

MSU Student Life Awards

Marking Scheme

General Marking Guidelines

Judges are asked to adhere to these guidelines, if you have any queries throughout the adjudicating process, contact your judging or email awards@msu.ie.

1. If you are asked to judge a category in which any of the nominees are personally known to you, or if you discover any potential conflict of interest, please inform the judging panel before submitting your judgment.
2. In all sections, judges are asked to allocate a score within the ranges outlined. Choose the statement that most accurately reflects your judgment of the information provided and mark within the accompanying range.
3. Where we refer to nominees, we mean the person being nominated for the award regardless of whether it is a self-nomination or being completed by somebody else.
4. Nominations will be checked for adherence to the word count, any words above the word count for the relevant question will be removed before they are circulated to judges.
5. Where multiple nominations have been submitted for the same nominee, each nomination should be judged on its' own merits and scored accordingly.
6. Any nominee who chooses to disclose any circumstances or condition shall have the right not to have that information disclosed without their expressed permission. Judges should take any such information into account when judging the relationship between capacity and performance.

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Student Representative of The Year

Bio: The recipient of this award should be a student representative who has demonstrated effective and engaging representation this year.

Effective and engaging representation looks like someone who has...

- Represented a variety of interests from the student body.
- Raised voices of others on a range of issues.
- Communicated with the greater student body (on their work or to get input).
- Collaborated with others, effective representation is a team effort.

Describe the representative activities in which the nominee was engaged in 2020/21 (500 words) (40 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	The nominee has had low engagement in representative activities this year.
11-20	The nominee has engaged in some representative activities but has not engaged effectively (list above).
21-30	The nominee has engaged in some representative activities and has engaged effectively (list above).

31-40	The nominee has engaged in many representative activities and engaged excellently and effectively (list above).
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Describe 3 qualities showcased by the student representative. (500 words) (30 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	Brief description of 3 or less qualities, little mention of how the qualities were important for the role and/or representation.
11-20	Satisfactory description of 3 qualities, some linkage to how the qualities were important for the role and/or representation.
21-30	Detailed description of 3 qualities, highlights key links between the qualities and their importance to the role and/or representation.

What was the impact of their work on the experience of their peers? (500 words) (30 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	None or very little description of how the work of the nominee positively impacted students, gives no examples.
11-20	Satisfactory description of how the work of the nominee positively impacted students, draws on few examples.
21-30	Detailed description of how the work of the nominee positively impacted students, draws on a number of examples.

Environmental and Sustainability Activism of the Year

Bio: This award recognises the contribution of an individual or group of individuals who engage in advancing the cause of environmentalism and sustainability in the student movement or community. This award recognises the commitment to student activism on environmental and sustainability issues, whether its hosting events, spreading awareness or campaigning for change but their campaigning does not have to specifically be targeted at students.

Describe the environmental sustainability activism in which the nominee was engaged in the 2020/21 academic year (500 words) (40 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	The nominee has not demonstrated or demonstrated a little commitment to activism.

11-20	The nominee has participated in activism without assuming leadership or organizational role.
21-30	The nominee has taken the lead in organising activism.
31-40	The nominee has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to activism and has actively and properly organised & motivated others to participate.

Describe how the nominees engaged the student body with their activism (500 words) (50 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	None or very little description of the nominee engaged with the student body, gives no examples.
11-20	The nominee has given an example with some description of how they engaged the study body with their activism.
21-30	Few examples given with satisfactory descriptions of how they engaged the student body with their activism.
31-40	Multiple different examples with detailed descriptions of how the nominee engaged the student body with their activism.
41-50	Detailed descriptions of different ways of engagement that the nominee used to engage the student body with each example showcasing a different form of reaching students.

Describe the impact their work has had on their peers (500 words) (10 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-5	None, or very little detail given on the impact had on the nominee's peers.
6-10	Detailed description on the impact had on the nominee's peers.

Outstanding Mental Health Activism

Bio: This award recognises the contribution of an individual or group of individuals or campaign on the topic of promoting and bettering mental health for the student body. Promoting mental

health awareness, issues, positivity is an important part of student life and this award recognises committed leadership from an individual or group for leading the way for mental health awareness in 2020/2021. The award winner will have actively engaged the student body in the discussion around mental health.

