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**NUI, Galway Students’ Union Executive Meeting**

***8:00pm, Sunday, 20th September, 2015***

***Minutes\****

***Present:*** *Phelim Kelly (President); Rebecca Melvin (Vice-President/Education); Jimmy McGovern (Vice-President/Welfare); Laoighseach Ní Choistealbha (Oifigeach na Gaeilge); Catherine Ryan (Equality Officer); Patrick O’Flaherty (Societies Chairperson); Eoin Mangan (Clubs Captain); Cian Moran (Postgraduate Officer); Cathal Sherlock (SU Council Chairperson); Jasmine Shaw (Arts Convenor); Tara Ward (Science Convenor); Aoife Bell (Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences Convenor); Niall Gaffney (Business, Public Policy & Law Convenor); David Newell (Engineering Convenor).*

***Apologies:*** *Robert Forde (Mature Students Officer).*

***Item Officer***

1. **Minutes (President)**

The minutes of meeting 2 16/09/2015 were taken as a true and accurate record of same. Phelim Kelly (President) will have the minutes put up on the SU website.

1. **Matters Arising (President)**

No matters arose.

1. **Housekeeping (President)**

Phelim asked if there was any officer who is not receiving texts from him most recently a text at 4:31pm on the 19th September. All officers said they are receiving text with the exception of Cian Moran (Postgraduate Officer) who informed the executive committee that his phone has been acting up and that he is not receiving numerous texts from different people.

1. **SIN (President)**

Phelim asked for feedback in relation to the SIN newspapers most recent issue. As per the previous meeting, Phelim asked that each officer have a look at the issue and to have a look at the SIN website. Phelim took the feedback from each officer and will meet with SIN Editor Jessica Thompson Re: same.

1. **Upcoming SU Events (President)**

Phelim informed the executive committee that there will be a Trade Union Day on campus on Wednesday September 23rd and that each officer should make an attempt to go there. SIPTU are organising this in conjunction with IFUT in regards gender discrimination in NUI Galway. Phelim and Catherine Ryan (Equality Officer) have been in touch with representatives from SIPTU where they asked for the Students’ Union to attend and promote the event to their members.

1. **Class Reps (VP Education)**

Rebecca Melvin (VP Education) informed the executive committee that Class reps are nearly all elected. She will elected the science reps over the coming week with help for officers. Aoife Bell (Convenor for Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences) is having trouble getting the names and details of those who were elected medicine reps. Phelim said to even just get their Student IDs and the Union can get the contacts etc. from that. He also said to ensure you know which reps are for the relevant classes in the event the Students’ Union needs to contact them.

1. **SU Volunteers (VP Welfare)**

Jimmy McGovern (VP Welfare) informed the executive committee that the first meeting took place and went very well. He said that future meetings will take place every Tuesday at 6pm in the Students’ Union office. Officers are more than welcome to attend.

1. **Residence Runs (President)**

Phelim said that residence runs will begin from Monday September 28th after the SU volunteers meet with Dr Pat Morgan (Vice President for the Student Experience, NUI Galway) in relation to anti-social behaviour around local residences. He asks that officers try where possible to make themselves available to give direction to the volunteers. If enough volunteers attend on the night this could be done over a couple of days.

1. **Accommodation Stunt/Demo (President)**

Phelim said that the Shanty town demo will have to wait a week to allow adequate notice for students to get materials etc. Phelim said that if the SU buys tents they will be donated to the refugees after the demo but that there is no commitment to get tents yet.

1. **March For Choice (President)**

Phelim asked who will be attending form the Students’ Union to the March for Choice in Dublin on September 26th. Catherine, Laoighseach, Cathal and Jasmine will attend and will bring the SU banner with them. Phelim highlighted that the SU banner is for the march only and that should anyone decide to occupy a building, their SU clothing and the SU banner is not to be seen.

1. **Flirt FM turns twenty. (President)**

Phelim asked that if anyone wishes to attend the Flirt.FM birthday they are more than welcome. Anyone who is coming back after the march for choice can also attend if they like. Phelim will give more details on the event at his earliest convenience.

1. **Any Other Business**

**Postgraduate issues – Cian Moran (Postgraduate Officer)**

Cian will be attending a Graduate Studies Board meeting on the 21st September. Cian raised an issue around the payment of research students for their teaching commitments which he will bring up at the meeting. Phelim said that SIPTU are also working on that from recent correspondences he has had with them. Ian also informed the Executive committee that the teaching commitments can now be spread over 4 years as opposed to three. Phelim asked Cian was he happy with this change and Cian welcomed the change saying it is of more benefit to the research students.

**Irish Language Accommodation – Laoighseach Ní Choistealbha**

Laoighseach would like to get accommodation in NUI Galway for Irish speaking students. She will be contacting other Irish language officers around the country to see what input they have in their respective colleges around this. Laoighseach firmly believes this is something NUI Galway should do especially when it is recognised as the only Bi-Lingual University in the country. She will be meeting with Julian De Spáinn (Ard-Rúnaí, Conradh na Gaeilge) as he was I NUI Galway at the time this was in place. Phelim asked around the Corrib Village block they used to when he was in 1st year but this has since been taking away. Laoighseach would like to have input now before the new accommodation is built with a hope to getting one section booked off for Irish speakers. Laoighseach believes NUI Galway has become complacent as regards to the promotion of the Irish language and believes more needs to be done on the universities part. She also raised that there is no free Gaeltacht trips in NUI Galway where as other institutions have this in place.

Meeting concluded.

Minutes proposed by: Phelim Kelly, President, NUI Galway Students’ Union



Seconded by:

**27/09/2015**

\**These minutes were prepared from a contemporaneous note taken by Aoife Bell (Convenor for the College of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences) at the meeting of the 20th September, 2015, and were typed into this memorandum style document for the record of Council*.