

Union Space and Staff Exclusivity

February 2018 ¹

This paper concerns the recent requisition of Union space to be bookable by staff only.

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The Union Notes

1. One of the most highly contended and valued resources the Union has at its disposal is the space in the Union building.
2. Many student activities depend upon the continued availability of space in the Union Building.
3. There are four Meeting Rooms which are bookable by CSPs, staff, and commercial clients (MR1 – 4).
4. Prior to late 2017, there was one meeting room (MR6) plus a number of breakout spaces which were exclusively bookable by staff. ²
5. During 2016 and 2017, Meeting Room 5 was being used to support CSP activities.
6. During late 2017, a decision was made to make Meeting Room 5 bookable by Staff only, thus precluding CSPs from using the space.
7. No consultation with Council, CSPB, or CSPs was undertaken in arriving at this decision.
8. CSP activities regularly continue until late in the evening, and often occur at weekends.
9. Staff activities requiring meeting rooms usually do not regularly continue until late in the evening or at weekends.
10. The *IC / ICU Space Agreement* states that all Union Space has “been provided for the furtherance of the social, cultural and welfare activities of the College’s students”.
11. Staff currently have the ability to book all spaces in the Union in advance of and at a higher priority to all CSP bookings.

² It is difficult for CSPs to be permitted to book these spaces due to their location within the Union Office.

The Union Believes

1. The Union should aim to achieve the maximum utilisation of the available space.
2. Preventing CSPs from booking or using Meeting Room 5 at all does not maximise the utilisation of the available space and is incompatible with the *Space Agreement*.

The Union Resolves

1. CSPs shall be allowed to book MR5 in the same way as MR1 – 4.