Describe the mental health activism undertaken by the nominee in 2020/21 (500 words) (20 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	The nominee hasn't described the mental health activism undertaken or has given little detail of the activism undertaken.
11-20	The nominee has described outstanding activism that they have undertaken with great detail.

What was the impact of the activism on the nominee's peers? (500 words) (30 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	The activism showed little to no impact on the nominee's peers.
11-20	The activism showed a moderate impact on the nominee's peers.
21-30	The activism showed a significant impact on the nominee's peers.

How did the nominee engage with the wider student population in the discussion around mental health (500 words) (50 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	None or very little description of the nominee engaged with the student population in the discussion around mental health, gives no examples.
11-20	The nominee has given an example with some description of how they engaged the study population in the discussion around mental health.
21-30	Few examples given with satisfactory descriptions of how they engaged the student population on the discussion around mental health.
31-40	Multiple different examples with detailed descriptions of how the nominee engaged the student population in the discussion on mental health.
41-50	Detailed descriptions of different ways of engagement that the nominee used to engage the student population on the discussion around mental health with each example showcasing a different form of engaging students in the discussion.

Contribution to Charity Award

Bio: This award will go to the nominee who has demonstrated excellent commitment to charity fundraising and awareness in 2020/2021, it can be an individual or group. Through their work the nominee will have actively spread awareness about charitable causes in innovative ways and shown real leadership amongst their peers. Note, the aim is to award for activities/awareness over amount of money raised.

Describe the charitable activities undertaken by the nominee(s) in 2020/21 (500 Words) (30 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	Little or no description of charitable activities undertaken.
11-20	Satisfactory description of charitable activities undertaken with some examples,
21-30	Detailed description of charitable activities with multiple examples

How engaging were the charitable activities? (500 Words) (30 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	Little to no examples of how charitable activities were engaging.
11-20	Some examples of how charitable activities were engaging.
21-30	Lots of examples of how charitable activities were engaging.

Describe how the nominee spread awareness for charitable causes among the student body (500 words) (40 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	Little or no description of how the nominee spread awareness.
11-20	Some description of how the nominee spread awareness with an example.
21-30	Satisfactory description of how the nominee spread awareness with examples.
31-40	Detailed description of how nominee spread awareness with lots of examples.

Dedication to Volunteering Award

Bio: The Dedication to Volunteering Award shines a light on the remarkable achievements of volunteers across the Maynooth student community. Its aim is to recognise and affirm volunteering and charitable work undertaken by Maynooth students from all backgrounds and circumstances across activities within the institute, the local community or at a national level.

Describe how the volunteer has been dedicated to their roles during 2020/21 (500 words) (30 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	None or very little description of volunteering roles the nominee has engaged with.
11-20	Some description of dedication to a volunteering role, with some examples included.
21-30	Detailed description of dedication to volunteering roles with multiple examples included.

Describe the positive impact this volunteer has made through their volunteering (500 words) (40 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	None or very little amount of detail given on the positive impact made by the nominee through their volunteering.
11-20	Some description of the positive impact made by the nominee through their volunteering with some examples.
21-30	Detailed description of positive impact made by the nominee through volunteering with detailed examples.
31-40	Detailed description of positive impact made by the nominee through volunteering with detailed examples showcasing change/impact they have made in the area/s they've volunteered in.

Describe how the volunteer has shown creativity, initiative or passion in their roles (500 words) (30 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	None or very little description of creativity, initiative or passion given.

11-20	Satisfactory description of creativity, initiative or passion given with an example.
21-30	Detailed descriptions of creativity, initiative or passion given with examples.

Best New Student Representative of The Year

Bio: The recipient of this award should be a **new student representative (began their involvement as a student representative this year)** who has demonstrated effective and engaging representation this year.

Effective and engaging representation looks like someone who has...

- Represented a variety of interests from the student body.
- Raised voices of others on a range of issues.
- Communicated with the greater student body (on their work or to get input).
- Collaborated with others, effective representation is a team effort.

Describe the representative activities in which the nominee was engaged in 2020/21 (500 words) (40 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	The nominee has had low engagement in representative activities this year.
11-20	The nominee has engaged in some representative activities but has not engaged effectively (list above).
21-30	The nominee has engaged in some representative activities and has engaged effectively (list above).
31-40	The nominee has engaged in many representative activities and engaged excellently and effectively (list above).

