



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

## **Students' Union Executive Committee**

Students' Union Executive Committee meeting  
6:00 pm, Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020  
Venue: Board Room, SU Office

### **SU Exec Meeting 04/11/2019**

**Present:** Clare Austick (President) (She/Her), Cameron Keighron (Vice-President / Education Officer) (They/Them), 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), Kenny Cooke (Convenor of the College of Science) (He/Him), (They/Them), Avery Fenton (International Students' Officer) (She/Her), Oissine Moore (Societies Chairperson) (He/Him), Aisling Fitzgerald (Convenor of the College of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences) (She/Her), Alex Coughlan (Disability Rights Officer) (They/Them), Erin Mac An Tsaoir (Oifigeach Na Gaeilge) (He/Him), Dheeraj Gudluru (Postgraduate Taught Officer) (He/Him).

### **Skype:**

**Apologies:** Clodagh McGivern (Convenor of the College of Business, Public Policy & Law) (She/Her), Emily Tock (Postgraduate Research Officer) (She/Her), Kaushik Narasimhan (Gender and LGBT+ Rights Officer) (He/Him).

**Absent:** Sachi Sinha (Convenor of the College of Engineering & Informatics) (She/Her), Chuka Paul Oguekwe (Mature Students' Officer) (He/Him), Torri Chimumura (Ethnic Minorities Officer) (She/Her).

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

#### **1. Proposal and Seconding of the minutes from last meeting**

Clare asks for a proposer and seconder of the minutes from the meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> of November. Padraic proposes them and Avery seconds them.

#### **2. Full-time officers updates & work progress**

**Clare-** Update on Caife na Gaeilge, SUCS are no longer operating the space, Master Chefs are in charge now. Right before Christmas there was the revelation about the misuse of the university charity fund push for student rep on the governing committee and the President will be taking that proposal to said committee soon. In future the exam buses to Leisure Land will be covered by the university. Given that it is the year of sustainability water coolers should hopefully get a concrete budget. As well it's hoped that microwaves will get ownerships. The president will bring the idea of student staff liaison committees to the University Management Team to get the Deans of schools to implement them. On the parking front it is hoped that the university will find a staff only carpark and open it to students. Hopefully we will have a student manifesto for general election, USI are currently working on it. She was a panellist for the internal launch of the University Strategic Plan and attended the external launch. She spoke at a seminar titled "Universities Driving Transformational Change" which was chaired by Minister Mary Mitchell O'Connor. She participated in a video titled "Voices of NUI Galway" to ensure the student voice was heard during the plan.

- 3.** She's also been appointed to the newly created student experience committee, also on it are student services, academic staff and the dean for students. The Dean for Graduate Studies interview is coming up and Clare is on the interview panel.

**Cameron-** Most of their work has been based around exams, they were helping with deferrals both before and after the exam window. There's also been issues around lack of results so far with a particular issue with some exams being shredded.

**Brandon-** He's been handling casework, particularly to do with the financial aid fund, many of the emergency fund applicants have been met and there will be further meetings. He's also been planning S.H.A.G week. He also announces that on the 24<sup>th</sup> January the national disability forum will be on, he also informs people it's free and there will be a further email sent to the Exec. The EDICC working with student services to help with accommodations for student carers which will hopefully be in place for the next set of exams. The university's new social media policy will also be adjudicated.

#### **4. Part-time officer issues & work updates**

**Padraic-** Met with Nigel about the previously mentioned Gaelic tournament. There is preparations being made to run the SASI survey this semester. He attended the intro to union for international orientation. Tanya is moving into the sports unit. He's had two meetings with Mike Heskin. He's also been working with the UCC clubs president to have a meeting of all clubs captain here. Also clubs ball tickets have started selling.

**Erin-** Getting going on hosting an Irish language forum to try and organise Irish speakers on campus. He's just waiting on a room booking to come back and already has a poster done up.

#### **5. SU Council and Officer Reports**

Clare reminds everyone that SU Council is on next Monday the 20<sup>th</sup> and that officer reports are due this Wednesday by 5pm. She says to email Scott with any agenda items they may have.

#### **6. Constitutional Referendum**

Clare informs everyone that Thursday the 23<sup>rd</sup> is the date of the referendum. She then asks for the executive to be respectful regardless of the result that occurs.

