



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
18 September 2014**

Present:

Feargal Hynes (President) FH
Maeve De Say (Welfare & Equality Officer) MDS
Amy Fox (Undergraduate Education Officer) AF
Anabel Castañeda (Graduate Education Officer) AC
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
Dave McElliot (Science Convenor) DME
Éanna Ó Braonáin (Oifigeach na Gaeilge) ÉÓB

In Attendance: Devin Finneran (Secretary of Students' Union Council)

Meeting starts at 6.10pm

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.

514900



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Questions on Reports

Undergraduate Education

MB – Could you elaborate on teaching and learning plans?

AF – There is a possibility that rooms upstairs in both the Newman building and the science building will be opened up during busy study times to help ease the flow.

President

LB – How did the Coffee House Sessions go?

FH – Estimated 60 people in attendance from only minimal flyering on the concourse and word of mouth, this number is expected to grow over the next few weeks as the event went very well.

Items to be Discussed

1) Mind, Body & Soul

FH – A lot of time and money has been invested into this festival, it has been received well around the college so far but we require non-stop promotion and bodies on the ground to help both in the lead up and for the duration. Localised promotion to ensure that students' are aware there is something for everyone is essential! Although it is a non-alcoholic festival, it is still seen to be a large outdoor music event. A doodle doc has been circulated and it is important that everyone either completes it or makes us aware of circumstances.

CR – Will there be security?

FH – There will be minimal security as the idea of alcohol will not be entertained. There will be large numbers of staff working at the event.

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MB – Are there specific guides and information points?

MDS – Education officer and I will be drawing up a rota and we will need mainly guides to assist in running of event and people to staff the tea tent.

FH – The fresher's stage will stay in place and two of the main acts will be playing on the bar steps in between the new student centre and clubhouse bar.

MDS – It is essential that the event is promoted on class pages, we need to invite all of our friends and make sure as many people as possible know about the event. Painting and decorating will be taking place over the weekend, any time or assistance would be greatly appreciated.

2) IRFU Touch Rugby

MDS – Please send in teams as soon as possible so that a draw can be made up for the Wednesday of the festival!

3) SU posters in Irish

ÉÓB – 20% of posters printed by Trinity SU are in Irish. We need to show support for the Irish language and there should be very little difference in price if we were to use a similar technique.

FH – Where practically possible it would be a good idea.

CR – Would this be a bi-lingual poster?

ÉÓB – They can get cramped with too much writing, I would suggest using two separate posters, one for English and one for Irish.

AF – It is important that we as promote the Irish language, but also, the idea may not be applicable in all situations.

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DME – There is already limited poster space at the moment.

4) Chief Returning Officer

FH – The IADB elect the Chief Returning Officer, this position is unpaid and expenses are given but generally they are not claimed. At the minute, Paddy O’Flynn is in charge. To elect the new chief returning officer, the IADB has asked who Exec would like to nominate, does anyone have any suggestions?

Short discussion occurred surrounding various aspects of the criteria involved.

Vote: Would Exec like to re-nominate Paddy O’Flynn to work as the Chief Returning Officer?

There was a unanimous vote to nominate Paddy O’Flynn once again.

5) IT Services

FH – A review on the IT Services provided by the University is regularly submitted by an external body and they point out improvements which must be made. More student input is greatly required as they would like to know how they can improve systems like Blackboard and SIS web for students. I’d like to suggest that we meet staff from IT Services before Exec one day during this term? Please take note of what your peers prioritise and we will compile a list of improvement suggestions from Exec!

6) Common Purpose

FH – A few of Exec have participated in the training, for those of you who aren’t aware, it is a two or three day leadership programme which took place before semester two last year. We are currently planning a similar workshop, what are people’s opinions of the service provided?

DME – Would there be sponsorship opportunities available as such a large cost is incurred.

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ÉÓB – Would the programme ran in association with AIB be very similar?

FH – We would have to seek sponsorship as we would be under financial pressure otherwise.

CR – What is the difference between what we have planned in comparison to this programme?

FH – The expertise to run a similar programme is available to us, we would need to ensure that the whole of Exec is behind as the responsibility of running such an event would be much larger if we did it ourselves.

LB – As it was externally ran last year, who would mentor the participants this year?

FH – It would be up to Exec and we would employ someone, we could also cut down on the time and make the workshops more intense.

LB – Would there be certification after the programme?

FH – It is possible that AIB could co-certify after training. We could plan to run our version in semester two so that we have sufficient time to develop the programme and tailor it to what we would like to see. Do we want to engage with Common Purpose again this year or would we like to make something similar part of our own leadership programme which we are already developing?

Vote: Should UCDSU engage with Common Purpose this year?

A unanimous decision was made to not engage with Common Purpose this year.

Items to be Noted

Nothing to be noted.

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Any Other Business

1) EY Sponsorship

FH – An agreement was made in the interest of the UCD students in order to boost events such as employability week. I have circulated a provisional calendar for semester one with a rota attached; we need representation in all areas.

LB – Will these programmes be primarily aimed towards penultimate and final year students?

FH – Yes, the rota aims to assist EY in running their events, we will be the liaisons. If everyone on Exec helps out this partnership will work well.

MB – Is there a plan for semester two?

FH – I will come back to Exec with it when it is prepared. Let myself or manager@ucdsu.ie know if there are any problems.

2) Fresher's Ball Feedback

FH – As of yet, there are no plans to do the multi-venue between the Clubhouse Bar and Astra Hall again. This aspect of the ball may not have been communicated clearly enough to all students. It was a trial event and it went incredibly well, everyone was learning as it was taking place. A post event report will be made and any outstanding issues will be addressed.

MB – It was a good touch that all staff wore high-vis vests as we were easily distinguishable from the security guards at the event, a lot of students felt more comfortable speaking to us.

FH – The team worked very well as a unit and it could not have been done without you all, it is greatly appreciated!

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3) Class Rep Recruitment

Exec has a discussion surrounding the number of nominations which were received to date and recruitment strategy.

4) Dominos Ball

A brief discussion surrounding details of the Ball were discussed.

Next Meeting: Thursday, 25 September at 6pm in the Union Boardroom.

End of meeting: 19:40pm

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