



Mary I Students' Union | Aontas na Mac Léinn
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 11 | 10 | 2023

Week: 05

Time: 1pm

Location: MS Teams

Present: President, VP Academic, VP Student Experience and Wellbeing, Irish Officer (Oifigeach Gaeilge), Welfare Officer

Apologies: Thurles Officer, Thurles Student Activities Officer, EDI Officer, UC Chairperson

1. Welcome and Apologies

The President welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 1pm. The newly elected Welfare Officer was equally welcomed to the executive committee.

2. Unapproved Minutes

The VP Student Experience and Wellbeing proposed the unapproved minutes from the last meeting and the Irish Officer seconded.

3. Matters Arising

- i) Class Reps, Training & UC Updates – A total of 49 class reps had been elected and notified as of Week 4: 33 in Limerick and 16 in Thurles. The second and final training session for class reps was scheduled for 5pm on the day of this meeting. The second Union Council in the 2023/24 academic year was planned to follow after the class rep training. The VPA Academic commended the exec members for their help in recruiting class reps.
- ii) Gaeltacht Fees Updates – Sabbatical Officers are consulting SUs in other colleges to find out if students go to the Gaeltacht for free. This will help the union advocate either for government to waive the fee completely or the college management to subsidize the payment for Thurles students. It has been discovered that students at Maynooth pay half of the Gaeltacht fee (about €400). However, students at UCC pay the full price of their Gaeltacht Placement which is during a weekend and a ten week period. The President is yet to hear from UL Student Life and NUI Student's Union. The VP Academic noted that only sabbatical officers will be communicating with other institutions over this matter as research continues.
- iii) Semester Planner – The exec committee will soon have a single editable document online, where all officers will input their plans. The planner is aimed at helping exec members stay in the loop on their activities. The VPSEW will share the planner on the exec SharePoint.
- iv) Semester Event Plans & Co-ordination – The President reminded exec members to

share their plans with the coms and services department as soon as possible to meet the 2-weeks to 1-month lead time.

4. Sabbatical Officer Reports

The President started by congratulating all who participated in organising the Mental Health Week in Thurles before giving his report as follows:

President

- Prepared Advisory Report
- Attended Graduation Meeting
- Organised Movie Day with Dede
- Attended Senior Management Team Meeting
- Attended UC
- Trained UC Chairperson
- Attended Faculty of Education meeting
- Facilitated creation of pregnancy tests micro-site
- Attended Weekly Sabbats Catch-Up
- Attended Engagement Strategy meeting
- Communicated to Finn over MISU Communication procedure
- Attended to Gníomhais Gaeilge issues
- Met with Parking Expert
- Attended UGM
- Attended Exec Committee

VP Student Experience and Wellbeing

- Implemented Mental Health Week in Thurles
- Attended Exec Committee
- Produced SM Videos for Mental Health Week in Thurles and Limerick
- Attended UGM
- Started preparations for EDII 16 Days of Activism
- Attended Meeting focused on Therapy Dogs
- Held clinic with Counselling Service in Limerick
- Attended DAC Board Meeting
- Preparing Pride Week
- Conducted research into Gaeltacht Fees
- Dealt with concerns over Thurles Gaeltacht Fees
- Attended Weekly Sabbats Catch-Up

VP Academic

- Planning Academic Integrity Week
- Attended APAC

- Drafted and circulated class rep election clarification e-mail to first years
- Attended Education Faculty
- Organised Week 5 Union Council
- Produced UGM agenda
- Attended Weekly Sabbats Catch-Up
- Elected more class reps
- Attended DAC Board Meeting
- Discussed B.Ed 3 time-table issues with management
- Held 2 class addresses in Thurles
- Attended to individual student cases
- Held student drop in session
- Attended MIC President Monthly Cath-Up
- Followed up graduation communication with SAA
- Attended meeting with Finn and MISU Officers
- Uploaded agendas and minutes in Teams
- Complete 2 risk registers
- Attended Exec Committee
- Met with UL Pres and Vice Academic
- Attended UGM

5. Executive Officer Updates

EDI Officer (as read in absentia by the President)

- EDII coordination for Stand Festival
- Planning coffee morning for international students
- Met with Dave over international student's coffee morning
- Held meetings to plan movie day
- Planning for movie day
- Attended Exec Committee

Irish Language Officer

- **Thaistil an tOifigeach Gaeilge go Baile Átha Cliath thar an deireadh seachtaine seo chaite chun freastal ar chúrsa oiliúna i dTeach an Ardmhéara/Ardoifigí Chonradh na Gaeilge.** Travelled to Dublin over this past weekend to attend a training course at the Lord Mayor's House/Head Offices of the Irish League.
- **Bhuail mé le Cathaoirleach an Chumann Gaelach Luimnigh, le Rúnaí an Chumann, chomh maith le go leor daoine eile ó choláistí eile agus ón gConradh.** Met the Chairman of the Limerick Gaelic Association, the Secretary of the Association, as well as many other people from other colleges and the Confederation.
- **Comhrá 2023: Ghlac pobal Gaeilge an choláiste páirt i gComhrá 2023, feachtas**

de chuid CNAG. Bhí am againn idir 3-4 Dé Luain seo chaite. Comhrá 2023: The college's Irish community took part in Comhrá 2023, a campaign by CNAG. We had time between 3-4 this past Monday.

