



**Minutes:** TU Dublin SU Student Council Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023

**Time:** 6pm

**Platform:** Blanchardstown Campus RM BD025 and online via Zoom

**Present:**

Chairperson	Jamie O’Neill
President	Brian Jordan
Postgraduate Officer	Jessica Perez
Blanchardstown Deputy President	Louise Kavanagh
Blanchardstown Clubs and Societies Officer	Lee Browne
City Vice President for Events & Engagement	Ian Kelly
City Vice President for Welfare & Equality	Hazel Doran
City Vice President Education	Saoirse Daly
City Aungier Street College Officer	Magdalena Seldmayr
Tallaght Deputy President	James Curry
Tallaght Societies Officer	Silvie Molloy
Tallaght Communications Officer	Oisin Putt

**Apologies:**

Blanchardstown Entertainments Officer	Patrick Moisan
City East Quad College Officer	Moses Eusebio
Tallaght Clubs Officer	Sam Delaney
Tallaght Entertainments Officer	Sophie Warren

**In Attendance:**

Clerk to the Council	Trish Cullen
Union of Student in Ireland (USI) Dublin Regional Officer	Sierra Müller-Owens



The Chair welcomed everyone to Student Council and the meeting was pronounced quorate. The agenda was accepted by the Council.

1. Minutes	Action item
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes from the last meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023 were approved.</li> </ul>	Noted.
2. Matters arising	Action item
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vice President for Education for City Campus updates on cost of repeat exams and unpaid internships/placements:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bad news, these are returning for supplemental exams and are going to cost €100 in total for all modules; other colleges have also brought back charges.</li> <li>- Q. if you only have 1 module to repeat do I have to pay 100 – Answer yes, you will pay the same for 1 or 6. It only if you fail a supplemental that you must pay this fee, you do not need to pay this for a deferral.</li> <li>- Q. When will supplemental exam results come out, students want to plan summer, the answer to this question will be answered and submitted with minutes. Release of timetables July exams to take place, ask Brian.</li> <li>- Unpaid internships update – USI provided an update – Sierra updated in USI update.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
3. Correspondence	Action item
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Correspondence from Chair of TU Dublin SU CLG re ratification of Board member. Student Council ratified the appointed to the board.</li> </ul>	Ciaran Crosbie ratified as non-executive member of TU Dublin SU CLG Board.
4. Motions and Policies	Action item
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 motions and 1 Policy were presented to Council as follows:</li> <li><b>1. Motion – Dyslexia font</b></li> </ul> <p><u>Student Council notes:</u> As the Students Union, it is our job to make every student feel included and make them feel as comfortable as possible in the college environment. The default font on college computers being a normal font gives non-dyslexic students an unfair advantage.</p> <p><u>Student Council also notes:</u></p>	



There are many students who struggle with dyslexia. Every TU Dublin student deserves to get the same quality education, no matter what learning disability they may have.

Student Council Mandates:

For the VP for Education and the VP for Welfare to work with the college to explore the possibility of installing Dyslexia-friendly fonts such as 'OpenDyslexic' (Home | OpenDyslexic) on all college computers

Council passed 9D, Motion Deferred.

- **2. Motion** – Accommodation Screening

Student Council notes: - Christine proposed this.

TU Dublin Students must find affordable accommodation near their respective campuses. Prior to being accepted by the university prospective students do not have access to the student pad site, as they are not registered with the university. The accommodation department of student services advises to book accommodation far in advanced.

Student Council also notes:

This relates to a previous motion regarding international students and their rights. For international students who are coming into the country with very little knowledge and are not able to view the housing they are paying deposits for, it is of the utmost importance that the accommodations that the university site recommends need to be screened.

Student Council Regrets:

The accommodation suggested by the university have had reports from certain accommodation hubs having unacceptable living conditions and do not offer what the university's official site says.

Student Council Mandates:

The VP of Welfare and Equality to ensure the accommodation hubs currently on the official TU Dublin website are screened and reviewed by the students who live there and further ensure any accommodation hubs that do not have acceptable living standards are removed from the site

Council passed 9D, Motion Deferred.

- **Policy:** TU Dublin SU RAG Charity

**9D – Passed,  
Motion Deferred**

**9D – Passed,  
Motion Deferred**



TU Dublin Students' Union recognises the benefits of raising money for charity, both in terms of fundraising for worthy causes and in raising the profile of the Students' Union and the services it provides. RAG stands for Raising and Giving.

In order to further raise the profile of this concept, the TU Dublin Students' Union Student Council shall vote on and determine one charity, by the last Council meeting of the academic year to be the official charity for the following year. A percentage contribution of all profitable events run by the TU Dublin Students' Union throughout the year, shall be set aside and added to the proceeds generated from the designated RAG charity events.

