



Technological University Dublin

Students' Union

Student Council

Motions & Mandates

This document consists of all motions that have been passed by TUDSU Student Council and are valid

**Motions are valid for a period of two years from the date they were passed
i.e. 22nd April 2019 to 22nd April 2021**

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Student Council Motion/Mandate	Falling	Mandated
<p>1. <u>Sensory Spaces on Campus</u></p> <p>Student Council Notes: That there are currently no sensory rooms across TU Dublin for neurodivergent students.</p> <p>Student Council Further Notes: The Athena Swan Action Plan points out in 3.2.15 to have accessible quiet rooms in each campus by the end of 2025 but it has no mention of sensory spaces.</p> <p>Student Councils Regrets: While there are quiet spaces on each campus, the spaces are not necessarily suitable for students who are neurodivergent.</p> <p>Student Council Mandates: The VPs for Welfare & Equality and the Deputy Presidents (to be moved to the VP for Welfare & Equality and the Campus VPs when the new Constitution is in act) to lobby the University to work on sensory spaces across each campus, with support from EDI.</p>	14.12.2024	VPs for Welfare and Equality and deputies
<p>2. <u>Increased Functional and Accessible seating areas</u></p> <p>Student Council notes: TU Dublin is the largest university in the country with nearly 30,000 students, most of whom are fulltime and therefore in classes or on campus 20+ hours a week.</p> <p>Student Council also notes: Even with this large student population, seating and recreational areas are limited across many of the campuses. The rest areas currently present also may not meet the needs of students in terms of accessibility, access to power outlets and the availability of lower density seating areas for students with sensory issues.</p> <p>Student Council Mandates: The executive to lobby TU Dublin to install more functional and accessible seating areas across all campuses. The exec must give updates on this by the last student council of the academic year.</p>	14.12.2024	The Executive
<p>3. <u>Letter to the board</u></p> <p>Student Council Notes:</p>	14.12.2024	Chair of Student Council

<p>Three sabbatical officers have resigned from their posts in quick succession.</p> <p>Student Council Notes with Concern:</p> <p>Three sabbatical officers across two campuses have resigned from their post in the union in quick succession. While this type of situation may not be unheard of, it is certainly unusual and raises concerns over the functioning of the union and the working environment. One of these officers was a returning officer, so it cannot be said that the workload of the position was not understood.</p> <p>Student Council Believes:</p> <p>Sabbatical officers work tirelessly for students, contributing significantly to the quality of our university experience. It is our due diligence as student councillors to ensure that those we elect feel supported in their work environment and capable of carrying out their mandates. When several sabbatical officers resign before the end of their term, this results in not only a higher workload for the rest of the SU team, but will ultimately influence the quality of the work that can be carried out by the remaining officers and therefore warrants these concerns being brought to the Board of the Directors of the Students Union. An examination of the work environment and practices of the Union will provide valuable feedback so that any prominent issues can be revolved, and more supports can be put in place in the relevant areas for sabbaticals going forward. It is pertinent to identify areas of concern that can be addressed and resolved, and can establish better work practices going forward to avoid the same situation happening in the future.</p> <p>Council further notes:</p> <p>If these concerns are not addressed and there are further resignations, it would be extremely regretful to not have acted sooner.</p> <p>Student Council Therefore Mandates:</p> <p>The Chair of Student Council to write a letter to the Board of Directors highlighting the recent resignation of several sabbatical officers, and suggest looking at any potential issues that may have contributed to multiple staff departures.</p>		
<p>4. <u>Operation Transformation</u></p> <p>Student Council Notes:</p> <p>Operation Transformation is a weight loss TV show aired by RTE and sponsored by the Department of Health under the 'Healthy Ireland' Campaign. It has been estimated that RTE received over €500,000 over a two-year period. Operation Transformation say that their aim is to promote a healthy lifestyle for participants and viewers but, is an</p>	<p>14.12.2024</p>	<p>VPs for Welfare and Equality</p>

