

Minutes
Coiste Gnó Meeting
(In person)
09/10/2021
11:30-16:00

Present:

Emer Neville-Uachtarán

Eoin Connolly-Rúnaí

Saoirse Exton-Equality Officer

James Ó Muirthe-Oifigeach na Gaeilge

Kacper Bogalecki-International Officer

Quinton Kelly-Communications Officer

Salim Kajani-Sustainability Officer

Mohammad Naeem-Regional Liaison and Support Officer

Reuban Murray-Uachtarán Oinigh

Jack McGinn-Education Officer (Joined Online)

Akeno Barrett-Disability Officer (Joined online)

With Apologies:

Adam Lambe-Leas Uachtarán

Minutes by: Eoin Connolly-Rúnaí

Welcome and Introduction

The Uachtarán welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Secretariat Update

The Secretariat are working on filling potential policy gaps in the Union on areas of risk such as conflict resolution, welfare, media and expenses/finances. These proposals will be presented to the Board.

The Secretariat are also working on getting merch for upcoming ISSU events.

Check in

The Uachtarán checked in with Coiste Gnó officers on how they were feeling about the recent resignation of the Welfare Officer.

Reassigning the work of the Welfare Officer

There are several projects left unattended by the resignation of the Welfare Officer and it was noted that the Coist Gnó need to take up some of the responsibilities.

The Equality Officer will be taking over the work of the Period Poverty Working Group.

The Uachtarán Oinigh will be taking lead on the ISSU Awards project and working group, liaising with the Student Voice Development Manager and Rúnaí

The Equality Officer and Education Officer are already involved in the NCCA committee so they will continue to work on it and incorporate the new Welfare Officer into it.

The Sustainability Officer will be taking lead on the HSE Learn Subgroup

The Equality Officer will continue work on the BelongTo Education Advisory Group and will liaise with the Uachtarán

The Leas-Uachtarán will be given access to the welfare@issu.ie email to prevent any missed emails from stakeholders or students.

The Coiste Gnó unanimously agreed to these proposals.

Skills Academy

The Rúnaí updated the Coiste Gnó on the planning for Skills Academy and discussed what Officers wanted to do for it.

LCA Survey

The Education Officer presented the draft LCA Survey to the Coiste Gnó to discuss the questions and make suggestions.

Action Point: The Uachtaráin and Secretariat will work with the Education Officer to finalise the survey.

ISSU Wexford Office

Communications Officer and Wexford Regional Officers met with the Wexford trade union council and have successfully established relationships with local trade unions. The Wexford officers have secured a new ISSU Office there for a workspace, events venue and can sit on local Trade Union Councils.

Action Point: Other Officers will liaise with local contacts about new locations. One is in the works in Limerick.

Clean Air Week

The Sustainability Officer made Coiste Gnó Officers aware of Clean Air week which will be November 15th-19th and the opportunity for potential climate-oriented campaigns that week. Issues related to accessibility to public transport, especially for young people, were raised as a potential focus. A Statement will be made regarding transport to schools and public transport inaccessibility in rural and lower economic standing areas, based on previously taken surveys by Comhairle and the Dept.

EA Update

The Rúnaí updated the Coiste Gnó on the plans for the Extraordinary Assembly. Ciara Fanning will be nominated as Chair

and Matthew Morrin has been appointed as Returning Officer. The Uachtarán, Rúnaí and Secretariat will be meeting with them.

Proposal for 2nd EA

The Comms Officer proposed that a 2nd Extraordinary Assembly be held in early 2022 for Constitutional Amendments, Directive Policy changes and other important reviews. Officers wondered how many constitutional amendments need to be made urgently before the Annual Assembly. It was also raised that it'd be difficult to find a good date that would get enough engagement for an EA. It was proposed that a 2 day Annual Assembly could work to accommodate more Constitutional and Directive Policy changes if needed. It was also noted that the online setting for Constitutional and Directive Policy Debates was more accessible for students whereas returning to an in-person setting for elections would be beneficial.

Action Point: The Coiste Gnó agreed to look into holding a 2 day Annual Assembly instead with one day online.

Logo Review

The Communications Officer updated the Coiste Gnó on the logo review as agreed at the meeting on the 07/08/2021. The Coiste Gnó voted to formally approve several options. The Coiste Gnó narrowed down the final adjustments to be finalised at the next meeting.

AOB

The Coiste Gnó unanimously voted to formally approve the creation of the regions of Roscommon-Galway and Wicklow

Equality Officer, Disability Officer, International Officer and the Oifigeach na Gaeilge are working with officers from the Secondary Students' Union of Northern Ireland (SSUNI) on cross border projects.