge interest amongst reps.
4. Meet with module co-ordinator to discuss issues that have arisen this semester:
 - Was approached by students who were having issues with module.
 - Researched what the main issues were like for the majority in the module.
 - Sat down and discussed them with co-ordinator

Plans for next council:

1. Plan to have cross over trainer guide complete.
2. Survey class reps about their experiences this year.

Business & Law Report – Council 8

Name of Officer: Laura Brohan

Position: Business and Law Convener

Email: laura.brohan@ucdsu.ie

Date of Council: 30th of March

Since Last Council:

Crossover Guide

I have started the crossover guide for incoming B&L Convenor, Ryan. Congrats to Ryan and the rest of the exec elect on their successful election campaigns and best of luck with the next year.

#VoteforME Campaign

Promoted the campaign and encouraged fellow students to get involved.

Quinn Farewell Ball

Planning for the ball continued and ticket sales for the Quinn Farewell ball are on this week in Quinn.

Quinn Forum

I had a very productive staff student consultative forum. One issue that came up at the meeting was that students don't have much access to information on modules unless they happen to know an older student who has done this module. A central database of mini-blogs about each subject was something that was suggested and I think that this would be a very worthwhile project for the incoming exec to work on.

Plans for Next Council:

- Promote next week's coffeehouse session. If anyone has any ideas, get in touch with myself or PK.
- Finish crossover guide for incoming B&L Convenor.
- Sell tickets for the Quinn Farewell Ball.
- Work at and promote the Mental Health week.

Engineering & Architecture Report – Council 8

Name of Officer: Cian Byrne

Position: Engineering & Architecture Convenor

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Date of Council: 30 March 2015

Since last council

Eng Day

Planning for Eng Day has started. It has been put back one week due to workload of everyone organising the event and some events it has clashed with.

Marriage Equality launch

The ME launch took place last week. It was a huge success both on the night in the student centre and online on facebook and twitter. If you have not yet shared, liked photo and videos please do!

Modeling and Simulation

I've followed up on some complaints students still have with the module and plan to contact Prof. Curran next week to voice them with him.

Academic Council

I attended AC during the first week of midterm.

Plans for next council

Eng Day

With Eng Dy now put back one week next week will be taken with primarily with helping out and organising everything for the day

Meet With Prof. Fitzpatrick

I will meet with the Dean to talk about the issue of reports and assignments being returned late. I will have the necessary information from class reps. Knowing what modules have this problem will help us see why there is poor feedback and help us come to a solution.

Stage One discussion for choosing their stream of Engineering

I have started to ask Engineers to lend a hand giving stage one engineers some advice on the different types of engineering available to them. Over the next two weeks i will be spending time letting people know it is going on and asking higher stage students to help out. The discussion will be taking place in week 11.

Health Sciences Report – Council 8

Mollie Bruton
Health Science Convenor
Email: mollie.bruton@ucdsu.ie
Twitter: @MollieUCDSU
Date of Council: 30th March 2015

Introduction

Hi everyone, well done to those of you who put yourselves forward for election, and congratulations to those who were elected. No matter the outcome of the elections, I hope that you enjoyed the process and that you have learnt something new from doing so. If there is anything with which I could help in preparation for your year in office, please don't think twice about getting in touch.

Here you'll find a report of the projects on which I have worked since the last Student Council meeting. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or feedback.

Recurring Meetings

No meetings were attended due to Clinical Placement commitments.

Summary of work since last Student Council

1. Promotion of INMO protest

In light of recent issues regarding the clinical placements of Nursing & Midwifery students, the INMO were arranging a protest which was to be held on Thursday, 26th February. The protest aimed to highlight the issue of supernumerary students (i.e. Stages 1,2 & 3) being rostered to complete weekend or night shifts during their clinical placement allocations, although it is against protocol to do so. This information has been passed on to the relevant Class Reps and feedback is being sought.

Owing to the agreement of the NMBI (regulatory board of nurses & midwives) to review their protocol regarding supernumerary placement allocations, the INMO (union for nurses & midwives) made a decision to cancel the protest.

The details of same were discussed at the NMHS Student Forum meeting, and the school have agreed that it will be the responsibility of the student to provide feedback between the clinical area & academic learning environment, whilst it will be the role of the academic staff to act upon such feedback.

2. Promotion of Exec Elections

In advance of the recent Exec 2015-2016 elections, I shared the details of the polling scheme and election candidates with the Health Science Class Rep group, who then promoted same to their class group.

I addressed the queries from Class Reps regarding support of particular campaigns within a contested election, emphasising that the online class groups should not be used as a means of targeted canvassing by a union representative.

