

APRIL 12TH & 13TH 2023
AN CHOMHDHÁIL BHLIANTÚIL



ISSU PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS 2023



ISSU
IRISH SECOND-LEVEL
STUDENTS' UNION

CA 1

Proposing School:	Coiste Gnó na nDaltaí
Proposing Delegate:	Heather Doyle
Article:	Article 7
Amendment:	<p>Replace:</p> <p>‘7.4 The procedure for holding a Comhdháil Bhliantúil (including related deadlines) is outlined in the Comhdháil Bhliantúil Procedure Document, which should be approved by the Comhdháil Bhliantúil at the beginning of the assembly’</p> <p>With:</p> <p>‘7.4 The procedure for holding An Chomhdháil Bhliantúil or an Extraordinary Assembly (including related deadlines) is outlined in the ISSU Assemblies Procedure document, which should be approved by a simple majority at the beginning of the assembly.’</p>
Rationale:	In line with the proposed ISSU Assemblies Procedure Document, and also small grammar mistakes.

CA 2

Proposing School:	Coiste Gnó na nDaltaí
Proposing Delegate:	Andrew Victory
Article:	Article 9
Amendment:	<p>Replace:</p> <p>‘9.7.2 The Uachtaráin are responsible for organising these meetings. The Leas-Uachtarán will complete and circulate the Minutes of a meeting to the Coiste Gnó, MAC, ROB and liaise with the Communications Officer to Publish the minutes to the website no more than 7 days after the meeting has taken place.’</p> <p>With:</p> <p>‘9.7.2 The Uachtarán and Leas-Uachtarán are responsible for organising these meetings. The Leas-Uachtarán will complete and circulate the minutes of a meeting to the Coiste Gnó, MAC, ROB and liaise with the Communications Officer to publish the minutes to the website.</p> <p>I. Minutes of a Coiste Gnó meeting shall be read by all Coiste Gnó officers at the beginning of their next meeting for formal approval and adoption.</p> <p>II. Approved minutes shall be circulated by the Leas-Uachtarán within the following 3 business days.</p> <p>III. In the absence of the Leas-Uachtarán, the Leas-Uachtarán shall appoint a Coiste Gnó officer to record minutes in their place.’</p>
Rationale:	<p>As per the current constitution, the Rúnaí (Now Leas-Uachtarán) has to release minutes within 7 days of a meeting being held; As the Coiste Gnó does not need to meet weekly, these minutes are adopted via a vote. The best practice in other executives is to have minutes read aloud at the beginning of the meeting and voted on; this will put the ISSU in line with best practise, as well as provide an extended time period and a reduced pressure on the Leas-Uachtarán.</p> <p>As well as this, allowing minutes to be released 3 ‘working days’ (i.e Monday-Friday) after the following meeting reduces more time constraints from the Leas Uacharán as often meetings are held on Fridays or Saturdays. This amendment will also establish a constitutional procedure for who is responsible for minuting meetings if the Leas-Uachtarán is chairing the meeting in the absence of the Uachtarán.</p> <p>There is also a small Irish grammatical change being made in this amendment.</p>

CA 3

Proposing School:	Coiste Gnó na nDaltaí
Proposing Delegate:	Emer Neville
Article:	Article 14
Amendment:	<p>Replace:</p> <p>‘14.3.1 Policy of the ISSU can be set by an Comhdháil Bhliantúil, an Extraordinary Assembly or a Ballot of Members and are valid for two years after adoption.’</p> <p>With:</p> <p>‘ 14.3.1 Policy of the ISSU can be set by an Comhdháil Bhliantúil, an Extraordinary Assembly or a Ballot of Members and is valid for 3 years after adoption.’</p>
Rationale:	<p>Last year with the creation and proposal of balloting of members in article 14, it was noted that policies are valid for two years. This is in contrast to article 7 of the ISSU constitution which outlines policies lasting for 3 years. As article 7 pre-dates the concept of balloting of members, the Coiste Gnó is proposing that we ratify this amount at 3 years. A period of 3 years also provides much more of an opportunity for the issu and furthermore students, to benefit from these policies. With this, there is also a small grammatical change.</p>

