



AGENDA

COUNCIL 1

Date 18/10/2022

Chair Emma Gallagher

Location Stanley Quek Theatre, TBSI

Secretary Maggie Larson

Time 6.30pm

1 Minutes

2 Matters arising

3 Elections

- Electoral Commission
- Oversight Commission
- Officers
- Education Committee
- Welfare & Equality Committee
- Communications & Marketing Committee
- TJH Committee
- International Committee
- Working Student Accommodations WG
- Campaigns Committee
- Access Committee

4 Sabbatical Officer Reports and Questions

5 Discussion Items

- Discussion Item on Schedule 3 and Student Engagement - Lászlo Molnárfi, SSP School Convenor
 - Hybrid vs non-Hybrid learning for CompSci modules - Cillín Forrester, Class Rep SF CSLL
 - Chairs in Room 1.10 D'oiler street - Aaron Mc Donnell, Class Rep JS Nursing (Psychiatric)
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- Heating in D'oiler street - Aaron Mc Donnell, Class Rep JS Nursing (Psychiatric)
- Attendance monitoring - Aaron Mc Donnell, Class Rep JS Nursing (Psychiatric)
- The 3rd Year Abroad for Business Studies and Russian Students - Gaia Mambelli, Class Rep SF Business and Russian

6 Motions

- Motion to Amend Terms of Reference for the BDS Implementation Group
- Motion to Amend the Terms Of Reference of Campaigns Committee
- Motion on Returning from Off-Books
- Motion on Activist Training
- Motion on USI Democracy
- Motion to expand funding for the T Fund
- Motion on Cornelius McGrath
- Motion to Explore Switching Voting System
- LTP Motion to Boycott Sports Levy

7 Any Other Business

8 Items for Noting

- PTO Reports

9 Questions

1. Minutes

Miontuairscí

[Minutes of Council 7 2022/23](#)

2. Matters arising

Pointí ag teacht ón gcruinniú deireanach

- [Deferred OC Report](#)
 - [OC Review of Schedule 4 2021/22](#)

3. Elections

dToghcháin

A. Electoral Commission

- Annual Member (2)

B. Oversight Commission

- Ordinary Member (1)

C. Officers

- Student Parents' Officer
- Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC) Representative

D. Education Committee

- Student Representative participating in a professional placement or internship for credit.
 - Student Representative who has wet lab-based learning.
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- Student Representative who is registered with the Disability Service.
- Student Representative who has gone on or is currently on Erasmus or similar exchange.
- Student Representative who entered College through an Access Programme
- Mature Student Representative
- Student who commutes a long distance to college
- Student Representative studying the Dual BA Programme
- Ordinary Members (3)

E. Welfare & Equality Committee

- First Year Representative
- Ordinary Committee Members (3)

F. Communications & Marketing Committee

- Sponsorship Officer
- Photography & Videography Officer
- Ordinary Committee Member (1)

G. TJH Committee

- Secretary
 - Erasmus Liaison Officer
 - Capstone Representative
 - Ordinary Committee Members (3)
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H. International Committee

- Secretary

I. Working Student Accommodations WG

- Chairperson
- Ordinary Committee Members (3)

J. Campaigns Committee

- Ordinary Committee Members (5)
- First Year Representative

K. Access Committee

- Ordinary Committee Members (2)

4. Sabbatical Officer Reports and Questions

Tuairiscí na n-Oifigeach agus Ceisteanna

- **President** Gabrielle Fullam
[President's Report](#)
 - **Education** Zöe Cummins
[Education Report](#)
 - **Welfare & Equality** Chloe Staunton
[Welfare & Equality Report](#)
 - **Comms** Julie Smirnova
[Comms Report](#)
 - **Ents** Max Lynch
[Ents Report](#)
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5. Discussion Items

Ábhair le plé

A. Discussion Item on Schedule 3 and Student Engagement - Lászlo Molnárfi, SSP School Convenor

[File link](#)

B. Hybrid vs non-Hybrid learning for CompSci modules - Cillín Forrester, Class Rep SF CSLL

[File link](#)

C. Chairs in Room 1.10 D'oiler street - Aaron Mc Donnell, Class Rep JS Nursing (Psychiatric)

[File link](#)

D. Heating in D'oiler street - Aaron Mc Donnell, Class Rep JS Nursing (Psychiatric)

[File link](#)

E. Attendance monitoring - Aaron Mc Donnell, Class Rep JS Nursing (Psychiatric)

[File link](#)

F. The 3rd Year Abroad for Business Studies and Russian Students - Gaia Mambelli, Class Rep SF Business and Russian

[File link](#)

6. Motions

Rúin

A. Motion to Amend Terms of Reference for the BDS Implementation Group

Council notes

The BDS Implementation Group Terms of Reference should be updated to make the committee more efficient and goal-driven.

