



**UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK STUDENTS' UNION**  
**Student Council MINUTES**

	<b>Meeting:</b>	Student Council	
	<b>Reference:</b>	AY15/16-1	
	<b>Academic Year:</b>	2015/2016	
	<b>Week:</b>	4	
	<b>Date:</b>	29/09/2015	
	<b>Venue:</b>	Library Boardroom	
	<b>Time:</b>	18.00	
	<b>Absent:</b>	Chris Kelly, Sean Fitzgerald.	
	<b>Apologies</b>	Brendan Mc Auliffe-Hickey.	
	<i>Elected members Voting: 34 voting;</i>	<i>Members Present: 31; Absent:2 Apologies:</i>	
	<i>Vacancies: 12; Quorum: 18</i>	<i>1</i>	
			<b>Action Items /Reference</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting.</b> Minutes deferred until read A.I. Council please read minutes.		
<b>1.1</b>	<b>Remembering James Patrick Harnett, 2nd year Economics and sociology.</b> Colin asked for a moment of silence in memory of James Patrick Harnett who passed away in Week 1. May he rest in peace.		
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Update from the summer-</b></p> <p><b>Update from SU President – Colin Clarke</b></p> <p><b>UL Strategic Plan-</b>Attended Launch on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Sept</p> <p><b>Library Extension</b> – working on negotiating an interim 24hr study area, possibly Block A area, while the building extension gets underway</p> <p><b>Red Raisin Wi-Fi</b> – ITD have increased the router number from 2-6.</p> <p><b>University meetings</b> – met with key university personnel during the summer. All went well.</p> <p>Following on from Tommy and Shanes presentation to GA in April the <b>Student Affairs and Access Committee</b> will address the services provided in the medical centre and counselling service. Meeting due at end Oct.</p> <p><b>An Focal</b> – Intern Editor Tomás Heneghan hired, 6 issues per semester to be published. Wider distribution on and off campus.</p> <p>Hope to work with Journalism &amp; New English and Media Course students and staff to appoint a co-op student to the position of editor in semester 2.</p>		

	<p><b>Referendum – Student Centre.</b> Over the summer PCC hired an architect, Hugh Kelly of <a href="http://www.hughkellyarchitects.ie/">http://www.hughkellyarchitects.ie/</a> to work on a concept for a new student centre. Hugh has met with sabbats and staff of the Union and listened to all their ideas. All of this is to help him put together a concept building.</p> <p>Looking at a possible referendum date – week 2, semester 2.</p> <p><b>Leeds &amp; Manchester,</b> 3 sabbats and Liz had a 2-day very informative and beneficial trip to Manchester and Leeds Students' Unions.</p> <p><b>HEA – Met with HEA</b> Prof. Tom Collins to discuss student engagement and input to University committees. It is the first time this has happened and is welcomed. Prof Collins was impressed with our council system.</p> <p><b>Press releases</b> – There were three press releases: Student Mental Health, HEA and HSE; gender neutral toilets and CAO points change</p> <p><b>UL Fest,</b> Colin working the UL Ent's Manager Keith Quinlan on the logistics for a Music and Arts fest for students and staff. The response has been positive to date. ULSU is looking to collaborate with UL – Possible date Wk 11, Semester 2. Has met with Paul McCutcheon, Don Barry and John Field, Alumni and director of MA course in Festive Arts..</p> <p><b>Wolves go to the Dogs</b> is a new event on Thursday Week 4, €15 ticket – bus and entrance. Around a 1000 tickets have been sold.</p> <p><b>Full Moon Party</b> – Killian Stone (ULSU Marketing Admin) is working on a full moon party for Tuesday Week 8</p> <p><b>Pints with the President</b> – To engage with students and to be available Colin is starting pints (including non-alcoholic beverages option) in the Stables this week.</p> <p><b>Meeting with the gardai</b>-We have met with the gardai to launch the safety initiative for students</p> <p><b>Non-Alcoholic events:</b> Looking to hold more non-alcoholic events specifically movie nights in the concert hall</p> <p><b>Student Cooking/reheating facilities:</b> Looking to install facilities which will include microwaves and kettles on campus.</p>	
3	<p><b>Student Counselling Services--</b> See appendix A for copy of letter presented by the 4 sabbats to Minister for Education and Skills, Jan O'Sullivan, calling upon the Government to tackle the growing problem of underfunded mental health services in Ireland, particularly in our Universities.</p>	

	<p>Student Governing Authority members, Colin &amp; Ciara brought the under- resourcing of the UL Counselling Service to Governing Authorities attention on Friday. They called on UL come up with a practical solution to deal with the rising numbers of students seeking counselling. Colin had previously raised this at PCC board of directors and GA Finance Committee. Governing Authority gave their backing and have asked Don and Paul McCutcheon to make it a priority and have a proposal ready for the Oct 2015 GA meeting.</p> <p>Ciara and Declan Ahearne (Student Counselling Services) have arranged a monthly meeting to discuss current issues/difficulties students are facing.</p> <p><b>Letter Campaign</b></p> <p>Chloe Fallon, Culture and Communication Dept Rep proposed Exec investigate a letter campaign from students demanding a counselling service fit for purpose. Seconded: Thomas Flemming, Disability Rep, Equal Opps. No objections, No Abstentions. Unanimous. Proposal passed.</p>	
<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>Medical Centre</b></p> <p>It has come to the Executives attention that there is no medical director in the UL medical centre. There are only 2 doctors that come in once or twice a week meaning that students have to wait up to a week for an appointment. Subsequently students are being sent to the Castletroy medical centre. This means that students without medical cards have to pay €40 upfront. They may claim back €15 at the UL medical centre after the appointment. This can take 5 or 6 weeks.</p> <p>Colin and Ciara brought this to Governing Authorities attention on Friday 25th. The Governors gave their support to the Students and asked Don and Paul McCutcheon to make it a priority and have a proposal/solution ready for the Oct 2015 GA meeting.</p> <p>Student Council called for an all student e-mail to be sent out informing students of this matter.</p> <p>Chloe Fallon, Communications and Culture Department Rep suggested that students who produce their student id should only pay €25.</p> <p>Student Council have serious concerns with regards to I-grades.</p> <p>A.I. SU President Colin Clarke, to organise meeting with Bernadette Walsh, Paul McCutcheon and Declan Ahearne to progress a workable solution that does not impose inconvenience and financial burden on students.</p>	

