

ULPSU

Minutes

	Meeting	: PSU Council Meeting
	Date	: 10.02.2021
	Venue	: Teams
	Time	: 17:15-18:30
<p>Attendees: Louis Pemble, Andrea La Touche, Rania Shadeed, Tanvi Parab, Aditya Kumar, Shannon McBride, Nakuul Marwah, Michelle Daly, Margarita Tretiakova, Elizabeth Tipton, Michelle Cotter, Tom Cranley, Neha Misri, Vedant Modi, Afroja Ahmed, Tiwalolu Odesanya, Aman Niyaz, Panashe Chikwengo, Niamh O’Neil, Doireann Peelo Dennehy, Clara Barbosa Galvao, Cian</p> <p>Apologies: Sandrine Ndahiro</p> <p>Absent: Fernanda Zamboni, Simin Arshi</p> <p>In attendance: Gabriella Hanrahan, Arlene Loughnane, Aimée McKenzie</p>		
No.	Items	Actions
1	Louis welcomed members to the meeting	
2	PVA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gabriella Hanrahan and Arlene Loughnane presented the PVA system to the Council members. 	
3	Minutes from the previous meeting on 9.12.20 will come to the next meeting due to technical issue.	
4	International Women’s Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rania asked that as many as people as possible to submit videos for the International Women’s Day. Please create a 30 second video on <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What International Women’s Day means to you? 2. Tell us about a woman who inspires you. Sandrine has a video editor friend who will put them all together to be posted on our social media channels for the IWD. 	
5	Rania – Virtual conferring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both Unions have met with the Conferring ceremony committee to ask what current students would like to see/have happen at their graduation Doireann – their undergrad graduation had a band after the ceremony Michelle D. suggested there to be a Faculty member/representative to speak for the class. D – asked if smaller classes could have a more specific ceremony Email any ideas to postgradvp@ul.ie Andrea stated that the intention is to make the event more of what the students would like Committee is asking for input 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MD suggested that it is similar to the PVA, they could put together the groups in photos/video of the different classes. • Class photos in the form of a videos was another suggestion. • Tom organised his second graduation for about 100 people. They put a photo of each person on the screen. When Tom graduated there was a teddy bear given, to receive something tangible might make a difference with a sash/graduate. • Clara mentioned doing the graduation as a class is good • Adi –dissertation ceremony a video ceremony 	
6	<p>Tiwa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student supports – met with students last week • Some had issues and didn't know who to talk to • Setting up groups/contacts • People are sticking to who they know because perhaps of COVID-19 • Awareness of supports UL has not been clear. • Posters about services should be circulated. • Aimée offered that Irish students come and go home where international students want the full experience. • Andrea agreed and that she noticed a huge gap of connection with Irish/international students. That is one of the reasons she organised the Milk Market session. • Rania raised these issues with the CampG. Nige Healey will be holding a Town Hall meeting to hear first-hand of the issues. • Andrea offered that we are in a difficult environment more so that we were in September. We are all sick of online gatherings. Looking to use other existing resources. As Tiwa mentioned, minority groups could miss out because groups are sticking together. • Clara's class have coffee/breakfast chats every week to check-in. Not always having to show up but to know the social connection is there. It worked very well for the group and it was supportive. • Louis agreed with screen-fatigue, but if you have free time, social mornings/coffee mornings might be helpful. • Rania suggested having themed coffee mornings or evening sessions. • Backyard.co was an online session with games so it changed the "chat", different from the normal zoom. • Someone suggested having cultural sessions. It is felt that people want to get to know you because they want to get to know you, not to hear about your culture. Rania and Andrea agreed that this could be a hinderance. • Rosy shared that in her department they have to share, there is peer week/four-week story exchange. Munster Global Village. Shared the event dressed in their traditional attire and shared how they celebrate Spring. 10 videos from different cultures. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adi – nobody is getting these invites – even though they want to participate they are not hearing about it • If you want to interact with more people, it must be something refreshing like a quiz night or something different. 	
7	<p>Social media team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking to put together a team to create more of a presence around the campus/student body. • Survey has gone out with great response, over 455 responses so far. • If you are interested in supporting this team. Tom, Nakkul, Panashe, Michelle, Neha, please let Andrea or Rania know. • The Team will not only be posting but will also engage and develop ways to get information out there. 	
8	<p>Pancake Tuesday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Tuesday Feb 16 is Pancake day we will have people show pancakes and how they make them, dress them up, how do you make yours. Before and after shots to be sent to postgradvp@ul.ie 	
9	<p>Hospital support service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anyone who finds themselves in hospital with COVID-19, it's to listen to them and offer a friendly voice. We are not providing medical help, solely supporting with a phone call and perhaps an email to a lecturer if necessary. 	
10	<p>Faculty Engagement/Class Reps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trying to push class reps through. Aimée suggested we circulate the email to all course directors again. 	
11		

Duration: 1 hour 15 minutes

Next meeting: February 24, 2021