<p>entertainment show that promotes unsustainable weight loss, encourages disordered eating behaviours and cultivates weight stigma.</p> <p>Student Council Further Notes: National eating disorder organisation ‘Bodywhys’ noted in their statement regarding Operation Transformation that fact that hospital admissions for young people with eating disorders have risen by 66% and that shows like Operation Transformation can have a detrimental effect on mental and physical health. It is also well known that many students are young people who may be vulnerable to the messages that are promoted by these weight loss tv shows. The emphasis on dieting, body weight and shape does little to long lasting weight loss and health goals.</p> <p>Student Council Recognises: Bodywhys and grassroots activists like intuitive.eating.ireland and binge.eating.dietitian have campaigned and petitioned RTE and the Department of Health in recent times to decommission the show or offer a more inclusive approach to the show, changing the focus from weight loss to a more holistic view to lifestyle changes.</p> <p>Student Council Regrets: RTE, the producers of Operation Transformation and the Department of Health have done little to engage with the campaign. RTE has effectively ignored the experiences of previous participants who shared stories of the lack of support during the airing of episodes and aftercare. Research shows that dieting does not result in long term weight loss for the vast majority of people. Operation Transformation does not provide follow-up studies to monitor long term success in its participants.</p> <p>Student Council Mandates: The Executive Team to discourage the University and external organisations from promoting Operation Transformation across TU Dublin.</p> <p>Student Council Further Mandates: The VPs for Welfare to work with the VP for Welfare in USI on providing information about the effects of disordered eating to students by the end of semester 2.</p>		
<p>5. <u>Disordered Eating Awareness</u></p> <p>Student Council Notes: There are no current campaigns by the Student Union to address and raise awareness of disordered eating.</p> <p>Student Council also Notes:</p>	14.12.2024	VPs for Welfare and Equality

<p>While there have been awareness campaigns about other mental health issues, there has not been any campaigns in recent times to raise awareness of disordered eating and what supports are available to students around this issue. Anorexia – a restrictive eating disorder – has the highest fatality rate of any mental illness. A main characteristic that frequently accompanies this disorder is perfectionism or high expectations of self. Many college students feel the pressure to get good grades, and this can further exacerbate restrictive eating patterns. Bulimia, binge eating disorder and emotional eating patterns can also contribute significantly to both mental and physical health problems. These symptoms will again be exacerbated by the extrapolating pressures brought on by being a student and dealing with the cost-of-living crisis. Many people with some type of disordered eating behaviour are less likely to receive help from a doctor as the doctor will put it all down to their weight, this can lead to the non or misdiagnose of other ailments. All types of disordered eating patterns are vulnerable to be exacerbated by internal and external pressures.</p> <p>Student Council Believes:</p> <p>As the cost of living crisis continues to grow, more and more students will have to make decisions between buying food and paying rent. This is not only dangerous to those with a existing eating disorder or difficulty, but also creates a ripe environment for an eating disorder</p> <p>Student Council Therefore Mandates:</p> <p>The VPs of Welfare run a campaign to raise awareness of what disordered eating is, and what supports are available to students.</p>		
<p>6. <u>T Fund</u></p> <p>Student Council notes:</p> <p>That according to TENI, 78% of trans people in the UK and Ireland have thought about ending their lives and 40% have attempted suicide. For many people, beginning and continuing social transition brings significant relief. College is filled with financial stresses and for many transgender students, name changes and other transition expenses are not an option, even though they are life-saving. Social transitioning is the social portion of a transition, in which a transgender person makes others aware of their gender identity. Some parts of social transition can include: Telling people about your gender identity, changing name/gender (if applicable), getting clothes that allow them to express themselves etc.</p> <p>Student Council commends:</p> <p>The work of other Students’ Unions such as NUIGSU and DCUSU for the introduction of the ‘T fund’ for social transition, aiding students financially</p>	14.12.2024	VPs for Welfare and Equality