This policy should be advertised to all students in the lead up to the election of the charity. Nominations for the RAG Charity shall open during the second semester. Two registered students shall be required to nominate a charity. Following the close of nominations, the charity nominated shall be contacted and required to submit a proposal detailing who they are, what they do and how any money raised for them will benefit the charity.

Student Councillors will be given the opportunity to review the proposals and decide on which charity they would like to support. The charity who receives the greatest support, from Student Council will become the chosen charity for the following academic year and will be announced at the Student Recognition Ceremony. The Student Council will only select ONE chosen charity, to which all RAG proceeds for the following academic year will be donated.

A presentation of the funds raised for the designated RAG charity by the Union shall be made at the Recognition Ceremony held at the end of the academic year, on the total funds raised throughout the year. The chosen charity to receive RAG funds may not be nominated as a RAG charity for the following two years.

The Union shall not offer financial support to any charity other than the official RAG charities in any given year but shall advise any other charity seeking financial support as to how they may receive a nomination as the official RAG Charity for future years, by way of a standard reply from the Clerk to Student Council. Thus, where a charity wishes to promote itself on campus, it may be allowed where it is deemed by the President not to interfere with the official RAG Charity, and where it is not a burden on the Union.

Policy Passed.

**Policy passed  
unanimously.**



5. Discussion Items	Action item
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Canteen Protest Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Canteen Protest update – User group, 1<sup>st</sup> meeting happening next week, our VP Hazel met up with Joanne Kearney, Blanchardstown already have 2 microwaves, these are to be cleaned by the canteen. AST, Tallaght, Lower House, Premier House &amp; BST to get microwaves, most have been confirmed only 2 to be confirmed. Get updates from Brian.</li> <li>- President updated that we do not need to protest just yet because the university are engaging with us.</li> <li>- Q. How come there are 2 going into LH and none in Rathdown house. Answer: Rathdown are currently at a loss, so canteen refuse to put one in.</li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>Appointment of External members</b> (Chair of Student Council and Electoral Commission).           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- External Chairpersons for both Student Council and Electoral Commission are to be appointed for the following term. There will be a selection panel made of Chair, President and nominee of Student Council.</li> <li>- 4 Student Councillors are interested in running for Selection Panel as follows:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Konstantin Shramko gave 30 second speech.</li> <li>Ziyad Zeggaf Tahiri gave 30 second speech.</li> <li>Guy Keogh gave 30 second speech.</li> <li>Callum Breen gave 30 second speech.</li> </ul> </li> <li>We will send out a ballot paper within the next couple of days.</li> </ul> </li>   <li>• <b>TU Dublin SU Officer Elections 2023</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Students Union Elections 2023, the leadership race. 8 Full-Time positions and 10 Part-time positions available as well as Student Directors for the Board of TU Dublin SU CLG. Find out more about SU Officer Positions <a href="#">here!</a> and about the Board positions <a href="#">here</a>.</li> <li>- Full time positions are paid, Part-Time positions are volunteers, Postgraduate Officer is a paid position.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Discussions with TU Dublin continue, protest is on hold.</p> <p>Student Councillors to elect nominee for Chair Selection Panel.</p> <p>Student Councillors encouraged to run for Officer/Board for 2023-2024.</p>
6. Discussion items	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>USI Update:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- USI Update – Unpaid Internships and Placements – What happening now is Clodagh McGivern the VP for Academic affairs has the graphics ready and they are hoping to have them by Monday, the placement survey will be out by Monday, SU should receive information and graphics for this.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sierra gave presentation online – Talked about Congress, every SU decides who goes to Congress, it’s a 4 day policy bender, first week of April in Sligo, as the time gets closer, if you’re willing to sacrifice your time, talk to your elected officers.</li> <li>- USI Elections are also happening, you can see on social media who is running and what positions are available.</li> <li>- National Review of State supports for PhD Researchers – Public Consultation – <a href="http://usi.ie/postgraduate-affairs/">usi.ie/postgraduate-affairs/</a></li> <li>- USI Submission – Slides from presentation to be sent.</li> <li>- Semester 2 Lobby Day – 2<sup>nd</sup> March 11am to 4pm, everything you need to know about lobbying, students from all over Ireland coming, TDs and representatives, this is a great opportunity to speak with TDs, most of the Lobbying issues will be around cost of living and accommodation.