



Trinity College Dublin Students' Union

SCHEDULE 4

The Policy Manual

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Document Managed by
Secretary to Comhairle

Introduction

Schedule 4 of the TCDSU/AMLCT Constitution (also known as The Policy Manual) contains all Long Term Policies and Mandates passed by Referendum of the Student Body and by Comhairle, respectively. It is managed and interpreted by the members of the Oversight Commission, who also investigate any possible breaches of mandate and constitutional obligation.

Long Term Policy

Long Term Policy lasts until it is overturned and can be on any subject of interest to the student body. It can only be set and overturned by referendum. Long Term Policy set the direction of the union for years and even decades after passing, but still must not conflict with the constitution.

Comhairle Mandate

Comhairle has the power to mandate any policy on any subject relevant to the aims and principles of the Constitution or the administration of the Union. Comhairle also has the power to give mandate to officers on any subject relevant to the aims and principles of the Constitution or the area of competency of the officer, so long as that mandate does not infringe on individual rights and freedoms of the officers being mandated. Mandates expire 2 years after the academic year the motion passed (ie, a motion passed in October 2016 and a motion passed March 2017 would have both expired in June 2019)

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SECTION 1

Long Term Policy

LTP 1: Abortion Information

Enacted: 1990

We mandate the Students' Union to:

- a) Provide full information on all pregnancy options, including the option of abortion, as this information is presently being censored in Ireland;
- b) Campaign to make professional non-directive pregnancy counselling available for Irish women
- c) Campaign for greater availability of comprehensive sex education and contraception, and promote the sale of condoms in the SU shop;
- d) Continue working for more and cheaper places in the College crèche for the children of students;
- e) Campaign against all discrimination against single parents, and work to ensure a living income and decent housing for them and their children.

LTP 2: Nestlé Products

Enacted: 2004

TCDSU votes to boycott (not to stock or sell) Nescafé or other Nestlé products in the Students' Union shops.

We encourage College to do the same. We take this action in the light of Nestlé's continuing contravention of the World Health Organisation/UNICEF International Code of Marketing of breast milk substitutes by promoting bottle feeding and undermining breast-feeding

LTP 3: Membership of USI

Enacted: 2013

We support the continued affiliation of TCDSU to the Union of Students in Ireland (USI) and for the costs associated with affiliation to be met by an annual levy of no more than 8 Euro per student.

LTP 4: Sports Centre Levy

Enacted: 2015

TCDSU should support an increase in the existing Annual Sports Centre charge from €90 to €120 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.

LTP 5: Semesterised Examinations Policy

Enacted: 2010

TCDSU shall campaign for the following:

The current annual examination structure should be replaced with a fully semesterised structure, where workload, assessment and examinations will be evenly distributed between the two teaching terms. Christmas examinations should be introduced in an effort to reduce the workload at the end of the academic year.

This will be applicable to all courses and modules unless it is determined, in discussions with College authorities, that the quality of the course would be negatively impacted upon (e.g. professional accreditation, placement, practical and final year project modules, etc.).

Any changes to the timing and structure of the Supplemental and Foundation Scholarship examinations as a result of replacing the current annual examination structure should preserve the idea of balanced workload.

LTP 6: Direct Provision

Enacted: 2014

TCDSU shall campaign:

To abolish the system of direct provision for asylum seekers.

For its replacement by self-catered accommodation and the right to work for asylum seekers who have not had their applications processed after six months.

For the government to sign up to the EU Receptions Conditions Directive setting down minimum standards for the reception of asylum seekers"

LTP 7: Pro-Choice Mandate

Enacted: 2014

TCDSU shall advocate for legislation for abortion to be upon request of the woman.

LTP 8: Palestine, and BDS of Israel

Enacted: 2018

TCDSU will adopt a long-term policy in support of Palestine and in favour of Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS).

As per the petition, the policy mandates TCDSU to:

- a) Support and endorse the Global Boycott Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement
- b) Comply with the principles of BDS in all Student Union shops, trade, business and other Union operations
- c) Establish a BDS implementation group open to all members of the union to ensure compliance with (b)
- d) Campaign and lobby College to adopt BDS; which should include a total boycott of the State of Israel (Cultural, Academic and Economic), divestment of college funds from Israeli companies and other companies listed on the BDS Divestment List.
Divestment should also involve termination of contracts with companies complicit in Israel's violation of International Law, the occupation of Palestinian Territories and/or violations of the human rights of Palestinians.
- e) Lobby government and relevant external organisations to support BDS and the Palestinian anti-apartheid cause.

LTP 9: LTP Proposal on Gambling Advertising Practice

Enacted: 2021

TCDSU shall not accept advertisements or sponsorship money from any company that promotes betting or gambling.

The President, Welfare and Equality Officer and Ents Officer shall lobby for the banning of gambling advertising and sponsorship in Ireland, in particular advertising that is targeted specifically at young people.

LTP 10: TCD divestment from arms and weaponry manufacturers

Enacted: 2021

TCDSU shall campaign in favour of Trinity College Dublin divesting from arms and weaponry manufacturers.

LTP 11: No Confidence in the 35th Government of Ireland

Enacted: 2025

The students of Trinity College Dublin have no confidence in the 35th Government of Ireland.

SECTION 2

Mandated Policy

Mandates on Officers of the Union

Below is a list of mandates on specific officers of the union. This list is for reference only, and the exact text of each motion establishing mandate is listed further in this document. Some motions mandate specific, one-time actions such as the updating of a Terms of Reference, creating a committee, the creation of a programme convenor, the creation of a PTO, motions of censure, motions of impeachment, or the release of funds for capital projects. These motions are not included in this Schedule unless there is also a mandate external to the action ie eligibility criteria for running for a particular PTO.

Committees and their expiry date are instead listed in Schedule 9, PTOs and their expiry date are similarly listed in Schedule 10, and Programme Convenors are listed in Schedule 1.

General Mandates

Non-EU students are included in the movement to reduce EU student fees for the 2021/22 year.	26
Take a formal stance against the 27th amendment and support the Irish Nationality and Citizenship(Citizenship for Children) Bill 2020 and other legislative reforms in pursuit of human rights and associated goals.	28
TCDSU delegates to USI National Council and USI Congress put forward a motion at those bodies to create a national USI-led campaign on GEM tuition fees.	30
Support the End Image-Based Sexual Abuse Ireland group in supporting the Dáil Harassment, Harmful Communications and Related Offences Bill 2017 and its proposed amendments.	30
Lobby to make free, rapid HIV testing accessible to all, with the eventual aim to end HIV Transmission.	33
TCDSU does not share, promote or raise awareness of the StudentSurvey.ie, advises its members not to fill out this survey, proposes the development of a truly student-run and student-led survey to the USI as an alternative to StudentSurvey.ie.	37

The union takes an active stance opposed to greenwashing by polluting corporations in the college, including the Ryanair Sustainable Aviation Research centre.	38
TCDSU will campaign to abolish the time limit on overnight guests on-campus and at Trinity Halls. As part of this, campaign that College Security let guests wait for the resident student who signed them in inside the front gate area, rather than leaving them outside which is dangerous.	41
The allocation of resources from the HEA Fund to establish a Student Parent Bursary program aimed at providing financial assistance to both undergraduate and postgraduate student parents	43
TCDSU supports the Scrap the Green Paper Coalition and that the TCDSU opposes the Green Paper on Disability Reform in its entirety.	44
The allocation of resources from the HEA Fund to establish a Student Sport Bursary program aimed at providing financial assistance to both undergraduate and postgraduate students who may struggle	45
The implementation of proactive supports for all students on clinical placement.	51
That all Union Forum officers, the Electoral Commission, and the Oversight Commission refer to House 6 as “Teach 6” and/or Teach Mandela in official Union communications, and actively encourage all other Union members to do the same.	55
to support a campaign for Trinity College Dublin to transition to at least 75% plant based foods over the next five years.	56
That € 30,000 be allocated from the HEA Fund as has been outlined in the International Student and Asylum Seeker Access Provision Scholar Fund Proposal with 20,000 being used this year to support international students’ recovery from COVID-19 shutdown and €5,000 being disbursed for the two following years	58
Lobby for full transparency and openness regarding College’s investments .	59
Hold an official stance to #StopKillingDublin	61
Support the Non-EEA Ph.D. Students Society-Ireland’s campaign to expand the Hosting Agreement Scheme eligibility criteria to include research scholarship contracts	62
Share the Non-EEA Ph.D. Students Society-Ireland’s petition for the same issue	62

Adopt the living wage plus holiday pay as their rate of pay for all Union employees	63
Adopt a committed stance in support of the Postgraduate Workers' Organization (PWO), their aims and objectives as outlined by their charter. This should include active participation in the PWO campaigns and collaboration on campus-based campaigns relevant to both the PWO and the TCDSU.	64
TCDSU work together with graduate students, IFUT and lecturers to find a solution for handing over copyright of recorded lectures to lecturers, to create a policy of lectures being recorded, along with a hybrid approach to lectures, so that no student is disadvantaged for not being present on campus	65
PTO's and Convenors to submit two reports a term	67
The allocation of €5000 from the HEA Fund to support the JCR in further developing the JCR Café, and ensuring that this project continues to benefit students for years to come.	85
The allocation of €35,000 from the HEA Fund to the SU Café	86
To condemn the Dual BA Program	96
The allocation of resources from the HEA Fund to establish a Hidden Cost fund	104
Condemn the use of S.T.A.R.S. on Trinity student nurses.	108
That the Union supports the establishment of student housing cooperatives	112
TCDSU work together with graduate students, IFUT and lecturers to find a solution for handing over copyright of recorded lectures to lecturers, to create a policy of lectures being recorded, along with a hybrid approach to lectures, so that no student is disadvantaged for not being present on campus	127
That TCDSU work together with graduate students, IFUT and lecturers to find a solution for handing over copyright of recorded lectures to lecturers, to create a policy of lectures being recorded, along with a hybrid approach to lectures, so that no student is disadvantaged for not being present on campus.	127
Any officer that chairs an ad hoc body to attach the minutes of that body since last Council to their Officer Report.	129
Campaign & lobby for the prohibition of unpaid internships nationally . .	132

TCDSU to campaign for Trinity College Dublin to withdraw Joe Biden’s hon- orary doctorate degree 137

That the TCDSU support ASTI’s campaign to ensure that student secondary- level teachers be paid properly and that the TCDSU develop links with ASTI on this issue. 141

Adopt a committed stance in support of the Postgraduate Workers’ Or- ganization (PWO), their aims and objectives as outlined by their char- ter. This should include active participation in the PWO campaigns and collaboration on campus-based campaigns relevant to both the PWO and the TCDSU. 142

That the relevant Union officers collaborate with appropriate external bodies or experts where necessary to ensure accurate and practical guidance 146

That the Students’ Union treat this issue as a priority concern relating to nursing students’ placement conditions 151

reaffirm its commitment to ensuring that the work and achievements of officer teams are carried forward, particularly where significant progress has already been made on projects that directly improve student ser- vices 152

that TCDSU continues to develop initiatives and events specifically de- signed to engage students based off the main campus 154

Sabbatical Officer Board’s Mandates

That the incoming Sabbatical Officer Board work, with relevant consulta- tion, to bring a motion to Council containing a proposal which may be put to referendum on Chapter 1.4 no later than the end of Michaelmas Term. 50

Respond to unanswered questions by email no later than one week after receiving them from the Secretary of Council 57

Schedule at least 2 hours per week during term time, during which they will be available for students to drop in, and that these will be publi- cized by the Students’ Union in the weekly email 58

Lobby College for more transparency by advocating for the publication of all College meeting minutes online and for better availability of annex documents online for College meetings 60

Lobby for the public availability of the agenda and annex documents before College meetings take place	60
Campaign for the implementation of the Universal Design for Learning across all platforms in Trinity	120
Lobby for staff to engage with students and include them in the process .	120
Collaborate with trade unions to lobby for staff to be released from their duties for a period each semester to work on the renewal of their curriculum	120
That Faculty Convenors alongside the Sabbatical Officers lobby for the installation of outlets in large lecture halls.	122
Lobby college and local and national politicians for the improvement of the working conditions for students on placement.	130
Report their expenses in the reports that they provide to Council	142
host one other outreach session in the year eg. a coffee morning to further the integration of [TCPID] students into the union beyond mere governance formalities	143
Déan stocaireacht leanúnach ionas go ndéanfar spás inrochtana nua lán-Ghaeilge a bhunú san ionad mac léinn nua Persistent lobbying for a new Irish-language space to be	148
organise a Freshers' Fair event on the campus of St. James's Hospital . . .	154
write up a report in the form of a discussion item, no later than the second Comhairle on the effectiveness of this [St. James' Hospital] fresher fair	154

President's Individual Mandates

Lobby to ensure adequate provision of information for international students relating to planned teaching methods and student support services.	26
Lobby to ensure support is made readily available to students regarding international travel, finances and Government guidelines.	26
Organise an annual ethnic minority workshop	27
Support and platform the TCD Against the 27th campaign, and further to this, actively support migrant rights and the reversal of the effects of the 27th Amendment.	28
The Sciences Programme Convenor, STEM Convenor, Convenors-in-STEM and the President lobby for this space to be opened as a new Student Space.	42

The President to develop leave policy document in conjunction with the Sabbatical Officer Board and Union Forum to be presented to Council during the first academic term.	48
The Campaigns committee in conjunction with the President to work towards forming an action plan to face this issue	61
Amend the contracts of Union staff to reflect this change by week beginning Monday 28th February 2022	63
That the President and Education Officer campaign for College to cease outsourcing A/V support to FittingImage and for it to be provided by in-house IT Services, accompanied by the necessary expansion and/or pay rises for such staff.	65
Raise this at the Information Systems Services User Committee	65
Pressure College to improve mental health services	72
Pressure College to modify the late payment penalties, together with the PGRF Chair	74
That the SU President and the SU Comms Officer will work with the PGRF Chair to organise and run the information campaign across the College community.	74
Pressure College to improve dental care services	75
Ensure all campaigns ran by the union, where appropriate, include a presence in both the Hamilton and St. James' Hospital.	87
Support University Students in Serbia	87
The President and Environmental Officer to initiate a campaign to remove single use cups from all areas of campus life	89
The President and Housing Rights Officer conduct an intensive campaign to pressure the college to lower rent prices.	90
Create a strategy taskforce around the Union's campaigning around sexual violence to An Chéad Comhairle.	93
Lobby the College to provide access to services to off-books students . . .	105
Lobby the College to allow off-books students to remain registered students	105
Conduct thorough research and preparation into the establishment of an on-campus Social Supermarket	109
Work to advance the status of co-op housing initiatives	112
lobby for a National Book Token to replace the Hodges Figgis voucher awarded by College	117

begin active contact with the Academic Registry to campaign against discriminatory policies when it comes to admission requirements	117
Create a standard PTO handbook	119
That the President, the Chair of Council and the Engagement Officer run an information session for Part-Time Officer and Convenor elections no later than one week before the final Council of the academic year, and a separate information session for Class Rep elections no later than three days before Class Rep election registrations close.	123
That the President and Education Officer campaign for College to cease outsourcing A/V support to FittingImage and for it to be provided by in-house IT Services, accompanied by the necessary expansion and/or pay rises for such staff.	127
Raise this at the Information Systems Services User Committee	127
That the President and Education Officer campaign for College to cease outsourcing A/V support to FittingImage and for it to be provided by in-house IT Services, accompanied by the necessary expansion and/or pay rises for such staff.	127
Lobby the College for a feasibility study into making all levels of Teach 6 accessible to all students	129
Coordinate actions to support students on placement and their trade unions.	130
Lobby for the phasing out of all vehicular parking on campus within a reasonable timeframe, with appropriate exemptions	134
work towards the establishment of a National Network of International Student Representatives	145
Déan stocaireacht ar son fhorbairt na Gaeilge ar Bhord an Choláiste agus ar gach coiste de chuid an Choláiste a bhfuil siad air Lobby for the development of Irish on College Board and on every College committee they sit on	148
continue the Union's condemnation of the STARS clock-in system	151
produce a short written [S.T.A.R.S.] handover document	151
reopen the SU café in St. James's Hospital and bring updates to every Comhairle on this matter	152

Education Officer's Individual Mandates

Organise an Annual Academic Integrity Week	31
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vote in line with what Council determines is necessary regarding the virtual learning environment, whether to search for additional functionality within Blackboard or to procure a new VLE to the relevant college governing bodies. Report once per academic year on the progress for any changes regarding the VLE that is occurring to Council.	46
The Creative Arts Convenor, the AHSS Faculty convenor and the Education Officer to lobby for film and recording equipment to be made available and centrally bookable under the IT Services department for use for Film students.	47
That the President and Education Officer campaign for College to cease outsourcing A/V support to FittingImage and for it to be provided by in-house IT Services, accompanied by the necessary expansion and/or pay rises for such staff.	65
Raise this at the Undergraduate Studies Committee	65
Lobby the college to move this last day of exams, either by beginning exams one day earlier or by holding the final day of exams on Saturday the 20th of December.	98
Lobby the college to finish Michaelmas exams on the 21st of December at the latest for all future years.	98
Create an Off-Books Handbook	105
Lobby the College to provide access to services to off-books students . . .	105
Lobby the College to allow off-books students to remain registered students	105
Oppose [S.T.A.R.S.] continuation, and work towards removing its use . . .	108
Hold a discussion with the Music Faculty and Trinity College Facilities and promote access for Undergraduate Music Students to the recording studio	109
begin active contact with the Academic Registry to campaign against discriminatory policies when it comes to admission requirements	117
Campaign for systemised rubrics and marking to be made available to students.	120
Advocate on behalf of students to support the earlier publication of timetables.	125
That the President and Education Officer campaign for College to cease outsourcing A/V support to FittingImage and for it to be provided by in-house IT Services, accompanied by the necessary expansion and/or pay rises for such staff.	127

Raise this at the Undergraduate Studies Committee	127
That the President and Education Officer campaign for College to cease outsourcing A/V support to FittingImage and for it to be provided by in-house IT Services, accompanied by the necessary expansion and/or pay rises for such staff.	127
Work alongside the College to promote and campaign for the principles of Open Access	131
Hold a “convenor training” following the election of convenors at the end of each academic year	132
Lobby for the introduction of a college policy, banning credit-bearing unpaid internships	132
meet with the staff of TCPID before sabbatical elections so they can set up a meeting with the students about the elections to inform them of the process and the candidates	143
Tabhair tacaíocht don fheachtas nua-bhunaithe ‘Gaelollscolaíocht’ a bhunaigh AMLÉ i mbliana (support the new ‘Gaelollscollaíocht’ AMLÉ campaign founded this year)	148
Host seven fora in each academic year	150
Bring the summary and a Report including actionables arisen and general insights gained from the open fora to Council, at least once per term in the form of a discussion item	150
continue the Union’s condemnation of the STARS clock-in system	151
reopen the SU café in St. James’s Hospital and bring updates to every Comhairle on this matter	152

Welfare & Equality Officer’s Individual Mandates

Support and platform the TCD Against the 27th campaign, and further to this, actively support migrant rights and the reversal of the effects of the 27th Amendment.	28
Continue to provide support to all victims of IBSA.	30
Aid USI in antispiking policy where possible and ensure that TCDSU follows the policy when it is completed	60
Adopt the terms of reference of the Student Parent/Carer Fund	67
Pressure College to improve mental health services	72
Pressure College to improve dental care services	75

to continue the [abortion services] campaign, should the realisation of this objective extend beyond the [2025/26] academic year.	100
Work with the disAbility Service and other relevant bodies in college to organise a support group for students who are currently off-books . . .	105
Create an Off-Books Handbook	105
Lobby the College to provide access to services to off-books students . . .	105
Lobby the College to allow off-books students to remain registered students	105
Oppose [S.T.A.R.S.] continuation, and work towards removing its use . . .	108
Work to advance the status of co-op housing initiatives	112
begin active contact with the Academic Registry to campaign against discriminatory policies when it comes to admission requirements	117
Create a standard PTO handbook	119
That the Welfare and Equality Officer meet with representatives of the Trinity Ability Co-Op and the DU Neurodiversity Society, alongside other relevant stakeholders, to draft a report outlining current accessibility issues for neurodivergent students and students with disabilities within the Union, to be submitted no later than Third Council. . .	122
Work alongside the College to promote and campaign for the principles of Open Access	131
Raise awareness of this issue and lobby politicians in both jurisdictions to legislate for a complete ban on all forms of conversion therapy and to work with and coordinate their lobbying with groups campaigning on this issue	134
work with the Education Officer to set up class rep elections for TCPID . .	143
meet with the staff of TCPID before sabbatical elections so they can set up a meeting with the students about the elections to inform them of the process and the candidates	143
stocaireacht agus feachtasaíocht ar son ardaitheoir agus leithris a chur ar fáil i Seomra na Gaeilge campaign and lobby for a lift and toilets to be provided for Seomra na Gaeilge	147
go mbeidh imeachtaí agus seirbhísí ar fáil do mhic léinn na Tríonóide nach ndéanann a gcuid staidéir ar an gcampas ensure that Irish language services and events are available to Trinity students who study off-campus	147
continue the Union's condemnation of the STARS clock-in system	151

reopen the SU café in St. James’s Hospital and bring updates to every Comhairle on this matter	152
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Communications & Marketing Officer’s Individual Mandates

Formulate and maintain an Archival Policy, and update Council and the OC as appropriate	35
Formulate and maintain a GDPR Policy, and update Council and the OC as appropriate	35
Formulate and maintain a Communications Strategy Policy, and update Council and the OC as appropriate	36
Include advertisement for the STEM Freshers Day event along with advertisements for Freshers Week events.	37
That the SU President and the SU Comms Officer will work with the PGRF Chair to organise and run the information campaign across the College community.	74
Review the Sponsorship Policy each year and change it accordingly, informing Comhairle	77
Create an Off-Books Handbook	105
That the Communications & Marketing Officer and the Engagement Officer publicly invite Part-Time Officer candidates to submit manifestos (through student-wide emails and social media) no later than one week before the final Council of the academic year...	123

Entertainments Officer’s Individual Mandates

Aid USI in antispiking policy where possible and ensure that TCDSU follows the policy when it is completed	60
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Oifigeach na Gaeilge’s Individual Mandates

Translating or organizing translation of any email sent by sabbatical officers to all the students to ensure that it is sent bilingually as two separate emails.	135
Work with the Electoral Commission and the Oversight Commission to increase the presence of Irish in Council, Forum, and during elections.	135

Work with the Education Officer to pressure the College to implement plans to offer modules through the medium of Irish in other courses that are not Irish themselves in line with the targets of the Official Languages Act (Amendment), 2021.	135
stocaireacht agus feachtasaíocht ar son ardaitheoir agus leithris a chur ar fáil i Seomra na Gaeilge campaign and lobby for a lift and toilets to be provided for Seomra na Gaeilge	147
go mbeidh imeachtaí agus seirbhísí ar fáil do mhic léinn na Tríonóide nach ndéanann a gcuid staidéir ar an gcampas ensure that Irish language services and events are available to Trinity students who study off-campus	147
Tabhair tacaíocht don fheachtas nua-bhunaithe ‘Gaelollscolaíocht’ a bhunaigh AMLÉ i mbliana	148
Déan iniúchadh ar chomharthaíocht Choláiste na Tríonóide i ngach foirgneamh laistigh agus lasmuigh den phríomhchampas ar a laghad uair amháin in aghaidh na bliana	148

Undergrad AHSS Convenor’s Individual Mandates

The Creative Arts Convenor, the AHSS Faculty convenor and the Education Officer to lobby for film and recording equipment to be made available and centrally bookable under the IT Services department for use for Film students.	47
Campaign for systemised rubrics and marking to be made available to students.	120
Submit to every Council in the form of a Faculty Convenor Report any minutes from their respective Faculty Assembly which have been approved since the previous meeting of Council	129
Lobby for the introduction of a college policy, banning credit-bearing unpaid internships	132

Postgrad AHSS Convenor’s Individual Mandates

Undergrad STEM Convenor’s Individual Mandates

organise a STEM Freshers Day, in coordination with the Engagement Officer, in the Botany Garden during Freshers week, in conjunction with the STEM Faculty and STEM Schools.	37
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The Sciences Programme Convenor, STEM Convenor, Convenors-in-STEM and the President lobby for this space to be opened as a new Student Space.	42
Campaign for systemised rubrics and marking to be made available to students.	120
Submit to every Council in the form of a Faculty Convenor Report any minutes from their respective Faculty Assembly which have been approved since the previous meeting of Council	129
Lobby for the introduction of a college policy, banning credit-bearing unpaid internships	132

Postgrad STEM Convenor's Individual Mandates

Undergrad HS Convenor's Individual Mandates

Oppose [S.T.A.R.S.] continuation, and work towards removing its use . . .	108
Campaign for systemised rubrics and marking to be made available to students.	120
Submit to every Council in the form of a Faculty Convenor Report any minutes from their respective Faculty Assembly which have been approved since the previous meeting of Council	129
Lobby for the introduction of a college policy, banning credit-bearing unpaid internships	132
continue the Union's condemnation of the STARS clock-in system	151
produce a short written [S.T.A.R.S.] handover document	151
reopen the SU café in St. James's Hospital and bring updates to every Comhairle on this matter	152

Postgrad HS Convenor's Individual Mandates

Citizenship Officer's Individual Mandates

Support and platform the TCD Against the 27th campaign, and further to this, actively support migrant rights and the reversal of the effects of the 27th Amendment.	28
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International Students Officer's Individual Mandates

Lobby to ensure adequate provision of information for international students relating to planned teaching methods and student support services.	26
create and maintain an International Student Handbook (digital format and reviewed annually)	144
work towards the establishment of a National Network of International Student Representatives	145
lead initial outreach to other institutions to explore interest and feasibility.	145
organise quarterly or biannual workshops. They should be open to all students and promoted widely	146

LGBTRO's Individual Mandates

Raise awareness of this issue and lobby politicians in both jurisdictions to legislate for a complete ban on all forms of conversion therapy and to work with and coordinate their lobbying with groups campaigning on this issue	134
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Mature Students Officer's Individual Mandates

Officer for Students with a Disability's Individual Mandates

Work with the disAbility Service and other relevant bodies in college to organise a support group for students who are currently off-books	105
Create an Off-Books Handbook	105
Lobby the College to provide access to services to off-books students	105
Lobby the College to allow off-books students to remain registered students	105
Campaign for the implementation of the Universal Design for Learning across all platforms in Trinity	120
Create and circulate the accessibility request form in advance of any upcoming councils.	126
Take charge in reviewing any requirements and to work with the Electoral Commission and Secretary to the Council to fulfil any accessibility requests for Council attendance.	126
Lobby the College for a feasibility study into making all levels of Teach 6 accessible to all students	129

work with the Education Officer to set up class rep elections for TCPID . . .	143
stocaireacht agus feachtasaíocht ar son ardaitheoir agus leithris a chur ar fáil i Seomra na Gaeilge campaign and lobby for a lift and toilets to be provided for Seomra na Gaeilge	147

