

DRAFT

**Constitution of the
Technological University
Dublin
Students' Union**

for Referendum on
19th/20th February 2019

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Article 1 Name of the Organisation

The name of the organisation shall be the 'Technological University Dublin Students' Union', hereinafter referred to as 'the Union', or in Irish, Aontas na Mac Leinn, Olscoil Teicneolaíochta, BÁC.

Article 2 The Mission, Vision and Values of the Union

The **Mission** of the Union is to be the independent representative organisation for students of the Technological University Dublin (hereinafter referred to as 'TU Dublin' or 'the University'), to act in the best interests of its members, to advance and defend their rights, primarily in relation to their education and welfare as TU Dublin students, and as citizens.

The **Vision** is that each TU Dublin student will have a positive and transformative experience to assist them in reaching their full potential academically, socially and professionally, and to develop as ethical and informed individuals.

The **Values** of the Union are that it will be student-led, democratic, inclusive, transparent, accountable, ethical, respectful, empowering and professional.

Article 3 The Aims and Objectives of the Union

- i. To act as the recognised voice of students and to be the means of communication between the members of the Union and the University.
- ii. To represent TU Dublin students at all levels of society including; locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.
- iii. To support all members in the advancement of their education.
- iv. To provide and manage general services of the Students' Union for the benefit of its members.
- v. To promote the welfare and well-being of its members.
- vi. To encourage the participation of members in clubs, societies, sports, social and recreational activities and volunteering, which form an integral part of the student experience in the University.
- vii. To promote the Irish Language amongst its members and throughout the University.
- viii. To promote, support and demand equal and fair access to education for those who come from disadvantaged backgrounds, minorities and marginalised groups.
- ix. To endeavour to work in partnership at all levels with the University in the best interests of the members.
- x. The Union shall practice the above aims independent of political parties, religious organisations, lobbying groups and in accordance with the law.

Article 4 Membership

- 4.1 All registered students of the Technological University Dublin shall be members of the Union with equal rights to vote, ability to seek to be elected to relevant positions within the Union and are subject to the terms of this Constitution. Current sabbatical officers shall also be deemed to be members of the Union.
- 4.2 The Executive may award, as a token of honour to such persons or organisations, as it sees fit, honorary membership of the Union. Honorary membership shall confer no rights, privileges or obligations on an honorary member or on the Union as to an honorary member.
- 4.3 On the adoption of this Constitution any student who was a member of the Students' Unions of the Dublin Institute of Technology, the Institute of Technology Blanchardstown or the Institute of Technology Tallaght immediately prior to this, shall be deemed to be a member of this Union, for so long as they remain current registered students of the University.

Article 5 Powers of the Union

- 5.1 All powers of the Union derive from the members whose right it is to decide all questions of policy and (s)elect their representatives and officers in accordance with this Constitution
- 5.2 The Union is empowered to own and acquire assets and to create liabilities, subject to the terms of this Constitution.
- 5.3 It is recognised that a company Dublin Institute of Technology Students' Union CLG (Company) exists for the provision of certain services to the students and the Students' Union in the City Campus. The Student Council shall elect the members and directors of the Company from amongst officers and registered students of the City Campus. Only members of the Student Council who are students of the City Campus may participate in these elections. It is further recognised that the Company is only obliged to provide services to students of the City Campus. The constitution of the Company (Company Constitution) shall be amended (to the extent necessary) to reflect the above.
- 5.4 At any time following the adoption of this Constitution, the Class Representative Meeting (or Class Representative Council) of the Blanchardstown and/or Tallaght campuses may request the Student Council to extend membership of the Company and the services of the Company to these respective campuses. The Student Council shall accept such request(s) and make arrangements to amend the Company Constitution to enable the extension of membership and directors of the Company and any ancillary changes and/or to make any changes in the service agreements between the Company and the Union.
- 5.5 The responsibility for implementing and overseeing the work of the Union is exercisable by the Student Council and where appropriate by the Executive under the leadership of the President, in accordance with this Constitution.

Article 6 The Operational Structures of the Union

The Union shall be organised in the manner set out in this Article.

6.1 Class Representatives

- 6.1.1. Every class in the University shall have one Class Representative who shall act as the official representative of that class. Class Representatives will be responsible for giving regular feedback to their classmates.
- 6.1.2. Provision shall be made by the Electoral Commission (the Commission) to determine class groups for the purpose of establishing electoral constituencies to elect class representatives at under and postgraduate or other levels within the University. The Commission may provide for the amalgamation and the division of class groups in circumstances where, in its opinion, such a course of action is required to achieve equitable representation, to ensure that sub-groups or streams of a class are represented by a class representative.

6.2 The Class Representative Meeting

- 6.2.1. Class Representatives elected in each campus as set out in [Schedule A](#), shall meet collectively in Class Representative Meetings. There shall be at least two meetings per semester to consider and decide on matters relevant to that campus and to give actionable instructions to officers elected from that campus only, and in respect of matters relating to that campus only.
- 6.2.2. The sittings of the Class Representative Meeting shall be open to members; however, no person other than an elected Class Representative, Student Councillor or School Representative from that campus/those campuses, current sabbatical and part-time officers of the Union or other persons so invited, may address and be heard at a Class Representative Meeting.
- 6.2.3. In the case of an emergency, the Executive may consent to allow a Class Representative Meeting to hold a private meeting.
- 6.2.4. Class Representative Meetings will operate within the terms of the Standing Orders for Class Representative Meetings and shall be chaired by a sabbatical officer or part-time officer as decided by the Executive.
- 6.2.5. The Class Representative Meeting may establish ad hoc working groups with written objectives, membership and reporting time-frame as deemed necessary. Such groups may seek support from the Executive who will have absolute discretion about providing such support, conscious of resource implications.
- 6.2.6. Each Class Representative Meeting, as set out in [Schedule A](#), shall, not later than the fifth week of the academic calendar, elect representatives to be members of the Student Council, to be known as Student Councillors. Student Councillors must attend the Class Representative Meetings from which they were elected.

