National Council of the Union of Students in Ireland

Athlone Institute of Technology

7th-8th December 2012

**Schedule**

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|  | **Friday, 7th December 2012** |
| 6pm | Presidents’ Working Group/Welfare Working Group |
| 7pm | Education Working Group |
| 8pm | Entertainments Working Group |
|  | **Saturday, 8th December 2012** |
| 9am | Equality & Citizenship Working Group |
| 10am | Campaigns Working Group |
| 11.30am | Regional Council |
| 12.30pm | Lunch |
| 1pm | National Council |
| 3.30pm | Campaigns Sub-Committee |

**Meeting:** Presidents’ Working Group

**Date & Time:** 6pm, Friday, 7th December 2012

**Clár**

1. Matters Arising
2. Items for Discussion/ Le Bheith Pléite
3. Students’ Union Mid-Term Evaluations
4. Date for Congress 2013
5. HEA Briefing for Presidents
6. Fed Up? Stand Up! Campaign Feedback
7. A.O.B./A.G.E.

**Meeting:** Campaigns Working Group

**Date & Time:** 10am, Saturday, 8th December 2012

**Clár**

1) Matters Arising

2) Items for Discussion/ Le Bheith Pléite

(i) Post-Budget Strategy

3) A.O.B./A.G.E.

**Meeting:** BMW Regional Council

**Date & Time:** 11.30am, Saturday, 8th December 2012

**Clár**

1) Matters Arising

2) Items for Discussion/ Le Bheith Pléite

(i) TD Feedback

(ii) Upcoming Events and Campaigns

(iii) Raise and Give Week

(iv) Regional Rep Event

3) A.O.B./A.G.E.

**Meeting:** Welfare Working Group

**Date & Time:** 6pm, Friday, 7th December 2012

**Clár**

1. Matters Arising
2. Minutes
3. Items for Discussion/ Le Bheith Pléite
   1. SHAG Packs & SHAG Micro Site
   2. Exam Campaign
   3. ‘The Gathering’ 2012 Mental Health Conference (UCDSU)
   4. Belittling of Mental Health Issues in Light of Abortion Debate (DITSU)
   5. Reflective Support Session
4. A.O.B.

**Meeting:** Equality and Citizenship Working Group

**Date & Time:** 9am, Friday, 8th December 2012

**Clár**

1. Matters Arising
2. Minutes
3. Items for Discussion/ Le Bheith Pléite
   1. Update on progress of campaigns and upcoming events Welfare Campaign Update
   2. Action on X/Savita
   3. USI Survey on Sexual Violence
   4. Disability Awareness Week
   5. Constitutional Convention
   6. Workers’ Rights
4. A.O.B.

**Meeting:** Entertainments Working Group

**Date & Time:** 8pm, Friday, 7th December 2012

**Clár**

1. Matters Arising
2. Minutes
3. Items for Discussion/ Le Bheith Pléite
   1. USI Entertainment Website
   2. College Christmas Day
   3. USI Survey on Sexual Violence
   4. Student Cinema Discounts
   5. Student Festival Discounts
4. A.O.B.

**Meeting:** Southern Regional Council

**Date & Time:** 11.30am, Saturday, 8th December 2012

**Clár**

1. Matters Arising
2. Minutes
3. Items for Discussion/ Le Bheith Pléite
   1. National Campaign
   2. MO Handbook: Chapters, Content, Sponsorship etc.
   3. Upcoming Campaigns
   4. R.A.G. Week
4. A.O.B.

**Meeting:** Education Working Group

**Date & Time:** 7pm, Friday, 7th December 2012

**Clár**

1. Matters Arising
2. Minutes
3. Items for Discussion/ Le Bheith Pléite
   1. National Student Survey-Focus Groups, Website content, timeline
   2. SUSI- Updates and issues
   3. Casework
4. A.O.B.