Gender Equality Officer's Individual Mandates

to continue the [abortion services] campaign, should the realisation of this objective extend beyond the [2025/26] academic year.	100
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Student Parents' Officer's Individual Mandates

Off Campus Officer's Individual Mandates

Coordinate actions to support students on placement and their trade unions.130	
go mbeidh imeachtaí agus seirbhísí ar fáil do mhic léinn na Tríonóide nach ndéanann a gcuid staidéir ar an gcampas ensure that Irish language services and events are available to Trinity students who study off-campus	147
continue the Union's condemnation of the STARS clock-in system	151
reopen the SU café in St. James's Hospital and bring updates to every Comhairle on this matter	152

Ethnic Minorities Officer's Individual Mandates

Organise an annual ethnic minority workshop	27
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Environmental Officer's Individual Mandates

Formulate a Non-binding Policy on Carbon Costing and Reporting, including a schedule of carbon costs for typical Union activities	32
Work with grassroots organizations such as the Student Climate Coalition of Ireland, in order to increase student participation in the national climate movement.	38
that the Environmental Officer shall consult with the Officer for Students with Disabilities, the Disability Service in Trinity and other relevant bodies in so doing in order to ensure that there are no health issues caused by this.	56
The President and Environmental Officer to initiate a campaign to remove single use cups from all areas of campus life	89

Bring a report to council during the last comhairle of Michlemas Term highlighting progress so far and a timeline for the other objectives where possible.	89
Lobby for the phasing out of all vehicular parking on campus within a reasonable timeframe, with appropriate exemptions	134

Access Officer's Individual Mandates

Volunteer Coordinator's Individual Mandates

Housing Rights Officer's Individual Mandates

The President and Housing Rights Officer conduct an intensive campaign to pressure the college to lower rent prices.	90
Conduct thorough research and preparation into the establishment of an on-campus Social Supermarket	109
Work to advance the status of co-op housing initiatives	112

Student Carer Officer's Individual Mandates

Postgrad Research Officer's Individual Mandates

Commuters' Officer's Individual Mandates

Electoral Commission's Mandates

Produce a report on Class Rep Elections to second Council	27
That the Chair of Council read aloud the respective summary before the motion is presented by the proposer.	53
That all Union Forum officers, the Electoral Commission, and the Oversight Commission refer to House 6 as "Teach 6" and/or Teach Mandela in official Union communications, and actively encourage all other Union members to do the same.	55

That the Electoral Commission elects from amongst its membership an ombudsman responsible for ensuring accessibility and inclusion in sabbatical, part-time officer, convenor and class rep elections, as well as with respect to the running of Council. 122

That the President, the Chair of Council and the Engagement Officer run an information session for Part-Time Officer and Convenor elections no later than one week before the final Council of the academic year, and a separate information session for Class Rep elections no later than three days before Class Rep election registrations close. 123

That the Chair of Council and Electoral Commission explore introducing a hustings, whether structured or unstructured, for Part-Time Officer candidates... 123

That the Chair of Council and Electoral Commission explore introducing campaigning opportunities for Class Rep candidates... 123

Oversight Commission's Mandates

That the Secretary to Council, with the assistance of the Electoral Commission and Oversight Commission, write plain-text summaries explaining the functional implications of every motion brought to Council and publish these summaries alongside Council agendas. 53

That all Union Forum officers, the Electoral Commission, and the Oversight Commission refer to House 6 as "Teach 6" and/or Teach Mandela in official Union communications, and actively encourage all other Union members to do the same. 55

Note unanswered questions during Council and forwards them to the team no later than three days post-Council (Chair of OC) 57

That the Oversight Commission elects from amongst its membership an ombudsman responsible for ensuring accessibility and inclusion in Union business, including campaign weeks, committee meetings, social media and communications. 122

That the Oversight Commission produce and submit a report, no later than the penultimate ordinary Council of the academic year, on all the extant Part-Time Officerships, explaining the day-to-day duties of each role, the weekly time commitments and other essential information for potential candidates to consider, and for the Communications and Marketing Officer to publicise this report in college-wide communications. 123

The Secretary to Council to bring the Schedule 4 review as a discussion item, which is to be written by the OC, to the expected last council of the first semester. 139

2023/24

2023/24-1: *Motion on Support for International Students

Council notes

That international students are a particularly vulnerable cohort which is now further exacerbated by the COVID19 pandemic.

Council also notes

That international students pay significant fees and do not qualify for grants such as SUSI or the Student Assistance Fund.

Council regrets

That this fee is subject to a 3-5% annual increase in Trinity College student fees and this was not reexamined during the COVID19 crisis.

Council believes

That international students require more support from the college and believe that the current lines of communication are insufficient. Regardless of EU status, every student needs additional support during the global pandemic.

Council mandates

That the Student's Union lobbies against the annual 3-5% increase in student fees, including non-EU students.

Council further mandates

That the President and International Part Time Officer lobbies to ensure the adequate provision of information for international students by the college, including but not limited to the planned methods of teaching for the rest of the year and student support services available.

Council further mandates

That the President also lobbies to ensure that support is made readily available to students by the college on a case-by-case basis when in relation to difficulties regarding travel status to other countries, finances and Government Health guidelines where appropriate. All information should be clearly accessible to students with reference to ever-changing situations and all information should be updated accordingly.

Council further mandates

Non-EU students are included in the movement to reduce EU student fees for the 2021-2022 academic year.

Originally Proposed by Rucha Benare, Julia Bochenek, Emma Hurson, Boluwaduro Kareem, Aliya Syeda, Dylan Krug, Olivia Butler, Emily Tzu Ying Yu, Lauren Vrbanic, Jane Cook

Originally Seconded by Patrick O'Mahony, International Officer

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Ruaidhrí Saulnier, STEM Convenor, seconded by Sé Ó hEidhin, Deputy STEM Convenor

2023/24-2: *Motion on Ethnic Minority Workshop

Council notes

The diversity of the student population at Trinity and the Union's commitment to inclusivity for all ethnicities.

Council mandates

That the Ethnic Minorities Officer & President organise an annual workshop introducing the various ethnicities in the student population of Trinity. The speakers in this workshop shall be primarily comprised of speakers sourced from Trinity's staff & student population.

Originally Proposed by Catherine Zhou, JF French JH Class Representative

Originally Seconded by Philly Holmes, Communications & Marketing Officer

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Ruaidhrí Saulnier, STEM Convenor, seconded by Sé Ó hEidhin, Deputy STEM Convenor

2023/24-3: *Motion on Class Rep Elections Report

Council notes

The success of the recent online class rep elections.

Council however notes

That some administrative errors occurred, which should be rectified going forward.

Council mandates

That the EC produce a report on class rep elections annually with recommendations on improvements going forward if necessary, to be presented no later than the first Council in Hilary Term.

Originally Proposed by Megan O'Connor, Education Officer

Originally Seconded by Daniel O'Reilly, STEM Convener

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Connor Dempsey, Engagement Officer & Cat Arnold, Education Officer, seconded by David Treacy, Access Officer

2023/24-4: *Motion on Migrant Rights

Council notes

Following the passage of the 27th Amendment in 2004 and subsequent legislation, those born on the island of Ireland on or after the 1st of January 2005 have not been automatically entitled to Irish citizenship.

Council recognises

That this legislation facilitates systemic inequality that deprives members of our community equal access to resources such as education and employment opportunities.

Council mandates

TCDSU to take a formal stance against the 27th amendment and support the Irish Nationality and Citizenship (Citizenship for Children) Bill 2020 raised by Deputy Barry and other legislative reforms in pursuit of migrant rights and associated goals.

Council further mandates

The President, Welfare and Equality Officer and Citizenship Officer to support and platform the TCD against the 27th campaign, and further to this, actively support migrant rights and the reversal of the effects of the 27th amendment.

Originally Proposed by Leah Keogh, Welfare & Equality Officer

Originally Seconded by Jodie Milne, Citizenship Officer

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Ruaidhrí Saulnier, STEM Convenor, seconded by Sé Ó hEidhin, Deputy STEM Convenor

2023/24-5: *Motion on Graduate Entry Medicine Tuition Fees

Council notes

That many TCD graduates pursue GEM programs in Irish universities.

Council regrets

The exorbitantly high tuition fees for these programs, not supported by SUSI or HEA Free Fees. These fees present a significant financial barrier to students from lower income backgrounds in accessing these programs.

Council recognises

The recent protest by UCD students wherein 70% of the GEM students have withheld their fees in protest to year on year GEM tuition fee increases.

Council mandates

The TCDSU delegates to USI National Council and USI Congress put forward a motion at the next meeting of those bodies to create a national USI led campaign on GEM tuition fees. The aims of the campaign shall be to lobby the Irish government to increase financial support for GEM students.

Originally Proposed by Charles Sweeney, JS Physiology Class Representative

Originally Seconded by Eoin Hand, President

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Ruaidhrí Saulnier, STEM Convenor, seconded by Sé Ó hEidhin, Deputy STEM Convenor

2023/24-6: *Mandate on Image-Based Sexual Abuse

Council notes

The recent events where thousands of people fell victim to one of the largest known examples of online image-based abuse in Ireland. This is a profound violation of these individuals and there is no current legal protection for those affected by this leak.

Council regards

The recent events as a flagrant violation of privacy and unequivocally non-consensual.

Council recognises

The work done by grassroots campaigns across the country, the Victims Alliance and the Gardaí in response to this event, and the continued efforts of the Consent Education programme.

Council regrets

The absence of legislation in this area, preventing victims from pursuing effective and adequate legal remedy.

Council mandates

The Welfare and Equality Officer to continue to provide support to all victims through the provision of relevant resources and information.

Council also mandates

The Union to support the 'End Image-Based Sexual Abuse Ireland' group in their call for the urgent criminalisation of IBSA by the passing of the 'Harassment, Harmful Communications and Related Offences Bill 2017' which is currently in its third stage in the Dáil and to campaign for the application of the proposed amendments.

Originally Proposed by Rebecca Kelly, Law Convener

Originally Seconded by Leah Keogh, Welfare & Equality Officer

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Ruaidhrí Saulnier, STEM Convener, seconded by Sé Ó hEidhin, Deputy STEM Convener

2023/24-7: *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.

Originally Proposed by Megan O'Connor, Education Officer

Originally Seconded by Jacqui Whelan, AHSS Convenor

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Ruaidhrí Saulnier, STEM Convenor, seconded by Sé Ó hEidhin, Deputy STEM Convenor

2023/24-8: *Motion on Carbon Costing for Union Activities

Council notes

That the Union reports annual its financial expenditure, but does not currently make any effort to quantify the carbon cost of its activities.

Council also notes

That calculating the exact carbon cost of Union activities is prohibitively difficult, and a schedule of estimates is therefore required for the Union to make a reasonable estimate of its carbon footprint.

Council mandates

That the Environmental Officer formulate a Non-binding Policy on Carbon Costing and Reporting, including a schedule of carbon costs for typical Union activities.

Council further mandates

That the Environmental Officer conduct a review of this policy at least once per academic year, and this review be brought to Council as a discussion item.

Council finally mandates

That the Environmental Officer brings a discussion item to Council about any substantive alterations made at any point in time, and notify the Oversight Commission of any changes made at any point in time.

Originally Proposed by Áine Hennessy, Environmental Officer

Originally Seconded by Daniel O'Reilly, STEM Convenor

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Ruaidhrí Saulnier, STEM Convenor, seconded by Sé Ó hEidhin, Deputy STEM Convenor

2023/24-9: *Council Motion on Rapid HIV Testing

Council notes

That current Irish HIV transmission rates are approximately double the European average and higher than transmission rates during the height of the AIDs epidemic in Ireland.

Council also notes

That access to HIV related services in Ireland is currently insufficient and HIV Ireland continues to be underfunded. The closure of the Gay Men's Health Service (GMHS) during the COVID-19 Pandemic has highlighted the barriers present to accessing effective healthcare services. The unprecedented demand for STI screening kits during the launch of the HSE SH24 home testing pilot scheme in January 2021.

Council further notes

A mandate to lobby against the Irish MSM blood ban was passed by Council in 2019/20. As a result of this motion, the current SU President has been able to establish strong ties with HIV Ireland.

Council mandates

TCDSU lobby to make free, rapid HIV testing accessible to all, with the eventual aim to end HIV Transmission.

Council further mandates

In the short term, a provision of €6,000 to be drawn from the HEA Fund to pur-

chase approximately 500 Rapid HIV Testing Kits as a pilot scheme with the aim of writing a collaborative report with HIV Ireland on the usage of the kits. Alongside this, an Endowment Fund will be established using the HEA fund, with the purpose of providing free, rapid HIV testing kits for students in the long term. These kits will be provided via HIV Ireland who have an effective support structure in place for those diagnosed with HIV. These kits will be available to students via a form on tcdsu.org.

Originally Proposed by Eoin Hand, President

Originally Seconded by Philly Holmes, Communications and Marketing Officer

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Ruaidhrí Saulnier, STEM Convenor, seconded by Sé Ó hEidhin, Deputy STEM Convenor

2023/24-10: *Motion on USI Candidate Poll

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 further notes

That currently USI candidates are voted on by members of Council, and all TCDSU delegates at NC are to vote in line with the majority preference from the Council vote.

Council believes

All members of TCDSU should vote for their preferred national representatives.

Council mandates

TCDSU to hold a poll to determine the majority preference for the USI Executive team candidates, which the TCDSU delegation will then vote in line with at the USI NC.

Originally Proposed by Megan O' Connor, Education Officer

Originally Seconded by Bev Genockey, Deputy STEM Convener

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Ruaidhrí Saulnier, STEM Convenor, seconded by Sé Ó hEidhin, Deputy STEM Convenor

2023/24-11: *Motion on Archival Executive Policy

Council notes

That the Communications & Marketing Officer is responsible for maintaining an archive of documentation for all Union meetings.

Council also notes

That there is a lack of established protocol regarding document archiving and retrieval.

Council mandates

That the Communications & Marketing Officer formulate a Non-binding Policy on archival protocol.

Council further mandates

That the Communications & Marketing Officer conduct a review of this policy at least once per term, and this review be brought to Council as a discussion item.

Council finally mandates

That the Communication & Marketing Officer brings a discussion item to Council about any substantive alterations made at any point in time, and notify the Oversight Commission of any changes made at any point in time.

Originally Proposed by Philly Homes - Communications & Marketing Officer

Originally Seconded by Evan Rork - History & Humanities Convener

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Ruaidhrí Saulnier, STEM Convenor, seconded by Sé Ó hEidhin, Deputy STEM Convenor

2023/24-12: *Motion on GDPR Executive Policy

Council notes

That the Communications and Marketing is the de facto data controller for the

Union.

Council also notes

For the purposes of data protection, TCDSU is accountable to the College Data Protection office with regards to data processing and internal data control.

Council also notes

The increase in the number of data-protection related enquiries from students and the increase in data sharing agreements signed between the Union and external bodies.

Council mandates

That the Communications & Marketing officer formulate a Non-binding Policy on GDPR as it pertains to the Union and student data protection, including but not limited to information about Union GDPR best practice, information regarding how a student can report a data breach and protocol for data gathering and data sharing agreements.

Council further mandates

That the Communications & Marketing Officer consult with the College Data Protection Office while compiling and reviewing this Policy.

Council further mandates

That the Communications & Marketing Officer conduct a review of this policy at least once per term, and this review be brought to Council as a discussion item.

Council finally mandates

That the Communication & Marketing Officer brings a discussion item to Council about any substantive alterations made at any point in time, and notify the Oversight Commission of any changes made at any point in time.

Originally Proposed by Philly Holmes - Communications & Marketing Officer

Originally Seconded by Eoin Hand - President

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Ruaidhrí Saulnier, STEM Convenor, seconded by Sé Ó hEidhin, Deputy STEM Convenor

2023/24-13: *Motion on Communications Strategy Executive Policy

Council notes

That the coronavirus pandemic has illustrated the vital need for clear and effective communication from TCDSU both externally and internally.

Council also notes

The existence of various separate documents relating to Communications strategy, including the style guide and various parts of crossover documents.

Council recognises

The need for a single, up-to-date reference document for Union Communications strategy and protocols.

Council mandates

That the Communications & Marketing officer formulate a Non-binding Policy on Union Communications Strategy, including but not limited to information and procedures regarding public relations, the Union styleguide, brand guideline documentation, and details on Union publications and media channels.

Council further mandates

That the Communications & Marketing Officer conduct a review of this policy at least once per term, and this review be brought to Council as a discussion item.

Council finally mandates

That the Communication & Marketing Officer brings a discussion item to Council about any substantive alterations made at any point in time, and notify the Oversight Commission of any changes made at any point in time.

Originally Proposed by Philly Holmes - Communications & Marketing Officer

Originally Seconded by Evan Rork - History & Humanities Convener

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Ruaidhrí Saulnier, STEM Convenor, seconded by Sé Ó hEidhin, Deputy STEM Convenor

2023/24-14: Motion on STEM Freshers Day

Council notes

The decreased engagement of the STEM Faculty in the College Community since the COVID-19 Pandemic. While the AHSS Faculty has seen renewed engagement in both the Student's Union and also College Societies, levels of engagement from the STEM Faculty have not fully bounced back.

Council regrets

The lack of initiatives to re-engage the students of the STEM Faculty, along with the breakdown of communication between the STEM Faculty and STEM Societies in previous years.

Council notes

That a STEM Freshers Day was run this year, to moderate success and could be used to engage STEM Students on their side of Campus, allowing for more sign ups for class rep positions, along with sign ups to societies on the East End and Goldsmith areas of Campus, including STEM-based societies.

Council therefore mandates

That the STEM Convenor and Deputy STEM Convenor will organise a STEM Freshers Day, in coordination with the Engagement Officer, in the Botany Garden during Freshers week, in conjunction with the STEM Faculty and STEM Schools.

Council also mandates

That the Communications and Marketing Officer include advertisement for the STEM Freshers Day event along with advertisements for Freshers Week events.

Proposed by Sé Ó hEidhin, Deputy STEM Convenor

Seconded by Ruaidhrí Saulnier, STEM Convenor & Connor Dempsey, Engagement Officer

2023/24-15: Motion on the failure of the Government's response to the Climate Emergency and the setting up of an Environmental Action Committee

Council notes

In 2019 the Irish government declared a climate and biodiversity emergency but since then the Irish government has failed to meet its emissions reduction targets, with the EPA predicting Ireland missing its 2030 targets by a wide margin.

Council notes with frustration

The complicity of large corporations in perpetuating the crisis through greenwashing, including on campus. Ryanair runs its only sustainable aviation research centre in Trinity, which is likely a greenwashing campaign given that only 2% of all aviation decarbonisation targets have been achieved.

Council is alarmed

By the large number of people affected by the climate crisis, including 43.1 million child climate refugees in the past 6 years. The number of extreme weather events that have occurred, and are projected to occur, due to the climate crisis, such as the recent flooding of Cork, is also cause for concern. This is of particular concern to students, given many of us will live through the projected climate breakdown.

Council declares as a result

That it has no faith in the viability of the government's current approach to the climate crisis.

Council therefore mandates

That the Environmental Officer works with grassroots organizations such as the Student Climate Coalition of Ireland, in order to increase student participation in the national climate movement.

Council further mandates

That the union takes an active stance opposed to greenwashing by polluting corporations in the college, including the Ryanair Sustainable Aviation Research centre.

Council finally mandates

The setting up of an environmental action sub-committee to aid the environmental officer in carrying out these additional duties. The terms of the committee are attached here. Terms of reference

Proposed by Nathan Hutchinson Edgar, Environmental Officer

Seconded by Anna Montgomery, SS Environmental Sciences Representative

2023/24-16: Motion to Amend International & ASAP Fund Terms of Reference

Council appreciates

The need for financial support for international students due to high tuition, increasing inflation and exchange rates, and lack of access to supports that exist for domestic students.

Council notes

That the pressing factors facing international students vary, and are often influenced by unexpected world events. The earthquake in Turkey and Syria was a recent world event posing significant financial issues for many Trinity students. Therefore, last year the funds were channeled to support these students.

Council notes

That this issue is no longer a practical way to channel the funds as needs have changed.

Council Resolves

To amend last year's proposal with the attached terms of reference.

Updated TOR

Proposed by Eduarda Werneck, International Student Officer

Seconded by Hamza Bana, Ethnic Minorities Officer

2023/24-17: Motion on the Creation of a Constitutional Review Working Group

Council Notes

The TCDSU Constitution is a well-written but imperfect document with inadequate structures for postgraduate students as well as several grammatical errors due to the transference between the original written document and Overleaf.

Council further notes

There have been several grievances raised with the TCDSU Constitution over the past several years, and these grievances should be aired as well as addressed to remain as democratic in our structures as possible.

Council Therefore Mandates

The creation of a constitutional review working group with the following terms of reference with the central goals to:

1. Fix any grammatical errors in the Constitution for TCDSU.
2. Integrate postgraduates into the Constitution with more formal structures.
3. Integrate already existing structures into the Constitution.
4. Review previously completed submissions of the constitution and providing a report to Council on this.
5. Review relevant sections of the constitution and propose a new constitution if required.

Proposed by Cat Arnold, Education Officer

Seconded by Ruaidhrí Saulnier, STEM Convenor

2023/24-18: Motion on Overnight Guests Policy

Council remarks

That around 1,800 students live on campus or at Trinity Halls, paying anywhere from 7,000 to over 10,000 a year, while facing yearly rent increases and not being granted full rights as tenants, rather being classified as licensees.

Council notes

The overly restrictive nature of the current on-campus and Halls residence overnight guest policy, which disproportionately limits the rights and autonomy of student residents.

Council specifically disagrees with

That on campus, no guest sign-ins can be done after 12am, and that at Trinity Halls, no guest sign-ins can be done after 11pm.

Council further notes

This policy, not applicable to staff living on campus, creates an unjust disparity. TCDSU believes in fostering a supportive and inclusive community and opposes the paternalistic aspects of the existing policy, and believes that students

are adults who should be granted the same rights on campus as other members of our academic community.

Council is concerned

That this is a dangerous, paternalistic, and double-standard policy, and is not conducive to student wellbeing.

Council specifically highlights

Cases where the friends of students who missed their public transport have had nowhere else to go, and College policy meant that they could not sleep on campus or Halls residences on the couch, but had to walk alone at night or not been able to go home, putting themselves in danger.

Council remarks

That College Security's 24/7 presence addresses any logistical concerns related to guest sign-ins after designated hours.

Council recognizes

The need to sign students in for safety and health reasons, but believes that there should be no limit as to how late a student can sign in a guest.

Council therefore mandates

The TCDSU will campaign to abolish the time limit on overnight guests on-campus and at Trinity Halls.

Council further mandates

That the TCDSU will, as part of this, campaign that College Security let guests wait for the resident student who signed them in inside the front gate area, rather than leaving them outside which is dangerous.

Proposed by László Molnárfi, TCDSU President

Seconded by Siubhán Stockman, SS Political Science and Geography Class Rep

2023/24-19: Motion on new Zón Mac Léinn

Council Regrets

The closure of the Mexican Restaurant in the East End/Hamilton. It might have been good, I wasn't a student at the time.

Council Notes

The space has been appropriated as a storage closet for the book of Kells.

Council Celebrates

The success of the Hamilton bank ZML, and its popularity among students.

Council Further Notes

The unsuitable number of lockers in that area of campus due to high demand. This results in students who perform labs to be unable to safely store their belongings during labs, which often last hours.

Council Further Notes

That there is no respite space for students to go to if they feel overwhelmed during labs or lectures down at the east end of campus.

Council recognises

Staff within the Sciences schools have noted that this is a problem and have already proposed using this space as a new student space, which would be designed to provide a storage space for belongings during practicals and a safe zone for students.

Council Mandates

The Sciences Programme Convenor, STEM Convenor, Convenors-in-STEM and the President lobby for this space to be opened as a new Student Space.

Proposed by Vilte Bivainyte, Science Programme Convenor

Seconded by Ruaidhrí Saulnier, STEM Convenor

2023/24-20: Motion on Bursary for Student Parents

Council regrets

The financial challenges faced by student parents, with many struggling to meet the costs of childcare during term time or attending camps, trips or events during school holidays when student parents are attending college, thereby impacting their ability to pursue education.

Council praises

That there have been some efforts to support student parents, such as the 1916 Bursary, which targets underrepresented groups, and one of these groups is lone parents.

Council notes

The financial struggles that student parents face hinder their academic progress and overall well-being.

Council further notes

The success of using TCDSU's Higher Education Authority (HEA) Fund in supporting projects that directly benefit students, specifically the Placement Bursary, the International Fund and the T-Fund.

Council therefore mandates

The allocation of resources from the HEA Fund to establish a Student Parent Bursary program aimed at providing financial assistance to both undergraduate and postgraduate student parents. Council proposes a total funding of e 20,000 for the project, which will be distributed annually over a five-year period, starting September 2024, to ensure sustained support for student parents.

Proposed by László Molnárfi, President

Seconded by Sheila Keegan, Student Parents' Officer

2023/24-21: Motion on Opposing the Green Paper on Disability Reform

Council takes notice of

The government's Green Paper on Disability Reform.

Council recognizes

That there are over 2,000 or so students with disabilities at our College, many of whom have raised serious concerns about the green paper on disability allowance reform proposed by the government.

Council believes

The Green Paper breaches UNCRPD, particularly Article 33.3, as it lacked the involvement of disabled individuals or organizations in its drafting and by using a medical model approach not a social model as enshrined in the UNCRPD Article

1 and Article 2.

Council believes

The Green Paper fails to acknowledge the existence of systemic barriers hindering access to employment for disabled individuals and has been likened to a similar neoliberal policy that was introduced by the Tories in the U.K..

Council notes

The plan presented in the document is opposed by disability organisations around Ireland. Madani Maryam, Chairperson of the Disability Power Ireland, says that the community “have come together to protest this because there has been so much distress and outrage in the community since the announcement of these proposals. We will be categorised into tiers based solely on the perception of our capacity to work from independent medical assessors. All of this goes completely against everything that disabled people and our representative organisations, have been saying for decades.”

Council therefore recognizes

The need to scrap the Green Paper on Disability Reform and to return to the drawing board.

Council therefore mandates

That the TCDSU supports the Scrap the Green Paper Coalition and that the TCDSU opposes the Green Paper on Disability Reform in its entirety.

Proposed by László Molnárfi, President

Seconded by Keely Jenkinson, Disabilities Officer Aoife Bennett, Welfare Officer

2023/24-22: Motion on Bursary for Sports

Council remarks

A motion proposed by 11 postgraduate students struggling with the cost of living last year proposed to pressure the College into improving access to sport for underprivileged students by making the TCDSU stop supporting the sports levy.