6.3 School Representatives

There shall be one School Representative for each school listed in [Schedule A](#) and they shall be elected by the Class Representatives in that School. A School Representative shall be a registered student of the University within that school, and they shall represent those members.

6.4 The Student Council

6.4.1. The overall operational decision and policy making body of the Union will be known as the Student Council (the Council)

It shall consist of;

- a. the sabbatical President of the Union,
- b. the sabbatical Deputy and Vice Presidents of the Union,
- c. the Part-time Officers of the Union elected from and with responsibility for specific campuses,
- d. the Postgraduate Officer of the Union,
- e. the representatives elected by each Class Representative Meeting, to be known as Student Councillors, who shall be elected in accordance with Schedule A
- f. School Representatives as set out in Schedule A.

[Schedule B](#) sets out the specific titles and geographic locations of the officers at b), c), e).

6.4.2. Meetings of the Student Council will be chaired an Independent person chosen for a three-year term. Meetings will be held at least seven times per academic year.

6.4.3. Meetings of the Council will be open to all current members of the Union. Individuals other than members of the Council may be permitted to speak at any meeting with the agreement of the majority of the members of the Council. Meetings shall be rotated between campuses as per a schedule agreed by the final Student Council of the previous Academic year.

6.4.4. The Quorum for Council meetings shall be 25. Meetings shall operate within the terms of the Standing Orders for the Council.

6.4.5. Policy adopted by the Council shall only be valid for a period of three years following its adoption, after which it shall automatically fall, but must be presented before the Council for review.

6.4.6. Any mandate adopted by the Council shall only be valid for a period of two years following its adoption. Once the Council has deemed this mandate as complete, it shall expire. If the mandate has not been completed within this period, it shall automatically be presented before the Council for review.

6.4.7. Council may decide to hold a private sitting, with the assent of half plus one of the members present.

- 6.4.8. The Chairperson shall act in an independent capacity and shall abide by the terms of Standing Orders
- 6.4.9. The Council shall elect from one of its number no later than at its second meeting a Deputy Chairperson. The Deputy Chairperson shall act if the Chairperson is temporarily incapacitated and shall not receive any remuneration. The Deputy Chairperson shall act in an independent capacity.
- 6.4.10. The Chairperson may be removed from their position, by way of a motion moved before the Council, which gains the support of fifty percent plus one of the total membership of the Council. Any such a motion shall require at least two weeks-notice and that part of the Council meeting shall be chaired by the Chairperson of the Electoral Commission or their nominee.
- 6.4.11. All questions in the Council shall, unless otherwise provided for by this Constitution or Standing Orders, be determined by a majority of the votes cast. Unless provided for elsewhere polls shall be by a show of hands.
- 6.4.12. In the case of an equality of votes on any matter the matter shall be deemed to not have been passed but may be re-submitted for consideration at a future meeting.
- 6.4.13. All official minutes, agendas, reports, policies and mandates of the Council shall be published on the Union's website, save where a motion to defer publication for a stated period of time has been given assent by two-thirds of the members present.
- 6.4.14. The Chairperson shall produce an agenda in conjunction with the Secretary, as per the Standing Orders of the Council. This Agenda shall be in draft format, until adopted at the beginning of the meeting by the members of the Council.
- 6.4.15. A Secretary shall be appointed by the Council to provide such technical and administrative supports as it may determine.
- 6.4.16. The Council shall not enact any policy which is in any respect repugnant to this Constitution or which is unlawful.
- 6.4.17. The President must present to the Council, before week 6 of the academic calendar, a Programme of Work, which shall set forth the priorities for the Union in the coming year. The Programme of Work may at any time be scrutinised by Council or its sub committees.
- 6.4.18. The Chairperson of the Council shall set a schedule of reporting on elements of the Programme of Work for the remaining part of the year. On such occasions the President, Deputy Presidents, Vice Presidents and any part-time officer so requested, shall provide written reports and be accountable for the activities undertaken on foot of the Programme.
- 6.4.19. A member of the Council may resign by informing the Chairperson in writing. The Chairperson may resign by informing the President in writing.

- 6.4.20. The Chairperson of the Council shall cause to have made a seal of the Union which shall be affixed to all required Union documents, including warrants of appointment, certification of impeachment and other technical communications and which shall be held in the office of the Secretary to the Council. The Council, having taken legal advice, shall determine the documents to which the seal shall be affixed.
- 6.4.21. Where it is not possible or practicable to convene a meeting of the Council, the Executive shall exercise limited powers and functions, on an interim basis. Where such powers or functions are exercised, the Executive, through the President, shall be accountable to the Council.
- 6.4.22. The Executive shall have the right to defer the implementation of any decisions made by the Council, where they believe in their absolute discretion, that the decision is contrary to the Constitution or Union policy. The President will refer any such decision in writing within 24 hours of it being made, to the Chairperson to the Council, who shall place the matter for priority discussion at the next scheduled meeting of the Council.
- 6.4.23. The Student Council at the first meeting of each academic year shall adopt Standing Orders for the Council. Standing Orders adopted for other meetings of the Union shall have regard to those of the Council

6.5 Committees of the Union

- 6.5.1. The Council shall establish Standing Committees and may also establish Working Groups to advance the interests of the Union in its representational role and provide support and services to its members.
- 6.5.2. The Council shall establish the following Standing Committees
- a. Education Committee
 - b. Welfare and Equality Committee
 - c. Postgraduate Committee
 - d. Communications Committee
 - e. Events and Engagement Committee
- 6.5.3. [Schedule C](#) sets out the Terms of Reference of the above Committees and those for Working Groups

6.6 The Executive

The Student Council of the Union will delegate the day-to day operation of the Union to the Executive which will be made up of the sabbatical officers of the Union. The Executive will be chaired by the President and will meet at least two weeks between May and September. The quorum of the Executive will be 50% plus one of the membership which shall observe the Standing Orders of the Executive. Decisions at the Executive will be by simple majority of those present.

