

Tuarascáil Oifigeach Comhairle na Mac Léinn Aontas na Mac Leinn, Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta, Baile Átha Cliath 22/23



Officer Name:	James Curry	Email Address:	deputy.tc@tudublinsu.ie
Ainm an Oifigeach	Seámus Ó Comhriadhe	Seoladh Riomhphoist	
Officer Position:	Deputy President of	Period of Work:	1 st of July – 19 th of October
Seasamh an Oifigigh	Tallaght Campus	Treimhse Oibre	
	Uachtarán Tánaisteach Tamhlacht		

Key Points Since Last Meeting

Príomhphointí ón gcruinniú deireanach

Training:

As it with any job, we got trained into the lifestyle of working in the SU. We started our term on the 1st of July and continued to have training up until the start of August. Our training included media, safe talk, disclosure, anti-bias & anti-racism with Black & Irish, tours of each of the campus, and general admin of our positions. We also had our first ever "Comms Week", which consisted of planning stuff out for the year and assigning certain mandates and campaigns amongst the exec.

Supplemental Exams Campaign:

Our first campaign of the year was the Supplemental Exams Campaign. We ran a stall during the two weeks of exams providing lanyards, red bull, calculators (renting) and nature valley bars. Students loved having us over there, it got them talking to us and getting to know us as the SU officers for the year. The VP Education and I were also able to get Qualifier exams fees waived this year which was huge win for us!

Student Council Handbook:

One of the mandates that the Deputies were given were to create a Student Council Handbook. Myself and the other two Deputies worked on creating a guide to Student Council since it can be quite confusing both for newcomers and current councillors. Hopefully you can follow it along and it makes everything a lot clearer!

Meeting with Finnish Student Housing Providers:

The Deputy President of City Campus and myself met with members of the Finnish Student Housing Providers, some of whom are members of the Finnish Parliament, to talk about the current state of student accommodation in Dublin on the 22nd of August. We spoke on what are the needs for students and how students are struggling to find affordable accommodation. The Finnish Student Housing Providers took on what we were saying and were to take our points on board once they start their projects in the coming years.

<u>USI:</u>

Tattended USI Crossover National Council on the 16th – 17th of June in Galway before I started my term. We attended SUT (Students' Union Training) in Dundalk from the 11th – 14th of July. This consisted of training workshops and networking with other SUs across the country. We then attended SUT+ in Coleraine from the 17th -19th of August which consisted of further training workshops and the first National Council. This was where the Student Walkout was proposed and passed. Following this was the Pre-Budget Lobby Day (which I will talk about in more detail below) on the 5th of September in Dublin. We then had our most recent National Council on the 30th – 1st of October in Waterford which we tried to pass our motion to abolish the use of NDAs (non-disclosure agreements) in the use of bullying, sexual harassment and discrimination. Unfortunately, this motion had been 9D'd so we're hoping to bring this back to



Tuarascáil Oifigeach Comhairle na Mac Léinn Aontas na Mac Leinn, Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta, Baile Átha Cliath 22/23



Officer Name:	James Curry	Email Address:	deputy.tc@tudublinsu.ie
Ainm an Oifigeach	Seámus Ó Comhriadhe	Seoladh Riomhphoist	
Officer Position:	Deputy President of	Period of Work:	1 st of July – 19 th of October
Seasamh an Oifigigh	Tallaght Campus	Treimhse Oibre	
	Uachtarán Tánaisteach Tamhlacht		

the next National Council on the 3rd – 4th of November in NCI (Dublin).

Pre-Budget Lobby Day:

The VP for Welfare & Equality for City Campus and myself attended the Pre-Budget Lobby Day organised by USI on the 5th of September in Dublin. We lobbied several TDs from different political parties to speak on the needs of students such as a €1000 reduction in the student contribution charge, legislation to protect students in home-share (digs) accommodation, direct funding into Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) to build affordable student accommodation, an increase to the SUSI maintenance grant by €1000 and thresholds, and protection of COVID-19 student funds to reflect the cost-of-living crisis.