<p>with elements of social transition which may include gender affirming items, such as makeup, and dysphoria relieving items like chest binders.</p> <p>Student Council mandates:</p> <p>The VP for Welfares to look into the feasibility of creating a fund in conjunction with the Equality and Diversity and Inclusion office within TU Dublin, for Trans*, Non-Binary and Gender Non-Conforming students</p>		
<p>7. <u>Reinforce module coordinators to update module syllabus on the virtual learning platform</u></p> <p>Student council notes:</p> <p>A SYLLABUS is a necessary document for teaching, in that it serves to establish the fundamental components of a course, such as the topics that will be taught, a weekly calendar, and a list of assignments, and their respective weightings. In order to assist students in their learning, syllabi may define linkages between learning outcomes, assessments, material, and labs.</p> <p>Student council also notes:</p> <p>DIT, ITB and ITT had their own syllabi, this was replaced by the new syllabus of TU Dublin. Syllabi in campuses were not fully updated following the merger, leading to inconsistencies in the syllabi on the VLE. Currently, there are gaps and inconsistencies in the syllabi in TU Dublin. A syllabus is needed for transparency between students and the content they are meant to learn.</p> <p>Student Council mandates:</p> <p>VPs for Education to lobby to ensure that the next term's syllabi are up to date, accurate, and explicit by the end of the Academic year 2022-2023.</p>	30.11.2024	VPs for Education
<p>8. <u>Tallaght Doctor Charge</u></p> <p>Student Council Notes:</p> <p>That the Doctor service in Tallaght costs €10, whereas in City and Blanchardstown it is free for all students.</p> <p>Student Council Further Notes:</p> <p>While the nurse is free across all campuses, if a student needs to visit a doctor, they will need to pay to use the service which should be accessible for any student across TU Dublin.</p> <p>Student Council Mandates:</p> <p>The Deputy President of Tallaght Campus to lobby the medical service in Tallaght to remove the charge of visiting the Doctor.</p>	30.11.2024	Deputy President for Tallaght

<p>9. <u>TU Dublin's Students' Union to Support the Access Service</u></p> <p>Student Council Notes: TU Dublin's Access Service is a critical service in TU Dublin that supports groups that are underrepresented in higher education. These supports include but are not limited to academic support, social and personal support, and financial assistance.</p> <p>Student Council Further Notes: The importance of TU Dublin's Students' Union assisting TU Dublin's Access Service in any way that could enhance this service, in line with TU Dublin's Students' Union's aim of fostering diversity and equality throughout TU Dublin.</p> <p>Student Council Therefore Mandates: The VP of Education for the city campus, the Deputy President of Blanchardstown, and the Deputy President of Tallaght to contact the Access Service respective to their campus at a minimum of twice per term, offering support if needed. Student Council Further Mandates: The President of TU Dublin's Students' Union to ensure that there is always an officer liaising with the Access Service at least twice per term.</p> <p>Student Council Further Mandates: The executive ensures that at least one officer is present at important Access Service events unless there is an extenuating circumstance, including but not limited to events such as Access Orientations and the Access Christmas Meet-up.</p> <p><i>With this motion, Student Council repeals the motion entitled 'ACCESS Student information campaign'</i></p>	<p>30.11.2024</p>	<p>VP Education and Deputies</p>
<p>10. <u>TU Dublin Canteen Protest</u></p> <p>Student Council Notes: Students recognise the increasing prices of all items on menu has been a growing concern amongst all members of the university.</p> <p>Student Council Further Notes: That price disparities have become commonplace amongst campuses due to the different catering companies; KSG for Tallaght and Blanchardstown, and Aramark/Sodexo for City. Consistency should be a minimum standard amongst campuses. Alongside these other issues, the menu is distinctly lacking in vegetarian/vegan/ceeliac options for students.</p> <p>Student Council Regrets:</p>	<p>30.11.2024</p>	<p>The Executive</p>