Council sees

That this referendum failed, due to the implications it would have on the department of Sport to function, raising considerable alarm amongst Trinity Sports and

Trinity Sports Union.

Council knows

That collaboration between the TCDSU and TSU is very important and that the way forward must be a collaborative approach.

Council praises

That the referendum, while defeated, nevertheless raised considerable attention to the issue of extra equipment, club subscription and court use costs which have a negative effect on the ability of underprivileged students to engage in sports.

Council notes

The importance of physical wellbeing for academic performance, mental health and general life quality.

Council further notes

The success of using TCDSU's Higher Education Authority (HEA) Fund in supporting projects that directly benefit students, specifically the Placement Bursary, the International Fund and the T-Fund.

Council therefore mandates

The allocation of resources from the HEA Fund to establish a Student Sport Bursary program aimed at providing financial assistance to both undergraduate and postgraduate students who may struggle. Council proposes a total funding of e 20,000 for the project, which will be distributed annually over a five-year period, starting September 2024, to ensure sustained support for students who wish to access sports.

Proposed by László Molnárfi, President

Seconded by Ella Mac Lennan, Citizenship Officer

2023/24-23: Motion on the Virtual Learning Environment

Council acknowledges that

According to IT services, the Virtual Learning Environment (currently Blackboard) is the most used piece of software within Trinity College Dublin for student learning.

Council recognises that

Since the beginning of the academic year 2023/24, the virtual learning environment has undergone a review process with staff and student input to decide whether additional functionality would be required or sought by the TCD community. This could lead to two possible outcomes: a complete change in the virtual learning environment or seeking additional functionality within Blackboard.

Council further recognises

Any additional functionality for the Virtual Learning Environment (whether within Blackboard or using a different VLE) would be implemented over multiple years and will require commitment from the Education Officer to ensure the wishes of the student body are fully complied with.

Council therefore mandates

The Education Officer to vote in line with what Council determines is necessary regarding the virtual learning environment, whether to search for additional functionality within Blackboard or to procure a new VLE to the relevant college governing bodies.

Council further mandates

The Education Officer report once per academic year on the progress for any changes regarding the VLE that is occurring to Council.

Proposed by Catherine Arnold, Education Officer

Seconded by Ruaidhri Saulnier, STEM Convenor

2023/24-24: Motion on equipment for Film Students

Council acknowledges

The Film Department currently has no ability to book equipment for use for essential assessments within the course.

Council notes

This creates a significant financial barrier for certain students to complete core assessments as well as an over reliance on certain societies for use of equipment.

Council therefore mandates

The Creative Arts Convenor, the AHSS Faculty convenor and the Education Officer to lobby for film and recording equipment to be made available and centrally bookable under the IT Services department for use for Film students.

Proposed by Catherine Arnold, Education Officer

Seconded by Eoghan Gilroy, AHSS Convenor

2023/24-25: Motion on Job Sharing and Leave

Council cherishes:

The continued success of the trade union movement in fighting for workers' rights and improved working conditions.

Council notes:

That Union officers often work extended hours on behalf of the Union, managing campaign weeks, casework, policy, committees and other essential business, and do so unpaid and without formal working conditions.

Council regrets:

The lack of procedures which satisfactorily facilitate leave for Union officers, particularly given the unfortunate fact that officers often have to choose between leaving necessary work undone and taking time for their wellbeing and college work.

Council fears:

That working students, students with heavy course loads and students on Erasmus or placement struggle to take on jobs within the Union due to the necessary time commitments.

Council hopes:

That work can be done to make accommodations so that all students, regardless of circumstances, can participate in the Union without it having a detrimental effect on their wellbeing, academics or personal lives.

Council therefore mandates:

The President to develop leave policy document in conjunction with the Sabbatical Officer Board and Union Forum to be presented to Council during the first academic term.

Proposed by Sé Ó hEidhin, Deputy Stem Convenor
Seconded by Connor Dempsey, Engagement Officer

2023/24-26: Motion on Anti-Traveller Racism

Council abhors:

The plight and ubiquity of anti-Traveller racism in Ireland which limits the community's access to higher education and hampers their participation in everyday life.

Council regrets:

The critical underrepresentation of Travellers within higher education institutions and, as a result, the limited capacity for grassroots organisation of Travellers in the college community.

Council highlights:

The work of the Trinity Access Programme and former Ethnic Minorities Officers over the previous decade to advocate on behalf of the Travelling Community within college and work towards their integration into the college community.

Council stresses:

That there remains work to be done in raising awareness to the issues of the Travelling Community and in resisting the racism that Travellers continue to experience.

Council therefore mandates:

That the Ethnic Minorities Officer and Access Officer organise one event per academic term related to issues faced by the Travelling Community, relating to Traveller access to higher education, anti-Traveller racism or, more broadly, Traveller rights and culture.

Proposed by Sé Ó hEidhin, Deputy Stem Convenor
Seconded by Connor Dempsey, Engagement Officer

2023/24-27: Motion to Develop a Schedule for "Officer Policy"

Council accepts:

That its business is severely constrained by time limits and that many motions are brought uncontested, and while incredibly important, they delay proceedings.

Council worries:

That some officers do not propose certain “policies” as motions and instead include them in handover documents, leaving them unenforceable by the Oversight Commission and at risk of being forgotten.

Council notes:

That the Union currently lacks an element of its legislative process similar to ministerial orders, and that this has led both to the clogging up of Council and to the lack of codification for much of the Union’s policy.

Council therefore mandates:

That the Engagement Officer, alongside the Engagement Working Group, develop a proposal for a constitutional amendment to create a new schedule of the Constitution for “officer policy” as outlined in the EWG Report to Fifth Council of 2023/24 (making changes as necessary), and that this proposal is presented as a Discussion Item no later than Fourth Council of 2024/25.

Addendum: This new schedule would enable officers to unilaterally introduce policies that would become binding on them (as it would be enforced by the Oversight Commission). To add a policy to their schedule, the officer would present the policy as an item for noting to Council. Officers may “deactivate” policies they or their predecessors have added by also presenting an item for noting to Council. The policies under this jurisdiction would be limited to what is within the officer’s remit, excluding larger policies within the remit of Council (for example, taking stances on issues). Instead, it would relate to actions, like liaising with certain groups, running certain events or lobbying for certain measures.

Proposed by Connor Dempsey, Engagement Officer

Seconded by Sé Ó hEidhin, Deputy Stem Convenor

2023/24-28: Motion on Review with Adequate Consultation of Chapter 1.4

Council recognizes:

The varying attitudes of the student body towards the question of whether the student union should be allowed to criticise political ideologies as well as able to take an explicit no-confidence stance in the government.

Council is concerned:

At the division this has resulted in, with opposing sides resorting to measures which have generated controversy, including constitutional breaches, walkouts and impeachment referendums being launched.

Council therefore reaffirms:

The need for civil discourse on the issues that matter to students, and that may be divisive, and that these issues best be settled by referendum.

Council therefore mandates:

That the incoming Sabbatical Officer Board work, with relevant consultation, to bring a motion to Council containing a proposal which may be put to referendum on Chapter 1.4 no later than the end of Michaelmas Term. This wording should allow the Union to criticise political ideologies and political parties, but will have the necessary safeguards in place to prevent abuse of power. Safeguards should include having to put any possible no confidence motions in the government to a Long-Term Policy (LTP) referendum, and the Union should be prohibited from affiliating to political parties.

Proposed by László Molnárfi, TCDSU President, Jenny Maguire, Peadar Walsh, Beth Strahan

Seconded by Colin Harper, JF Psychology Class Representative Seán Thim O’Leary, SF PPES Class Representative, Eoghan Gilroy AHSS Convenor, Hamza Bana Ethnic Minorities Officer , Pádraig Mac Brádaigh Oifigeach na Gaeilge

2023/24-29: Motion to Improve Support for Students on Clinical and Social Work Placement 2

Council notes:

That there are many students on clinical and social work placement who can become disconnected and isolated from the college community. These students work 40 hour weeks with often an additional part-time job. These students are overburdened and under-represented.

Council is concerned:

Multiple tragedies have struck Health Science students, in particularly in the School of Medicine relating to mental and physical health. Many students work full time hours on clinical placements for no pay, to the detriment of their health and well-being.

Council regrets:

That there are inadequate structures in place to safeguard the physical, emotional and financial health of students on clinical placement. This is partly due to the neglect of previous Student Union Teams over decades.

Council praises:

The ongoing efforts within the Health Sciences Faculty to improve mental health supports for students. This includes a mental health review committee within the School of Medicine and the appointment of a School of Medicine Support Officer. The work of TCD Counselling Services in both suicide prevention and student support. The work of Student Union members to lobby for better supports (including financial assistance) for students on clinical placement.

Council therefore mandates:

The implementation of proactive supports for all students on clinical placement. TCDSU must work in collaboration with TCD Counselling Services to lobby for:

- the creation of more out-of-hours appointment slots.
- the formation of support groups for students on clinical placement.

Council also mandates:

The introduction of a reformed tutor system, in conjunction with the senior tutor, which includes specific guidelines for tutors to organise welfare meetings with students during their clinical placement.

Council further mandates:

As a matter of emergency, TCDSU will lobby and report on progress to attain greater financial supports for students on clinical placement. This lobbying may include national level campaigns drawing attention to all courses who go unpaid. This includes but is not limited to: Radiation Therapy, Occupational Therapy, So-

cial Care and Social Work, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Speech and Language Therapy, Dietetics and so on.

Council further mandates:

That the Student Union continues to demand that increased funding be allocated to mental health services, from both the university and the Irish government.

Proposed by Han McAuley, Off Campus Officer

Seconded by David Treacy, Access Officer

2023/24-30: Motion on Motion Summaries

Council is concerned:

That motions require technical language, and as a result, members of Council may struggle to understand the functional implications of motions from the text alone.

Council praises:

The work done by the Electoral Commission and Oversight Commission to provide motion summaries, making it easier for members of Council to understand what they're voting on.

Council hopes:

That these summaries continue to be used going forward, that they are made use of more and that they become a fundamental element of Council.

Council therefore mandates:

That the Secretary to Council, with the assistance of the Electoral Commission and Oversight Commission, write plain-text summaries explaining the functional implications of every motion brought to Council and publish these summaries alongside Council agendas.

Council further mandates:

That the Chair of Council read aloud the respective summary before the motion is presented by the proposer.

Proposed by Connor Dempsey, Engagement Officer

Seconded by Eve Martin, Deputy STEM Convenor

2023/24-31: Motion on Amending TORs of Committees

Council worries:

That the excessive amount of elections held at First Council overburdens the Electoral Commission, disengages class reps and delays necessary proceedings.

Council acknowledges:

That many of the committee positions elected at First Council require individuals to publicly disclose sensitive information in order to run and that these, among other positions, could better be filled through anonymised application.

Council laments:

That certain provisions of the Constitution provide for absurd bureaucracy, requiring equally absurd means of improving efficiency.

Council further mandates:

That the section of the terms of reference of the Trinity Joint Honours Committee reading:

“Committee Members shall be elected at first Council of teaching term.”

shall be changed to:

“Committee Members shall be selected by anonymous application at the start of each academic year, except for Ordinary Committee Members, who shall be elected at the first Council of teaching term.”

Council further mandates:

That the section of the terms of reference of the Campaigns Committee reading:

“Elected Members (to serve until June of the academic year in which they are elected): 8-12 Ordinary Committee members Postgraduate Taught Representative Postgraduate Researcher Representative First Year Representative”

shall be changed to:

“Elected Members (to serve until June of the academic year in which they are elected and to be elected at First Council): 8-12 Ordinary Committee members Appointed Members (to serve until June of the academic year in which they are elected and to be selected by anonymous application): Postgraduate Taught Representative Postgraduate Researcher Representative First Year Representative”

Proposed by Connor Dempsey, Engagement Officer

Seconded by Seconded by László Molnárfi, President and Giulia Villa, Trinity Joint Honours Convenor

2023/24-32: Rún um Ainm Theach 6 (Teach Mandela)

Tugann an Chomhairle faoi deara:

Go bhfuil oifigí agus seirbhísí AMLCT lonnaithe den chuid is mó i dTeach 6 (Teach Mandela), An Chearnóg Tosaigh.

Cuireann an Chomhairle fáilte roimh:

Athainmniú Theach 6 go Teach Mandela i 2000, in onóir Nelson Mandela.

Tuigeann an Chomhairle:

Iarrachtaí leanúnacha Oifigeach na Gaeilge, in éineacht leis na hoifigigh agus baill Aontais eile, an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn.

Tuigeann an Chomhairle freisin:

An gá atá leis an nGaeilge a bheith i ngach cuid den Aontas agus nár chóir í a imeallú go réimse an Oifigigh Ghaeilge.

Mar sin, tugann an Chomhairle údarás:

Go ndéanfaidh oifigigh Fhóram an Aontais, An Coimisiún Toghcháin agus an Coimisiún Maoirseachta tagairt do House 6 mar “Teach 6” agus/nó “Teach Mandela” i gcumarsáid Aontais oifigiúil agus go spreagfaidh siad na baill eile an Aontais amhlaidh a dhéanamh fosta.

Council Notes:

That currently the TCDSU sabbatical offices and TCDSU services are predominantly based in House 6 (Mandela House), Front Square.

Council Welcomes:

The 2000 renaming of House 6 to Mandela House, in honour of Nelson Mandela.

Council Appreciates:

The ongoing efforts by the TCDSU Oifigeach na Gaeilge, in collaboration with other officers and members of the union to promote the use of the Irish language.

Council Also Appreciates:

That Gaeilge must be in every part of the union and that it should not be isolated to the remit of Oifigeach na Gaeilge.

Council therefore mandates:

That all Union Forum officers, the Electoral Commission, and the Oversight Commission refer to House 6 as “Teach 6” and/or Teach Mandela in official Union communications, and actively encourage all other Union members to do the same.

Proposed by Pádraig Mac Brádaigh, Oifigeach na Gaeilge

Seconded by Fóram an Aontais (FA/UF)

2023/24-33: Motion to support a transition to a 75% plant based university**Council notes**

the need to switch to a plant based food system in the face of the climate crisis is an acknowledged scientific fact, backed up by international bodies such as the IPCC.

Council notes

that while there is variability in how people react to plant based foods, the overall health benefits of moving away from processed and red meat as a large component of diet are largely recognised by the medical community.

Council acknowledges

recent findings by animal rights groups, highlighting the inhumane conditions on Irish pig farms.

Council applauds

the recent work of Trinity Catering to make plant based foods more accessible, yet would like to encourage them to move further in this direction.

Council further notes

that college has taken an atrocious stance as regards eating disorders, as per a recent Trinity News Report. As such it is incredibly important that this is taken into account as a shift to a plant based food system is enacted.

Council therefore mandates

to support a campaign for Trinity College Dublin to transition to at least 75% plant based foods over the next five years.

Council mandates

that the Environmental Officer shall consult with the Officer for Students with Disabilities, the Disability Service in Trinity and other relevant bodies in so doing in order to ensure that there are no health issues caused by this.

Proposed by Nathan Hutchinson Edgar, Environmental Officer

Seconded by Aiesha Wong, Comms Officer

2023/24-34: *Motion on Unanswered Questions at Council

Council Notes

That Council is the body that allows students to interact with the Sabbatical Team the most.

Council Also Notes

During officer reports, discussion items, motions, and other council proceedings, questions are asked to the Sabbatical Team which may go unanswered due to the officer(s) not knowing the answer.

Council Understands

That Sabbatical Officers don't always have the answers to all questions asked to them at council.

Council Mandates

That the Secretary of Council notes unanswered questions during Council and forwards them to the team no later than three days post-Council.

Council Also Mandates

That the Sabbatical Team responds to these questions by email no later than one week after receiving them from the Secretary of Council.

Originally Proposed by Paraic McLean, Communications and Marketing Officer

Originally Seconded by Aimee Connolly, Education Officer

Originally passed 18/19, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Union Forum, László Molnárfi, President

2023/24-35: *Motion on Sabbatical Officer Office Hours

Council Notes

Sabbatical Officers are frequently busy, either with meetings in their office or meetings and events out of their office.

Council Also Notes

That the accessibility of Sabbatical Officers to the students they represent is essential to the pursuit of openness, inclusiveness and student engagement with the Students' Union.

Council Mandates

That Sabbatical Officers schedule at least 2 hours per week during term time, during which they will be available for students to drop in, and that these will be publicized by the Students' Union in the weekly email.

Originally Proposed by Shane De Rís, President

Originally Seconded by Paraic McLean, Communications and Marketing Officer

Originally passed 18/19, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Union Forum, László Molnárfi, President

2023/24-36: *Motion on International Student and Asylum Seeker Access Provision (ASAP) Scholar Fund

Council Regrets

That International students pay more than twice as much for the same education as those who can avail of the free fees initiative, non-EU international students have seen their fees increase by 3% most years during Patrick Prendergast's provostship, that COVID-19 impacted international students in unique ways and that non-EU international students never received € 250 from Minister Harris' re-fund scheme.

Council Also Regrets

International students and ASAP scholars face many challenges that make focusing on education difficult.

Council Notes

International students and ASAP scholars face unique costs to education like visa costs, medical insurance and expensive travel costs.

Council Also Notes

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

Council Mandates

That € 30,000 be allocated from the HEA Fund as has been outlined in the International Student and Asylum Seeker Access Provision Scholar Fund Proposal with € 20,000 being used this year to support international students' recovery from COVID-19 shutdown and € 5,000 being disbursed for the two following years.

International Student and Asylum Seeker Access Provision Scholar Fund Proposal

Originally Proposed by Sierra Müller-Owens, Welfare and Equality Officer

Originally Seconded by Dylan Krug, International Student Officer

Originally passed 21/22, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Union Forum, László Molnárfi, President

2023/24-37: *Motion on TCD Divestment from Arms and Weaponry Manufacturers

Council Notes

As of 2020, Trinity College Dublin invests 2,6 million euros into Arms and Weaponry manufacturers, such as BAE systems, Lockheed Martin and the Boeing Company through its endowment fund. Council Celebrates Trinity being awarded 'University of Sanctuary Status', fostering a welcome and inclusive environment for asylum seekers and refugees.

Council Regrets

That these arms and weaponry manufacturers undeniably view the migration of

refugees and subsequent border security as an opportunity to make money.

Council Mandates

That TCDSU lobby for full transparency and openness regarding College's investments.

Originally Proposed by László Molnárfi - SF PPES Class Representative

Originally Seconded by Jodie Milne - SS Nursing Class Representative

Originally passed 21/22, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Union Forum, László Molnárfi, President

2023/24-38: *Anti-Spiking Policy

Council Regrets:

The increase in spiking that has been reported in nightclubs post lockdown.

Council Welcomes:

The many hours of research, communication and advocacy that have been done by the Union of Students' in Ireland's Welfare Officer to create a Dublin-wide agreement between SUs and private establishments.

Council Mandates:

The Welfare Equality Officer and the Entertainment Officer to aid USI in anti-spiking policy where possible and ensure that TCDSU follows the policy when it is completed

Originally Proposed by Seán Lysaght, JS CSL Class Rep, Education Committee OCM

Originally Seconded by Sierra Müller-Owens, Welfare and Equality Officer

Originally passed 21/22, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Union Forum, László Molnárfi, President

2023/24-39: *Motion on College Transparency

Council Welcomes

Sabbatical Officers' work and their written reports to Council.

Council Notes

That the Sabbatical Officers' attend a lot of College and other meetings as part of their duties to the Union, the names of which are listed in their written reports to Council.

Council Regrets

That for some meetings, there are no publicly available minutes, especially for ad-hoc meetings.

Council Also Regrets

That oftentimes, as such, it is unclear from the written report what the Sabbatical Officers' said at meetings, if anything, and what the reaction to these interventions were. As such, Sabbatical Officers' can not be held to account in some cases, and there is a lack of transparency.

Council Mandates

The Sabbatical Officers' lobby College for more transparency by advocating for the publication of all College meeting minutes online and for better availability of annex documents online for College meetings.

That Sabbatical Officers' to lobby for the public availability of the agenda and annex documents before College meetings take place.

Originally Proposed by László Molnárfi, SF PPES rep

Originally Seconded by Leah Keogh, SU President

Originally passed 21/22, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Union Forum, László Molnárfi, President

2023/24-40: *Motion to Oppose the Cultural Death of Dublin

Council Regrets

The recent announcement of the closure of the Science Gallery, of Chapters Bookstore, and countless other cultural resources in Ireland.

Council Notes

Resources for students as well as the public are being torn down in favour of building more hotels, despite the fact that we are in a housing crisis as well as a cultural crisis. These resources include libraries, museums, bars, nightclubs, and more.

Council Recognises

Accommodation is the number one priority in the rent crisis that Ireland is facing and that the protection of cultural heritage is also worth fighting for.

Council Mandates

to hold an official stance to #StopKillingDublin.

Council Further Mandates

For the Campaigns committee in conjunction with the President to work towards forming an action plan to face this issue.

Originally Proposed by Cúinla Morris, Class Rep (SS Modern Irish)

Originally Seconded by Zöe Cummins, STEM Convenor

Originally passed 21/22, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Union Forum, László Molnárfi, President

2023/24-41: *Motion on Non-EU Hosting Agreement

Council notes:

Currently, Non-EU/EEA PhD research students require a research contract of employment to be eligible for the Hosting Agreement Scheme. It is typical for most Irish universities to hire Non-EU/EEA PhD research students on scholarship contracts rather than employment contracts—this produces a barrier to access.

Council is concerned:

That unequal access to the Hosting Agreement Scheme adversely impacts non-eligible Non-EU/EEA PhD research students due to the precarity of their immigration status relative to those issued with a Hosting Agreement. Further, while eligible researchers' immediate families can reside or work in Ireland, non-eligible researchers are faced with family separation or the financial insecurity of a partner's inability to gain employment.

Council believes:

That the contributions of all Non-EU/EEA PhD research students to Irish research projects should be equally recognized, valued, and rewarded irrespective of their contractual terms.

Council therefore mandates:

That TCDSU supports the Non-EEA Ph.D. Students Society-Ireland's campaign to expand the Hosting Agreement Scheme eligibility criteria to include research scholarship contracts.

Originally Proposed by Laszlo Molnarfi, Class Rep

Originally Seconded by Julie Smirnova, Citizenship Officer

Originally passed 21/22, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Union Forum, László Molnárfi, President

2023/24-42: *Motion on Students' Union adoption of the Living Wage

Council notes

The rising cost of College: Trinity students currently pay the highest fees in the European Union, with Dublin being one of the most expensive cities in the world to live in (Irish Examiner, 2021).

Council regrets

The financial strain these costs place on students and its impact on student mental health and academic performance in many cases (Welfare & Equality Annual Report 2021).

Council notes

That the living wage is intended to establish an hourly wage rate that should provide employees with sufficient income to achieve an agreed acceptable minimum standard of living.

Council further notes

The Students' Union as an annual employer of students who deliver valuable student services and its responsibility to lead by example.

Council therefore mandates

TCDSU to adopt the living wage plus holiday pay as their rate of pay for all Union employees.

Council further mandates

The President to amend the contracts of Union staff to reflect this change by week

beginning Monday 28th February 2022.

Originally Proposed by Leah Keogh, TCDSU President

Originally Seconded by Zoe Cummins, STEM Convenor

Originally passed 21/22, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Union Forum, László Molnárfi, President

2023/24-43: *Motion to Support PhD Groups

Council notes with concern

That postgraduate researchers are not recognised as workers by the university or state. Without this recognition, they are without working rights and are not entitled to a salary based on the living wage, employment contracts, minimum notice periods, leave from work (personal, parental or sick), social and pension contributions, safety in the workplace, equal treatment, or privacy and data protection. This lack of working rights has a significant impact on postgraduate researchers' welfare and financial stability. Doctoral stipends are not fixed, ranging from € 0 - € 21,000 pa. In all cases, this results in the candidate earning less than minimum wage for the work performed. Additionally, several departments at TCD require PhD researchers to complete unpaid tutorial and demonstrating hours to compensate for fee contributions. In light of the ever-increasing costs of living, the burden of these conditions is growing rapidly, resulting in a detrimental impact on the health and well being of postgraduate researchers.

Council further notes

That Ireland ranks at the very bottom among EU/EEA countries when it comes to average PhD stipend to cost-of-living, with 8 EU/EEA already implementing working rights for PhD candidates.

Council therefore mandates

The TCD-SU will adopt a committed stance in support of the Postgraduate Workers' Organization (PWO) (a merger of the TCD Postgraduate Workers Alliance (TCD PGWA) and the PhD's Collective Action Union (PCAU)), their aims and objectives as outlined by their charter. This should include active participation in the PWO campaigns and collaboration on campus-based campaigns relevant to both the PWO and the TCDSU.

Council further mandates

TCDSU support the idea of postgraduate researchers being represented by a workers union at Trinity College Dublin.

additional proposers: Conor Reddy, Shaakya Vembar, Shauna Donohoe, DJ Ringis, Mark Anderson, Tenaya Jorgensen, Serena Foo, Thomas Dinneen, Karina Einicke

Amended 2022/23

Originally Proposed by Eoghan Ross, Non-member of council

Originally Seconded by Leah Keogh, President

Originally passed 21/22, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Union Forum, László Molnárfi, President

2024/25

2024/25-1: Approval of the Student Parent/Carer Fund TOR

Council commends

The work of the previous Welfare & Equality officer and Student Parent officer in the creation of the Student Parent/Carer Fund

Council recognises

The work needed to be done to complete the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Fund to run

Council therefore resolves

To adopt the attached TOR of the Student Parent/Carer fund so that Student Parents/Carers can be reimbursed for the costs associated with childminding during the mid-term break

Terms of Reference

Proposed by Hamza Bana, Oifigeach Leasa agus Comhionannais | Welfare and Equality Officer

Seconded by Katelyn Mullan Galvin, Oifigeach Cúramóra Daltaí | Student Carer Officer

2024/25-2: 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

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 four ordinary sittings of Comhairle, once before and following Reading Week in both Michaelmas and Hilary Term.

Proposed by Fóram an Aontais | Union Forum

Seconded by Jenny Maguire, Uachtarán | President

2024/25-3: Motion for Biological and Biomedical Sciences Programme Convenor Mandates

Comhairle notes

There is no list of Programme Convenors anywhere, relying solely on momentum and the discretion of the Electoral Commission to select which ones should and should not be elected.

Comhairle regrets

That sometimes, things get lost in bureaucracy, and the mandates do not get renewed at Comhairle (c.f. OC Report dated 23/04/2021 / Last Comhairle 20/21)

Comhairle notes

The TR60 Biological & Biomedical Sciences Entry Route has the largest class size of any single course outside of Joint Honours, feeding into 11 moderatorships, in 4 different Schools.

