



73% of Trinity College Dublin Meeting Agendas and Minutes Not Properly Uploaded

The “Trinity College Dublin Board Committees”¹ website is a place for approved agendas and minutes of Board and its subcommittee meetings to be made publicly available in the name of transparency. 15 such committees are supposed to have regularly uploaded agendas and minutes. However, research by Students4Change has revealed that 73% of the committees, meaning 11 committees, have not been properly uploaded as of 13th of May 2023. Only 4 committees, 26%, have been properly uploaded. Some committees like the Student Life Committee have been updated the latest in 2015/2016. As a note of reference, an approved minute is draft minutes that have become final at the subsequent meeting.

“This ties in to the wider issue of College governance. Over the years, College's governance has become bureaucratic, concealing the autocratic nature of decision-making at its core. Through decades of corporatization, democratic structures have been eroded, and a key part of this is the obfuscation of how decisions are being made. There is no accountability within the College, and many minutes are missing from the website. We, as a community, have a right to know who is deciding on our behalf and why, and in fact, have a right to have our say in how things are being run. This lack of transparency, which is just one issue in a web of a failing governance system, is a spit in our faces as it suggests that the College community's involvement in decision-making at a College-level is not welcome. We need our College to be run in a transparent, democratic and accountable way with student-staff joint control over key decisions,” says László Molnárfi, Chairperson of Students4Change.

[In 2021-2022 a motion was brought to TCDSU Council to lobby for more transparency at a College-level.](#)

Decision-Making Body	Last Updated
Board	2022/2023 and complete ²
University Council	2022/2023 and complete ³

¹ <https://www.tcd.ie/committeepapers/>

² <https://www.tcd.ie/committeepapers/board/papers/>

³ <https://www.tcd.ie/committeepapers/council/papers/>

Audit Committee	2022/2023, but only 1st meeting of the year was uploaded fully, 2nd meeting only the agenda ⁴ , other 3 missing completely ⁵
Coiste na Gaeilge	Minutes or agendas have never been uploaded ⁶
Equality Committee	2022/2023 but only first meeting complete, for other 3 minutes are missing (2 of these should be approved and thus present) ⁷
Estates Policy Committee	2022/2023 but only 1st meeting of the year was uploaded ⁸ , 3 others were not ⁹
Finance Committee	2022/2023 and complete ¹⁰
Human Resources Committee	2020/2021, meaning that both 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 meeting agendas and minutes are missing ¹¹
Library and Information Policy Committee	2021/2022 but last meeting minutes are missing. 2022/2023 is completely missing ¹²
Quality Committee	2021/2022, but the last meeting minutes are missing. 2022/2023 is completely missing ¹³
Remuneration Committee	2020/2021, only minutes are present ¹⁴
Research Committee	2022/2023 and complete ¹⁵
Safety Committee	2012/2013 is the last date at which anything was uploaded, one agenda ¹⁶
Student Life Committee	2015/2016, also missing last minute of that year ¹⁷
Undergraduate Studies Committee	2022/2023, but last 3 minutes are not yet linked, out of these 2 should be linked as they should be already approved. Last 2 agendas are not linked either ¹⁸

⁴ <https://www.tcd.ie/committeepapers/audit/papers/>

⁵ <https://www.tcd.ie/internalaudit/audit-committee/> see this for the existence of the 3 other meetings

⁶ <https://www.tcd.ie/gaeloifig/gaeilge-sa-cholaiste/coiste-na-gaeilge/>

⁷ <https://www.tcd.ie/committeepapers/equality/papers/>

⁸ <https://www.tcd.ie/committeepapers/site/papers/>

⁹ https://www.tcd.ie/committeepapers/site/download/Site_minutes_20220920.pdf (see EPC/ 22-23/ 009 in the minutes for the existence of these 3 other meetings)

¹⁰ <https://www.tcd.ie/committeepapers/finance/papers/>

¹¹ <https://www.tcd.ie/committeepapers/personnel/papers/>

¹² <https://www.tcd.ie/committeepapers/info/papers/>

¹³ <https://www.tcd.ie/committeepapers/quality/papers/>

¹⁴ <https://www.tcd.ie/committeepapers/remuneration/papers/>

¹⁵ <https://www.tcd.ie/committeepapers/research/papers/>

¹⁶ <https://www.tcd.ie/committeepapers/safety/papers/>

¹⁷ <https://www.tcd.ie/committeepapers/student/papers/>

¹⁸ <https://www.tcd.ie/teaching-learning/academic-affairs/committees/usc/>