6.7 Meetings of Officers

- 6.7.1. There shall be meetings of all Union Officers, sabbatical and part-time on at least two occasions per semester
- 6.7.2. Each Deputy President shall convene meetings of sabbatical and part-time officers in their respective campuses at least two occasions per semester.

Article 7 Officers of the Union

7.1 President

- 7.1.1. There shall be a President of the Union (“the President”), who shall exercise and perform the powers and functions conferred on the President by this Constitution and any additional functions, duties or responsibilities conferred by the Student Council. All registered students of the University shall be eligible to vote in the election of the President.
- 7.1.2. The President shall be the chief spokesperson for the Union, representing all students of the University, and shall be, ex officio, a member of the University’s Governing Body and Academic Council.
- 7.1.3. The President shall have the right of attendance and address at all meetings established within the terms of this Constitution.
- 7.1.4. The President shall be the principal delegate and spokesperson to the National Council and Annual Congress of the Union of Students in Ireland.
- 7.1.5. In the temporary absence of the President, the Deputy Presidents shall function as a joint presidency and agree amongst themselves who will be responsible for issues that require attention until the return of the President.
- 7.1.6. In the event of permanent incapacity, resignation or removal from office, the Deputy Presidents shall function as a joint presidency and agree amongst themselves who will be responsible for issues that require attention for the remainder of the term of office of the President concerned. If this occurs during the first half of the term of office, a bye-election shall be held for the vacated position. Should this position become vacant beyond the first half of the term of office, the Executive in consultation with Council shall delegate responsibilities for that office, as appropriate, amongst the remaining Officers.

7.2 Sabbatical Deputy Presidents, Vice Presidents and Part-Time Officers

- 7.2.1. There shall be Sabbatical Deputy Presidents, Sabbatical Vice Presidents and Part- Time Officers of the Union as set out in [Schedule B](#). These officers’ positions shall carry out functions as set out in this Constitution and as determined by the Council from time to time. This may include the strategic oversight of the operation of the Union on specific campuses, the development and implementation of policy, the operation of the structures and the provision of services in education, welfare, membership and commercial services, communications, postgraduate, events, the chairing of meetings and any other duties so assigned by the Council, the Executive and the President.

- 7.2.2. Deputy Presidents, Vice Presidents and Part-Time Officers (excluding the Postgraduate Officer) shall be elected by the registered students of the campus to which their office relates and as set out in [Schedule A](#). The Postgraduate Officer shall be elected by all the postgraduate students of the University.
- 7.2.3. All Officers shall be members of the Student Council and the Sabbatical Officers will also be members of the Executive.
- 7.2.4. The Sabbatical Officers shall be delegates to the Annual Congress of the Union of Students in Ireland.
- 7.2.5. In the event of the absence of any Officer, or his or her temporary incapacity the President shall delegate the responsibilities of that office, as appropriate, amongst the other Sabbatical or Part-Time Officers.
- 7.2.6. In the event of permanent incapacity or in the event of death, resignation, removal from office, within the first half of his or her term of office a bye-election shall be held. Should this position become vacant beyond the first half of the term of office, the President shall delegate the responsibilities of that office, as appropriate, amongst the remaining Sabbatical or Part-Time Officers, save for where the Council believes a bye-election to be appropriate.

7.3 Terms of Office

- 7.3.1. All officers will be elected to a term of one year from 1st July to 30th June.
- 7.3.2. No individual shall serve for more than two terms in any one or any combination of part-time officer positions
- 7.3.3. No individual may serve for more than two terms in any one sabbatical post and no more than three terms in any combination of sabbatical posts.
- 7.3.4. The terms served as officers of the three former Institute Unions shall be included in the above.

Article 8 Student Forum Meetings

- 8.1. The Executive or Council may from time to time call Student Forum meetings (a Forum) to serve as a point of interaction between elected officers of the Union and students to consider matters of specific relevance to any campus, school or college.
- 8.2. A Student Forum may be held as above or following a written request by 100 students of any campus, school or college.
- 8.3. A Student Forum shall be open to any student normally studying in the specific campus, school or college.

- 8.4. The Executive shall nominate the Chair of any Student Forum.
- 8.5. The Chair shall be responsible for the production of an agenda and minutes of Forum meetings. They shall be made available on the Union website and shall be considered by the Council regarding the development of Union policy.

