

Minutes
Coiste Gnó Meeting
(In person)
19/03/2022

Present:

Emer Neville - Uachtarán

Adam Lambe - Leas Uachtarán (Joined Online)

Eoin Connolly - Rúnaí

Quinton Kelly - Communications Officer

Jack McGinn - Education Officer

Denis Lynch - Welfare Officer

Mohammad Naeem - Regional Liaison and Support Officer

Reuban Murray - Uachtarán Oinigh

Salim Kajani - Sustainability Officer (Present for part of the meeting)

James Ó Muirithe - Oifigeach na Gaeilge (Online-Present for part of the meeting)

Joanna Siewerska - Secretariat

With Apologies:

Kacper Bogalecki - International Officer

Saoirse Exton - Equality Officer

Absent:

Minutes by: Eoin Connolly - Rúnaí

GLOSSARY:

An Chomhdáil Bhliantúil (An CB): The ISSU Annual Assembly. Here delegates from member schools vote on ISSU Policies, Directive Mandates, Constitutional Amendments and elect the Officers of the Coiste Gnó (CG) and Monitoring and Advisory Committee (MAC).

Coiste Gnó (CG): The National Student Executive of the ISSU.

Monitoring and Advisory Committee (MAC): Monitors the work of the Union's Officers and Working Groups and advises on Constitutional matters.

PR-STV: The Voting System used in Irish Elections as well as ISSU elections. Voters rank candidates/options in order of preference.

ACCS: Association of Community and Comprehensive Schools

Welcome and Introduction

The Uachtarán welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Constitution Reform Update - Leas Uachtarán

Discussed proposals from the Constitution Working Group. Directive Mandates are to mandate the Officers of the Coiste Gnó to undertake certain projects during their term. Members of the CG wondered how Directive Mandates would be voted on by An CB and several elements of how the proposal could work such as how many mandates can be chosen, for how long and how remits played into it.

After debating the options the Coiste Gnó unanimously passed the following motion:The Directive Mandates will be for the whole Coiste Gnó, a maximum of 15 Directive Mandates will be voted for by voting delegates of An Chomhdáil Bliaintúil through PR-STV. A 'Reopen Submissions' option will be included to freeze out proposed mandates that delegates actively oppose.

The proposed model of ISSU Policies was also discussed. ISSU policies are for stances that members feel that the ISSU should hold as an organisation on key issues. The Coiste Gnó will not take positions that contradict these policies. As the Union's national executive, the Coiste Gnó will still hold the responsibility to make day-to-day decisions for the union and take stances where there is no ISSU Policy. The proposal has a role for MAC oversight of the Coiste Gnó staying in line with policies. There were concerns raised about the capacity of the MAC to fulfil this responsibility due to an inconsistent level of engagement in the past.

The Coiste Gnó approved the ISSU policy proposal with the condition of reforming the MAC alongside it.

Discussed the proposal for an ISSU Balloting Procedure.

The Coiste Gnó agreed to hold a separate call to discuss balloting.

The Coiste Gnó discussed proposals for Town Hall procedures.

The Coiste Gnó voted to instead have these outlined in an internal document.

The Coiste Gnó will hold a call the week after this meeting to discuss Constitution Reform.

An Chomhdáil Bhliantúil - Rúnaí

Preparation is ongoing for An Chomhdáil Bhliantúil, Officers have been kept updated on progress which is going well

Coiste Gnó Annual Report - Uachtarán

Officers were reminded to work on the Coiste Gnó Annual Report which will be presented to An Chomhdáil Bhliantúil

Other Updates

The Uachtarán Oinigh is continuing to plan the launch of the Student Council Charter with the Limerick-Clare Education and Training Board.

The Uachtarán and Communications Officer will be attending the upcoming ACCS convention