Describe 3 qualities showcased by the student representative. (500 words) (30 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	Brief description of 3 or less qualities, little mention of how the qualities were important for the role and/or representation.
11-20	Satisfactory description of 3 qualities, some linkage to how the qualities were important for the role and/or representation.
21-30	Detailed description of 3 qualities, highlights key links between the qualities and their importance to the role and/or representation.

What was the impact of their work on the experience of their peers? (500 words) (30 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	None or very little description of how the work of the nominee positively impacted students, gives no examples.
11-20	Satisfactory description of how the work of the nominee positively impacted students, draws on few examples.
21-30	Detailed description of how the work of the nominee positively impacted students, draws on a number of examples.

Inclusivity Award

Bio: Inclusivity promotes equality in our campus and community, it is not just about celebrating diversity but encouraging the developments of social inclusion and relationships for all students. This award will go to an individual, group that strived to create an inclusive environment in the university community or the student movement.

How has the nominee demonstrated substantial contribution to promoting Inclusivity (500 words) (20 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	Little to no detail in describing how the nominee demonstrated substantial contribution to promoting inclusivity.
11-20	The nominee has described an outstanding contribution towards promoting inclusivity with great detail.

Describe how the nominee has expressed creativity in working to develop new approaches to Inclusivity (500 words) (30 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	None or very little description of the nominee expressed creativity, gives no examples.
11-20	Few examples given with satisfactory descriptions of how the nominee expressed creativity to develop new approaches to inclusivity.
21-30	Detailed descriptions of how the nominee expressed creativity with each example showcasing a different approach to inclusivity.

Detail the activities the nominee undertook to encourage the involvement of diverse groups?
(500 words) (50 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	Non or little detail of activities undertaken.
11-20	Some detail of activities linked to one example of the involvement of diverse groups.
21-30	Satisfactory detail of activities linked to multiple examples of involvement of diverse groups.
31-40	Detailed description of activities linked to multiple examples of involvement of diverse groups.
41-50	Outstanding description of activities linked to multiple examples of involvement from different diverse groups.

Student Staff Member of the Year

Bio: Maynooth Students' Union employs students across all departments of the organisation. This award could be awarded to many across our departments as MSU has incredible individuals who bring new initiatives, direction and a fresh outlook. This year Line managers are asked to nominate student staff members who have demonstrated their creativity to better the student experience and have used their initiative to make a positive contribution.

Describe how the student staff member has been dedicated to their role during 2020/21
(500 words) (30 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	Little dedication outlined.
11-20	Satisfactory dedication with examples.
21-30	Outstanding dedication with multiple examples outlined.

Describe the positive contribution this staff member's work has made on the student experience (500 words) (30 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	Little impact on the student experience.

11-20	Satisfactory impact on the student experience.
21-30	Outstanding impact to the student experience with student/staff/peer feedback available.

Describe how the staff member has shown creativity, initiative or passion in their role (500 words) (40 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	Little evidence of creativity, initiative or passion.
11-20	Satisfactory evidence of creativity, initiative or passion.
21-30	Strong evidence of creativity, initiative or passion (singular activity).
31-40	Strong evidence of creativity, initiative or passion (on numerous activities).

Gaeilgeoir na Bliana

Bio: Tuigean Aontas na Mac Léinn Má Nuad tábhacht na Gaeilge i saol na mac léinn, agus mar sin, bronnfar an gradam seo ar mhac léinn atá tiomanta do chur chun cinn na Gaeilge le linn na bliana. Is féidir le grúpa nó daoine aonair dul isteach san iomaíocht don ghradam seo.

Maynooth Students' Union understands the importance of Irish in students' lives, and as such, will present this award to a student who is committed to promote the Irish language throughout the year. Groups or individuals can be nominated for this award.