Comhairle further notes

That no single School Convenor could be expected to look after their school and also TR60.

Comhairle finally notes

The TR060 Biological and Biomedical Sciences Course Committee includes a seat for an undergraduate representative.

Comhairle therefore mandates

That the Biological and Biomedical Sciences Programme Convenor fill this posi-

tion, to be elected annually at the same time as the School Convenors at the last STEM Faculty Assembly of the year.

Comhairle also mandates

The Education Officer update Schedule 1 to ensure that the Biological and Biomedical Sciences Programme Convenor receives voting rights at STEM Faculty Assemblies.

Comhairle also mandates

The Biological and Biomedical Sciences Programme Convenor provide reports to the STEM Faculty Assembly at least once in an academic year.

Comhairle further mandates

The Biological and Biomedical Sciences Programme Convenor provide a crossover manual for their successor.

Comhairle mandates

The Education Officer to update Schedule 6 to include the Biological and Biomedical Sciences Course Committee.

Comhairle mandates

The Biological and Biomedical convenor to organise a Moderatorship fair for second years in February of each academic year

Proposed by Ruaidhrí F. Saulnier, Tionólaí Dhámh ETIM | STEM Convenor

Seconded by Emi Sinella, Tionólaí Chlár na Bitheolaíochta agus na nEolaíochtaí Bithleighis | Biological and Biomedical Sciences Programme Convenor

2024/25-4: Motion for The Science Programme Convenor's Mandates

Comhairle notes

There is no list of Programme Convenors anywhere, relying solely on momentum and the discretion of the Electoral Commission to select which ones should and should not be elected.

Comhairle regrets

That sometimes, things get lost in bureaucracy, and the mandates do not get renewed at Comhairle (c.f. OC Report dated 23/04/2021 / Last Comhairle 20/21)

Comhairle notes

That the “Science Programme” in Trinity comprises almost one third of the entire faculty of STEM.

Comhairle further notes

That the Trinity Science Programme Management Committee (TSPMC) includes a seat for an undergraduate representative

Comhairle therefore mandates

The undergraduate representative on the TSPMC will be elected from the pool of STEM School and Programme Convenors at the last STEM Faculty Assembly of the year, and that the secondary position of “Science Programme Convenor” be this representative.

Comhairle also mandates

The Science Programme Convenor provide reports to the STEM Faculty Assembly at least once in an academic year.

Comhairle further mandates

The Science Programme Convenor provide a crossover manual for their successor.

Comhairle mandates

The Education Officer to update Schedule 6 to include the TSPMC.

Proposed by Ruaidhrí F. Saulnier, Tionólaí Dhámh ETIM | STEM Convenor

Seconded by Stefan Simonovic, Tionólaí Chlár na hEolaíochta agus Tionólaí Chlár na nEolaíochtaí Nádurtha | Science Programme Convener and Natural Sciences School Convenor

2024/25-5: Motion for The Joint Honours Programme Convenor's Mandates

Comhairle notes

There is no list of Programme Convenors anywhere, relying solely on momentum

and the discretion of the Electoral Commission to select which ones should and should not be elected.

Comhairle regrets

That sometimes, things get lost in bureaucracy, and they do not get renewed at Comhairle (c.f. OC Report dated 23/04/2021 / Last Comhairle 20/21)

Comhairle notes

The Joint Honours Programme in Trinity comprises a significant portion of the entire faculty of AHSS, and a smaller portion of the faculty of STEM, with 29 subjects and 162 possible combinations.

Comhairle further notes

That the Undergraduate Common Architecture Governance Committee (UCAGC) includes a seat for an undergraduate representative

Comhairle mandates

The undergraduate representative on the UCAGC be elected from the pool of JH student by the class reps for Joint Honours Courses at the last Comhairle meeting of the year, and that the position of "Joint Honours Programme Convenor" be filled by this representative.

Comhairle also mandates

The Education Officer update Schedule 1 to ensure that the Joint Honours Programme Convenor receives voting rights at both STEM and AHSS Faculty Assemblies.

Comhairle also mandates

The Joint Honours Programme Convenor provide reports to the STEM and AHSS Faculty Assembly at least once in an academic year.

Comhairle further mandates

The Joint Honours Programme Convenor provide a crossover manual for their successor.

Comhairle mandates

The Education Officer to update Schedule 6 to include the UCAGC.

Proposed by Ruaidhrí F. Saulnier, Tionólaí Dhámh ETIM | STEM Convenor

Seconded by Boyd Stephen, Tionólaí na Comhchéime Onóracha | Joint Honours Convenor

2024/25-6: Rún um Sheirbhísí Meabhairshláinte sa Choláiste | Motion on Mental Health Services in College

Molann an Chomhairle

An obair atá déanta ag an gColáiste i gcomhoibriú leis an Aontas chun dul i ngleic le ceisteanna sláinte fisiciúla, go háirithe fógra a rinneadh le déanaí go ndúblódh an Coláiste maoiniú le haghaidh táirgí míostraithe

Tugann an Chomhairle faoi deara

Gur páirt lárnach shaol na mac léinn uile í an mheabhairshláinte, le taobh na sláinte fisiciúla, a bhfuil tionchar aici ar a n-ábaltacht éirí go maith sa saol acadúil taobh istigh den Choláiste agus ina saolta i gcointine.

Is oth leis an gComhairle

Go dtearcmhaoinítear séirbhísí meabhairshláinte, cosúil le Comhairleoracht Mic Léinn, agus nach féidir leo freastal ar riachtanais phobal na mac léinn dá bharr.

Tugann an Chomhairle faoi deara freisin

Nach féidir Comhréitigh Réasúnta ar bhonn thuairisc LENS (Learning Education Needs Summary) an mhic léinn a sholáthar mura sholáthraítear Fianaise Míchumais do Sheirbhís disAbility na Tríonóide, rud a bhféadfadh a bheith deacair dóibh siúd a bhfuil fadhbanna nó neamhoird neamhdhiagnóisithe meabhairshláinte orthu.

Tugann an Chomhairle faoi deara freisin

Gur féidir gurb iad seirbhísí meabhairshláinte sa Choláiste ná an t-aon sheirbhís dá leithéid a bhfuil rochtain ag mac léinn uirthi, go háirithe nuair atá soláthróirí príobháideacha daora meabhairshláinte i gceist leis na roghanna eile.

Is oth leis an gComhairle

Nach féidir le mac léinn a bhfuil fadhbanna nó neamhoird meabhairshláinte neamhdhiagnóisithe air diagnóis a fháil trí sheirbhísí meabhairshláinte an Choláiste nó trí

Chomhairleoracht Mic Léinn.

Mar sin, sainordraíonn an Chomhairle

Go gcuirfidh an t-Uachtarán agus an t-Oifigeach Leasa is Comhionannais brú ar an gColáiste chun maoiniú na seirbhísí meabhairshláinte i dTríonóid a mhéadú, agus an fhéidireacht a thabhairt do mhic léinn diangóis a fháil ar champas gan dul trí sholáthróirí príobháideacha daora sheirbhísí sláinte.

Council Praises

The work that College has done in collaboration with the Union to address physical health issues, particularly the recent announcement that College would double funding for period products on campus.

Council Notes

That mental health - alongside physical health - is a central part of all students' wellbeing, impacting how well they are able to fare in both academic life in College and in their wider lives.

Council Regrets

That mental health services, such as Student Counselling, are underfunded and therefore are unable to service the needs of the student population.

Council Further Notes

That Reasonable Accommodations on the basis of a student's LENS (Learning Education Needs Summary) report can only be provided once Evidence of Disability is provided to the Trinity disAbility Service, which may be difficult for those who have undiagnosed mental health problems or disorders.

Council Further Notes

That College-based mental health services can be the only such service at the disposal of students, especially when the other options often involve costly private health services providers.

Council Regrets

That it is not possible for a student with undiagnosed mental health problems or disorders to receive a diagnosis through College's mental health services or Student Counselling.

Council Therefore Mandates

That the President and the Welfare and Equality Officer put pressure on College authorities to increase funding of mental-health services in Trinity, and to give students the possibility of being diagnosed on campus, without going through costly private health services providers.

Proposed by Pól Ó hÍomhair, Ionadaí ranga | Class rep

Seconded by Beircheart Ó hÓgáin, Ionadaí ranga | Class rep

2024/25-7: Motion on Late Payments by AR

Council notes

That Academic Registry is very commonly months late in payment of PhD stipends.

Council further notes

That essentially all PHDs and PGRs do not control their own funds, meaning they cannot issue payments upon request.

Council further notes

That Academic Registry has little to no flexibility for late tuition payments that are beyond any possible control of a PGR paid to work at Trinity.

Council further notes

That often PGR supervisors are required to step in to help resolve late payments under the current system, which places undue work and stress on them and on the PGRs who work with them.

Council therefore mandates

That the PGRF Chair and the SU President will contact College and AR and demand that the current, overly strict system of “late payment penalties” be modified in order to comply with the reality of PGR funding.

Proposed by Seathrún Sardina, Ionadaí ranga | Class rep and PGR Convenor

Seconded by Jenny Maguire, Uachtarán | President

2024/25-8: Motion to create an information campaign for co-dissemination with PWO and TCDSU

Council notes

That while PGR conditions are very poor, that there is a lack of understanding about this among undergraduates.

Council further notes

That building solidarity is a necessary part of any union activity.

Council further notes

That the PGR Forum, build to represent PGRs, has expressed desire to build solidarity through an information campaign.

Council therefore mandates

That PGRF will create an information campaign around the issues that face PGRs on campus; this campaign will include emails, socials posts, and town halls.

Council further mandates

That the SU President and the SU Comms Officer will work with the PGRF Chair to organise and run the information campaign across the College community.

Proposed by Seathrún Sardina, Ionadaí ranga | Class rep and PGR Convenor

Seconded by Jenny Maguire, Uachtarán | President

2024/25-9: Rún um Sheirbhísí Chúram Fiacla sa Choláiste | Motion on Dental Care Services in The College

Aithníonn an Chomhairle

Go dtairgeann Dental Care Smiles ar Shráid Grafton lascaine 10% do mhic léinn a laghdaíonn an t-ualach chostas chúram fiacla atá ar mhic léinn.

Molann an Chomhairle

Go mbíonn cúram fiacla saor in aisce ar fáil do dhaoine fásta os cionn 16 bhliain d'aois a bhfuil cárta leighis acu faoi Scéim na Seirbhísí Cóireála Fiaclóireachta de chuid an FSS.

Tugann an Chomhairle faoi deara

Go bhfuil tábhacht le cúram fiacla ó thaobh shláinte agus fholláine na mac léinn uile de, agus gur bunghné a sláinte fisiciúla é cúram fiacla a bhfuil tionchar aici ar ábaltacht na mac léinn éirí go maith ina saol acadúil taobh istigh den Choláiste agus ina saolta i gcoitinne araon.

Tugann an Chomhairle faoi deara freisin

Nach féidir le neart mac léinn teacht a bheith acu ar an gcúram fiacra atá ag teastáil uathu de dheasca ghanntanas na bhfiacraí atá ar fáil dóibh ina gceantair áitiúla.

Tugann an Chomhairle faoi deara freisin

Gur ualach suntasach airgid ar mhic léinn agus a dteaghlaigh é costas chúram príobháideach fiacra in Éirinn a chuireann tuilleadh srianta le rochtain ar na seirbhísí riachtanacha seo.

Is oth leis an gComhairle

Nach mbíonn cúram fiacra atá inrochtana, ar ardchaighdeán, agus atá saor in aisce nó ar phraghas réasúnta ar fáil do gach mac léinn ar an gcampas.

Is oth leis an gComhairle freisin

Nach bhfuil rúin ghníomhacha sa Lámhleabhar Polasaithe a luann cúram fiacra, fiú.

Dá bharr sin, sainordaíonn an Chomhairle

Go gcuirfidh an t-Uachtarán agus an t-Oifigeach Leasa is Comhionannais brú ar údarais an Choláiste chun fiacraí ar an gcampas a bhunú a mbeadh seirbhísí saor in aisce ar phointe a n-úsáide ar fáil aige do na mic léinn agus na baill foirne ar mhian leo leas a bhaint as scrúduithe fiacra rialta, de réir an t-achar ama molta, ceann gach sé mhí.

Sainordaíonn an Chomhairle freisin

Go n-éileoidh an t-Uachtarán agus an t-Oifigeach Leasa is Comhionannais go soláthrófar cúram fiacra sa bhreis agus go gcuirfear praghas réasúnta orthu, ar aon dul leo siúd a mbeadh fáil orthu le cárta leighis trí Scéim na Seirbhísí Cóireála Fiacraí de chuid an FSS, ar a laghad.

Council acknowledges

That Dental Care Smiles on Grafton Street offers a 10% student deal which lessens the burden of the cost of dental care on students.

Council praises

That free dental care is available to adults over the age of 16 who possess a medical card under the HSE's Dental Treatment Service Scheme.

Council notes

Dental care is important to the health and well-being of all students and is a fundamental component of their physical health affecting how well students fare in both academic life in College and in their wider lives.

Council further notes

Many students are unable to access the dental healthcare they need due to shortages of dentists available to them in their local areas.

Council further notes

That the cost of private dental care in Ireland is a significant financial burden on students and their families, further restricting access to these necessary services.

Council regrets

That free or affordable, high quality, and accessible dental care is not available for all students on campus.

Council further regrets

That the Policy Manual has no active motions even mentioning dental care.

Council therefore mandates

That the President and the Welfare and Equality Officer put pressure on College authorities to establish an on-campus dentist whose services are free at point of use for students and staff who wish to receive regular dental checkups, per the recommended time frame of every six months.

Council further mandates

That the President and the Welfare and Equality Officer insist that additional dental care should be provided for and be made affordable at least in line with those that would be accessed through HSE's Dental Treatment Service Scheme with a medical card.

Proposed by Beircheart Ó hÓgáin, Ionadaí ranga | Class rep

Seconded by Pól Ó hÍomhair, Ionadaí ranga | Class rep

2024/25-10: Motion on Ethical Sponsorship Policy

Comhairle notes

That TCDSU/AMLCT is dedicated to maintaining the highest ethical standards in all of its sponsorships.

Comhairle further notes

That sponsorships should always reflect and support the values that our Union

stands for, ensuring that the welfare of our students and researchers remains at the forefront of any partnership.

Comhairle acknowledges

The current wording of the sponsorship policy aligns with the Union's aims and principles to safeguard the welfare of its members, and with this, promote inclusivity, and uphold the highest ethical standard in all sponsorship agreements.

Comhairle therefore mandates

The Communications and Marketing Officer to:

- Conduct a review of the sponsorship policy on an annual basis.
- Update the policy as necessary to reflect the specific needs and priorities of TCDSU/AMLCT and its members.
- Present any changes to Comhairle for approval.

Proposed by Beth Strahan, An tOifigeach Cumarsáide agus Margaíochta | Communications & Marketing Officer

Seconded by Eoghan Gilroy, An tOifigeach Oideachais | Education Officer

2024/25-11: Rún um Oifigeach na Siamsaíochta Gaeilge agus um Imeachtaí Gaeilge

Tuigeann an Chomhairle:

Gur ról ilghnéitheach atá in Oifigeach na Gaeilge agus go bhfuil réimse an-leathan freagrachtaí ag baint leis ó thaobh beartais, ceart agus cúrsaí pobail de.

Aontaíonn an Chomhairle: Gur chóir d'Oifigeach na Gaeilge an chuid is mó dá chuid ama a chaitheamh ag stocaireacht ar an gColáiste ar son tuilleadh cúrsaí acadúla agus seirbhísí a chur ar fáil trí Ghaeilge.

Molann an Chomhairle: Bunú Rannóg an Aistriúcháin, a bhaineann cuid mhór d'ualach an aistriúcháin d'Oifigeach na Gaeilge agus a ligeann dó tuilleadh ama a chaitheamh ar an mbeartas teanga.

Molann an Chomhairle: Iarrachtaí gach Oifigigh Gaeilge a d'eagraigh seachtain na hÉigse, féile Gaeilge an Choláiste, go dtí seo, agus an tábhacht le himeachtaí sóisialta ar ardchaighdeán a reáchtáil do gach lucht féachana maidir leis an nGaeilge, cainteoirí líofa, foghlaimeoirí agus tosaitheoirí glana san áireamh.

Creideann an Chomhairle:

Gur chóir do Choiste Siamsa an Aontais páirt níos mó a ghlacadh in eagrúchán imeachtaí na hÉigse ós iad na himeachtaí príomhchúram an Choiste agus gur chóir na scileanna sin a úsáid chun cabhrú le himeachtaí Gaeilge a eagrú.

Anuas air sin, tuigeann an Chomhairle:

Go gcaithfidh duine sainiúil le Gaeilge líofa a bheith ar Choiste Siamsa an Aontais chun cabhrú le himeachtaí na hÉigse a eagrú in éineacht le hOifigeach na Gaeilge, agus go mbeadh an duine céanna tábhachtach i gcomhthéacs an Ghaeilge a scaipeadh ag imeachtaí eile de chuid Shiamsa na Tríonóide inarb é an Béarla an phríomhtheanga, rud a mhionlaíonn an Ghaeilge.

Molann an Chomhairle:

Na hiarrachtaí atá déanta ag an Oifigeach Siamsaíochta i mbliana imeachtaí lán-Ghaeilge a reáchtáil.

Tá súil ag an gComhairle:

Go leanfaidh leithéidí Ravetacht ar aghaidh mar chuid lárnach d'fhéilire Shiamsa na Tríonóide chun an Ghaeilge a normalú i dtimpeallachtaí sóisialta nádúrtha.

Dá bharr sin, sainordaíonn an Chomhairle: Go leasófaí Téarmaí Tagartha an Choiste Siamsaíochta mar a leanas:

Faoin alt dar teideal "Ballraíocht," leasú a dhéanamh ar an bhfo-cheannteideal

"Seisear Oifigeach Sóisearach"

ionas go mbeadh

"Ochtar Oifigeach Sóisearach" ann ina ionad

agus an méid seo a leanas a chur isteach faoi:

2.

h) Oifigeach na Siamsaíochta Gaeilge

Faoin alt dar teideal "Ballraíocht," leasú ar an méid seo a leanas

"Toghfar comhaltaí de réir alt 3, ach amháin an tOifigeach Caidrimh Phoiblí agus an tOifigeach Teicniúil, a cheapfar de réir alt 4."

ionas go mbeadh

“Toghfár comhaltaí de réir alt 3, ach amháin an tOifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí, an tOifigeach Teicniúil, agus Oifigeach na Siamsaíochta Gaeilge, a cheapfar de réir alt 4.” ann ina ionad

Faoin alt dar teideal “Comhaltaí a Cheapadh,” an méid seo a leanas a chur isteach i ndiaidh fho-alt 1

2. Oifigeach na Siamsaíochta Gaeilge a Cheapadh

- a. Osclófar iarratais don ról seo coicís roimh an CGB.
- b. Dúnfar na hiarratais seachtain amháin roimh an CGB.
- c. Tionólfar na hagallaimh an tseachtain roimh an CGB.
- d. Ar an bpainéal agallaimh, beidh an tOifigeach Siamsaíochta, an tOifigeach Siamsaíochta nuathofa, Oifigeach na Gaeilge, Oifigeach na Gaeilge nuathofa, agus duine seachtrach amháin a roghnófar de réir mar is rogha leis an Oifigeach Gaeilge nuathofa.
- e. Is i nGaeilge amháin a chuirfidh siad siúd a bhfuil Gaeilge acu ar an bpainéal a gcuid ceisteanna agus cuirfidh siad siúd nach bhfuil Gaeilge acu a gcuid ceisteanna i mBéarla.
- f. Fógrófar an ceapachán ag an CGB, tar éis róil an fheidhmeannais a fhógairt.

Oifigeach na Siamsaíochta Gaeilge

Cabhrú leis an Oifigeach Siamsaíochta imeachtaí Gaeilge a eagrú dírithe ar chain-teoirí líofa agus imeachtaí atá dírithe ar fhoghlaimoirí freisin.

Comhoibriú le hOifigeach na Gaeilge chun imeachtaí a eagrú le haghaidh Éigse na Tríonóide.

A chinntiú go ndéanfaí gach ábhar de chuid Shiamsa na Tríonóide a phostáil agus a eisiúnt i nGaeilge trí chabhair phearsanta leis an aistriúchán nó a chinntiú go dtugann comhaltaí eile an choiste fógra cuí do Rannóg an Aistriúcháin chun obair aistriúcháin a chur i gcrích.

Tuairisciú d’Oifigeach na Gaeilge agus don Choimisiún Toghcháin mura bhfuil sé seo á dhéanamh.

Gaeilge a labhairt ag gach imeacht de chuid Shiamsa na Tríonóide agus daoine a spreagadh go gníomhach chun í a labhairt is cuma cé acu an Béarla nó an Ghaeilge

atá mar phríomhtheanga na hócáide.

Sainordaíonn an Chomhairle:

Go gcaithfidh an tOifigeach Siamsaíochta dhá imeacht trí Ghaeilge ar a laghad a eagrú i ngach téarma acadúil agus imeacht amháin acu sin dírithe ar chainteoirí líofa agus imeacht amháin acu níos dírithe ar an lucht foghlama.

Comhairle understands:

That Oifigeach na Gaeilge is a multi-faceted role and has a very wide range of responsibilities in terms of policy, rights and community affairs.

Comhairle agrees:

That the Irish Language Officer should spend most of his time lobbying the College for more academic courses and services to be made available through Irish.

Comhairle praises:

Establishment of Rannóg an Aistriúcháin, which takes a large part of the burden of translation to Oifigeach na Gaeilge and allows them to spend more time on language policy.

Comhairle praises:

The efforts of all Oifigigh Ghaeilge who have organized the week of Éigse, the College's Irish festival, in the past, and the importance of running high quality social events for all audiences in relation to the Irish language, including fluent speakers, learners and absolute beginners.

Comhairle believes:

That the Union Entertainment Committee should take a greater part in the organization of Irish events since events are the Committee's primary remit and that those skills should be utilized for organizing Irish language events.

Comhairle in addition understands that:

That there must be a specific person with fluent Irish on the Union Entertainment Committee to help organize Irish events together with Oifigeach na Gaeilge, and that the same person would be important in the context of spreading the Irish language at other Trinity Ents events in which English is the main language, which minoritizes Irish.

Comhairle praises:

The efforts made by the Entertainment Officer this year to hold all-Irish events.

Comhairle hopes:

That the likes of Ravetacht will continue as an integral part of the Trinity Ents calendar to normalize the Irish language in natural social environments.

Comhairle consequently mandates:

That the Terms of Reference of the Entertainments Committee be amended as follows:

Under the section titled "Membership," the amendment of the subheading

"Six Junior Officers"

such that it reads

"Eight Junior Officers,"

and the insertion of the following thereunder:

2.

h) Oifigeach na Siamsaíochta Gaeilge

Under the section titled

"Membership,"

the amendment of the following

"Members shall be elected as per section 3, except for the Public Relations Officer and Technical Officer, who will be appointed as per section 4"

such that it reads

Members shall be elected as per section 3, except for the Public Relations Officer,

Technical Officer, and Oifigeach na Siamsaíochta Gaeilge, who will be appointed as per section 4

Under the section titled "Appointment of Members," the insertion of the following after subsection 1.

2. Appointment of Oifigeach na Siamsaíochta Gaeilge

- a. Applications will open for this role two weeks before the AGM.
- b. Applications shall close one week before the AGM.
- c. Interviews shall be held the week before the AGM.
- d. The interview panel shall consist of the sitting Ents Officer, the Ents Officer elect, Oifigeach na Gaeilge, Oifigeach na Gaeilge elect, and one external person to be chosen at the discretion of the Oifigeach Gaeilge elect.
- e. Those who have Irish on the panel will ask their questions solely in Irish and those who do not will ask their questions in English.
- f. Appointment shall be announced at the AGM, after the executive positions have been announced.

Insert under the subsection "Duties of the Committee" as follows:

Oifigeach na Siamsaíochta Gaeilge

Assist the Entertainment Officer with organizing Irish language events targeted at fluent speakers and events targeted at learners.

Collaborate with Oifigeach na Gaeilge to organize events during Éigse na Tríonóide.

Ensure that all Trinity Ents materials are posted and released in Irish by either personally assisting with translation or that Rannóg an Aistriúcháin is given appropriate notice by other committee members to complete translation work.

Report to Oifigeach na Gaeilge and the Electoral Commission if this is not being done.

Speak Irish at all Trinity Ents events and actively encourage people to speak it regardless of whether English or Irish is the predominant language of an event.

Comhairle mandates:

That the Entertainment Officer must organize at least two events through Irish in each academic term, one of which is aimed at fluent speakers and one of which is

more aimed at learners.

Proposed by Pádraig Mac Brádaigh, Oifigeach na Gaeilge

Seconded by Peadar Breatnach, an tOifigeach Siamsaíochta

2024/25-12: Motion on The Need for a New Student Facility in the Business Building

Comhairle notes

That one of the biggest challenges Business students face is the lack of a designated area within the Business School to heat and eat food,

Comhairle notes

That there are spaces for staff to reheat food within the Business School, but there are no such spaces for students to do the same.

Comhairle notes

That the Forum, the only food option within the Business School, closes around 4 PM and is often overcrowded,

Comhairle regrets

That the Jolt Café, located downstairs in the Business School, has been closed for some time and remains an unused space,

Comhairle therefore mandates That the Business School Convenor & SSP Convenor and Class Representatives who have peers which spend a significant portion of time in the Business School, with assistance from the Sabbatical officers, lobby college for the Business School to pay for the Jolt Café to be turned into a dedicated student space with facilities for students to reheat food.

Proposed by Patrick Keegan, International Students' Officer and Business School Convenor and Nehir Solmaz, Scarlett Ferry, Salvador Valença Martins Dias and Orla Richard, Ionadaithe ranga | Class reps

Seconded by Boyd Stephen, Joint Honours Convenor

2024/25-13: Motion for the PGRF Chair to Establish an Unfunded and Underfunded PGR Working Group

Council notes

That many PhDs and PGRs are unfunded, meaning that are expected to perform

full-time work for the university without compensation,

Council further notes

That many full-time PhDs and PGRs are paid on extremely low wages (sometimes only 300 EUR / month or less)

Council finally notes

That Trinity consistently attempts to claim that these PhDs and PGRs are highly privileged and do not want to be paid, without any evidence and in direct opposition to testimonies of actual PhDs / PGRs who are in such situations,

Council therefore mandates

The PGR Forum Chair to establish a an Unfunded and Underfunded PGR Working Group to share information on these issues and devise plans to address them.

