Minutes

CRC 3
Semester 1
Date: 25-11-2020
Venue: Online via Zoom
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PaO5yj9IYhs
Time: 18:15

Exec Attendance: Fearghal Lynch (SU President), Dylan Mangan (VP Engagement and Development), Chloe McMorrow (VP Education and Placement), Lucien Waugh-Daly (VP Academic Affairs), Dean O’Reilly (VP Welfare and Equality), Edy Nastase (Faculty Rep, Engineering and Computing), Ellen Quinn (Faculty Rep, Institute of Education), Caitlin Grant (Faculty Rep, Humanities and Social Sciences), Kate Goodman (Faculty Rep, Business School)

1. Minutes and Matters Arising (2 minutes)

   The Chair assumed the minutes as read.

   No questions were asked.

   The minutes were accepted by majority.

2. Officer reports (5 minutes)

   The Chair assumed the Officer Reports as read.
   No questions were asked.

   A) President’s Update

   Fearghal wished everyone participating in elections good luck. Asked Lucien to comment on possible assignment deadline extensions.

   Response from Lucien: Confirms this, asked class reps to get in touch if needed.

   The officer reports were accepted by majority.
3. **Pre - Nominated A.O.B (2 minutes)**

   A) Zoom - Conor Cassidy INTB1
   
   B) Class Rep Pub - Dave Paolo ECE2
   
   C) Semester 2 Timetable - Oisín O’Beirne Bed1

4. **Items for Agreement (40 minutes)**

   A) OSL Budget - Una Redmond (10 minutes)

   Una read out the projected 2020/2021 OSL Budget. Discussed intention to organise class rep activities in the coming semester.

   **The budget was accepted by majority.**

   B) Black Students and Students of Colour Advisory Group - Dean O’Reilly VP for Welfare and Equality (15 minutes)

   Presented by Chloe McNamara BECE2: Noted lack of representation of black students and students of colour in leadership positions in the Student Union and throughout the university. Aware that DCU is committed to stopping racism. The voices of black students and students of colour need to be heard and encouraged. Proposed that the council mandate the VP for Welfare and Equality to draft terms of reference for black students and students of colour advisory group and to present these terms are CRC1 Semester 2. Also, mandate to report on recommendations of the group in each officer report. Finally, council mandated that black students and students of colour be maintained by the sabbatical team with their view each year.

   **Question from Sean McDonagh International Relations 1: Does motion include religious groups as well as black students and students of colour?**

   **Response from Dean: The motion relates more to the black students and students of colour advisory group, but mentions that himself or the SU can look into that if anyone would like to have it looked at.**

   **Question from Sean Smyth Bed4: Should the wording of the motion be changed to “VP of Wellbeing”?**

   **Response from Dean: The motion intentionally names the sabbatical team as the positions do change and will change for next year. States that “VP for Welfare and Equality” is used as it is unknown who will be responsible next year.**

   **The motion was accepted by majority.**
C) MSM Blood Ban - Dean O’Reilly VP for Welfare and Equality (15 minutes)

Dean read out the motion and proposed that the council take a stance against the blood ban, that it is outdated and that the council denounce the blood ban in its current form. Finally, that council supports Thomas Hennigan in his case against the restriction. Mandated that the sabbatical team runs an information campaign on the blood ban, actively pursues and lobbies for the blood ban to be abolished in its current form. Noted that abolishing in current form does not mean abolish completely necessarily. Mandated that the sabbatical team does not liaise with the IBTS for organising blood drives in DCU. If these are organised by external parties, mandated that the sabbatical team make it known that it does not support the IBTS ban.

Response from Tadgh Jenkins Bhap3: Said the msm ban is discriminatory and that it supports old and untrue concepts. Welcomes discussions about the topic.

Question from Christian Grant Ampt3: Congratulated Dean on the motion. How many blood drives do the SU organise each year so as to know what restrictions this would mean on students if they cannot go to donate somewhere else?

Response from Dean: There is usually a one-week blood drive per year. This motion does not stop students from donating blood. As the motion states, we would boycott the IBTS until they no longer employ the msm ban.

Response from Dylan Mangan VP Engagement and Development: Blood drives make students feel excluded by their SU due to the ban. Encouraged motion support.

Response from Lucien: It is important that those unaffected by the issue show solidarity to fellow students. Mentioned boycotting is an important part of the motion.

Response from Fearghal: Proposed to omit the part of publicly boycotting the IBTS as DCU is a major blood donation contributor. Suggested raising awareness and stance when drives are taking place on campus.

Response from Tadgh Jenkins Bhap3: If not all students have equal access, as is the case with the ban in place, it is unfair. It is the SU’s job to ensure fairness for all students. If there is no public opposition, there will be no change. Opposed motion change.

The vote for the motion to be taken in parts was defeated.

Concluding Remarks from Dean: We would be the first university in the country to take a stance like this and would set a precedent.

The motion was put to a vote and passed by majority.

5. Items for Discussion (0 minutes)

N/A
6. **Items for Information** *(20 minutes)*

   A) What is “Good Loop”? - Mark Glynn Head of Teaching Enhancement (10 minutes)

   Mark discussed different loop features useful for both students and lecturers. Warned against targeted emails advertising essay writing services.

   B) USI Update - Megan O'Neill USI VP for Dublin (10 minutes)

   Megan gave a brief overview of USI. Discussed various campaigns taking place this year.

   Question from Sean Smyth Bed4: Are there any plans for student teachers?

   Response from Megan: Yes, it will be revealed to students soon, such as pay and working conditions.

   Question from Sarah McManus Etc3: Any idea for final year students who have paid full fees?

   Response from Megan: The USI were hoping the 2021 would include an immediate reduction. Will be issued a credit note or cheque of €250. Will ask for the €500 reduction again.

   Question from Ciaran Harkin BNID3: Does the payment include postgrads?

   Response from Megan: Yes. There is also some additional information for postgrads that will be circulated after the meeting.

   Question from Dean VP Welfare and Equality: Does that include part time students?

   Response from Megan: No unfortunately.

   Question from Chloe VP Education and Placement: What is the answer for student nurses who are on placement half of the year?

   Response from Megan: Will return with an answer.

7. **A.O.B** *(15 minutes)*

   A) Zoom - Conor Cassidy INTB1

   Some students say they do not have premium accounts and cannot access features such as polls, and there is no designated department or person to go to for answers.

   Response from Lucien: Send me an email and that should be resolved no problem.

   Response from Chloe and Dean: It may be the case you are not logged in with your DCU email.
B) Class Rep Pub - Dave Paolo ECE2

The board of the electronic engineering school is having trouble getting in touch with class reps as they were not on the class rep pub list.

Response from Fearghal: The link used may have been from the newsletter of the previous week and that has been now updated.

Response from Dyan: There is work being done on the class rep spreadsheets as recently elected reps are still being added.

C) Semester 2 Timetable - Oisín O’Beirne Bed1

Students have been asking about the publication date of the semester 2 timetable.

Response from Lucien: It is unlikely that it will be finalised before the end of the year. However, more than half of students will not be on campus next semester and there is no shortage of accommodation. In terms of days on campus per week, programme chairs can provide you with this information.

On that note, CRC3 Semester 1 was adjourned