



Date: Wednesday, 1st February 2023

Week: 2

Time: 6:00pm

Location: Hybrid meeting with in person and zoom attendance from both MIC Limerick and MIC Thurles campuses.

In-Person Attendance:

Limerick: MISU President, MISU Welfare Officer, BA 4th Year Linguistics Rep, BA 4th Year Gaeilge Rep

Thurles: Union Council Chairperson, Thurles Campus Officer, BA in Ed: Business & Religion 3rd Year Rep, BA in Ed: Business & Accounting 3rd Year Rep.

Zoom Attendance:

BA in Ed: Gaeilge & Business 2nd Year Rep, BA in Ed: Gaeilge & Maths 1st Year Rep, B.Ed 3rd Year 6A Rep, B.Ed 1st Year 7A Rep, B.Ed 2nd Year 5A Rep, BA 4th Year English Rep, BA CATS 2nd Year Rep, B.Ed & Psych 3rd Year A Rep, B.Ed 3rd Year 4A Rep, ECCE 3rd Year A Rep, BA in Ed: Gaeilge & Business 3rd Year Rep, B.Ed 1st Year 6B Rep, B.Ed 3rd Year 6B Rep, BA 1st Year English Rep, BA 4th Year Media Rep, BA 4th Year History Rep, BA 4th Year Psychology Rep, BA in Ed: Gaeilge & Maths 2nd Year Rep, BA in Ed: Maths & Business 2nd Year Rep, BA 2nd Year History Rep.

Apologies: All apologies were given in the Class Rep WhatsApp Group Chat.

1. Welcome and Apologies

MISU President and Union Council Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Unapproved Minutes

Proposed by MISU President and seconded by the MISU Welfare Officer.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Sabbatical Officer Reports

President

- Continuing to work hard in planning the semester ahead.
- Work continuing on a review of the representation structures.
- Has been working closely with the MISU Communications & Services Coordinator to plan the upcoming Charity Weeks on both campuses.
- Was in office on results day and attended to a variety of queries such as system crashes, fails, repeats, compensating fails and I Grades.
- Has been active in responding to timetable queries and problems.
- Attended a meeting with third year B. Ed students and the Dean of Education to discuss issues regarding their assigned subbing day being placed on a Wednesday.
- Gave a special thanks to the MISU Communications & Services coordinator for all her hard work and help in planning the MIC Limerick & MIC Thurles Charity Weeks.
- Met with An Comhairle Acadúil.
- Attended a number of meetings such as with student parents, the equality committee, the finance department and with President of MIC, Eugene Wall.

- Is currently working to resolve issues with Turnitin, and is investigating the Pass/Fail results limitations of placement.

Executive Committee

- The MISU Executive Committee has called a referendum to introduce a third Sabbatical Officership. The role shall be titled “Vice-President: Student Experience & Wellbeing”. The referendum will need to be held in two weeks and the aim is to have the third Sabbatical Officership voted in and ready as a contestable position in the MISU General Election in March.

Updates to Schedules of the MISU Constitution

- Disciplinary Procedures Schedule
 - Proposed by BA in Education: Gaeilge & Business 3rd Year Class Rep
 - Seconded by B.Ed 1st Year Group 6B Class Rep
- Schedule of Matters to move the decision making from governance to the Advisory Board
 - Proposed by BA in Education: Gaeilge & Business 2nd Year Class Rep
 - Seconded by BA ECCE 3rd Year Group A Class Rep

5. Academic Matters

Notice of upcoming meetings

- Course Boards for all Education Courses.
- Feedback and issues meetings - MISU President emphasized the importance of students providing feedback so it can be discussed at relevant meetings.
- APAC

Online Classes

- Currently all classes take place in person as there is a full return to both MIC campuses after the Covid-19 Pandemic.
- Students questioned whether there was a possibility of some classes being moved to online where it is a case that a group has only one lecture on a particular day.
- MISU President made the point that this would not be the case for all groups and where classes are shared between groups, it would be complicated to move classes online.
- Students made the point that lecturers occasionally put classes online to suit their own timetables but when students request the same, it is not possible to do so.
- This discussion continued with further timetabling queries and issues to be investigated.

6. Non-Academic Matters

Charity Week(s)

- Charity week will take place on the Limerick Campus in week 3 and on the Thurles Campus in week 4.
- In Limerick, Dolan’s will be providing the bar on campus from Tuesday (7th) to Thursday (9th) and there are also some night-time events arranged. Live music will take place in the Students Lounge over the three days.

LIFT Programme

- MISU President was contact by a member of the Community Enterprise Board regarding the LIFT Leadership Programme. It is a workshop based Social Enterprise Leadership Programme that focuses on leadership and empathy skills. An email address for the coordinator of the course was distributed.

Parking

- Parking is a reoccurring topic of discussion under non-academic matters.
- MISU President has mentioned the temporary “Park & Ride” solution being proposed by MIC which proved very successful on Graduation Day.
- For this solution, students would park at the nearby Greyhound Stadium and shuttle

- buses would operate between there and the MIC Limerick Campus every 30 minutes.
- Currently, illegal parking on campus is becoming a health and safety risk and it has been noted that cars parked on the main road outside Ashdown Centre are beginning to be towed.
 - Students living in the proximity to campus are again being encouraged to walk and not drive as to allow those traveling a far distance, a chance to get parking.

Referendum

- A Returning Officer will need to be recruited for the upcoming referendum.

7. Any Other Business

Thurles

- Request for an Irish Language Officer on the MIC Thurles campus to support the demand for Irish activities and to support students. It was said that approximately 50% of students in Thurles are studying Irish and a single visit from the current Irish Language Officer is not sufficient nor it is feasible for one person to solely maintain the role.
- A request on the possibility of a referendum for this was raised.
- Issues on third year Gaeltacht Placement were discussed. Questions were raised regarding why Thurles students (Second level teachers) are not covered in a similar manner that Limerick students (Primary level teachers) are. MISU President explained that this conversation has been taken place many times and that a solution has not been found.
- Query on class rep hoodies and when they will be distributed in Thurles.

Limerick

- Query on the Aiste book and if it was possible for it to be stocked in an Síopa again or if a click & collect system could be arranged.
- Request for the dates of Psych Fest to be moved as it clashes with the date for the Spin South West Student Race Day.
- Request for more active / exercise classes as those currently on offer are full. Interest was expressed in either Pilates or Yoga.

8. Date & Time of Next Meeting

Wednesday, February 15th at 6pm.