

Motions and Policies that have fallen in Council

Motions

1. Student Activities Working Group -14th November 2019
2. Students' Union Funding Agreement - 23rd October 2019
3. Removal of TU Dublin SU Motions Manual - 23rd October 2019
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6. Removal of TU Dublin SU Policy Manual - 23rd October 2019
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Policies

33. Education Policy - 18th October 2018
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40. Sexual Health and Personal Safety - 18th October 2018

1. **Student Activities Working Group –**
14th November 2019

Student Council notes:

The different structure of Clubs and Societies across the three TU Dublin campuses. Student Council further notes: That there was a forum in which the former DIT Students' Union, DIT Societies Executive and DIT Student Sports Council met to collaborate, communicate and work on strategic priorities together for the betterment of their respective members.

Student Council Mandates:

The President to set up a Working Group which shall include the Deputy Presidents, the Vice President for Events and Engagement, Clubs and Societies Officers and the student representatives in the Societies Executive and Student Sports Council on the City Campus, to maintain regular communication across the three campuses and work on strategic priorities for the benefit of their respective members.

Student Council therefore further Mandates:

That the Working Group should inform Student Council from time to time on any matters relating to student activities in TU Dublin and the progress being made on the development of student facilities on the three campuses.

2. Students' Union Funding Agreement –

23rd October 2019

Student Council Recognises:

That TU Dublin SU was established on 1st July 2019 with the dissolution of the former DIT Students' Union, IT Blanchardstown Students' Union and IT Tallaght Students' Union to make it one Union to represent all 28,500 students of TU Dublin.

Student Council further Recognises:

That the Union is structured differently and funded in different ways by the University across the three campuses.

Student Council notes:

The Union is in negotiations with TU Dublin to have interim funding arrangements for the three campuses and the Office of the TU Dublin SU President.

Student Council further notes:

That TU Dublin expect this interim arrangement to only last for this academic year 2019/20 and want one funding arrangement in place for September 2020.

Student Council regrets:

TU Dublin attempts to reduce the funding of the Students' Union and the impact that this will have to provide the necessary service and representational support to the elected officers to carry their duties and effectively represent all TU Dublin students.

Student Council therefore Mandates:

The President in conjunction with the Executive to actively campaign to retain all current services provided to all students of TU Dublin and to secure a minimum of existing funding provisions for the three campuses as well as additional support for the overall Office of the President and the Postgraduate Officer.

Student Council further Mandates:

The President not to accept a funding agreement that sees a decrease in funding for any student activities, including the Students' Union and negotiate a single funding agreement with TU Dublin to be brought to Student Council for consideration at the second last meeting of the 2019/20 Academic Year.

3. Removal of TU Dublin SU Motions Manual –

23rd October 2019

Student Council Recognises:

That TU Dublin SU was formally established on 1st July 2019 with the dissolution of the former DIT Students' Union, IT Tallaght Students' Union and It Blanchardstown Students' Union.

Student Council further Recognises:

That all former Motions and Policies transferred over and became policies of TU Dublin SU after 1st July 2019 as per Article 18 of the Constitution.

Student Council Notes:

That several the motions are already completed or either no longer applicable.

Student Council supports:

Tidying up the Motions and Policies Manual so that the new Union can start with fresh policies adopted by TU Dublin SU Student Council.

Student Council therefore Removes:

The following motions in their entirety:

DITSU Honorary Membership – Eamon Gilmore and Senan Turnbull – 10th April 2019

Lack of Sufficient Milk Alternatives in TU Dublin Campuses – 10th April 2019

Motion to Amend the Constitution – 31st January 2019

Personal Circumstances Form Review – 31st January 2019

Direct Action on TUDSU Constitution – 18th October 2018

Removal of DITSU Policy Manual – 18th October 2018

DITSU Honorary Membership – Ailbhe Smyth – 24th April 2018

TU Merging Process – 24th April 2018

Access to Information – The Impeachment Process – 22nd March 2018

Parity of Service for All Students – 22nd March 2018

Disruption to Student Services Staffing – 31st January 2018

DITSU Honorary Membership - Hugh O'Reilly – 7th December 2017

DITSU Honorary Membership - Jarlath Molloy – 7th December 2017

Plebiscite on DITSU's Stance on Repeal the 8th – 7th December 2017

Access to Organ Donor Cards – 8th November 2017

Amendment to Student Council Standing Orders - 8th November 2017

College Officer Crossover Document – 8th November 2017

LGBTQ+ Safe Spaces and Workshops - 8th November 2017

Collaborative Event with DITSU and Societies – 26 th April 2017

DITSU Collaboration with ESHTTE Project – 26th April 2017

4. Amendment of TU Dublin SU Motions Manual - 23rd October 2019

Student Council Recognises:

That TU Dublin SU was formally established on 1st July 2019 with the dissolution of the former DIT Students' Union, IT Tallaght Students' Union and It Blanchardstown Students' Union.

