

Council Notes

That UCDSU's stance on marriage equality is close to expiring with the national referendum on equal civil marriage to be voted on in 2015.

Council Recognises

That majority of UCD Students support equal civil marriage.

Council Therefore Mandates

That UCDSU campaigns strongly in favour of equal civil marriage.

Council Also Mandates

That the pride flag and a poster advocating for equal civil marriage is put up at each UCDSU event until the legalisation of equal civil marriage in Ireland.

Proposed by

Sam Blanckensee, LGBTQ+ Coordinator.

Seconded by

Maeve DeSay, Welfare & Gender Equality Officer.

Council Notes

UCD is a University with students of diverse Nationalities, Cultures, Backgrounds and beliefs.

Council further notes

Many of these students' cultural, religious or moral backgrounds dictate diet and eating habits. Question however is frequently raised about certain items available (namely Crisps, Confectionary etc.) in UCDSU shops and their permissibility for consumption according to the above regulations as said items are usually not available in their native country or in other cases not necessarily stated.

Council therefore mandates

The Student's Union Executive prepares a list of the food and drink available in its shops that is Halal, Kosher, Vegan and circulate on all SU media outlets

Proposed by

Matthew Carroll, International Students Coordinator.

Seconded by

Conor Rock, Arts Convenor.

Council Notes

That last year after a constitutional referendum put to the students of UCD and after surpassing the required quota, UCDSU adopted the following pro-choice policy: "UCDSU should adopt a policy of legalising abortion in Ireland upon request of the woman".

Council Notes with Concern

The lack of active involvement UCDSU plays in the national campaign for a woman's right to choose, unlike other Students' Unions with similar pro-choice policies such as Trinity College Dublin and NUI Galway. The situation for women in Ireland, particularly vulnerable women has worsened and as such, a new, national coalition to Repeal the 8th Amendment to the Irish constitution has been formed in an attempt to vindicate a woman's right to choose.

Council Recognises

That the inability to access abortion services and the lack of reproductive rights in Ireland affects not only those who identify as women but all those who are female assigned at birth.

Council Therefore Mandates

That in accordance with the policy passed last year and respecting the wishes of the students of UCD, that UCDSU make official links with the coalition to Repeal the 8th Amendment, to actively campaign for a woman's right to choose, which cannot legally or constitutionally be recognised until Article 40.3.3 is removed from the Irish constitution and it shall be the responsibility of the President, the Welfare & Equality Officer and the Gender Equality Co-Ordinator primarily to do so.

Council Notes

That every member of UCDSU shall be entitled to the right to conscientious objection, and no member morally opposed shall be forced to engage in active campaigning but that right shall not supersede the obligations bestowed on UCDSU Executive Council to uphold the mandate given to them by the students of UCD.

Proposed by

Grace Williams, Gender Equality Coordinator.

Seconded by

Sam Blanckensee, LGBTQ+ Coordinator.