



## Postgraduate Working Group

*August 15<sup>TH</sup> 2022 – Online (12-1 Pm)*

### Location/Áit:

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85653592270?pwd=Ylphb3NsZGJmSkpQSnAzY3hxOXNpQT09>

Meeting ID: 817 1082 0219

Passcode: 583632

### Clár | Agenda

#### 1. Introduction

#### 2. Items for Discussion/ Le Bheith Pléite

- Postgraduate Stipend
- Clarification to the [USI Postgraduate Workers Rights Charter](#)
- Postgraduate Representation
- Motion on International and Postgraduate Fees (9D in congress)

#### 3. Local Issues

#### 4. Items for Information / Pointí Eolais

- Postgraduate Engagement WG
- Why Research Matters Competition

#### 5. A.O.B

## Motion On International and Postgraduate Fees

### AA 4 International and z: TU Dublin SU

#### *Congress Notes:*

That the cost for individual postgraduate courses and courses for non-EU and international postgraduate students are dictated by the institution delivering the course.

#### *Congress further Notes:*

That these students pay far greater fees than undergraduate EU students and from the North of Ireland, with significant variance across the sector in terms of what these students pay. Due to the significant financial pressure placed on students, greater transparency from institutions on the setting of international and postgraduate fees, and how this money is used by institutions is needed.

#### *Congress Regrets:*

That whilst there is guidance for how undergraduate fees are set, there is no such guidance for how fees are set for postgraduate courses and international students.

#### *Congress Therefore Mandates:*

USI President, Vice President for Equality and Citizenship and Vice President for Postgraduate Affairs with the support of the Regional Vice Presidents to conduct a review into the frequency and percentage fee increases for International and Postgraduate students in all member organisations, to be presented Comhairle Náisiúnta no later than March 2023.

#### *Congress Further Mandates:*

The USI President to Lobby the Minister for Further & Higher education, Research, Innovation and Science and the Higher Education Authority to create a national framework to standardise how fees are set, and how often they can be increased for these student cohorts.

#### *Congress Further Mandates:*

USI Vice President for Postgraduate Affairs to work with NUS-USI to lobby the Northern Ireland Executive to create a national framework to standardise how fees are set, and how often they can be increased for these student cohorts.

#### *Congress Therefore Repeals:*

2021 AA3

## **2021 AA 3: Clarity on Postgraduate & International Fees**

Proposed by Postgraduate Working Group

### *Congress Notes*

That the cost of individual postgraduate courses, and courses for non-EU students is dictated by the institution delivering the course.

### *Congress Further Notes*

The current lack of clarity on how these fees are distributed after payment.

### *Congress Recognizes*

That the creation of the Department for Further and Higher Education, Research Innovation and Science (DFHERIS) has created potential for a focus on current postgraduate issues across campuses.

### *Congress Therefore Mandates*

The USI Executive Team to lobby the Department for Further and Higher Education, Research Innovation and Science (DFHERIS) and the Higher Education Authority once formed to ensure greater transparency from institutions on the setting of international and postgraduate fees and how this money is used by institutions.