Article 9 Elections and the Electoral Commission

- 9.1. The Union shall establish an Electoral Commission (the Commission) which shall regulate the operation of all elections, plebiscites, referenda, confirmation ballots or other ballots and advise on the schedules relating to elections.
- 9.2. The Student Council shall appoint an Independent Chairperson of the Electoral Commission and two other members - none of whom are, or have been, a member of the Union for a period of at least four academic years. These members will serve for a three-year term and shall be eligible to be appointed for a second three-year term. The Chairperson shall act as Chief Returning Officer and determine matters of procedure for the Commission in accordance with this Constitution.
- 9.3. The Commission shall include an elected officer of the Union who shall normally be the President.
- 9.4. The Student Council shall also appoint four who are registered students of the University, to be members of the Commission for a one-year term and can be appointed for a maximum of two further one-year terms.
- 9.5. Any student seeking election to any Sabbatical or Part-Time Officer position in the Union who is a member of the Commission shall be deemed to have vacated their membership of the Commission upon submission of their nomination. In the event that the President vacates membership of the Commission another elected officer shall be nominated by the Executive.
- 9.6. Other casual vacancies in the Commission may be filled by nomination from Council. Where any vacancies must be filled outside of the term of the Council, members may be nominated to the Commission by the Executive, subject to the approval of the Council at its earliest meeting after the co-option.
- 9.7. The Commission shall produce an Electoral Regulations Manual which shall be presented to the Student Council for noting on an annual basis. This shall include but not be limited to regulations providing a framework for; among other matters: electoral processes, eligibility to vote and be nominated as a candidate for any position within the Union, the schedule for holding elections, the nomination and withdrawal process for candidates, the conduct of ballots, the counting of votes, the conduct of any candidate or their supporters or campaign group in any ballot and complaints or appeals processes to all of the above. The decision of the Commission on matters relating to elections shall be final, subject to an appeal to the Constitutional Tribunal and the law.

9.8. The Commission will be bound by the following specific terms;

9.8.1 Voting in Union Elections is by secret ballot by means of the single transferable vote, as per the Electoral Acts, with the exception of Class Representative and School Representative elections, which shall operate in a manner as decided by the Electoral Commission.

Article 10 Nominations to University Boards and Committees

10.1. Nominations, except where the positions are ex officio, to all University board committees and other groups shall be made by the Executive and Student Council shall be notified of such nominations.

10.2. The President and the Postgraduate Officer shall be ex officio members of the Governing Body and the Academic Council.

10.3. The third student position on the Governing Body shall be chosen by the Executive from amongst the Sabbatical Officer's subject to the requirement of gender balance amongst the three positions. Should the third position not be capable of being filled because of the gender requirement the choice will be made from among the Part-Time officers of the Union.

10.4. Nominees to campus, school or college specific bodies shall be made by the Executive on the recommendation of the relevant Deputy President and must be from amongst officers or student representatives from the campus, school or college in question.

10.5. Such appointments must recognise that they are the representatives of the Students' Union and within the terms of confidentiality required by any such body they are subject to the Constitution and policy of the Union.

Article 11 Principles for Service Delivery

11.1. The Union shall strive to ensure equal access for all of its members to services and supports by the Union and University and shall seek to ensure that service is delivered to a high standard, and on a fair and equitable basis across the campuses of the University.

11.2. The Executive shall cause surveys and other instruments of conducting research into the opinion, practices and procedures of the University and the Union on a regular basis. Such research may be used for the purposes of improving the quality and delivery of services and supports to the membership by the Union and the University.

Article 12 External Relations

12.1. The Union affirms its support to the ideal of co-operation among organisations whose aims and objectives are in broad agreement with the Union's, in matters relating to higher education, training and the advancement of knowledge.

- 12.2. The power of the Union in connection with its external relations shall, in accordance with this Constitution, be exercised by or on the authority of the Executive.
- 12.3. The Union shall be a member organisation of the Union of Students in Ireland. The President shall report to the Student Council and the Executive on the interaction between the Union of Students in Ireland and the Union, on a regular basis as agreed by the Executive.
- 12.4. All persons seeking support for election to sabbatical offices with the Union of Students in Ireland may address a meeting of the Student Council who shall, following a secret ballot, bind and mandate the Union's delegation to the Annual Congress or other electing convention to vote for candidates only of the Council's choosing.
- 12.5. All Union delegates to the Annual Congress of the Union of Students in Ireland shall be selected to attend by the Executive, and noted by the Council, save where otherwise prescribed by this Constitution. The Executive, shall regulate the terms and conditions pertaining to all Union delegates attending.
- 12.6. No policy of an external organisation, even where the Union is a member, shall be part of the policy of the Union, save as may be determined by the Council in accordance with law.

Article 13 Interpretation and Constitutional Tribunal

- 13.1. In the normal course the Chairperson, of any meeting held within the terms of this Constitution, shall have authority to rule on any matter arising regarding the process of that meeting, while the meeting is in session. Any and all such decisions made by the Chairperson, may be appealed to the Constitutional Tribunal by any member of any such meeting.
- 13.2. The Union shall establish a Constitution Tribunal, (the Tribunal) which shall have the ultimate power to interpret this Constitution and to test the application of Union policy and practice against the terms of this Constitution subject to the law.
- 13.3. The Constitutional Tribunal shall consist of an Independent Chairperson and two other persons who shall be individuals with considerable legal expertise, appointed by the Student Council. Their term of office shall be for three years and each person shall be eligible to serve for a maximum of three three-year terms.
- 13.4. The Constitutional Tribunal may discharge its functions and act by any two of their number.
- 13.5. Any member, an officer or a meeting or group established under the terms of this Constitution, shall have the right to seek an interpretation or review, subject to regulations as laid down by the Constitutional Panel. Such applicants, however, must show good cause and standing, in order to either initiate or be party to a hearing.

Article 14 Amendments to the Constitution - Excluding the Schedules

- 14.1. Any provision of this Constitution may be amended, whether by way of variation, addition, or repeal in a manner provided for by this article.
- 14.2. Article 14.1 may be activated by way of a petition moved by any one of the following:
- a. not less than two percent of the membership of the Union
 - b. 25% of the membership of the Student Council,
 - c. the Executive following a majority vote,
 - d. the recommendation of the Electoral Commission, or
 - e. a recommendation of the Constitutional Tribunal.

Such a petition must be presented to the Student Council where it must receive the support of fifty percent plus one of the total membership of the Council.