Proposed by Seathrún Sardina, Ionadaí ranga | Class rep and PGR Convenor

Seconded by Jenny Maguire, Uachtarán | President

2024/25-14: JCR Café

Comhairle notes

That there are over 1000 students living in Trinity Hall, and that the JCR does a great job in fostering a vibrant and diverse community of Irish and international students.

Comhairle acknowledges

That in establishing the JCR Café, the JCR will be providing an employment opportunity to many students in Halls.

Comhairle further acknowledges

The benefit that the JCR Café could bring to this community by providing a social student space, fostering engagement amongst residents, and enhancing the brilliant sense of community in Trinity Hall.

Comhairle further notes

The majority of students living in Trinity Hall are not from Dublin, with a significant portion being international students who may experience difficulty integrating into Trinity Hall.

Comhairle praises

The work done by the JCR in establishing the JCR Café, and their commitment to paying a living wage to all those who will work in the JCR Café.

Comhairle therefore mandates

The allocation of €5000 from the HEA Fund to support the JCR in further developing the JCR Café, and ensuring that this project continues to benefit students for years to come.

Proposed by Aibhe McBride, Conor Batory, Katie McGee, Joseph McKeon, Mia Taylor, Faye Prendergast, Freddy Offereins, Abhainn O’Baill, Seán Power and Rian Gallagher, Mac Léinn | Students

Seconded by Jenny Maguire, Uachtarán | President

2024/25-15: HEA Allocation of €35,000 to the SU Café over the next 5 years

Comhairle notes

That the SU Café is an essential social and study space for so many students, providing not only an affordable, but also an accessible student space of which there are very few on campus.

Comhairle acknowledges

The importance of maintaining this vital student space to ensure that it is able to continue to serve food and coffee at an affordable price for students.

Comhairle further notes

The need for a fund to be set aside to address sudden costs associated with broken appliances, staff turnover rates as well as the Cost of Living crisis.

Comhairle highlights

The need for sustained investment in the SU Café to combat the rising costs of ingredients to ensure that the cafe remains affordable, the need to replace broken appliances and equipment, such as the recently replaced fridge, as well as staff training, such as HACCP training.

Comhairle praises

The work done over the last few years in effectively managing the SU Café, and

their commitment to paying the living wage to all student workers.

Comhairle therefore mandates

The allocation of €35,000 from the HEA Fund to support the development, maintenance, and training costs of the SU Café, ensuring that this vital student space continues to benefit the Trinity community for at least the next five years.

Proposed by Jenny Maguire, Uachtarán | President

Seconded by Eoghan Gilroy, An tOifigeach Oideachais | Education Officer

2024/25-16: Cross-Campus Campaigning

Comhairle applauds

The numerous successful campaigns centred in and around the Arts Block over the years, including the recent campaign for a microwave

Comhairle acknowledges

The unfortunate neglecting of other areas of campus in the campaign work of the union

Comhairle welcomes

The increased presence of campaigns this year in St. James' Hospital, which, accompanied by the great work of the HS convener, has resulted in some of the highest Health Sciences engagement in recent memory

Comhairle , therefore, mandates

The President to ensure all campaigns ran by the union, where appropriate, include a presence in both the Hamilton and St. James' Hospital.

Proposed by Jenny Maguire, Uachtarán | President

Seconded by Ruaidhrí Saulnier, Tionólaí Dhámh ETIM | STEM Convenor, Rarosue Emakpor, Tionólaí Dhámh ES | HS Convenor and Giulia Villa, Tionólaí Dhámh EDES | AHSS Convenor

2024/25-17: Motion of Support for University Students in Serbia

Council acknowledges

That since December 2024 university students in Serbia have blockaded all public Universities and led a series of protests to demand full accountability for the tragic collapse of a railway station canopy in Novi Sad, Serbia, that had killed 15 people and severely injured two more and to oppose the Serbian government's violent response to preceding protests.

Council notes

That students have united around four key demands:

- Publishing of all documents related to the reconstruction of the Novi Sad railway station;
- Dismissals of all public officials who assaulted students and professors, as well as an initiation of criminal proceedings against all individuals reasonably suspected of physically assaulting students and professors;
- A dismissal of criminal charges against arrested and detained students at protests, as well as a termination of already initiated criminal proceedings;
- An increase in the budget for higher education by 20 per cent.

Council recognises

That protesting Serbian students are a peaceful grassroots movement who make their decisions in all-students plena, thereby promoting direct democracy and student activism in a country suffering a years-long democratic decline.

Council praises

The provost, deans, and faculty of the University of Belgrade, as well as many faculty of other Serbian universities and other residents of Serbia, for openly endorsing the students' demands and joining protests calling for an end to corruption and government violence.

Council condemns

That these peaceful student-led protests were met with violence, including instances of students being run over by vehicles or being physically assaulted by individuals connected with the ruling party.

Council therefore mandates

That AMLCT/TCDSU President and other student representatives in relevant College committees and bodies:

- Raise awareness of the ongoing protests and urge Trinity College Dublin to issue a formal message of solidarity with the Serbian students, professors, and the governing body of the University of Belgrade;
- Request that the Applications and Admissions Team and Trinity Global Engagement ensure that future prospective postgraduate and exchange students from Serbia are not disadvantaged during their selection procedure in case the ongoing situation results in a prolonged duration of study in Serbia.

Proposed by Jovan Jeromela, Ionadaí ranga | Class rep

Seconded by Jenny Maguire, Uachtarán | President

2024/25-18: Motion on opposition to single use cups

Comhairle notes

The widespread use of single use coffee cups across campus at society coffee mornings, The Buttery, The Forum, The Perch, the SU Cafe, as well as clear single-use cups at the Pav.

Comhairle additionally notes

The detrimental effects this avoidable usage of single-use packaging has on our environment.

Comhairle acknowledges

The accessibility and ease of providing single use cups as well as the necessity of providing plastic cups on busy nights at the Pav.

Comhairle also acknowledges

That within a climate crisis ease cannot be the foremost concern, and that this change is feasible through the use of delph cups and reusable hard plastic cups wherever possible, as well as sufficient availability of reusable cups (Keep Cups etc.) and accompanying washing stations.

Comhairle mandates

The President and Environmental Officer to initiate a campaign to remove single use cups from all areas of campus life starting with removal of single use cups from SU facilities as soon as possible. The President and Environmental Officer are also mandated to work with the CSC and societies to promote the use of reusable cups where feasible for society activity. From there, an appropriate campaign engaging with the college and other relevant bodies would continue until single use cups were no longer used in The Buttery, Perch, Forum or Pav.

Comhairle additionally mandates

The Environmental Officer to bring a report to council during the last comhairle of Michaelmas Term highlighting progress so far and a timeline for the other objectives where possible.

Proposed by Sam Brooks, An tOifigeach Timpeallachta | Environmental Officer

Seconded by Alison Cummins, Ionadaí ranga | Class Rep

2024/25-19: Motion on Fair Rent prices

Comhairle celebrates

The work of the campaigns committee over recent weeks in the planning of the rent freeze campaign that extended a rent freeze for another academic year.

Comhairle notes

Similar wins of the past, including the September 2023 blockading of the Book of Kells.

Comhairle recognises

The rent is still too high. One-off commitments from the university do not go far enough, and a meaningful commitment by the university for affordable accommodation is needed.

Comhairle , therefore, mandates

The President and Housing Rights Officer conduct an intensive campaign to pressure the college to lower rent prices.

Proposed by Jenny Maguire, Uachtarán | President

Seconded by Harry Johnston, Ionadaí ranga | Class rep

2024/25-20: Motion Condemning the Promotion of Fellowships From the Azrieli Foundation

Comhairle notes

With horror the ongoing genocide in Gaza perpetrated by the Israeli government, as recognized by human rights organizations like Amnesty International and the International Court of Justice, who found it to be plausible that Israel is committing genocide.

Comhairle further notes

That Israel is engaging in scholasticide, having destroyed every university in Gaza,.

Comhairle condemns

Israel's system of Apartheid, as defined by Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and the UN Special Rapporteur, which includes the occupation of the West Bank, and the blockade of Gaza, leading to the suffering of millions.

Comhairle further condemns

The denial of the Right of Return to Palestinian refugees

Comhairle expresses deep concern

That the Faculty of Health Sciences has recently promoted fellowships from the Azrieli Foundation, an Israeli foundation backed by the Azrieli Group, which operates in illegal settlements in the West Bank and has funded projects directly linked to the Israeli military (IDF).

Comhairle condemns

The promotion of these fellowships by the college, and urges Trinity to address this issue urgently.

Comhairle condemns

The promotion of these fellowships by the College and demands that Trinity immediately cease promoting fellowships by the Azrieli Foundation.

Comhairle mandates

That the TCDSU/AMLCT BDS Implementation Group (Trinity BDS Campaign) and members of Union Forum actively campaign against the promotion of these fellowships by the college through engaging with students as well as relevant groups

and staff to raise awareness and mobilize opposition on this issue, and to escalate the campaign as necessary, including through organizing direct actions and lobbying until Trinity ceases the promotion of these fellowships, and publicly apologizes for their actions.

Proposed by Patrick Keegan, Oifigeach na Mac Léinn Idirnáisiúnta | International Students Officer and Sam Brooks, An tOifigeach Timpeallachta | Environmental Officer

Seconded by Jenny Maguire, Uachtarán | President

2024/25-21: Motion to Formalise Postgraduate Representation within the Union

Comhairle notes

That the Union has a constitutional mandate to look after the interests of all Capitalised students of the College; Undergraduate and postgraduate.

Comhairle also notes

That the Union is now recognised as the sole representative organisation for all students and researchers by the Board of Trinity College and the Council of the University Dublin.

Comhairle further notes

That the current position of postgraduate researchers in higher education in Ireland purports its own specific issues such as a lack of parental leave and low stipends causing significant financial and emotional distress on these students.

Comhairle believes

That the introduction of Postgraduate Faculty Convenors and a Graduate Sabbatical Officer would ensure that postgraduate members are represented more effectively.

Comhairle also believes

That a change to a Faculty-Based model combined with a Postgraduate Forum for student and researcher representation would enhance the voice of postgraduate members in Union decisions, and support their specific academic and welfare needs.

Comhairle additionally believes

That giving Faculty Assemblies the power to propose motions to Council would amplify their influence in shaping Union policy.

Comhairle commends

The Education Officer and other Union officers in their work to begin to formalise postgraduate representation.

Comhairle therefore resolves

That a referendum be held to adopt the following constitutional amendments:
Leasuithe Molta | Proposed amendments

Proposed by Eoghan Gilroy, An tOifigeach Oideachais | Education Officer

Seconded by Conchúr Ó Cathasaigh, Tionólaí Scoil na Matamaitice | Mathematics Convenor

2024/25-22: Motion to Clarify the Responsibilities of the Editor of the University Times

Council notes

The Editor of the University Times has been elected and funded by the students of Trinity College Dublin for the past ten years, yet there remains very little opportunity for oversight of their work.

Council therefore resolves

That a referendum be held to adopt the following constitutional amendments:
Leasuithe Molta | Proposed amendments

Proposed by Eoghan Gilroy, An tOifigeach Oideachais | Education Officer

Seconded by Conchúr Ó Cathasaigh, Tionólaí Scoil na Matamaitice | Mathematics Convenor

2024/25-23: Motion on Mandating the President to set up a Task Force on Sexual and Gender-based Violence

Comhairle recognises

The harm done by an unrepresentative sexual violence action during the first week of April 2025.

Comhairle fears

The untold possible consequence of under campaigning on this issue as a result.

Comhairle therefore mandates

The President to create a strategy taskforce around the Union's campaigning around sexual violence to An Chéad Comhairle.

Proposed by Jenny Maguire, Uachtarán | President

Seconded by Hamza Bana, Oifigeach Leasa is Comhionannais | Welfare & Equality Officer

2025/26

2025/26-1: Motion to Renew the Position of Off-Campus Officer

Comhairle notes

The importance of the representation of off-campus students.

Comhairle mandates

The renewal of the Off-Campus PTO position so the work of the PTO may be carried on and ensure that students are not left without representation.

Proposed by Grace McNally, Tionólaí ES | HS Convenor

Seconded by Natalie Byrne, Oifigeach do Mhic Léinn is Cúramóirí | Student Carer Officer

2025/26-2: Rún chun leasú a dhéanamh ar Théarmaí Tagartha Choiste na Gaeilge

Tugann an Chomhairle faoi deara

Go bhfuil sé riachtanach go ndéanfar ionadaíocht ar mhic léinn uile na hollscoile i dtaobh chúrsaí Gaeilge de agus níos leithne.

Tugann an Chomhairle faoi deara freisin

Go bhfuil sé ríthábhachtach go labhraítear Gaeilge i gcruinnithe Choiste na Gaeilge le comhstádas na teanga a chur chun cinn, hamháin go siombalach ach go practiciúil.

Mar sin reitíonn an Chomhairle

Go ndéanfar leasú ar Théarmaí Tagartha Choiste na Gaeilge mar atá nasctha thíos. Téarmaí Tagartha

Proposed by Aoife Ní Bhriain, Oifigeach Na Gaeilge

Seconded by Orla Norton, Oifigeach Siamsaíochta | Ents Officer

2025/26-3: Motion on the Election of the Joint Honours Committee

Comhairle notes

That at the end of the 2023/24 academic year, it was decided that the Joint Honours Committee should be appointed by the TJH Convenor rather than elected at Comhairle for all positions except OCMs.

Comhairle observes that

Although this was done with good intentions, it created complex bureaucratic challenges for the TJH Convenor, the Education Officer, and the Communications and Marketing Officer due to the need to establish an anonymous application process.

Comhairle further notes

That this resulted in most Joint Honours Committee positions remaining unfilled last academic year. It also notes that filling these positions was simpler in previous years when they were filled through elections at Comhairle.

Comhairle resolves

Therefore to amend Section 2.a)ii. of the TOR for the TJH Committee in Schedule 9 so that it states the following: All Committee Members shall be elected at the first Council of the teaching term.

Proposed by Boyd Stephen, Tionólaí na gComhchéimeanna Onóracha | TJH Convenor

Seconded by Patrick Keegan, Tionólaí Scoil an Ghnó | Business School Convenor

2025/26-4: Motion on SU Condemnation of Dual BA

Comhairle notes

The extreme degradation of academic and individual freedoms in Columbia University and the United States of America at-large.

Comhairle regrets

The unacceptable use of disciplinary procedures by Columbia University in attempting to silence Student activism regarding the Genocide in Palestine.

Comhairle further notes

The potential physical harm as well as the mental strain which Students endure, due to the expression of their political views during their time in Trinity which may be realised when studying in Columbia University.

Comhairle notes

The desire of many students to continue their studies through the Dual BA as well as those who many not be able to transfer to an alternative course.

Comhairle resolves

To condemn the Dual BA Program as a serious risk to student welfare and to oppose the continuation of the Dual BA Program while respecting the choice or circumstances of Students in the completion of their Dual BA Course.

Proposed by Seán Radcliffe, Ionadaí ranga, OCP BDS CnT | Class Rep, PRO TCD BDS

Seconded by Buster Whaley, Oifigeach Oideachais | Education Officer

2025/26-5: Motion on Exam Dates

Comhairle notes

that the last date of assessment for the Michaelmas Term is Monday the 22nd of December, compared with the 16th last year, and the 20th for UCD students.

Comhairle regrets

how close to Christmas this is, keeping especially in mind international students who will have to book flights ahead of the release of exam schedules. Travelling on the 23rd or 24th of December is much more expensive, with overcrowded airports and higher chances of delays, all for the sake of possibly having an exam on the 22nd.

Comhairle mandates

the Education Officer to lobby the college to move this last day of exams, either by beginning exams one day earlier or by holding the final day of exams on Saturday the 20th of December.

Comhairle mandates

the Education Officer to lobby the college to finish Michaelmas exams on the 21st of December at the latest for all future years.

Proposed by Ciara Daly, Ionadaí Ranga | Class Rep

Seconded by Eloise Judge, Ionadaí Ranga | Class Rep

2025/26-6: Rún um Roghnúchán na mBuainchoistí a Leasú | Motion to Reform the Selection of Standing Committees

Molann an Chomhairle

An obair atá déanta ag an gCoimisiún Toghcháin agus iad ag reachtáil na dtoghchán do Choistí an Oideachais agus Cumarsáide Margaíochta.

Aithníonn an Chomhairle

Go mbítear ag caitheamh neart ama ag toghadh ról ag Céad Chomhairle na bliana.

Aithníonn an Chomhairle

Go gcuirtear laghmhisneach ar neart ionadaithe ranga nua agus iad ag freastal ar a gCéad Chomhairle de bharr an méid ama a chaitear ar na toghcháin siúd.

Is oth leis an gComhairle

Go n-eascraíonn fadhbanna rannpháirtíochta agus inrochtaineachta uaidh seo.

Aithníonn an Chomhairle

Go bhfuil riachtanas bunreachtúil go dtoghtar Gnáth-Bhail Choistí na Comhairle, ach nach bhfuil an riachtanas céanna curtha ar roghnúchán na n-oifigigh agus na n-ionadaithe atá ar na Coistí siúd.

Aithníonn an Chomhairle

Go roghnaítear na hoifigigh agus na hionadaithe uile ar Choistí na Gaeilge agus Leasa Comhionannais, seachas Ionadaí na Chéad Bhliana ar Choiste an Leasa Comhionannais, trí phróiseas iarratais oscailte.

Admhaíonn an Chomhairle

An fhéidearthacht méid suntasach ama a shábháil trí na toghcháin seo a athrú go próiseas iarratais.

Mar sin, sainordaíonn an Chomhairle

Glacadh leis na Téarmaí Tagartha seo a leanas:

Comhairle praises

The work done by the Electoral Commission running the elections for the Education Committee and the Communications & Marketing Committee.

Comhairle recognises

That a lot of time is spent electing positions at First Comhairle of the year.

Comhairle recognises

That many new class representatives are discouraged when they attend their First Comhairle because of the amount of time spent on these elections.

Comhairle regrets

That engagement and accessibility problems arise from this.

Comhairle recognises

That there is a constitutional requirement that Ordinary Members of Committees to Comhairle be elected, but that the selection of the officers and the representatives on those committees do not have the same requirement.

Comhairle recognises

That all the officers and the representatives on Coiste na Gaeilge and the Welfare & Equality Committee, barring the First Year Representative on the Welfare & Equality Committee, are selected through open application.

Comhairle acknowledges

The potential to save a substantial amount of time by changing these elections to an application process.

Comhairle therefore mandates

To accept the following Terms of Reference:

Oideachas - Education

Leas - Welfare

Cumarsáid - Comms

Proposed by Pól Ó hÍomhair, Oifigeach na gComaitéirí

Seconded by Hugh Ó Ríordáin, Tionólaí Scoil na dTeangacha, na Litríochtaí agus na gCultúr

2025/26-7: Motion on Provision of Abortion Services through Trinity College Dublin Health Service

Comhairle notes

That Trinity College Dublin Health Service does not currently offer abortion consultation or services on campus.

Comhairle observes

That students seeking abortion services must navigate external healthcare providers, which creates significant barriers including travel requirements, additional stress, and potential delays in accessing time-sensitive care.

Comhairle recognises

The importance of accessible, confidential, and timely reproductive healthcare as essential to student welfare, bodily autonomy, and equality.

Comhairle resolves

To advocate for the University to provide abortion consultation and services through the Health Service to ensure all students have access to comprehensive reproductive healthcare on campus.

Comhairle mandates

The Gender Equality Part-Time Officer and Welfare Officer of the 2026/27 academic year to continue the campaign, should the realisation of this objective extend beyond the current academic year.

Proposed by Elisa Zito, Oifigeach Comhionannais Inscne | Gender Equality Officer

Seconded by Giulia Villa, Tionólaí EDES | AHSS Convenor

2025/26-8: Motion on LTP Referendum on No Confidence in the 35th Government of Ireland as a Long-Term Policy

Comhairle notes

The earlier referendum which granted the Union the ability to take a position of no confidence in the Government of Ireland as a Long-Term Policy by the addition of 8.1.1 in the Constitution.

Comhairle believes

That it is now necessary to exercise this democratic mandate.

Comhairle notes

The recent election of Catherine Connolly into the seat of *Áras* reflects growing public dissatisfaction in the current government and the urgent need for political

change.

Comhairle recognises

The consistent efforts of TCDSU/AMLCT and the AMLÉ, the College and the IUA, the trade unions and ICTU to criticise Government budgets and to call for increased funding to the higher education sector, a sector which underpins Ireland's long-term economic and social development.

Comhairle also notes

That the 2025 Budget has failed students, with continued fee increases and an absence of meaningful financial support despite government promises. Working-class and marginalized students remain excluded from College due to unaffordable fees and spiralling accommodation costs and a tottering financial support system.

Comhairle condemns

The lack of engagement from Government officials with students and student representatives, despite repeated attempts by unions to raise concerns.

Comhairle highlights

That the Oireachtas Committee on Education, Further Education and Higher Education heard that students were forced to drop out of their degrees due to the lack of accommodation options, as reported by the Irish Examiner on the 26th of September 2025.

Comhairle further highlights

The incident in which 2 UCDSU sabbatical officers were denied visas to continue their employment, leading to resignations, demonstrating the Government's disregard for student representation.

Comhairle notes with worry

The Government's ongoing attempts at the erosion and erasure of Irish neutrality, a deeply held national value supported across the political spectrum.

Comhairle is alarmed

By reports that the promised Occupied Territories Bill is at risk of being withdrawn under external pressure from the United States Government, undermining Ireland's legislative independence.

Comhairle believes

That this Government has continually betrayed students through inaction on housing, underfunding of universities, and disregard for student voices.

Comhairle concludes

That a public declaration of no confidence would generate necessary political pressure, attract media attention to student issues, and reaffirm the Union's role as an independent and critical voice following a vote by the student body on this important issue.

Comhairle therefore puts to referendum

That the students of Trinity College Dublin have no confidence in the 35th Government of Ireland.

Comhairle adds as a contingency

If the government remains composed of leading parties Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael but legally transitions into a 36th government due to inner-party changes of leadership between the passing of this motion and the date of the referendum, the referendum will automatically reflect this change.

Proposed by Natalie Byrne, Oifigeach do Mhic Léinn is Cúramóirí | Student Carer Officer

Seconded by James Ryan, Class Rep SF History and Political Science Joint Honours,

Matthew Butt, Class Rep SF Classics Ancient History and Archaeology

2025/26-9: Motion on Appointment of Secretary of TCDSU/AMLCT Diversity in STEM Committee

Comhairle acknowledges

The TCDSU/AMLCT Diversity in STEM Committee has nominated Isobel Beausang for Secretary of TCDSU/AMLCT Diversity in STEM Committee.

Comhairle therefore appoints

Isobel Beausang as Secretary of TCDSU/AMLCT Diversity in STEM Committee.

Proposed by Eve Martin, Tionólaí ETIM | STEM Convenor

Seconded by Emi Sinella, Leas-Tionólaí ETIM | Deputy STEM Convenor

2025/26-10: Motion on Appointment of Chair of TCDSU/AMLCT Diversity in STEM Committee

Comhairle acknowledges

The TCDSU/AMLCT Diversity in STEM committee has nominated Abigail O'Brien Murray for Chair of TCDSU/AMLCT Diversity in STEM Committee.

Comhairle therefore appoints

Abigail O'Brien Murray as Chair of TCDSU/AMLCT Diversity in STEM Committee.

Proposed by Eve Martin, Tionólaí ETIM | STEM Convenor

Seconded by Emi Sinella, Leas-Tionólaí ETIM | Deputy STEM Convenor

2025/26-11: Motion on establishing a hidden cost fund

Comhairle regrets

The financial challenges faced by students, with many struggling to meet the costs of attending university; which is further exacerbated by unexpected mandatory costs related to their various degrees, thereby impacting their ability to pursue education.

Comhairle praises

That there have been some efforts to support students struggling financially, such as the student hardship fund.

Comhairle notes

That the financial struggles that students face hinders their academic progress and overall well-being.

Comhairle further notes

The success of using TCDSU's Higher Education Authority (HEA) Fund in supporting projects that directly benefit students, specifically the International Fund and the T-Fund.

Comhairle therefore mandates

The allocation of resources from the HEA Fund to establish a Hidden Cost fund aimed at providing financial assistance to both undergraduate and postgraduate students with mandatory costs associated with their degrees such as field trips, travel and equipment rental. Comhairle proposes the fund will be distributed annually over a five-year period, starting September 2026, to ensure sustained support

2025/26-12: Motion on Off-Books Supports | Rún maidir le Tacaíochtaí do Mhic Léinn atá Saor ó Léachtaí

Tugann an Chomhairle faoi deara

Gur cuireadh an córas sairse ó léachtaí atá ann anois i bhfeidhm le ligean do mhic léinn modúil aonair a athdhéanamh gan an bhliain iomlán a athdhéanamh.

Tá imní ar an gComhairle

Go mbíonn ar mhic léinn atá saor ó léachtaí bliain iomlán a thógáil amach ó na gcéim leis na modúil seo a athdhéanamh, agus gur féidir go mbeidh siad scoite amach go sóisialta ó phobal an choláiste agus go gcaillfidís rochtain ar sheirbhísí mac léinn dá bharr.

Tugann an Chomhairle faoi deara freisin

Go mbíonn ar go leor mic léinn dul saor ó léachtaí mar gheall ar mhíchumas nó ar thinneas fadtéarmach, rud a chuireann le himnithe leasa.

Tá imní ar an gComhairle freisin

Go mbíonn ar mhic léinn táille shuntasach a íoc fós leis na modúil a athdhéanamh.

Molann an Chomhairle

Na tacaíochtaí a chuireann an tSeirbhís míChumais ar fáil do mhic léinn atá ag filleadh ó thréimhse saor ó léachtaí (uaireanta caifé msh.), agus is mian leis an gComhairle go leathnófar na seirbhísí seo amach do mhic léinn atá saor ó léachtaí faoi láthair.

Aithníonn an Chomhairle

Áfach, go bhfuil na tacaíochtaí atá ar fáil do mhic léinn atá saor ó léachtaí faoi láthair fós teoranta, agus gur minic nach bhfuil fáil orthu go héasca.

Tugtar misneach don Chomhairle

Tríd an dul chun cinn atá déanta ag an nGrúpa Oibre i dtreo córais níos ionchuimsithe le dul in áit an chórais reatha, ach aithníonn sí go bhféadfadh dó seo am a thógáil.

Mar sin, sainordaíonn an Chomhairle

Go n-oibreoidh an tOifigeach Leasa is Comhionannais agus an tOifigeach ar son

Mic Léinn faoi Mhíchumas le chéile leis an tSeirbhís míChumais agus forais chuí eile sa Choláiste le grúpa tacaíochta a eagrú do mhic léinn atá saor ó léachtaí faoi láthair.

