

Officer Report  
of the Arts, Celtic Studies, and Philosophy  
Faculty Convenor of Maynooth Students'  
Union (MSU)  
to Student Senate



KYLA HENRY

Arts, Celtic Studies, and Philosophy Faculty Convenor |

TIONÓLAÍ DHÁMH NA NEALAÍON, AN LÉINN CHEILTIGH, AGUS

NA FEALSÚNACHTA

PERIOD OF WORK: 16<sup>TH</sup> OF NOVEMBER – 5<sup>TH</sup> OF DECEMBER

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Haigh gach duine,

We are halfway through!!!!

As a final year student, I have been flat out with assignments, and group projects so a lot of pressure is on. Considering I have about what 5 months left to secure my undergrad, I am flat out. It is tough balancing the final year workload and being in this role, but I am persevering and doing the best I possibly can. So, my apologies if I am lacking in aspects of this role.

Exams start in January, I myself have two so could see some of ye in the exam halls 😊. Best of luck to anyone who is sitting exams and if you're just doing assignments my well wishes to you too.

We are in the depts of the most wonderful time of year, so I do hope yous all find time to relax and spend time with your loved ones.

Reflecting on this past semester it was not what I anticipated but it has been very rewarding, and I am glad to be working with such a great team of officers this year.

Here's to the New Year and I will see yous all in 2023.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all.

Kyla <3



Image description: From L-R, Kyla, Alex, Keith, Niall, and Lucas. 01/12/22 at the Pub Quiz in Newtown Inn

## **CONSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

Article 10.10 of the MSU Constitution sets out the constitutional responsibilities of the MSU Arts, Celtic Studies, and Philosophy Faculty Convenor. I have outlined my constitutional responsibilities below and have commented on my progress in fulfilling them.

*List of Constitutional Responsibility:*

**1. The Faculty Convenors shall be the primary means of communication between the students and student academic representatives in their faculty and the Executive. In particular the Faculty Convenors shall be responsible for raising awareness of issues specific to their respective faculties in all appropriate fora including the Student Senate and Executive meetings.**

- I have been using the ACSP WhatsApp group chat to communicate with Academic Reps and have also sent out emails.
- Since the last report no academic issues have been brought to my attention.

**2. They shall be responsible for the recruitment of Student Academic Representatives within their own faculty.**

- I attended a First Year Theology class, to make a lecture announcement encouraging anyone who would be interested to contact me to sign up for this role.

**3. Each Faculty Convenor shall arrange for a Faculty Assembly meetings to occur in their respective faculties normally six times per academic year, normally with three meetings per semester.**

- The second Arts, Celtic Studies and Philosophy Faculty Assembly occurred on the 17<sup>th</sup> of November.
- The third Arts, Celtic Studies, and Philosophy Faculty Assembly will take place on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December.

**4. Each Faculty Convenor shall arrange for a Faculty Assembly meetings to occur in their respective faculties normally six times per academic year, normally with three meetings per semester.**

- I chaired the second Arts, Celtic Studies, and Philosophy Faculty Assembly on Thursday the 17<sup>th</sup> at 4pm.

**5. They shall, where practicable, undergo training during the summer months as organised by the Union.**

- I attended the crossover training prior to the term starting.

## **MANIFESTO INITIATIVES**

While running for the Arts, Celtic Studies, and Philosophy Faculty Convenor, I outlined several manifesto pledges. Throughout my term I will make progress on each of these promises to the best of my ability.

### *List of Manifesto Initiatives:*

For full list of my Manifesto initiatives please refer to my First and Second Officer Report.

### **Encourage academic reps and other students to get involved with their union and the events happening.**

- I continue to use my faculty group chat to update reps on anything happening within the union. Most recently I reminded them about the Christmas Lights that happened on Monday the 28<sup>th</sup> of November.

### **Encourage reps to attend relevant trainings and events that will benefit them in their role as an academic rep. Women LEAD, NSTEP, EMPower, and Academic Rep training.**

- Trainings are taking place on the week starting the 5<sup>th</sup> I have reminded reps to sign up and attend these trainings in the group chat and through an email.

### **Encourage reps to gather information and feedback from their class groups, and report back any problems at the academic rep assemblies.**

- During this term of work, I asked reps to gather feedback and relay it to me during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Faculty Assembly.

### **Encourage and promote the use of Gaeilge in Maynooth University and SPPU/ Déan úsáid as nathanna simplí I gcruithnithe.**

- I am still working on my Gaeilge via Duolingo.

**Assist and aid the VP Education in campaigns and events based around education throughout the year.**

- I have not assisted the VP Education during this term of work in planning campaigns but hope to help with the up-coming de-stress campaign in January as much as I can whilst doing my final year exams.