<p>The distinct lack of microwaves amongst the campuses by the influence of the catering companies. This heavily effects students who can't afford to buy food from the canteens.</p> <p>Student Council Further Regrets:</p> <p>Pay-to-seat service seems to be in place for many campus canteens. Canteens should not be restricted to those solely dining but rather a safe space for conversation and community under the prospect of dining. Activities such as card games or just general conversation in some cases also seem to be prohibited.</p> <p>Student Council Mandates:</p> <p>The Executive to organise a protest in either this semester or next semester inside their canteens to combat the prices, the use of microwaves inside canteen spaces and the use of seats in the canteen.</p>		
<p>11. <u>The Right to Lecture Materials for Students During Class Time and After</u></p> <p>Student Council Notes:</p> <p>Many lecturers do not allow access to lecture slides and materials outside of lecture times giving excuses such as attendance; some may not even provide the lecture materials for students to view on their own devices during the lecture.</p> <p>Student Council Also Notes That:</p> <p>While it is understandable that lecturers may be trying to encourage attendance in their lectures by only showing the notes in class, it is unreasonable to punish those who are in fact attending by denying them access to material they could use in the classroom to aid their learning. The slides and materials used in lectures are only the bare bones of what a student is required to know, and denying access to those bare bones does not allow students to build their knowledge while revising or even just note-taking in class. While this issue affects all students, it may have a greater impact on Disabled Students. Many Disabled Students rely on access to the notes in order to learn through their own methods, but many are also uncomfortable disclosing that they are in fact disabled to their lecturer. This causes an issue where students feel unable to approach their lecturers for help when an issue such as this arises. It is unreasonable to deny the students the materials necessary to learn effectively. Only allowing student's access to Lecture notes and materials in some modules produces inconsistency in study methods and will cause students to lose motivation in the modules that don't provide them.</p> <p>Student Council Mandates:</p> <p>The VP's for Education to lobby TU Dublin to establish a comprehensive approach to rules around access to Lecture Notes across all campuses and courses. This should also include a poll on a sample of students</p>	30.11.2024	VP Education

<p>from various courses of study with regards to their opinion on the availability of lecture notes and their impact on their learning experience.</p>		
<p>12. <u>Improvement of the Identity & Culture of Blanchardstown Campus</u></p> <p>Student Council notes: That the culture and identity of the Blanchardstown campus should be improved by cleaning of grime off exterior walls and by adding modern design through artwork (e.g. murals).</p> <p>Student Council also notes: The Blanchardstown Campus has been neglected over the last few year. When one enters Blanchardstown Campus they will be met with white walls covered in grime and filth. Studies have shown that good exterior and interior design improves mental health of workers and hence increases productivity (The built environment and mental health; Evans, 2003).</p> <p>Student Council Mandates: The Deputy President of Blanchardstown and VP for Welfare & Equality of Blanchardstown Campus to lobby in favour of removal of grime covered walls by the end of the Academic year 2022-2023 by the latest.</p> <p>Student Council further Mandates: The Deputy President of Blanchardstown and VP for Welfare & Equality of Blanchardstown Campus to work with estates in making developments around the campus through various forums to create a better culture and identity for Blanchardstown students – by start of next academic year.</p>	<p>30.11.2024</p>	<p>Blanchardstown Officers</p>
<p>13. <u>Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Training on Orientation Week for incoming first years</u></p> <p>Student Council notes: For most people going into first year, attending University will mean a completely new experience i.e. new community, new faces, and new atmosphere. While students who have lived in a more diverse community will be able to adjust relatively well, those who have not, will unfortunately find it more difficult and these difficulties could cause conflicts (racism, homophobia, discrimination, etc.) in the future. However, proper orientation for first years with the addition of EDI training would hopefully sustain and enrich the inclusivity of TU Dublin while minimising any possibilities of conflicts from happening. TU Dublin is one of most diverse universities in Ireland. It is the university's responsibility to ensure that all students and staff members exist in an inclusive environment where all are treated respectfully and fairly. However, while there is a team in the university specifically working for EDI, the training they provide is not enough for the scale of the student population.</p>	<p>30.11.2024</p>	<p>VPs for Welfare & Equality</p>

