

Apologies: Anne-Marie, Ethan

Cathal Sherlock (chairperson) introduces himself and welcome everyone, asks for any questions on standing orders, no questions raised

Roisin, Clodagh accept officer reports as read

Clodagh mentions workshops to return back to in-person exams, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of November

Cora absent and will be returned to

Eimear, Faye, Sai accept officer reports as read

Krystian accepts officer report as read

Martin met with Una McDermott and discussed the cyber attack

Shane, Anita, Matthew, Orlaith, Eimear, Niamh accept officer report as read

Motion for discussion on the boycott of the Irish Times by the gender and LGBT officer

Class reps have not been elected, will be discussed and receive feedback and then pass to exec next week to be passed

In solidarity with Trans Writer's Union

Letter to the editor – banning conversion therapy would extend to trans people, which was the point behind banning it

Trans Writer's Union has initiated a boycott of the Irish Times for the last few months

Wants our own boycott

Elimination of sale of Irish Times, refusal to take interviews for the Irish Times by any officers, and sever all ties with IT

Demands: withdraw and apologise for the letter to the editor

Remove final point on council further mandates a referendum

Against: no proposers against in the room

For: Fionn Sexton-Connolly, former class rep for BA Law, congratulate the cathaoirleach as a past cathaoirleach, important to support the motion and is sure that the exec will support, must affirm the rights of all trans people, the IT has acted as a partisan actor in many areas of Irish society, canvas the members of the exec and class reps that will be elected.

Clarification question: Hugh McArdle, 2<sup>nd</sup> year class rep Law and Human Rights not yet elected, unaware of controversy regarding IT and would like more information

Officer for LGBT: Over the past year, a movement has sprung up as a lot of people have realized that conversion therapy is still legal in Ireland, which is torture. Movement got much support, out of nowhere an article comes up from the IT, it essentially argued that banning conversion therapy would limit therapists ability to treat trans people – sees transgender people as something to be changed. Should not try to change someone for who they are – disgusting.

Was on a panel for Galway Pride talking about conversion therapy, mentioned by most of the people that this article had been published. Have been other articles – similar lines of thought, transphobic thoughts, thought of TERF as a slur.

Point of order: Alexander Sortov, 1<sup>st</sup> year Financial Maths not yet elected, have there been any other articles in the IT of similar content, was this an article of a letter to the editor?

Officer: Should have prepared my research more solidly, I can send you a more detailed email later, don't want to give you an incomplete answer.

Criodan o murchu, research class rep: 3 specific articles the Trans Writer's Union, and two letters to the editor. Listed specific dates.

Fionn Sexton-Connolly, class rep presumptive for BA Law, will this be affected by the Student Union's Commercial Ltd?

Uachtaran: This is what this motion asks, also officer's refusal to engage with the Irish Times. We will stop selling or purchasing it in our services.

Point of Order: Uachtaran, IT is known to publish harmful articles for all types of minorities, such as travellers or minimalises SA to just sex. Will be considered when we vote on this next week.

Summate: Gender and LGBT+ rights officer – thanks everyone for their contribution, to the Uachtaran for expanding the scope beyond trans people, thanks to criodan for his research at the ready.

Amending the motion opposing fascism, extremism, and all forms of discrimination

Officer for Gender and LGBT+ rights: Context – clarifying a motion which was passed last year. A lot of discussion surrounding this, was eventually 9c). Removed references to the far-right, also removed the list of groups which were deplatformed – became unclear as to who decides who gets deplatformed by this motion. All groups will not vindicate the rights of students, makes it unclear who the motion applies to. Potentially undemocratic situation. Council mandates that council decides who this applies to through dedicated motions. Further mandates a public list be made available and be updated on a regular basis on the CMLOEG website. Wants to clarify the motion, does not want to remove the previous motion. No point in adding a list at this stage, as council cannot vote.

Against: None

Point of Order: Fionn Sexton-Connolly, BA Law representative presumptive, would the officer believe that council or the exec should maintain this list?

Orlaith: Good question. I believe that the general student populus should have power over this – want as many people as possible to be a part of this. Any member of the Union – any student - can propose a motion to amend this.

Chair asks people to contact the relevant officer to avoid lengthy discussion.

For: Jacob Jorsky, 1<sup>st</sup> year nursing rep, uncertain as to what this applies to. Can be used as a beating stick for anything – amendment gives it a clear purpose.

Orlaith does not want to add anything at this time.

Eimear (Irish Officer) – There is no scheme or strategy in the union for the Irish language, wants to put one in place. Meeting on Monday (I's on zoom) to talk about what we can do to improve Irish. Plan over three years.

Fionn Sexton-Connolly, Arts BA Law: As a BA Law student, within 1<sup>st</sup> year we face Irish Legal Systems, it is an essay heavy module. We don't receive any instruction on essays, will the officer engage with BA Law and BCL to ensure that Irish Legal Skills comes before Irish Legal System so that students have the opportunity to learn how to construct essay

Clodagh: the Academic Writing Centre is amazing, they are more than happy to help you to construct an essay.

Krystian: Email me the relevant lecturers that this applies to, we can first talk to your lecturers, and then follow up with the school of law as is policy

Ewan McArdle, 2<sup>nd</sup> year – Ceim helps and offers resources

Clodagh: Running great workshops, absolutely attend

Uachtaran: Arts convenor is here, just online. Election of sustainability – postponed to 2<sup>nd</sup> of December, not the 18<sup>th</sup> of November.

AOB

Criodan o murchu, research masters class rep:

1. Cyber attack – printers are running out of ink. Cannot order ink for our printers from our offices, printing at home is causing wear and tear. This issue has not been resolved after being brought up by staff.
2. Research trips being organised are difficult when you have no money
3. Lack of card access in places on campus such as Media Linn
4. Leaf blowers on campus – bad for fossil fuels, why is the university obsessed with aesthetics

Uachtaran: Are aware of issues on campus, thank you for keeping on top of issues. Agrees with sustainability point on leaf blowers, want to establish the sustainability strategy for the Union when the sustainability officer is elected.

International Students Officer: Fossil Fuels are a good point, wet leaves are a danger and this only happens once a year.

Uachtaran: There is a protest tomorrow to show support for student nurses and midwives, on the front lines, cant get another job and can't get paid because placement is not paid. Bus leaving at 10am from the Cathedral, link in weekly email and on social media. 5 tickets left.

Education Officer: If you are worried about missing class, can write you a letter stating that you were at a protest.

John Moran, 2<sup>nd</sup> year Global Commerce, class rep in waiting: Any update on parking on campus?

Uachtaran: Wait until the survey is released and results come back, is this month, make sure that the results are the same and take action then.

Next council 29<sup>th</sup> November.