



Mary I Students' Union | Aontas na Mac Léinn  
**Union Council Meeting Minutes**

Date: 08 | 11 | 2023

Week: 09

Time: 6:00pm

Location: MIUS Meeting Room/Student's Lounge/Teams

Present:

- **MISU Executive:** President; VPA; VPSEW; Thurles Officer; Irish Language Officer; Welfare Officer
- **Limerick Reps:** BSc 2 Psychology; BSc 1 Psychology; BA 1 Drama; BA 1 Music; BA 1 Geography; BA 4 History; BA 1 Psychology; BA 2 History; BA CATS 2; ECCE 2(a); B.Ed. 2 (4A); B.Ed. 2 (2B); B.Ed. 2 (2A); B.Ed. 3 (2B); B.Ed. 2 International; B.Ed. 3(5A); B.Ed. and Psyche 3 (GA); B.Ed. 2 (7A); B.Ed. 3 (1A); PME 1 (G3); PME 1 (G2); MA Applied Linguistics
- **Thurles Reps:** 2nd Year Maths and Gaeilge; 1st Year Maths and Gaeilge; 2nd Year Gaeilge and Business; 1st Year Gaeilge and Business; 4th Year Maths and Business Rep; 2nd Year Business and Accounting; 1st Year Business and Religious Studies; 3rd Year Business and Accounting; 4th Year Gaeilge and Business

Apologies:

- ECCE 1A Rep
- ECCE 4A Rep
- B.Ed. 1 (1B) Rep
- B.Ed. 1 (6B) Rep
- PME 2 (G1) Rep
- B.Ed. 3 (6B) Rep
- 1st Year Business and Accounting Rep
- 3rd Year Maths and Business Rep

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## 1. Welcome and Apologies

The newly elected chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted.

## 2. Unapproved Minutes

Minutes from the last two meetings were approved. Week 5 minutes were proposed by BSc 1 Psychology Rep and seconded by B.Ed. 3 (1A) Rep. Week 7 minutes were proposed by BA 4 History Rep and seconded by BSc 2 Psychology Rep.

### 3. Matters Arising

#### a) Gaeltacht Fees

The union will be taking two approaches to advocate for these fees: 1) request the Teaching Council to make attending the Gaeltacht a requirement for post primary student teachers; (2) seek funding from the college to subsidise the fees. 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Maths and Gaeilge Rep and 1<sup>st</sup> Year Gaeilge and Business Rep got feedback from their class and they voted in favour of the first approach. A Focus Group has since been set up to gather feedback on this issue.

#### b) MISU Strategic Plan Update

Review of the plan will be implemented in Week 2 of Semester 2.

Implementation will involve students completing a survey and participating in focus group discussions. The President urged class reps to promote the review of the strategic plan to their classmates. More updates on this will be shared in subsequent meetings.

#### c) Terms of Reference

The President presented amendments to the Terms of Reference for Advisory. 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Gaeilge and Business Rep proposed to approve the terms of reference, and 4<sup>th</sup> Year Maths and Business Rep seconded.

#### d) New Class Rep Structure

There is a proposal to change the current class rep structure to a senate structure. The proposal is currently at consultation stage. The President will give more information on the new structure in future council meetings.

#### e) Limerick Sports FGD

The college has requested the union to recruit students who play Non GAA sports in Limerick to participate in focus group discussions (FGDs). The group discussions are aimed at gathering feedback from students on the new sports facility the college is intending to construct. Class reps were encouraged to participate in the discussions and share the call for participation with their classes.

### 4. Any Other Business

#### a. Thurles

- i. Methodology Focus Group Discussion – Some students will be meeting Finn and Becky tomorrow (Thursday) to discuss methodology issues.
- ii. Graduation – Thurles students want their own graduation ceremony in future.

#### b. Limerick

- i. PME 1 Placement Issue – the issue has been resolved. Students know their placement schools and partners.

- ii. Placement Fee – the President clarified that the 60-euro students pay towards placement is not for them to find a school, but is meant to facilitate for their supervisors and tutors.
- iii. Advertising Clubs & Socs – To advertise training for the women’s soccer team, students should contact the clubs and socs co-ordinator or administrator.

**c. Both Campuses**

- i. Staff-Student Forums – the forums have started. The Arts Faculty in Limerick will hold their forums next Wednesday (15 November) between 10am and 12pm in MISU Meeting Room. The Education Faculty on both campuses is currently planning their staff-student forums. The VPA will follow up on where ECCE and BACATS fall in relation to the forums.

**5. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Wednesday (22 November, 2023) of Week 10 at 6pm.