Dublin City University

Civic Engagement Forum

21st May 2019

Minutes

Meeting of the DCU Civic Engagement Forum at 10.00 am on Tuesday 21st May 2019 in the Growdome in DCU’s Community Garden, Dublin City University.

Attendance:
Eleanor Healion
Elizabeth Mathews
Ruth Lynam
Natalja Matease
Carol Pinkava
Deiric Ó Broin (Chairperson)
Ronaldo Munck
Deirdre Corby
Jordana Corrigan
Laura Grehan
Philip McKinley
Aisling McKenna
Emer Ní Bhrádaigh
Joanna Ozarowska
Mary Rose Sweeney
Samantha Fahy
Susan Hawkins

Apologies:
Úna Redmond
Carmel Andersen
Danielle Montgomery

1. Welcome

Deiric Ó Broin welcomed everybody to the venue and thanked Samantha Fahy for securing access to the Growdome.
2. **Minutes**

The minutes were approved and the chairperson informed the meeting that the next draft minutes will be available online prior to the next meeting.

3. **Matters Arising**

Mary Rose Sweeney proposed that the Centre for Engaged Research discussed at the previous meeting should be progressed and the Forum should support the formal establishment of the centre. This was agreed and the Chairperson and Mary Rose Sweeney will report back at the next meeting.

4. **President's Award for Engagement Report (Joanna Ozarowska)**

Joanna noted that the event went very well and it was very well attended. She thanked the members of adjudication panel and informed the meeting of the contribution of the members of the panel. The meeting was informed that the winners represented a broad spectrum of activities and that 2019 awards process was the most competitive to date.

- Staff Winner Category: Dr. Elizabeth Matthews
- Staff Special Merit Award: Prof. Marry Mullins
- Student Winner Category: Austin Campbell
- Student Special Merit Award: Jennifer Harrington

Joanne Ozarowska also informed the forum that she would be publishing a brochure listing the winners and the projects.

5. **DCU Research Engine - Civic Engagement (Ronaldo Munck & Aisling McKenna)**

Ronnie Munck informed the Civic Engagement Forum that the DCU Research Engine has been online for a number of months and collecting data on people’s activities with 200 completed profiles to date. The collected data will be useful for the Civic Engagement Reports and Newsletters. The Civic Engagement Forum agreed to extend access to the search engine to non-academic staff. It was also agreed the DCU Research Engine should be promoted by members of the forum as it is a good communication tool and allows us to understand our portfolio of civic engagement activities.
6. **DCU in the Community Festival - June 2020**

Ronnie Munck reported on a joint Dublin City Council (North West Area) – Dublin City University (DCU in the Community) proposal for a Community Festival. It would coincide with the 10th anniversary of the Ballymun Social Regeneration Fund and the 40th anniversarity of DCU’s establishment. The forum welcomed the initiative and the meeting discussed a number of the elements of the proposal.

7. **Reports and updates**

*Enactus*

Emer Ní Bhrádaigh informed the forum about externally-supported projects to foster social enterprise amongst students and efforts to foster the idea of social enterprise among students and part of their curriculum and outside of their core studies.

*DCU Sustainability*

Samantha Fahy updated the Civic Engagement Forum on the following activities:

(a) Zero Waste Kitchen;
(b) Sustainable Energy Community Funding;
(c) Access to the Community Garden.

8. **AOB**

The next meeting of the university’s Civic Engagement Forum will take place on Tuesday 24th September 2019 in DCU St. Patrick’s Campus.