**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK**

**LGBT+ STAFF NETWORK**

Minutes of Committee Meeting

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| Date | 30th September 2022 |
| Time | 1pm – 2pm |
| Venue | Aine Hyland Room G12, The Hub |

Attendance: Silvia Brandi,Mary Byrne,Deborah Kerrisk (online), Ciara Murphy,Mary O’Rourke, Fiachra Ó Súilleabháin,Barra Ó Donnabháin,Aman de Sondy

Apologies: Julie Butters, Hellen Fass, Diarmuid Scully

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|  | **Agenda Item** | **Discussion** | **Actions** |
| 1. | Committee Changes and Notices | Kasia Pyrz has stepped aside from the committee due to time pressures. Kasia was filling in for Laurence on the Equality Committee while he is on sabbatical. The committee chair Nuala Finnegan is happy for us to nominate someone else. It was agreed that one of the network co-chairs will take on this role in the interim.  Three new staff networks will be established, and it might be useful for the LGBT+ Staff Network to share with them our way of working. There have been discussions with the EDI unit about the role of the network in relation to the unit, but no decision has yet been reached.  There was some disappointment that the university has not strongly recognised the international impact of the Lesbian Lives conference, the first post-pandemic in-person conference in UCC.  Fiachra reported that he will not be standing for re-election as co-chair at the next AGM as he will be taking leave from UCC. | Co-chairs |
| 2. | Outputs since last meeting | The Bons Secours hospital radiology department asked the network to give a talk about LGBT+ terminology and trans healthcare challenges. About 30 staff attended to hear Mary O’Rourke speaking, incorporating input from TENI’s Healthcare Officer Noah Halpin.  UCC IT Services recently established inclusivity team have asked for network input – a meeting is scheduled for next Wednesday. They are open to exploring how names are displayed on email accounts, which requires a technology change. Ciara reported that it’s difficult for students to change their name on their email account.  APC Microbiome have also recently set up an EDI committee and have asked the network to speak to a meeting.  New LGBT+ staff networks have recently been established in both Mary Immaculate College and MTU; Fiachra/MaryO met with them on request.  Recent events included Failte fest (Hellen and Cathal attended); a talk by Diarmuid for the anniversary of Declann Flynn’s death; a coffee morning for the start of term; a social night of bowling and finger food; and a talk by Orla Egan for culture night which was very well attended. Turnout can be low at some events, but it was agreed we should keep doing coffee mornings.  The Pride tea party in July was a success, and the invitation for this came from the President. It was agreed we should capitalise on that and ask the President to host something annually in the Aula, either at the start of the new academic year or for national coming out day in October. | Co-chairs |
| 3. | Upcoming outreach events | MaryO and Fiachra have agreed to do joint event with the “Working with Pride” network for coming out day 11th October. Another joint event is also proposed for World Aids Day, possibly focusing on women with Aids and their exclusion from free access to PrEP.  The network has also agreed to do some talks through UCC HR series, e.g. queering the curriculum, supporting staff to support students coming out, etc. |  |