



AGENDA

COUNCIL 5

Date 21/2/2023

Location Burke Theatre, Arts Block

Time 7.30pm

Chair Emma Gallagher

Secretary Maggie Larson

1 Minutes

2 Matters arising

3 Sabbatical Officer Reports and Questions

4 Items for Noting

5 Motions

- Motion on Gender Neutral Bathrooms
- Motion on Transgender Healthcare
- Motion on Establishment of Off-Campus & Clinical Placement Committee
- Motion on PTO and Faculty Convenor Council Reports

6 Discussion Items

- Report on Open-Book Examinations in SSP (updated) - Laszlo Molnarfi, SSP Convenor

7 Questions

8 Any Other Business

1. Minutes

MiontuaircÍ

[Minutes of Council 4, 31/1/23](#)

2. Matters arising

Pointí ag teacht ón gcruinniú deireanach

3. Sabbatical Officer Reports and Questions

Tuairiscí na n-Oifigeach agus Ceisteanna

[All Reports](#)

- **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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4. Items for Noting

Míreanna le tabhairt faoi deara

- [EC Report](#)
- Minutes
 - Welfare & Equality Committee
 - ★ [All Minutes](#)
 - Volunteer Forum
 - ★ [Volunteer Forum #2](#)

5. Motions

Rúin

A. Motion on Gender Neutral Bathrooms

Council notes

Gender neutral bathrooms are important in providing a safe and comfortable college environment for all students.

Council further notes

That several venues which Trinity Ents may use do not have gender-neutral bathroom facilities and it would be unfeasible to find alternatives.

Council therefore mandates

That gender neutral bathrooms be available at all SU events, where possible.

Council further mandates

The Gender Equality Officer, LGBT Rights Officer, and the President to work with college to ensure that fully accessible gender neutral bathrooms, with sanitary facilities, are available in every building in college.

Proposed by Niko Singband, LGBTRO

Seconded by Chloe Staunton, Welfare and Equality Officer

B. Motion on Transgender Healthcare

Council regrets

The current unreasonably long wait times for care and treatment methods at the Loughlinstown national gender service at St. Columcille's Hospital which are massively harmful to the mental health of the transgender patients that the gender clinic is supposed to help.

Council further notes

1) The national gender service only serves 150 patients per year (3 patients per week) due to understaffing while over 300 patients are referred per year. 2) Care that is provided to cisgender patients with minimal medical intervention (like HRT for cisgender women experiencing menopause) requires psychological evaluation and intrusive questioning to be prescribed to transgender patients.

Council mandates

The LGBT Rights Officer, President, and Welfare & Equality Officer to lobby for reduced waiting times at Loughlinstown and for review of the invasiveness of the questions asked to transgender patients

Council further mandates

The LGBT Rights Officer, President, and Welfare Equality Officer to lobby for the implementation of an informed consent model as opposed to the current pathologised care of transgender patients.

Proposed by Niko Singband, LGBTRO

Seconded by Chloe Staunton, Welfare and Equality Officer

C. Motion on Establishment of Off-Campus & Clinical Placement Committee

Council notes

Mandatory clinical placements place extreme financial strain on all students, also contributing to rapid decline in mental wellbeing of students. Students on placement play vital roles in the care of patients, particularly students in their Sophister Years who are used to plug gaps in hospitals, mostly for no pay and at an active loss of income to the student. Students are also required to purchase their own scrubs and equipment.

Council also notes

Current measures such as the SU placement grant do not go far enough to assist students. Summer placements in particular prove difficult for students to source accommodation both within and outside of Dublin.

Council regrets

Students who undergo mandatory placements are placed under extreme mental, physical and financial strain.

Council therefore mandates

the establishment of the Off-Campus Clinical Placement Committee with the attached terms of reference.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Membership: Open access to all off-campus students of TCD who also undergo mandatory clinical placements.

It shall consist of: President (Secretary) (ex-officio), Welfare & Equality Officer (ex-officio), Education Officer (ex-officio), Health Sciences Convenor (ex-officio), Off-Campus Officer (Chair) (ex-officio). This committee may further hold elections for the following representatives upon first meeting of the year: Therapies, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy and Midwifery. Further positions may be established and elected at the discretion of the committee.

The aim and purpose of this committee is to lobby and provide meaningful representation to students who undergo mandatory clinical placements by aiming to secure subsidised accommodation for Dublin based summer placements, reduce costs associated with placements, increase counselling availability for students on placements. It will also aim to improve the standard of facilities in off-campus locations; a subcommittee to this end may be created at the discretion of the Off-Campus Officer, subject to consensus of those in attendance of the meeting who vote in favour of such a proposal by the PTO, positions of which will be elected at a further meeting.

Dates and locations of meetings will be agreed upon by the President and Off-Campus Officer, with at least one meeting of this committee to take place in Trinity Centre for Health Sciences in St James'; details of all meetings will be passed to the Communications Officer for inclusion in the weekly newsletter. The committee will be required to submit a report on progress made to one council per term, submitted by the Off-Campus Officer.

The Off-Campus Clinical Placement Committee will sit once every three weeks during term time.

Proposed by Hannah McAuley, Off Campus Officer

Seconded by Ruth McMonagle, Therapies Convenor

D. Motion on PTO and Faculty Convenor Council Reports

Council notes

The important work that Part Time Officers and Faculty Convenors carry out for and on behalf of the union, and the value of student feedback in the carrying out of that work.

Council also notes

That one of the most effective ways for officers of the union to gather feedback on their work is through reports to Council.

Council regrets

That given the large number of Part Time Officers and Faculty Convenors, it would not be feasible for them to give verbal reports at Council

Council therefore mandates

Part Time Officers and Faculty Convenors to submit a written report for noting to each Ordinary sitting of Council, the format of these reports shall be decided by Union Forum at the first meeting of Union Forum in the academic year.

Proposed by Union Forum

Seconded by Gabi Fullam, President

6. Discussion Items

Ábhair le plé

A. Report on Open-Book Examinations in SSP (updated) - Laszlo Molnarfi, SSP Convenor

[Document link](#)

7. Questions

Ceisteanna

- Submitted Questions
- Any Other Questions

8. Any Other Business

Aon Ghnó Eile
