

James Curry Manifesto for Deputy President (Tallaght Campus)

Hi everyone!

My name is James Curry, I am a 4th year Sports Science and Health student and Class Rep of the XP stream and a student councillor. I am putting myself forward for the role of Deputy President of the Tallaght Campus because I believe I can make sure that everyone's voice is heard and make a change for the students of the Tallaght Campus. I am very open, hardworking, enthusiastic, and dedicated in making sure that everything gets sorted, be it organising an event or dealing with an issue that a student may have.

Since 1st year, I have been heavily involved in college life. I created Nerd society, was chairperson for said society and was a part of four other societies, Airsoft, Drama, Radio and Rainbow, being an Ordinary Committee Member for Airsoft and Drama society. My dedication towards societies lead me to be successfully elected as Societies Officer for the following year, as well as win the "Best Fresher" award at BICS, which is the largest society awards in Ireland, and at our annual Clubs and Soc Awards while also winning "Best New Society" for Nerd society. I was a part of the Entertainments Crew in first year, helping publicise their events and attending any workshops and events such as the "Break the Barriers" march. In my 2nd year as Societies Officer, I was able to help all the societies that the Tallaght Campus had by offering support as well as assist them in increasing their presence around the campus. I had saved certain societies that nearly disbanded at the start of the year as well as resurrecting old societies in the second semester, making sure that everything was set up and that they were well supported. I have gotten to experience what goes on in the background of the Students' Union, seeing how much organisation goes on into making campaigns and event for the college as well as representing students at our Student Council, which is where motions and policies are voted for all of the campuses. I worked tirelessly throughout that year to make sure that what we were doing mattered not just for societies but also the whole student body. In my 3rd year, I was the School Rep for Science & Computing. Though that year was online due to COVID-19, I was still able to help many students throughout the college year, making sure that they were able to access the assistance they needed while online and making sure that if any student was unable to attend labs due to COVID that they weren't punished or failed their practical components for the semester. Currently in my final year, I am one of the Class Reps for the XP Stream of Sports Science and Health. I have been acting as a liaison between my class and my lecturers, making sure that information is getting across to both sides and also bring any concerns that our class might have forward to our lecturers. I am currently the Secretary for the Airsoft Society and the Treasurer for the Volleyball club. As Secretary, I plan out committee meetings and overlook the emails and schedules of our events. As Treasurer, I overlook all of the finance in the club, recording the income and expenditure and coming up with costs for any events that we plan.

Though the full-time position of Students Union will be more challenging than when I was a part-time officer, I am determined to work my hardest to try make a difference.

Facilities

There are two facilities on the Tallaght that I would like to work on if elected as Deputy President, being Premier House and the new Sports Centre being constructed.

- I have had a number of lectures in Premier House throughout my college experience. The building usually feels quite segregated from the main campus any time an event is going on or when there are any issues with any of the projectors or computer labs. As Deputy I would

make sure that any issues that arise from Premier House are dealt with quickly and effectively, as well as attempting any events that happen on main campus can also occur in Premier House or the building has its own separate event.

- The Sports Centre has been under construction since 2020. We were promised in 1st year Sports Science that we would get to use it in our final year. Of course, COVID happened and delayed everything, and we will not have the chance to use it. If elected as Deputy President, I will be working closely with the college to make sure that the Sports Centre will have the necessary equipment and facilities for the students of the Tallaght Campus.

Education

- Due to COVID messing up our college lives, we had to adapt to other forms of assessments, such as online MCQs and open book examinations which have worked quite well. Now that restrictions have returned us to some sort of normality, these assessments and exams for most courses have returned to what they were pre-COVID. Most people have now grown accustomed to online methods now and would prefer that method of examination. If elected as your Deputy President, I will work closely with the heads of departments and board members and plan out alternative methods of assessments for students.
- Another thing I have noticed with the Tallaght Campus is that we do not have electives like some other colleges. This can be useful for students who sometimes struggle in a particular module but could make up the credits if they took another module. As Deputy President I would work with the heads of departments and board members to see if this idea is possible to bring to our campus as it can be beneficial for students.

Representation

- Coming from a societies background, I know and understand how important representation is for students. One of the biggest ways of showing your individuality is through clubs and societies. Though COVID has affected most clubs and societies, most of their activity levels have returned to what they were pre-COVID but are still struggling with some issues. If elected as Deputy President I would like to work closely with the clubs and societies of the Tallaght Campus, the PTOs, and the Sports and Recreations Officer, making sure they have access to all of the support that they need because I know how important these activities can be for students, using them as an outlet from college stress and getting to meet like-minded people.
- Being a member of the LGBTQ+ community, I do understand what it feels like to not be seen. Unfortunately, this year our Rainbow Society disbanded and since then, there has not been much LGBTQ+ representation on the Tallaght Campus. That is why if I'm elected as Deputy President, I would like to show more LGBTQ+ representation around the Tallaght Campus, be it through a new LGBTQ+ society, planning out a Pride Week and working with the college in terms of trans and non-binary issues that those students may have such as toilets and name changes.

To me, this job gives me the chance to give back to the student movement. I know how important it is to fight for our rights and to be seen and heard. I am extremely passionate and caring towards the student movement and I will be giving it my best to represent all of you!

Make sure to get out on March 29th – 31st and put your faith in me, vote James for the Deputy President on the Tallaght Campus.

Don't be in a Flurry, Vote for Curry!