



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

Date: 22 | 11 | 2023 | Week: 11

Time: 6pm

Location: MISU Meeting Room/MS Teams

Present:

- **MISU Executive:** President; VPA; VPSEW; UC Chairperson
- **Limerick Reps:** B.Ed International 2 Rep; B.Ed & Psyche 2 Rep; B.Ed & Psyche 1GA Rep; B.Ed & Psyche 3GA Rep; B.Ed 3 G5A Rep; B.Ed 3 G6B Rep; B.Ed 1 G3A; B.Ed 1 G1A Rep; B.Ed 1 G7A; PME 1 G1 Rep; PME 1 G2; PME 2 Rep; BSc Psyche 1 Rep; BSc Psyche 2 Rep; BA CATS 4 Rep; BA Music 1 Rep; BA History 4 Rep; BA ECCE 2 Rep; BA Psyche 1 Rep; BA English 4 Rep; BA History 2 Rep; BA ECCE 4 Rep
- **Thurles Reps:** 4<sup>th</sup> Year Maths and Business Rep; 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Maths and Business Rep; 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Business and Religion Rep; 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Gaeilge and Business Rep

Apologies:

- Thurles Officer
- Welfare Officer
- PME 1 G3 Rep
- BA English 2 Rep
- BA ECCE 1 Rep
- Gaeilge & Business 1 Rep
- Gaeilge & Religion 4 Rep
- Gaeilge & Business 4 Rep
- Maths & Gaeilge 1 Rep
- Business & Religion 1
- Business & Accounting 2 Rep

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## 1. Welcome and Apologies

The chairperson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:03pm. Apologies were noted.

## 2. Unapproved Minutes

Minutes from the last meeting were approved. Approval was proposed by BA 4 History Rep and seconded by BA ECCE 2 Rep.

### 3. Matters Arising

#### a) Class Rep Clothing/Selection Boxes

All 2023/24 class reps will receive green t-shirts instead of hoodies as expected. The t-shirts will be part of the Class Rep Pack prepared by the Comms and Services Department. Other items in the pack will include: a water bottle, a travel mug, earphones, a multifunction cable keychain, a pop socket, an A4 manuscript book, and a weekly planner. The order for the t-shirts has since been placed. In addition to the packs, class reps will receive selection boxes as Christmas gifts from the union.

#### b) Placement Fee

The President and the VPA are following up the detailed breakdown of the 60-euro that students contribute towards placement. This came after a PME 1 Class Rep emailed the VPA to demand for a further breakdown of the placement levy. Earlier, the President explained that the levy covers administrative costs. Sabbats are waiting on the Finance Director to send a detailed breakdown of the levy.

#### c) Thurles Zumba Classes

An instructor to offer regular Zumba classes to students in Thurles has been found. The VPSEW is yet to finalise dates and times for the classes. A class rep will be a link between students and the instructor.

#### d) Christmas Week

The union will observe this week in Week 12 (next week). There will be two Christmas Markets during the week: the Thurles market will be held on Tuesday (28 November), while the Limerick one will be held the next day (Wednesday, 29 November). Thursday (30 November) has been set aside as Christmas Day in Limerick. Dolans will host the annual Christmas Daze at 3pm on that day, while Molly's will host the afterparty from 6pm.

### 4. Non-Academic Matter: Limerick Spring Ball

MISU is planning to hold a ball for Limerick students in the Spring semester. Class reps have since given the VPA positive feedback on this plan. The VPA appreciated council members for gathering feedback from their classes. The date, time, venue and charges for the Spring Ball are yet to be detained. It was noted that Week 10 would be more suitable for most students to attend the ball.

### 5. Any Other Business

#### a. Thurles

None.

#### b. Limerick

- i. Park and Ride – The cost of running the facility is outweighing its usage by students. If the usage of the park and ride facility will still be low by Week 3 in Semester 2, the college will stop offering it to students.
  - ii. Semester 1 Feedback – the need for class reps to send the President feedback on Semester 1 was noted.
  - iii. Grad Ball – the need to organise a separate Grad Ball for post graduate students was noted. The President will follow up this issue and enquire if the current ball is open to post grads.
  - iv. Collaboration Spaces – BA ECCE 4 Class Rep called for the need to create spaces on campus where student could collaborate on groups tasks. The President will follow up this concern.
  - v. Dissertation/Placement Supervision – BA ECCE 4 Class Rep noted differences in the way students are supervised during placement and in their dissertation. The rep observed that it was unfair for students in the same class with the same assignment to be treated differently. The President advised the rep to sign post all affected students to the union.
  - vi. Thesis Supervision – the need to cap the number of students a supervisor has was noted. PME 2 Rep revealed that some supervisors supervise about 20 students. It was agreed that having fewer students would assure quality supervision as each student would be given adequate attention.
- c. **Both**
- i. UC Secretary Election – no one volunteered to be union council secretary. The election was pushed to next semester.
  - ii. MasterChef Survey – it was noted that the survey was not sent to all students at the college.

## 6. Date & Time of Next Meeting

Semester 2. The VPA will send provisional dates and times for meetings in the Spring Semester.