</li> <li>- EM power Cumasu, Empower update was given</li> <li>- Deputy for Tallaght gave an update - Congress date is set for 4 days, James walked Council through the application process for congress. Applications will be sent out and James and Brian will be looking through the applications received. Applicants will be chosen on a point system.</li> <li>- TU Dublin SU – Hustings for USI – James explained how this is done and how voting takes place. Come ask us who is running for the positions, it’s very exciting to see. The next Student Council will be dedicated to USI hustings and Hustings for our own Part-time positions, Chair, and Directors of Board.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>TU Dublin Update</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- President gave update, with regards to issues with merger</li> <li>- Partnership agreement – academic issues</li> <li>- Funding agreement – that is happening, it was pretty positive, we are set to get 3-5 year funding, we get paid per student, we have another meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> March.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b><u>Campus Development</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Blanchardstown campus update – Not a lot going on apart from the PPP building, they expect this to be built within 2 years.</li> <li>- Tallaght campus update – No update regarding the Sports science building, it is still not open. No update on benches. Cracks in the road are due to get fixed.</li> <li>- City Campus Development update – Academic hub been built – Fire evacuation door did not open in CQ, this has been brought to the attention of the Safety boards and this has been fixed.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b><u>Class Rep Recruitment:</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Statistics of elected Class Reps peer campus are as follows: Aungier Street: 99% (last meeting 97%) Blanchardstown: 94% (last meeting 94%)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>USI slides to be circulated by Clerk.</p> <p>Councillors encouraged to apply for USI Congress.</p>
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<p>Bolton Street: 94% (last meeting 94%)          Central Quad: 87% (last meeting 87%)          East Quad: 75% (last meeting 61%)          Tallaght: 75% (last meeting 64%)</p>	
<p><b>7. Questions for Part-Time Officers</b></p>	<p><b>Action item</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Postgraduate Officer: Jessica Perez</b></li> <li>- Update on Report – Jess gave an example of Post Grad – Consultation Period, Jess to update student councillors – Women in Research happening, venue and graphic can be seen in Instagram, 8<sup>th</sup> March for all Women in Research happening – Working with Exec on this, is a data collection survey, last update was done this morning and this will be sent to Brian</li> <li>• <b>Aungier Street College Officer (City): Magdalena Seldmayr</b></li> <li>• <b>East Quad College Officer (City) Moses Eusebio</b></li> <li>• <b>Clubs &amp; Societies Officer (Blanchardstown): Lee Browne</b></li> <li>• <b>Entertainments Officer (Blanchardstown): Patrick Moisan</b></li> <li>• <b>Clubs Officer (Tallaght): Sam Delaney</b></li> <li>• <b>Communications Officer (Tallaght): Oisin Putt</b></li> <li>• <b>Societies Officer (Tallaght): Silvie Molloy</b></li> <li>• <b>Entertainments Officer (Tallaght): Sophie Warren</b></li> </ul>	
<p><b>8. Questions for Full-Time Officers</b></p>	<p><b>Action item</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>President Brian Jordan</b></li> <li>- Report presented – Congress, emergency motions can be applied at congress. Partnership agreement should be locked in soon.</li> <li>• <b>Deputy President for Blanchardstown Louise Kavanagh</b></li> <li>- No questions</li> <li>• <b>Vice President Welfare &amp; Equality for City Hazel Doran</b></li> <li>- No questions</li> <li>• <b>Vice President for Education for City Saoirse Daly</b></li> <li>- Fees – students not been able to view results, TU Dublin gave us misinformation regarding setting up payment and viewing results. Clodagh has drafted up a letter to be sent to the president regarding this. Question asked about paid placements – Saoirse to follow up on this.</li> <li>• <b>Vice President Events and Engagement for City Ian Kelly</b></li> <li>- Student media outlet – Ideas can be sent to Ian by Councillors</li> <li>• <b>Deputy President for Tallaght James Curry –</b></li> <li>- James spoke in Irish, Student Councillor asked if when speaking in Irish can this be done slower so students can understand and pick up what is been said. James also gave an update on Seachtaín na Gaeilge</li> </ul>	<p>Taken as read and questions answered.</p>



<b>9. Reports from any other bodies</b>	<b>Action item</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Aide Memories – Board of TU Dublin SU CLG – Taken as read, questions can be sent to Brian.</li></ul>	
<b>10. Any other business</b>	<b>Action item</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Part-time officer, Magdalena is a Climate Activist, there will be a march on Friday – from Garden on Remembrance for Climate change.</li><li>Most active Student Councillor Award of this meeting was given to Christina Grammatikopoulou.</li></ul>	Clerk to contact.
<b>11. Date of next meeting</b>	<b>Action item</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 6pm in Grangegorman Central Quad room CQ-010 – Hustings to take place.</li></ul>	Clerk to send invite.