

Minutes:

**UCDSU Council Meeting 1 Monday, 16th October 2023, 6pm
Venue – Fitzgerald / Hybrid upon request**

A. The Proposal of chair by President

Martha Ní Riada (President) proposed Niall Torris, seconded by Sarah McGrath. Passed unanimously.

B. The adoption of standing orders

Chair outlined changes to standing orders. New 9P added to standing orders, to enable a vote by roll call. Other changes are purely technical and linguistic to be more inclusive.

Standing orders put to a vote. Carried unanimously.

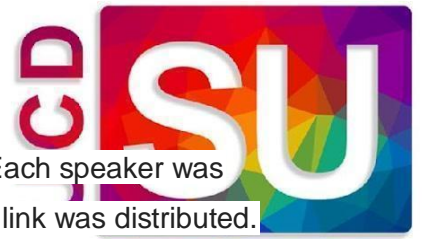
C. The declaration of a quorum by roll call

The chair declared that Quorum had been met.

Chair welcomed the meeting and wish it well for the year.

D. Business College Officer by-election (Breakdown of result in Appendix 1)

- a. Abhishek Mukherjee
- b. Aditya Singh
- c. Jennifer Corson
- d. Jia Peng Pearce Wang
- e. Jigar Behran jain
- f. Priyanshu Kumar -
- g. Simon Van Beek
- h. Harsh Choitharami
- i. Re-Open Nominations



Míde (Deputy Returning Officer) outlined how the process would work. Each speaker was given 90 seconds to speak to Council members. Following this, a voting link was distributed.

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E. Minutes of the previous meeting.

No previous minutes to approve.

F. Matters arising.

No matters arising, first meeting of the year.

G. Items for Approval

Chair outlined that the Executive can take decisions on the union's behalf when Council is not in session. This part of the agenda is for Council to decide if it was appropriate for the Executive to do so. This is permissible under the Constitution.

Due to time sensitivity, the Executive made a decision to set in motion a consultative referendum on the status of Postgraduate Researchers, their rights and what level of action UCDSU should support. MnR (President) outlined the reason why the Executive felt it was necessary. MnR outlined that the Executive has been consulting with the Postgraduate Workers Organisation on this matter. MnR clarified that only this small subsection of the UCDSU membership will be balloted. A question was asked about whether this would include international students, which it will, as all PhD researched in UCD are SU members. There was broad support for the urgency with which the Executive took the decision. Stage 4 Medicine rep asked whether an EGM could have been called. This would not have been possible due to Council's membership not yet being elected.

The motion was passed almost unanimously.





H. Motions on notice

Smurfit Community Survey

Council recognizes: that the UCD Michael Smurfit Business School needs dire community and student experience improvement.

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Council notes: that at least 1,300 students attend Smurfit, of which 409 respondents to the first Smurfit Community Survey (22/23) responded with a high dissatisfaction rate for all Smurfit Campus' amenities, transport, societies, clubs, facilitation and student culture.

Council Further Notes: The survey results have brought about necessary impactful change, which will be implemented during the summer and 23-24 term.

Council Reaffirms: the need to push University Management and Smurfit consistently for these changes as promised to be implemented for current and future generations of students.

Council Repeats: that the Smurfit campus is isolated, neglected and vastly outdated and that UCD students should avail of a vibrant college experience that is well-rounded, social and developmental.

Council Therefore Mandates: that the Graduate Officer, Campaigns and Engagement Officer, International Students Coordinator, and any other current or proposed SU positions relating to Smurfit and student experience continue the Smurfit Community Survey as an annual duty to ensure that the campus is included and kept in high standard in the student experience.

Proposed by: Marc Matouc (Graduate Officer)

Seconded by: Miranda Bauer (Campaigns and Engagement Officer)





Speakers 'FOR' and 'AGAINST' were called for. There were some clarifying questions but no speakers on the motion itself.

The motion was clearly carried.

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UCDSU Second Hand Clinical Uniform Sale

Council notes: Students studying health science degrees that undertake clinical placements often have to purchase uniforms which can be expensive, contribute to unnecessary overconsumption and an increase in the individual's carbon footprint. This is an unsustainable practice given the current cost of living and climate crises.

Council believes: That students who have to undertake clinical placements should not be financially disadvantaged by having to purchase expensive uniforms at the beginning of their degree. Council also believes that recent graduates should have the opportunity to sell or donate their uniforms that they no longer need to current students.

Council recognises: The Education Officer and the Health Science College Officer provided a Second Hand Clinical Uniform Sale this year for students which was successful and appealed to the needs of students. The Union accepted donations of uniforms from alumni over the summer, the profits from which were donated to the Unions charity partner. Alumni were also encouraged to come and sell their uniforms on the day for their own profit.

Council therefore mandates: The Health Science College Officer with the support of one or more of the Sabbatical Officers to organise a second hand clinical uniform sale during the Autumn trimester each year where possible to do so.