- **Bhuail an tOifigeach Gaeilge le Bord na Gaeilge don chéad uair. Suíonn léachtóirí agus baill foirne eile ar an mbord, agus Oifigeach Gaeilge MISU chomh maith.** Met with Bord na Gaeilge for the first time. Lecturers and other staff members sit on the table, as well as the MISU Irish Officer.
- **Beidh an chéad cruinniú eile ar siúl ar 1 Samhain idir 4- 5pm.** The next meeting will take place on 1 November between 4-5pm.
- **Oireachtas na Samhna Tá an tOifigeach ag obair le hOifigeach Dhurlais maidir le téacs á sheoladh amach chuig na mac léinn anseo maidir leis an Oireachtas.** Working Thurles Officer regarding a text being sent out to the students here regarding the Oireachtas.
- **Beidh costas €87/15 ar ticéid le lóistín/gan lóistín don Oireachtas a bheidh ar siúl i gCill Airne.** Tickets with/without accommodation will cost €87/15 for the Oireachtas which will be held in Killarney.
- **Tá foirm agamsa do dhaoine i nDurlas, agus foirm eile ag Cumann Gaelach Luimnigh do mhic léinn i Luimneach.** I have a form for people in Thurles, and another form at the Irish Irish Association of Limerick for students in Limerick.
- **Tá 10 lá againn ó Dé Luain seo chugainn chun an t-airgead a bhailiú agus ainmneacha a dheimhniú.** We have 10 days from next Monday to collect the money and confirm names.
- **Gaeilge 24 Cuireadh tús leis an bpleanáil maidir le Gaeilge 24 i mbliana chomh maith.** Gaeilge 24 Planning for Gaeilge 24 began this year as well.
- **Reachtófar an feachtas seo ar 14 Samhain, agus tá Cumann Gaelach Dhurlais cláraithe.** This campaign will be held on November 14, and Cumann Gaelac Thurlais is registered.
- **Táim i dteagmháil le CG Luimnigh maidir leis an bhfeachtas seo chomh maith.** I am in contact with CG Limerick in relation to this campaign as well.
- **Beidh fáilte roimh gach mac léinn ach beidh orm na sonraí a dheimhniú le CNAG roimh Dé Céadaoin 25 Deireadh Fómhair.** All students will be welcome but I will have to confirm the details with CNAG before Wednesday 25 October.
- **Google Site ag pobal na Gaeilge Bunaíodh Google Site miclegaeilge.com do mhic léinn atá bainteach leis an gColáiste scéalta a chur suas, agus chun imeachtaí a fhoghrú.** Google Site at pobal na Gaeilge Google Site miclegaeilge.com was established for students associated with the College to post stories, and to announce events.
- **Tá nascanna ann chun clárú leis an gCumann, leathanach leis na himeachtaí atá ag teacht aníos, agus nuacht faoi imeachtaí atá thart.** There are links to register with the Society, an upcoming events page, and news about past events.

Thurles Officer (as read in absentia by the President)

- Gathering student feedback over service delivery and food quality in canteen
- Met Take Me Out Contestants
- Hosted Take Me Out for Mental Health Week
- Met Fin with MISU VPs
- Helped Caitlin with Mindful Colouring
- Spoke to Dave and Sinead over interests in new clubs and socs in Thurles
- Received student request for microwave
- Attended Exec Committee

UC Chairperson

- Attended Chairperson Training

6. General Business: First Aid Course

- The President invited exec members to express interest in taking a one-day first aid course
- Only the Welfare Officer expressed interest
- The First Aid course was offered in previous years and previous executive officers took it.

7. Any Other business/Matters Arising

a) Irish Officers

The need to have two Irish Officers in the union was noted. One officer would be based in Limerick, and the other in Thurles.

b) Welfare Officer

The need for training the newly elected officer was noted. The President committed to follow up the training.

c) Thurles Period Products

The VPSEW wondered whether the schedule for refilling period products in Thurles was finalised. The President will confirm this with the coms and services department.

d) Disabled Parking

There are 13 disability car parking spaces on the Limerick campus: 3 in JHN; 2 at the front of the Foundation Building; 2 in the staff car park near Library; 2 in the pay car park near Tara; and 4 near Summerville House.

e) Thurles Student's Lounge

The VPSEW is working with the General Manager and the Clubs and Socs Co-ordinator to procure a TV, a couch and 4 new beanbags for the Student's Lounge and Boardroom in Thurles.

f) Zumba

Class reps have requested to hold Zumba classes more often in Thurles. The VPSEW will table the request in the next Union Council meeting after consulting with the exec and the senior management team of the union.

g) Exec SharePoint

Exec members were reminded to confirm if they could access the SharePoint site by next week as the planner and other important documents would be shared on the site.

h) Beeping Sound

Maintenance is still working on stopping the beeping sound outside the union offices. It could cause bigger issues if the sound was silenced quickly. The President will continue following up the issue.

i) Thurles GP

The GP asked a female student to pay 10 euro for a contraception consultation and prescription. The student refused to pay with an understanding that the service should be offered free of charge. The VPSEW is following up the issue.

j) Thurles Ball

It has been proposed that the ball will take place in Week 11. It was, however, noted that class reps would prefer Week 10. Most students would have a lot of assignments in Week 11. The Thurles Officer will give further details on the ball in the next meeting.

8. Date & Time of Next Meeting

Wednesday 18 October 2023 in MISU Meeting Room/MS Teams