Student Council further Recognises:

That all former Motions and Policies transferred over and became policies of TU Dublin SU after 1st July 2019 as per Article 18 of the Constitution.

Student Council supports:

Tidying up the Motions and Policies Manual so that the new Union can start with fresh policies adopted by TU Dublin SU Student Council.

Student Council therefore Amends:

The following motions in their entirety:

Feasibility of Free STI Screenings

Give Us the Night

Solidarity with Northern Ireland for Abortion Rights

Feasibility of the Installation of Washing Facilities

Justice and Human Rights for Palestine

Technological University of Sanctuary

Aramark off our Campuses

Availability of Marking Schemes

Disability Information Campaign

TU Dublin Supply of Microwave/Appliances and Facilities for Students Use

Feasibility to Expand DIT Mentoring Programme

National Council Report

Officer Communication on TUDSU.tv

Plastic Free Campuses

Award for School Representative

Cessation of Support to Aramark

Dental Dams in Students' Union Offices

Consent Workshops

Nap Rooms on TU Dublin Campuses

Amendment of TU Dublin SU Documents to Include Gender Neutral Language
Electronic Voting for TU Dublin SU Elections and Referenda

5. **Aramark Off our Campuses –**

23rd October 2019

Student Council Notes:

The system of Direct Provision was intended to last 6 months, but it has been in place for 20 years.

Student Council Believes:

The system of direct provision is not fit for purpose and represents an infringement of human rights.

Student Council Regrets:

The profiteering of companies like Aramark, taking advantage of a race to the bottom, worsens the situations of people living in Direct Provision.

Student Council Further Notes:

The contract will go to tender and multiple companies will have the opportunity to step in to provide canteen services.

Student Council Mandates:

The President in conjunction with all applicable officers to lobby TU Dublin to end their contracts with Aramark at the earliest opportunity.

That the Officers will exert any influence they have over the tender process to ensure Aramark is not awarded the new contracts.

That if Aramark wins the contract going forward, take further actions against Aramark, up to and including organising a boycott of Aramark.

This to be reported back on at the last Council meeting of each semester for the lifetime of this motion, or until the matter is resolved.

Student Council Therefore

Removes:

The previous motion of the same name.

6. Removal of TU Dublin SU Policy Manual –

23rd October 2019

Student Council Recognises:

That TU Dublin SU was formally established on 1st July 2019 with the dissolution of the former DIT Students' Union, IT Tallaght Students' Union and It Blanchardstown Students' Union.

Student Council further Notes:

That all former Motions and Policies transferred over and became policies of TU Dublin SU after 1st July 2019 as per Article 18 of the Constitution.

Student Council supports:

Tidying up the Motions and Policies Manual so that the new Union can start with fresh policies adopted by TU Dublin SU Student Council.

Student Council therefore Removes:

The following policies in their entirety:

Active Engagement of Councillors and School Reps – 18th October 2018

DIT Relationship with Sports and Societies – 18th October 2018

DITSU Elections – 18th October 2018 Executive Council – 18th October 2018 Technological University Dublin – 18th October 2018

7. Amendment of TU Dublin SU Policy Manual –

23rd October 2019

Student Council Recognises:

That TU Dublin SU was formally established on 1st July 2019 with the dissolution of the former DIT Students' Union, IT Tallaght Students' Union and It Blanchardstown Students' Union.

Student Council further Notes:

That all former Motions and Policies transferred over and became policies of TU Dublin SU after 1st July 2019 as per Article 18 of the Constitution.

Student Council supports:

Tidying up the Motions and Policies Manual so that the new Union can start with fresh policies adopted by TU Dublin SU Student Council.

Student Council therefore Amends:

The following policies in their entirety:

TU Dublin SU Accommodation

Welfare

Sustainability and Climate Action

TU Dublin SU RAG Charity

Ending Direct Provision

Support Campaign Against Church Ownership of National Maternity

Hospital Education

TU Dublin SU Relationship with TU Dublin

Student Facilities

Mental Health

Sexual Health and Personal Safety

8. Climate Action Working Group -

23rd October 2019

Student Council Notes:

Of our Climate Action policy, approved at Student Council last year. This policy details the work to be completed by officers within the Students' Union.

Student Council Also Notes:

Climate Change is the greatest threat humanity has faced in our lifetime; already, people around the world are suffering from its effects.

Student Council Believes:

Every student has the capacity to make a difference on Climate Change, instead of resting the responsibility of action onto officers of the Union. Students have huge power and should work collectively on the changes needed across the world, starting with TU Dublin.

Student Council Therefore Mandates:

A working group is set up of at least 3 Students' Union Officers and 3 students called the "Climate Action Subgroup". They will meet and create a strategy for Student Climate Action across TU Dublin, and what actions should be prioritised throughout the year. They are to report back and present their findings at the 3rd Student Council meeting of the year.

