



**NUI Galway
Students' Union**
Comhaltas na Mac Léinn
OÉ Gaillimh

Students' Union Executive Committee

Students' Union Executive Committee meeting
6:00 pm, Monday, 4th November 2019
Venue: Board Room, SU Office

SU Exec Meeting 04/11/2019

Present: Clare Austick (President) (She/Her), Brandon Walsh (Vice-President / Welfare & Equality Officer) (He/Him), Pádraic Toomey (Clubs' Captain) (He/Him), Mairtin Mac Gabhann (Convenor of the College of Arts, Social Sciences & Celtic Studies)(He/Him), Scott Green (Students' Union Council Chairperson) (They/Them), Avery Fenton (International Students' Officer) (She/Her), Oissine Moore (Societies Chairperson) (He/Him), Chuka Paul Oguekwe (Mature Students' Officer) (He/Him), Aisling Fitzgerald (Convenor of the College of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences) (She/Her), Alex Coughlan (Disability Rights Officer) (They/Them), Clodagh McGivern (Convenor of the College of Business, Public Policy & Law) (She/Her), Sachi Sinha (Convenor of the College of Engineering & Informatics) (She/Her), Emily Tock (Postgraduate Research Officer) (She/Her), Kenny Cooke (Convenor of the College of Science) (He/Him), Dheeraj Gudluru (Postgraduate Taught Officer) (He/Him), Torri Chikumura (Ethnic Minorities Officer) (She/Her).

Skype:

Apologies:

Absent: Cameron Keighron (Vice-President / Education Officer) (They/Them), Erin Mac An Tsaoir (Oifigeach Na Gaeilge) (He/Him).

Resigned: Morgan Queeney (Formerly Gender and Lgbt+ Rights Officer) (They/Them).

These minutes were prepared by Scott Green (Students' Union Council Chairperson) during the meeting.

1. Full-time officers updates & work progress

Clare- Has had meetings about several student policies, the student complaints procedure, the fitness to study policy, and the student code of conduct. She's had meetings about the University of Sanctuary and SU Council planning. She attended podcast training and announces that a NUIGSU podcast is incoming. She was on the radio today was part of the charity sock photoshoot. She had a meeting with the president and discussed parking, the student levy, Caifé na Gaeilge, lecture halls & seating, seating on campus, the social spaces committee, and other things.

Cameron- Is still catching up on the work that piled up when they were away on medical leave. They will be taking the lead on the constitutional review from here on out.

Brandon- Working on the 16 days of action, which is an initiative by the Women's Council of Ireland which is about raising awareness of violence against women. It runs from the 25th of November to the 10th of December. He has worked with the GRCC for their video in the lead up and is planning social media and poster campaigns starting during those days. He's also organised business cards with support service details on them as well as talks on the topic. He attended a One Galway meeting and signed up to their hospitality/tipping campaign and their mental health group. He also attended podcast training.

2. Part-time officer issues & work updates

Padraic- Met with Nigel Collins about organising a blitz event that would serve as a GoGaeilic follow up. He had a meeting with Mike Heskin. The inactivity study is starting tomorrow and he will be promoting it. He's had another clubs ball meetings and now hotel offers are in. His proposed charity day is looking good and insurance is closed to getting sorted. He's trying to organise a StACS surf club crossover. He has the SASSI survey coming up and 1000 students are going to be surveyed. Finally get active and moving week is coming up and 3 or 4 clubs will be involved.

Paul- Had a meeting with the Mature Student Soc and also dealt with emails in regard to a seminar upcoming in Maynooth (with 7 students registered as of Friday).

Scott- Had a meeting/meetings with Clare and Cameron both together and separately about SU Council. There was also a brief discussion with Chris about the AGM and the constitutional review. They've been handling a more class rep queries and have been in regular contact with the reps with things like the minutes and the upcoming levy working group.

Oissine- Riona and Oissíne are having a discussion group on the strategic plan on Wednesday. He has also been appointed to an informal investigate committee for the USCG and has been handling casework.

Martin- Had a meeting with Catherine McCurry this week, has two meetings with the Dean

of Arts on the 12th and 19th (with geography department) of the month. He'll be at the postgraduate open day tomorrow and also had enquires about arts ball.

Alex- Attended the accessibility forum, handled casework, and reviewed an EDI Strategy Draft and attended a review of the University's sustainability policy.

Kenny- Hosted his first science council came out with a list of things raised which included the chemistry fourth year study room not having working plugs at back of the room (the only plugs in the room), physics have a similar issue with malfunctioning plugs in physics, the physics department has no all gender toilets, the back door of physics downstairs is tagged as wheelchair accessible but is not were just a few.

Aisling- A first year class emailed about not getting tutorial so Aisling emailed the lecturer and got them to organise tutorials. She also helped organise a tour for first year podiatry. Her first college council went well, she heard concerns about the lack of microwaves and the fact there is no water fountain. She has emailed loads but it's been frustrating so far. Clare is in contact with the person who organises the microwaves and hopefully there will be six more on campus.

Clodagh- Talking to Eilis Murray about employability awards, students doing a language miss out so they're looking at alternative distribution methods. Was talking to Charles Mahoney about continuous assessment as there are a lot of restrictions currently so they're trying to bring up the mark for it.

