



UUSU Student Council

Date: 15/3/2018

Location: Magee: MD008A

Coleraine: H113A

Belfast: BA_02_012

Time: 5:30PM

AGENDA

Present: N Richardson, M Francos, N Parkinson-Kelly, R Cinnamon, D Wobbe, B Robinson, D Roberts, M Dabkowski, J Colgan, O Kinsella, M Downey, L Watson (in the chair), H Rooney, E Bonner, R Flores, C Breaw, B Sharkey, K Millar, O Craig, K McStravock, S Maher, M Bell, G Boyle, J Waring, A McAnallen

In attendance: E Doyle

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from J Rygasiewicz

2. Minutes

The minutes for the meeting held on 8.2.18 were amended and approved.

3. Matters Arising

4. President's Communications

Members received an oral report from the President. He briefed members on work that was carried out during Enterprise week with regards to the conference. The interviews for the post of CEO were ongoing and the postholder would begin work in June. With regard to the Greater Belfast Development members were informed that one of the construction companies had gone into administration which had further added to delays for the new building.

On the UCU strikes, the President informed members that today was the last day of formal action and that he would continue to liaise with UCU about engagement with staff and students.

5. Committee Reports

Student Executive minutes 20.2.18 were received.

6. Student Officer Reports

Oisin: An update to the app would be uploaded over the weekend to give enhanced functionality and an apple update had already been sent out. He briefed members on the

entertainment planned for Jordanstown and also the unilink timetable which he was working on.

Meghan: Members were briefed on the consent workshops at the Belfast campus and the work Meghan engaged in on the commonwealth summit.

Emma: Members were briefed on her work regarding the consent workshops and the planning for colours which was ongoing. A 50th anniversary event for rugby was being planned and members would be updated further. Work was ongoing in addressing barriers to sport as well as sponsorship.

Hannah: Hannah also briefed about the consent workshops and her work on the fairtrade fortnight. The student voice conference was a major tenet of work ongoing and she briefed members on her work towards divestment by the university.

James: James briefed members regarding his work to reinvigorate the Magee bar, with an event planned for 16th April and the revamp which would take place this summer.

Andrew: Members were briefed on the progress of meat free Mondays and the development of a chill room on the Coleraine campus as well as work towards a new societies handbook.

7. Trustee Board Report

Members received an oral report from the Chair of the Trustee Board which contained an update on the audit reports, Greater Belfast Development and staff pension arrangements. The chair also informed members of the change in process for recruiting new trustee board members and that as per changes to the AoA, a new trustee would be recruited soon.

8. Student Officer Election Report

Members received the Deputy Returning Officers report which outlined that despite challenges such as bad weather and strikes, turnout across the student officer elections was up and only one formal complaint was received which is down on previous elections.

9. Motions

Digital Forms policy: M Bell proposed that more forms accessible to students from the University should be in digital format such as EC1 forms. An amendment was put forward by M Francos and accepted by the proposer to clarify the UUSU would lobby the university on this issue. The motion was passed with 1 abstention.

Graduate Jobs policy: M Bell proposed the motion which sought to address the brain drain within the third level sector and that UUSU and UU should work together to promote more graduate jobs. An amendment was proposed and accepted by the proposer to lobby the University to work with professional bodies and to network further to create opportunities for graduate jobs.

Speaking on behalf of the Student Executive, H Rooney outlined that they agreed with the principle but it needed to be clearer on the objectives for the Executive in order to carry out its mandate. Also, it was felt by the Executive that there were too many elements of the proposal and that careers should focus more on gaining skills.

O Kinsella proposed a motion to bring the topic to a vote which was passed and the motion fell with three abstentions.

Meeting Everyone's Food Requirements policy: The motion was proposed by N Parkinson-Kelly following a survey carried out by the Islamic society that identified many did not eat on campus due to no options. Recognition should be given that UU was a global campus attracting students from cultures all over the world and as such those students should have access to the same type of services as all other students. Discussion ensued on the moral questions regarding halal/kosher food and how it is prepared. The motion passed with four abstentions.

Society membership policy: J McCarty proposed the motion outlining that signup sheets for societies should be available online for ease of access and this would cover sports clubs also. O Kinsella spoke on behalf of the Executive against the motion on the basis that the UUSU app has this functionality. The motion fell with 7 abstentions.

Consent workshop motion: H Rooney spoke in proposing the motion as these events had been recently carried out and were successful, that they should be formally mandated going forward. The motion passed.

10. Any other business

Student Executive policy proposal: Campaigning space: O Kinsella proposed the motion that would expand the criteria and physical space available to SU candidates when seeking election as these are currently tightly controlled by the university. Members spoke in favour and the motion was passed.

The President reminded those who are conference delegates of the transport arrangements in place for each of these.

D Roberts raised the issue of Officers receiving time off in lieu during elections and the President clarified that this was a matter for Trustee Board

Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of a second strike by UCU. M Francos sought clarification on whether the previous strike motion which was supported mandated the Council to support any further strikes and it was outlined that it was for the first wave only.

11. Date and time of next meeting

This is the final meeting of Council for this academic year other than emergency meetings.

**** Appended November 2019 ****

This meeting also received a presentation from the UUSU Membership Director on bye law changes which were approved by members.