



Technological University Dublin

Students' Union

Student Council

Motions & Mandates

This document consists of all motions that have been passed by TUDSU Student Council
From 26/01/17 to date


**Motions are valid for a period of two years from the date they were passed
i.e. 22nd April 2016 to 21st April 2018**


© TU Dublin Students' Union

Pg.	Student Council Motion/Mandate	Falling	Due Date	Level of Progress		
1	Bolton Street Student Forum	11/12/21				
2	Class Representative Report	11/12/21				
3	Lecture Recording and Lecture Capture Technology	11/12/21	22/04/20			
4	Student Activities Working Group	14/11/21				
5	Students' Union Funding Agreement	23/10/21	11/03/20			
6	Removal of TU Dublin SU Motions Manual	23/10/21				
7	Amendment of TU Dublin SU Motions Manual	23/10/21				
8	Removal of TU Dublin SU Policy Manual	23/10/21				
9	Amendment of TU Dublin SU Policy Manual	23/10/21				
10	Aramark Off our Campuses	23/10/20				
11	Climate Action Working Group	23/10/21	11/12/20			
12	Constitutional Working Group	23/10/21	11/12/20			
13	School Meeting	23/10/21				
14	DITSU CLG / Student Council Transitional Protocol	10/04/21	30/06/19			
15	Feasibility of Free STI Screenings	20/03/21	10/04/19			
16	Give us the Night	20/03/21	20/03/21			
17	Solidarity with Northern Ireland for Abortion Rights	20/03/21	20/03/21			
18	Feasibility of the Installation of Washing Facilities	28/02/21	20/03/19			
19	Justice and Human Rights for Palestine	28/02/21	30/06/20			
20	Technological University of Sanctuary	28/02/21	20/10/19			
21	Aramark off our Campuses	20/02/21	31/10/19			
22	Availability of Marking Schemes	24/04/20	30/11/18			
23	Disability Information Campaign	24/04/20	31/10/18			
24	TU Dublin Supply of Microwaves and Facilities for Student Use	24/04/20	26/10/18			
25	Feasibility to Expand TU Dublin Mentoring Programme	24/04/20	30/11/18			
26	National Council Report	24/04/20	24/04/20			
27	Officer Communication on TUDSU.tv	24/04/20	24/04/20			
28	Plastic Free Campus	24/04/20	30/11/18			
29	Award for School Representative	22/03/20	30/06/18			
30	Cessation of Support for Aramark	22/03/20	24/04/18			
31	Dental Dams in Students' Union Offices	31/01/20	31/03/18			
32	Consent Workshops	31/01/20	30/06/18			
33	Nap Rooms on TU Dublin Campuses	08/11/19	21/02/18			
34	Amendment of TU Dublin Documents To Include Gender Neutral Language	26/04/19	20/10/17			
35	Electronic Voting for TU Dublin SU Elections and Referenda	26/04/19	20/10/17			


Mandate Progress

Sabbatical	Not Started	In Progress	Completed	Total Mandates	Percent Completed
President	3	3	12	18	<u>67%</u>
VP Education	5	0	0	5	<u>0%</u>
VP Events	2	0	0	2	<u>0%</u>
VP Welfare	8	5	3	16	<u>19%</u>
<u>Overall</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>37%</u>

 = President


 = VP Events


 = VP Education

 = VP Welfare

Level of Progress Key

 = Not Complete

 = In Progress

 = Completed

Bolton Street Student Forum

Student Council Notes:

The facility issues affecting all campuses e.g. Broken chairs, broken projectors, broken tables etc, and the slow progress being made to address these issues by the various heads of estates in each campus. This issue is particularly pertinent in Bolton Street and Linen Hall buildings that will be occupied by TU Dublin for the foreseeable future. A key example of poor infrastructure is the leaking roof in Linen Hall, which has not been fully repaired for over 5 years.

Student Council Acknowledges:

The negative impact on the student learning experience caused by poor quality facilities - and the lack of engagement from estates on students' concerns on facilities.

Student Council therefore Mandates:

The VP for Welfare and Equality to facilitate a pilot scheme be run in Bolton Street, in which a student forum is held on the main stage where students may ask the head of estates and any other representatives of the college who may be invited) why the facilities take so long to be fixed, if they ever do get fixed.

The City Campus VP for Welfare and Equality and other relevant officers to escalate the Students' Union response to poor quality facilities in buildings on the City Campus. Actions may include:

1. Holding public Student fora with the attendance of relevant estates staff
2. Lobbying Senior Management of TU Dublin for increased investment in building infrastructure and facilities
3. Protesting with students on the poor quality of facilities and the impact on the student experience it is having

Class Representative Reports

Student Council Notes:

That class representatives are the foundation of student representation.

Student Council Further Notes:

That regular reports need to be presented to council regarding class representative statistics by all campuses.

Student Council therefore Mandates:

That the relevant Officers for each campus (Blanchardstown, City Centre, Tallaght) prepare a report for every council with up to date statistics about class representative statistics (including unelected positions).

Lecture Recording and Lecture Capture Technology

Student Council Notes:

Many students require additional supports to attend lectures and make the most of their University experience. Supports such as assistive technologies are essential for student success in some cases.

Student Council Notes with Concern:

There is no overall policy for TU Dublin for the recording of lectures. Some lecturers do not allow their lectures to be recorded, as they have claimed infringement of their intellectual property. This support is helpful for students, as the lecture audio can be transcribed into text; therefore, it is argued that the accessibility of lecture material outweighs the claims of IP infringement from staff.

Student Council Also Notes:

Organisations including AHEAD have outlined that “the transcription of audio-recorded lectures” as a possible support for deaf and hard of hearing students. Other Irish institutions have invested in programmes for lecture capturing, that can assist all students in their learning. As we have become a Technological University, we should be focussed on technological solutions to meet the needs of our students.

Student Council therefore Mandates:

The President and relevant officers to lobby for a TU Dublin-wide policy on lecture recording. The President should also investigate the feasibility of investment in lecture capture technology across TU Dublin. This should be completed by the final meeting of Student Council of the 2019/20 Academic year.

Student Activities Working Group

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.

Students' Union Funding Agreement

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.

Removal of TU Dublin SU Motions Manual

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 a number of 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 – 26th April 2017

Amendment of TU Dublin SU Motions Manual

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

Aramark Off our Campuses

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.

Removal of TU Dublin SU Policy Manual

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

Amendment of TU Dublin SU Policy Manual

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

Climate Action Working Group

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 affects.

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.

Constitutional Working Group

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.

School Meeting

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 they 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.

Cessation of Support to Aramark

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.