Meeting Minutes

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| Student Council | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Date: 24.04.24 | | | | Meeting Time: 5-7:30pm | Meeting Location: Microsoft Teams | | | | | | | | |
| Chair | | Cathal O’Boyle | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Clerk | | Mark Francos (GPC) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Attendees | | Sarah O’Keefe, Matthew Powell, Chloe Brodison-McMinn, Oscar Kelly, Niamh Crooks, Philip Maguire, Oluwaseyi Kushimo, Odhran Winters, Finola Quigg, Mary Famakinwa, Catriona Doyle, Gavin Boyd, Dónall Hegarty, Rebecca Allen, Mandy Mulholland, Ethan Davies | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Apologies | | Padraic Etherton, Angela Rillon | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Rollcall and Quorum | | | | | | | Presenter: Chair | | | | | | |
| Key Points | | * The Clerk of Council recorded the attendees digitally that are reflected in the attendees box above. In line with the standing orders as a quorum was not reached matters will be provisionally approved. The policy elements due to be discussed in this meeting will be moved to a future meeting of Student Council to take place at the beginning of the next academic year. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Apologies | | | | | | | Presenter: Chair | | | | | | |
| Key Points | | * The Clerk of Council recorded the attendees that have submitted apologies and are reflected in the apologies box above. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting | | | | | | | Presenter: Chair | | | | | | |
| Key Points | | * Proposed by: Philip Maguire * Seconded by: Rebecca Allen * The minutes of the previous meeting were provisionally approved. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Matters Arising | | | | | | | Presenter: Chair | | | | | | |
| Key Points | | * No matters are arising. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. President’s Communications | | | | | | | Presenter: Chair | | | | | | |
| Key Points | | * Received President’s Report * Thanked Council for their engagement and support throughout the last year. Wished the entirety of Council well. * Led sessions on Reform for NUS-USI Conference and attended NUS-USI Conference. The President highlighted the issues with voting for the President of NUS-USI before Conference. Along with displeasure at the use of Reform as a dedicated policy slot. * Highlighted the issues around NUS Reform and the manner that democracy was upheld within the conferences. * Attended USI Congress over four days in Sligo. Highlighted the work done at conference and the strengths of the conferences debating style and democratic procedures. * Attended NUS Conference, highlighted challenges with the divisions with policy development at NUS Conference. Gave an overview of experiences. * Involved in Beltane Promotion on campus. * Magee Expansion Taskforce, was involved in initial meeting around funding models, and people place and partnership. * Involved in Colours Awards decisions around awards being granted. * Attended a Library meeting, survey is currently out seeking student feedback that relates to work on the Library transformation project, that affects the future of library services for students across all of our campuses. * Led submission of nominations for the SAAI Awards on behalf of UUSU. * Attended LTA Shortlisting. * Ongoing work on Ethical Partnerships. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Question(s) | | | | | | | | | | Question from | | | Question to |
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| 1. Student Officer reports and policy update | | | | | | | | Presenter(s): All Student Officers | | | | | | |
| Key Points | | | VP Education   * Takes report as read. * Lots of course issues have been raised in recent times that are due to be raised with senior university colleagues in the near future. * Reiterated the challenges in regards to democracy at NUS and NUS-USI Conferences. * LTA Nominations closed with a record high of over 500 nominations, shortlisting has been taking place as of today and will have the final shortlists out soon. * Currently working on paper on oncampus support for students facing ASD and ADHD diagnosis   VP Sport and Wellbeing   * Unable to attend * Takes report as read. Invited questions via email.   VP Equality and Belonging   * Takes report as read. * Attended the conferences alongside several other members of the team, highlighted the challenges in democracy that was felt for many of the team. * Been continuously engaged in the Advance HE project, with the final event expected to take place next month, with an expectation to be able to share the results of that in the very near future. * Been working on several policy areas including on Identity and name change policy within the university. * Thanked everyone for their support and engagement throughout the year.   VP Magee   * Takes report as read. * Highlighted the events that took place during Seachtain na Gaeilge. Spoke of the challenges but also opportunities for growth. * Beltane Festival is being hosted on the 5th May in Magee, with free transport available from Belfast and Coleraine for UUSU’s very first open air festival with acts from across NI and local talent from the heart of Magee. * Highlighted current challenges being experienced with bringing provision of a Sexual Health clinic to the Magee campus to bring it in line with the other campuses. * Outlined current position of Irish Language within the union and the expectations of where we expect to be before the end of the academic year.   VP Belfast   * Takes report as read. * Thanked officers for their support in recent times and for the support over the past year. * Attended meetings around events * Carried on work on Sustainable Futures and attended working group. * Carried on work on SDG engagement and promotion of the SDG’s within teaching where we currently sit in the top 3 in the UK university rankings.   VP Coleraine   * Takes Report as read. * Outlined support that will be given around examtime. * Thanked officers and everyone for their support throughout the year, wished everyone the very best. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Question(s) | | | | | | | | | | | Question from | | | Question to |
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| 1. Motions | | | | | | | Presenter(s): Chair / GPC | | | | | | |
| Key Points | | The Chair outlined that policies were due to be lapsed, retained and amended, this process is to be delayed until a quorate council is in place at the start of the next academic year. All policy is deemed to remain in place until this stage. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Question(s) | | | | | | | | | | Question from | | | Question to |
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| 1. University Senate Update | | | | | | | Presenter(s): Chair / Student Council Senate Representatives | | | | | | |
| Key Points | | Senate meeting update will be circulated via email in due course. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Question(s) | | | | | | | | | | Question from | | | Question to |
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| 1. Tabled Questions | | | | | | Presenter: Chair | | | | | | | |
| Key Points | * There were no tabled questions, the Chair reminded Councillors of their ability to utilise written questions. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Question(s) | | | | | | | | | | Question from | | | Question to | |
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| 1. Any Other Business | | | | | | | Presenter: Chair / GPC | | | | | | |
| Key Points | | |  | | | | | | | | | | |
| Question(s) | | | | | | | | | | Question from | | | Question to |
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| 1. Date of Next Meeting | | | | | | | Presenter: Chair | | | | | | |
| Key Points | | | * The next meeting is currently scheduled for the next academic year but is to be confirmed. | | | | | | | | | | |