**Assist and aid my academic reps and fellow faculty members with any problems arising in their respective subjects.**

- Academic Reps have not come to me in this term of work with any problems arising in their respective subjects.

**Assist and bring forth any ideas I have for potential events in the union.**

- For information on this please refer to my previous Officer Reports.

**Connect and communicate with reps by creating a group chat with reps and also a group chat along with the ACSP Faculty committee.**

- Both group chats have been created and have been used to communicate with ACSP Academic Reps and The ACSP Faculty Committee.

**Connect with reps by staying in contact with them through emails updating them on my work in between assemblies.**

- I have been mainly using the group chat during this term of work and have been emailing representative only in relation to the next Faculty Assembly.

**Connect with reps by using the group chat by informing them on events happening within the union and inform them on how they can get involved.**

- Please refer to the first manifesto initiative encourage for update on this.

**Continue the connection between SPPU and Maynooth Students ensuring all students feel represented within the union.**

- I have made a lecture announcement in First Year Theology to elect another First year Rep. It was successful as another student came forward with interest in becoming an Academic Rep

**Inform and update students when elections are running and what positions are available – in by-elections and academic rep elections.**

- No by-elections have taken place since September/ October

**Inform students who their reps are by sharing it on socials and having the list regularly updated on the MSU website.**

- I have yet to work on this, and I will once I find available time.

## **MOTION & MANDATES**

There are many motion & mandates that require participation from my role.

Throughout my term I will make progress on each of these motion & mandates to the best of my ability. Below is a list of all active motion & mandates that require my participation, with updates on my progress with each one.

### *List of Motion & Mandate:*

1. Voter Registration
2. Accessible Documentation as MSU Regulations
3. The Organisation of a Trade & Tenant Union Fair and the Promotion of Trade & Tenant Union Membership
4. Motion to Lobby Relevant Parties AGAINST the Proposed Leaving Certificate Irish Curriculum
5. Separation of the Vice President Welfare & Equality into Vice President Welfare and Vice President Equality
6. Opposition to Industrial Relations Act 1990
7. Action on Decriminalisation of Drugs Referendum
8. Comprehensive Mental Healthcare Provision in Ireland
9. Continuation of Online Arrangements
10. MSU Officer Neutrality in other Student Union Elections
11. Irish Language Campaign Visibility
12. Executive Officer Report Training
13. MSU Position on Publicly Funded Education
14. Active engagement in National Climate Justice Protest



**For list of work that has been done on all of the Motions and Mandates please refer to my First and Second Officer Report.**

**Accessible Documentation as MSU Regulations**

I have ensured my officer report is accessible.

**MSU Officer Neutrality in other Student Union Elections**

I have remained neutral in all Student Union Elections.

**Irish Language Campaign Visibility**

No work has been done on this yet. I have been practising my cúpla focail.

**Executive Officer Report Training**

I attended the Officer Report training on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October.

## ACADEMIC REPRESENTATIVES

As Arts, Celtic Studies, and Philosophy Faculty Convenor it is my duty to ensure that academic representatives are elected. Below you can find an update on my progress with this duty.

### Academic Representatives Elected

During this term of work I have 65 seats filled out of a potential 90.

Figure: Table of overall reps elected and ACSP reps elected. (Has not changed from previous officer report).

Category	Seats		Seats Filled		Nominations	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Overall	303	100	200	66	260	100
ACSP	90	29.7	65	72.2	74	28.5

- I have worked on recruiting another first year Theology rep by making a lecture announcement on Wednesday the 30<sup>th</sup> of November.
- In the new year I plan to continue recruiting any vacancies in my faculty.

## COMMITTEES

I have listed the committees that I am a member of and have tried to give a description of their remit and some of the activities they undertake. I have also listed my contribution to these committees below.

*Committees that the Arts, Celtic Studies, and Philosophy Faculty Convenor is a member of:*

1. Maynooth Students Union Student Senate
2. Maynooth Students Union Executive
3. Maynooth Students Union Arts, Celtic Studies, and Philosophy Faculty Assembly
4. Maynooth Students Union Student Academic Assembly
5. Constitutional & Representative Review Committee (CRRC)
6. Maynooth University Faculty of Arts, Celtic Studies, and Philosophy
7. Maynooth University Faculty of Arts, Celtic Studies, and Philosophy Teaching and Learning Sub Committee
8. SPPU Student Representatives Council
9. MSU Student Charter Committee
10. MSU Student Academic Representation Committee
11. MSU Student Engagement and Feedback Committee

## **MSU Student Senate**

*The governing body of the Union is the Student Senate. The three core functions of the Senate are to formulate Union policy, mandate members of the Executive, and hold the Executive accountable.*

The second sitting of the Seventh Session of the Student Senate took place on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November. I attended.