Dheeraj- Has gotten 83 postgraduate taught reps registered and got the class reps details to Cameron. He brings forward a complaint about the Cairnes Building namely room CA-111 which is very poorly maintained with mould on the walls, poor heating and terrible acoustics. He asks about who runs PG Ball and asks about park and ride and Alex signposts him to Dean Pierce.

Emily- Went to the Strategy Development Workshop and states that the student voice was well represented, and it was good to see. Herself and Dheeraj had postgraduate council which went well and was well attended. She mentions that postgrad students in Hardiman were having problems with their kitchen and that she finally got Hardiman staff to provide supplies to keep kitchen clean since buildings refused to. Dheeraj and she have meeting with Becky Way on Wednesday and she has a Skype meeting with Sara (USI Postgraduate Officer) tomorrow. She has a question about PG ball and also brings forward a park and ride concern.

Sachi- Hosted the first Engineering Council. She divided reps into groups and had them sort their issues into one of ongoing academic, what they want, and A.O.B and see will chase up the issues during week.

Avery- Has received more Bialann complaints about their areas closing. She's also heard that in Sub Central all staff are on break at one o'clock but still stand behind the counter causing confusion. She also raises the fact that the seats in the McMunn are currently broken/always broken. Clare says forward on details of lecture halls with problems to her and she'll forward them to the president.

Torri- Has been recovering from sickness.

3. Officer reports

Following on from last week: Christian our graphic designer can do the officer report videos.

Clare has organised recording sessions for Wednesday and Thursday this week (the 6th and 7th). Wednesday's time will be 2-3pm in the view and Thursday will be 1-2pm in the Cube. Officers are to notify Clare of their availability and to prepare 30-40 seconds of content in advance if they so wish. Clare will send a follow up email out after the meeting.

4. Student Levy Working Group

The working groups first meeting will be tomorrow (November 5th). Clare asks Padraic and Oissine to email their constituencies (Clubs and Socs) with the details. Clare says that if you can't make it you should send on an email with suggestions. She also adds that tomorrow will just be a general consultation.

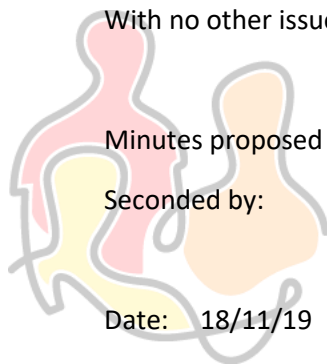
5. A.O.B

- Dheeraj brings up that engineering building lab hours only go until 10:30pm but masters students have free access 24/7 to the building and so cannot access computers after other students would be out. He points out that currently students without laptops are at a disadvantage as they are kicked out earlier. Clare says laptop rental may alleviate the issue and that maybe Dheeraj should contact engineering building and try to get a lab implement card access.
- Dheeraj states that the kettles in the engineering building are corroding, someone on staff has put up a can for donations looking for money to replace them which highlights how bad it is. He makes the suggestion that we ask for heated water dispenser he concedes initially that they would be expensive but that over time they would pay for themselves. Padraic says it is mainly a staff area and may not serve that many students if we put it in as a direct replacement for kettles.
- He further adds that late night microwave access is non-existent. Clare says that security should hopefully be taking over responsibility for turning off microwaves soon so this should serve to keep them on longer.
- Dheeraj raises an issue with the washroom lights in the engineering building namely that they have a very short turn off time after their motion detection which can leave people in awkward situations and wonders is there anything we could do? Alex suggests that it would be something to contact buildings about.
- Alex asks have the SU been consulted about the Student Digital Pathways at all, Clare says she has been at 2 meetings pertaining to it, Brandon says he has been to 3 and Clare believes Cameron has been at 1.
- Clare announces that the Class rep hoodies are ready and have arrived in the office, they'll be handed out at next SU Council.
- Keep Cups will be here at the end of the week and will also be handed out at next SU Council to everyone present.
- Scott brings up that the voting time for the upcoming by-election isn't a full day but rather 10am-4:30pm. They say the other by-elections this semester went until 5pm and as such could we extend this one too. Clare says she isn't sure why it ends early and that she'll ask Chris about it.
- Scott asks for any info about Young Sinn Fein Soc as Clare had said she would get in touch previously. Clare says that herself and Brandon met with four members of their committee went through the document Young Sinn Fein circulated and pointed

out inaccuracies. Clare also adds that the society is planning on coming to the working group about the levy.

- Scott asks about whether there has been any info about USI Part Time Officer Training. Clare says that she hasn't heard anything but Brandon says that he had been in contact and that Marie (USI BMW Officer) and Michelle (USI Campaigns Officer) are coming together to plan something for the near future and that it will be a collaboration with all the part time officers in the BMW region.
- Scott brings up that the class rep section on Yourspace has links that are directing people to SU Officers from years ago. Multiple Officers agree and bring up examples of this happening and further add that the SU Website in general is lacking.
- Clodagh asks about the Officer Report deadline and Scott clarifies that the deadline is on Wednesday at 5pm and that there will be a reminder on Tuesday. Emily asks if we're still doing written reports with the video and Clare says that yes we will but we will do the video as it is a more digestible format for the information.
- Brandon informs everyone that condom dispensers will be arriving soon and that one will be placed at black desk in Aras na Mac Lein and one will be up at the engineering desk.

With no other issues or concerns, meeting is concluded at 18:45 pm.



Minutes proposed by: Oissine Moore

Seconded by: Avery Fenton

Date: 18/11/19

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