<p>Student Council also notes:</p> <p>EDI training usually focuses and emphasises the difference among the people on the community, while potentially informative, this unfortunately creates a problem and causes further division. This EDI training, upon consultation with a professional, will strive to normalise the difference amongst cultures and identities and how these differences contribute and improve our community.</p> <p>Student Council Mandates:</p> <p>The VP's for Welfare and equality to lobby the EDI department in the university to provide the equality, diversity and inclusion training for incoming first years in the 2023 autumn term.</p>		
<p>14. <u>International Student Rights</u></p> <p>Student Council Notes:</p> <p>That TU Dublin is very diverse with over 2854 international students across 105 countries. International Students pay a large number in fees and face other difficulties such as needing to get medical insurance, getting a visa, getting accommodation, and general student life.</p> <p>Student Council Understands that:</p> <p>International students have the right to use the facilities and services just like non-international students, but a lot of international students are disconnected from college life.</p> <p>Student Council Believes:</p> <p>That a large cohort of international students aren't aware of the services and facilities and miss out on essential services such as eg. Counselling, medical centre, PC1 forms etc.</p> <p>Student Council Therefore Mandates:</p> <p>The VP's for Welfare and Equality and VP's for Education to work closely with the international office to run an information campaign on rights, accommodation, facilities and services for all international students.</p> <p>Student Council Further Mandates:</p> <p>The VP's for Welfare and Equality lobby TU Dublin for extra training in the Student Services office about issues regarding International Students, eg. Visa issues, fees, etc.</p> <p>Student Council Mandates:</p> <p>The VP's for Welfare and Equality to lobby TU Dublin for a more comprehensive and extended Orientation for international students, and</p>	<p>6/4/2024</p>	<p>Welfare & Education</p>

<p>defined support throughout the year from the International Office after the students commence on their programme.</p>		
<p>15. <u>Private Medical Insurance for International Students</u></p> <p>Student Council Notes: That International (Non-EU/EEA) students have many expenses with higher fees, visas, medical insurance, as well as usual students' issues such as accommodation, food, travel, etc.</p> <p>Student Council Further Notes: All International (Non-EU/EEA) Students registering with TU Dublin for the first time from September 2020 will need to purchase their own private medical health insurance as required by the Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Services (INIS).</p> <p>Student Council Therefore Mandates: The VP's for Welfare and Equality to investigate the feasibility of getting back the private medical health insurance that was already paid for by TU Dublin for International (Non-EU/EEA). The VP's for Welfare should create a report of the feasibility to be presented to Student Council by November 2022.</p> <p>Student Council Further Mandates: That after the feasibility report is reported to council that the VP's for Welfare and Equality use this report to lobby the TU Dublin International Office to create extra discounts/deals and provide more information for International (Non-EU/EEA) students on how to get private medical insurance like other universities like eg. UCD, DCU and Limerick University.</p>	<p>6/4/2024</p>	<p>Welfare</p>
<p>16. <u>Provisions for Students in Need of Food</u></p> <p>Student Council Recognizes: The TU Dublin Cost of Living Guide 20/21 estimates the average students monthly expenditure is €1539. Student Council Notes: A student employed in a job which pays minimum wage (€10.50/hr) would need to work in excess of 35 hours a week on top of their studies to be able to afford the baseline cost of living set out in this guide.</p> <p>Student Council Further Notes: The cost of living for a student in Ireland is extremely high and many students are unable to afford living essentials such as food.</p> <p>Student Council Mandates:</p>	<p>24/11/23</p>	<p>Welfare</p>

<p>The VPs for Welfare and Equality to research ways of assisting students to access food. For example food vouchers, food banks etc. then report their findings to Student Council before student council in June 2022.</p> <p>Student Council Further Mandates: The VPs for Welfare and Equality use these findings to lobby the TU Dublin to create a cohesive approach across all campuses to help students in need access food.</p>		
<p>17. <u>Period Poverty</u></p> <p>Council Notes: Students have many other expenses throughout their time in college. It is our feeling that sanitary items should not be an additional expense on students. Through the work of USI on the national front, there is a bill being pushed through the Dáil with the aims of making period products available free across all third-level institutions. This will hopefully come to fruition in the next year which would be a great achievement and massively beneficial to menstruating people.</p> <p>Council further notes: There is no choice in the need for sanitary products and therefore people should not be burdened with additional associated costs. It is our feeling that they should be distributed for free in all sectors similar to the 'Scottish model'.</p> <p>Council Mandates: Should the bill be passed, the VPs For Welfare and Equality ensure relevant TU Dublin Staff, are equipping every bathroom on each campus, with the necessary sanitary items (not just female bathrooms). Also to ensure that if there are items available to suit the needs of all, i.e. to suit different flows and sizes.</p> <p>Council further mandates: That the VPs For Welfare and Equality continue to work with USI to lobby the relevant departments of government and state for the aforementioned bill to be passed without further delays. In the event that the bill falls that the Student Union continue to provide sanitary items free in the various union locations. Further to this to assess the feasibility of having some basic spare clothes available in Student Union offices in case of emergencies that may arise.</p>	5/5/23	Welfare
<p>18. <u>Black History Month</u></p> <p>Student Council Notes: There is a huge lack of participation within student politics for black students. There are currently less than 10 officers across the island of Ireland who are people of colour and that representation matters when it comes to participation.</p>	5/5/23	Exec

