

MINUTES
CG MEETING
ONLINE
17/12/2023 - 19:15-21:00

Attendance

Present:

- **Uachtarán: Shari Irfan**
- **Leas Uachtarán: Mohammad Naeem**
- **Education Officer: Heather Doyle**
- **Sustainability Officer: Róisín Myers**
- **Welfare Officer: Máirín Harding**
- **Equality Officer: Bel Nabulele**
- **Communications Officer: Leo Galvin**
- **International Officer: Iffah Rahmat**
- **Regional Liaison & Support Officer: Louisa Tyrrell**
- **Oifigeach Na Gaeilge: Eimear Nic Dhonnchadha**


With Apologies:

- **Uachtarán Oinigh: Caitlin Faye Maniti**

Absent:

- **Disability Officer: Sarah Kirwan**

Agenda

1.1 - Welcome and Introduction - Uachtarán	19:15 - 19:25
1.2 -Minutes of last meeting for adoption - Leas - Uachtarán  Coiste Gnó Minutes 26/11/2023	19:25 - 19:30
2 - Officer Check-In - Uachtarán	19:30 - 19:40
3 - Coimisiún na Meán Youth Advisory Committee - Communications Officer	19:40 - 19:50
4 - Internal Wellbeing - Welfare Officer	19:50 - 20:00
5 - Béaltrialacha JC - Oifigeach Na Gaeilge	20:00 - 20:10
6. Electoral Commission Submission - Communications Officer	20:10 - 20:30
7 - Chomhdháil Bhliantúil - Leas-Uachtarán	20:30 - 20:40
8 - AOB	20:40 - 21:00

1.1 Welcome and Introduction

Uachtarán welcomes the CG to the meeting.

1.2 Minutes of last meeting for adoption

Minutes adopted, Leas-Uachtarán proposed and Welfare Officer seconded

2. Officer Check In

Officers present provide a brief update on their work since their last meeting; for more details please read our most up to date MEOW at <https://www.issu.ie/coiste-gno-updates>

3 - Coimisiún na Meán Youth Advisory Committee

Communications Officer informs the Coiste Gnó that they have been appointed to the Coimisiún na Meán Youth Advisory Committee. They will be working on the implementation of the online safety code.

An email was sent to ISSU to nominate an officer.

Leas - Uachtarán states that if the appointment is through ISSU, the Communications Officer will have to give up the seat to their successor.

4 - Internal Wellbeing

Welfare Officer states that gossip/rumours can have a massive impact on individual officers' mental health. Urges that Coiste Gnó officers do not talk about each other behind each other's back. It can cause reputational issues for the union and individuals.

Uachtarán and Leas - Uachtarán emphasises the importance of confidentiality and professionalism.

5 - Béaltrialacha JC

Oifigeach na Gaeilge discuss the work they have been doing with An Gréasán, informs the Coiste Gnó of the campaign An Gréasán are working on. An Gréasán would like to see the reintroduction of the oral examinations in the Junior Certificate.

It will be a campaign run by An Gréasán, they are asking ISSU support this. Conradh na Gaeilge are in favour of this proposed campaign by An Gréasán

Leas - Uachtarán raises that students would need to be consulted on this before we

support a major campaign like this.

Uachtarán asks if Conradh na Gaeilge have specifically put it in their policy that they would like to see the reintroduction of orals at a Junior Certificate level.

Oifigeach na Gaeilge not specifically but have stated their support with the campaign.

Education Officer states we would need a survey and concrete data to form a stance on this.

The Coiste Gnó decides we will aim to release a survey or conduct another form of consulting our membership in the new year regarding the introduction of orals at a Junior Certificate level.

6 - Electoral Commission Submission

Communications Officer states the Electoral Commission has recently launched a public consultation on what the public would like to see the Electoral Commission work on/research in the next few years.

Communications Officer would like to do a submission in collaboration with the Coiste Gnó and would like include Vote@16 in the submission.