9. Constitutional Working Group –

23rd October 2019

Student Council Recognises:

That TU Dublin SU was established on 1st July 2019 after the passing of a referendum in the respective former Students' Unions of DIT, IT Blanchardstown and IT Tallaght.

Student Council further Recognises:

That the newly adopted Constitution must be reviewed after the first year of operation of the new Students' Union and this process is set out in Article 19 of the Constitution.

Student Council notes:

The move of Kevin St, Cathal Brugha St and Rathmines in September 2020 to Grangegorman and the implications this will have on the role of College Officer.

Student Council further notes:

That there will be tethering issues in the newly adopted Constitution that will be found throughout the year and will need to be addressed.

Student Council Mandates:

The President set up a Working Group which shall include the Deputy Presidents, a minimum of three but no more than five members of Student Council and seek any external assistance it deems necessary to address the matters raised above and come back with a proposal by the last Student Council meeting in the first semester of the 2019/20 Academic Year in preparation for a referendum in the second semester.

Student Council further Mandates:

That the Working Group work in conjunction with the Executive to present a proposal to the last Student Council meeting of the 2019/20 Academic Year setting out the process for the review of the Constitution the following academic year and that there are no changes to the structure of the Union except for those detailed above until that review is completed.

10. School Meeting –

23rd October 2019

Student Council Recognises:

There only needs to be at minimum two Class Rep meetings per semester under the Constitution.

Student Council notes:

The importance of the Class Rep meeting for Class Reps to bring forward issues to the Students' Union and vice versa the Union communicate to their class.

Student Council further notes:

The need to engage with Class Reps on an ongoing basis outside of the Class Rep meeting with the School Reps that represent the Class Reps within their Union.

Student Council therefore Mandates:

The Deputy President Blanchardstown and VP Education(s) in conjunction with the School Representatives to draft up Terms of Reference to hold at least one school meeting per campus or building per semester with the School Representative as Chair to meet all the Class Reps within their School.

Student Council further Mandates:

The Deputy President Blanchardstown and VP Education(s) to update where relevant to Student Council at each meeting on the issues raised and report back to the last meeting of the academic year 2019/20 on how these meetings went.

11. DITSU CLG/Student Council Transitional Protocol –

10th April 2019

Student Council Notes:

The recent passing of the constitutional referendum which will abolish the Students' Unions of the former Institutes of Technology in Blanchardstown, TU Dublin and Tallaght and establish a new Students' Union from the 1st July 2019 – TU Dublin Students' Union

Student Council further Notes:

DITSU CLG is currently the company which oversees certain services to the students of TU Dublin City Campus, including the employment of Union staff, record keeping and accounts administration as per statutory requirements. The newly adopted Constitution continues to recognise the company as an entity solely for the benefit of the students of TU Dublin City Campus from the 1st July 2019.

Student Council Recognises:

The provision in the Constitution for membership of the company to be extended to students in Blanchardstown and Tallaght on request to the TU Dublin Student Council. The Company Constitution shall be amended to reflect any ancillary changes, extensions of membership and directors and/or changes to service agreements.

Student Council further Recognises:

The Operational Protocol previously adopted between DITSU CLG and TUDSU Student Council and the clarity this Protocol provided, in relation to the role each of these bodies plays and how they recognise and work with each other.

Student Council therefore Mandates:

The President to work with DITSU CLG, taking into consideration legal advice, and draft a new

Operational Protocol between DITSU CLG and Student Council, which will include an Interpretative Protocol document that allows the two bodies to set out the post-transitional arrangements, which will be reflected in both the Company Constitution and the TU Dublin SU Constitution.

The Executive shall convene a meeting to discuss the technicalities of this Protocol and as per the Constitution shall exercise their limited powers and functions to determine whether to adopt this on behalf of Student Council. This shall be completed by the 30th June 2019 and be noted at the first Student Council meeting of the 2019/2020 academic year.

12. Feasibility of Free STI Screenings –

20th March 2019

Student Council Notes:

STI screening currently costs €20 in the Medical Centre

Student Council Regrets:

Any financial barrier which reduces rates of testing amongst the student population

Student Council Mandates:

The VP for Welfare to investigate the feasibility of the Medical Centre providing STI screenings free of charge to students and report back to the final Student Council of the year.

13. Give us the Night –

20th March 2019

Student Council Notes:

Give Us the Night is an independent volunteer group of professionals operating within the night-time industry, campaigning for positive changes to nightlife in Ireland, with particular regard to music venues. The campaign would like to see venues and clubs in Ireland benefit from later opening hours such as those in place in other European cities.