Council resolves

To amend the members of the committee and improve the Terms of Reference as proposed below.

[Proposed Terms of Reference](#)

Proposed by László Molnárfi, SSP School Convenor / Secretary, TCD BDS

Seconded by Zaid Albarghouthi, International Students Officer / Chair, TCD BDS

B. Motion to Amend the Terms Of Reference of Campaigns Committee

Council notes

that the Terms of Reference of the Campaigns Committee is in need of an update.

Council resolves

to amend the Terms of Reference of the Campaigns committee with the attached terms of reference.

[Proposed Terms of Reference](#)

Proposed by Gabrielle Fullam, TCDSU President

Seconded by Julie Smirnova, Communications and Marketing Officer

C. Motion on Returning from Off-Books

Council notes

That students may need to go off-books for medical reasons during the academic year.

Council further notes

In order to return to studies after going off-books for medical reasons, students and their medical GP, consultant or specialist are required to complete and return to the Senior Lecturer a Fitness to Study Letter of Certification (<https://www.tcd.ie/academic/cases/assets/world/fitnesstostudy.pdf>).

Council regrets

That the off-books procedure can feel invasive to students and create undue stress due to its comprehensive and overly prescriptive questions.

Council mandates

The Education Officer to campaign to the Senior Lecturer, Senior Tutor and any other relevant parties for improvement of the Fitness to Study letter of certification and to review and adapt the Off-Books application so that the questions are not as invasive.

Proposed by Ruaidhrí Campion, School of Maths Convenor

Seconded by Chloe Staunton, Welfare & Equality Officer

D. Motion on Activist Training

Council notes

That TCDSU is a students' union—its campaigns should empower as many students as possible to participate in actions and decision-making.

Council commends

The hard work of student activists and grassroots groups throughout the year.

Council therefore mandates

That the TCDSU Citizenship Officer run an annual training series—that is open to all students—on activist well-being, organising strategy, and horizontal group structures.

Proposed by László Molnárfi, SSP School Convenor

Seconded by Connor Dempsey, Citizenship Officer

E. Motion on USI Democracy

Council notes

That TCDSU is an affiliated member organisation of The Union of Students of Ireland (USI). At National Congress (NC) each year TCDSU delegates vote for the USI Executive team. All students, both ordinary and voting members of TCDSU, are members of USI.

Council praises

That with regards to the TCDSU, USI candidates are voted on by a referendum to the student body, and all delegates at NC are to vote in line with the majority preference from this vote.

Council notes

That not all student unions follow a similar structure. Some student unions delegates have a free vote, while some vote as per the preference of their Council equivalent, and some follow the same structure as the TCDSU.

Council therefore regrets

The USI electoral system in its current form does not directly elect its national representatives via universal suffrage in some cases.

Council believes

In the interests of democracy, the national representatives should be voted on by the student body in all affiliated member organisations of the USI.

Council therefore mandates

That TCDSU lobby for the USI to change its electoral system to a one-member one-vote mechanism so that national representatives are elected directly by students from all affiliated member organisations via universal suffrage.

Proposed by László Molnárfi, SSP School Convenor

Seconded by Gabi Fullam, TCDSU President

F. Motion to expand funding for the T Fund**Council celebrates**

The great recourse the T Fund (or transition fund) is, with 2 thousand euro a year being secured for the next nine years from the HEA fund to provide financial relief to transgender students and their transition

Council notes

The limit to the fund in terms of the amount of money available per academic year

Council regrets

The limited areas to which the T Fund currently can provide financial assistance to one's transition, and hopes for it to be broadened in the near future

Council therefore mandates

The Welfare and Equality Officer to seek further funding for the transition fund

Proposed by Jenny Maguire, Gender Equality Officer

Seconded by Niko Singband, LGBT+ Rights Officer

G. Motion on Cornelius McGrath**Council recognises**

that the School of Medicine relies on the generosity of the public to obtain donated

bodies to enable students in the learning of human anatomy.

