



dit students' union

Minutes: DITSU *Aungier Street* Class Rep Meeting
Date: 13th October 2009
Time: 1pm
Venue: *Aungier Street*
Room: 2.049

Present:

Eric Fitzgerald Class Rep Convenor
Tracey Flinter President
Sharon Hughes Student Support Advisor/Class Rep Clerk
 Class Reps Attendance sheet available

In Attendance:

Claire Healy Student Participation Co-Ordinator

Apologies:

Jane Asple (DT343), Gerard Gilsean (DT343), Ronan Johns, (DT559), Ian Kearney (DT553), Siobhan Walsh, (DT347), Burschi Wojnar, (DT552).

Eric opened the meeting by congratulating all present on getting elected and explaining briefly about the Class Rep meeting. He explained it was a forum for elected Reps to discuss class, Student Union, DIT issues, and make the relevant decisions. It is also a place for Reps to find out more information. He asked all Reps to stand and introduce themselves when talking or addressing the meeting.

Eric introduced himself as the Class Rep Convenor, Sharon as the Student Support Advisor and Class Rep Meeting Clerk who administers the meeting. He also introduced Claire as the Students Unions Student Participation Co-Ordinator

Minutes: <i>There were no Minutes to approve as it was the first meeting</i>	
	Action Box
Matters Arising: There were no matters arising at the first meeting	
	Action Box
Correspondence: There were two items of correspondence received: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The Community Links office are offering extra support to any student who is planning on doing their thesis or any other academic based research extra support. If you are interested in getting extra support 	

<p>please contact the office for further information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Deiric O Bhrion, the Chairperson of the Students Union Electoral Commission sent correspondence to inform the CRM that a number of issues had been raised in relation to the assignment of the Part-Time Officer briefs and that this was under review. No decisions have been made as of yet. 	
<p>Elections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Governing Councillors: There are 15 Governing Councillor positions available to Aungier Street, 13 nominations were received: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Alice Flanigan •Aoife Corwell •Conor Thompson •Barbara Olushola •Paddy Nolan •Keeley Neelan •Felicity Peart •Dzordana Baukute •Siobhán Abrook •Catherine Day •Clare Cullen •Darren Bates •Francis Whelan <p>As none of the positions are contested, all of these 13 nominations are deemed elected.</p> •Committees: There were three committees with positions available, only one nomination was received: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •<i>Academic and Student Affairs Committee:</i> Catherine Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •As this position was uncontested Catherine was deemed elected •<i>Chief Operations and Communications:</i> No nominations were received •<i>Services and Trading:</i> No nomination were received •Eric spoke briefly on how important these committees were in assisting the Elected Officers in their briefs and asked anyone interested to contact himself or Sharon for more detail •Nominations are now also open for the <i>Ways and Means Committee</i> which decides the Standing Orders for Governing Council as well as any remuneration issues for Student Representatives. •Part-Time Officers: There are 6 positions available and the following 5 	<p>Action Box</p>

<p>nominations were received:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •International Officer: Dzordana Baukute •Annex officer: Aoife Corwell •Communications officer: Orna Cunningham •Entertainments Officer: Siobhan Abrook •Environmental Officer: Keeley Neenan •Societies Officer: No nomination received <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Orna Cunningham was not at the meeting and no -one was asked to speak on her behalf so Orna's nomination is withdrawn, leaving 4 positions for election. •Each candidate was then given an opportunity to address the meeting and answer any questions the Reps may have •After an election the following results were polled. 40 Reps were eligible to vote <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •International Student Officer: 40 valid poll votes, 39 yes, 1 no, Dzordana Baukute is deemed elected •Annex Officer: 40 valid poll votes, 37 yes, 3 no, Aoife Corwell was deemed elected •Entertainments Officer: 40 valid poll votes, 34 yes, 6 no Siobhán Abrook is deemed elected •Environmental Officer: 40 valid poll votes, 37 yes, 3 no, Keely Neenan is deemed elected •Congratulations to all of those who were elected. <p>•Nominations are now officially re-open for all positions and committee and will close Tuesday the 27th of October 2009. Positions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •2 Governing Councillors •Services and Trading Committees •Chief Operations and Communications Committees •Ways and Means Committees •Societies Part time officer •Communications Part time officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Forms are available from the office in the basement 	
	Action Box
<p>DITSU Issues: (Issues pertinent to the Students Union)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Inductions: Eric asked for feedback on Inductions particularly from first years. 	

