



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

Date: 19 | 09 | 2023

Week: 02

Time: 12pm

Location: MS Teams and MISU Office, Thurles

**Present:** VP Academic, VP Student Experience and Wellbeing, Thurles Officer, Irish Officer (Oifigeach Gaeilge), EDI Officer, Thurles Student Activities Officer

**Apologies:** President

### 1. Welcome and Apologies

VP Academic welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 2. Unapproved Minutes

Thurles Officer proposed the unapproved minutes of the last meeting and EDI Officer seconded the proposal.

### 3. Matters Arising

- VP Student Experience and Wellbeing spoke with John Randles (Limerick) and Kathryn Fitzgibbon (Thurles) regarding accommodation on both campuses and was told the private accommodation lists would be updated and is confident the communication with students and parents will continue to be efficient.
- Union Council – VP Academic has considered the timetabling issue brought forward by Thurles Officer in last meeting. Union Council will not go ahead on Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> as previously planned. This decision was made by VP Academic in order to obtain more Class Reps. VP Academic will have a full update on Class Reps at the next executive committee meeting.
- VP Academic informed committee that a Returning Officer has been decided for the upcoming by-election on October 5<sup>th</sup>
- Thurles Officer will share details of canteen management with President in order for the president to follow up with them as mentioned in the last meeting.

### 4. Necessitation of communication with Sabbatical Officers in reporting

VP Student Experience and Wellbeing highlighted the importance of using officer email accounts for all correspondence and reminded the executive committee to copy the President on all emails. VP Student Experience and Wellbeing also went through the SharePoint site with the officers and highlighted the importance of using the Activity Brief when events, campaigns and/or awareness pieces are being organised. Executive committee

members were also reminded that as per the Constitution (Article 9.7) "No member of the Executive shall act as Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary or Treasurer (or hold any other committee position) of any MISU club or society." The officers were advised they could collaborate with clubs and societies on events, awareness pieces and campaigns but this would need to be highlighted in promotional pieces (e.g. "in collaboration with Thurles Officer")

## 5. Confirmation of time for Exec going forward

The officers sent VP Student Experience and Wellbeing their timetables and Wednesday at 1 pm was decided as the best time for meeting going forward. This was agreed upon in the Executive Committee WhatsApp Group. All officers were in agreement.

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

### VP Academic

- Held 3 class addresses on class reps.
- Participated in Limerick and Thurles Orientations
  - 2 Limetree Theatre Addresses during orientation
  - 1 student address in Thurles during orientation
  - 1 Limerick and 1 Thurles clinic during orientation
- Planted tree in memory of prospective MIC student
- Attended to individual student cases
- Participated in training Limerick campus ambassadors
- Emailed interested class reps
- Meetings Attended: Exec Committee, Academic Council, Post Grad Orientation, EDII – Kathleen Introduction, Weekly Sabbat Catch-Up

### VP Student Experience and Wellbeing

- Worked on finalising plans for Mental Health Week on both campuses
- Held numerous class rep addresses in Limerick and Thurles
- Participated in Limerick and Thurles Orientations
  - 2 Limetree Theatre Addresses during orientation
  - 1 student address in Thurles during orientation
  - Helped with MISU Picnic
  - Spoke with Access Students during Access Orientation and provided a tour of the campus
- Spoke with Bernie (Nurse) regarding STI Testing and Pregnancy Tests for students
- Met with Melanie Brown (Counselling Service) to organise Student Parent Support Group. Provisional start date in October.
- Meetings Attended: EDII Office Meeting – Lorraine McIlraith (Director) and Kathleen Maher (Sexual Violence and Harassment Manager), Melanie Brown – Counselling

Service – Student Parent Support Group, Weekly Sabbat Catch-Up, Executive Committee

## 7. Executive Officer Updates

### a) Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Officer

- Assisted with Orientation on the Limerick Campus
- Attended International Student Buddy Night
- Attended Executive Committee Meeting
- Worked with VP Student Experience and Wellbeing on EDII documentation review
- Communicating with EDII Office regarding a culture fair
- Working on setting up a mature student coffee morning

