

# UCCSU Executive Meeting Minutes

10/08/2020

**6:10pm** – Meeting starts.

- Accounted for people missing from meeting and welcomes Executive.
- Asks for any correspondence from college reps from their respective colleges and asks college reps about timetables.
- Mentions document sent out last Wednesday about 1 meter social distancing on campus and class sizing. Med and Health college are being very clear and have proper timetables.

**Nominations – 6:15pm**

- Nominations for Deputy and Secretary of Exec.
- Nomination for Secretary of Exec as Tara Coughlan - Tara Coughlan confirmed as Secretary – everyone claps and cheers – everyone agrees shes great!
- Nomination for Deputy as Eimear Curtin – Eimear Curtin confirmed as Deputy – claps and cheers all round – she is also really great.

**Election Regulations – rules and dates they take place - 6:20pm**

- Discussion on when it could be. A necessity to be online. Is in the constitution to be normally decided in the 1st meeting, however because of the volatility of this year it was decided to be postponed until the Exec had more information – we will look into it in the next meeting and can amend throughout the year.
- Strengths of online voting discussed. Discussion about reaching out to other colleges to see what they are doing.
- Discussion on importance of approving when it will be. Discussion on what format could be used.

**Housing – 6:40pm**

- Discussion on the dynamic of the committee – everyone approves members of committee.

**Training – 6:45pm**

- Any training you want to do such as comm, speaking publicly, or is relevant to your job – we will set it up. let us know. Any questions? Nope.

**Academic Semester - 6:50pm**

- Agreement that students need access. Discussion on what the college reps are encountering.
- Exec members speak on their own experiences with college at the moment.
- Mental health with accommodation anxiety - if you know someone with an issue tell them to email Welfare Officer. Students shouldn't be expected to hound college heads – they are paying and should be provided.

**Campus Accommodation – 7:05pm**

- Political support for 3% reverse mentioned. Students hit hard by Covid-19.
- Discussion on the ins and outs of tents for occupy the quad etc and Covid-19.
- Brief mention of clean-up of tents from Occupy the Quad.

### **Mardyke Board and Subsidiaries – 7:20pm**

- Full review of subsidiaries and Board Meeting. Discussion about the current situation with the Mardyke and the possible options for it going forward. 2019 – 70% of students rely on others financially – budget cuts this year.
- Covid impact on subsidiaries this year – on a knife edge year to year – renewing equipment and building, with a loan and being stripped out every 5 years, the Mardyke has taken a lot of hits with staffing wages, cuts in hours etc – conversation brought up about how much it costs to use the Mardyke.
- Possibility of a Mardyke referendum going forward as spoken about in the last board meeting attended by SU President and Club President. This would have students willingly put money into the Mardyke to continue to operate to provide students with club and sport activity. BOD put forward proposals for 2 business models and the third option being a referendum on what to do with the Mardyke.
- Idea to increase membership by 20 euro - this would be 145 a head that would go towards the Mardyke, break even annually, build surplus etc. Not ideal to ask for more money from student – loss of access will mean a huge drop in physical activity and affect student wellbeing.
- Conversation on past referendums and how they failed/passed. Argument that the Mardyke is optional and how the Union would be viewed suggesting more money to pay.
- Discussion on the Union’s neutral stance on possible referendum and the merits of having the referendum such as keeping control of how much students pay and that they have a say.
- Argument that we cannot ask students for any more money. Discussion on how much different groups of people pay to use the Mardyke. The ins and outs of what could happen in any case with the Mardyke is discussed and repeated at length.
- Discussion on business models and funding – where it goes. Bottom line is that a decision can’t be made without consulting students. Thanks given and acknowledgement of hard times we are living in.

### **SCFF and Graduations – 7:50pm**

- After all the boring stuff we have some good news – money to fund student projects – accepted for all 4 applications! Wahey!
- Comms position funding. Mental health and Wellbeing Space funding. Approval for 20,000 for direct employment of students for graduations to help run them – circular economy. UCC Garden with building and estates – outdoors to socialise with friends.
- Graduations after October. UK Unions’ dynamics with funding.
- Mention of raised bedding and flood plains for garden – spring break swimming pool lol.
- Graduations – poll on Thursday – what students want and key priorities – virtual and on campus or just virtual or just campus.

### **A.O.B – 8:00pm**

- Digital Fresher's Fair – big partnership with Twitch – we must set up a Twitch account – Nandos, Tinder all possible and exciting – if you think of events send me an email.
- Council dates and college clinics.
- Will have full Exec meeting for capitation fee, one for strategy plan - college reps email college heads
- **Everybody says bye. 8:10pm.**