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MANDATE

Disclosure of Lecturers' and Department Representatives' Personal Pronouns in Emails

Submitted by: Kealan Hilley (Gender Equality Senator and Leader of the Gender & Sexuality Caucus)
Seconded by: Gender and Sexuality Caucus including Ló Boyle (LGBT+ Senator), Aoife Murray (Social Sciences Faculty Assembly Member), Emma Curran (Independent Senator), Jordan Quinn (Independent Senator), Michelle Corr (Mature Senator), Michaela Waters (HEAR Senator); Rebecca McGlynn (Arts, Celtic Studies, & Philosophy Faculty Assembly Member)

Student Senate notes:

The format and structure of lectures afford little space for students to confirm their personal pronouns. Lecturers and department representatives thereby must induce personal pronouns based on screen name or physical appearance, leading to the misgendering of students. Lecturers too may be disinclined by their environment or colleagues to disclose their personal pronouns. If lecturers and department representatives' close emails with personal pronouns it will ensure the comfort of students to do likewise.

Student Senate believes:

That if lecturers and their departments formalized the voluntary inclusion of personal pronouns when closing their email this would offset the insecurity students may feel when doing likewise. This allows lecturers to become familiarized with students' personal pronouns via email, minimizing the misgendering that occurs during lectures. This ought to be nonmandatory, as some lecturers may feel insecurity disclosing their personal pronouns.

Student Senate therefore mandates:

The VP Education and the VP Welfare & Equality to lobby MU & SPCM staff to formalize closing each email with their personal pronouns when corresponding with students.