#### **7. Women Lead**

Clare announces that Women Lead will be on from the 31<sup>st</sup> January to the 1<sup>st</sup> February. Applications will open tomorrow or day after, she encourages the exec to forward info to anyone they think would be suitable for it. She also explains accommodation will be covered by the union.

Alex asks if the event is on in Dublin or where and Clare confirms that it will be on in Dublin. Clare also says that she will have the pleasure of speaking at the event.

#### **8. Elections**

The full time and part time elections are coming soon. The full time elections will be during the first week of march and the part time elections will be the second week. There's two events planned for candidates: One on the union and what it does and another on how to run a campaign. Clare says if anyone has any suggestion or ideas to please bring them forward.

Scott asks will there be a media week this year since it was trailed last year. Cameron says there won't be a media week as it dragged the elections out and Brandon further adds that hustings will likely be the week before the elections on the Thursday or Friday beforehand and that would serve as a media week of sorts.

Padraic asks who runs hustings and Brandon answers that the Union usually runs a set of hustings and that lit and deb did last year and probably will again.

Padraic then asks who "chairs hustings" and Clare says that the SIN editor usually hosts the Union hustings and Brandon says that last year the lit&deb auditor hosted the lit%deb hustings.

#### **9. Campaigns**

Brandon announces that from the 10-14<sup>th</sup> February SHAG week will be on. There's been a successful application for the USI SHAG roadshow ("theme sexual empowerment") to be here and it will be on the Wednesday, Anna Keogh will be doing a workshop, sex toy bingo on Thursday and finally we'll be selling Rolos and Roses on the Friday with the money going to the charities.

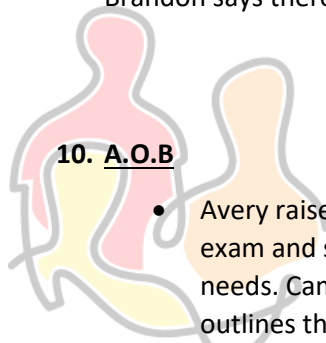
Brandon announces plans for a Mental health/Safe Sesh campaign which will be more on

harm reduction rather than being anti-drug. There will potentially be a video talking about anti-social behaviour without being preachy with more positive messages, he'll also be pushing bars to subscribe to the Ask for Angela campaign – Ask for Angela started in the UK how it works is that if you're on a date for example and it's not going well you can go to staff and "ask for angela" to organise a taxi out or get them out of the situation-, we'll also be encouraging the use of regulated taxi companies.

Clare asks Erin if he has plans for Seachtian na Gaeilge, he says he has a room booked on the 4<sup>th</sup> March, Clíodhna will be down to launch a book, he will ask for suggestions at his meeting next week, (Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> 6-7) and he'll also be looking for volunteers. Cameron informs him of the Irish language working group for USI that will be on during first week of February in Dublin which will deal with organising the national seachtain na Gaeilge plan and writing motions for congress.

Avery announces a multicultural event booked from the 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> of January.

Clare asks Alex if they have anything for disability. Alex says they have no dates but are looking at accessibility in sports clubs with Padraic and the options that are available to people. On that Padraic has contacted Maynooth about their wheelchair basketball. Brandon says there is a Galway club called Titans basketball club.



#### **10. A.O.B**

- Avery raises a query where a student accidentally brought in notes from a previous exam and she's been asked to support him, she wonders is there any advice she needs. Cameron clarifies she is there for support rather than advocating for him, but outlines the procedure for notes being found that are unrelated. Cameron says it is likely there will be some penalty.
- Clare says Charity collection day is the 1<sup>st</sup> of February a Saturday, any help that can be given would be greatly appreciated.
- Scott asks if we can release a statement condemning the US military presence at Shannon Airport. They pass around a potential sample statement that no-one raises concerns about. Erin asks can we also send it to the translator before it goes out.
- Clare asks exec members to please reply to students who email the,, she acknowledges it is harder to over the break but just to make sure we get back in touch with students.

With no other issues or concerns, meeting is concluded at 18:31 pm.

Minutes proposed by: Alex Coughlan

Seconded by: Erin Lambert

Date: 30/01/2020



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