



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

Date: 22 | 02 | 2024

Week: 04

Time: 4pm

Location: MS Teams

Present: President, VP Academic, Thurles Officer, EDI Officer

Absent: Thurles Student Activities Officer, Welfare Officer, Irish Officer
(Oifigeach Gaeilge)

Apologies: Post Grad Officer

1. Welcome and Apologies

The President welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 4:06pm.

2. Unapproved Minutes

The EDI Officer proposed the unapproved minutes from the last meeting and the Thurles Officer seconded.

3. Matters Arising

Election Road Map – MISU General Elections will run between Friday (23 February) and Thursday (7 March). Nominations will open tomorrow and close next Friday (1 March). Hustings, the question and answer session for aspiring candidates, will be held on Wednesday (6 March). Elections will follow the next day. The President was hopeful all the 10 exec positions, especially the top three (3) sabbatical positions, will be contested and filled this year. If not, by-elections will be held later in September. The need to send election info packs to fourth year class reps was noted.

Thurles Charity Week – The week will fall in Week 5 (i.e. the week of 26 February). Various activities have been planned for it, including Puc Fada on Tuesday; Tag Rugby on Wednesday; Sonic Inflatable activities and games on Wednesday; and Simply Blended will be on campus on Wednesday. Since a number of day-time events were already organised, the union could not proceed with organising night-time events. The President will send an email to update students and class reps on Thurles Charity Week.

Class Rep Updates – A total of 72 class reps have been elected: 54 in Limerick and 18 in Thurles. Thurles has for the first time, since last semester, seen an increment in the number of reps. The number of fourth year reps is also increasing. This development cheered the VPA who remained grateful to the executive for support.

Staff-Student Forums – The date for the Thurles forum (12 March) will remain unchanged. The Head of School in Thurles and the Acting Assistant Dean agreed to keep the date. PME staff-student forum will be held on Monday (26 February) at 1pm in

Limerick. The B.Ed forum will be held on Wednesday (28 February), starting from 1pm to 4pm. ECCE students will hold their forum in Limerick on Wednesday (6 March) at 1pm. Finally, the Arts faculty staff-student forum will be held on Wednesday (20 March) from 2pm. The forums provide students an opportunity to give management feedback on academic programmes and/or modules. They are organised by the VPA in collaboration with the assistant deans of the Education and Arts faculties in Limerick and the Head of School in Thurles.

Gníomhail Gaeilge/Seachtain Na Gaeilge Updates – There were no new updates on this issue since the last meeting. The Irish Language Officer was absent to provide any updates. The issue will be revisited in the next meeting.

4. Sabbatical Officer Reports

President

- Preparing for Thurles Charity week
- Organising Seachtain na Gaeilge
- Attended Teaching & Learning Directorate
- Participated in Too Into You interview and panel discussion
- Attended Arts Faculty Board
- Dealt with parking issues
- Attended Quality Committee
- Chaired UC meeting
- Attended Executive Committee
- Dealt with individual student issues
- Attended B Ed & Psych Course Board

VP Academic

- Elected and notified new class reps
- Issued calls for class reps to 1st and 4th years
- Attended Thurles Programme Board
- Edited UC minutes and feedback secretary
- Attended B.Ed Psych Course Board
- Prepared Exec minutes
- Attended Executive Committee
- Prepared UC documentation and sent meeting invite
- Attended Athena Swan Subcommittee
- Participated in Limerick Charity Week
- Attended PME Course Board
- Confirmed dates for Edu-Thurles Staff-Student Forums
- Reviewed FE Board documentation
- Attended B.Ed Course Board
- Dealt with individual student cases
- Attended M.Ed LWE Course Board

5. Executive Officer Updates

EDI Officer

- Organising Thurles STAND Festival
- Represented union at Fitzgerald Cup tournament
- Attended Refugee Day
- Attended Executive Committee

Thurles Officer

- Organising Charity Week
- Dealt with recheck and appeal student issues
- Officer to send full updates once on campus

6. Any Other Business

a) Thurles Gaeltacht Fees

The VPA raised this issue at the recent Thurles Programme Board. The board agreed to resume conversations of the fees with the Department of Education. The talks stalled at instruction from the President's Office. The union will push for resumption of the talks through Finn in Thurles and Brendan in Limerick.

b) What's the Craic Survey

The Welfare Officer won the exec prize for the most clicked and completed QR code. The President thanked all exec members for promoting the survey, which had a total of 1,485 respondents at its close on Friday (16 February).

c) Thurles STAND Festival

The need for about four (4) student volunteers for the festival was noted. The EDI Officer and Thurles Officer will discuss the recruitment of the volunteers through email.

7. Date & Time of Next Meeting

Thursday, 29 February, 2024 at 4pm online and in-person.