Council further recognises

that the School of Medicine is currently in possession of many historical artefacts and specimens.

Council is aware

that some of these specimens may have been obtained historically by illicit means through the practice of grave robbing and that this practice was not uncommon among elite colleges.

Council acknowledges

that one such specimen is the body of Cornelius McGrath; an individual who had gigantism and who the TCD School of Medicine is still in possession of.

Council is aware

that while some specimens may be useful in learning; the remains in question are not used in lessons and that the continual possession of human remains obtained without consent raises weighty ethical concerns.

Council therefore calls

for the respectful burial of Cornelius McGrath's remains.

Council further calls

for other educational institutions to bury similar remains to respect the wishes or autonomy of the individuals who were stolen.

Proposed by Catherine Arnold, Deputy AHSS Convenor

Seconded by Iain MacLeod, Class Rep, SS SH Philosophy

H. Motion to Explore Switching Voting System

Council notes

Currently, the TCDSU uses a voting system called Eviabi to conduct elections.

Council notes with concern

That College has so far not entered into a data-agreement with the TCDSU, meaning that we have to pre-register students to vote, taking up a sizable amount of administrative time and ensuing costs.

Council further notes

The need for pre-registration may drive student engagement to be low, as it presents a barrier.

Council notes with concern

The need for pre-registration caused an issue with the situation of the de-recognition of the GSU, as it caused further delays when postgraduate student representatives had to be elected quickly.

Council further notes

In 2020, student representatives at the February 9th Council called for barriers to engagement to be lowered.

Council further notes

The fact that the system is a company started by two students from Trinity in 2019, has only a few clients and is not a well-established and well-known company may contribute to College's reluctance to enter into a data-sharing agreement with us.

Council recognizes

Switching to another voting system may increase the chances of a data-sharing agreement with College.

Council further notes

While the current system has worked, there may be better alternatives out there, both from a ease-of-use and cost perspective.

Council finally notes

The TCDSU is a democratic body.

Council therefore mandates

That the Secretary of Council, Chair of Council, Education Officer and the Electoral Commission look into the possibility of changing the voting system and present the options to the Union Forum before the end of the year.

Proposed by László Molnárfi, SSP School Convenor

Seconded by Kiaya Doyle, School of Chemistry Convenor

I. LTP Motion to Boycott Sports Levy

Council notes

Students are facing a housing crisis and ever-increasing fees, and are increasingly finding themselves in difficult financial situations.

Council further notes

In addition to the Students Levies and Charges (SLC), which includes the Sports Centre Development (SCD) charge of €70, we are paying shamefully and increasingly large booking fees in order to use those sports facilities, such as extra charges for badminton, rock climbing wall, the basketball and tennis courts, the classes, both in terms of booking fees and equipment charges.

Council notes

That these charges can add up quickly to become an extra financial burden on students who have to pay these sums in order to stay healthy.

Council finally notes

Students contribute to 88% of Trinity Sport's finances.

Council recognizes

It is not the TCDSU alone that distributes the SCD, but the Capitations Committee. There is no direct power to boycott. However, the TCDSU can mount pressure on College.

Council therefore puts to LTP referendum amendment of LTP motion "LTP 4:

Sports Centre Levy" with the following amended wording:

TCDSU should support the continued collection of the Annual Sports Centre charge with the provision that;

- Students with financial hardship would be exempt from the charge, as moderated by the Senior Tutor's office.
- The levy would be overseen by the SU and the Treasurer's Office
- College ceases to charge any booking fees and equipment charges for all sports facilities, classes and equipment.

Proposed by Lórien MacEnulty, Sindre Brattegard, Arvind Venkatraman, Jack Dobbie, Julie Bekkevold, Jack O'Brien, Annie Nguyen, Sarah Stock, Brian Shortall, Eoghan Ross, Karina Einicke

Seconded by László Molnárfi, SSP School Convenor

7. Any Other Business

Aon Ghnó Eile

8. Items for Noting

Míreanna le tabhairt faoi deara

A. PTO Reports

Off Campus Officer Han McAuley

[Report](#)

9. Questions

Ceisteanna

[Question to President](#)
