



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

Date: 25 | 10 | 2023

Week: 07

Time: 1pm

Location: MS Teams

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

Apologies: Thurles Student Activities Officer, Welfare Officer

1. Welcome and Apologies

The President welcomed everyone and called meeting to order at 1pm.

2. Unapproved Minutes

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

3. Matters Arising

- i) New Thurles Ball Date – The President noted that the venue for the ball was not available on 14 November and wondered if the 15 November would work instead. The new proposed date could not work as fourth years have presentations on that day. It was noted that students were eagerly waiting for confirmation of the date as soon as next week. The President will report back to the comms and services department.
- ii) Teaching Council Update – The Teaching Council visited the college on Monday (in Limerick) and Tuesday (in Thurles). Council officials met students, staff and some union officers. The VPSEW described the meeting between the officials and students in Limerick as constructive. In the meeting, Limerick students, who were class reps recruited by the union, raised concerns over placement, tutors, Gaeltacht, and lack of communication with the college. Both the VPSEW and the VPA were present at the meeting. In Thurles, no union member attended the meeting between the teaching council and students. However, when council officials visited the student's union office, the Thurles Officer called on them to look into Gaeltacht fees for students. The officers appeared receptive.
- iii) Gaeltacht Fees – this issue was presented to the Teaching Council and the exec will follow up.
- iv) Upcoming Events –
 - **Halloween Games:** the games will be held on both campuses next Tuesday (31 October). The VPA will co-ordinate games in Limerick between 1pm and

3pm, while the VPSEW together with the Thurles Officer will co-ordinate those in Thurles between 12pm and 2pm. Students will play different games, including Monopoly and 30 Seconds. 30 Seconds was donated by Fuzion Communication, a Dublin-based PR firm.

- **Pride Week:** the VPSEW is finalising the schedule for this week with the coms and services department. The officer is also in touch with Tipperary Pride for them to participate in the week. During Pride Week, contraception will be offered to students on both campuses, and social media videos with “Happy Pride Week” messages will be produced.
- **Christmas Week:** It was suggested that the Christmas Daze in Thurles be held on 29 November. It was noted Finn should be kept updated on the Christmas Daze. The need to find out the suitable date for the daze from students in Limerick was also noted.
- The President announced that the coms department has planned other events for Thurles. The executive committee approved them, but the Thurles Officer pointed out that officers should be given a heads up that events were being planned. The planned events are:

Date: Tuesday October 31st

Client: The Recovery Hub

Venue: The MISU Boardroom (if possible could you ask Shane to move two tables to the corner on the right as you walk into the boardroom from the landing)

Time: 10am -3pm

Details: The Recovery Hub will have smoothie bowls and smoothies for students to purchase

Date: Wednesday November 8th

Client: Thurles Swap Shop – organised by Ruth Talbot with student and MISU support

Venue: MISU Boardroom or Lounge (please note the venue will be decided based on where Union Council will be held)

Time: 3pm start, finish TBC

Details: will confirm once more information has been provided

Date: Thursday November 9th

Client: Engage Education

Venue: At foot of main stairs

Time: TBC

Details: Engage Education will be providing details on job opportunities for teachers

- v) Thurles Camera – A new camera for online meetings has been ordered for Thurles. The President stressed that the equipment is expensive, and urged executive members to lock it when not in use.

- vi) HDMI cables in Thurles – Currently, there's only one HDMI cable in the student's union office in Thurles. More will be ordered soon to ease the hosting of online meetings.

- vii) Thurles Furniture Updates – An order for new furniture in union spaces in Thurles has been placed. The furniture includes: 2 tables, 1 coffee table, 4 bean bag chairs, and a TV screen for the boardroom.

4. Sabbatical Officer Reports

President

- Trained Welfare Officer
- Attended Quality Committee meeting
- Shot Video in Thurles
- Facilitated Céim Review
- Attended Arts Faculty Board meeting
- Prepared for Working Group
- Attended Environment and Sustainability meeting
- Produced Academic Integrity Week Video
- Attended Union Council meeting
- Prepared for Pride Week
- Reviewed Exec Training
- Manned stand in Limerick open days
- Attended Executive Committee

VP Student Experience and Wellbeing

- Prepared for upcoming events: Pride Week, Christmas Week, EDII 16 Days of Activism
- Attended HR communications meetings
- Held coffee morning for student parents
- Attended Union Council meeting
- Facilitated appointment of Union Council subcommittees
- Attended 3rd Level Drug and Alcohol Network meeting
- Organising furniture for Thurles campus
- Attended Gaeltacht Fees Focus Group in Thurles
- Prepared and facilitated Céim Review
- Attended two (2) Teaching Council Review meetings in Limerick
- Participated in Limerick Open Day

- Met Fourth Year Student over Extended Placement
- Organised contraception for Thurles campus
- Met Bernie over Thurles STI Clinic
- Advocated for STI Clinic in Thurles
- Met Finn over Thurles Class Rep Issue
- Attended Executive Committee

VP Academic

- Implemented Academic Integrity Week
- Attended the National Academic Integrity Week Conference
- Recorded SM video for Academic Integrity Week
- Received class rep Academic Integrity Week videos
- Held Class Rep/AI Clinic in Limerick
- Attended Quality Committee meeting
- Planning Halloween Games
- Attended Pride Week Prep meeting
- Elected more class reps
- Created Class Rep WhatsApp group
- Attended HR Communication Session
- Edited and circulated UC documentation
- Attended Christmas Daze/Markets Prep meeting
- Registered for College Fire Training
- Attended Arts Faculty Board meeting
- Contacted Arts Faculty over Staff-Student Forum
- Attended to individual student cases
- Attended Academic Regulations Committee meeting
- Attended Sabbat Communication Catch-Up
- Manned MISU stand during Open Day
- Contacted Fuzion Communication over 30 Seconds
- Attended Exec Committee

5. Executive Officer Updates

EDI Officer

- Communication over Stand Festival
- Met with Dave to discuss the fest
- Attended Executive Committee

Irish Language Officer

- Attended Executive Committee

Thurles Officer

- Addressed Teaching Council Officials
- Highlighted student-lecturer issues
- Dealt with canteen issues

- Refilled period products
- Stuck posters around campus
- Attended Executive Committee

Welfare Officer

- Creating annual action plan
- Completed exec training
- Attended Executive Committee

6. General Business: Class Reps

- A total of 59 class reps have been elected and notified on both campuses as of Week 7: 42 in Limerick and 17 in Thurles.
- More are still being elected and notified. The VPA will give another update in the next meeting.
- The VPA remains grateful to the exec for their valuable contribution towards the class rep nomination process.

7. Any Other business

a. Union Council Chairperson

There is a new UC Chair, following the resignation of the previous Chairperson due to personal reasons. The previous Chair will remain media studies year two class rep. New Chairperson was previously UC secretary; thereby, leaving the post vacant at the moment.

b. Class Rep Social Event

The night event is being planned for Week 9, which coincides with Pride Week. It was noted that the class rep outing could be held before Pride evening events on campuses. The VPA will report back to the coms and services department.

c. Thurles STI Clinic Update

The clinic will be run outside campus by the Thurles GP. Students will pay the usual 10-euro appointment fee, and will not need to notify reception of the nature of their appointment.

8. Date & Time of Next Meeting

Wednesday 1 November 2023 at 1pm in MISU Meeting Room/MS Teams