Council further mandates: The Sabbatical Officers to engage and liaise with alumni/recent graduates to encourage them to donate or participate in the Second Hand Clinical Uniform Sale during the Autumn trimester.



Council acknowledges: That the responsibility of purchasing the correct uniform for clinical placement lies with the individual student and they should adhere to their individual schools/clinical sites' own uniform policy. The union can't guarantee that the most up to date version of uniforms are being sold at the Second Hand Clinical Uniform Sale.

Proposed by: Tia Cullen, (she/her) Health Science College Officer

Seconded by: Sarah McGrath (she/her) Education Officer

Speakers 'FOR' and 'AGAINST' were called for.

Following a vote, the motion was clearly carried.

I. Items for Discussion

There were no items for discussion submitted on this occasion.

J. Reports

Gender Equality Campaign Coordinator - Saskia McCormack Eiffe

Saskia gave her report, there were no questions and it was carried.

D&I Campaign Coordinator - Camryn Clardy

Camryn gave her report, there were no questions and it was carried.

Disability Rights Campaign Coordinator - Kylie McCardel

Kylie gave her report. A question was asked if Kylie plans to set up a forum for students to submit concerns about accessibility on campus. There was no further discussion and the report was carried.

Erin Hoare - Science College Officer

Erin outlined her report as well some additional work items around climate action policy and a tip sheet for class reps. Erin outlined that she will send around a correction in relation to the date of the next College Council meeting.

The report was carried.



Tsz Ching Pang - Social Science College Officer

Outlined that most of her time had been spent on class reps and is currently working with Marc and Sarah in relation to brainstorming to achieve her manifesto. A question was asked by a Masters student if there are plans to reach out specifically to Masters class reps in the College. MsC in Behavioural Neuroscience Rep raised the issue of classes not knowing enough information about the process of electing class reps in advance. There were no further questions and the report was carried.

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Aisling Moloney - Law College Officer

Aisling spoke to her report and introduced herself as she had not been able to attend Rep Training. Aisling was asked to elaborate on a meeting she had about lecture recordings. Aisling explained that conversations were at a relatively informal level at the moment but that it is being explored from different perspectives, including accessibility. There were no further questions and the report was carried.

Louise Campbell - Arts and Humanities College Officer

Focus so far has been on working on class rep recruitment with Miranda and getting up to speed with boards and committees. Louise will set up a group chat for A&H class reps, and added that she is seeking to set up a student-staff committee. There were no questions and the report was carried.

Tia Cullen - Health Sciences College Officer

Tia outlined that the focus so far has been on boards and committees, and that she was happy to have gotten some Postgraduate reps elected from the college. Stage 4 Medicine Rep asked about the water fountain. Tia said that she will make enquiries about it and report back. The report was carried following this.

Cillian Murphy - Engineering & Architecture College Officer

Outlined that one more rep is needed for an Environmental Planning Programme Board, and that the meeting is tomorrow. Cillian asked people who are not yet in the WhatsApp Group to contact him. Cillian's report was carried.



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Jill Nelis - Welfare Officer

Jill gave her report and drew attention to work ongoing with accessible accommodation and a trans healthcare policy. SHAG week is up and going and commenced today. Questions were taken on SHAG week and membership of the Welfare Working Group. Jill's report was carried.