Constitution Discussion Panel:

Knowing that we had a referendum due this year, we started discussing ideas of what we wanted to change in our SU. From the 26th of July, the exec sat down and discussed what we wanted implement in the upcoming referendum. Once we were happy with it, myself and the President created the Constitution Discussion Panel (CDP) that consisted of the President, the three Deputies, and students across the three campuses. The CDP met four times during the semester to go through the proposed changes that we wish to put forward to Student Council, which you will see at this Council!

Tallaght Orientations:

The Tallaght Campus had four sets of orientations: Mature Students, Erasmus, ACCESS, and the regular orientation. The Mature Students (8th of September), Erasmus (12th of September), and ACCESS (23rd of September) orientations went quite successfully, the students were really engaged and were asking loads of questions to do with the SU. The regular orientations (26th – 29th of September) didn't go as well unfortunately, we asked to have a 25-minute slot like we did with the other orientations to go through our presentation of who we are and what we do. Instead, we only had 5 minutes for our presentation and an additional 5 minutes to talk about our SU building. We have met with Student Services and gave our feedback on the orientations and hope that it will be better developed for the coming years.

PhD Student Protest:

On the 14th of September, myself, the President, the Postgraduate Officer, the Deputy President of City Campus and the VP for Education for City Campus attended the protest for PhD students' rights outside the Daíl. The protest called an increase to the stipend from the minimum €16,500 per year and raised the concern around non-EU student working visas, a low amount of maximum hours for weekly work and increased accommodation costs in Ireland. The protest was organised by the PhD's Collective Action Union (PCAU), with Trinity College Dublin Graduate Students' Union (GSU), Students4Change, TCD Postgraduate Workers' Alliance and USI also attending.

Partnership Agreement:

Myself, the President, the other two Deputies and our Interim General Manager met with Dr. Mary Meaney and related staff to discuss the Partnership Agreement between TUDSU and the university on the 19th of September. In it we spoke about the Partnership Agreement, Common Rooms, Microwaves across all campuses, Class Rep Recruitment



Tuarascáil Oifigeach Comhairle na Mac Léinn Aontas na Mac Leinn, Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta, Baile Átha Cliath 22/23



Officer Name:	James Curry	Email Address:	deputy.tc@tudublinsu.ie
Ainm an Oifigeach	Seámus Ó Comhriadhe	Seoladh Riomhphoist	
Officer Position:	Deputy President of	Period of Work:	1 st of July – 19 th of October
Seasamh an Oifigigh	Tallaght Campus	Treimhse Oibre	
	Uachtarán Tánaisteach Tamhlacht		

and Class Rep Training.

Microwaves:

I spoke with Jennifer Farrell about introducing microwaves to the campuses that currently don't have them. The conversation was quite positive in that they would like to implement microwaves to each campus but needed to discuss more on where they would be placed and who would clean and maintain it. I was due to receive and update from her but have not yet since writing this report so hopefully my next report will have an update. I spoke with the manager of the canteen on Tallaght on the 19th of October. She told me that microwaves would take away from their business if they were to be placed in the canteen areas but have no problem if the microwaves were put in another location in the college.

<u>Spill da T:</u>

Since the 20th of September on every Tuesday, we have been running our common room activities called "Spill da T", which from 12:30pm – 1:30pm we have free tea and coffee, some treats and some sort of activity going on. In Tallaght we've had Giant Jenga and a mini golf set. Students usually just come for the free tea/coffee and would usually play the pool tables/PlayStation or watch movies but, it has gained a lot of students towards our SU building which is great to see!

FRESHERS:

We ran our Fresher events over two weeks ($3^{rd} - 14^{th}$ of October). Overall Freshers went quite well across the board. There were some issues with the events ran in The Shack, but we were able to clear this up quickly. The students in Tallaght enjoyed all the daytime activities that we had to offer, and we gained a lot of students who were interested in joining any of our crews.