- It was claimed the best information over the week came from DITSU and one Rep felt the Students Union should have more influence on the week
- An issue was raised with the Societies and it being difficult to sign up, Eric accepted the point but asked that we only discuss Induction week for the moment and not Societies week
- One Rep raised the issue of facilities for mature students, that there was no lunch time get-togethers and asked that this be addressed and also the lack of Societies. Eric informed the Rep that Mature Students fall under Campus Life and said he would raise the issue
- One Rep added that his class were so divided for ice-breaking sessions that they're now having some trouble getting to know each other outside of their ice breaking groups, suggested keeping classes together whenever possible

•**Freshers Week:** Eric asked the Reps present for feedback on Freshers

- IN relation to the Freshers Ball and Ulster Bank deal, it was felt that there should have been more tickets made available, Eric agreed but pointed out it is a risk with corporate sponsorship and unfortunately its the way it works, but will raise it again
- One Rep added how her friends from other colleges were trying to come to DITSU events as well
- The wristbands were a good idea in theory but in real life they meant that people couldn't go to gigs they wanted to as spaces were held for people with bands
- The Paint Party in The Big Tree was particularly praised
- Kudos was given to Seanie for an excellent first week of the year
- One Rep pointed out Freshers was to bring Reps together, however as a mature student she felt there wasn't enough for mature students. Catherine Day pointed out that she has been a mature student in DIT for 4 years and things are now markedly improved from when she started, she added she was helping set up a Mature Student Society and recommended anyone interested get in touch with the Mature Student Office and the Societies for more details

•**Governing Council:** The first Governing Council will be held tomorrow evening at 6pm on Wednesday the 14th October 2009 in Bolton Street. If you have to cross the Liffey to attend a

<p>Governing Council you will receive Bus Fare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Class Rep and Governing Council Training: There are limited places which will be issued on a first-come-first-served basis. There is a charge of €10 deposit which is fully refundable on arrival at the hotel. It will be great craic and all Reps are encouraged to try and attend. Sharon will take names after the meeting •Condom Week: Eric asked if people were aware it was National Condom week last week, many said they weren't, but that they knew there were condoms available from the Students Union offices normally •One Rep asked about the lack of event concessions available on-site, Eric explained how all DIT Students can get into Coppers before 11pm during the week and that a number of Societies have concession cards for their members on-site. Eric explained that due to DIT's Alcohol policy we cannot allow many advertisers with concessions on-site. •It was mentioned the Pool tables are not level. Sharon mentioned that they are levelled regularly but is important that people don't sit on them as this causes damage so if you see someone sit on them please put them off. 	
	Action Box
<p>DIT Issues: (Issues pertinent to the college)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HEA Funding: The gym is now officially closed due to staff hiring embargo and contracts not being renewed. We are working on it but things will probably get worse. The funding embargo will mean cuts in everything from staff to services like heat and rooms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One rep told how her class had been short a lecturer, the Class Rep successfully appealed for one but it was at someone else's expense • Another Rep said how their IT lecturer was teaching from two class rooms due to numbers • Eric asked Reps with any service and facility issues like this to let him know at convenor.ast@ditsu.ie <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He mentioned about the loss of Linenhall gym on the Northside which is now being used as an architecture lecture hall • A Rep asked if it was true the library would be closed? Eric said no however he passed the question to Sharon who informed the students that it had been announced at the Rathmines CRM that there currently is a review of library usage and there is a proposal to close some of the libraries after Christmas. If anyone has any issue please email <p>USI Issues: (Any issues relating to the National Students Union)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has been announced that third level fee's will not be re- 	

<p>introduced over the course of this current Government. However the Capitation fee can be increased at any point. Its a battle won but the War continues. Eric reminded students to locally lobby their TD's, 250,000 registered voters have the power to change a Government</p>	
	Action Box
<p>Any Other Business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was asked about the schedule of meetings for the year. Eric explained they are in line with Governing Council, will be at 1pm and rotated on weekdays. It was suggested that a poll of class reps be done to see which times suit best • Sharon asked that any Reps who hadn't received an email drop into the office to make sure their details were correct as she couldn't read some of their writing 	
<p>The meeting concluded at 2pm</p>	
<p>Date of next meeting: 3rd November 2009</p>	