



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

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Students' Union Council  
6:00 pm, Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> October 2019  
Venue: Large Lecture Hall, Human Biology Building

## **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), Kenny Cooke (Convenor of the College of Science) (He/Him), Dheeraj Gudluru (Postgraduate Taught Officer) (He/Him), Erin Mac An Tsaoir (Oifigeach Na Gaeilge) (He/Him).

**Apologies:** Torri Chihumura (Ethnic Minorities Officer) (She/Her), Emily Tock (Postgraduate Research Officer) (She/Her), Cameron Keighron (Vice-President /Education Officer) (They/Them).

**Absent:** Morgan Queeney (LGBT+ and Gender Rights Officer) (They/Them).

## **Minutes for Students' Union Council 14/10/19**

### ▪ **Welcome / Fáilte**

Present officers introduced themselves

Last council's minutes proposed by Scott Green.

Last council's minutes seconded by Alex Coughlan

Apologies of absent council members accepted by majority vote

▪ **Election of Council Secretary / Toghchain le haghaidh Rúnaí Comhairle**

Nominees: Adriana (?), Sylvia Nemhad

Elected: Sylvia Nemhad

▪ **Officer Reports / Tuairiscí na nOifgeach**

Clare, SU president; all officer reports taken as read? Yes

No questions.

▪ **University Strategic Plan / Plean Straitéiseach na hOllscoile**

Video of progress and journey so far shown to council

Draft plan online – [nuigalway.ie/strategy2025](http://nuigalway.ie/strategy2025)

Questions:

Joseph Mee, first engineering; plans for student accommodation within the plan?

More accommodation, more collaboration with city council for pedestrian/cyclist dedicated lanes

Erin, Irish officer; plans for more spaces on campus to speak Irish freely

No details on plan + how it will be written but will be drafted with Irish Office

Alex Coughlan, disability officer; provision for disabilities concerning single use plastics?

'I don't know' sustainability lead by CUSP officer (?), need more awareness of issue

Padraic, Sports captain; vague wording on sports development plan

Pilot projects about mental health and wellbeing, bring it up if it doesn't involve sport enough. Could collect more feedback on how commitment to sports and sport improvement could be focused

?, Human rights; improve existing buildings in terms of accessibility?

Universal design principles, has been highlighted as a focus, need to make sure current buildings are fit for purpose

Alex, disability officer; process of ensuring diversity in convened groups

Process hasn't begun yet

Irish officer; how do you plan to reduce carbon emissions, more renewable energy on campus?

Not sure, discussions with outside companies and groups to set achievable goals

Clare, su president; thanked speaker for attending council



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- **Elections to Academic Council / Toghcháin don Chomhairle Acadúil**

Alex, disability officer; brief background of academic council

Kelsey, regenerative medicine; time commitment and expectations?

2 hours a month, lots of paperwork to read via email

Nominees; Joseph Mee, Kelsey Bruce, Sia (?), Sabrina Vaughan, Leah Fitzgerald

Clare, SU president; what is the most pressing student issue and how would you tackle it?

Leah; housing

Sabrina; accommodation and finance

Sia; finance and accommodation, need part time jobs and can't find time for course work

Kelsey; access to campus resources, not enough seating in lectures, can't get appointment in health unit

Joseph; finance, need more student accommodation + regulation of housing market, cheaper campus options

Elected by majority vote; Joseph Mee, Leah Fitzgerald, Sabrina Vaughan

- **Introduction to Students' Union Council / Réamheolas ar Chomhairle Aontas na Mac Léinn**

Procedural motions explained

Megan, final microbiology; does point of information count as speakers time

Yes

- **Robert Murtagh NUS-USI President / Robert Murtagh Uachtarn a n NUS-AMLÉ**

Clare, SU president; current situation of government in NI?

'there isn't one' not likely gov will be up and running before Oct 31<sup>st</sup>

Joseph Mee, first engineering; most likely outcome on 31<sup>st</sup> oct?