Student Walkout:

Following a motion from UCC that was passed at the first National Council, we held the National Student Walkout on the 13th of October. The Deputy President of City Campus organised the planning across all the campuses. I was interviewed by the local newspaper "The Tallaght Echo" to give the input of our students in Tallaght and the reasoning why students are walking out. Myself and the VPs for Welfare & Equality and Education made up banners for students to use in the protest. At exactly 11:11am on the 13th of October we had 200-300 Tallaght student's walkout of their classes and protest at the main entrance of the college. We had members of People Before Profit who also attended the walkout in solidarity. The walkout lasted roughly 30 minutes, but it gave a powerful message to the government!

Campus Developments:

Currently our Sports Science and Health building is still under construction. I have asked the President of Tallaght when the expected date for it to be open will be, it will roughly be at the end of October. However, it won't be in use until the second semester. There was also some talk about students having to pay to use the services in the building, but this has not been confirmed for definite. I will try get more updates by next Council.



Tuarascáil Oifigeach Comhairle na Mac Léinn Aontas na Mac Leinn, Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta, Baile Átha Cliath 22/23



Officer Name:	James Curry	Email Address:	deputy.tc@tudublinsu.ie
Ainm an Oifigeach	Seámus Ó Comhriadhe	Seoladh Riomhphoist	
Officer Position:	Deputy President of	Period of Work:	1 st of July – 19 th of October
Seasamh an Oifigigh	Tallaght Campus	Treimhse Oibre	
	Uachtarán Tánaisteach Tamhlacht		

We're also looking to put in some benches beside our SU building to give more space for students to sit down and relax. I spoke with our head of estates, and they are happy to install benches outside our building, where the bike racks are, but need to know the cost of the benches. I spoke with Brian Gormley about the benches that they've installed in Grangegorman but I'm yet to hear anything back from him. I will hopefully have an update on this for next Council.

Class Rep and Student Councillor Elections:

Since students came back, the entire team had been working hard to elect class reps and student councillors. Currently, we have 497 class reps elected, with Tallaght being the 2nd highest elected in class reps across all the campuses (92)! I did assist City Campus in Bolton St, Central Quad and East Quad at some points since some officers were out sick, but this did help boost the stats and I was happy to help. At the same time, we were also doing Student Councillor nominations at the same time, which the elections were held at the first class rep meeting on the 18th of October.

Class Rep Meeting:

The first class rep meeting of the year on Tallaght was on the 18th of October. I chaired the meeting with the President taking minutes. The meeting was quite successful, the students were very engaged and voiced their concerns to us and we're looking forward to working with them this year! The student councillor elections also took place, with 18 nominees putting themselves forward. Since Tallaght has 18 seats for Student Council, this means we can strongly represent Tallaght with all these seats being filled!



Tuarascáil Oifigeach Comhairle na Mac Léinn Aontas na Mac Leinn, Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta, Baile Átha Cliath 22/23



Officer Name:	James Curry	Email Address:	deputy.tc@tudublinsu.ie
Ainm an Oifigeach	Seámus Ó Comhriadhe	Seoladh Riomhphoist	
Officer Position: Seasamh an Oifigigh	Deputy President of Tallaght Campus Uachtarán Tánaisteach Tamhlacht	Period of Work: Treimhse Oibre	1 st of July – 19 th of October

Meetings Attended (and Number) Tinrimh Choistí agus Cruinnithe (agus Líon)	Priorities for Next Period Tosaíochtaí don chéad tréimhse eile
 Meeting with Estates x3 MMM/TAM x12 Student Council Handbook meeting x4 Workplan Meeting x4 National Council x2 Finnish Student Housing Providers x1 PTO Training x1 Meeting with Academic Senior Team x1 FARC meeting x1 TUDSU CLG x3 USI Pre-Budget Lobby Day x1 HR & Remuneration Sub Committee Meeting x3 Presidents Meeting x8 Class Addresses Training x1 Constitution Discussion Panel x4 Meeting with Interim General Manager about Mature Student Breakfast x1 Student Ambassador Training x1 Partnership Agreement x1 Meeting with ACCESS Office x1 Meeting with the VPs for Education and USI VP for Academic Affairs and VP for the Dublin Region to write up motion x1 Meeting with Tallaght African Society about BHM x1 Spill da T Feedback Meeting x1 Tallaght Academic Board Meeting x1 	 Student Council Training Mental Health Week Update on Sports Science Building National Council/USI Updates Updates on Microwaves Updates on Benches in Tallaght