<p>Student Council Further Notes: Black History Month began as a way of remembering important people and events in the history of the African and Carribean diaspora, and is now globally celebrating Black excellence, the importance of remembering, uplifting and empowering an entire group of young activists.</p> <p>Student Council Believes: That the celebration of black excellence, black history, etc, should not be limited to tokenistic representation or events, and that events ran under Black History Month should be led with Black voices with the goal of staying true to the ideals and goals of Black History Month.</p> <p>Student Council Therefore Mandates: TU Dublin SU Executive (or the appropriate officer) to run an extensive Black History Month month campaign which will include speakers, events, data, and showcase Black excellence throughout the month of October.</p> <p>Student Council Further Mandates: TU Dublin Students' Union Executive seek to include the voices of Black students when organizing and brainstorming the event to ensure that students are at the forefront of leading this campaign and officers are facilitating this where intersectionality is also a key focus.</p> <p>Student Council Further Mandates: That Black History Month should not be the only time of the year that Black voices are platformed, and that the work on decolonising education, inclusion of Traveller and Roma students in education and community outreach, continue to be done throughout the year.</p>		
<p>19. <u>Establishment of an Independent Student Media Outlet</u></p> <p>Student Council Notes: Journalism and media play an essential role in maintaining the accountability of organisations; from the Government to the University to the Students' Union, the media act as a key partner in spreading awareness and factual information to the general public.</p> <p>Student Council notes with Concern: The TU Dublin does not have an established site for student journalism to fulfill this valuable role within the organisation. This prevents students from accessing information that should be available to them, in order to keep their University community to account. The Students' Union attempts to fill this role, whoever, a dedicated student-run newspaper or media source is required to fulfill this function.</p> <p>Student Council therefore mandates:</p>	<p>5/5/23</p>	<p>Events</p>

<p>The VP for Events and Engagement, to investigate the feasibility of the establishment of a student-run media organisation for TU Dublin. This work should involve researching best practice organisational structures, funding sources and practices in other Higher Education Institutions running these operations. The Vice President should seek involvement from relevant part-time officers in this task also. The Vice President is to form a report on their research and report back to the Student Council by the third meeting of the 2021/22 Academic Year.</p>		
<p>20. <u>Motion on Effectiveness of Proctoring</u></p> <p>Student Council Notes: That all students have been forced to complete assessments, including examinations, online due to the pandemic that the world is facing. Due to these assessments having to take place virtually, the standard invigilation procedures can not take place.</p> <p>Student Council Further Notes: Academic Integrity Procedures must still be followed to ensure that all assessments are taken fairly and that these assessments are an accurate reflection of the work that all students have put in.</p> <p>Student Council Believes: TU Dublin are currently looking into getting online examinations fully proctored through different proctoring softwares like Examity etc. This gives students a lack of privacy when sitting assessments and may make students feel uncomfortable while sitting their assessments which may inhibit them from progressing their education.</p> <p>Student Council Mandates: The Vice President for Education to investigate proctoring and make sure that there is constant communication with the college and Students' Union to make sure that students privacy and rights are being considered</p>	5/5/23	Education
<p>21. <u>Officer Network and Archive</u></p> <p>Student Council Notes: TU Dublin Students' Union has a proud and rich history of student activism, led by many Executive teams over decades. These past officers achieved a lot throughout their terms and passed the baton of student representation to their successors.</p> <p>Student Council also notes: The people who were on previous Executives carry a wealth of knowledge and experience, and this will be lost if they lose contact with the Students' Union and cannot act as mentors to incoming Students' Union officers.</p> <p>Student Council therefore mandates:</p>	5/5/23	President