- 14.3. Following approval of the petition by the Student Council the Chairperson shall forward the petition to the Constitutional Tribunal to consider implications of the proposed amendment. The Tribunal shall report to the Chairperson within a period set by the Council
- 14.4. The Council, having considered the report, shall decide as to whether it should be progressed and may therefore bring forward a 'Motion to Amend the Constitution' which shall be processed through Council within a timeframe as agreed by the Council.
- 14.5. The Chairperson shall cause the motion to be submitted to a vote of the Council, where it must receive the support of 50% plus one of the total membership of the Council.
- 14.6. The Secretary to the Council shall forward the duly passed 'Motion to Amend the Constitution' to the Electoral Commission to be submitted to referendum for the decision of the membership, in accordance with such terms, as the Electoral Commission shall so decide and the provisions of this Constitution. A referendum shall take place no later than one calendar month from the decision of the Council to amend the Constitution.
- 14.7. Every 'Motion to Amend the Constitution', which is submitted by referendum to a decision of the membership shall be held to have been approved by the members, if upon having been submitted, a majority of the votes cast at the referendum shall have been cast in favour of the proposal, providing that the voter turnout is not less than ten percent of the total membership of the Union.

Article 15 Amendments to Schedules to the Constitution

- 15.1. Schedules shall be understood to be supporting detail to the articles of this Constitution and shall be as binding on the operations of the Union except where;
- a. a Schedule is in contradiction with an Article, the Article will always take precedence over the Schedule, and
 - b. nothing contained in any proposed schedule is in breach of the laws of Ireland or is prejudicial to good governance of the Union, under the terms of this constitution.

- 15.2. Schedules may be added to, amended, deleted from the Constitution by way of a petition moved by any one of the following;
- a. not less than two percent of the membership of the Union,
 - b. 25% of the membership of the Student Council,
 - c. the Executive following a majority vote,
 - d. the recommendation of the Electoral Commission, or
 - e. a recommendation of the Constitutional Tribunal.

Such petition must be brought before the Student Council, where it must receive the support of fifty percent plus one of the total membership of the Council.

- 15.3. The Constitutional Tribunal shall be requested to report to the Council on the constitutionality of any proposed new or amended schedules.
- 15.4. The Chairperson shall cause the report of the Tribunal to be submitted to a vote of the Council, where it receives the support of 50% plus one of the total membership of the Council, the schedule(s) concerned shall stand amended
- 15.5. The adopted Motion will then be brought to the attention of the members in a manner deemed appropriate by the Electoral Commission. Where 10% of the membership objecting in writing to the Motion within 28 days it will then be put to the membership by referendum in the same manner as a provided for in Articles 14.7 and 14.8, otherwise the amendment, as adopted by the Council, shall stand.

Article 16 Transition Clauses

- 16.1. The TU Dublin Students' Union shall come into being on 1st July 2019, on which date the Students' Union of Dublin Institute of Technology, Institute of Technology Tallaght, and Institute of Technology Blanchardstown shall stand dissolved.
- 16.2. Following the adoption of the constitution, the following transitional arrangements shall apply:
- a. No further elections of officers shall be held by DITSU, ITTDSU and ITBSU.
 - b. Elections for officers of TU Dublin Students' Union shall be held in accordance with the provisions of this constitution and these officers shall take up office on 1st July 2019.
 - c. The Students' Unions of DIT, ITTD and ITB shall facilitate and co-operate with the transitional work required to bring the TU Dublin Students' Union successfully into being. To this end, the sabbatical officers of these Unions shall continue to operate in a manner conducive to the establishment of the TU Dublin Students' Union.
- 16.3. For the purpose of the elections of part-time officers to be held in 2019 for the 2019/20 academic year, DIT, ITB and ITT Students' Unions respectively shall submit to the Electoral Commission the descriptions and other relevant information in respect of each post to be elected and the Electoral Commission shall reflect this in the conduct of the elections.

- 16.4. For the purpose of elections to be held thereafter, the Students Council, upon advice of the Electoral Commission, shall determine the description and the terms and conditions of the posts to be elected, having regard to the descriptions and terms and condition which existed in 2019 and any recommendations from the Executive.

Article 17 Transfer of Undertakings

- 17.1. All powers, functions, rights, privileges, rights of nomination, contracts, liabilities and other matter whatsoever exercisable in or in respect of Dublin Institute of Technology Students' Union, IT Tallaght Students' Union and IT Blanchardstown Students' Union or any other commercial entities owned or associated thereto, immediately before the date of the coming into force of this Constitution, whether by virtue of the Constitution then in force or otherwise, by the authority in which the executive powers of the Dublin Institute of Technology Students' Union, IT Tallaght Students' Union and IT Blanchardstown Students' Union was then vested are hereby declared to belong to the Union.
- 17.2. It is hereby enacted that, save to the extent to which provision is made by this Constitution or may hereafter be made by way of policy for the exercise of any such powers, functions, rights, privileges, rights of nomination, contracts, liabilities and other matters by any of the organs established by this Constitution, the said powers, functions, rights, privileges, rights of nomination, contracts, liabilities and other matters shall not be exercise or be capable of being exercised in or in respect of the Union save only by or on the authority of the Student Council.

Article 18 Continuance of Policy and Mandates

Subject to this Constitution and to the extent to which they are not inconsistent therewith, the policies and mandates of the Dublin Institute of Technology Students' Union, IT Tallaght Students' Union and IT Blanchardstown Students' Union immediately prior to the date of the coming into operation of this Constitution shall continue to be of full force and effect until the same or any of them shall have been repealed or amended by the Student Council or shall have been deemed to have lapsed.

Article 19 Review of this Constitution

- 19.1. No later than 30th April 2020 the Executive shall bring a proposal to the Student Council setting out a process for the review of this Constitution to be considered no later than at its meeting of November 2020
- 19.2. The Review shall seek the opinions of all students, the Electoral Commission, and the Constitutional Tribunal in looking at the effectiveness of the Union in its first year of operation with a view to proposing any amendments deemed necessary.
- 19.3. Such proposed amendment shall then be referred to the Student Council to be considered with Articles 14 and 15 of this Constitution as appropriate.

