



UCCSU Executive Meeting Minutes

Date: 05/10/21

Time: 18:00

Location: Zoom

<p>I. Apologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stephen O’Riordan (Council Chair) - Mary O’Donnell (Socs Exec Rep) 	<p>Asha</p>
<p>II. Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deferred 	<p>Asha</p>
<p>III. Matters arising.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - N/A 	<p>Asha</p>
<p>IV. Action points from previous meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - N/A 	<p>Asha</p>
<p>V. Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Taken as read. No questions. 	<p>All</p>
<p>VI. UMT Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asha, Sinéad & Stephen met with the Head of Business & Law and the Director of Student Experience - Discussion re student representation across the university. Lots of committees & sub committees. Often the format of many committees is more an update forum rather than a discussion forum. Often feels like we are not able to meaningfully contribute to the conversation or be part of the process. - Very open conversation was had - Noted that Head of Business & Law expressed that we would be giving up an element of our independence if the SU sat on UMT as they are the executive advisory team to the President of UCC - Also need to be aware that who makes up the SU changes every year, depending on who it falls on, it could be difficult for some to manage a role on such a management team. - Discussed ways to improve efficiency and communications between UMT & SU / SU Executive. - Some apprehension about joining but would like to explore an avenue where we can be heard at UMT & be in the loop. 	<p>Asha, Sinéad</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asha: from speaking with past SU Officers, some would be for the SU having a presence on UMT while others would not - “It’s more worth our time sitting on 10 core committees rather than 60” - Abbie. - “There's something to be said for being in the loop from the beginning” - Asha. - “We should have input from the students perspective, It’s a place where our voice should matter” - Niamh. - Siobhan raised the issue of having roles (SU Exec.) that rotate every year making it difficult to have a voice in these committees. - “If we were part of the decision, autonomy is questioned” - Niamh. - Sinead brought up the issue that part timers especially should be allowed to do their role their own way due to having busy schedules as students. They sit on too many unnecessary committees that could be pulled under others. - Ada raised a question around autonomy - how would our autonomy actually be affected? Need to look into this more - Will be working on mapping out student / SU representation across UCC to get a more comprehensive understanding of where things are and how they can be improved 	
<p>VII. Student town hall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Booked in for October 19th at 6pm (Tuesday). - Good time for this due to everything opening back up the following weekend. - Asha met with the President's Office to discuss the event, looking to see how to increase engagement due to 180 at the previous town hall being a low turnout when you consider how many students there are in UCC. - Live Q&A was stressful to manage. For this one we will just open a question box pre-town hall via instagram and google form for pre-submitted questions as it keeps it more coherent and to the time allocated. - Keep it online, Easiest for questions & for students to get engaged. 	Asha
<p>VIII. Community week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Week of the 11th October. - Litter picking during the week - Rainbow walkway launched next week, Coming out panel, Trans coming out launch etc. - Maeve R 	Asha
<p>IX. International student forum / advisory committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Following discussion with international students and seeing how many unique issues they face so looking to set up a international student specific panel so we can understand their issues better 	Asha

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Could help with getting support from the Intl. Students Office. - “Forum could meet once a semester, Town hall style. Advisory group might be better to connect students who are struggling to and introduce a feeling of community & open support” - Asha. - Run it similar to the mental health advisory group for students by Caoimhe & Asha. Bring people together etc. - Only international students would sit on the advisory group. Question of who specifically will sit on it. Students showing interest would be part of it with 2 officers in the students union. - Could model it after the equality working group that Daniel oversees, How do you ensure the students “appointed” represent students accurately. - Abbie expresses her concern with issues being tackled & something coming from it rather than it just being a discussion and stuck in that phase. - Caoimhe expresses positivity towards the starting of the working group from how much she’s dealt with International students specifically. - Aadaeze expressed concern about SU officers being oversubscribed to committees (as previously raised) and proper representation of the intl. student body. - Must be discussed with the international office and ask for their input on the idea. Asha will draw up a plan based on what was just discussed. 	
<p>X. BDS movement .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A student emailed Asha re exploring affiliating the SU to the BDS campaign. - The motion passed by USI is not binding for us. Other colleges have had referendums on this. - We could support the BDS movement as an SU but affiliation would have to go to referendum. - Maeve says it’s best to get engagement from the entire student body as opposed to the student council. - Darragh agrees with Maeve. - Consensus is that affiliation would require a referendum 	Asha
<p>XI. Meeting frequency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asha asks if we want to keep this frequency at 2 weeks or hold meetings weekly. - Caoimhe says there's more to discuss when it goes every two weeks. - Luke agrees. - Abbie asks what the motivation for having more frequent meetings would be 	Asha

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asha: Because every 2 weeks these meetings can go on for a while if there is a lot to catch up on, additionally more frequent meetings allow for the part time officers to get regular updates from full-time officers . 	
<p>XII. AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Abbie: emails were going into spam, Maeve will resolve it. - Darragh: flags email about language commissioner with Asha to get feedback on - Siobhan: if anyone isn't happy with their website photos and says that Cian will take headshots if anyone needs - Cian is fine with Siobhán's decision. 	All