Not sure, technicalities argued right up until last minute

- **Motions / Rúin**

Mock motion run to demonstrate process

Motion; No to No Deal

Brandon, welfare officer proposed in Cam, education officer's absence

Formal summation

Motion passed by majority vote

Motion; living wage on campus

Alex, disability officer proposed motion

Formal summation

Motion passed by majority vote

- **Digital Survey / Suirbhé Digiteach**

- **Union of Students Ireland / Aontas na Mac Léinn in Éirinn**

Speaker – Marie Lyons

Brandon, welfare officer; thanked speaker for constant support from USI

- **Discussion about Officer Reports / Comhrá faoi Tuairiscí na nOifigeach**

Joseph Mee, first engineering; video at start of council of work each officer has done, video for each council for the work each officer has done

Sabrina Vaughan, final arts; brief video on FB or email so all students can see instead of just students that attend council, when report not taken as read make officer go through it in council

Brandon, welfare officer; send videos before council instead of at council, all officers add points of what they're done in google doc and read out by president at council and questions asked about individual points

Kelsey, (?); transcript of videos, or captioned videos

Erin, irish officer; mental health and anxiety concerns about making a video and sending it around to many people or in front of council

Brandon, welfare officer; usually used to publicity as posters and business cards with officer faces all around campus

Clare, president; proposed idea may be used this year only, next year it may change

Sabrina, final arts; officers finding time to make video, show to chase down officers that haven't done it

Brandon, welfare officer; officers run on pretence of always submitting reports so hold them accountable at council if they don't submit

Ciara Murphy, final commerce; have each officer stand and speak at council, avoids confusion in directing question to relevant officer by having not to go through president to speak to relevant officer

Clare, president; expectation that reps will read reports before coming to council

Joseph Mee; send out weekly email with bullet points of progress updates

Clare, president; weekly exec meetings with minutes put up online

Erin, irish officer; send reports to student mailing list instead of just class rep mailing list

- **Points of Information / Pointí Eolais**

Student projects fund;

Brandon, welfare officer; cost of possible project must be over 5000e and has interview process, opens in November

List of councils;

Brandon, welfare officer;

Kelsey, regenerative medicine; can the class rep handbooks be put online?

Been asked of ISS with no reply, will send pdf with council slides later

- **A.O.B / A.G.E**

Brandon, welfare officer; safetalk training about how to help someone struggling with suicidal thoughts, leaflets available

?, human rights; what should class reps be bringing back to their class

Can bring up important item for discussion that class puts forward through rep

?, human rights; can it be in relation to how course is ran?

Eoin :Final biochemistry; students in ILAS, bus doesn't stop outside anymore

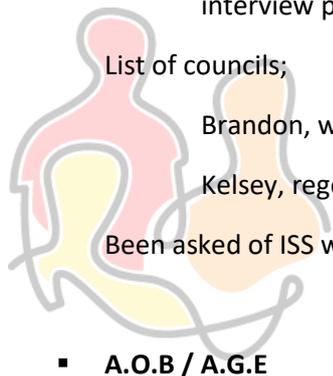
Clare, president; bus was meant to serve parking by Dangan

Alex, disability officer; raised already as accessibility issue, waiting to hear back from upper management, difficulty as it's ran by parking service not college

Brandon, welfare officer; students don't contribute funds to bus, paid for by parking patrons, trying to sort something

Clare, president; meeting with head of security later this week

Shauna sioga, ?; update on caife na gaeilge update?



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Clare, president; no update

Erin, irish officer; staff in su shops that can speak irish are supposed to wear badges saying so but don't, do they not speak irish or don't wear badges?

Clare, president; no idea

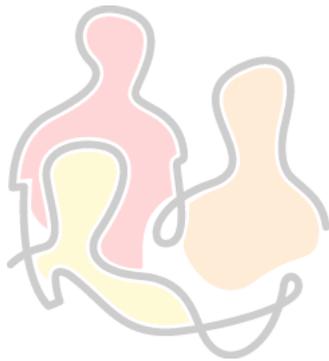
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These minutes were taken by class rep Megan Brogan who was in attendance during this SU Council.

Proposed by:

Seconded by:

Date:



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