CA 4

Proposing School:	Coiste Gnó na nDaltaí
Proposing Delegate:	Emer Neville
Article:	Article 14
Amendment:	<p>Replace:</p> <p>‘14.2.3 Directive Mandates mandate the work of the Coiste Gnó for one term.’</p> <p>With:</p> <p>‘14.2.3 Directive Mandates will direct the work of the Coiste Gnó, and are valid for three years after adoption.’</p>
Rationale:	<p>"Last year with the creation and proposal of balloting of members in article 14, it was noted that directive mandates are valid for 1 year. This is in contrast to article 7 of the ISSU constitution which outlines they will last for 3 years. As article 7 pre-dates the concept of balloting of members, the Coiste Gnó is proposing that we ratify this amount at 3 years. A period of 3 years also provides much more of an opportunity for the issu and furthermore students, to benefit from these mandates With this, there is also a small grammatical change.</p>

CA 5

Proposing School:	<u>Coiste Gnó na nDaltaí</u>
Proposing Delegate:	Mohammad Naeem
Article:	Article 11
Amendment:	<p>Replace: 'Article 11: Regional Officer Body (R.O.B) (An Comhairle <u>Oifigh</u> Réigiúnach) Sections: 11.1, 11.3 11.3. There are 23 regions, as outlined by the Coiste Gnó and ROB. The Coiste Gnó has the authority to alter this number, in collaboration with the relevant Regional Officers. 11.3.1 At each regional council, member schools are entitled to 2 voting delegates and the following number of delegates with observer rights; Size of school Non-voting delegates..... 6'</p> <p>With: "11.3. There are 16 regions, as outlined by the Coiste Gnó and ROB. The Coiste Gnó has the authority to alter this number, in collaboration with the relevant Regional Officers. In the event of this occurring this document will be updated to reflect as such. 11.3.1 At each regional council, member schools are entitled to 2 voting delegates and a number of non-voting delegates. At each regional council, member schools are entitled to a maximum of 2 Voting Delegates, as well as a minimum of 2 Non-Voting Delegates. The ISSU may expand the number of Non-Voting Delegates provided to a school in a given region in line with what can be accommodated for. Additional Non-Voting Delegate places will be proportional to the size of the school, with a maximum of 6 places.'</p>
Rationale:	<p>Some schools don't abide by the above, and with ISSU being really stretched financially, allowing upward of 8 people to attend per school is really unachievable . Having an equal number of reps also allows for more equality around elections, particularly for those running from smaller schools as in a few Regional Councils where there were large quantities of people, there were more people in the room being able to lobby and canvas for their school and support them, giving them an unfair advantage. This will apply the same rules across the board at Regional Councils and if we can afford to bring more people, then we can.</p>

CA 6	
Proposing School:	<u>Coiste Gnó na nDaltaí</u>
Proposing Delegate:	Mohammad Naeem
Article:	Article 11
Amendment:	<p>Replace:</p> <p>"11.1 The Regional Officers are students elected at their Regional Council and serve for a term of one calendar year. 11.1.3 Each region is represented by two Regional Officers."</p> <p>With:</p> <p>'11.1 The Regional Officers are students elected at their Regional Council and serve for a term of one year. 11.1.3 Each region is represented by a number of officers equal to the proportionate representation of at least one officer per region or an agreed equivalent.'</p>
Rationale:	Being tied into a singular calendar year prevents moving / starting / induction time of the ROB, this way we can move the start term around should it need to be aligned. / Also changing the number of officers to represent a region, based on the needs of the region and if they are to merge/split again in the future, that they can be amended without breaking the constitution

CA 7	
Proposing School:	Athlone Community College
Proposing Delegate:	Ryan Dolan
Article:	Article 11
Amendment:	<p>Add:</p> <p>'11.10.3 Schools shall be entitled to a minimum of one school rep</p> <p>11.10.4 Schools may apply to their Regional Officers to be allowed more than one school rep. Regional Officers may also extend the offer to elect more than one school rep from schools in the event there is not enough active school reps to carry out any significant activity.'</p>
Rationale:	<p>Currently schools can only select one school rep.</p> <p>This may be bad as some schools have more than one student council.</p> <p>In addition some regions do not have enough school reps to carry out any activity and in these situations extra school reps for a school could be beneficial.</p>

CA 8

Proposing School:	<u>Coiste Gnó na nDaltaí</u>
Proposing Delegate:	Caitlin Faye Maniti
Article:	Article 12
Amendment:	<p>Replace: ‘12.1 The Managing Directors and Staff members shall make up the ISSU Secretariat’</p> <p>With: ‘12.1 Staff Members employed by the ISSU shall make up the ISSU Secretariat’</p>
Rationale:	The Managing Directors of the ISSU are members of the ISSU Board of Directors and therefore not members of the ISSU Secretariat: Both the ISSU Secretariat and ISSU Board of Directors are separate, and essential entities within our union operating on different levels and remits. This inclusion of the Managing Directors into this article was an oversight mistake which needs to be removed, with the consent of membership, in order to maintain the our organisational structures (Article 6).