Sainordaíonn an Chomhairle freisin

Go ndéanfaidh an tOifigeach Oideachais, an tOifigeach Leasa is Comhionannais, an tOifigeach Cumarsáide is Margaíochta agus an tOifigeach ar son Mic Léinn faoi Mhíchumas Lámhleabhar do Mhic Léinn atá Saor ó Léachtaí ina ndéanfar achoimre ar na tacaíochtaí agus acmhainní ar fad atá ar fáil do mhic léinn atá saor ó léachtaí, agus go roinnfear an Lámhleabhar seo le mic léinn atá saor ó léachtaí nuair arbh fhéidir go mbeidh orthu dul saor ó léachtaí.

Sainordaíonn an Chomhairle freisin

Go ndéanfaidh an tOifigeach Oideachais, an tOifigeach Leasa is Comhionannais, an tUachtarán agus an tOifigeach ar son Mic Léinn faoi Mhíchumas stocaireacht ar an gColáiste Blackboard, ábhar modúil agus seirbhísí leabharlainne a chur ar fáil do mhic léinn atá saor ó léachtaí, chomh maith le leanúint ar aghaidh ag cur seirbhísí sláinte agus comhairleoireachta ar fáil dóibh.

Sainordaíonn an Chomhairle freisin

Go ndéanfaidh an tOifigeach Oideachais, an tOifigeach Leasa is Comhionannais, an tUachtarán agus an tOifigeach ar son Mic Léinn faoi Mhíchumas stocaireacht ar an gColáiste ligean do mhic léinn atá saor ó léachtaí fanacht mar mhic léinn cláraithe, ionas go bhfuil fáil acu ar sheirbhísí mac léinn, an tAontas san áireamh.

Comhairle notes

That the current off-books system has been put in place to allow students to repeat individual modules without being required to repeat the whole year.

Comhairle notes with concern

That students who are off-books are still required to take a whole year out of their degree to repeat these modules, and that this can result in social isolation, alienation from the college community and a lack of access to student services.

Comhairle further notes

That many students need to go off-books due to a disability or long-term illness, further compounding welfare concerns.

Comhairle further notes with concern

That students are still required to pay a significant fee to repeat modules.

Comhairle praises

The supports provided by the disAbility Service to those returning from off-books (e.g., coffee hours), and wishes to see those extended to off-books students.

Comhairle acknowledges

However, that other supports provided to students who are currently off-books remain limited, and are sometimes difficult to access.

Comhairle is encouraged by

The progress made by the Working Group in the direction of a more inclusive system to replace the current off-books system, but notes that this might take time.

Comhairle therefore mandates

The Welfare & Equality Officer and the Officer for Students with Disabilities to work with the disAbility Service and other relevant bodies in college to organise a support group for students who are currently off-books.

Comhairle further mandates

The Education Officer, Welfare & Equality Officer, Communications Officer and Officer for Students with Disabilities to create an Off-Books Handbook outlining all available supports and resources for off-books students, and to share this with students who are off-books or who may need to go off-books.

Comhairle further mandates

The Education Officer, Welfare & Equality Officer, President and Officer for Students with Disabilities to lobby the College to provide access to Blackboard, module content and the library, as well as to continue providing access to health and counselling services to off-books students.

Comhairle further mandates

The Education Officer, Welfare & Equality Officer, President and Officer for Students with Disabilities to lobby the College to allow off-books students to remain registered students, so they may retain access to student services, including the Union.

Proposed by Hugh Ó Ríordáin, Tionólaí Scoil na dTeangacha, Litríochta agus Cultúir
Seconded by Buster Whaley & Chioma Iloduba, Oifigeach Oideachais & Oifigeach ar son Mic Léinn le Míchumas | Education Officer & Officer for Students with Dis-

Comhairle mandates

The Health Sciences Convenor, the Welfare & Equality Officer, the Education Officer, and the School of Nursing Convenor to oppose its continuation, and to work towards removing its use, in collaboration with Nursing and Midwifery representatives.

2025/26-13: SU Condemnation of the use of STAFF TIME ATTENDANCE ROSTERING SYSTEM (S.T.A.R.S.) on St James's Nursing Students

Comhairle notes

That S.T.A.R.S. (STAFF TIME ATTENDANCE ROSTERING SYSTEM) is a system in St. James's Hospital for members of staff to clock in and out, and receive their payroll in line with their schedules.

Comhairle further notes

That student nurses already have ARC (Advancing Research Career) and TMS (Time Sheets), a TCD site where students can access timesheets, allocations etc. Students have ARC to fill in their timesheets.

Comhairle acknowledges

That student nurses are students of Trinity, not staff of St. James's, and they do not benefit nor need S.T.A.R.S. during our placement. Student nurses do not get paid. Student nurses do not receive staff parking. Student nurses do not receive any benefits from placement.

Comhairle regrets

That student nurses are being exploited, taking away from the fact that they are there to learn and to train. They are not members of staff, they are in training and by monitoring them to the same level as other employees they are losing their official stance of being students.

Comhairle resolves

To condemn the use of S.T.A.R.S. on Trinity student nurses.

Comhairle mandates

The Health Sciences Convenor, the Welfare & Equality Officer, the Education Of-

ficer, and the School of Nursing Convenor to oppose its continuation, and to work towards removing its use, in collaboration with Nursing and Midwifery representatives.

Proposed by Grace McNally, Tionólaí na nEolaíochtaí Sláinte | Health Sciences Convenor

Seconded by Deirdre Leahy, Oifigeach Leasa is Comhionannais | Welfare & Equality Officer

2025/26-14: Motion to give access to the Trinity Recording Studio to Music Undergraduate students

Comhairle regrets

The lack of access of Music students to a recording studio on campus.

Comhairle notes

The existence of a recording studio on campus, though it is only available to Master's students.

Comhairle believes

That access to a recording studio for Undergraduate Music students will allow them to not be able to apply what they've learned through their Music Technology modules, but also work on personal music projects, collaborate and gain experience that will be useful to their future careers in music.

Comhairle therefore mandates

The Education Officer to hold a discussion with the Music Faculty and Trinity College Facilities and promote access for Undergraduate Music Students to the recording studio at Trinity College Dublin.

Proposed by Katerina Dimitrova, Ionadaí Ranga Ceoil na Chéad Bliana | First Year Music Class Rep

Seconded by Giulia Villa, Tionólaí EDES | AHSS Convenor & Equality Officer

2025/26-15: Rún um Bhunú Thionscamh Ollmhargaidh Shóisialta | Motion on Establishing a Social Supermarket Initiative

Tugann an Chomhairle faoi deara

Brú dian leanúnach an ghéarchéim chostas maireachtála a bhíonn ar shlite beatha na mac léinn, agus rochtain ar an oideachas ag éirí níos deacra do neart mac léinn de bharr na gcostas riachtanach ag ardú.

Aithníonn an Chomhairle

Gur bunghné na ndeacrachtaí a bhíonn roimh mhic léinn i dtaobh ábaltacht na mac léinn rochtain a bheith acu ar an oideachas í an neamhdheimhneacht bia.

Is oth leis an gComhairle

An easpa foráis déanta ag ár nAontas le tionchar an neamhdheimhneacht bia ar mhic léinn a mhaolú; níl scaoileadh Bhanc Bia Halla Goldsmith agus áis na ndearbhán bia nach ndearnadh poiblíocht orthu ag soláthar dhóthain cabhrach do thromlach na mac léinn ag streachailt le costais arda maireachtála.

Tugann an Chomhairle faoi deara

Gur cheart don Aontas bunú tionscamh nua a fhiosrú le dul i ngleic le tionchar an ghéarchéim chostas maireachtála ar shlite beatha na mac léinn, in éagmais leighis leanúnaigh.

Aithníonn an Chomhairle

An rath naisiúnta agus idirnaisiúnta a tháinig ar thionscnaimh in ollscoileanna eile, ar nós na Pantraí in OCBÁC agus tograí eile sa Fhrainc agus sa Bheilg, agus iad ag dul i ngleic le bacainní airgeadais ar an oideachas mar a bhaineann siad le neamhdheimhneacht bia, cruthú Ollmhargaidh Shóisialta i gceann acu, tionscnamh a atreoraíonn fuíollach bia, arna bainistiú ag eagraíochtaí tríú páirtí, go háit fhisiciúil ar an gcampas, ag soláthar bia agus táirgí sláintíochta ar chostas an-íseal do mhic léinn.

Aithníonn an Chomhairle freisin

An fhéidireacht go n-ísleoidh tionscnamh cosúil leis seo an costas maireachtála do réimse leathan mac léinn agus é ina rogha eile gan stiogma an bhainc bhia thraidisiúnta.

Dá mbarr sin, sainordaíonn an Chomhairle

Go ndéanfaidh an tUachtarán, an tOifigeach Leasa agus Comhionannais, an tOifigeach Timpeallachta, Oifigeach na gComaitéirí, agus Oifigeach na gCeart Tithíochta, taighde agus ullmhúchán cuimsitheach do bhunú Ollmhargaidh Shóisialta ar an gcampas.

Sainordaíonn an Chomhairle freisin

Go gcomhoibreoidh an tAontas le hAontais eile agus le hOllscoileanna eile a d'fhorbair tionscnaimh rathúla Ollmhargaidh Shóisialta le cinntiú go nglacfar fíorshaineolas isteach i mbunú agus i gcothabháil an Ollmhargaidh Shóisialta.

Comhairle notes

The severe and constant strain of the cost of living crisis bears on students' livelihoods, with mounting costs of necessities making education difficult to access for many students.

Comhairle acknowledges

Food insecurity as a key exacerbating factor on the difficulties which students face in their ability to access education.

Comhairle regrets

The lack of progress made by our Union in reducing the impact of food insecurity on students, with the Goldsmith Hall Food Bank's dissolution and the unpublicised resource of food vouchers offering little assistance to the majority of students struggling with high costs of living.

Comhairle notes

In the absence of ongoing remedies, the Union should investigate the establishment of new initiatives to curb the impact of the cost of living crisis on students' livelihoods.

Comhairle recognises

The national and international success which initiatives in other universities, such as the Pantry in DCU and others across France and Belgium, have had on addressing financial barriers to education relating to food insecurity, one of which being the creation of a Social Supermarket, an initiative which redirects existing food excess managed by third-party organisations into a physical on-campus location, offering very low-cost food and sanitary products to students.

Comhairle further recognises

The potential that such an initiative has on reducing the cost of living for a wide range of students while serving as a destigmatising alternative to a traditional food bank.

Comhairle therefore mandates

That the President, Welfare and Equality Officer, Environmental Officer, Commuters' Officer, and Housing Rights Officer conduct thorough research and preparation into the establishment of an on-campus Social Supermarket.

Comhairle further mandates

That the Union will collaborate with other Unions and Universities who have developed successful Social Supermarket initiatives to ensure that the utmost expertise is incorporated into the foundation and maintenance of the Social Supermarket.

Proposed by Lorenzo Cheasty, Oifigeach Cearta Tithíochta | Housing Rights Officer

Seconded by Pól Ó hÍomhair, Ionadaí Ranga | Class Rep

2025/26-16: Motion of Support for Student Housing Cooperatives

Comhairle notes

That due to the intensity of the housing crisis and the high cost of accommodation, many students are forced to endure harsh and unsuitable living conditions, significantly impacting their quality of life and ability to access their education.

Comhairle regrets

The poor quality and expensive accommodations that students accept due to a lack of choice over their available living conditions.

Comhairle believes

The private market will not solve the issues identified above and the university has not done enough to address them.

Comhairle further notes

Student housing cooperatives are non-profit, collectively owned and democratically controlled organisations, and that these exist in many countries in Europe, the UK and the USA, but do not exist in Ireland, and that where they exist, they provide high living quality accommodation for below market price.

Comhairle therefore mandates

That the Union supports the establishment of student housing cooperatives.

Comhairle further mandates

That the President, the Welfare and Equality Officer, the Housing Rights Officer, and the Commuters' Officer will work to advance the status of both internal and external cooperative housing initiatives as well as collaborate and engage with outside cooperative housing organisations.

Proposed by Lorenzo Cheasty, Oifigeach Cearta Tithíochta | Housing Rights Officer

Seconded by Matthew Mosse, Tionólaí Iarchéime Fisice | Postgraduate Physics Convenor

2025/26-17: Motion on LTP Referendum on Opposition to Militarism as a Long-Term Policy

Comhairle notes

The government's plans to abolish the 'Triple Lock' in the coming months, via the Defence Amendment Bill.

Comhairle highlights

The function of the Triple Lock, which determines the conditions under which Irish troops may participate in overseas missions. The mechanism outlines that any operation must be approved by the Government, by a Dáil Éireann resolution, and by a United Nations mandate. The current Government aims to remove the requirement for the United Nations mandate. In practice, such a move would result in military deployment being subject only to the whim of a majority Government, such as that currently led by Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael.

Comhairle also notes

TCDSU/AMLCT's existing policy of no-confidence in the 35th Government of Ireland.

Comhairle emphasises

That, while not wishing to blindly place its faith in an international system powerless to prevent the onset of current global crises, no mission without a United Nations mandate may be considered one of 'peacekeeping'. The arrangement implicitly favoured by the Triple Lock's removal is that of participation in the military operations of entities such as the EU and NATO, which are, by definition,

war-fighting missions. In the process of pre-legislative scrutiny for the Defence Amendment Bill, it was admitted that without the existence of the Triple Lock, Irish troops may have been deployed as part of the 2003 Iraq War, believed to have resulted in the deaths of approximately one million people.

Comhairle notes with concern

The geopolitical context preceding this development. Recent instances of brazen US aggression are reflective of a longstanding tradition of imperial belligerence that has resulted in death, displacement and impoverishment for millions worldwide. The European Union is undergoing a significant project of rearmament, framed in its own terms as preparations for war readiness. Rather than a rupture in the Transatlantic alliance, this militarisation is in accordance with the Trump administration's demands for increased military spending by European NATO members as it moves towards its own, massively destructive, geopolitical objectives. Israel's genocide in Palestine has been backed by both the United States and EU in word and action. Ireland's shameful role of material complicity in these processes—including state facilitation of munitions flights supplying industrial slaughter in Gaza, decades-long provision of US Military access to Shannon Airport as a logistical support hub, extensive trade with Israel, and ultimate economic function of facilitating global profit capture as a tax haven—is informative of the state's position as a junior partner in the imperialist world system and the consequent directionality of impact imposed on the abolition of the Triple Lock.

Comhairle is aware

That longstanding economic dependence on US Foreign Direct Investment has been utilised as a coercive instrument by US officials on matters relating to Ireland's foreign policy, with pressure to eviscerate, and ultimately block, the Occupied Territories Bill a notable recent example. This precedent of vulnerability to lobbying may be taken as further demonstration of the treacherous context that conditions the Triple Lock's prospective removal.

Comhairle thus asserts

That in consideration of the above context, Government moves against the Triple Lock cannot be considered by any means as arising from-or, crucially, contributing to-autonomy on the international stage. Removal of the mechanism is overwhelmingly likely to result in the escalation of integration into what could be modestly described as an imperial war machine, to the level of direct military belliger-

ence.

Comhairle also highlights

Consistent popular support for neutrality in polling of the Irish public, which is disregarded by the Triple Lock's prospective removal.

Comhairle is nonetheless alarmed

By deficits in public understanding of the Triple Lock and awareness of the gravity of its removal. This has been exacerbated not only by dishonest government presentation of the issue, but additionally through disproportionate focus on voices favouring the mechanism's removal by major media outlets, and most concerning, consistent amplification of undeclared arms lobbyists as 'impartial experts' on the matter by Ireland's national broadcaster.

Comhairle emphasises

The socially deleterious effects of militarism. In Europe, this manifests in the accelerated erosion of the already-declining 'welfare state'—itself, we wish to note, an arrangement fraught with contradiction—and its replacement by the 'warfare state'. In Ireland, this also manifests in prioritisation of the proliferation and protection of 'strategic infrastructure', amenable to the profit incentive, over investment according to public need. These developments will—as they already have and do—primarily impact working class students. Operations of the nature enabled by the Triple Lock's removal would necessarily lead to the deployment and death of young people and students, especially, again, from the working class. Furthermore, Ireland's participation and facilitation of militarism and imperialism cannot be removed from localised class struggle. State pursuit of Ireland's ruling class' interest, profit maximisation, drives collaboration with imperial projects such as that of the US. This renders it inseparable from numerous 'everyday' social crises encountered by the student body of the same primary cause, including that of housing provision. Finally, military activity is a key driver of the rapidly deepening climate crisis, an existential threat against which TCDSU/AMLCT is mandated to support meaningful action.

Comhairle notes

A precedent of supportive reference to neutrality in existing TCDSU/AMLCT policies, namely those relating to the aforementioned declaration of no-confidence in the 35th Government of Ireland and the revocation of the honorary doctorate

awarded to former US President Joe Biden by TCD. Also of adjacent relevance is the Union's BDS mandate: as stated above, deepening military coalescence with NATO and the EU directly contravenes any claim to Palestinian solidarity.

Comhairle recognises

That, while not in a position of significant social leverage, students have the potential to play an important role in support of a broader movement against militarism and imperialism. It is through coalition-building with other student unions, trade unions and grassroots student and working-class organisations that this issue of vital student interest may be engaged with in an actionable manner.

Comhairle therefore puts to referendum

That the students of Trinity College Dublin condemn and oppose imperialist militarism and Ireland's participation in such processes, and mandate that TCDSU/AMLCT take the following steps on the matter:

- Publicly state its opposition to prospective government removal of the 'Triple Lock' through the Defence Amendment Bill, and commit itself to actively promoting anti-militarism, in the interest of its students and the wider public.
- Strive to raise awareness of the issue among students and the wider public.
- Endeavour to aid processes of coalition-building, by liaising and collaborating with other student unions, trade unions and grassroots student and working-class organisations, so that this issue of vital student interest may be engaged with in an actionable manner.

Proposed by

Elena Connor

Ellen Duggan

Isabella Hanlon

Harry Johnston

Amy Kennedy

Seán Radcliffe

Ruby Rodgers

Elain Ross

Ruairí Ruane
Leandra Tolentino
Ava Tuohy

Seconded by David Wolfe, Ionadaí Ranga | Class Rep

2025/26-18: Motion on Entrance Awards Hodges Figgis Voucher

Comhairle notes

That the union is mandated to support Trinity BDS.

Comhairle further notes

That every year, Trinity presents Entrance Awards to students; Awardees receive a certificate and a €150 Hodges Figgis book token.

Comhairle also notes

That this year 602 students received their awards - a total of €90,300 in vouchers.

Comhairle recognises

That Hodges Figgis is owned by Waterstones and Elliott Investment Management - a company on the BDS list.

Comhairle however acknowledges

That this goes directly against the BDS mandate.

Comhairle believes

That it is problematic to continue supporting such a corporation.

Comhairle therefore mandates

That the BDS Implementation committee, the BDS Chair, and the President, lobby for a National Book Token to replace the Hodges Figgis voucher to maintain the motivation for book-buying but to condemn the connections with Hodges Figgis.

Proposed by Mary Groome, Ionadaí Ranga Béarla CO na Chéad Bliana | JF English JH Class Rep

Seconded by Seán Radcliffe, Ionadaí Ranga | Class Rep
Grace McNally, Uachtarán | President

2025/26-19: Motion on actions towards fairer admission procedures

Comhairle notes

the unfair difference in admission requirements and the way points for programs at Trinity are calculated in the same applicant pool - EU and Irish students applying through CAO. While it is suggested that CAO applies these rules, after follow-up with CAO, it is indicated that each college evaluates applicants individually.

Comhairle regrets

a disadvantage that Trinity College imposes on students coming from particular countries (505 point limit for Bulgaria; 525 point limit for Croatia, Greece, Lithuania, Ukraine, Estonia; 450 point limit for Turkish Cypriot students). Additional points can be gained by students from these countries studying a year in their home country and then applying to Trinity, which may not be feasible for many students due to financial and timely constraints. Therefore, this scaling system limits access to most Trinity programs to talented students from specific European countries.

Comhairle further notes

the lack of options of increasing said points outside of taking an additional university year. For students from the U.S, SAT tests can be used to increase points - such option is not available to EU students.

Comhairle additionally regrets

the generalisation of students from specific countries, judging their individual success by subjective collective data, taking into account their nationality, rather than their achievements.

Comhairle therefore mandates

the TCDSU President, the Education Officer, the Welfare and Equality Officer, and the Campaign Committee to begin active contact with the Academic Registry and other relevant decision-makers behind admissions at Trinity, to campaign against discriminatory policies when it comes to admission requirements, and to initiate a change in the admission system that reflects students' individual successes rather than their country of origin.

Proposed by Katerina Dimitrova, Ionadaí Ranga do Cheol na Chéad Bliana | Class Rep 1st Year Music

Seconded by Buster Whaley, Oifigeach Oideachais | Education Officer

2025/26-20: Motion to Formalise PTO Handovers

Comhairle commends

the work done by individual Part Time Officers to facilitate the handover of their role from one academic year to the next

Comhairle notes

that more often than not, the preceding officer does not offer a formal handover on policy work, practical considerations regarding college committees and mandatory meetings, or for technical services like the email.

Comhairle emphasises

how this hinders PTOs ability to complete their mandated work, particularly in the months immediately following handover.

Comhairle therefore mandates

that each PTO work with (a) relevant sabbatical officer(s) to create a handover document before the end of Hilary term each academic year.

Comhairle further mandates

that this handover document should contain the mandates pertaining to the officership in question, a summary of policy/campaign focuses within that year, and relevant meetings the officer is expected to attend.

Comhairle acknowledges

the additional difficulty faced by PTOs who are elected at other points during the year, beyond the standard election comhairle.

Comhairle therefore resolves

to create a standard PTO handbook, compiled by the Welfare Officer, President, and the Engagement Officer. This handbook will be brought to UF to be approved before the end of Hilary Term 2026. It will include the complete list of PTO mandates in one place, supports for PTOs in doing their work, a template for PTO reports, and an introduction to standard meetings such as UF.

Comhairle also recommends

that the relevant sabbatical officer also facilitate communication for handover, and an in-person meeting between outgoing and incoming officers should it be necessary.

Proposed by Amy Kennedy, Oifigeach na gceart LADT, Ionadaí Ranga Béarla Bl. 3 | LGBT Rights Officer, 3rd Year English Class Rep

Seconded by Regan Oladipofaniyi (Kennedy), Oifigeach na Mionlach Eitneach | Ethnic Minorities Officer

2025/26-21: *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.

Originally Proposed by Bev Genockey, Deputy STEM Convenor

Originally Seconded by Daniel O'Reilly, STEM Convenor

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Anna Moore, Oifigeach do Mhic Léinn faoi Mhíchumas | Officer for Students with Disabilities, tacaíthe ag | seconded by Mary Groome, Ionadaí Ranga Béarla na Chéad Bliana | Class Rep JF English

2025/26-22: *Motion on Universal Design for Learning

Council notes

That the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) is an inclusive educational practice framework to improve and optimize teaching and learning. It ensures equal opportunity, flexibility in the learning environment and lowers the barrier to engagement with content.

Council however notes

That UDL does not equal a fully inclusive curriculum, and further changes are required.

Council welcomes

The position of Vice Provost for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and the work of the Disability Service to date.

Council recognises

A high workload can make changing the way one teaches difficult or a stressful experience, especially when working to accommodate situations not personally experienced.

Council mandates

The Sabbatical Board and Officer for Students with Disabilities to campaign for the implementation of the Universal Design for Learning across all platforms in Trinity.

Council further mandates

The Sabbatical Officer Board to lobby for staff to engage with students and include them in the process.

Council finally mandates

The Sabbatical Officer Board to collaborate with trade unions to lobby for staff to be released from their duties for a period each semester to work on the renewal of their curriculum.

Originally Proposed by Megan O' Connor - Education Officer

Originally Seconded by Leah Keogh - Welfare & Equality Officer

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Anna Moore, Oifigeach do Mhic Léinn faoi Mhíchumas | Officer for Students with Disabilities, tacaíthe ag | seconded by Mary Groome, Ionadaí Ranga Béarla na Chéad Bliana | Class Rep JF English

2025/26-23: *Motion on Outlets in lecture theatres

Council notes

Many of the largest lecture theatres in Trinity College Dublin do not feature accessible electrical outlets.

Council further notes

Batteries lose charge when in use, and extended periods of lectures may prevent students from charging them sufficiently.

Council Acknowledges

Students use their laptops or other electronic devices during lectures.

Council mandates

That Faculty Convenors alongside the Sabbatical Officers lobby for the installation of outlets in large lecture halls.

Originally Proposed by Catherine Arnold, Education Officer

Originally Seconded by Ruaidhrí Saulnier, STEM Convenor

Originally passed 23/24, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Anna Moore, Oifigeach do Mhic Léinn faoi Mhíchumas | Officer for Students with Disabilities, tacaíthe ag | seconded by Mary Groome, Ionadaí Ranga Béarla na Chéad Bliana | Class Rep JF English

2025/26-24: *Motion on Accessibility and Inclusion

Council celebrates:

The efforts over several years to make the Union and college community more accessible, and particularly the work done by students through the Disability Service, TCDSense, the Ability Co-Op and the DU Neurodiversity Society.

Council acknowledges:

That further work is necessary to deliver equity for all neurodivergent students and students with disabilities, particularly with regards to the culture and ethos of the Union itself.

Council accepts:

That “good enough” is not enough, and that accessibility for every last student is the minimum the Union must strive for as an institution.

Council therefore mandates:

That the Electoral Commission elects from amongst its membership an ombudsman responsible for ensuring accessibility and inclusion in sabbatical, part-time officer, convenor and class rep elections, as well as with respect to the running of Council.

Council therefore mandates:

That the Oversight Commission elects from amongst its membership an ombudsman responsible for ensuring accessibility and inclusion in Union business, including campaign weeks, committee meetings, social media and communications.

Council further mandates:

That the Welfare and Equality Officer meet with representatives of the Trinity Ability Co-Op and the DU Neurodiversity Society, alongside other relevant stakeholders, to draft a report outlining current accessibility issues for neurodivergent students and students with disabilities within the Union, to be submitted no later than Third Council.

Originally Proposed by Sé Ó hEidhin, Deputy Stem Convenor

Originally Seconded by Connor Dempsey, Engagement Officer

Originally passed 23/24, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Anna Moore, Oifigeach do Mhic Léinn faoi Mhíchumas | Officer for Students with Disabilities, tacaíthe go | seconded by Mary Groome, Ionadaí

2025/26-25: *Council Motion on Non-Sabbatical Officer Elections**Council notes:**

That Non-Sabbatical Officers serve an essential role as part of the Union’s campaigns and delivery of services to students.

Council laments:

That the process of elections for Non-Sabbatical Officers can oftentimes feel inaccessible to students outside the Union's bubble.