Schedules to the Constitution

Schedule A - Locations for Class Representative Meetings

The Class Representatives Meetings shall be organised around the following campus locations, with the University's Schools assigned as follows:

Aungier Street Campus (AST)

Accounting and Finance
Graduate Business School
Management
Marketing
Media
Retail and Services Management

Blanchardstown Campus (BN)

Business
Humanities
Informatics and Engineering

Bolton Street Campus (BST)

Dublin School of Architecture
Civil Engineering
Mechanical and Design Engineering
Multi-Disciplinary Technologies
Surveying and Construction Management
Transport Engineering, Environment and Planning

Cathal Brugha Street Campus (CBST)

Culinary Arts and Food Technology
Food Science and Environmental Health
Hospitality Management and Tourism

Grangegorman Campus (GG)

Dublin School of Creative Arts
Languages, Law and Social Sciences

Kevin Street Campus (KST)

Biological and Health Science
Chemical and Pharmaceutical Science
Computing
Electrical and Electronic Engineering
Mathematical Sciences
Physics

Rathmines/BIMM Campus (RATH/BIMM)

Conservatory of Music and Drama

Tallaght Campus (T)

Science and Computing

Engineering

Business and Humanities

1. Annex and satellite sites shall be assigned to one of the above locations by the Council on the advice of the Commission.
2. Where programmes within a school are not delivered within reasonable proximity to one another, or where a programme involves sharing of modules across schools, a case may be presented to the Commission to allow for a derogation from this Schedule in that specific case. Such derogations must be approved by the Council.
3. Normally the Class Unit will be defined as the group of students on any one year of a programme. Wherever a year / programme is split into administrative units; streams; or groups and where there are no overlapping or common classes or modules, a Class Representative may be elected to represent the interests of such a unit; stream; or group.
4. A Sabbatical Officer or Part-Time Officer will be assigned to assist and support each Class Representative Meeting.
5. The number of representatives, to be known as Student Councillors, that Class Representatives Meetings shall elect to the Student Council of the Union shall be: Blanchardstown Campus (12), City Campus (21) and Tallaght Campus (15). The distribution of Councillors among the city campus locations will be determined by the Electoral Commission.
6. The number of School Representatives to be elected to the Student Council shall be Blanchardstown Campus (3), City Campus (24) and Tallaght Campus (3), based on the number of schools located in each campus.
7. Where structural or other changes occur in the University, the Electoral Commission shall ensure that the democratic structures of the Union are reflective of these changes and shall recommend any such changes in its annual report to Executive. Any such changes will be subject to the process to amend Schedules as set out in the Constitution.

Schedule B - Titles of Sabbatical and Part-Time Officers

The following officers will be elected for one-year terms before the end of March in each academic year to sabbatical positions of the Union for the upcoming academic year of 1st July to 30th June.

President

President of the TU Dublin Students' Union

Deputy Presidents

Deputy President of the TU Dublin Students Union (Blanchardstown Campus)*

Deputy President of the TU Dublin Students Union (City Campus)**

Deputy President of the TU Dublin Students Union (Tallaght Campus),

Vice Presidents

Vice President for Education, TU Dublin Students' Union (City Campus)

Vice President for Education, TU Dublin Students' Union (Tallaght Campus)

Vice President for Events and Engagement, TU Dublin Students' Union (City Campus)

Vice President for Welfare and Equality, TU Dublin Students' Union (Blanchardstown Campus)

Vice President for Welfare and Equality, TU Dublin Students' Union (City Campus)

Vice President for Welfare and Equality, TU Dublin Students' Union (Tallaght Campus)

** This position also includes the role of Education Officer in Blanchardstown*

*** City Campus incorporates the campuses which previously formed the DIT.*

Part-Time Officers

The following officers will be elected for one-year terms before the end of March in each academic year to part-time positions of the Union for the following year of 1st July to 30th June.

Postgraduate Officer TU Dublin Students' Union

College Officers (AST, BST, CBST, GG, KST, RATH/BIMM)

Clubs Officer (Tallaght Campus)

Clubs and Societies Officer (Blanchardstown Campus)

Communications Officer (Tallaght Campus)

Entertainments Officer (Blanchardstown Campus)

Entertainments Officer (Tallaght Campus))

Societies Officer (Tallaght Campus)

The Student Council on the recommendation of the Executive may allocate certain University-wide functions to the Deputy Presidents

Schedule C - Terms of Reference of Committees of the Council

In accordance with Article 6.5.2 of the Constitution, the Student Council may establish such committees as it sees fit to assist it in the effective and efficient management of the Union's business.

Committees shall be of two distinct types:

1. Standing Committees

- 1.1. Standing Committees shall be established on a long-term basis to deal with topics of relevance which are central to the ongoing experiences of students.
- 1.2. Standing Committees shall be made up of not less than four and not more than ten members including the Sabbatical Officers whose portfolios relate to the business of a Standing Committee and three members of the Student Council who are not members of the Executive.
- 1.3. Remaining members should be chosen because of the specific skills and experience they have relating to the Terms of Reference of the Committee and need not be limited to members of the Council or Executive and may include a maximum of two members who are not members of the Union.
- 1.4. The quorum for a meeting shall be 3 including at least one member of the Executive.
- 1.5. The term of membership of each Standing Committee is one year and no member of a standing committee shall serve more than three years on that committee either consecutively or cumulatively.

2. Working Groups

Working Groups may be established from time to time for prescribed period of time to undertake one-off tasks as defined in the Terms of Reference approved by the Student Council.