CA 9

Proposing School:	<u>Coiste Gnó na nDaltaí</u>
Proposing Delegate:	Caitlin Faye Maniti
Article:	Article 6
Amendment:	<p>Replace: "6.2 The Operational Structure shall create relevant policies, procedures and documents to ensure the functioning of the organisation can be carried out in line with the values of accountability, transparency and fairness. 6.2.1 The Board of Directors shall ensure that all corporate governance responsibilities are carried out and outlined in relevant policy documents. These include but are not limited to the Financial Policy, Child Protection Policy, Employee Contracts and all other Governance documents. These policies shall take precedence above all others. 6.2.2 The Comhdháil Bhliantiúil also retains the right to propose and pass policy, which the Operational Structure is also bound to follow. These include but are not limited to the ISSU Constitution, Directive Policy Book and Comhdháil Bhliantúil Procedure. 6.2.3 Individual bodies of the ISSU Operational Structure may also propose their own procedures to carry out their work in line with the ISSU values and objectives as set out herein. These shall be referred to as Procedures and may include but are not limited to the Working Group Selection Procedure and Internal Terms of Reference. A simple majority of those on anybody is enough to adopt these procedures."</p>


	<p>With:</p> <p>"6.2 The Operational Structure shall create relevant policies, procedures and documents to ensure the functioning of the organisation can be carried out in line with the values of accountability, transparency and fairness.</p> <p>6.2.1 The Board of Directors shall ensure that all corporate governance responsibilities are carried out and outlined in relevant policy documents. These include but are not limited to the Financial Policy, Child Protection Policy, Employee Contracts and all other Governance documents. These policies shall take precedence above all others.</p> <p>6.2.2 The Board of Directors, in cooperation with the Coiste Gnó, will enact specific sub-committees of the Board. These sub-committees will be established with specific Terms of Reference and will have the responsibility of working on specific and agreed tasks under the following headings; Governance, Compliance, Policies and Procedures, Organisational Development, Human Resources, Finances, Audit and Risk and Funding. Each sub-committee (other than the Human Resources sub - committee) will be made up of one Director and two Coiste Gnó members (unless agreed otherwise by consensus of both bodies). Each sub - committee will have the authority to invite external experts to advise the sub - committee on specific issues.</p> <p>6.2.3 The Comhdháil Bhliantiúil also retains the right to propose and pass policy, which the Operational Structure is also bound to follow. These include but are not limited to the ISSU Constitution, Directive Policy Book and Comhdháil Bhliantúil Procedure.</p> <p>6.2.4 Individual bodies of the ISSU Operational Structure may also propose their own procedures to carry out their work in line with the ISSU values and objectives as set out herein. These shall be referred to as Procedures and may include but are not limited to the Working Group Selection Procedure and Internal Terms of Reference. A simple majority of those on anybody is enough to adopt these procedures."</p>
Rationale:	<p>The process of establishing a strategic plan for the Irish Second-Level Students Union commenced in July of last year. It was decided that in this process, sub-committees be set up to tackle different matters within the ISSU like; Governance, Compliance, Policies and Procedures, Organisational Development, Human Resources, Finances, Audit and Risk and Funding.</p>

CA 10	
Proposing School:	Coiste Gnó na nDaltaí
Proposing Delegate:	Caitlin Faye Maniti
Article:	Article 9
Amendment:	<p>Replace:</p> <p>"XI. Each member of the Coiste Gnó must write a handover document for their successor. XII. Each member of the Coiste Gnó must Create and Publish at least 1 student council resource during their term. XIII. No Coiste Gno officer shall simultaneously hold more than one elected position within the ISSU or any other Student Unions with the exception of the Uachtarán Oinigh"</p> <p>With:</p> <p>"XI. Each member of the Coiste Gnó must write a handover document for their successor. XII. Each member of the Coiste Gnó must Create and Publish at least 1 student council resource during their term. XIII. Each member of the Coiste Gnó will sit on a <u>sub-committees</u> established by the Board of Directors. Members of the Coiste Gnó will be assigned one position on a sub-committee and which sub-committee they sit on will be decided by consensus between the Coiste Gno and the Board of Directors and will be based on their skillset, specific position and availability throughout their term. XIV. No Coiste Gno officer shall simultaneously hold more than one elected position within the ISSU or any other Student Unions with the exception of the Uachtarán Oinigh"</p>
Rationale:	<p>The process of establishing a strategic plan for the Irish Second-Level Students Union commenced in July of last year. It was decided that in this process, sub-committees be set up to tackle different matters within the ISSU like; Governance, Compliance, Policies and Procedures, Organisational Development, Human Resources, Finances, Audit and Risk and Funding.</p> <p>For this process to be successful Coiste Gnó officers will need to dedicate time and effort into these sub committees therefore formalising this as a mandated responsibility of a Coiste Gnó officer</p>

