

Smurfit 'Senior Rep' Motion

Council notes that the Union represents a lot of students on Smurfit campus as well as Belfield campus.

Council further notes that it can be difficult at times to communicate with and adequately represent those students based in Smurfit campus.

Council further notes the new design of the Graduate Officer position in line with the constitution.

Council believes that UCDSU should operate a position among the elected class reps on Smurfit campus which would act as a 'Senior Rep' and would liaise with the Graduate Officer on a weekly basis during term time.

Council recommends that they would report to council through the elected Graduate Officer.

Council therefore mandates the Graduate Officer to chair the first Smurfit College Council in the 15/16 academic year and to elect a 'Senior Rep' who will also act as the chair of the Smurfit College Council for the remainder of the year.

Proposed by: Feargal Hynes, President

Seconded by: Amy Fox, Undergraduate Education Officer

Garda Vetting Motion

Council notes that the elected sabbatical officers come into contact with a lot of people and are seen as a trusted resource.

Council further notes that it would be common practice in similar positions for the individuals to be Garda vetted in advance of taking up these positions.

Council therefore mandates the President to ensure that all elected officers who are in contact with students to be Garda vetted in advance of the commencement of the academic year.

Council further mandates the President to report to first council of the academic year to inform them that all sabbatical officers had been Garda vetted.

Proposed by: Maeve DeSay, Welfare & Equality Officer

Seconded by: Feargal Hynes, President

Constitution Update Motion

Council notes that UCDSU adopted a new constitution this year following the referendum exceeded the required quota.

Council further notes that often mistakes such as grammatical errors and typos are made when writing a new constitution.

Council further notes that a provision was made in section 28.2 to give Union Council the power to fix these issues up until the end of the current academic year.

Council further notes that the IADB has endorsed the proposed updates.

Council therefore accepts and endorses the attached changes as proposed by the Executive.

Council therefore mandates the President to upload the final edited version on to the website, and for it to be filed as the official UCDSU constitution.

Proposed by: Feargal Hynes, President

Seconded by: Maeve DeSay, Welfare & Equality Officer

Environment Motion

Council Notes:

In light of the recently released UN IPCC reports on climate change both Ireland and the global community are facing a grave future unless radical action is taken to curb greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and to halt environmental degradation. The Union currently lacks a comprehensive environmental policy which would move towards more sustainable ways of working.

The UN IPCC report states that:

“Human influence on the climate system is clear, and recent anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases are the highest in history. Recent climate changes have had widespread impacts on human and natural systems”

"Risks are unevenly distributed and are generally greater for disadvantaged people and communities in countries at all levels of development".

“Limiting climate change would require substantial and sustained reductions in greenhouse gas emissions which, together with adaptation can limit climate change risks”.

Climate Change 2014 Synthesis Report Summary for Policymakers IPCC's Fifth Assessment Report (AR5)

Council Further Notes:

Climate change is the biggest challenge that global society is facing now and into the future. The Students Union in Ireland has a long history of supporting human rights issues and some would argue that climate change will be the greatest human rights issue of our time. We need to start reducing GHG emissions and living within planetary boundaries

Groups and initiatives trying to improve campus sustainability, such as An Taisce's Green Campus programme, and environmental and related societies, already exist within UCD and should be supported in their efforts. Groups such as Stop Climate Chaos Ireland are actively campaigning to reduce GHG emissions on a national scale. They are currently lobbying the government for an earnest and resolute climate bill to reduce GHG emissions to what the IPCC would consider a safe level, an 80% to 100% reduction by 2050.

Council Therefore Mandates

- (1) To support the Green Campus campaign and encourage class representatives to relay updates relating to the campaign to their classes on a regular basis.
- (2) To facilitate and encourage other environmentally-minded groups and societies within UCD to continue with their work to improve campus sustainability and make UCD a more environmentally friendly place.
- (3) That the Student's Union improve their own ways of working to become more sustainable in day to day operations.
- (4) To support the Stop Climate Chaos campaign.

Council Further Mandates

The environmental co-ordinator will prepare performance targets in order to analyse the implementation of the motion.

Proposed by:

Louise Flanagan

Seconded by:

Andrew B. McKeown

Communication Motion

Council notes: The Union has always made effective communication with the Executive, Council and the students a priority

Council further notes: It can be difficult to plan effective campaigns and events in each faculty and campus wide without the support of other officers

Council recognises: That the Sabbatical officers, Convenors, Irish Officer, Campaign Forum and Entertainments forum have busy schedules however they all work towards common goals all year.

Council therefore Mandates: That the Executive, Campaigns Forum and Entertainment Forum convene a meeting of at least two thirds majority at least twice a semester.

Council further mandates: That the Campaigns & Communications officer be responsible for convening these meetings as they have the most contact with each group. As well as appointing a Secretary of the meetings in the first meeting of the term.

Proposed by: Melanie O'Donovan (Human Science Convenor)

Seconded by: Andrew Wall (Stage One Politics & International Relations Class Representative)

Campaigns Crew Motion

Council Notes: The jobs of the Campaign Forum and the events run by them throughout the year are important to the union and it's representative duties.

Council further notes: That the Campaigns Forum are usually made up of full time UCD students and their roles during certain times of the year are highly time consuming.

Council further notes: The Union is actively seeking ways to get more UCD Students engaged with it's activities.

Council Mandates: That each Campaigns Forum member alongside the Campaigns & Communications officer set up their own smaller grouping of individuals with an interest in each forum member's field of specialty.

Council further mandates: That each Campaigns Forum officer take responsibility of the recruitment, convening and engagement of these groups in campaigns throughout the year.

Proposed by: Melanie O'Donovan (Human Science Convenor)

Seconded by: Anna Joyce (Stage One English, Drama & Film Class Representative)