Schedule D - Regulation of Elections and Referenda

1. Eligibility to be a candidate and to vote shall be limited to those registered students who are on the register on the date of the holding of an election and it will be a requirement to produce a valid current student card or other proof of current student registration in order to accept a nomination to any elected position and to vote.
2. All elected Officers shall hold office for a term of one year from the 1st July to the 30th June in the following calendar year, even where a person enters into the office at a later point from the 1st July. All officers shall relinquish their office on the 30th June, unless before the expiration of that period they cease to be able to perform the functions of the office for reasons of health, resignation or are removed from office.
3. Every candidate seeking election to an officer position must be nominated by not less than 100 members of the Union for Sabbatical posts and 50 members of the Union for part-time officer positions of the Union (from the relevant campus or University as appropriate) in accordance with regulations approved by the Student Council on the advice of the Electoral Commission.
4. In the case of all elections, a “re-open nominations” option will be on the ballot paper together with the name(s) of the nominated candidate(s).
5. All candidates seeking election to a Sabbatical or Part-Time Officer position shall put in the hands of the Electoral Commission a manifesto, which the Electoral Commission shall circulate generally to members; the Electoral Commission shall prescribe the format of the manifesto.
6. Sabbatical and Part-Time Officers shall hold no other elected office in the Union save those provided for by the terms of this Constitution, nor shall they hold any elected office in a recognised club or society of the University or in any informal grouping organised in the University.
7. Officers shall conduct themselves independently of any party-political affiliation that they may hold.
8. The Sabbatical and Part-time Officers shall enter upon their office on 1st July except where if there is a vacancy in the position to which they have been elected they may, on the recommendation of the Electoral Commission and the approval of two-thirds of the Student Council, take up the post on a date prior to 1st July and serve until 30th June of the following year.
9. Sabbatical and Part-Time Officers, following the taking and subscribing publicly in the presence of the members of the Student Council, the members of the Electoral Commission, shall declare the following oath of office, which shall be attested by the Chairperson of the Council and the Chairperson of the Electoral Commission:

“I do solemnly and sincerely promise and declare that I (N) will maintain the Constitution of the Technological University Dublin Students’ Union and upholds its provisions, that I will fulfil my duties faithfully and diligently in accordance with the Constitution and I will dedicate my abilities to the service and welfare of the membership of the Union”.

10. Should any Sabbatical or Part-Time Officer act outside of their role or should a member of the Student Council call the conduct or productivity of any such officer into question, the Student Council may request that the matter is investigated by the Electoral Commission, in accordance with the law.
11. The Electoral Commission shall investigate the charge or cause the charge to be investigated.
 - a. A proposal to prefer a charge against any Sabbatical or Part-Time Officer under this section shall not be accepted for consideration unless a notice of motion in writing is signed by not less than half of the total membership of the Student Council.
 - b. Where the Council on receipt of a report from the Electoral Commission deems it necessary to suspend or otherwise subject a Sabbatical or Part-Time officer to a disciplinary process the officer shall desist from styling themselves as being that officer and shall cease to perform any functions of the office of the Union, until such time as investigations (if necessary) have been completed, and all disciplinary procedures, have been adhered to. Such a suspension or disciplinary procedure shall require a vote of 50% +1 of the of the members of the Student Council.
12. The Chairperson of the Student Council and the Chairperson of the Electoral Commission, with the engagement of independent specialists, will produce a final report on the charge against the Officer with recommendations to either re-instate or permanently suspend the Officer. Any such report must be approved by 50% plus 1 of the members of the Council.
13. A proposal to remove a Student Councillor shall be made by not less than 10% of the Class Representatives from that campus and such proposal shall be considered at the next Class Representative meeting provided seven days-notice has been given to the Student Councillor concerned. The Student Councillor will be given an opportunity to address the meeting and to respond to the contents of the proposal. The meeting shall vote on the proposal which shall be decided by a simple majority of those voting.
14. A proposal to remove a Class Representative shall be made by not less than 10% of the students from the class from where were elected. Such proposal shall be considered at a meeting of the class convened with seven days-notice by an Officer decided by the Executive. Seven days-notice will be been given to the Representative concerned. The Representative will be given an opportunity to address the meeting and to respond to the contents of the proposal. The meeting shall vote on the proposal which shall be decided by a simple majority of those voting.
15. A proposal to remove a School Representative shall be made by not less than 10% of the Class Representatives from the class where they were elected. Such proposal shall be considered at a meeting of the class representatives convened with seven days-notice by an Officer nominated by the Executive. Seven days-notice will be been given to the Representative concerned. The Representative will be given an opportunity to address the meeting and to respond to the contents of the proposal. The meeting shall vote on the proposal which shall be decided by a simple majority.

Schedule E - Roles and Responsibilities of Officers and Elected Representatives

The Roles and Responsibilities of the President

1. The President shall be a full-time paid position.
2. The President shall be the chief spokesperson for the Union and shall ex officio be a membership of the Universities Governing Body and Academic Council.
3. The President shall be a member and Chair of the Executive and member of the Student Council
4. The President shall have the right of attendance and speaking at all meetings convened under the terms of this Constitution.
5. The President shall be the principal delegate and spokesperson to the National Council and Annual Congress of the Union of Students in Ireland.
6. The President shall have overall responsibility for the leadership and the management of the Union and shall endeavour to co-ordinate Union activities and services across all campuses in the interests of the members.
7. Subject to this Constitution, additional powers and functions, may be conferred on the President by the Student Council.

