

TCD Student's Union 6th Council Minutes 2020/21

13th April, 2021

6.30pm

Zoom Meeting

Chair: Yannick Gloster

Secretary: Cian Walsh

Minutes: Cian Walsh, Secretary to Council
Simon Evans, Administrative Officer

Yannick welcomed everyone to the 6th Council meeting of 2020/21.

1. **Minutes:-** The Minutes of the 5th Council held on 2nd March 2021 were approved.
2. **Matters Arising:-** There were no matters arising.
3. **Items for Noting:-** Laszlo Molnarfi confirmed to Council details of his Item for Noting on SU Reforms.
4. **Elections:-** Student Parent Officer: No one elected.
5. **Sabbatical Officers Reports**

(A) **President, Eoin Hand.** Eoin asked for his report to be taken as read. He hoped studies for all students for their Summer Exams were going well.

(B) **Education Officer, Megan O Connor.** Megan asked for her report to be taken as read. She noted the following - Exam Timetables are out, Erasmus issue being resolved, Lab Coat funding proposal, SU Survey ongoing, Congress last week went very well, Library Survey and finally Election next Council.

(C) **Welfare and Equality Officer, Leah Keogh.** Leah's report was taken as read. She noted the following: - SUSI Review in the Town Hall yesterday. Women's Week and Body & Soul Week. Both were very well received, and she thanked everyone for their help.

(D) **Communications Officer, Philly Homes.** Philly asked for his report to be taken as read. He noted that the report was very extensive and he hoped that Council would study it in detail.

(E) **Ents Officer, Hugh McInerney.** Hugh asked that his report be taken as read. He noted the following - Trinity Festival was going very well. The 1st acts had performed today in the Exam hall

and tomorrow 3 more acts would be performing in Regent House. He looked forward to seeing as many students as possible on Friday 23rd April. He also advised council that Music Bingo would take place immediately after Council and he looked forward to having some fun with everyone.

6. Discussion items:

Yanick Gloster advised Council members that the time available for individual contributions is limited to 4 minutes due to time constraints.

(a) Why is your student accommodation so expensive?

This was presented by Laszlo Molnarfi.

(b) Constitutional Review Working Group (CRWG) Report

Six sets of Minutes including 2 during Reading Week and Good Friday

Eoin briefed Council on the substance of the Minutes.

DOR commented on Chp 7 and Chp 10 (University Times) including UT submission.

Liam Kavanagh asked about Chp 7 plans. A full Review and Handover Schedule would be done. If necessary additional boot camps would be held along with the heavy meeting schedule in order to finish and allow the Constitutional review to continue into next year.

(c) Myanmar Discussion Item

Laszlo invited Stu to speak to Council on this discussion item. Stu reflected on the military junta take over. Over 700 killed, 3,000 imprisoned. Myanmar deserves peace. She urged Council to get involved in this important human rights issue.

(d) Project Ireland 2040 – Laszlo wanted to know if the SU would make a presentation to Project Ireland 2040. He and Darragh O'Reilly (ordinary Union member) submitted a document outlining a possible response to the governments' ongoing public consultation about Project Ireland 2040 and asked whether the TCDSU will, in consultation with other students, submit a response based on their draft.

Eoin replied that he would follow up with Laszlo.

(e) Irish Executive Policy

This was presented by Gretchen Ganly. She stated that the policies are very clear and should be supported by Council. Megan thanked Gretchen for her work and presentation.

(f) Accessibility Exec. Policy

This was presented by Niamh Herbert. Full details are included in the Google Drive and a wide range of topics are covered including ISE, Tort Sizes, Colours. Megan thanked her for her work.

Yanick Gloster made 2 points of info to Council members about prizes for tweets and also to keep up the Grindle in the chats.

7. Motions

(1) LTP Proposal on Gambling Advertising Practice.

This was presented by Hugh McInerney. TCDSU should not take advertising money. Daniel O Reilly wanted to know if the TCDSU had ever received advertising money. Philly replied that we had received enquiries and he felt strongly that the SU should not take any advertising income. Cian Walsh – Voting on this motion will mean the motion will go to student population by way of a referendum.