Describe the nominees efforts in promoting the Irish language amongst the student body in 2020/21 / Déan cur síos ar an iarracht atá déanta ag an t-ainmní an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn i measc na mac léinn i 2020 (500 words) (500 Focail) (40 Marks) (40 Marcanna)

Marks	Description
1-10	The nominee has demonstrated little or no commitment to promoting the Irish language. / Níor léirigh an t-ainmní mórán tiomantas i dtreo chur chun cinn na Gaeilge.
11-20	The nominee promoted the Irish language without assuming leadership or organisational role. / Glac an t-ainmní páirt i gcur chun cinn na Gaeilge gan a bheith mar cheannaire nó eagraí.
21-30	The nominee assumed a leadership or organisational role in promoting the Irish language / Glac an t-ainmní le ról ceannaire nó eagraí agus iad ag déanamh chur chun cinn na Gaeilge.

31-40	The nominee has shown an outstanding and active commitment to the promotion of the Irish language and has encouraged other students to promote the Irish language. / Léirigh an t-ainmní tiomantas sármhaith do chur chun cinn na Gaeilge agus thug siad an spreagadh chuig mic léinn eile an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn.
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Describe 3 qualities showcased in the nominees dedication to the Irish language / Déan cuir síos ar 3 bua atá léirithe ag an ainmní le linn a gcuid cur chun cinn an Ghaeilge (500 words) (500 Focail) (30 Marks) (30 Marcanna)

Marks	Description
1-10	Brief description of 3 or less qualities, little mention of how the qualities were important to the nominees dedication to the Irish language / Cuntas achomair ar 3 nó níos lú tréith, gan mórán eolas faoin tábhacht atá acu ar an tiomantas atá ag an t-ainmní don Ghaeilge.
11-20	Satisfactory description of 3 qualities, some linkage to how the qualities were important to the nominees dedication to the Irish language / Cuntas cuibheasach ar 3 tréith, nasc de shaghas éigean idir tábhacht na tréithe agus an tiomantas atá ag an t-ainmní don Ghaeilge.
21-30	Detailed description of 3 qualities, highlights key links between the qualities and their importance to the nominees dedication to the Irish language / Cuntas mionsonraithe ar 3 tréith, nasc soiléir idir na tréithe agus an tábhacht atá acu agus an tiomantas atá ag an t-ainmní don Ghaeilge.

How has the nominee's efforts in promoting a bilingual campus affected the Irish community on campus? / Conas atá iarrachtaí an t-ainmní tar éis dul i bhfeidhm ar an bpobal Ghaelaigh ar champas? (500 words) (500 Focail) (30 Marks) (30 Marcanna)

Marks	Description
1-10	The nominee's efforts had little to no affect on the Irish community on campus / Ní raibh aon tionchar ag iarrachtaí an ainmní ar an bpobal Gaelach ar champas.
11-20	Minor affects on the Irish community on campus by the efforts of the nominee / Ní raibh mórán tionchar ag cúnaimh an ainmní ar an bpobal Gaelach ar champas.
21-30	The nominee's efforts had a great impact on the Irish community on campus / Bhí tionchar mór ag iarrachtaí an ainmní ar an bpobal Gaelach ar champas.

Student Led Project/Initiative of the Year

Bio: This award will go to the individual or group who established a new initiative/project that aided student life in 2020/2021. This initiative/project will have spread awareness on a specific topic, campaigned for change, spread positivity or promoted inclusion in the community or in the student movement. This award recognizes the power of student leadership and using one's voice.

What was the motivation behind the nominee's decision to launch this project/initiative (500 words) (20 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	Some description given on what motivated the nominee to launch the project/initiative.
11-20	Detailed description given on what motivated the nominee to launch the project/initiative.

Describe efforts made to engage with the student body (500 words) (50 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	None or little description of efforts made to engage the student body, no examples.
11-20	Satisfactory description given of efforts made to engage the student body with an example.
21-30	Detailed description given of efforts made to engage the student body with multiple examples.
31-40	Detailed description given of efforts and various methods of engagement used to engage the student body with examples.
41-50	Detailed description given of efforts and various methods of engagement used to engage the student body with examples promoting inclusivity & accessibility.

Describe the impact that this project/initiative had within the student community (500 words) (30 Marks)

Marks	Description
1-10	Little or no detail given on the impact this project/initiative had on the student body.

11-20	Satisfactory description of impact this project/initiative had within the student body with examples.
21-30	Detailed description of impact this project/initiative had on the student body with examples of change.