



## **Item for Agreement of Class Rep Council**

### **ITEM NO. 2325-18 OPPOSITION TO BERTIE AHERN DOCTORATE**

#### **Proposed by**

Brandon Perry (BAJM3) and Cian Smart (EPL3)

#### **Background**

Council notes the recent decision by the university to award former Taoiseach Bertie Ahern with an honorary doctorate. Ahern of course being infamous for his political corruption and key role in causing the 2008 recession that still affects us to this day. Council believes that this decision stands at odds with the stated beliefs of the SU and those of many students, and also stands to bring the university's reputation into disrepair.

#### **Action**

Council proposes that the SU lobby for the university to go back on this decision and refuse to award Ahern his proposed honorary doctorate with has faced significant opposition internally and externally. If this fails council proposes that the SU organise a protest against the decision to award Ahern the doctorate, and re-affirm that this decision by the university stands at odds with the beliefs of its students.

#### **Mandate**

Council calls on the SU, the SU President in particular, to lobby against the decision to award Bertie Ahern an honorary doctorate with university management on behalf of the many students who have been repelled by this decision. If this lobbying fails council proposes that the SU, in particular the VP for Community & Citizenship, organise a protest against Ahern to publicly show students' outrage and opposition to the decision to award him an honorary doctorate.