5	<p><b>Student Choice Awards-to be voted in week 6</b></p> <p>Marian O'Donnell, SU Academic, proposed Student Choice Awards which will award students who go "above and beyond" what is expected of them as a student.</p> <p>This will be voted on in the second semester</p> <p>Proposed categories and how it should be voted on still have to be decided</p> <p>The Student Choice Awards can now be found on the ULSU website</p> <p>A.I. Student Council pleased read proposed and give suggestions.</p>	
6	<p><b>Election of Faculty Reps</b></p> <p>Faculty reps were elected as follows</p> <p>Clodagh Corry –AHSS</p> <p>Michelle O'Brien-KBS</p> <p>Grace Bevan-Molly-SCI &amp; ENG and Executive Faculty rep</p> <p>Still waiting on rep for EHS. Not enough department positions filled for EHS.</p>	
7	<p><b>Updates From SU Academic Marian O'Donnell</b></p> <p>Repeat fees is still a pressing issue but it has been put on hold. Marian is investigating what student friendly measures exist in other colleges.</p> <p><b>Student accommodation for student on Teaching Practice;</b> instead of looking for short term accommodation SU Academic suggested examining the module timetable to minimise travel and overnight accommodation for students.</p> <p><b>The grinds register</b> on the website has gone live on ulsu.ie <a href="https://ulsu.ie/listings">https://ulsu.ie/listings</a></p> <p><b>Class rep training</b></p> <p>Class rep training was a great success with over 100 students attending.</p> <p><b>GEMS:</b></p> <p>A lot of issues have arose with the GEM'S which Marian will be working to resolve with GEMS rep Michelle Heelan</p>	
7.1	<p><b>Ciara</b></p> <p>Welfare team are back meeting on Wednesday's at 6pm</p> <p><b>Health and Well Being Week</b> is currently underway with a lot of work put in from the next 7 week study hub</p> <p><b>Aldi bus</b> is back and there are looking for someone to organise its schedule</p> <p><b>Mini Cycle against Suicide</b> a possibility during the academic year.</p> <p>We are also looking at selling <b>wolf wristband</b> to raise revenue for more resources for the Mental Health Service.</p> <p><b>Gardai Campus Watch</b> Students are being advised to</p>	

	<p>register their bikes with the Gardai watch who will be in the SU building every Wednesday 1:30-3:00pm Room 2 upstairs.</p> <p><b>Charity Week Nominations</b> – students are asked to email in their nominations with a brief explanation.</p> <p><b>Leeds and Manchester visit</b> was very beneficial. They have a <b>professional student advisor system for welfare and academic issues</b>. This is the ideal model for supporting students. Their Sabbats do not give advice. Their primary function is to represent and campaign for students.</p>	
7.2	<p><b>Exec Student Council Chairperson</b> – Mark Nother – explained his role.</p> <p><b>Constitution Review group</b> was established: Volunteer members: Chris Collins, UL Experience Chair; Marian O'Donnell, SU Academic; Colin Clarke, SU President; Dubheasa Forde, Volunteering Rep; Cian Devane, Politics and Public Admin; Ciaran O'Donovan, Campus Facilities Rep</p> <p><b>Deputy chairperson</b> Louise Clifford self-nominated. Proposed: Dubheasa Forde, Volunteering Rep; Seconded: Ciara Corcoran, DP Welfare. No objections, No Abstentions. Unanimous. Louise is elected deputy chairperson.</p>	E
7.3	<p><b>PSU President – Sean McKillen</b> – PSU AGM scheduled for Wed 30<sup>th</sup> 6pm. <b>ULSU-PSU</b> Memorandum of Understanding to be scrapped and rewritten.</p>	
8	<b>Update from Department Reps</b> – no update given	
9	<b>Update from Interest Groups</b> – no update given	
10	<p><b>AOB</b> <b>Library Extension Construction</b> due to start in October, this may cause noise disruption and may become an issue coming up to exams. Every attempt to minimise disruption to students will be made. But it is inevitable there will be some inconvenience.</p> <p>SU President sits on Library Extension committee and has received a lot of positive feedback regarding provision of a 24 hour study area. The area that we are looking at for the 24 hour study room is in A Block.</p>	

UL has informed that they to install a book-bot in the library, which will be the first in Ireland if the go ahead is given.

Louise Clifford, Sports Rep Suggested that there should be greater **lighting along the cycling paths** especially the east gate area.

SU President, Colin Clarke to bring this up in campus development committee meeting.

**M&Ms** suggestions from Council members

Jasmine Patel, Community Rep

- provide jackets for M&MS
- Better explanation to student body what M&Ms are
- First Aid training for M&Ms

Possibly - approach mars about sponsoring M&M sweets to be given out during freshers week/ charity week  
Distributing small bottles of water are another option.

GM, Martin explained M&Ms are a cofounded project between UL and ULSU.

The logo for UL Wolves features a stylized wolf's head in shades of blue and red, with the letters 'UL' in white on a blue background. Below the head, the word 'WOLVES' is written in a bold, grey, sans-serif font.

WOLVES