Student Council further Notes:

Other countries around the world are experiencing the benefits of thriving night-time economies, whereas Ireland has strict licensing laws which have had a damaging effect on Dublin's/Ireland's nightlife and night time industry.

Student Council Regrets:

The strict laws regarding nightlife in Ireland leads to anti-social behaviour on the streets once a venue closes, pressure to drink in the short space of time allowed in a nightlife venue and the rise of illegal events.

Student Council Supports:

Responsible drinking for students and hopes that the loosening of laws will improve late night access to transport, create a vibrant nightlife culture and create a beneficial gain for Ireland if later opening hours do occur.

Student Council therefore Mandates:

The VP for Events, with the support of the Executive team, to support the Give Us the Night campaign wherever possible within the lifespan of this mandate as per the Constitution.

14. Solidarity with Northern Ireland for Abortion Rights –

20th March 2019

Student Council Notes:

The repeal of the 8th amendment from the Irish Constitution and the legislation created for access to free, safe and legal abortions.

Student Council further Notes:

This does not extend to Northern Ireland as abortion is still illegal there.

Student Council Supports:

Full access to free, safe and legal abortion services to all on the entire island of Ireland.

Student Council therefore mandates:

The VP for Welfare in conjunction with the Executive team to support the campaign for abortion rights in Northern Ireland in whatever way possible, within the lifespan of this mandate as per the Constitution.

15. Feasibility of the Installation of Washing Facilities –

28th February 2019

Student Council Recognises:

The importance of the environment and the damage done to the environment by use of single use cups.

Student Council Notes:

The benefits to the environment through the use of reusable cups (hereinafter referred to as “keep cups”).

Student Council further Notes:

The lack of facilities available to students on campus to clean keep cups on campus.

Student Council therefore Mandates:

The VP for welfare examines the feasibility of the installation of washing facilities, in an effort to promote the use of keep cups to the student body and report back to Council on the 20th March 2019.

16. Justice and Human Rights for Palestine – **28th February 2019**

Student Council Notes:

That the state of Israel is involved in a brutal military occupation of the Palestinian territories

The occupation is responsible for systematic, widespread and ongoing human rights abuses against the local Palestinian population, including destruction of homes, theft of land and water resources, imprisonment without trial, torture of prisoners, and construction of Israeli settlements on occupied Palestinian land.

The State of Israel is in violation of international law, including the Fourth Geneva Convention, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Charter of the United Nations. The settlements have also been declared illegal by the International Court of Justice and the UK government with Amnesty International stating that "Israel's settlement policy is inherently discriminatory and has resulted in grave human rights violations including destruction of homes, forced evictions, unlawful killings, arbitrary detentions and collective punishment".

Student Council Believes:

- That Israel should end its occupation of the Palestinian territories and allow the return of Palestinian refugees in accordance with international law.
- That the Palestinian people are entitled to the same human rights, dignity of person, self-determination, security and parity of esteem as all other peoples in the world today.
- That a boycott of Israel's entire regime of oppression, including all of the Israeli companies and institutions that are involved in its violations of international law, is a reasonable non-violent activity that can be taken to register opposition to such crimes.
- That the Palestinian led BDS campaign does not target anyone or anything based on identity, but rather based solely on complicity in denying Palestinian rights and that BDS is a strategy for effective solidarity, not a dogma or ideology and certainly not an attack upon Jewish communities or individuals.

Student Council therefore Mandates:

The President with the Executive to inform students of the background to the situation in Israel/Palestine and to commemorate Palestine Solidarity Day, working with any relevant groups such as student societies and civil society organisations local to each of our campuses.

To lobby to divest from and terminate any contracts with companies that are complicit in the occupation of the Palestinian territories and violation of Palestinian human rights more widely. To join the global movement for Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) against Israel until it ends the occupation and complies with international law.

This mandate must be complete by the end of the 2019/2010 academic year.

17. Technological University of Sanctuary –

28th February 2019

Student Council Notes:

Universities of sanctuary, by facilitating students living in direct provision, both greatly improve their lives of those students and enrich the college community

Student Council Regrets:

TU Dublin is not a university of sanctuary

Student Council Mandates:

The President of the Union to lobby TU Dublin to become a university of sanctuary. This to be reported back on by the 20th October 2019

18. Aramark Off our Campuses -

23rd October 2019

Student Council Notes:

The system of Direct Provision was intended to last 6 months, but it has been in place for 20 years.

Student Council Believes:

The system of direct provision is not fit for purpose and represents an infringement of human rights.

Student Council Regrets:

The profiteering of companies like Aramark, taking advantage of a race to the bottom, worsens the situations of people living in Direct Provision.

Student Council Further Notes:

The contract will go to tender and multiple companies will have the opportunity to step in to provide canteen services.

Student Council Mandates:

The President in conjunction with all applicable officers to lobby TU Dublin to end their contracts with Aramark at the earliest opportunity.