## **MSU Executive**

*The Union Executive act as a collective authority and are responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Union. The Executive has the power to take necessary decisions in between meetings of the Student Senate.*

I have attended all but one MSU Executive meetings to date.

## **MSU Arts, Celtic Studies & Philosophy Faculty Assembly**

*The Arts, Celtic Studies & Philosophy Faculty Assembly provides a forum for discussion on all issues relevant to the education, welfare, and student experience for students in the Arts, Celtic Studies & Philosophy Faculty.*

The second meeting of the MSU Arts, Celtic Studies, and Philosophy Faculty Assembly happened on the 17th of November.

## **MSU Student Academic Assembly**

*The Student Academic Assembly provides a forum for all academic representatives to provide feedback and advice on academic related issues to the VP Education and the Faculty Convenors.*

The next MSU Academic Assembly has yet to take place.

## **Constitutional & Representative Review Committee (CRRC)**

*The Constitutional & Representative Review Committee is established by the Constitution and the Student Senate to examine the Constitution to be in a position*

*to advise the Student Senate of the need for any changes it deems necessary, and to review and develop the representative structures of the Union.*

No meetings of the Constitutional & Representative Review Committee have taken place yet to date.

### **MU Faculty of Arts, Celtic Studies & Philosophy**

*The Maynooth University Faculty of Arts, Celtic Studies & Philosophy deals with all business relating to the departments of the faculty. The faculty makes decisions and recommendations on a range of internal and academic issues.*

The third meeting of the MU Faculty of Arts, Celtic Studies and Philosophy took place 28<sup>th</sup> of November.

### **MU Faculty of Arts, Celtic Studies and Philosophy Teaching and Learning Sub Committee**

The second meeting of the MU Faculty of Arts, Celtic Studies, and Philosophy Teaching and Learning Sub Committee was on the 15<sup>th</sup> of November.

### **SPPU Student Representative Council**

*The Student Representative Council is a monthly meeting of all Saint Patricks Pontifical University Representatives.*

This committee did not meet during this term of work.

### **MSU Student Charter Committee**

*The Student Charter Committee reviews and develops the Student Charter between MSU and Maynooth University.*

The Student Charter Committee met on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December. I was elected as secretary of this committee.

### **MSU Student Academic Representation Committee**

*The Academic Representation Committee advises the VP Education on the effectiveness and development needs of student academic representation.*

The Academic Representation Committee met on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December.

### **MSU Student Engagement and Feedback Committee**

*The Student Engagement and Feedback Committee reviews the mechanisms for students to provide feedback on the quality of their educational experience.*

The MSU Student Engagement and Feedback met on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December. I was elected deputy chairperson of this committee. I was not able to attend the meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> as I was working at the time.

## **GENERAL ACTIVITIES**

The work of Arts, Celtic Studies and Philosophy Faculty Convenor is not just confined to constitutional roles and manifesto initiatives. There is a wide variety of activities undertaken by me in the execution of my role. I have given a comprehensive list of these activities below.

*List of some of the main other general activities undertaken:*

1. Christmas Lights
  2. Litter picking
- 
1. I attended the Christmas Lights ceremony outside the SU on the 28<sup>th</sup> of November. I made a TikTok for the MSU TikTok but who knows if it will be posted.
  2. On the 1<sup>st</sup> of December I litter picked outside the SU for Green Campus.

## **MEETING SCHEDULE**

Below is an indicative schedule of meetings that I have attended. This is shown to portray how often I have meetings and the level of consistency with which these committees meet at. There are also many meetings needed outside of those committees.

### *Meeting Schedule:*

- **Week 20**

15<sup>th</sup> of November – ACSP T&L

- **Week 21**

21<sup>st</sup> of November – MSU Executive

22<sup>nd</sup> of November – Academic Representation Committee

23<sup>rd</sup> of November – Student Engagement and Feedback Committee

23<sup>rd</sup> of November – MSU Student Senate

- **Week 22**

28<sup>th</sup> of November – MU ACSP Faculty Meeting

28<sup>th</sup> of November – Democratic Affairs meeting

29<sup>th</sup> of November – MSU Events and Campaigns Meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> of December – Student Charter Committee

2<sup>nd</sup> of December – Student Academic Representation Committee

## **EXPENSES CLAIMED**

To ensure that I am transparent and accountable for my expenditure below is a list of all expenses that I have claimed.

### *List expenses claimed:*

No expenses have been claimed to date.