**Clár**

**Meeting/Cruinniú:** National Council / Comhairle Náisiúnta

**Date & Time/Dáta & Am:** 22/09/12 – 13:00-15:30

**Location/ Áit:** UCC

1. **Minutes / Miontuairiscí**
2. **Matters Arising / Nithe ag Éirí Astu**
3. **Pre-nominated A.O.B. / A.G.E. réamh ainmnithe**
4. **Officer Reports / Tuairisc na nOifigeach**
5. **Presentation by Philip McCormack, COSC (Centre for the Prevention of Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence)**

Philip will discuss the USI Survey on Sexual Violence, explaining the significance of the survey, its content and ways that USI and Students’ Unions can promote it.

1. **Items for Agreement / Le Socrú**
   1. Post-Budget Strategy
   2. Schedule of National Council
   3. Renegotiation of Croke Park Agreement
   4. Ramifications of a ICTU/DCTU General Strike on Students
   5. European Youth Guarantee

1. **A.O.B. / A.G.E.**

Items for Agreement / Le Socrú

**Item 7A – Post-Budget Strategy**

Submitted by: President

For Agreement

Following the outcome of Budget 2012 and the culmination of USI’s pre-Budget campaign strategy, USI ask National Council to discuss and decide upon a post-Budget strategy in light of the outcome of Budget 2012. The President will outline a number of potential options to facilitate discussion but the final decision will not be limited to these proposals.

National Council may approve, amend or reject the proposal.

**Item 7B –** **Schedule of National Council**

Submitted by: LYIT Students’ Union

For Agreement

LYITSU wish to propose that at National Council to discuss the revision of the national council schedule. As it stands the clar is set out on weekends and this excludes those who may have no option but to return home at the weekends due to family commitments. USI stands to represent the national body of the students but our own council excludes certain demographics throughout the year with all council dates on at the weekend and LYIT SU wishes to open the discussion that this be reviewed.

**Item 7C –** **Renegotiation of the Croke Park Agreement**

Submitted by: DIT Students’ Union

For Agreement

The Croke park Agreement has had many affects (positive and negative) on the Higher Education Sector and comes to an end in 2014. It is public knowledge that Trade Unions are already engaging with the Government about the Agreement's extension and/or renegotiation.

It is USI policy that we are for a renegotiation of the Agreement. DITSU would like a discussion on whether USI should begin talks with the Government on the Croke Park renegotiation and also around possible internal structures, which would aid USI direct the talks towards a successful renegotiation of the agreement.

**Item 7D – Ramifications of a ICTU/DCTU General Strike on Students**

Submitted by: DIT Students’ Union

For Agreement

At the Anti-Austerity March on Saturday the 24th Nov, there were many calls for a General Strike. DITSU would like a discussion around the ramifications of such a strike for students and possible measures that individual MOs and/or USI could take to lessen or remove these negative affects if a General Strike were to happen.

Could you also include the attached proposal under Items for Agreement for National Council.

**Item 7E – European Youth Guarantee**

Submitted by: DIT Students’ Union

For Agreement

The "European Youth Guarantee" is a commitment to give every young person in the EU the right to a job, an apprenticeship, further training or a job combined with training if they have been out of work for four months. In the context of unprecedented levels of youth unemployment in Ireland and Europe, the proposal aims to draw all available resources and policies around this particular goal in order to provide a better future for young people.  
  
In July 2010 the European Parliament adopted a text in support of a Youth Guarantee for the EU. The Youth Guarantee is also supported by the European Youth Forum. On the 5th of December, the European Commission will make a proposal for a Council Recommendation on Youth Guarantees, building on best practice from Member States such as Austria and Finland. The proposal will include guidelines to ensure the successful and rapid implementation of Youth Guarantees schemes, making full use of EU funding and in particular the European Social Fund.

It is vital that USI has a seat at the table here, given our commitment to doing something on graduate unemployment.

Furthermore, there have been teething problems with this scheme in some countries. Some examples of these weaknesses are outlined in the Eurofound’s Study - *Youth Guarantee: Experiences from Finland and Sweden.* (<http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/pubdocs/2012/42/en/1/EF1242EN.pdf>)

USI's involvement in this scheme could ensure that a very beneficial scheme is implemented. National Council will be asked if USI should seek a pro-active role in the implementation of the Youth Guarantee Scheme.