Motion was carried. Please note that this motion was voted on again later in this Council meeting because of a technical zoom snag on this motion.

(2) Archival Executive Policy

This motion was presented by Philly Holmes. We need Policy so as that this can be done. Motion was carried.

(3) GDPR Executive Policy

This policy was presented by Philly Holmes and will provide guidelines and a structure to ensure the SU is GDPR compliant.

(4) Motion on Comms Strategy Executive Policy

This policy was presented by Philly Holmes and he noted it will improve the delivery of communications in the SU.

Motion was carried.

(5) Motion on the BDs (Boycott, Divestment and Sanction) Group TOR

This motion was presented by Eoin Hand who urged Council to support the motion which was carried.

(6) Amendment to Motion 20/21-18 HIV Tests Kits

This was proposed by Eoin Hand who advised that the HEA Fund charge would be approximately 6K.

Motion was carried.

(7) Motion to Amend the Comms & Marketing Committee TOR

This was presented by Philly Holmes and carried by Council.

(8) Motion on Student Contribution Refund

This was presented by Jodi Milne and Clara McCormack who briefed Council on it.

Megan O Connor stated that the SU is against the Student Contribution.

Eoin Hand – SU is working with USI with a view to refunding the contribution charge.

Jodi Milne summed up for the motion which complimented the work done by USI.

The Motion was carried.

(9) Convenor Training Motion

This Motion was presented by Bev Genockey.

Julia Piaskowy - Convenor training should be at faculty level. This is already being done.

DOR agreed with this. Any change should be done based on a more substantial format.

Rebecca Kelly spoke against the Motion

Bev Genockey felt that this was not replacing the current structure but is complimentary and summed up for the motion.

Motion was carried.

(10) LTP Proposal on TCD Divestment from Arms and Weaponry Manufactures

This was presented by Bev Genockey and supported by Laszlo Molnarfi.

Eoin Hand pointed out that the Deputy CFO of Trinity confirmed to him that it was difficult to move funds which were invested in a long-term basis from one investment portfolio to another.

Laszlo pointed out the TCD divested from Fossil Fuel related investment funds.

CW noted that a 2/3rd majority was required to pass this Motion.

Did not reach 2/3rd so Motion did not pass.

A 5 Minute Recess was then taken to allow everyone a break.

Philly Holmes raised a Point of Order on the Vote on the LTP on gambling. The Chair ordered that the vote on Gambling be done a second time as there was an element of confusion about the vote caused by Zoom. Hugh then urged Council to reject gambling sponsorship or advertising.

Bev Genockey asked that we look at Motion 10 (LTP on TCD divestment from Arms) again. This was not accepted by the Chair.

Laszlo made the same request in respect of the BDS motion and this was also not accepted by the Chair.

Cian Walsh noted that a Point of Order is in progress and should be resolved before further points of order are raised.

The LTP Motion on Gambling advertising practise was passed by the 2/3rd Majority.

(11) Motion on School & Programme Convenor Meetings with Class Reps

Laszlo challenged the Chair's ruling before this motion could be considered by Council. He challenged the Chair on the basis that the ruling against the divestment LTP motion. Cian Walsh clarified the situation and the Chair also clarified why he made the rulings. He stated that the way the elections were run in respect of the 2/3rd majority for long term proposals was correct.

Cian clarified if the Chair of Council makes a ruling and if a council member wishes to challenge that ruling then raise Procedural Motion (F). Should you raise this motion then you must propose an alternative ruling to that of the Chair of Council.

Bev Genockey raised a number of detailed queries on the matter and also noted that there was a number of comments on this on the chat.

Daniel Walsh explained why he made a comment in the chats. His comment related to whether council had an effective quorum. A quorum count was then called to ensure that everyone logged on was actually in attendance.

Chair advised that if the Council was inquorate the meeting would be deemed to be over.

Cian advised that in respect of the quorum count votes for yea or nea should be counted together as part of a quorum count.

The Chair advised that as council was now inquorate the meeting was deemed to be over.

Eoin drew council's attention to the free covid tests which were going to take place on campus.

Post council note

In discussions immediately after council it was felt that an emergency council meeting should be held and the Secretary confirmed what had to happen in order for an emergency council take place.