That the Officers will exert any influence they have over the tender process to ensure Aramark is not awarded the new contracts.

That if Aramark wins the contract going forward, take further actions against Aramark, up to and including organising a boycott of Aramark.

This to be reported back on at the last Council meeting of each semester for the lifetime of this motion, or until the matter is resolved.

Student Council Therefore Removes:

The previous motion of the same name.

19. Availability of Marking Schemes –

24th April 2018

Student Council Notes:

That a lack of transparency around how examinations are marked can leave students unsure about how they were marked down and how to improve their grades.

Student Council Mandates:

The VP for Education to lobby schools and other appropriate authorities to make marking schemes for exams available to students. The VP for Education is to report back to council by the second council for the new year.

The motion went to a vote and was passed.

20. Disability Information Campaign –

24th April 2018

Student Council Notes:

That the majority of students do not know about the disability services.

Student Council further Notes:

That this could be the turning point for some students dropping out in the earliest part of their college experience due to not knowing of the supports available to them.

Student Council Mandates:

That information campaign on the disability be run by VP Welfare and VP Education to be completed by the 31st October of 2018.

21. TU Dublin Supply of Microwave/Appliances and Facilities for Students Use –

24th April 2018

Student Council Notes:

Student feedback collected from the TUDSU Class Representative Meetings, has consistently noted the necessity for students to access hot water, microwaves and fridge facilities within DIT.

Research from TSEP (2017), The Student Engagement Partnership in the UK Higher Sector identified that, many students who are commuting also bring their own food, for financial/other reasons; these students need access to microwaves. The recommendations from TSEP (2017), which have been adopted in many UK universities, now provide common areas within the college/s, where kettle/microwave and fridges are accessible for students to use.

Student Council Regrets:

Currently, TU Dublin do not provide adequate space, or microwave facilities for students to heat and prepare their own food. While TUDSU has addressed the student need to provide microwaves in DIT, there have been associated health and safety concerns which have been identified, such as cleaning, fire hazards and allergen control.

Council further Regrets:

Due to the health and safety considerations, TUDSU are no longer able to provide these appliances for student use. However, as previously noted, TUDSU recognise that this is a very necessary appliance and student facility which TU Dublin should supply.

Council Mandates:

The VP for Welfare and college officers to lobby the TU Dublin to provide appropriate microwave/ appliances and facilities for student use, along with the maintenance, service and cleaning of these appliances and facilities. This is to be completed by the first council of 2019.

22. Feasibility to Expand TU Dublin Mentoring Programme –

24th April 2018

Student Council notes:

A peer mentoring programme is running in TU Dublin at a limited capacity by the chaplaincy service.

Student Council Also Notes:

Peer mentoring can be a valuable asset for incoming first year students who may have difficulties integrating into TU Dublin and college life. They can provide informal guidance, support and practical help, and can ease anxieties surrounding the transition to third level.

Student Council therefore mandates:

The VP for Education to examine the feasibility of expanding and improving the peer mentoring programme that currently exists within TU Dublin in order to benefit more incoming first years. They are to report back on their findings for the second council of the first semester of 2018.

23. National Council Report –

24th April 2018

Student Council Notes:

That Sabbatical Officers and the Postgraduate Officer attend National Council every 6 weeks to meet with all the other officers that are members of the Union of Students in Ireland.

Student Council further Notes:

That these meetings involve working groups relating to the different briefs of officers as well as National Council itself which is the forum where policies of USI are debated and Officer-board are held accountable for their work.

Student Council Regrets:

The discussions held, or work undertaken in these working groups or National Council is not properly communicated to Student Council and therefore leads to lack of trust and value placed on being members of USI.

Student Council Mandates:

The President to provide a report after each National Council to Student Council of each working group and National Council and as well as ensure the minutes of National Council are easily accessible.

24. Officer Communication on TUDSU .tv –

24th April 2018

Student Council Recognises:

The work that elected officers do for students on a daily basis, in particular those that often go above and beyond the call of duty to ensure student rights are protected, keep students informed through campaigns and representing students on several committees.

Student Council Regrets:

The work undertaken by officers and their achievements is not always captured fully at the monthly Student Council meeting where the work they've completed over the last month is scrutinized.

Student Council Notes:

This can be better captured on TUDSU .tv through articles about campaigns, progress on their mandates and issues raised in committees that students should be aware of.

Student Council Mandates:

Through the President that all officers submit an article on TUDSU .tv every fortnight, detailing work undertaken as seen in their officer reports and must include but not limited to campaigns, events, and democratic duties.

25. Plastic Free Campuses –

24th April 2018

Student Council Notes:

That excessive plastic waste is a growing issue which threatens the environment and human health.

Student Council further Notes:

The good work that has been done to create plastic free campuses in other third level institutions such as DCU.