### b) Irish Language Officer

- **Chuireas iarratas isteach agus fuair mé pacáiste le bronntanais bheaga Gaeilge, beidh siad ar fáil do bhaill nua atá ag dul leis an gCumann Gaelach.** I applied for and received a package of small Irish gifts and they will be supplied to new members of the Cumann Gaelach.
- **Chuireas tús leis an bhfeachtas *Gníomhaí Gaeilge*, agus roinnfidh mé na spriocanna a bheidh idir lámha agam go luath.** I made a start to the Gníomhaí Gaeilge campaign and shortly I will share the objectives that I will be undertaking.
- Meetings Attended:
  - **Máirt 12 Meán Fómhair (Tuesday 12 September) – Bhuail mé le hEmily-Anne Rennison, léachtóir ar Champas Phádraig maidir leis an bhfeachtas “Gníomhaí Gaeilge”, chuireamar aithne ar a chéile agus chuireamar tús le hullmhúcháin an fheachtais.** (I met with Emily-Anne Rennison, a lecturer on the Thurles campus, to discuss the campaign “Gníomhaí Gaeilge”, we introduced ourselves to each other and put a start to preparations for the campaign).
  - **Déardaoin 14 Meán Fómhair (Thursday 14 September) – Bhuail mé le Comhordaitheoir 3ú Leibhéal ó Chonradh na Gaeilge, Caoimhe Ní Mhaolaí, ar líne chun aithne a chur ar a chéile.** (I met with the 3rd Level Co-ordinator from Conradh na Gaeilge, Caoimhe Molloy, online to introduce ourselves to each other).
  - **Déardaoin 14 Meán Fómhair (Thursday 14 September) – Bhuail mé le Laoise Ní Cheallaigh, léachtóir ar Champas Phádraig agus phléamar stádas na Gaeilge i measc na mac léinn agus conas gur féidir linn nasc a chruthú idir an dá champas.** (I met with Laoise Ní Cheallaigh, a lecturer on the Thurles campus, and we discussed the status of Irish amongst students and how we can create a better link between the two campuses).

- Luan 18 Meán Fómhair (Monday 14 September) – Chuir mé fáilte roimh Caoimhe Ní Mhaolaí ar champas Phádraig nuair a thug sí cuairt gearr dúinn chun tacaíochtaí atá ar fáil ó Chonradh na Gaeilge agus imeachtaí Gaeilge atá ag teacht aníos a roinnt agus a phlé linn. (I welcomed Caoimhe Molloy to the Thurles Campus as she gave a shórt visit to share and discuss the supports available from CNAG and upcoming events).
- Campaigns/ activities planned:
  - Táim ag súil go bhfaighidh mé liosta le hainmneacha na mball sa Chumann Gaelach ar an dá champas ionas gur féidir liom ríomhphost rialta a sheoladh chucu (le cead uathu) le heolas maidir le imeachtaí/feachtais atá ag teacht aníos. I am hoping to get a list of names of the members of both Cumann Gaelachs so I can send them a regular email (with their permission) with information of upcoming events and campaigns.
- Imeachtaí atá ag teacht aníos/Upcoming events:
  - Tráth na gCeist Boird *Beár an Chontae, Durlas Éile* (26ú Meán Fómhair)
  - Traenáil na gCumann Gaelach *Áth Cliath* (6-8ú Deireadh Fómhair)
  - Comhrá '23 *Ar líne/ar champas* (9-10ú Deireadh Fómhair)
  - Oireachtas na Samhna *Cill Airne, Co. Chiarraí* (1-5ú Samhain)
- Additional Updates:
  - Chuir mé féin agus Cathaoirleach an Chumainn Ghaelaigh Luimnigh, Darragh Ó Loingsigh, aithne ar a chéile trí ríomhphost. I have been introduced to the Chairperson of the Limerick Cumann Gaelach through email.
  - Fuair mé ríomhphost ó Oifigeach Forbartha Comhluadair Luimnigh, Ava Nic Searraigh faoi imeachtaí Gaeilge a chur ar siúl i gcontae Luimnigh ach ní raibh deis agam athfhreagra a sheoladh chuici go fóill. I got an email from the Development Officer of Comhluadar Luimnigh about putting on Irish-language events in Limerick but I have not been able to reply to her yet.

c) Thurles Officer

- Took part in Orientation on Thurles Campus
- Assisted student with script viewing and grade rechecks with VP Student Experience and Wellbeing
- Spoke with Fiona O'Dwyer (Thurles Counsellor) and Maria Ryan (Lecturer) to help organise and attend matures coffee morning
- Spoke with Ruth Talbot (Thurles Library) regarding a number of students who have requested an extension of library office hours/ study area
- Meetings Attended: Executive Committee
- Campaigns/ activities planned:

- Speak with Eadaoin Shanahan and compose a weekly email to be sent to all students with upcoming weeks activities
- Arrange for a Microsoft Form to be send to students to highlight any issues they may have

d) Student Activities Officer (Thurles)

- Worked with Dave Cuddihy to organise Thurles Campus Clubs and Societies Fair on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September

## 8. General Business

## 9. Any Other Business

- Thurles Officer is hoping to organise a Coffee Morning for Mature Students and asked where to seek funding for this. VP Student Experience and Wellbeing will follow up on this and report back to Thurles Officer.
- EDI Officer is working on setting up a Mature Student WhatsApp group or email list and asked what the best way to do this was. VP Student Experience and Wellbeing will work with EDI Officer on this have an update for the next meeting.
- EDI Officer asked for schedule of works in Summerville Building as lifts will be out of order during the coming weeks. VP Student Experience and Wellbeing will follow up on this and update EDI Officer on the information received.
- VP Student Experience and Wellbeing will send Exec a calendar with all relevant dates as a live document before the next meeting.

## 10. Union Council

Discussed above

## 11. Date & Time of Next Meeting

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023 in MISU Meeting Room/MS Teams