ANTHONY WEIR

I am writing to ask for your first preference vote in the upcoming election to the Governing Authority on January 14th. The Governing Authority is collectively responsible for institutional governance, providing leadership and strategic direction within a framework of prudent controls. Its actions set the ethical tone and serve as an example for the entire university

My journey with the University began in 2018 when as a Research technician in ECE. Since then, I have worked in several research roles and am currently employed as a researcher in ECE. My position lies within the Centre for Robotics and Intelligent Systems (CRIS) where I oversee our subsea operations utilising Remotely Operated Vehicles. I am extremely proud of what I have achieved through the university and am in the final stages of my PhD. My roles in several European projects from research assistant to researcher have garnered me with both the knowledge and experience to represent you effectively on the Governing Authority.

Throughout my career at UL, I have received ample support from my Leads and Heads of Department. This experience has given me the appreciation for what works well and a clear insight for where improvement is needed.

Building a Research-Led Culture.

As a career researcher, I can clearly see the necessity to build a community where research excellence is supported and is central to all facets of UL. We are renowned for delivering high value research and for attracting world leading researchers. However sustainable growth must also come from within.

My priorities include:

- **Create infrastructure that supports and facilitates** research at every level.
- **Foster a research culture** that leverages the synergy from education and research and to ensure that mechanisms are in place to ringfence research.
- **Incentivize research performance**, through clear transparent systems.
- **Build support structures** specifically designed for researchers needs.
- **Facilitate cross-faculty collaboration** and communication between researchers.
- **Create awareness to reflect the needs of research in the GA**

To emphasize, It is worth noting that recently the UL rose in Times Higher Education (THE) University Rankings 2026, with an estimated rank of 533 up from 568 last year. Our overall score rose from 44.1 to 45.4 with improvements in , Research quality, Research environment , Teaching and industry. All metrics improved except research strength which slightly dropped.

This GA has to be commended for "RESOLUTION GA-2025-03 RESEARCH" where the GA supports the VPRI's research initiative to UL becoming a Research-Intensive University. It is vital that research community interests are represented within the GA and as your elected representative, I will ask the difficult or uncomfortable questions in order to reflect and bolster the integrity expected of the GA .

Financial Governance and Accountability

The recent issues surrounding financial decisions and procedures are well known among Ul Staff and indeed the general public. While UL has made improvements in financial governance through transparency and integrity, sustained vigilance is essential. We are all concerned about the negative effects this has on our reputation,

As a member of the Governing Authority, I will address these difficult issue that demand honest discussion to restore this university's reputation as a model of transparency, integrity and accountability.

Get in Touch

Don't hesitate to contact me anthony.weir@ul.ie , (0871546804) with any queries. I will be happy to set up a Teams or face to face meeting to discuss any queries that you may have and would like to see addressed by your GA representative.

Thank you for taking the time to read this manifesto and I look forward to representing you on the Governing Authority

Election Details: The election will take place on **Wednesday the 14th of January from 10:00 to 16:00.** I will endeavour to meet with as many of you as possible before the election date.

Best Regards

Anthony