3. Work on NMHS student website

I was in touch with the NMHS Programme Office, who has requested my input with regards the new school website. The website will consist of student testimonials outlining the experience of a Health Science student, and will be launched in the upcoming weeks.

The testimonials are aimed at prospective students and, as such, will also be included in the undergraduate prospectus.

4. Account of hoody orders & class trips

During the week I completed an account of all hoody orders made & class trips planned within the Health Science Class Rep group; the aim of this being twofold. Primarily I wished to assess which groups may require assistance with regards the arrangement of class hoodies or trips away. Secondly, I would like to provide feedback to Exec regarding the services which are in place for Class Reps (e.g. the hoody ordering service through the UCDSU shops, and the travel company talks at Class Rep training).

5. Correspondence with College Council co-chair

During the week I spoke with Leah Flanagan (Stage 1 Medicine), who has kindly agreed to act as the Health Science representative at Exec meetings during my absence. In addition Leah, having acted as co-chair at College Council, now chairs the fortnightly College Council meetings.

Since the last SU Council, I have provided Leah with an agenda for the College Council meeting held on February 23rd, the report for the weekly Exec meeting, and the agenda for the College Council meeting which will coincide with today's SU Council meeting. In each circumstance, I sought feedback from Leah thereafter.

Before the next council I will have

1. Finalised arrangements for postponed staff-student table quiz
2. Updated Health Science ENTS re: Physiography Ball & other events
3. Sought feedback from Class Reps with regards class trips held during Easter break
4. Sought feedback from co-chair of College Council regarding meetings held

Human Sciences Report – Council 8

Name of Officer: Melanie O'Donovan

Position: Human Science Convenor

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Date of Council: 30th March 2015

Projects undertaken

Marriage Equality Campaign

I've been working with Maeve, Grace & Brian to map out our timeline of events for the second half of the marriage equality campaign. The launch was last Wednesday as well

Peer Mentor Recruitment Drive

I have been helping the student advisors recruit BA and BSocScience peer mentors for next year.

Volunteer Fair & Social Science Careers night

I have been organising this with Amy and the plans for it are looking good. The plan is to have the Social Science speakers in theatre O and i've begun asking the speakers who are unavailable to write a short statement about their work which i can distribute to the students and that the department can use in their Pathway selection programme.

Academic Council

I attended academic council where plans about restructuring schools were discussed and i have since discussed how the changes will affect human science students with a few heads of schools.

BA Review

I am organising a BA review focus group with Conor and the Dean Of Arts to get Qualitative Data on issues that were raised in the BA programme board meeting.

Plans for next council

Coffee House Session

Tea and Coffee morning with Poetry Soc

Marriage Equality Campaign

BA programme review group

Internship Fair & Evening

Begin Crossover Plans

Organise Childline Hoodies for Social Science first years

Science Report – Council 8

Name of Officer: David Mc Elligott

Position: Science Convener

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Twitter: @DavidUCDSU

Date of Council: 30th March 2015

Meetings Attended

Executive meetings, College Council, Science Programme Board, Computer Science Staff Student Committee.

Since Last Council

- Launch of #VoteForME, as you all know, this is part of our campaign for the upcoming marriage equality referendum.
- Computer Science Staff Student Committee meeting. There are a number of concerning issues for stage 3 Computer Science students which have been brought up and need to be investigated further.
- I'm getting info together for stage 2 and 3 Science students who are considering taking a 3 year degree instead of 4/are unsure of what they want to do. I will either hold a talk or compile info into a document for students.

Plans for next council

By next council:

- I will follow up on the issues that Computer Science students are having.
- I will have put together the information for stage 2 and 3 students, I'll get this done ASAP as time is of the essence.
- Continue promoting the upcoming marriage equality referendum and encouraging students to vote and campaign.



Oifigeach na Gaeilge Report – Council 8

Name of Officer: Éanna Ó Braonáin

Position: Oifigeach na Gaeilge

Email: eanna.obraonain@ucdsu.ie

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Date of Council: 30th March 2015

Work done since last council

- I have begun work on a crossover guide for the incoming Oifigeach na Gaeilge elect.
- I have written an event report for Seachtain na Gaeilge, including recommendations for next year
- I have been working on the promotion of the Vote For ME campaign.
- I have met with Clár Ní Bhuachalla re. the 15th anniversary of Teach na Gaeilge and other projects that will be ongoing this semester.

Plans for next council

- I will continue working on the Vote For ME campaign.
- The 15th anniversary of Teach na Gaeilge will have a concert in the bar on the 31st.
- I will be meeting with Edel Ní Bhraonáin, Conradh na Gaeilge, for an end of year meeting.
- Bál na Gaeilge will be taking place on the 8th of April. All welcome.