



YOUR UNION. YOUR VOICE.

UCD Students' Union Limited

Student Centre,
UCD, Belfield,
Dublin 4.

Tel +353 1 7163108
Fax +353 1 7163109

**UCDSUL
Executive Meeting
20 November 2014**

Present:

Feargal Hynes (President) FH
Maeve De Say (Welfare & Equality Officer) MDS
Anabel Castañeda (Graduate Education Officer) AC
Padraig Curry (Ag & Vet Convenor) PC
Laura Brohan (Business & Law Convenor) LB
Mollie Bruton (Health Science Convenor) MB
Melanie O'Donovan (Human Sciences Convenor) MOD
Dave McElligott (Science Convenor) DME
Éanna Ó Braonáin (Oifigeach na Gaeilge) ÉÓB

In Attendance: Devin Finneran (Secretary UCDSU Council)

Apologies: Amy Fox (Undergraduate Education Officer) AF
Conor Rock (Arts Convenor) CR
Cian Byrne (Engineering and Architecture Convenor) CB

Meeting starts at 17:00pm

Approval of Minutes from last meeting

Minutes approved.

Directors

R. Breslin. | P. de Brún. | F. Carroll.
L. Dockery. | M. Gallagher. | A. Ó Deá.

Company Secretary

H. Malone.

Registered No.

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Reports

MB - I'd like to do a Christmas fundraiser; I was wondering do I need to get special permission to sell candy canes in the Health Science Building?

FH - Generally you would need permission from building services and you could make the programme office and student advisor aware.

Irish

LB - How is the language survey going?

ÉÓB - I've realised it will be impossible to do it to the standard I previously anticipated as I am not qualified. People will be interviewed in order to assess their standard of Irish.

MOD - How long will interviews be?

FH - How many are you looking to do?

ÉÓB - They will take about 5mins and we should interview 200 people.

Items to be Discussed

1) Fashion Show

FH - Funding was secured so that we could hold the fashion show again and it will take place in February 2015. We'd love to have all of Exec involved to a certain extent as it is a major event held by the Union.

DME - Who funds the show?

FH - Both the SU and the Student Centre, we want to raise money for charity and ensure we do not open ourselves up to a chance of loss.

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2) Mental Health Event

MDS - First day fortnight is an event happening in January, it's a national conference which focuses on reducing the stigma surrounding mental health in Ireland. There is a mental health in sport talk next Tuesday, you may book tickets online! Also to note, we will be hosting another weekend of ASIST this week.

MB - What is the next available date?

MDS - At the minute there is a waiting list of 30 - 40 people. We will host another Asist and SafeTalk next semester.

b Is it possible to have it during the week instead of the weekend.

MDS - The course is 9am - 4pm on both days and we can't allow students to miss that much class.

LB - Would there be a possibility to have an Asist the week just before we come back to college in January?

3) Staff Restructuring

FH - We have gone through the vast majority of the delayering with you all already. We are a Ltd. Company which means we do not have as much pressure associated with finances as previously experienced. An extremely cautious staff model was brought in due to debt accumulated in years passed, beforehand there had been a lack of management. Staffing costs were too expensive to sustain when we already had an underfunded welfare fund. We spoke with HR, looked at the financial aspect and budgets for the year, ultimately we had to tighten up as a Union. Our aim is to engage with students and officers are to work professionally rather than in a professional practice.

MOD - Does this mean there will be a significant change to the number of hours worked by

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those who are taking on extra responsibilities?

FH - We are using the lean model and because of this I don't imagine hours of work to increase.

DME - How much will we save?

FH - We will be allocating a lot of money to the welfare fund and core student services, but amounts will depend on a constitutional referendum and the strategy plan. It will be allocated in a very prudent manner.

ÉÓB - When was this decided?

FH - A sub group was made at the last board meeting, they met several times and then it was brought for discussion.

4) Voter Registration

MDS - We have hit 4,000 in terms of forms being signed!

DME - Is there a plan for next week?

MDS - We need to get them posted on Monday to ensure they are in the offices by Thursday.

FH - The LGBTQ+ Society worked so hard, the level of interest is much greater than any other topic I have seen.

DME - We should send our final numbers to the 'YES for Equality' FB page.

5) SU Mid-term Report

MOD - Will we be producing a midyear report as was done last year?

FH - We are focusing on our strategy and structure at the minute. The Strategy will be brought to Exec on 22nd January and then brought to Council on the 26th January. It will be endorsed as part of the company AGM in week two of second semester and in turn will feed

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into a constitutional referendum in week four. We could look at making info grams to report?

MOD - Every rep says that they didn't realise how much the Union did until they were involved.

MDS - It would be good to post about what we do and also mention that people should let us know if we should be doing something.

FH - There will be a massive communication push alongside the strategy.

LB - Will we be seeing it in stages or just as the finished product?

FH - Draft one will be brought to Exec, draft two will be opened to Council and a wider audience and draft three will be final.

Items to be Noted

FH - Could you give an update of your reps hoody orders?

AC - Some classes are outsourcing.

LB - As far as I am aware all of the B&L reps are getting them, they are currently in the planning process.

MB - A lot of older years are going with jackets so it may be worth looking into getting them in the shops.

PC - Jackets are very popular for us.

FH - The Company AGM will be held early next year. Please let us know if you are interested in becoming an OCM for the board. This will be changed on a yearly basis.

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Any Other Business

MDS - I have been asked would the SU like to partake in a charity calendar.

It was agreed that it is too late notice and it will be reviewed net year.

MB - Will the Union be taking a stance on the IMNO situation?

FH - We have committed that we will support it but we decided we would not be marching.

MB - Over 2,000 people attended the march, and members are being told that they should refrain from paying until further notice is given.

ÉÓB - Any update on direct provision?

FH - It will be put on the agenda again for next week.

MOD - When will we be meeting with campaigns, ents etc?

FH - Second semester.

DME - Update on SUSI?

MDS - They gave us a second email address for us to contact them with severe cases. We spoke about students who have been estranged from their parents and how bad their line of communication was. We received many emails today from students thanking us.

Next Meeting: Thursday, 26 November at 5pm in the Union Boardroom.

End of Meeting: 18:17pm

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