Tuarascáil Oifigeach Comhairle na Mac Léinn Aontas na Mac Leinn, Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta, Baile Átha Cliath 22/23



Officer Name:	James Curry	Email Address:	deputy.tc@tudublinsu.ie
Ainm an Oifigeach	Seámus Ó Comhriadhe	Seoladh Riomhphoist	
Officer Position:	Deputy President of	Period of Work:	1 st of July – 19 th of October
Seasamh an Oifigigh	Tallaght Campus	Treimhse Oibre	
	Uachtarán Tánaisteach Tamhlacht		

- Recovery Event in Tallaght x1
- Drafting Proposed Constitution x3
- Orientation Review Meeting with Student Services x4
- Academic Council x1
- Phone call interview with the Tallaght Echo about the Walkout x1

Events/Activities Attended Tinrimh Imeachtaí / Gníomhaíochtaí	Annual Leave Taken Saoire bhliantúil
 USI Crossover National Council (16th - 17th of June) Training (1st July – 22nd of July) USI SUT (11th – 14th of July) Comms Week (8th – 12th of August) USI SUT+ (17th – 19th of August) Orientations (8th – 29th of September) Let Loose Freshers (29th of September) National Council (30th – 1st of October) FRESHERS (3rd – 14th of October) Messy Monday (3rd of October) Trolly Crawl (4th of October) Build a Brick (10th of October) 	4 th + 5 th of August 26 th of August Total = 3 Days 25 th of August (Sick Day) Total = 1 Day



Tuarascáil Oifigeach Comhairle na Mac Léinn Aontas na Mac Leinn, Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta, Baile Átha Cliath 22/23



Officer Name:	James Curry	Email Address:	deputy.tc@tudublinsu.ie
Ainm an Oifigeach	Seámus Ó Comhriadhe	Seoladh Riomhphoist	
Officer Position:	Deputy President of	Period of Work:	1 st of July – 19 th of October
Seasamh an Oifigigh	Tallaght Campus	Treimhse Oibre	
	Uachtarán Tánaisteach Tamhlacht		

- Freshers Ball (11th of October)
 Sleepout in Grangegorman (14th of October)
- BHM Talk (12th of October)

Nature Valley Bars

USI Student Walkout T-Shirt

- Student Walkout (13th of October)
- Mental Health Week (17th 20th of October)

currently ongoing as of writing this report	
Mandates (Complete/In Progress/Uncompleted) Sainorduithe (Déanta / Ar Siúl / Le Déanamh)	Comments Ráitis
 Student Council Handbook (Completed) Abolishment of the MSM blood ban (In progress) Dying with dignity (In progress) 	 Will provide an update on Mental Health Week in my next report as it is ongoing as of writing this report Have been talking with USI VP for Welfare about the MSM Blood Ban, will have updates for next Council.
Gifts Received Bronntanais a Fuarthas	Personal Expenses Costaisí phearsanta
Free lunch/dinner at: SUT SUT+ Finnish Student Housing Providers Red Bull	X3 Android Head Chargers (€33.62)



Tuarascáil Oifigeach Comhairle na Mac Léinn Aontas na Mac Leinn, Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta, Baile Átha Cliath 22/23



Officer Name:	James Curry	Email Address:	deputy.tc@tudublinsu.ie
Ainm an Oifigeach	Seámus Ó Comhriadhe	Seoladh Riomhphoist	
Officer Position: Seasamh an Oifigigh	Deputy President of Tallaght Campus Uachtarán Tánaisteach Tamhlacht	Period of Work: Treimhse Oibre	1 st of July – 19 th of October

 USI Welcome Pack Officer Uniform (Jacket, 2 t-shirts, a sweatshirt and a jumper) 	
Any Other Matters Aon nithe eile	