

# UCCSU Executive Meeting Minutes

Date: 31/08/2022

Time: 4.30pm

Location: Student Life Room



<p><b>In Attendance:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- President (Chair)</li><li>- Deputy Chair, Communications &amp; Engagement Officer</li><li>- Education Officer</li><li>- Welfare Officer</li><li>- Entertainments Officer</li><li>- Commercial &amp; Fundraising Officer</li><li>- SEFS College Representative</li><li>- M&amp;H College Representative</li><li>- CACSSS College Representative (virtually)</li><li>- Equality &amp; Diversity Representative</li><li>- Environmental &amp; Sustainability Representative</li><li>- Postgraduate Student Representative</li><li>- Mature Student Representative</li><li>- Council Chair</li><li>- Societies President</li></ul> <p><b>Absent:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Irish Language &amp; Culture Representative</li><li>- B&amp;L College Representative</li></ul>	
<p><b>I. Action Items from Previous Meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- None</li></ul>	
<p><b>II. Apologies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Clubs President</li><li>- International Student Representative</li></ul>	
<p><b>III. Appointment of Secretary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The President nominates the Education Officer</li><li>- The Education Officer is voted in as Secretary with unanimous support.</li></ul>	

<p><b>IV. Appointment of Deputy Chair of Executive</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Query as to the duties of the deputy chair. The President explains the position.</li> <li>- The President nominates the Vice-President for Communications and Engagement to be the Deputy Chair</li> <li>- The VP Communication and Engagement is voted in Deputy Chair with unanimous support.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>V. General Election Standing Orders</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Query as to what the standing orders are. The President explains their function.</li> <li>- The President proposes that the approval of these standing orders be deferred until the last meeting of Semester 1.</li> <li>- Proposal approved with unanimous support</li> </ul>	
<p><b>VI. SU Policy Booklet</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Document to be circulated by end of week</li> <li>- Two policies were highlighted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All executive members are required to complete bystander intervention training</li> <li>- Campaign representatives are required to submit reports to Council</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p><b>VII. CATU Policy Proposal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Proposed policy was put up on screen and went through</li> <li>- President: Similar to a policy that was put to the USI Congress</li> <li>- Query as to the difference between CATU and the RTB/Threshold</li> <li>- The President gave some examples in the past where CATU have been valuable in eviction situations.</li> <li>- Query as to CATU's funding model. The Commercial and Fundraising Officer explained it is based on membership dues.</li> <li>- Query as to how these policies will be notified to students if approved by the Executive. Suggested that it could be included with minutes or the President could include it in their Officer Report.</li> <li>- New website could provide that facility also in addition to making policy booklet and minutes available to our members.</li> <li>- Policy approved with unanimous support</li> <li>- Query as to how the policy would affect societies</li> </ul>	

### **VIII. Focus Ireland**

- Email sent to the Communications and Engagement Officer about a sleep out for Shine A Light that Focus Ireland run
- Part of the event is raising money for Focus Ireland so there are implications with RAG charities.
- Societies President: There is homeless week organised every year by Simon/SVP to raise funds. We would need to make sure it doesn't conflict with that.
- Commercial and Fundraising: RAG charities are selected by an internal process and approved by the Executive. It would cause conflicts to raise money for charities outside this. There is also negative publicity around those who are sleeping out but able to return home afterwards. Could be perceived as an unfavourable method of advocacy.
- Query of insurance implications if we do events like this. The President explains that we must complete risk assessments for these events
- Other Unions have organised sleep outs for other events so we shouldn't rule out sleep outs as a tactic generally. Could be useful for particular campaigns.
- Proposal to refer Focus Ireland to the RAG charity application process. Approved by consensus.

### **IX. AOB**

#### **COL Protest (Communications and Engagement)**

- COL Cork protest on 17th Sep. Meetings are happening the next 2 Mondays
- If Exec members want to attend they are welcome to
- There will be a press conference Tuesday 6th about the Cork protest
- National Student Walkout on October 13th. We need to drive engagement for it.
- We need to figure out the goals of this student walkout in consultation with USI
- If Exec members have suggestions about how it would work best in UCC please share. We can organise a specific meeting at a later date also. No time during the day yet for the walkout.
- Can use Class Rep elections to promote the walkout

- Query whether lecturers can give out to students for walking out.
- The President stressed importance of collective action. Communication and Engagement Officer mentioned that some staff might support the action. The President mentioned engaging with staff unions such as IFUT and SIPTU. We want it to be a student and staff issue that everyone supports.

**Living Wage Employer (President)**

- We don't employ admin staff and sabbats are paid by University.
- We employ student staff but they are on student help rate of €10.61
- We want to become a living wage employer
- Some details need to be worked out with the admin staff
- The President has been lobbying the university to have the student help rate match the living wage
- Policy to be distributed later for approval by the Executive

**Election of Special Reps (Mature Student Rep)**

- The President highlighting that dates can be flexible if people want
- Discussion about moving the special rep husting to the 11th instead of the 10th
- Question as to what events are provisional for then for Union week. Will need to consult with CoopSoc for what events they have on
- President, Education and Special Reps to meet to discuss

**Inclusion of Names in Minutes (Education)**

- Should we include the names of people when they make points
- Proposal to refer to people by title and not quote individuals verbatim, minutes should capture the overall discussion had and final decisions made. Approval by consensus

*\*Meeting concludes at 17:27\**

**Action Items**

- President:
  - Meet with Special Reps re Special Rep Elections
  - Circulate Living Wage Policy Proposal

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Circulate SU Policy Booklet</li><li>- Communications and Engagement:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Refer Focus Ireland to RAG Application</li><li>- Student Walkout aims clarified with USI and strategy for engagement with students and staff unions</li></ul></li></ul>	
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