Neo O'Herlihy - Entertainments Officer

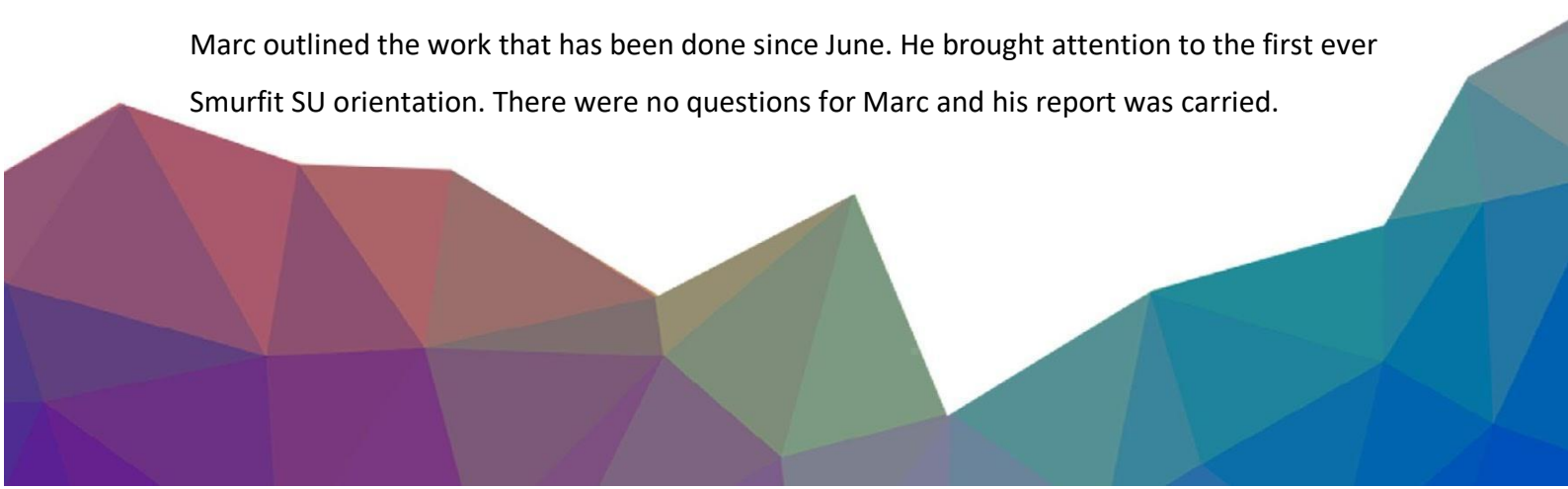
Neo spoke to his report. The Freshers' Ball was the largest party event on campus in 9 years. Soc MsC asked for more information on the Puca Party for Halloween. An issue was raised by a first year Economics Rep in relation to information not being given in time about re-entry to events. Neo outlined that this will be communicated in more time for future events. Computer Science Stage 1 Rep asked about funding for events and where money goes. Martha (President) outlined how whatever money is made goes back into SU services and campaigns. The Chair outlined that there will be a presentation of the Union's budget and accounts at the next meeting, and that reps can send in questions in advance of Council to give Officers a chance to get a more detailed answer. There was a further question about how to best put to use an increased number of class reps in order to drive more ticket sales. Neo's report was subsequently carried.

Martha Ní Riada - President

Martha outlined all the work that has been undertaken since June and highlighted that she included the list of TDs that the Union had met with over the summer months. There were no questions for Martha and her report was carried.

Marc Matouc - Graduate Officer

Marc outlined the work that has been done since June. He brought attention to the first ever Smurfit SU orientation. There were no questions for Marc and his report was carried.





Sarah McGrath - Education Officer

Sarah highlighted to the room that a large proportion of her time is spent as a member of at least 33 committees. There is an extenuating circumstances review group happening at the moment that is of particular interest. Sarah highlighted that she is also focusing on addressing policy gaps for the Union. Rep from Masters in Law asked a question about the SU's engagement with the National Student Engagement Programme (NSTEP). A question was also raised in relation to involvement with the QQI and UCD's framework for academic integrity. Commerce International Stage 2 Rep asked for more information on plans for an Irish Language Policy. Sarah outlined this matters because there wont always be a fluent speaker on the elected team. Sarah's report was subsequently passed.

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Miranda Bauer - Campaigns & Engagement Officer

Miranda gave an overview of her work so far, which has focused heavily on publications and providing a UCDSU presence at various protests. Miranda thanked the Campaign Co-ordinators for their contributions so far. The biggest focus for Miranda was on Class Rep Recruitment and she reported that there had been a significant increase in numbers on last year. There were no questions for Miranda and her report was carried.

K. Questions on notice

L. Questions not on notice

- i. Masters in Law rep asked about restarting the process of having a referendum on USI membership. MnR (President) said despite quorum not being hit in the previous vote, the % of the vote in favour means there is merit in re-running it. MnR outlined the process by which the referendum could be called and that USI would be present at the next meeting of Council on 6 November. A referendum would be most likely held in Semester 2.

M. Motions not on notice

N. Items for noting

- a. Council members were encouraged again to get involved in the ticket selling drive for the Púca Party.
- b. Approval of the members of the Board of Directors: MnR (President) read out the members of the Board seeking re-appointment. These were approved.



- c. SU Budget: MnR (President) flagged that the SU budget will come to the second meeting of Council for approval.

O. Submission of motions to be on notice for next meeting.

P. Any Other Business.

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Appendix 1:

Business College Officer By Election Result:

1st count	TVP: 125	quota 63	
Abhishek Mukherjee	5		
Aditya Singh	1		
Harsh Choithraman	11		
Jennifer Corson	37		
Jia Peng Pearce Wang	17		
Jigar Behran jain	0		
Priyanshu Kumar -	0		
Simon Van Beek	48		
ron	1		
Count 2			
no change aditya and ron eliminated			
Count 3			
Abhishek Mukherjee			5
Harsh Choithraman			11
Jennifer Corson	1		38
Jia Peng Pearce Wang			17
Simon Van Beek			48
Count 4			
Harsh Choithraman	1		12



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Jennifer Corson	1	39	
Jia Peng Pearce Wang	2	19	
Simon Van Beek	1	49	
COunt 5			
Jennifer Corson	5	44	
Jia Peng Pearce Wang		19	
Simon Van Beek	5	54	
Count 6			
Jennifer	6	50	
Simon Van Beek	8	62	

VAN BEEK, Simon was deemed elected.

Meeting concluded: 20:19

