Dublin City University
Civic Engagement Forum

Minutes

Zoom Meeting of the DCU Civic Engagement Forum at 10.00 am on
Tuesday 2nd February, 2021

Attendance:
Deiric Ó Broin, Ruth Lynam, Úna Redmond, Natalja Matease, Emer Ni Bhrádaigh, Deirdre Corby, Dylan Mangan, Joanne Ozarowska, Laurence van der Haegen, Samantha Fahy, Caintriona Mordan, Susan Hawkins, Colm Kearns, Dean.

Apologies:
Trudy Corrigan, Carmel Andersen, Aisling McKenna, Christine O’Kelly, Padraig Murphy, Ronnie Munck, Mary Rose Sweeney, Eleanor Healion, Anne O'Connor, Eilish McLoughlin, Karen Johnston, Daniel Kyne.

1. Welcome
Deiric Ó Broin (Chairperson), welcomed members of the Civic Engagement Forum.

2. Minutes
The previous minutes were proposed and seconded by Ruth Lynam and Natalja Matease respectively. Minutes are available online at: https://www.dcu.ie/community/Civic-Engagement-Forum-Minutes.shtml.

3. Matters Arising
N/A

4. President’s Awards for Engagement
Civic Engagement Forum members were briefed about 2021 event as follows:
• Call for nominations was sent to all staff and students and the nomination form is available on Office of Civic Engagement website: https://www.dcu.ie/engagement/presidents-awards-engagement
• Deadline for receipt of Nominations: 24th February 2021
• Event Date: 12th May 2021
• The event will be held on Zoom, as a Zoom meeting to enable staff & students to enjoy an opportunity to connect online on this celebratory occasion, and of course it is good to be able to see the awardees.
• 5 nominations received to date
• The judging panel is secured and it consists from the colleagues who represent an academic community, the professional support community, student community and an external partner.
5. Reports and updates

*Samantha Fahy, Sustainability:*
- DCU signed MOU with the Climate Action Regional Office for the Dublin Metropolitan Area
- Ongoing project (a pocket park) on the All Hallows Campus
- DCU were funded under the SFI plastic challenge
- All suggestions are welcome for an all-Ireland Green Week which will be held on 8-12th March

*Susan Hawkins, Learning and Development*
- All participants are encouraged to engage online
- Feedback shows the sense of connection with students and colleagues

*Ruth Lynam, DCU Volunteer*
- Community Organisations projects are at the standstill due to the nature of their work
- Successful work with students who are doing individual projects themselves, pen pal projects with local nursing homes, community clean up.

*Joanna Ozarowska, DCU in the Community*
- DCU in the Community actively delivering courses online including college preparation and education guidance service
- A lot of CAO applications submitted during January-February period
- 10 years of the successful operation of DCU in the Community will be marked in the annual 2020-2021 report
- Campus Engage Community Engaged Teaching and Learning course starting this week

*Úna Redmond, SU*
- Societies are still engaging very well online with students & external groups
- Clubs are still struggling as most of their activities are based around sport, no activities on campus at the moment

*Laurence van der Haegen, Access Outreach Officer*
- Engagement activities at the school level are increasing and collaboration taken to a higher level
- A lot of collaboration and it is buzzing
- Successful provision of online mentoring and tuition, a large team of ambassadors, online training
- Very well attended virtual information sessions with local partnerships

*Deirdre Corby, DCU Ability*
- DCU Ability is a 3-year project and due to finish in a summer time,
- Preparation for finishing mode (survey, publications, legacy), the winding down process will begin from March until June
- DCU Ability is shortlisted for AONTAS award
- Project Manager Toff Anderson is leaving for the position in Pobal

*Emer Ní Bhrádaigh, Fiontar & Scoil na Gaeilge*
Coordinator for the Campus). Zoom clinic Wednesdays from 2pm – 4pm, Zoom link: https://dcu-ie.zoom.us/j/99265936013

- 47 high calibre applications received for the research assistant job in social innovation and social entrepreneurship

Dean and Dylan Mangan, SU

- SU will be collaborating with Clubs & Societies and promote students’ opportunities
- Lots of events are planned including weekly get together events and workshops
- Well received students’ feedback forms (1800 responses) will help in the preparation for the new semester
- Two students’ advisory groups (black students/students of colour and students with disabilities advisory group) have been established and should continue at least for the next 3 years
- Elections coming up in a few weeks

Caitriona Mordan

- Highlighted an increasing interest around social innovation and importance of the engaged research in Ireland and across Europe
- The Campus Engage new engagement model for research was launched last week
- ADAPT SFI centre launch yesterday
- Horizon Europe was officially launched on 2 February 2021

Colm Kearns, Centre for Engaged Research, DCU

- The Centre for Engaged research will be established soon and it will focus on community, social, civic and enterprise engagement
- The centre is aiming to support, organise and foster collaboration between academics around DCU. All suggestions and ideas are welcome.

6. AOB

Zoom Chat Notes:

- Deirdre Corby: Inclusive Education webinar 10th Feb at 3pm all welcome, registration and details https://www.iassidd.org/webinars_main_page/
- Emer Ni Bhródaigh: ‘Cake Mix’ https://vimeo.com/450039459. Relevant part starts at 1:30 or so. Most of the students had fun creating their own versions as part of a pre-recorded video assignment. 1st yrs; 1st semester.
- Caitriona Mordan: https://youtu.be/R9WDQT2NzxA Link to the Horizon Europe launch webinar