Student Council Mandates:

The VP for Welfare to investigate the feasibility of plastic free campuses, and if feasible lobby TU Dublin to create plastic free campuses. The VP for Welfare will report back by second Council of new year.

26. Award for School Rep –

22nd March 2018

Student Council Notes:

The important role School Reps play in the overall running of the union, as a voluntary role the amount of effort they put in determines how beneficial they become to the union.

Student Council Further Notes:

Reward systems are a great way to motivate and recognise the school reps that make the most of the role and benefit the union through hard work.

Student Council Mandates:

The Vice President for Education to give an award to the best school rep of their choice, which meets criteria set out by the school rep role description as recognition of their hard work over the year. The award is to be given at the end of the year award ceremony. To be completed by the end of the college semester 2017/18.

27. Cessation of Support to Aramark –

24th April 2018

Student Council Recognises:

That that Aramark enjoys substantial profits from its contract to provide food in direct provision centres

Student Council Regrets:

The standard of food provided leaves occupants of such direct provision centres malnourished

Student Council Acknowledges:

That DITSU supports Aramark by buying vouchers for the on-site canteens to distribute as lunch vouchers to Class Reps

Student Council therefore Mandates:

That the Vice President for Education ceases to support Aramark through this system and seeks an alternative system to reward Class Rep attendance by date of the next Student Council.

28. Dental Dams in SU Offices –

31st January 2018

Student Council Notes:

Dental dams are sexual barriers, used during oral sex They prevent sexually transmitted infections (STI'S) and diseases. They're very difficult for students to get, due to price and availability. Many other Students' Unions' such as Dublin City University, Trinity College and Cork Institute of Technology provide these for free to all students.

Student Council Mandates:

The VP for Welfare to investigate the feasibility of providing dental dams in all Students' Union offices in DIT, by the end of March 2018 and to Lobby USI to provide dental dams to all affiliated colleges along with condoms by 1st July 2018.

29. Consent Workshops –

31st January 2018

Student Council Notes:

In Irish Law sex without consent is rape. The Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act 2017 introduced a legal definition of sexual consent which states that: “a person consents to a sexual act if he or she freely and voluntarily agrees to engage in that act”

The legal age of Consent in Ireland is 17 years. The Irish Study of Sexual Health and Relationships 2006 showed that the median age for first sex among women was 19 and among men 18.

Student Council Further Notes:

Sexual Education classes in secondary schools do not address the issue of sexual consent therefore students entering third level have no formal guidance on how to give and ask for consent when engaging in sexual acts.

It is the TU Dublin Students' Unions responsibility to promote good sex practices and consent is a crucial part of that.

Student Council Mandates:

The VP Welfare to organise a voluntary consent workshop for TU Dublin Students before the end of the academic year 2017/2018 to help TU Dublin students to broaden their knowledge on the legal requirements for giving and obtaining sexual consent and to open a conversation on the issue.

30. Nap Rooms on TU Dublin Campuses –

8th November 2017

Student Council Notes:

From time to time students might feel overwhelmed by the pressures of their academic life and become anxious and stressed as a result. This in turn can have negative effect on their concentration and ability to focus on their studies.

Student Council also Notes:

Having short Naps can provide significant benefit for improved concentration and 20 minutes naps are specifically recommended for short term alertness.

Student Council further notes:

At present there are no spaces for students to be able to take time out in a safe environment on each campus to have a short nap to recharge their batteries.

Student Council Mandates:

The VP for Welfare to investigate at appropriate TU Dublin levels, the feasibility of incorporating Nap Rooms for students on each TU Dublin Campuses that might provide a safe area for students to recharge, especially for those with medical conditions such as anxiety and insomnia and to report back to student council by the second council of the second semester.

31. Amendment of TUDSU Documents to Include Gender Neutral Language –

26th April 2017

Student Council Notes:

The previous constitutional amendment, to replace unnecessarily gendered language in the TUDSU constitution with gender neutral language to be more inclusive of non-binary, and other gender non-conforming TU Dublin students, was well received by LGBT, and ally students, especially those who don't use male or female pronouns.

Student Council Further Notes:

Many other TUDSU documents include unnecessarily gendered language ('he/she' instead of simply 'they'), and not only does this make them clunky and awkward to read, but it also excludes students who are neither male or female.

Student Council Mandates:

That the President form a working group to amend these documents by the first student council of the 2017/2018 academic year.

32. Electronic Voting for TUDSU Elections and Referenda –

26th April 2017

Student Council Notes:

The number of TU Dublin students who vote in TUDSU elections is very low, considering the large size of TU Dublin's population.

Student Council Further Notes:

Other college student unions, such as TCDSU, and IADTSU, use a simple form of electronic voting with much success.

Student Council Mandates:

That the President investigate the feasibility of introducing electronic voting for TUDSU elections and referenda, and return with these findings by first student council of next semester.

