



**Date:** Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**Week:** 10

**Time:** 6pm

**Location:** Hybrid- MISU Meeting Room & Teams

**In Attendance:**

MISU President, Thurles Officer, Postgraduate Officer, Union Council Chairperson, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Officer, Welfare Officer.

**Apologies:**

Student Activities Officer Limerick, Student Activities Officer Thurles, An tOifigeach Gaeilge (Irish Language Officer).

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**1. Welcome and Apologies**

MISU President welcomed everyone to the meeting at 18:00pm.

**2. Unapproved Minutes**

Minutes from weeks 8 & 9 were proposed by Post Grad Officer and seconded by Welfare Officer.

**3. Matters Arising**

No matters arose from the previous minutes.

**4. Sabbatical Officer Reports (Meetings attended, updates, feedback required)**

MISU President

- Attended APAC.
- Held a Special Meeting of Union Council to discuss the vacant president position for 23/24 and give updates on the B.Ed and PME course boards.
- Governing Authority: Attended Governing Authority where a variety of issues were discussed such as the lack of student engagement and its effects on MISU. This will be highlighted in the crossover to the new Sabbatical Officers over the summer months and work will be done to improve the situation for the next academic year. There is a possibility of a sub-committee being formed and course material will need to be reviewed as students should not be able to pass a module without attending classes.
- Student disinterest was also discussed at Governing Authority as students are focused solely on themselves rather than whole student body. There will be one more Governing Authority meeting before the end of term.
- Met with the MISU Communications & Services Department to discuss the Welfare event taking place on April 11<sup>th</sup> on both the MIC Limerick and Thurles Campuses. Welfare packs and food parcels will be distributed, money will be placed behind the till in an Síopa and the canteen in Thurles for a random act of kindness, positivity boards and post-it notes will be available and there will be a wellness hamper giveaway based on a nominate a friend initiative.
- The Thurles Staff-Student Forum will take place on Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.
- There has been several residents' complaint regarding illegal parking in estates where students are blocking driveways and footpaths. The Part & Ride has ceased due to lack of use but there is hope for it returning in September 2023.

## 5. Executive Officer Updates

### Postgraduate Officer

- Was in contact with Gillian from the Shannon Research Conference which has been moved to September and met with members from UL and TUS regarding this.
- Attended the Academic Integrity Policy Subcommittee Meeting and discussed providing support to International Students coming to MIC from different academic backgrounds and who are having issues with Academic Integrity.
- Will be attending APAC.
- Has reached out to mature students regarding a photoshoot opportunity for MIC Strategic Communication's & Marketing.
- Is working with the MIC Strategic Communication's & Marketing team to promote Africa Day.

### Welfare Officer

- Attended Union Council.
- Has been in contact with the MISU Communications & Services Coordinator, MISU President and the MIC Support Services regarding the Welfare event on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

### Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Officer

- Met with the MIC EDII Manager regarding having EDI questions added to the MISU Student Survey. This will help to gather information for Athena Swan and focus-groups of students will also be formed.
- Was unable to attend the meeting with SUAS and will receive the necessary updates from the MIC EDII Director.
- Was in contact with the MIC Occupational Therapist and hopes to meet again after the Easter break.

### Thurles Officer

- Met with Deirdre Brady regarding the Drama Society that will hopefully begin in September 2023.
- Is part of the committee involved in the MIC Thurles Awards for Sports being held on April 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Campus is generally quiet as students prepare for final assignments and exams.

## 6. Update on vacant President position

- MISU President reached out to a past Executive Committee member who unfortunately is unable to take up the position.
- The MIC Careers Service has emailed an expression of interest form to the graduating class of 2022. A subcommittee of the MISU Advisory Board will shortlist potential candidates down to one who will then need to be approved by Union Council before they can be added to the ballot paper.
- The dates for candidate approval are as follows: April 5<sup>th</sup> – Shortlisting, April 11<sup>th</sup> – Interviews, April 12<sup>th</sup> – Special Meeting of Union Council and MISU Election to follow shortly thereafter for President and Vice-President Academic positions.

## 7. Any Other Business

- The Post Grad Officer asked about the potential president candidate who An tOifigeach Gaeilge (Irish Language Officer) mentioned however, the MISU Advisory Board were not familiar with the past student and chose to reach out to past Executive Committee members instead.
- The MISU Welfare Officer questioned whether the security manning the car parks will remain in place with the Park & Ride scheme gone. The company is a separate contract and so the additional staff will remain in place. MISU President has spoken to the MIC Buildings & Estates Department and specified that further clarity needs to be provided from the parking security to students when parking on campus.
- The Post Grad Officer addressed the crossover documents required from the current Executive Committee members in week 12. MISU President advised that the documents

should contain any and all information the Officers feel their successors will need and provide details of any ongoing issues or unfinished projects such as Shannon Research Conference and dealing with bullying or toxic behaviour on campus.

**8. Date & Time of Next Meeting**

To Be announced on WhatsApp.