The Roles and Responsibilities of Deputy Presidents

1. The Deputy Presidents shall be full-time paid positions
2. Each Deputy President shall have particular responsibility for the work of the Union in the campus from which they were elected and in the case of the Blanchardstown and Tallaght campuses they shall chair the Class Representative Meetings and including promoting engagement between the Union and its members
3. The Deputy Presidents will assist the President in developing the representative role of the Union and in advancing policy by chairing a Standing Committee as decided by the Executive and by promoting and co-ordinating the work of that Committee across the University.
4. Deputy Presidents shall be delegates to the Annual Congress of the Union of Students in Ireland.
5. Subject to this Constitution Deputy Presidents shall deputise for the President where required. Additional duties may be conferred on the Deputy President by the President and the Student Council.

The Roles and Responsibilities of Vice-Presidents

1. The Vice Presidents shall be full-time paid positions
2. The Vice Presidents shall carry out functions as determined by the Student Council from time to time, including the strategic development of services in the field of education, welfare, equality, events and engagement, and any other duties assigned by the Student Council, Executive or the President.
3. Vice Presidents shall be members of the Student Council and shall attend Class Representative Meetings for the campus from which they were elected.
4. Vice Presidents shall be delegates to the Annual Congress of the Union of Students in Ireland.
5. Vice Presidents shall chair or be a member of the Standing Committee of the Union which relates to their specific brief and will work with officers of other campuses to develop University wide policy and services in that area of responsibility.
6. Subject to this Constitution, additional responsibilities may be conferred on the Vice President by the President, the Executive and the Student Council.

The Roles and Responsibilities of Part-Time Officers

1. Part-Time Officers are part time positions paid at an hourly rate.
2. Part-time Officers include College Officers in the city campus and officers who have responsibility for clubs, societies, entertainment and communication in Blanchardstown and Tallaght. College Officers shall chair the Class Representative Meetings in the City Campus.
3. Subject to this Constitution, additional responsibilities may be conferred on the Part-Time Officers by the Class Representative Meeting, the Student Council, the Executive, the President, and by the Deputy President as appropriate.
4. Part-Time Officers must attend the Class Representative Meeting for the campus from which they are elected where they will support participation.

The Roles and Responsibilities of the Postgraduate Officer

1. The Postgraduate Officer is a part-time position paid at an hourly rate
2. The Postgraduate Officer shall be Chair of the Postgraduate Standing Committee of the Union and shall be a member ex officio of the Governing Body and Academic Council of the University.
3. The Postgraduate Officer shall carry out functions as determined by the Student Council from time to time, including representing the views of postgraduate students, electing Class Representatives to support the work of the Postgraduate Standing Committee, engaging with postgraduate students or any other duties prescribed by the Student Council, the Executive or the President.

4. The Postgraduate Officer shall have the right of audience and attendance at meetings of the Student Council and Class Representative Meeting.
5. The Postgraduate Officer shall have right of refusal to attend the Annual Congress of the Union of Students in Ireland.
6. Subject to this Constitution, additional powers and functions may be conferred on the Postgraduate Officer by the Student Council, the Postgraduate and the President where appropriate.

The Roles and Responsibilities of Class Representatives

1. This is a representative role in which students act on a voluntary basis.
2. The fundamental responsibility of the role is to act on behalf of the class and to create a strong link between the class and the representative structures of the Union and the University so as to allow for issues to be addressed and reported on. They will attend the Class Representative Meeting for their campus.
3. The Class Representative will attend the appropriate University meetings where students have a voice on matters affecting their class and which are specifically concerned with the quality assurance of their programme. They shall provide feedback to their class following all such meetings.
4. The Class Representative will play a strong role in developing student engagement within the class that they represent.
5. A student chosen to be a representative by their class shall not be deemed to be a Class Representative until they have registered with the Union through submission of their nomination form.
6. The Class Representative is accountable to the students within the class that they were elected from, and they should inform themselves of any issues concerning that class, which should be a matter for the Class Representative Meeting, the Student Forum or other appropriate organ of the Union.

The Roles and Responsibilities of Student Councillors

1. This is an elected representative role for which students act on a voluntary basis. Student Councillors will be elected by, but do not have to be a Class Representative of their campus. However once elected a Student Councillor must attend meetings of the Class Representatives in their campus.
2. The fundamental functions of the role are to actively participate in the Student Council, to bring their experience to propose and influence mandates and policy and hold the officers to account and through the Student Council.

3. The Student Councillor will play a strong role in developing student engagement within the cohort of students that they represent.
4. The Student Councillor is accountable to the Class Representative Meeting from which they were elected and they should inform themselves of any issues concerning that campus which should be a matter for the Student Council and they shall report as appropriate on matters from Student Council relevant to that meeting.

Roles and Responsibilities of School Representatives

1. This is a representative role for which students act on a voluntary basis. School Representatives will be elected by the Class Representatives in that School and they shall represent those members at the Student Council
2. The School Representative shall proactively assist in the election of Class Representatives within their school.
3. A fundamental responsibility is to create a strong link between, and co-ordinate the work of the Class Representatives within a School to allow for issues to be addressed at a School level quickly and effectively.
4. The School Representative will attend the appropriate University meetings where students have a voice on matters affecting their school. They shall provide feedback to their class representatives following all such meetings.
5. The School Representative shall advise Class Representatives within their School on any matters related to academic and welfare issues and assist them in problem solving relating to matters raised by classes.
6. The School Representative is accountable to the Class Representatives within their School and they should inform themselves of any issues concerning that school, which should be a matter for the Student Council or the Executive.

Declaration

Attested to be the true version of the first adopted version of the Constitution of the Technological University Dublin Students Union repealing the Constitutions of the Dublin Institute of Technology Students Union, Institute of Technology Blanchardstown Students Union and the Institute of Technology Tallaght Students Union following the passing of a referendum in all three Unions on xx 2019

SIGNED: _____ **Date** _____
President, DIT Students' Union

SIGNED: _____ **Date** _____
President, ITB Students' Union

SIGNED: _____ **Date** _____
President, ITT Students' Union