33. Education Policy – 18th October 2018

Class Reps

Where a Class Rep misses two class rep meetings in a row without sending apologies, their respective College Officer or School Rep will directly contact that Class Rep through whatever means deemed appropriate in order to offer support/guidance. Where necessary the College Officer or School Rep will report back to their Student Advisor or the Vice President for Education.

The College Officers to have a “most valuable class rep” awards at the end of each class rep meeting every semester to create an incentive to attend and recognise when a rep is actively contributing to the Union in these meetings.

School Reps

The VP for Education must hold training for all school reps once per semester minimum. In this training the VP for Education will guide the school rep through issues they face in their roles.

TU Dublin Students’ Union recognises the important role that School Reps hold in regards to representation within their varying schools and in raising matters through the appropriate channels in both TU Dublin and TUDSU in order for School Reps to be as effective as possible, they should be in regular contact with the relevant College Officer(s) for their school. In order for this to be possible College Officers shall meet with all relevant school reps to their sites at least twice a semester. These meetings shall include; any and all relevant TUDSU activities that school Reps should know, relevant updates from the schools of the representatives present. To ensure that school reps are as effective as possible the Vice President of

Education shall endeavour to have a meeting held with the relevant School Reps and the Dean of each College within the TU Dublin at least once per academic year, between the end of semester one and halfway through semester two.

Postgraduates

The TU Dublin Students’ Union believes that Postgraduate students within the TU Dublin should have academic supports provided to them all year round.

Education Campaigns

The Vice President for Education to run a campaign before the end of the First Semester every year to ensure students are made aware of their rights under the Student Charter.

TU Dublin Students’ Union recognises the important role poster campaigns play in the day to day communication with the students of the TU Dublin. More importantly, in the run up to exams they act as a valuable source of information and the Union feels that it is an essential part of its communication with its membership. In order to get the maximum amount of recognition for the services the Union provides, it’s important that students see the Union as a helpful agent that wants to inform and settle students concerns in the run up to the stressful exam period. It is therefore the belief of the Students’ Union that the running of a yearly poster campaign around exam preparation should be carried out. This campaign should reflect the examination requirements and practices of each TU Dublin node appropriate to the practices set out by the exams office as well as giving practical advice to students.

**34. TU Dublin Quality Assurance -
1 st December 2015 (Renewed)**

Academic Calendar Policy – 1 st December 2015

It shall be the policy of TU Dublin Students' Union to hold a position as dictated by the below principles in relation to the TU Dublin Academic Calendar:

- That four weeks' notice must be given between the release of exam timetables and the first week of examinations commencing in all scheduled sittings of exams.
- That all continuous assessment must be concluded at least one week prior to the examination period.
- That library facilities across all campuses must be open for at least three full days in the calendar week prior to an examination week.
- That a review of the academic calendar be carried out by TU Dublin that includes student representation at least every two years.
- That any proposed changes made to the academic calendar be brought to TUDSU Student Council for discussion and feedback in a timely manner.

**35. Library Reading Resources –
15th October 2015 (Renewed)**

As per the TU Dublin Handbook for Quality Enhancement (2014), it is affirmed that any changes to reading resources “should be accessible to students and where new resources are to be recommended this information must be provided to the library with the timeframe specified” as being “finalised by the end of May for programmes due to be delivered the following September and by mid-November for programmes due to commence the following January”.

It is the policy of TU Dublin Students’ Union that all reading resources as prescribed by the Programme Committee of all courses within TU Dublin be made available to the library services as set out as above, so as to best serve student learning.

Access to Education

It is the policy of TUDSU to lobby the Irish Government at all levels to make greater provision to provide support, shelter and assistance to refugees who are seeking help. It is the policy of TUDSU to lobby the Irish government at all levels to make available supports to refugees to allow them to enrol in educational institutes at all levels, including third-level.

**36. TUDSU Opposition to Fees –
18th October 2018**

TU Dublin Students' Union will openly oppose the rise in the cost of the Student Contribution Charge and the introduction of an Income Contingent Loan scheme as a method of accessing third level education.

TUDSU believes that education is a fundamental right and serves a public good and that access to it should not be hindered.

TUDSU also calls for a reduction in the current Student Contribution Charge and for an increase in funding for student grants and other financial supports.

**37. TUDSU Relationship with TU Dublin –
18th October 2018**

TUDSU is committed to maintaining open and transparent dialogue with TU Dublin , as per the TU Dublin Student Charter (2004), and will act in the best interest of ensuring excellence in learning and a positive experience for students of the TU Dublin .

Elected Officers of the Union sit on various committees and boards within the TU Dublin structure, as the representative voice of the students of TU Dublin , through the Student Council. From time to time, the officers may be called upon to make decisions on behalf of the student membership. It is important that the officers consult with the Student Council on their views, particularly when there is proposed expenditure of student funds.

