



# AGENDA

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## COUNCIL

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**Date** 08.12.20

**Location** Virtual

**Time** 7pm

**Chair** Yannick Gloster

**Secretary** Cian Walsh

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### 1 Approval of Minutes

### 2 Matters Arising from Last Council

### 3 Items for Noting

- Part-Time Officer Reports
- Minutes of UF 3 & 4
- USI National Council Minutes June, July & August
- Faculty Convenor Reports
- EC Decisions Report

### 4 Elections

- Oversight Commission
- Electoral Commission
- Ethnic Minorities Officer

### 5 Sabbatical Officer Reports

### 6 Discussion Items

- Oversight Commission Report
- Electoral Commission Report - Schedule 3
- Class Rep Election Report
- Environmental Letter to the Provostial Candidates
- Address by Provost

### 7 Motions

- Motion on the Provost Election
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- Motion on Continuous Assessment Rubrics
- Motion on Academic Integrity Week
- Motion on Support for Students on Placement.
- Motion on T-Fund Funding

## **8 Questions**

## **9 Any Other Business**

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## **1. Approval of Minutes**

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Miontuairscí

## **2. Matters Arising from Last Council**

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Pointí ag teacht ón gcrúinniú deireanach

## **3. Items for Noting**

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Míreanna le tabhairt faoi deara

- A. Part-Time Officer Reports**
- B. Minutes of UF 3 & 4**
- C. USI National Council Minutes June, July & August**
- D. Faculty Convenor Reports**
- E. EC Decisions Report**

## **4. Elections**

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dToghcháin

### **A. Oversight Commission**

1 Ordinary Member

### **B. Electoral Commission**

1 Biennial Member

### **C. Ethnic Minorities Officer**

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## 5. Sabbatical Officer Reports

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### Tuairiscí na n-Oifigeach

- **President** Eoin Hand

**Enclosed:**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MIIUNKoKX8pZZZqSp-EuKIPePj1Lw5EZ/view?usp=sharing>

- **Education** Megan O'Connor

**Enclosed:**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BXuluSJT6mis9mlptZmhTE5Cjfd5Xqyn/view?usp=sharing>

- **Welfare & Equality** Leah Keogh

**Enclosed:**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mrOVltdOi3BafYXBfkpzWQO2Mpo6kKYc/view?usp=sharing>

- **Communications & Marketing** Philly Holmes

**Enclosed:**

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1s\\_sTlxI33q1wLKuWCkmlNBNdvNNg7QVT/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1s_sTlxI33q1wLKuWCkmlNBNdvNNg7QVT/view?usp=sharing)

- **Ents** Hugh McInerney

**Enclosed:**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XGaaNH22JZ8x98jxXW5D9d9MbnwmT1ot/view?usp=sharing>

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## **6. Discussion Items**

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*Ábhair le plé*

### **A. Oversight Commission Report**

*Presented by Cian Walsh, Secretary to Council*

### **B. Electoral Commission Report - Schedule 3**

*Presented by Yannick Gloster, Chair of Council*

### **C. Class Rep Election Report**

*Presented by Yannick Gloster, Chair of Council*

### **D. Environmental Letter to the Provostial Candidates**

*Presented by Eoin Hand, President*

### **E. Address by Provost**

*Presented by Patrick Prendergast, Provost*

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## 7. Motions

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### Rúin

#### **A. Motion on the Provost Election**

##### **Council notes**

A new Provost will be elected in April 2021 for a ten-year term.

##### **Council also notes**

That all members of University Board and University Council have a vote in this election, and that six SU elected members sit on these boards.

##### **Council understands**

A block vote of the student preference in this election is the most effective way to influence the result overall. Also, that a student-wide request to support one Provost candidate over another will encourage the candidates to appeal to the wider student population.

##### **Council mandates**

That the EC carry out a student-wide vote investigating the majority preference of Provost candidates is carried out to determine the favoured candidate, which the elected student members of the University Board and University Council will then vote in line with in the 2021 Provost election.

**Proposed by** Dylan Krug, JS Environmental Science Class Representative

**Seconded by** Bev Genockey, Deputy STEM Convenor

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## **B. Motion on Continuous Assessment Rubrics**

### **Council notes**

That the guidelines for continuous assessment submissions are sometimes vague and unclear, with insufficient advice or help being offered to students to aid in bridging the gap between Leaving Cert, Fresh and Sophister standards of submission.

### **Council also notes**

That for students to improve upon the quality and standards of their work, they must first know what is expected of them.

### **Council regrets**

That students sometimes submit assignments having not received feedback on previous submissions.

### **Council mandates**

That the Education Officer, Faculty Convenors and School Convenors campaign, where possible, for systemised rubrics for assessment and marking to be made available by module coordinators to students.

**Proposed by** Bev Genockey, Deputy STEM Convenor

**Seconded by** Daniel O'Reilly, STEM Convenor

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## **C. Motion on Academic Integrity Week**

### **Council notes**

That the National Academic Integrity Network defines Academic Integrity as “the commitment to, and demonstration of, honest and moral behaviour in an academic setting by the enrolled learner. It assumes that all interactions with their higher education institution and their staff are approached with honesty.”

### **Council also notes**

The importance of Academic Integrity in Higher Education and the possible consequences for students who are caught plagiarising or using essay mills.

### **Council also notes**

The importance of ensuring students are equipped with knowledge regarding this to be successful in their degree programme.

### **Council mandates**

That the Education Officer organises a campaign week, in collaboration with the National Academic Integrity Network, dedicated to Academic Integrity in the first semester of each academic year.

**Proposed by** Megan O’Connor, Education Officer

**Seconded by** Jacqui Whelan, AHSS Convenor

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## **D. Motion on Support for Students on Placement.**

### **Council notes**

Students on clinical placements across the country such as Student Nurses and Midwives are working in unsafe conditions, are unpaid and undervalued.

### **Council also notes**

The job prospects for student nurses upon graduation are extremely limited in Ireland, with low wages and harsh working-conditions. In an INMO survey in 2018, 71% of final year student nurses considered leaving Ireland. In a Trinity survey in 2015, it was found that 50% of student midwives experienced bullying.

### **Council mandates**

That the President and Off Campus Officer coordinate actions to support these students and their trade union(s).

### **Council further mandates**

That the Sabbatical Officer Board lobby the college and local and national politicians for the improvement of these students' working conditions.

**Proposed by** Megan O'Connor, Education Officer

**Seconded by** Jodie Milne, Citizenship Officer

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## **E. Motion on T-Fund Funding**

### **Council regrets**

That according to TENI, 78% of trans people in the UK and Ireland have thought about ending their lives and 40% have attempted suicide.

### **Council acknowledges**

The work of NUIG and DCU Students' Unions on their introduction of a 'T-Fund' that provides financial assistance to facilitate social transitioning which refers to the social portion of a transition by which a person makes others aware of their gender identity.

### **Council notes**

That for many people, beginning and continuing social transition can bring gender affirmation and relieve gender dysphoria.

### **Council further notes**

That the Higher Education Authority (HEA) Fund has been established to fund projects that benefit students and has proved effective by doing so in the past.

### **Council therefore mandates**

That resources be allocated from the HEA Fund as per the suggestions outlined in the T-Fund Proposal document. This includes proceeding in accordance with the proposed total funding of 20,000 to fund the project for a ten year period starting September 2021.

**Proposed by** Leah Keogh, Welfare & Equality Officer

**Seconded by** Sierra Muller-Owens, Gender Equality Officer

## **8. Questions**

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Ceisteanna

## **9. Any Other Business**

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Aon Ghnó Eile

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