Council resolves:

To improve its institutions and ensure that all students, regardless of their background, have an equal opportunity of being elected to roles within their Union.

Council therefore mandates:

That the President, the Chair of Council and the Engagement Officer run an information session for Part-Time Officer and Convenor elections no later than one week before the final Council of the academic year, and a separate information session for Class Rep elections no later than three days before Class Rep election registrations close.

Council further mandates:

That the Communications & Marketing Officer and the Engagement Officer publicly invite Part-Time Officer candidates to submit manifestos (through student-wide emails and social media) no later than one week before the final Council of the academic year, and that they share these manifestos in— a Google Drive, with individual folders for each Part-Time Officership, and a channel in the Union Slack, where all manifestos are shared by non-partisan members of the Union when possible.

Council further mandates:

That the Oversight Commission produce and submit a report, no later than the penultimate ordinary Council of the academic year, on all the extant Part-Time Officerships, explaining the day-to-day duties of each role, the weekly time commitments and other essential information for potential candidates to consider, and for the Communications and Marketing Officer to publicise this report in college-wide communications.

Council further mandates:

That the Chair of Council and Electoral Commission explore introducing a hustings, whether structured or unstructured, for Part-Time Officer candidates immediately preceding the final Council of the academic year where members of Council can have conversations with and ask questions to candidates in an infor-

mal setting, and produce and submit a report no later than the penultimate ordinary Council of the academic year outlining whether or not they will implement one.

Council further mandates:

That the Chair of Council and Electoral Commission explore introducing campaigning opportunities for Class Rep candidates, including possibly adding short “blurbs” written by candidates underneath their name on ballot papers, and include a list of recommendations for Class Rep election campaigning opportunities in their report proscribed in Motion “2023/24-3: *Motion on Class Rep Elections Report”.

Originally Proposed by Connor Dempsey, Engagement Officer

Originally Seconded by Ella Mac Lennan, Citizenship Officer

Originally passed 23/24, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Anna Moore, Oifigeach do Mhic Léinn faoi Mhíchumas | Officer for Students with Disabilities, tacaíthe ag | seconded by Mary Groome, Ionadaí Ranga Béarla na Chéad Bliana | Class Rep JF English

2025/26-26: *Motion on Issues Concerning Timetable Publication Scheduling at Trinity College Dublin

Council Notes

Academic timetables have this year and in previous years been published at best only one week in advance of the commencement of modules and classes (both in person and online) of their corresponding academic year. This has negatively impacted both students and teaching staff of all departments; restricting the individual’s ability to organise their scheduling of activities external to Trinity College Dublin.

Council Also Notes

The issue of delayed timetabling results primarily and worryingly in the restriction of staff and students’ abilities to schedule working hours for jobs or occupations that in many cases fund said students’ or teaching staff’s livelihood or even students’ ability to work or study at Trinity College Dublin through the payment of annual fees. This specifically has already been aggravated by the Coronavirus

pandemic and the increase of housing costs in Dublin, especially for students, thereby compounding the negative effects of the late release of timetables. Additionally, the late publication of module timetables at Trinity College Dublin particularly stands out against those of rival universities with institutions such as University College Dublin publishing their timetables months before the beginning of their corresponding academic terms.

Council Asserts

That current scheduling of the publication of academic and module timetables is performed too closely to the commencement of their corresponding academic years and that such a practice holds and executes the potential to negatively impact the livelihood of students and teaching staff across all departments.

Council Mandates

That the TCDSU Education Officer advocates on behalf of students to support the earlier publication of timetables.

Originally Proposed by Daniel Vives-Lynch, Senior Sophister Music Class Representative

Originally Seconded by David Boylan, Junior Sophister Music Class Representative

Originally passed 21/22, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Anna Moore, Oifigeach do Mhic Léinn faoi Mhíchumas | Officer for Students with Disabilities, tacaíthe ag | seconded by Mary Groome, Ionadaí Ranga Béarla na Chéad Bliana | Class Rep JF English

2025/26-27: *Motion on Management of Accessibility Requests for SU Council

Council notes

The need for an accessibility request form for council, so accessibility needs are met and council is accessible to everyone.

Council also notes

That the creation and management of an accessibility request form is taxing for the Electoral Commission and Secretary to the Council to maintain due to the workload of council submissions during the lead-up to council.

Council further notes

That the Officer for Students with Disabilities is integral to helping the Students' Union maintain accessibility needs.

Council mandates

The Officer for Students with Disabilities to create and circulate the accessibility request form in advance of any upcoming councils.

Council further mandates

The Officer for Students with Disabilities to take charge in reviewing any requirements and to work with the Electoral Commission and Secretary to the Council to fulfil any accessibility requests for Council attendance.

Originally Proposed by Chloe Staunton, OSD

Originally Seconded by Sierra Müller-Owens, Welfare and Equality Officer

Originally passed 21/22, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Anna Moore, Oifigeach do Mhic Léinn faoi Mhíchumas | Officer for Students with Disabilities, tacaíthhe ag | seconded by Mary Groome, Ionadaí

2025/26-28: *Motion on Recorded Lectures & Hybrid Learning

Council notes:

During the pandemic, students with disabilities faced increased barriers with regards to their education. One of these barriers was not-recorded, online live events which posed challenges for students with, for example, hearing difficulties. also notes: Despite the return to face-to-face lectures, some students may be hesitant or anxious to come back in a full time capacity, either due to general anxiety around the ongoing pandemic, or due to them having vulnerable family members that means that they cannot take the risk, however small, of catching covid when in college.

Council also notes:

The rapid rise in case numbers since October 2021 has shown that there is a need to consider and implement a hybrid learning model so that students are not disadvantaged in their education for not coming into college, in line with Trinity's commitment that no student shall be disadvantaged by having to stay home.

Council observes:

That since not all courses were recorded during the Covid-19 pandemic, some students had less access to education than others, and as such, it was not a level playing field. It should be changed so that this situation does not happen again.

Council further notes:

The existence and success of hybrid-learning technologies and approaches in other Irish Universities.

Council remarks:

The recording of lectures has been traditionally opposed by trade unions, due to the College having copyright over such material, and the possibility that College will fire staff and use these materials to teach.

Council therefore mandates:

That TCDSU work together with graduate students, IFUT and lecturers to find a solution for handing over copyright of recorded lectures to lecturers, to create a policy of lectures being recorded, along with a hybrid approach to lectures, so that no student is disadvantaged for not being present on campus.

Council further notes

According to the IT Services Satisfaction Survey 2022 published, staff identified the outsourcing of A/V support as a barrier to implementing lecture recording. One lecturer is quoted as proposing for improvement: "More dedicated TCD staff on AV team for teaching - the outsourcing yields people who don't know about teaching in my experience: e.g. Someone from FittingImage trying to tell me that wanting to record Powerpoint plus the document camera in a large lecture theatre in Panopto was not something that was ""normal"". Core business should have core staff dedicated."

Council therefore further mandates

That the President and Education Officer campaign for College to cease outsourcing A/V support to FittingImage and for it to be provided by in-house IT Services, accompanied by the necessary expansion and/or pay rises for such staff.

That the President raise this at the Information Systems Services User Committee and the Education Officer at the Undergraduate Studies Committee.

Amended 2022/23

Originally Proposed by Valerie Fullam-Smith, class rep

Originally Seconded by László Molnárfi, SF PPES rep

Originally passed 21/22, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Anna Moore, Oifigeach do Mhic Léinn faoi Mhíchumas | Officer for Students with Disabilities, tacaíthe ag | seconded by Mary Groome, Ionadaí Ranga Béarla na Chéad Bliana | Class Rep JF English

2025/26-29: *Motion on Teach 6 Accessibility

Council notes

Any floor above the ground floor in Teach 6 is not accessible to wheelchair users and those with other disabilities. Teach 6 is home to the Students' Union, the Central Societies Committee, Trinity Publications and The University Times offices, as well as several society spaces.

Council also notes

According to the Disability Service annual report 2019/2020, the number of Trinity Students registered with a disability reached its highest ever total at 1777 students.

Council believes

That students with any kind of disabilities should not be alienated from any aspect of university life.

Council mandates

The President and Officer for Students with Disabilities to lobby the College for a feasibility study into making all levels of Teach 6 accessible to all students.

Leasaithe | Amended 2025/26

Originally Proposed by Niamh Herbert - Officer for Students with Disabilities

Originally Seconded by Bev Genockey - Deputy STEM Convener

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Anna Moore, Oifigeach do Mhic Léinn faoi Mhíchumas | Officer for Students with Disabilities, tacaíthe ag | seconded by Mary Groome, Ionadaí Ranga Béarla na Chéad Bliana | Class Rep JF English

2025/26-30: *Motion on Ad Hoc Body Minutes

Council notes

That there are a number of ad hoc Union bodies chaired by Officers which have no formal reporting lines to Council.

Council believes

That for it to effectively oversee Union activity, it must first be able to see it.

Council also notes

That all Sabbatical and Part Time Officers are already mandated to submit a brief report to every meeting of Council.

Council mandates

That any officer who chairs an ad hoc Union body submit the minutes of any and all meetings of that body approved since the previous meeting of Council to Council.

Council further mandates

That Faculty Convenors submit to every Council in the form of an item for noting any minutes from their respective Faculty Assembly which have been approved since the previous meeting of Council.

Originally Proposed by Daniel O'Reilly, STEM Convener

Originally Seconded by Eoin Hand, President

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Buster Whaley, Oifigeach Oideachais | Education Officer, Cuidithe ag | Seconded by Orla Norton, Grace McNally, Oifigeach Siamsa is Uachtarán | Ents Officer and President

Amended 24/25

2025/26-31: *Motion on Support for Students on Placement.

Council notes

Student's 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.

Originally Proposed by Megan O'Connor, Education Officer

Originally Seconded by Jodie Milne, Citizenship Officer

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Buster Whaley, Oifigeach Oideachais | Education Officer, Cuidithe ag | Seconded by Orla Norton, Grace McNally, Oifigeach Siamsa is Uachtarán | Ents Officer and President

2025/26-32: *Motion on Academic Open Access

Council notes

That as opposed to previous forms of distribution, the digitalisation of academia has meant that research can be increasingly cheaply published.

Council regrets

The ongoing prevalence of paywall academia, that is pay-for-view or subscription based access to academic literature, representing an access barrier for students and researchers alike, especially vis-a-vis socioeconomically disadvantaged persons.

Council welcomes

Trinity's Open Access Institutional Repository (TARA), which is designed to store, distribute, and preserve the digital materials of Trinity College Dublin following the principles of Open Access.

Council mandates

That the Education Officer and the Welfare & Equality Officer work alongside the College to promote and campaign for the principles of Open Access. Specifically, in ensuring that the system for open access is advertised and used as effectively as possible by TCD researchers.

Originally Proposed by László Molnárfi, JF PPES Class Representative

Originally Seconded by Bev Genockey, Deputy STEM Convener

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Buster Whaley, Oifigeach Oideachais | Education Officer, Cuidithe ag | Seconded by Orla Norton, Grace McNally, Oifigeach Siamsa is Uachtarán | Ents Officer and President

2025/26-33: *Motion on Convenor Training

Council notes

The importance of school, programme and faculty convenors in representing class reps and students of their constituencies at school and faculty executive meetings.

Council welcomes

Existing TCDSU policy which ensures that upon election, convenors are provided with a crossover manual prepared by their predecessor.

Council recognises

The importance of leadership and lobbying skills required by faculty, school and programme convenors to best represent students on these committees.

Council mandates

That the Education Officer holds a “convenor training” following the election of convenors at the end of each academic year.

Originally Proposed by Bev Genockey - Deputy STEM Convener

Originally Seconded by Jacqui Whelan - AHSS Convener

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Buster Whaley, Oifigeach Oideachais | Education Officer, Cuidithe ag | Seconded by Orla Norton, Grace McNally, Oifigeach Siamsa is Uachtarán | Ents Officer and President

2025/26-34: *Motion on Unpaid Internships

Council notes

A number of courses within the college require and/or allow students to undertake an industry work placement for credit.

Council acknowledges

The incredible networking and skill development benefit that comes from these internship opportunities.

Council however notes

That due to the large non-monetary benefit to these internships, students can feel forced to take unpaid internships for credit.

Council also notes

That industry work placement often involve full-time hours, leaving little to no time for part-time work.

Council believes

Students are being forced into precarious financial situations where they are in effect working two jobs by these unpaid internships, if they are able to maintain their second job at all.

Council asserts

Interns carry out productive work for companies, generating value and as such should be fairly compensated.

Council mandates

The Education Officer and Faculty Convenors to lobby for the introduction of a college policy, requiring all credit-bearing internships to have financial remuneration, with appropriate exemptions where professional accreditation is involved

Council further mandates

The Union campaign & lobby for the prohibition of unpaid internships nationally.

Originally Proposed by Daniel O'Reilly - STEM Convener

Originally Seconded by Matthew Henry - SCSS Convener

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Buster Whaley, Oifigeach Oideachais | Education Officer, Cuidithe ag | Seconded by Orla Norton, Grace McNally, Oifigeach Siamsa is Uachtarán | Ents Officer and President

2025/26-35: *Motion on Reducing Trinity's Carbon Footprint

Council regrets

Vehicles being parked on campus are contributing to Trinity's greenhouse emissions.

Council further regrets

There has been much rhetoric, many committees but very few specific and effective solutions proposed to reduce Trinity's carbon footprint.

Council however notes

Trinity's Sustainability Policy, approved by the college board, which commits to continuous environmental improvement, including pollution prevention throughout its activities and compliance with all relevant legislation in the area.

Council further notes

All provost candidates have made commitments to substantially reduce Trinity's carbon footprint and to make Trinity a green campus.

Council mandates

The President and the Environmental Officer lobby for the phasing out of all vehicular parking on campus within a reasonable timeframe, with an exception made for staff and students that require on campus parking due to disabilities and other access issues, and for non-ICE campus service vehicles.

Originally Proposed by Dillon Broaders - SF Physical Sciences Class Representative

Originally Seconded by Áine Hennessy - Environmental Officer

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Buster Whaley, Oifigeach Oideachais | Education Officer, Cuidithe ag | Seconded by Orla Norton, Grace McNally, Oifigeach Siamsa is Uachtarán | Ents Officer and President

2025/26-36: *Motion Against Conversion Therapy

Council notes

That conversion therapy is the harmful practice of attempting to erase, repress, 'cure' or change someone's sexual orientation and/or gender identity.

Council also notes

That conversion therapy is currently legal and is practiced in both jurisdictions on this island.

Council regrets

The immense suffering experienced by, and lives lost within, the LGBT+ community due to this harmful practice.

Council welcomes

The current efforts by public representatives in both Stormont and the Oireachtas to ban conversion therapy as well as the recent renewed public interest.

Council mandates

That the Welfare & Equality Officer and LGBT Rights Officer raise awareness of this issue and lobby politicians in both jurisdictions to legislate for a complete ban on all forms of conversion therapy.

Council further mandates

That the Welfare & Equality Officer and LGBT Rights Officer seeks to work with and coordinate their lobbying with groups campaigning on this issue.

Originally Proposed by Thomas O'Neill - Chemistry Convener

Originally Seconded by Brian Hastings - LGBT Rights Officer

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Buster Whaley, Oifigeach Oideachais | Education Officer, Cuidithe ag | Seconded by Orla Norton, Grace McNally, Oifigeach Siamsa is Uachtarán | Ents Officer and President

2025/26-37: *Uasdátú ar Dhualgais Oifigeach na Gaeilge/Updating Oifigeach na Gaeilge's Mandates

Council notes

gur cruthaíodh post Oifigeach na Gaeilge chun guth agus ionadaíocht a thabhairt do chúrsaí Gaeilge san Aontas agus go bhfuil de sprioc ag an Aontas an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn mar gnáth-theanga laethúil.

Council recognizes

an méid oibre a bhaineann le ról an Oifigh Ghaeilge maidir le haistriú, le stocaireacht a dhéanamh ar an Aontas le cloí le treoirínte Gaeilge an rialtais agus le bealaí istitiúideacha nua a chumadh chun láithreacht na Gaeilge a threisiú i ngach gné den Aontas.

Council therefore mandates

go mbeidh Oifigeach na Gaeilge freagrach as aistriúchán a dhéanamh nó a eagrú ar aon ríomhphost a sheolann oifigeach sabóideach chuig na mic léinn uilig le cinntiú gur go dátheangach mar dhá ríomhphost ar leith a sheolfar é.

Council therefore mandates

go n-oibreoidh Oifigeach na Gaeilge in eineacht leis na hoifigídh eile go mbeadh fógraíocht ar fheachtais agus ar imeachtaí comh dátheagach agus is féidir.

Council therefore mandates

go n-oibreoidh Oifigeach na Gaeilge le Coimisiún na dToghchán agus leis an gCoimisiún Maoirseachta chun láithreacht na Gaeilge a mhéadú sa Chomhairle, san Fhóram agus i rith na dtoghchán.

Council therefore mandates:

go n-oibreoidh Oifigeach na Gaeilge leis an Oifigeach Oideachais chun brú a chur ar an gcoláiste le plananna a chur i bhfeidhm chun modúil a chur ar fáil trí mheán na Gaeilge i gcúrsaí eile nach iad an Ghaeilge féin iad, ar aon dul le spriocanna Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla (Leasú), 2021.

Council therefore resolves:

Téarmaí Tagartha an Choiste Oideachais a leasú chun Oifigeach na Gaeilge a chur san áireamh mar bhall de bhrí oifige.

Council notes

the position of Oifigeach na Gaeilge was created to give a voice and representation

to Irish language issues in the Union and that it is the goal of the Union to promote Irish as a normal daily language.

Council recognizes

the amount of work involved in the role of Oifigeach na Gaeilge in terms of translation, lobbying the union to adhere to Irish language government guidelines, and creating new institutional ways to increase the presence of the Irish language in every aspect of the Union.

Council therefore mandates

that Oifigeach na Gaeilge will be responsible for translating or organizing translation of any email sent by sabbatical officers to all the students to ensure that it is sent bilingually as two separate emails.

Council therefore mandates

that Oifigeach na Gaeilge work with the Electoral Commission and the Oversight Commission to increase the presence of Irish in Council, Forum, and during elections.

Council therefore mandates:

that Oifigeach na Gaeilge will work with the Education Officer to pressure the College to implement plans to offer modules through the medium of Irish in other courses that are not Irish themselves in line with the targets of the Official Languages Act (Amendment), 2021.

Council therefore resolves:

to amend the Terms of Reference of the Education Committee to include Oifigeach na Gaeilge as an ex-officio member.

Originally Proposed by Pádraig Mac Brádaigh, Oifigeach na Gaeilge

Originally Seconded by Niko Evans, Tionólaí Scoil na dTeangacha, na Litríochtaí agus na gCultúr

Originally passed 23/24, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Buster Whaley, Oifigeach Oideachais | Education Officer, Cuidithe ag | Seconded by Orla Norton, Grace McNally, Oifigeach Siamsa is Uachtarán | Ents Officer and President

2025/26-38: *Motion to Withdraw the Honorary Doctorate Degree of U.S. President Joe Biden

Council notes

Trinity College Dublin in 2016 gave an honorary doctorate degree to then U.S Vice-President Joe Biden, for his contribution to world politics.

Council remarks

the election of Joe Biden to the U.S Presidency in 2020.

Council is disgusted

that the United States, on the initiative of U.S President Joe Biden, has requested \$105bn of aid to be approved from Congress to be sent to wartime aid for amongst other places, Israel.

Council notes

this is not a once-off donation. Israel is the largest cumulative recipient of U.S. foreign aid, until February 2022, the United States had provided Israel US\$150 billion. This money goes to fund Israel's oppressive security forces, which brutalize Palestinian men, women, and children every day.

Council is further disgusted

the continued support of the United States for the Israeli state, which has been recognized as an apartheid state by Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch.

Council is concerned

some of these weapons may be sent via Shannon Airport, violating Irish neutrality and making Ireland complicit in violations of international law.

Council notes

our long-term policy of Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) against Israel, in order to make them comply with international and human rights law in their treatment of the Palestinian population.

Council recognizes

on the 20th of October 2023, students supported by Trinity BDS and TCDSU handed a letter to the Provost's Office demanding that College end all ties to the Israeli war

industry, as part of an ongoing campaign for the human rights of the Palestinian people.

Council notes

Trinity College Dublin's mission statement includes both "engaging with issues of global significance" and "dedication to societal reform", and our College's response to Ukraine, which condemned the illegal invasion of the country by Russia.

Council remarks

the difference in the reaction of College, which has so far refused to condemn Israeli apartheid, amounts to hypocrisy, and that this hypocrisy must be challenged.

Council is therefore concerned

that the continued honorary doctorate degree of U.S President Joe Biden is in conflict with both the values of the university, the stance of the student body as well as that it is hypocrisy, and a dereliction of duty to the oppressed people of Palestine.

Council therefore calls for

Trinity College Dublin to withdraw the honorary doctorate degree of the U.S. President Joe Biden.

Council also mandates

that TCDSU campaigns for Trinity College Dublin to withdraw Joe Biden's honorary doctorate degree.

Originally Proposed by Union Forum

Originally Seconded by László Molnárfi, TCDSU President

Originally passed 23/24, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Buster Whaley, Oifigeach Oideachais | Education Officer, Cuidithe ag | Seconded by Orla Norton, Grace McNally, Oifigeach Siamsa is Uachtarán | Ents Officer and President

2025/26-39: *OC Review of Schedule 4

Council notes:

The OC was previously mandated to review Schedule 4 which council either did not adequately address due to time constraints or the review was not brought by the OC entirely.

Council regrets:

The inability due to time constraints to discuss the Schedule 4 review at the final Council.

Council further notes:

That the previous mandate only permitted the OC to consider mandates that are outside of the remit of Council and aims and principles of the Union which prevents addressing mandates which are known to be problematic.

Council however notes:

That the OC shall not propose the content of amendments.

Council hence resolves to mandate:

The Secretary to Council to bring the Schedule 4 review as a discussion item, which is to be written by the OC, to the expected last council of the first semester. If the expected Council does not occur, the review shall be brought to the next council. The review shall list all mandates found in schedule 4.

Council further mandates:

The OC to recommend mandates in conflict to council by highlighting both mandates as conflicting within the Schedule 4 review and amendment by council.

Council further mandates:

The OC to consult the EC on mandates that are believed to be in breach of the constitution. Mandates found to be in breach shall be highlighted in the Schedule 4 review.

Council furthermore mandates:

The OC to inform the Sabbatical Officer Board on mandates found to be problematic from previous OC investigations.

Council finally mandates:

The Education Officer to propose amendments to mandates at council found to be problematic by the OC if it is deemed necessary by the Sabbatical Officer Board as part of the Schedule 4 Review.

Originally Proposed by Sé Ó hEidhin, Deputy STEM Convenor

Originally Seconded by Ruaidhrí Saulnier, STEM Convenor

Originally passed 23/24, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Buster Whaley, Oifigeach Oideachais | Education Officer, Cuidithe ag | Seconded by Orla Norton, Grace McNally, Oifigeach Siamsa is Uachtarán | Ents Officer and President

2025/26-40: *Motion on Supports for P.M.E Students

Council notes

That those undertaking Professional Masters in Education (P.M.E.) degrees are often unnoticed and underrepresented.

Council remarks

That our College offers P.M.E. degrees, and that those undertaking these degrees are members of the Union and may be members of the Association of Secondary Teachers Ireland (ASTI).

Council notes with concern

P.M.E students are exploited and face many issues, including a high dropout rate, financial difficulties and hidden costs and not being properly paid for their training working in secondary schools.

Council praises

The work of ASTI, who passed a motion at their conference in 2022 to campaign for student second-level teachers to be paid for all the hours they work in schools during their second year of study.

Council believes

That the Union has a duty to support P.M.E students, and that the best way to do this is through solidarity and combining our forces with ASTI.

Council therefore mandates

That the TCDSU support ASTI's campaign to ensure that student secondary-level teachers be paid properly and that the TCDSU develop links with ASTI on this issue.

Originally Proposed by László Molnárfi, President

Originally Seconded by Catherine Arnold, Education Officer

Originally passed 23/24, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Buster Whaley, Oifigeach Oideachais | Education Officer, Cuidithe ag | Seconded by Orla Norton, Grace McNally, Oifigeach Siamsa is Uachtarán | Ents Officer and President

2025/26-41: *Motion on Reporting of Sabbatical Officer Expenses

Council Notes

Sabbatical officers sometimes require expenses as part of their job.

Council Also Notes

That sabbatical officers use these expenses with good intention, and with the students in mind.

Council Acknowledges

Transparency of expenditure in the Students' Union is appreciated by its members.

Council Mandates

That sabbatical officers report their expenses in the reports that they provide to Council.

Originally Proposed by Shane De Rís, President

Originally Seconded by Paraic McLean, Communications and Marketing Officer

Originally passed 18/19, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Buster Whaley, Oifigeach Oideachais | Education Officer, Cuidithe ag | Seconded by Orla Norton, Grace McNally, Oifigeach Siamsa is Uachtarán | Ents Officer and President

2025/26-42: *Motion to Support PhD Groups

Council notes with concern

That postgraduate researchers are not recognised as workers by the university or state. Without this recognition, they are without working rights and are not entitled to a salary based on the living wage, employment contracts, minimum notice

periods, leave from work (personal, parental or sick), social and pension contributions, safety in the workplace, equal treatment, or privacy and data protection. This lack of working rights has a significant impact on postgraduate researchers' welfare and financial stability. Doctoral stipends are not fixed, ranging from € 0 - € 21,000 pa. In all cases, this results in the candidate earning less than minimum wage for the work performed. Additionally, several departments at TCD require PhD researchers to complete unpaid tutorial and demonstrating hours to compensate for fee contributions. In light of the ever-increasing costs of living, the burden of these conditions is growing rapidly, resulting in a detrimental impact on the health and well being of postgraduate researchers.

Council further notes

That Ireland ranks at the very bottom among EU/EEA countries when it comes to average PhD stipend to cost-of-living, with 8 EU/EEA already implementing working rights for PhD candidates.

Council therefore mandates

The TCD-SU will adopt a committed stance in support of the Postgraduate Workers' Organization (PWO) (a merger of the TCD Postgraduate Workers Alliance (TCD PGWA) and the PhD's Collective Action Union (PCAU)), their aims and objectives as outlined by their charter. This should include active participation in the PWO campaigns and collaboration on campus-based campaigns relevant to both the PWO and the TCDSU.