Communications Officer goes through the different headings of the submission, asks the Coiste Gnó what kind of research does ISSU want the electoral commission to research on.

- Longitudinal research and data collection:

Uachtarán suggests use of curriculum on education for political participation.

Regional Liaison and Support Officer suggests looking out how the removal of CSPE as an exam subject has impacted voter turnout and political education.

Welfare Officer suggests looking into election anxiety and how young people are influenced when voting by different factors such as social media.

International Officer seconds Welfare Officers points.

Regional Liaison and Support Officer suggests looking at the accessibility of polling stations and if that affects voter turnout.

Equality Officer suggests looking at people at risk of leaving their homes and if that affects voter turnout.

Oifigeach na Gaeilge suggests people running for election have some awareness of Irish and Irish is used in the campaign materials.

Uachtarán suggests Electoral Commission increases awareness about who is allowed to vote in what elections for example people living in Ireland without citizenship having different voting rights to Irish citizens.

Sustainability Officer suggests looking if there is a correlation in participation in different localities.

Welfare Officer suggests looking at the timing of elections.

- Integrity of electoral events

Regional Liaison and Support Officer suggests looking at how does social media affects elections.

Communications Officer states there is data that young people vote on specific issues rather than policies.

Regional Liaison and Support Officer suggests looking at what are tech companies doing to stop the spread of misinformation.

Sustainability Officer suggests looking at a resource describing the Irish political system/structure and what they are voting.

- Education, Public engagement and inclusion

Communications Officer states Vote @16 will be included in the submission.

Uachtarán suggests looking into how to increase more minority representation in politics.

Education Officer suggests looking at best ways to informally to educate young people on voting.

Welfare Officer suggests looking at how to integrate political education into our day to day to lives

Regional Liaison and Support Officer suggests mock elections in schools.

International Officer suggest looking at other countries where civic education is successful and working, taking best practices from other countries.

Education Officer suggests researching whether politicians consult young people enough.

Communications Officer states the submission will be put forward on the 5th of January if there is any further points to please contact them.

7 - Chomhdháil Bhliantúil

Leas - Uachtarán updates the Coiste Gnó on Chomhdháil Bhliantúil preparation that has been happening to date. Leas - Uachtarán proposes reaching out to Nadine Toye as Returning Officer.

Uachtarán proposes a vote, Nadine Toye as returning officer for Chomhdháil Bhliantúil 2024.

10 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

8 - AOB

Uachtarán updates the Coiste Gnó on their upcoming exams so they will be out of office.

Queries through Instagram Q&A box

- Clarifying timetable information for 2024 Leaving Certificate Exams

Uachtarán states that the State Examinations Commission releases the timetable every year.

- Oral examinations

A new post has been put on the ISSU Social Media regarding the oral examinations and when they will be happening.

- Irish course content

Information regarding the content can be found online on the gov.ie website or if you search 'syllabus for leaving certificate Irish'

Civic Education Update

Education officer states questions are done for the survey/ The survey will be launching the week before orals/March and it will be open till the end of May.

Campaign on Vote@16

Communications Officer informs the Coiste Gnó that there will be a Vote@16 campaign launched in early January.

Survey on Drugs and Alcohol

Welfare Officer states they are going to be working on their survey on drugs and alcohol in the new year and will be aiming to launch it in February?

Schedule of the ISSU in Semester 2

Education Officer suggest going through the projects the Coiste Gnó will be conducting in semester 2 at our in-person meeting on the 5th of January 2024.

Uachtarán states that time will be allocated in the agenda for this.

Sustainability Events Update

Sustainability Officer updates the Coiste Gno on SDGs & Me, it will be held on the 12th of January. Asks for support from the Coiste Gnó.

Uachtarán asks the Sustainability Officer delegate tasks to officers who have offered to help as soon as possible.

Sustainability Officer states Debate Your Decision Makers will be held on the 12th of February and will also need support in the planning of this event.

