



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
22 January 2015**

Present:

Feargal Hynes (President) FH
Maeve De Say (Welfare & Equality Officer) MDS
Amy Fox (Undergraduate Education Officer) AF
Anabel Castañeda (Graduate Education Officer) AC
Padraig Curry (Ag & Vet Convenor) PC
Conor Rock (Arts Convenor) CR
Laura Brohan (Business & Law Convenor) LB
Cian Byrne (Engineering and Architecture Convenor) CB
Mollie Bruton (Health Science Convenor) MB
Melanie O'Donovan (Human Sciences Convenor) MOD
Éanna Ó Braonáin (Oifigeach na Gaeilge) ÉÓB
Dave McElligott (Science Convenor) DME

In Attendance: Devin Finneran (Secretary UCDSU Council)

Meeting starts at 17:40pm

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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Items to be Discussed

1) Class Rep of the Month

AF – I'd like you all to nominate a rep who was particularly helpful around exams. A lot of reps came to see me during the exam period so if you are stuck I can nominate people for you.

VOTE: Amy should only call out reps who are nominated, not those who had nominated them.

Majority passed.

2) Refreshers Training

AF ran through the running order for refreshers training, due to take place on Friday, 23rd January.

AF – This training will be based on training which Melanie and I received in the American Embassy a couple of months ago, it is about empowerment. You are given a problem and you have to try and solve it in a group. The theme of the day will be networking and we will also have a presentation from LinkedIn.

DME – Third year science student has been running a 100minds campaign surrounding taking LinkedIn photos.

AF – He has been invited to come in. There will be a tea and coffee break where staff from UCD will be present, you will be encouraged to introduce yourselves and speak about your ideas, they are always willing to help. The group ideas will be presented at the end of the day to a panel of judges. We want to encourage people to get in gear for second semester and also get them to sign up for LEAD UCD training on February 6th and 7th.

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3) Constitutional Referendum

FH – Does anyone have questions on any part?

LB – Will there be a separate forum for graduate reps – college council for grad reps.

FH – That would be quite a big change to make and I'm sure we can make it happen without changing the constitution.

ÉÓB – Will La na Gaeilge be included?

FH – We took out specific events as they may cease to exist as time goes on.

MB – Will Arts and Human Sciences have two people in the same role?

FH – It will be an executive decision every year, it will be determined by IADB upon receiving a proposal from exec.

CR – So if we do put Arts and Human Sciences together anyone could vote for anyone and the confusion would be gone.

FH – We have allowed a certain timeframe after the constitution has passed to allow tiny changes and typos to be made as long as they don't change the spirit of the text.

Garda Vetting was discussed for all sabbatical positions, it won't go in the constitution but we will pass a mandate through Council.

IADB will now consist of two former sabbatical officers with one having the president, two females must also sit on the board.

LB – Is it not a bad idea to include gender quotas in the referendum?

FH – It's important to have the additional detail for IADB.

VOTE: That Exec are happy to endorse the proposed amendments of the constitution.

Unanimously passed.

FH – We are now seriously under pressure to collect signatures in time to call the referendum and we need to work as a team.

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4) Marriage Equality Referendum

FH – Below is the phrase being used...

UCDSU is in favor of marriage Equality...

5) USI

FH – I'm nearly sure that the referendum will not be taking place. We will set reform targets and if these targets are met we may commit to holding a referendum but nothing is concrete yet. Exec will develop an 'Ideal Union' and the leaders of the USI campaign will have input also.

MOD – Would there be a focus group?

FH – We represent all students and we have to listen to both sides and facilitate the conversation. Over the next couple of weeks we will need to work and facilitate this conversation.

DME – We will also need to keep an eye on USI.

FH – The fact that we are required to hold the USI referendum every four years by the constitution was questioned in the reform process. The only thing which we have committed to for the moment is that we will talk with the two leaders of 'Yes to USI' this year.

CR – I don't like the fact that it feels as if we are compromising by holding a referendum again next year.

FH – We have only committed to holding a referendum if there is major reform and it would have to be passed by Exec.

CR – Will we be sending out a press release?

FH – We will.

MOD – Are we technically allowed to take a stance?

AF – Sabbatical Officers would need to take annual leave if they wished to campaign.

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Items to be Noted

1) Bookshop

AF – Sales are still going good both online and offline and we'd like to do two or three more days of physical booksales. When would it suit people to help out?

MOD – On Tuesday we will be hosting a sale under the library but that is just for Arts and Human Sciences.

AF – At present just as many books are being uploaded are being sold so it is going well.

MB - Are there guidelines for putting books online?

AF – We find that usually if a book exists online, a student putting up the same book will lower the asking price of their copy. It's all fairly straight forward!

Any Other Business

1) Module Groups

MOD – Have people been coming to you about grouping together if a number of them failed the same module at Christmas?

AF – We will launch it properly on Monday with a doodle!

2) Postgrad Ball

AF – Ball is taking place in the Hilton Doubletree on February 5th and tickets are on sale right now, please spread the word!

3) Coffee House Sessions

AF – First week back after the break next Tuesday and Conor and Mollie will be looking after the promotion. Make sure everyone is aware that it is on and pop into PK if you want to have a chat about it!

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4) Direct Provision

MOD – What is happening with Direct Provision?

AF – Do we want to take a stance?

MOD – 62 people have died in Ireland since 2002 as a result and it is currently back in the news.

CR – Maybe we should bring something to Council? But we do not know enough about it at the minute so it should be researched further!

PC – Just on that topic, is there any way we can change when motions are due?

ÉÓB – Could we not move both deadlines in line with each other?

FH – These details are in the standing orders so it's not a constitutional change.

End of Meeting: 18:26pm

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