CA 11

Proposing School:	Coiste Gnó na nDaltaí
Proposing Delegate:	Rebecca Livingstone
Article:	Appendix 7
Amendment:	<p>Replace: 7.4 Each year, the female identifying members of the Coiste Gnó will lead the organisation of the 'ISSU Women's Conference'. The ISSU Women's Conference (IWC) is an annual event for young women to come together to celebrate International Women's Day while discussing important topics such as but not limited to; fields where women are underrepresented, gender equality in schools, consent and sexual health, etc.</p> <p>With: 7.4 Each year, the female identifying and non-binary members of the Coiste Gnó will lead the organisation of the 'ISSU Women's Conference'. The ISSU Women's Conference (IWC) is an annual event for female identifying and non-binary students to come together to celebrate International Women's Day while discussing important topics such as but not limited to; fields where women are underrepresented, gender equality in schools, consent and sexual health, etc.</p>
Rationale:	This proposal is one the Coiste Gnó agreed to bring forward at last years Comhdháil Bhliantúil. It's vital to ensure that our events remain inclusive.

CA 12

Proposing School:	Coiste Gnó na nDaltaí
Proposing Delegate:	Anjelica Foley
Article:	Article 10
Amendment:	<p>Remove:</p> <p>'VII. Tasked with the formation of the Unions' Welfare Team composed of Regional Officers.'</p>
Rationale:	Working Groups should not be in the constitution, the Welfare Team is also restricted to being exclusively composed of Regional Officers; while the work of the Welfare Team is deeply valued, any student in a member school should have the opportunity to get involved with this working group - see the Directive Mandate proposals. 

CA 13

Proposing School:	Coiste Gnó na nDaltaí
Proposing Delegate:	Heather Doyle
Article:	Appendix 2
Amendment:	<p>Add:</p> <p>"2.10 A Selection Panel must be formed to select members of a working group consisting of at least 1 Secretariat Member, 1 Board of Directors Member, 1 MAC Member, 1 Coiste Gnó member. For a regional working group all officers of the region must also be on the selection panel.</p> <p>2.11 No student can be a member of more than 3 national or regional working groups, during the managing body term, unless they are a Coiste Gnó member.</p> <p>2.12 The Coiste Gnó na nDaltaí must be aware of all members of National and Regional working groups before the students are offered places on said working group."</p>
Rationale:	<p>Working groups are a very important part of the union and offer a lot of help to cg officers, however when students sit on too many working groups they take on too much and become burned out. Coiste Gnó Officers also don't know who is in other working groups and can't take this into consideration when choosing students. This is why we need a policy to outline how working group selections work and ensure cg officers are kept up to date with members. Also selection panels are vital to ensure an unbiased process of selecting members.</p>

CA 14

Proposing School:	Coiste Gnó na nDaltaí
Proposing Delegate:	Jamie Mac Giolla Bháin
Article:	Appendix 2
Amendment:	<p>Replace:</p> <p>“No Coiste Gnó officer shall simultaneously hold more than one elected position within the ISSU or any other Student Unions with the exception of the Uachtarán Oinigh.”</p> <p>With:</p> <p>9.8.XIII. No Coiste Gnó officer shall simultaneously hold more than one elected position within the ISSU or any other Student Unions with the exception of class representative, or equivalent. Should an outgoing Coiste Gnó officer in third-level education wish to run for a students’ union position within their university, they may do so provided the roles do not overlap for more than 2 months and the officer ensures they are fulfilling their duties as a Coiste Gnó officer as per article 9.”</p>
Rationale:	<p>The Coiste Gnó recognises that officers who are in third-level education may wish to run for the position of class representative, or the equivalent in their university. It should be noted that this role is not on the students’ union executive and often is not very time consuming and therefore should not impact the officers ability to fulfil their role on the Coiste Gnó.</p>

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