



DCU BOOK SOCIETY

CONSTITUTION

1. Name of Society

i. The official name of the society shall be the “Dublin City University Book Society”. This will appear on all documentation, communiqués and financial statements.

ii. The society shall be referred to as “DCU Book Soc” whenever its unnecessary to use the official title.

2. Aims and Objectives

- a. To provide a social outlet for all book enthusiasts who wish to meet like-minded people on campus and to have a facility to discuss the books they have read in a comfortable and relaxed environment.
- b. We would like to have a meeting fortnightly where we would discuss the ‘book of the fortnight’. We would aim to be able to provide some copies of the books for our members to avail of.
- c. We aim to arrange a guest author at least once a semester and to have numerous book readings.
- d. We want to have an interactive website whereby our members can have a forum to talk about the books they have read.
- e. We would like to introduce an element of creative writing to the society and encourage them to write some short stories or poems. Ideally we would host some creative writing master classes and maybe prepare a book of our members’ work at the end of the year.

- f. We think there may be the potential for a once semesterly publication outlining the books and their ratings for all of the students on campus to see.
- g. We would like to provide a greater variety of society on campus.

3. Members

- a. Membership of the society shall be open to all students and staff of the college and all past students of DCU subject to regulation by the Societies and Publications Committee and Article 3.4
- b. Membership shall be obtained by paying the appropriate fee as decided by the Societies and Publications Committee.
- c. All members shall be bound by this constitution.
- d. Graduate membership shall be open to those who are no longer students of Dublin City University.
- e. It shall not be a requirement of graduate membership that such members should hold a degree of any other academic award given by Dublin City University.
- f. Graduate members shall pay an annual subscription to the society. The amount of this fee is to be determined by the Committee, but is subject to the rules of the Societies and Publications Committee.
- g. Graduate members may not hold a position on the executive committee aside from any position a general meeting may deem necessary on the executive to cater primarily for the interests of graduate members.
- h. Graduate members shall be entitled to attend all general meetings of the society. Voting rights of graduate members at general meetings shall be determined by the committee. These rights may be altered by a majority vote at a general meeting of the society.

4. Committee

- a. The society shall have a governing committee known as the executive.
- b. The committee shall run the society on behalf of the members and in accordance with the aims and objectives.
- c. Committee decisions shall be decided by majority voting. Committee decisions are subject to challenge at a general meeting.
- d. A quorum shall be four committee members.
- e. The committee shall consist of
 - Chairperson
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Public Relations Officer
 - Equipment officer

 - First year rep
 - Events Officer
 - Brand Design Officer

6. The committee shall endeavour to meet weekly during term time, at which the business of the committee is to be discussed.

7. Dismissal and resignation of committee members

- a. No member of the committee shall be dismissed from the office unless written notice of a resolution to seek such dismissal, signed by at least 10% of the members of the society, is received four working days prior to a meeting at which such a resolution shall be debated.
- b. The resolution is passed by at least a two-thirds majority at the meeting.
- c. A committee member wishing to resign must submit a letter in writing declaring that intention to the secretary.

7. Meetings

- a. There shall be an Annual General Meeting held each year, where possible to coincide with the end of the financial year.
- b. A general meeting shall be held in each term. For this purpose the AGM may be interpreted as one.
- c. A quorum of a meeting shall be a majority of the committee members and 5% of the ordinary membership.
- d. The business of the AGM shall also include and annual report given by the outgoing chairperson and treasurer.
- e. An extraordinary general meeting (EGM) shall be convened if
 - i. 5% of ordinary membership request one.
 - ii. A quorum of the committee request one.
 - iii. A vacancy on the current committee occurs and there is a need to elect a replacement.
 - iv. Elections for the offices of the committee shall take place at the AGM.
 - v. The committee shall convene a General Meeting when appropriate.
 - vi. Notice of all meetings shall be given to membership at least four working days prior to the date of the meeting.
 - vii. At a meeting any member may propose a resolution to the business of the society. The resolution shall be voted on by a show of hands and a declaration of the chairperson that the resolution is carries, unless a secret ballot is demanded by any two members, shall be conclusive evidence that the resolution has passed or failed.
 - viii. No resolution may contravene DCU, Societies and Publications Committee [SPC] or Student Finance Committee [SFC] policy.
 - ix. Guests have no voting privileges but are allowed to speak at the invitation of a member of the executive.

9.
 - a. There shall be a president of the society who shall comply with the requirements and the regulations set down by the society and Publications Committee [SPC] and Student Finance Committee of DCU. The president shall be proposed by the Executive and ratified by a general meeting on an annual basis.
 - b. All the committee positions shall be honorary.
 - c. Notice of a proposal to seek an amendment to this constitution shall be given to members at least four working days prior to the general meeting at which such proposal shall be considered. Such a proposal must receive the approval of two thirds of the members present at such a meeting.
 - d. Each member shall be entitled to receive a copy of this constitution, on demand, free of charge.
 - e. The financial year of the society shall be from the first of April to the thirty first of March.
 - f. Society Accounts must be audited and signed off every year by either a qualified accountant or the president of the society.
 - g. The society retains the right to set admission prices for all society events.

DCU Book Soc Mission Statement

In a college whose journalism courses are recognised nationally it is surprising that there is not more of an emphasis on the basis of all good writing; the appreciation and analysis of other writer's works. We believe that a society that encourages reading and provides its members with the forum to discuss their opinions is an asset that DCU students will benefit immensely from.

The founding members of DCU Book Soc embarked on this project because of a shared passion for books. Through meeting up on a weekly basis this year, we found that the experience of reading is considerably enhanced when personal ideas and theories are debated and discussed in a group setting.

We want DCU Book Soc to become one of the most visible and approachable societies on the DCU campus. We aim to hold weekly meetings for our members as well as organising various events throughout each semester.

We want to extend our enthusiasm for reading to the student population of DCU.