Name: Amy Keatinge
Course: Deputy President for TU Dublin Students’ Union, Tallaght Campus/Marketing Management Graduate
Position Contested: TU Dublin Students’ Union President.

Who am I?
My name is Amy Keatinge and I am the Deputy President of TU Dublin Students’ Union - Tallaght Campus. I have spent the last two years representing the students of TU Dublin Tallaght Campus as both their President and Deputy President.

The last 2 years have seen the Students’ Union transform to a completely new entity. One that has the power to make a real change.

I have worked alongside my team to reform the Students’ Union, We have not just refurbished the SU building but we have made a real change in how our students interact with elected officers by introducing various initiatives such as “Ask SU” and implementing new campaign weeks for students to get involved.

My experience, my achievements and why I am the right candidate to lead TU Dublin SU:

● Received the TU Dublin Transformation Leader award 2019.
● Awarded the Youth Leader award in the annual Tallaght Person of the year awards 2019.
● Represented you the students of TU Dublin on the Governing Body of the University.
● Doubled the amount of day & night time events on the Tallaght Campus.
● Developed an accessibility and commercial strategy during my time in Tallaght.
● Member of the USI finance committee to ensure the national union is held to account.
● Partnered with South Dublin County Council to launch Accessibility Week.
● Organised a General Election Discussion Panel for our students to engage in politics.

I have lots of ideas to reform our Students’ Union, below are my 5 key areas, but to ensure our Students’ Union is representing you the student, It will be vital that the students have input into the work of the President. If elected I will hold a meeting on each campus and get as many ideas from you the student on what you would like to see in my work plan for the academic year.

Representation:
As your President I will represent you both locally and nationally. I have worked closely with elected representatives to fight for higher education funding, better resources in the Tallaght campus and community, affordable accommodation for students, the issues around SUSI and the many barriers that our students face when attending third level education. Students need to be on both our local and national political agenda. We haven't been and If elected I will ensure that I take a proactive approach to having the voices of our students heard. I will also ensure that students’ voices are listened to around the move to Grangegorman and the various changes our university will be undertaking in the coming year.

Union Development:

● We are a Students’ Union that proudly represents 28,500 students across Dublin we must be always looking at ways to develop our Students’ Union to ensure it is representing our members. This year we will be undergoing a full review of our
constitution. It is imperative that students are not just involved in this new constitution but in fact are leading these changes. If elected I plan too;

● Conduct a variety of focus groups, surveys and student forums to listen to what changes our students want to see in our new constitution.
● Develop strong policies to ensure our officers are developing informative campaigns.
● Continue to work on projects that will have a long lasting effect.
● Ensure our officers are trained in various areas to best represent their students.

Accountability:
It is paramount that students are at the forefront of every decision that our University makes. I plan to introduce bi monthly meetings so students can get an update on what their SU is working on.

● I want to increase student representation on boards and committees across TU Dublin.
● I want to hold monthly forums where students can find out what their SU are up to and feed into future projects that the SU will be carrying out especially our new constitution.
● In line with the University's strategic plan I want to ensure that we implement big changes across our university especially in terms of sustainability.

Access and Support:
It is often perceived that to get to college all you need is the points in that dreaded leaving cert, this is not the case. Students are faced with many barriers to education. I have had barriers put up in front of my own education many times. During my time in Tallaght I saw just how injustice the education system in Ireland is. Fees are the highest in the European Union.

● I would like to work with the national union and our education officers to see a reform in the SUSI grant.
● I will carry out a comparative research of what support services are available in other universities and work to improve the services in our university.
● I would like to work with the Education officer and the University to ensure there is academic and maths support available to our students on our various campuses.
● Introduce pop up stands in the first few weeks on EVERY campus to answer any questions and queries our students may have, whether it’s about their course, SUSI, financial aid or how to get involved in campus life.
● Carry out a project to analyse how accessible our courses and buildings are for all of our students and improve the accessibility on our campuses.

Communication and Engagement:
This is an area that I am extremely passionate about and an area in which I have a lot of experience. If elected I would like to roll out different campaigns to engage with our students. If elected

● Hold bi monthly meetings for students to get an update on what the SU are doing.
● Increase the number of on campus and evening events.
● Work with the Entertainments and Engagement officer to see what events our students want.
● I will produce a monthly update via our various social media channels
● Develop the students’ union website to ensure it is user friendly and easily accessible

Conclusion
To conclude I believe that students have the power to make real change and it has been an honour to be a part of those changes. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me on campus or online. I hope you will put your trust in me Amy Keatinge and vote me to be your next President of TU Dublin SU on March 31st and April 1st.

I hope you will KEEP KEATINGE

Ni neart go cur le chéile - Strength in Unity