



Date: Thursday 9th March 2023

Week: 7

Time: 6pm

Location: Hybrid- MISU Meeting Room & Teams

In Attendance:

MISU President, Thurles Officer, An tOifigeach Gaeilge (Irish Language Officer), Postgraduate Officer, Union Council Chairperson, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Officer.

Apologies:

Student Activities Officer Limerick, Welfare Officer

Absent: Student Activities Officer Thurles

1. Welcome and Apologies

MISU President welcomed everyone and called meeting to order at 18:07pm. MISU President began the meeting by expressing sympathy for the recent loss of an MIC Thurles Student and apologised for having to cancel the Executive Meeting in week 6 as a result of being out on the MIC Thurles Campus providing support.

2. Unapproved Minutes

Proposed by Post Grad Officer and seconded by EDII Officer.

3. Matters Arising

No matters arose from the previous minutes.

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

MISU President

- Attended a series of meetings such as MIC EDII Implementation Group, MIC Counselling Services Teams meeting, ICT Committee, UL Academic Council, ECCE Course Board, and MIC Academic Council.
- Participated in the Arts Faculty Staff-Student Forum.
- Received complaints regarding racism on the MIC Thurles Campus.
- Attended the Healthy Campus Committee which exposed issues of toxic behaviour such as bullying taking place on the MIC Limerick Campus.
- Attended the first Institution Self-Evaluation Team (ISET) meeting.
- Met with staff from the MIC Access Office regarding holding Sensory Information Hubs on both MIC Campuses.
- Attended MISU Union Council which did not reach quorum for the second time and had no in-person attendance.
- Participated in the MIDAS Press Night for their upcoming musical 'Upstaged' and gave a speech on behalf of the MISU Clubs & Societies Coordinator.
- Organised a memorial service on the MIC Thurles Campus for the student who passed away.
- Attended the MIC Equality Committee meeting where the MISU President tabled toxic behaviour.
- Was present at the MIC Pastoral Network meeting and attended the FemFest Public Lecture.

5. Executive Officer Updates

Postgraduate Officer

- Held the Shannon Research Conference Meeting with members from UL and TUS.
- Provided academic writing assistance documents to Post Grad students.
- Held the Post Grad virtual coffee morning.
- Attended launch of Seachtain na Gaeilge.
- Attended Academic Council and the RGS Skills and Training session.
- Promoted the MISU Elections to Post Grad students.
- Actively responding to student parking queries.
- Working towards holding student-led writing sessions.
- Continuously working towards establishing a Post Grad Society and Peer Support Groups for Masters students.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Officer

- Met with staff from the MIC EDII Office regarding raising awareness of SUS among third level students.
- Attended a guest lecture for International Women's Day.
- Refilled some of the period products baskets on the MIC Limerick Campus.
- Intends to meet with the MIC EDII Manager regarding possibility of running a student survey tackling EDII issues.

An tOifigeach Gaeilge (Irish Language Officer)

- Had a meeting with the MISU President and MISU Communications & Services Coordinator.
- Met with the MISU General Manager to discuss the SU's Irish Language Policy and is researching Irish Language Policies for Students' Unions that other colleges have.
- Attended Ard-Fheis meeting with interest in third level issues.
- Launched Seachtain na Gaeilge on the MIC Limerick Campus and recorded a video for the launch.
- Attended Mass as Gaeilge on MIC Limerick Campus.
- Participated in a coffee morning for international students.
- Attended a screening of An Cailín Ciúin on March 7th in MIC Limerick.
- Took part in a working group for Gaeilge For All.
- Would like to see the Irish Council Resident Scheme introduced to MIC.

Thurles Officer

- Attended a talk on Education in Ireland.
- Met with MIC Thurles staff regarding replacement for third and fourth year students.
- Informed MIC Thurles students of the upcoming MISU Elections.
- Attended Union Council.
- Contacted Mary who will be coming to MIC Thurles for a mature student meet up.
- Assisted the MISU President in arranging a memorial service for the Thurles student who passed away.
- Met with the MIC Vice-President Administration and Finance to discuss the future of the buildings on the MIC Thurles Campus.
- Has been putting out the breakfast packs in main reception for commuter students.

6. Gaeilge

- Following a meeting with the MISU General Manager, An tOifigeach Gaeilge (Irish Language Officer) will create an Irish Language Policy for MISU instead of an Irish Language Strategy.
- An tOifigeach Gaeilge (Irish Language Officer) would like the MISU President to bring this motion to Union Council.
- Planning is underway for a 'Wear Green' Irish Day to take place on the MIC Limerick Campus by the end of semester 2.
- Biongó Lócó s taking place in UL on March 9th at 8pm.

7. Any Other Business

MISU Elections Update

- The initial deadline for receipt of nominations for the Sabbatical Officerships was extended from March 8th to March 10th as no nominations were received.
- If there are no candidates after the nominations period closes, a by-election will be called and will need to be held in week 10.
- It was agreed that for a by-election of all exec positions, nominations will open on March 15th and close on March 22nd with the elections being held on March 28th.

Environment and Sustainability Committee

- There is a need for two Executive Committee members to sit on the MIC Environment and Sustainability Committee (previously known as the Energy Committee).
- The MISU President and Thurles Officer were approved to sit on the committee.
- Keeping in mind the low student engagement this semester, the Executive Committee ruled out the possibility of getting two students to also sit on the committee.

Toxic behaviour and Bullying

- The 'Hello, How Are You?' campaign and By-Stander Intervention training will be used on the MIC Campuses in an effort to tackle toxic behaviour and bullying.
- The campaign and training will be conducted by MISU together with the MIC EDII Office and will be rolled out to the student population in weeks 9 and 10 to target first years and returning students respectively.

Mature Students Coffee Morning

- The MIC EDII Office will take the lead on these and they will soon be held on the MIC Limerick Campus.

Thurles Breakfast Packs

- More breakfast packs will be brought to the MIC Thurles Campus during weeks 10 and 11 for distribution to commuter students from Monday to Thursday.

Launch of Seachtain na Gaeilge

- The launch was very successful however catering from Master Chef was expensive. It was €95 for 10 sandwich trays and water.

Counselling Services

- Students are experiencing issues with the response times for the MIC Counselling Service and the drop-in sessions.

8. Date & Time of Next Meeting

To Be announced on WhatsApp.