The Union recognises that funding is provided by way of the Student Contribution Charge through a funding agreement between TU Dublin and TUDSU. If funding of the Union is ever reduced or lost, the President shall take any necessary action in order to secure a satisfactory funding agreement. As per the Funding Agreement, the President shall not allow TU Dublin Internal Audit Dublin to have any function in the oversight of TUDSU.

Student Development Fund

TU Dublin recognises the Students' Union as the body which co-signs on expenTU Dublin ure from the Capital Development Reserve, of which the Student Development Fund (SDF) forms part of. As the decision-making body of the Union, the Student Council is the ultimate forum to where expenTU Dublin ure must be presented.

The SDF is a fund which was set up to further enhance student's college experience, as a proportion of the Student Contribution Charge paid by each student annually, and any proposed expenTU Dublin ure applied for through the SDF must be presented to the Council for their consideration.

**38. Grangegorman –
18th October 2018**

TUDSU welcomes and supports the creation of a Student Centre on the Grangegorman campus.

If facilities do not meet the requirements of the student population, the President shall take whatever action is deemed appropriate, following consultation with the Student Council to ensure students have adequate facilities.

If current facilities deteriorate or if reported facilities issues are ignored, the President following consultation with the Executive shall take appropriate action.

**39. Mental Health –
18th October 2018**

Part Time Officer Well-being

TUDSU shall run a well-being and stress management workshop at the start of each semester for part time officers and provide an Employee Assistance Program pamphlet to each office, with continued encouragement to part time officers to avail of the services provided if needed.

Access to Student Counselling

All students in TU Dublin should be able to readily access and avail of the TU Dublin student counselling services, within their own campus, in a timely manner.

Mental Health Campaign

TUDSU believes in providing a framework for good practice for the support of students, promotion of mental well-being and prevention of mental health difficulties. TUDSU acknowledges that it's important to promote informed and positive attitudes towards mental health and wellbeing, and that we adopt a positive approach in our activities. This will encourage our students to look after their own mental health, that of their friends and those around them.

TUDSU shall liaise regularly and where possible with the TU Dublin Counselling Service, TU Dublin Medical Centre, TU Dublin Chaplaincy and any other relevant divisions of Campus Life in the development of mental health initiatives. It is also critical that the Vice President(s) for Welfare and Equality considers the impact of other external issues such as finance, accommodation etc., on the mental health of students. Mindfulness is recommended as a treatment for mental ill-health as well as those who want to improve their mental health and wellbeing. Mindfulness should be incorporated into Mental Health campaigns.

Being physically active as well as being involved in extracurricular activities can have a positive impact on an individual student's mental wellbeing. TU Dublin Clubs and Societies offer useful opportunities for students to engage, connect with their peers, stay fit and have fun! TUDSU shall collaborate, where possible, with Clubs and Societies in initiatives that reduce stigma of mental illness and offer positive and meaningful opportunities to students.

TUDSU will lobby to protect funding of the relevant student support services on campus and will work to ensure student support services meet the highest standards of quality and ensure that students in financial need are catered for through various funds, such as the Student Assistance Fund.

The Vice President(s) for Welfare and Equality will run a mental health campaign in, incorporating information about:

- Positive mental health and methods to maintain such a mind-set
- Mental health difficulties and how they can be treated
- Stigma reduction around Mental Health difficulties
- Suicide awareness
- Encourage students to seek help, both on and off campus
- Highlight the importance of talking and support one another
- Support services available both on and off campus

40. Sexual Health and Personal Safety – 18th October 2018

Sanitary Products

All TUDSU offices will have emergency supplies of sanitary products.

Consent during Orientation

TUDSU will include a section on consent in all first-year induction presentations.

Condom Distribution

TUDSU acknowledges the wide availability of contraception in Ireland, following the Health (Family Planning) (Amendment) Act of 1993, permitting both the sale and advertisement of condoms in Ireland. Enshrined in the Union's mission statement is a pledge to represent and protect the welfare of the members. It is therefore necessary for TUDSU to actively promote good sexual health practices.

The Vice President(s) for Welfare and Equality and the appropriate staff shall be responsible for lobbying for the standards and conditions outlined below, as well as all information campaigns relevant to the distribution of condoms.

TUDSU will endeavour to provide condoms to its' members throughout the academic year. In tandem with distribution, TUDSU will endeavour to provide information outlining but not limited to the risks associated with sexual activity and instructions on the use of condoms. TUDSU will further try to provide latex free condoms, shall be distributed through staff upon request.

TUDSU acknowledges that condoms are not 100% guaranteed to work and only abstinence can avoid the risks associated with unprotected sex. TUDSU will endeavour to provide adequate information where possible but also act as a signposting service for students who seek more information from relevant student services, such as the TU Dublin Health Centre.