

UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER STUDENTS' UNION

STUDENT COUNCIL COLERAINE MINUTES

05/02/2015 16.00

ATTENDANCE:

MARK BELL (CHAIR)	KEVIN MCSTRAVOCK	CHRISTINE CAMPBELL
SARAH CURRAN	ANDREW KULLAS	NATHAN MOUNT
SARAH GORDON	JOSHUA CATTERSON	ANDREW MCANALLEN
COLUM MACKEY	DARREN CROOKS	ETHAN MCNICHOLL
DECLAN SHIELS	SOPHIA HEIKININ	REBECCA BRENNAN
MICKY QUIGG	CHRIS SHANNON	MEGAN MCDONAGH
YASMIN MCELHINNEY	RYAN MCGAVIGAN	
EUAN CANTLEY	FABIO CRISTIANO	

APOLOGIES:

ROBBIE BANHAM	LIAM MULVENNA
JUDE DOHERTY	GILLIAN BELL
AOIFE GARVEY	JAMES MCCAFFREY
EAMON MCCUDDEN	VIKKI LUTTON
NOEL FLOOD	DAVID RAFFERTY
JENNIFER HILLMAN	CRAIG STAFFORD
LAURA QUINN	MICHAEL SHAW
GERARD MCDONALD	

IN ATTENDANCE:

STEPHEN AITKEN (DEMOCRACY CO-ORDINATOR)
AVRIL HONAN (STUDENT ENGAGEMENT MANAGER)
ROISIN MCEVOY (HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXPERIENCE)

1. Avril Honan (Student Engagement Manager UUSU) welcomed the meeting and laid out the agenda for the day and made Introductions. Avril then began with a introduction also on "What is UUSU", this short piece outlined what UUSU was in terms of representation,

advocacy, societies events and sports. Avril encouraged Council to look at all of these things when considering future changes to the democratic structures of the union and the development of the strategic plan.

2. Chair passed the floor to the Head of International Student Experience Roisin McEvoy to discuss how Council and UUSU can integrate the principles of the Good Relations Policy into our strategic plan and our thinking of how the Union operates and what direction it is moving to in the future.

International experience is not just for International Students but for all Ulster Students, Roisin highlighted that she is currently working on the values of what is an Ulster Student experience in work and practice. She highlighted how important the principles of the Good Relation policy is for the Union in terms of building it into our strategic plan and also everyday actions. Council noted that Roisin stated to build in small steps to ensure we have a good foundation and move forwards from that point.

Key points for council were that as they move forwards they have a internationalized inclusive culture that is able to deal with the difficult decisions, and be a safe place for debate. It's important also that the Union is still a place to relax and enjoy but with the responsibility of being representatives that Council is inclusive, carries out substantive actions and are pro-active.

3. Chair began their communications by joining Council in wishing VP Magee Micky Quigg a happy birthday, they also highlighted the ongoing elections for the UUSU Sabbatical positions and encouraged all interested candidates to run.

Chair also highlighted that at next Council meeting we would decide upon NUS Conference delegates from NUS and that UUSU Democracy Co-Ordinator will circulate more information before that meeting to Council.

Chair also updated Council on the situation with the DEL cuts, the key points that the cuts were not as severe as feared though there will still be some tough decisions to be made in the sector as the cuts are still substantial. Chair highlighted the work that council and the Overall Executive carried out in terms of the draft budget consultation and how that went a long way in helping reduce the severity of the decision. In relation to this also Chair communicated that the Magee teaching block expansion was back on for debate and would update Council with any further news when it arises.

4. The chair passed over to UUSU Democracy Co-Ordinator Stephen Aitken who presented to council future options for the democratic structure of UUSU Student Council. (Presentation Attached).

Council broke into groups to discuss each option and then reconvened to discuss overall opinion. The recommendations are also attached to these minutes.

5. Council also noted the future dates of Council with the next meeting being on the 26th February 2015.
6. Council Ended.