<p>The Executive to collect and archive contact information on previous sabbatical officers of the three former Students' Unions of IT Tallaght, IT Blanchardstown and DIT as well as TU Dublin Students' Union, with their consent. This is to be kept in the files of the office of the President. The current Executive also should store their contact information to remain contactable for the future team.</p> <p>Student Council also mandates:</p> <p>The President is to contact past sabbatical officers at least once a year to provide key updates relevant to past officers on the developments within the Union, in order to build a stronger network and keep past officers engaged.</p>		
<p>22. <u>Lobby TU Dublin to Encourage use of pronouns in email signatures</u></p> <p>Council Notes:</p> <p>TU Dublin SU acknowledge and celebrate all voices and experiences across our union. An easy way to normalise the use of pronouns is to include them in your email signature. TU Dublin SU are aware that having pronouns in an email signature signals you as an LGBTQIA+ ally.</p> <p>Council further notes:</p> <p>Some peoples pronouns are extremely important to them and their gender identity, the use of the wrong pronoun can be very distressing, even if it was accidental. It can be equally distressing for individuals to feel they only are having to identify their pronouns as they may feel this singles them out. By including pronouns in email signatures it 'normalises' their use. We believe that if TU Dublin staff implement pronouns into their signatures, this would aid in the destigmatising of correct pronoun use and lend to a more inclusive accepting environment throughout the TU.</p> <p>Council therefore mandates:</p> <p>The VP's Welfare & Equality to lobby TU Dublin to encourage the use of pronouns in emails by all staff. This work may include but not be limited to drafting an email that can be sent to all staff on behalf of the Student Union explaining why pronouns are important and asking staff to add pronouns to their signature.</p>	5/5/23	Welfare
<p>23. <u>Running of In person and online exams during Covid-19</u></p> <p>Student Council Notes:</p> <p>That teaching and learning has been severely impacted by remote learning, and that students undertaking exams face a number of practical</p>	24/2/23	Education

<p>difficulties i.e. poor internet, access to a laptop/PC, and difficulty engaging with online lectures etc... Due to these negative impacts on learning, students sitting in person exams would not be as well prepared as in previous years. There is no best practice in place concerning the running of online exams. Several lecturers are of the opinion that just because the lectures are online that exams do not necessarily have to be online. In the unlikely event that the HSE should increase the vaccine rollout to the point that it is possible to return to college in May, students may be asked to present in person to complete an invigilated examination.</p> <p>Student Council Further Notes: That it is only fair and consistent for the end of semester exams to be online, if appropriate, if all or part of a college semester is online, to mitigate the already turbulent nature of an online semester. Preparing for written components of modules (exams) in an online environment cannot be equated to an in-person environment. In the unlikely event that exams are scheduled to be in person, yet the college semester is online, and due to the aforementioned negative impacts of remote learning, sitting in person exams would be grossly unfair as students would not have had the equivalent learning experience.</p> <p>Student Council therefore Mandates: That the VPs for Education lobby Academic Council for a clear decision on the format of assessments for the summer assessment period as soon as possible, in order to bring certainty to the student body so they can prepare for the assessment that has been set.</p> <p>Student Council also Mandates: That these officers also state the case for holding assessments (where suitable) online, as the entire semester is likely to be held online.</p>		
<p>24. <u>Lobbying Against CETA</u></p> <p>Student Council Notes: CETA is the Comprehensive Economic & Trade Agreement that would set up an investor court system between the European Union and Canada within Ireland. This would allow businesses to take legal action against the state for punitive damages based on loss of revenue based on Social Policy passed by the government.</p> <p>Student Council Notes with Immediate Concern: The ratification and full implementation of the CETA deal, will not only set back eco-activism approximately 35 years, but it will also have dire ramifications on the Direct Provision process being ended, a commitment made in the Program for Government.</p>	24/2/23	Welfare

Student Council Believes:

The ratification of CETA will have permanent damage to social change within both Ireland and the European Union. CETA has the ability to push back many plans for Climate and Social action over the coming years, in the best interests of society, CETA cannot be ratified by the Irish Government.

Student Council Therefore Mandates:

The Student's Union to take an active stance against CETA, the Vice-Presidents for Welfare and Equality to lobby relevant Ministers and Departments for the repealing of CETA and to actively campaign against its implementation. TU Dublin Students' Union will also work alongside USI to achieve this goal, if not being done at a national level.

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