Council further mandates

TCDSU support the idea of postgraduate researchers being represented by a workers union at Trinity College Dublin.

additional proposers: Conor Reddy, Shaakya Vembar, Shauna Donohoe, DJ Ringis, Mark Anderson, Tenaya Jorgensen, Serena Foo, Thomas Dinneen, Karina Einicke

Amended 2022/23

Originally Proposed by Eoghan Ross, Non-member of council

Originally Seconded by Leah Keogh, President

Originally passed 21/22, Renewed 25/26

Most recent proposal to renew by Buster Whaley, Oifigeach Oideachais | Education Officer, Cuidithe ag | Seconded by Orla Norton, Grace McNally, Oifigeach Siamsa is Uachtarán | Ents Officer and President

2025/26-43: Motion on TCPID integration and elections

Comhairle notes

That the students of the Trinity Centre for People with intellectual disabilities are students of this college and therefore members of this union.

Comhairle regrets

While the students of TCPID are members of this union, they have not been integrated properly into our systems, including our class rep and other elections.

Comhairle therefore mandates

The Welfare & Equality Officer and the Officer for Students with Disabilities, to work with the Education Officer to set up class rep elections for TCPID. This should include meeting with staff from TCPID before the elections to ensure that the elections are set up properly for TCPID students

Comhairle further mandates

The Welfare & Equality and/or Education officer should also meet with the staff of TCPID before sabbatical elections so they can set up a meeting with the students about the elections to inform them of the process and the candidates.

Comhairle further mandates

That the Sabbatical Board host one other outreach session in the year eg. a coffee morning to further the integration of these students into the union beyond mere governance formalities.

Proposed by Deirdre Leahy, Oifigeach Leasa is Comhionannais | Welfare & Equality Officer

Seconded by Buster Whaley, Oifigeach Oideachais | Education Officer

2025/26-44: Motion on International Student Handbook

Comhairle notes

That Trinity College Dublin welcomes a large number of international students each year.

Comhairle recognises

That many international students face significant challenges during their first months in Ireland, including navigating immigration processes, securing accommodation, understanding employment rights, and adjusting to academic and cultural expectations.

Comhairle further notes

That existing information is often dispersed, inconsistent, or difficult to access upon arrival.

Comhairle mandates

The International Student in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, to create and maintain an International Student Handbook providing clear, practical guidance for international students during their first three months in Ireland. The handbook should consolidate essential information including immigration guidance, accommodation and tenant rights, employment regulations, academic expectations, cultural adaptation, healthcare access, and relevant support services.

Comhairle further mandates

That the handbook be made available in an accessible digital format and reviewed annually to ensure accuracy and relevance.

Proposed by Aman Bansal, Oifigeach Idirnáisiúnta | International Officer

Seconded by Grace McNally, Uachtarán | President

2025/26-45: Motion on the Establishment of a National Network of Student Representatives

Comhairle notes

That international students across Ireland face common challenges relating to immigration, accommodation, employment rights, and integration.

Comhairle further notes

That student representatives working on international student issues often operate in isolation within their respective institutions.

Comhairle recognises

That individual outreach to relevant authorities and stakeholders does not always receive adequate engagement or response.

Comhairle believes

That coordinated, collective advocacy can increase visibility, influence, and impact on national-level issues affecting international students.

Comhairle mandates

That the President and International Student Office work towards the establishment of a National Network of International Student Representatives, connecting international student officers and representatives across Irish universities. This network should take the form of a shared platform (e.g., committee, mailing list, or structured communication group) to:

- Exchange best practices and institutional knowledge
- Share resources and policy developments
- Identify recurring national-level issues
- Coordinate collective advocacy where appropriate

Comhairle further mandates

That the International Students' Officer lead initial outreach to other institutions to explore interest and feasibility.

Proposed by Aman Bansal, Oifigeach Idirnáisiúnta | International Officer

Seconded by Grace McNally, Uachtarán | President

2025/26-46: Motion on workshops on Employment and Student Rights

Comhairle notes

That many students seek part-time employment while studying at Trinity College Dublin.

Comhairle regrets

That students, particularly international students, may not be fully aware of their legal rights, workplace protections, or safe reporting mechanisms.

Comhairle further regrets

That there have been concerning accounts of unfair or inappropriate treatment experienced by students during job searches or in employment.

Comhairle recognises

That access to clear information on employment rights and support systems is essential to ensuring safe and fair working conditions for all students.

Comhairle therefore mandates

That International student officer in liaison with welfare officer should organise quarterly or biannual workshops focused on:

- How to find part-time employment safely and effectively
- Understanding employment rights and legal protections
- Identifying and responding to unfair or inappropriate treatment
- Awareness of reporting channels and available support services

Comhairle further mandates

That these workshops be open to all students and promoted widely, recognising that fair and safe working conditions are a shared priority.

Comhairle mandates

That the relevant Union officers collaborate with appropriate external bodies or experts where necessary to ensure accurate and practical guidance.

Proposed by Aman Bansal, Oifigeach Idirnáisiúnta | International Officer

2025/26-47: Rún um Inrochtaineacht ar Spásanna Lán-Ghaeilge | Motion on Accessibility to Irish Language Spaces

Creideann an Chomhairle

Go bhfuil sé de cheart ag gach mac léinn rochtain a fháil ar sheirbhísí agus imeachtaí Gaeilge, agus nár cheart bac a chuir os a gcomhair mar gheall ar mhíchumas.

Is oth leis an gComhairle

Nach bhfuil spás lán-Ghaeilge ar fáil i gColáiste na Tríonóide atá inrochtana do ghach mac léinn.

Sainordaíonn an Chomhairle, mar sin

Go ndéanfaidh Oifigeach na Gaeilge, in éineacht leis an Oifigeach Leasa agus Comhionannais agus an tOifigeach um Mic Léinn faoi Mhíchumas, stocaireacht agus feachtasaíocht ar son ardaitheoir agus leithris a chur ar fáil i Seomra na Gaeilge

Sainordaíonn an Chomhairle freisin

Go gcinnteoidh Oifigeach na Gaeilge, in éineacht leis an Oifigeach Leasa agus Comhionannais, an tOifigeach Lasmuigh den Champas agus Tionólaí na nEolaíochtaí Sláinte, go mbeidh imeachtaí agus seirbhísí ar fáil do mhic léinn na Tríonóide nach ndéanann a gcuid staidéir ar an gcampas.

Comhairle believes

That it is the right of every student to have access to Irish language service and events, and that barriers should not be put in their way because of disability.

Comhairle regrets

That there is no all-Irish-language space in Trinity College that is accessible to every student.

Comhairle therefore mandates

That Oifigeach na Gaeilge, alongside the Education Officer, Welfare and Equality Officer and Officer for Students with Disabilities, campaign and lobby for a lift and toilets to be provided for Seomra na Gaeilge.

Comhairle further mandates

That Oifigeach na Gaeilge, along with the Welfare and Equality Officer, the Off-Campus Officer and the Health Sciences Convenor, ensure that Irish language services and events are available to Trinity students who study off-campus.

Proposed by Hugh Ó Ríordáin, Tionólaí Fochéime Scoil na dTeangacha, na Litríochta agus na gCultúr

Secóid by Dáil Ó hÉimhaire, Leasdaí Dánaí Gaeilge na Tríonóide

2025/26-48: Rún ar Chomhtháthú na Gaeilge in Obair an Aontais

Molann an Chomhairle

An obair atá déanta ag Aontas na Mac Léinn le dhá bhliain anuas leis an nGaeilge a chothú agus a chur chun cinn san Aontas agus san ollscoil i gcoitinne.

Aithníonn an Chomhairle

An ríthábhacht a bhaineann le cearta teanga ó thaobh comhionannais de.

Aithníonn an Chomhairle

An ról lárnach atá ag obair Oifigeach na Gaeilge i ngluaiseacht na Gaeilge ar an gcampas agus ar bhonn náisiúnta agus nach féidir na maidí a ligean le sruth ar an ábhar seo.

Aithníonn an Chomhairle

An fiúntas agus an neart a bhaineann le sainorduithe oifigiúla chun tacaíocht láidir an Aontais a thabhairt d'fheachtais agus d'obair Oifigh an Aontais.

Molann an Chomhairle

An obair atá déanta ag Oifigeach Gaeilge na bliana seo ar an bhfeachtas 'Gaelollscolaíocht' le ceist na Gaelollscolaíochta a thabhairt chun solais ar bhonn náisiúnta, san ollscoil, agus i dTithe an Oireachtais.

Sainordaíonn an Chomhairle

Go dtabharfaidh Oifigeach na Gaeilge agus an tOifigeach Oideachais tacaíocht don fheachtas nua-bhunaithe 'Gaelollscolaíocht' a bhunaigh AMLÉ i mbliana agus go mbeidh siad gníomhach agus rannpháirteach sa bhfeachtas seo, agus go n-oibreoidh Oifigeach na Gaeilge agus an tOifigeach Oideachais i gcomhpháirt le cinn ranna an Choláiste le modúil agus cúrsaí trí mheán na Gaeilge nach mbaineann leis an teanga féin a chur ar fáil.

Sainordaíonn an Chomhairle

Go ndéanfaidh Oifigeach na Gaeilge iniúchadh ar chomharthaíocht Choláiste na Tríonóide i ngach foirgneamh laistigh agus lasmuigh den phríomhchampas ar a laghad uair amháin in aghaidh na bliana agus go dtuairisceoidh d'Oifig an Choimisinéara Teanga muna ndéantar plean láithreach chun comharthaí nach gcloíonn leis an reachtaíocht a dheisiú. Cuirfear torthaí an iniúchta seo i láthair Fhóram an Aontais roimh dheireadh na bliana acadúla.

Aithníonn an Chomhairle

Go mbaineann an Ghaeilge le gach gné den ollscoil agus den Aontas agus go bhfuil dualgas ar gach Oifigeach Aontais cultúr dátheangach an Aontais a chur chun cinn.

Molann an Chomhairle

An obair agus an stocaireacht atá déanta ag an Oifigeach Gaeilge i mbliana mar gheall ar inrochtaineacht ar Sheomra na Gaeilge.

Aithníonn an Chomhairle

Nach bhfuil an coiste ollscoile a dhéanfaidh beartais mar gheall ar leagan amach an ionad mac léinn nua (Trinity South Renewal (Student Centre) Steering Committee) tar éis cruinniú a bheith acu go fóill.

Sainordaíonn an Chomhairle

Go ndéanfaidh an Bord Sabóideach stocaireacht leanúnach ionas go ndéanfar spás inrochtana nua lán-Ghaeilge a bhunú san ionad mac léinn nua.

Sainordaíonn an Chomhairle

Go ndéanfaidh an tUachtarán stocaireacht ar son fhorbairt na Gaeilge ar Bhord an Choláiste agus ar gach coiste de chuid an Choláiste a bhfuil siad air taobh istigh agus taobh amuigh de chríocha na reachtaíochta.

Proposed by Aoife Ní Bhriain, Oifigeach na Gaeilge

Seconded by Grace McNally, Uachtarán

2025/26-49: *Motion on Open Fora

Council notes

The Students Union can sometimes be inaccessible to students not directly involved and existing fora are not conducive to free flowing discussion where students can raise concerns.

Council acknowledges

The importance of fostering a welcoming environment for students and the promotion of participation in the SU.

Council mandates

The Sabbatical Board to host a town-hall style open forum.

- There shall be a minimum of two fora in each academic year.
- The Education Officer shall open every forum with a report on any actionables from previous fora.
- Where possible, the Fora shall be advertised no less than one week in advance by the Communications and Marketing Officer.

Council further mandates

The Education Officer to bring a summary of each fora and a report including actionables and general insights given from the fora to Council at least once per term in the form of a discussion item.

Amended 2022/23 by Buster Whaley, Oifigeach Oideachais | Education Officer

Originally Proposed by Megan O' Connor - Education Officer

Originally Seconded by Bev Genockey - Deputy STEM Convenor

Originally passed 20/21, Renewed 23/24

Most recent proposal to renew by Ruaidhrí Saulnier, STEM Convenor, seconded by Sé Ó

2025/26-50: Continued Condemnation of the STARS (STAFF TIME ATTENDANCE ROTA SYSTEM) Clock-In System in St. James's Hospital Placement

Comhairle Notes

The use of the STARS clock-in/clock-out system for nursing students while on clinical placement in St. James's Hospital. That the STARS system requires nursing students to clock in and out during clinical placements, creating a highly rigid attendance monitoring system. Concerns raised by nursing students that the system is punitive in nature and does not adequately reflect the realities of clinical education placements. That nursing students on placement are students undertaking mandatory clinical education, not employees. That this issue has previously been raised and condemned by representatives of students but remains largely unknown across the wider student body and among incoming officers even though this issue in hindsight is one of the largest issues facing our students especially due to the lack of awareness and nursing students lack of ability to protest this. The importance of maintaining institutional memory within Trinity College Dublin Students' Union to ensure long-term student issues are not lost between officer terms.

Comhairle Appreciates

That nursing students deserve fair, proportionate, and educationally appropriate systems for attendance monitoring while on placement. That the STARS system places unnecessary stress and administrative burden on students undertaking already demanding clinical placements. That students in clinical placements should be treated primarily as learners rather than as staff subject to punitive monitoring systems. The Trinity College Dublin Students' Union has a responsibility to advocate strongly on behalf of nursing and health sciences students when external institutional policies negatively affect their education and wellbeing. Stronger awareness and continuity of advocacy are necessary to effectively challenge the STARS system.

Comhairle Mandates

The President, Education Officer, Welfare & Equality Officer, Health Sciences Convener and Off-Campus Officer to continue the Union's condemnation of the STARS clock-in system used for nursing students during placements in St. James's Hospital. The aforementioned officers to lobby St. James and Trinity management and relevant placement stakeholders (aka St. James, NMBI and INMO) to seek the revocation, removal, or reform of the STARS system, with particular focus on rules and enforcement practices that disproportionately affect nursing students. The President and Health Sciences Convener to engage directly with nursing students and placement representatives to gather testimony and evidence regarding the impact of the STARS system. The President and Health Sciences Convener to produce a short written handover document outlining:

- The background of the STARS issue
- Advocacy and engagement undertaken to date
- Key contacts and stakeholders
- Current progress and barriers
- Recommended next steps for future officers

This handover document to be included within officer transition materials to ensure continuity of work on this issue within Trinity College Dublin Students' Union. Relevant officers to update Council where appropriate on progress relating to advocacy and lobbying efforts concerning the STARS system.

Comhairle Further Mandates

That the Students' Union treat this issue as a priority concern relating to nursing students' placement conditions, recognising both its seriousness and the current lack of awareness among the wider student body.

Proposed by Grace McNally, Uachtarán | President

2025/26-51: Mandating the Continuation of Work to Reopen the SU Café in St. James's Hospital

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Comhairle Notes

The historical existence of an SU-operated café serving students based in St. James's

Hospital. Students studying health sciences through Trinity College Dublin often spend significant portions of their academic year on hospital placements, frequently working long hours in demanding clinical environments with limited access to Trinity campus facilities. The extensive and sustained work undertaken by the current sabbatical officers of TCDSU to progress the reopening of the SU café in St. James's, including advocacy, negotiations, and engagement with relevant stakeholders. That this work has required significant time, effort, and institutional engagement to bring the project to its current stage. There is now a confirmation that the reopening of the SU café in St. James's will proceed, representing a major step forward for health sciences students. Without clear mandates and prioritisation, there is a huge risk that the progress achieved through the work of the current officer team could lose momentum or fail to be fully realised in the coming year.

Comhairle Believes

That the work undertaken by the current officers of Trinity College Dublin Students' Union to advance the reopening of the SU café in St. James's Hospital represents significant and meaningful progress for health sciences students. That failing to continue and complete this work would represent a serious failure of institutional continuity within the Union, particularly after the level of effort already invested. That health sciences students based in St. James deserves the same level of SU service provision available to students on the main campus of Trinity College Dublin. That the SU café in St. James's should replicate the service model, accessibility, and affordability provided by the SU café in Goldsmith Hall Café. That, given the structural disadvantages faced by students on hospital placements, reopening the St. James's SU café should be treated as an essential and high-priority service for the Union.

Comhairle Mandates

The President, Welfare & Equality Officer, Health Sciences Convener, Off-Campus Officer, and Education Officer of Trinity College Dublin Students' Union to continue, prioritise, and complete the work undertaken by the current officer team to reopen the SU café in St. James's Hospital. These officers ensure that the significant progress achieved through the efforts of the current sabbatical officers is preserved and built upon, rather than allowed to stall or be deprioritised. The aforementioned officers to work with relevant stakeholders within Trinity College Dublin and St. James's Hospital to facilitate the successful reopening and opera-

tion of the café. Officers to ensure that the SU café in St. James's is developed in a manner that replicates the accessibility, affordability, and service standard of the SU café in Goldsmith Hall Café. The reopening and operation of the St. James's café to be treated as a priority service project of the Union, recognising both the work already invested and the needs of students based in St. James's.

Comhairle Further Mandates

That Trinity College Dublin Students' Union reaffirm its commitment to ensuring that the work and achievements of officer teams are carried forward, particularly where significant progress has already been made on projects that directly improve student services. The aforementioned officers must bring updates to every Comhairle on this matter.

Proposed by Grace McNally, Uachtarán | President

Seconded by Orla Norton, Oifigeach Siamsa | Ents Officer

2025/26-52: Mandating the Organisation of a Freshers' Fair on the St. James's Campus

Comhairle Notes

That a significant cohort of students from Trinity College Dublin, particularly those studying health sciences, spend large portions of their academic year based in St. James's Hospital. That many of these students are unable to fully participate in Freshers' Week activities on the main Trinity campus due to placement schedules, distance, and timetable constraints. That Freshers' Fair organised by Trinity College Dublin Students' Union plays a vital role in introducing new students to societies, services, supports, and community life within Trinity. Students who are primarily based in St. James may experience reduced visibility of SU services, societies, and student opportunities compared to students based on the main campus. That improves SU presence and engagement in St. James's is an important step toward ensuring equitable access to student life and representation.

Comhairle Believes

That students based in St. James's Hospital deserves equal opportunity to engage with student life, societies, and SU services. That is, a dedicated Freshers' Fair in St. James would significantly improve awareness of support, activities, and opportunities available to health sciences students. That increased the visibility of the Students' Union and student societies within the St. James's campus would

strengthen community and representation for off-campus students. That the Students' Union should actively work to bridge the gap between the main campus and hospital-based student cohorts.

Comhairle Mandates

The Sabbatical Board of Trinity College Dublin Students' Union to organise a Freshers' Fair event on the campus of St. James's Hospital for students based there. The Sabbatical Board to work with relevant stakeholders within Trinity College Dublin and St. James's Hospital to secure an appropriate space and logistical support for the event. The Sabbatical Board invites Trinity societies, student services, and relevant SU supports to participate in the event where feasible. The event to be organised in a way that maximises accessibility for health sciences students, taking into account placement schedules and the realities of clinical timetables. The Sabbatical Board to ensure appropriate promotion and communication of the event to students based in St. James's.

Comhairle Further Mandates

Trinity College Dublin Students' Union continues to develop initiatives and events specifically designed to engage students based off the main campus, particularly those undertaking hospital placements. Furthermore, the sabbatical board will be mandated to write up a report in the form of a discussion item, no later than the second Comhairle. The report must contain the effectiveness of this fresher fair and testimonies from St. James students on the possibilities of furthering this initiative.

Proposed by Grace McNally, Uachtarán | President

Seconded by Orla Norton, Oifigeach Siamsa | Ents Officer

2025/26-53: Motion to Mandate a Referendum to Leave Aontas na Mac Léinn in Éirinn (AMLÉ) if Procedural and Structural Amendments Are Not Achieved.

Comhairle notes

The Union has been affiliated with Aontas na Mac Léinn in Éirinn (AMLÉ), formerly known as Union of Students in Ireland (USI), since its foundation in 1959.

Comhairle highlights

The cost of AMLÉ membership to AMLCT/TCDSU amounted to € 91,225 in affiliation fees for Trinity students and an additional € 68,607 in related expenses in the financial year ending 30 June 2024.

Comhairle further notes

Concerns regarding complete transparency in AMLÉ's financial governance have been raised by multiple member organisations, including limited clarity on expenditure allocation, staffing costs, and campaign resourcing relative to affiliation fees paid.

Comhairle expresses concern

That student engagement with AMLÉ structures, including Comhdháil and Comhairle Náisiúnta, remains very low among the general student body, with participation often limited to a small cohort of some of the sabbatical officers and other delegates.

Comhairle acknowledges

While AMLÉ has historically played a role in national student advocacy, its current and weakened structures may not adequately reflect the democratic will or priorities of the wider student population across member organisations.

Comhairle regrets

That repeated efforts by member unions to reform AMLÉ from within have not resulted in sufficient or timely structural changes to address long-standing issues of accountability, transparency, and democratic participation.

Comhairle affirms

The principle that affiliation to any external body must be contingent on demonstrable value, accountability, and democratic legitimacy for the students represented.

Comhairle marks with deep concern

The lack of meaningful action, and, when warranted, direct action, taken by AMLÉ on several student issues over many years, particularly including but not limited to:

1. The effective increase of Student Contribution fees from € 2,000 to € 2,500

this year,

2. The cost-of-living crisis for students,
3. Housing for students,
4. Supports for Student Carers, Parents, Workers, and Students with Disabilities,
5. Fair Conditions for Student Nurses and Midwives,
6. Evacuations and Supports for Palestinian Students.

Comhairle condemns

The decision by AMLÉ Comhdháil over several years not to introduce a system of universal suffrage for students nationwide in AMLÉ Coiste Gnó elections, as well as the recent refusal by AMLÉ's Steering Committee to reject a preferendum to consider the issue of voting systems at the next meeting of Comhdháil.

Comhairle further condemns

The inaction of AMLÉ to create any effective accountability and oversight protocols, even with assistance, policy writing, and amendments, being offered by members of AMLCT/TCDSU and other member organisations.

Comhairle recognises

In many other Students' Unions, regular referendums are held to assess support for continued AMLÉ membership. Given that it has been over a decade since the last such referendum here, it is appropriate for students to be given the opportunity to reconsider AMLCT/TCDSU's affiliation.

Comhairle further recognises

Alternative models of national student cooperation, including issue-based coalitions or bilateral partnerships between Students' Unions, may offer more flexible and responsive advocacy mechanisms.

Comhairle mandates

That before any potential disaffiliation occur, a transition plan be developed by the Sabbatical Officer Board to ensure continuity of services, campaigns, and representation previously facilitated through AMLÉ structures.

Comhairle further affirms

The ultimate authority on AMLCT/TCDSU's affiliation to external organisations rests with its membership, and that referendums are the appropriate democratic mechanism for determining such affiliations. Any future consideration of re-affiliation to AMLÉ, or a successor organisation, should be subject to a binding student referendum.

Comhairle therefore mandates

The President to bring forward a referendum to the Fifth Comhairle of the Academic Year 2026/27 (February 2027), in accordance with the provisions outlined in Chapter 8.1 of the Constitution, to remove the Long-Term Policy from Schedule 4 entitled "Membership of USI", if the following procedural and structural amendments are not made by AMLÉ before the end of January 2027:

1. Creation of democratic Censure protocol for all elected officers of AMLÉ, and the retainment of the Impeachment/Dismissal protocol.
2. Commitment by AMLÉ Coiste Gnó to bring forward constitutional amendments to establish an active, efficient, and effective Oversight and Accountability Commission, with the responsibility to investigate breaches of mandate or constitution, and to recommend motions of censure and impeachment, of any Coiste Gnó officer. The commission must have clear, accessible channels for any regular AMLÉ member to submit evidence of breaches of mandate or constitution. The Submission of evidence must mandate a formal investigation by the commission, concluding in a report and recommendation of a sanction if applicable.
3. Passing of a motion at Comhairle Náisiúnta to require that all Coiste Gnó officer and financial reports be published at least two weeks in advance of Comhdháil, be easily accessible online, and be printed in the Clár of Comhdháil.
4. Proliferation of engagement campaigns for class representatives and part-time officers of all member organisations of AMLÉ regarding Comhairle Náisiúnta and all national campaigns of AMLÉ.
5. Commitment to the increase of time given to Comhdháil delegates to question reports and activities of all Coiste Gnó officers.

6. Mandate of all Coiste Gnó officers create open, accessible channels for regular student questioning and accountability all year round.
7. Publication of a report by AMLÉ Coiste Gnó on the efficacy and selection of AMLÉ Steering Committee

The resolution of the referendum shall state, “Do you approve the removal of AMLCT/TCDSU’s membership of Aontas na Mac Léinn in Éirinn (AMLÉ)?”

Comhairle also mandates

The President and Education Officer to hold an open forum or series of town hall meetings be held in advance of the referendum, allowing students to directly question representatives of the Sabbatical Officer Board and AMLÉ regarding the issues raised in this motion.

Comhairle further mandates

The Sabbatical Officer Boards to work with AMLÉ to actively strive to achieve the aforementioned amendments to AMLÉ’s procedure and structure.

Comhairle even further mandates

In the event that the referendum must be run and the resolution achieves the necessary majority, meaning the Long-Term Policy of AMLÉ membership is removed from Schedule 4 of the Constitution, the Sabbatical Officer Board shall provide written notice to AMLÉ and its relevant subbodies of AMLCT/TCDSU’s intention to disaffiliate from the organisation before the academic year 2027/28, and shall take all other steps and actions deemed necessary to give effect to said referendum result.

Comhairle finally mandates

The Sabbatical board to bring a report to Comhairle on the portion of the student contribution fee that is designated towards AMLE membership; whether the student contribution fee will decrease for all members of AMLCT/TCDSU, or remain but be used by AMLCT/TCDSU for other purposes.

Proposed by Seán Radcliffe, Ionadaí Ranga | Class Rep

Seconded by Kate Grogan, HS Undergrad Faculty Convenor | Tionólaí Dáimhe

2025/26-54: Motion on College's Preferred Supplier List

Comhairle applauds

the work done by College's Taskforce on Academic and Institutional International Links and Related Matters on cutting ties with Israel.

Comhairle notes

College's Preferred Supplier List, from which staff and research students are required to purchase equipment and services (such as laboratory equipment, IT services, and office supplies).

Comhairle regrets

that Dell Computers, a priority target of the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) Movement, is the sole preferred suppliers for laptops and PCs.

Comhairle further regrets

that all laptops and desktops available to purchase are installed with processors manufactured by Intel Corporation, another priority target of the BDS Movement.

Comhairle therefore mandates

the President and TCD BDS Chair to conduct a review of the preferred supplier list for non-BDS compliant companies.

Comhairle further mandates

in line with TCDSU/AMLCT's long term policy in favour of BDS (LTP 8, item (d)), the President to lobby College for the removal of non-BDS compliant companies from the Preferred Supplier List. Where the removal of such companies is not possible, the President should lobby for the inclusion of alternative BDS compliant companies in the corresponding categories of the Preferred Supplier List.

Proposed by Ruaidhrí Campion, Postgrad School Convenor | Tionólaí Scoile Iarchéime
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