

REPORT to COUNCIL, TERM 1 / 27.10.20 / ZOOM

NAME Eoin Hand

POSITION President

1) REPORT IN BRIEF:

- 1. Cross Over training with previous president twice a week from May – late June, settled into role in late June, one week intensive training with Laura on Campus.**
- 2. Student Breakout Spaces established**
- 3. Lobbying works and activism**
- 4. Media interviews**
- 5. HIV Rapid Testing and Drug Policy**
- 6. Environmental work**
- 7. Accommodation Refunds for Level 5**
- 8. Refugee Week**
- 9. USI involvement**
- 10. SU specific work**
- 11. Trinity Halls**
- 12. Misc.**

2) OFFICER REPORT JUNE 29TH – OCTOBER 27TH 2020

1. Cross Over training with previous president twice a week from May – late June, settled into role in late June, one week intensive training with Laura on Campus.

- Have two meetings a week with Laura since early May for crossover with weekly tasks and homework. Lots of introductions and sitting on committees as an observer including Finance and Board.
- Had a 9-5PM intensive crossover week with Laura from June 22-26. More training, introductions, committees, comprehensive review of the bespoke crossover manual.
- Organised an early meeting with the Provost to set a good tone for our working relationship going forward through the year
 - o I felt this was incredibly important given the extra added stress of COVID to be on good terms with the Provost.

2. Student Breakout Spaces established

- I quickly set about realising one of my main manifesto points around student spaces and amenities. The team and I visited all ZML on campus to access what they needed and put a story on Instagram for people to suggest what they wanted to see.

- As the COVID situation developed and the necessity for monitored spaces became essential, a lot of the ZML were unfortunately deemed unsuitable by College Health.
 - o This is how the Marquees came into play. I gained permission from Catering to use the Dining Halls and from the Head of TBSI to use the Knowledge Exchange as Student Breakout Spaces. The School of Med were halfway through converting the ZML in James's Old Stone Building into clinical lab space without our consultation. My team and I lobbied the College and got the support of the Dean of Health Science to support us. The School of Med looked elsewhere and the space ultimately remained as a ZML which now functions as a monitored Student Breakout Space.
 - o The locations found usable are; Dining Hall, New Square Marquee, Botany Marquee, Goldsmith Lobby, TBSI Knowledge Exchange, the old Bank Space.
- Following discussions with the Provost, post lobby Catering and Estates and Facilities for microwaves, €1 coffee machines, and vending machines, the involvement in the situation ensured students got these amenities much quicker than Catering might have liked
- The SU then set about hiring a total of 70 student ambassador staff to supervise the spaces as well as 6 supervisors.
 - o I hosted a training day on Microsoft Teams for all staff.
- Although I acknowledge that the Marquee spaces are a little bare, we have contacted and are working with TAF, and DUPA to decorate the spaces accordingly to bring new life to the Marquees. I also note that the Botany Marquee is not functioning at a desirable capacity and it may be worth reconsidering its use.

3. Lobbying works and activism

- During the Education For All campaign, while I was away, my team members participated in the photoshoot for USI.
- I personally emailed 57 different representatives from the Dublin Region to lobby them in support of the campaign as well as including information on it in the weekly email.
 - o I took a phone call from the Social Democrats Education spokesperson Holly Cairns about the issues students are facing in light of the Budget as well including the Student Contribution Fee, Accommodation, and issues of Connectivity.
- I organised a meeting between myself, the Ents Officer, the Comms Officer, and the Disability PTO to meet Counsellor Danny Byrne to discuss the issue of Cobble stones in Temple Bar.
- I emailed 222 TDs, Senators, and Deputies about the sealing of the Mother and Baby homes records. I fielded a number of responses and thanked all who wrote back to me in objection to the Bill. I note that not a single GP, FF, or FG representative responded.

- As the Resumption of Teaching Working Group neared the end of its life with nothing to replace it with, I along with the Education Officer lobbied the Provost during one of my bi-weekly meetings to replace it with a similar committee to continue to address any and all educational issues and discrepancies that might occur during this year of most stressful difficulties.
- Myself and the Citizenship Officer worked with a number of American National Students who wished to organise an American Voter Registration Drive. The relevant information was quickly gathered and disseminated to all students in multiple weekly emails, to USI, and via the SU's Social Media.
- During the talks on meal plans for Halls International Students in restricted movement, myself, the GSU President, and the Education Officer successfully lobbied the Vice President of Global Relations and the Head of Accommodation to subsidise the extortionate €350 proposed food plan.
 - o From this, the COO allowed for €140 to be reimbursed via TCards to be spent in the Butter. I note that the Provost then cut the Buttery prices to 50% meaning each student who paid for the meal plans really only paid €70 for two weeks' worth of meals.

4. Media interviews

- Myself and the Communication and Marketing Officer organised and shot a College Campus A-Z information video for the Communications Team here in Trinity.
- I also partook in three other videos on COVID Reg on campus, and a separate video for the Student Breakout Spaces.
- Shot a photo-campaign to mark World Mental Health Day
- I have taken part in a number of UT and TN articles with quotes, interviews, and statements on ongoing issues students are facing.
 - o I also spoke to the London Financial Times, the Irish Times, have an interview with Radio France International and 98FM. Also had a TV interview with Virgin Media News defending students during COVID times in relation to outbreaks and finger pointing. Spoke out strongly condemning those opposing the extension to Trinity Halls extension.

5. HIV Rapid Testing and Drug Policy

- Met with the organisers of Trinity's Vampire Cup initiative to figure out how the SU can support this Blood Drive campaign.
 - o In conjunction to the Vampire Cup, I have also reached out to HIV Ireland to organise HIV Rapid testing and to enquire about Prep in the College health service. The provision of both of these services alongside Vampire Cup is proposed to give more weight against the MSM Blood ban argument in hopes that this can contribute to the abolition of the MSM Blood ban.
- A comprehensive Drug Policy was already put through Student Life Committee and passed at Board 14.10.2020 so no action was needed on my behalf.

6. Environmental work

- I attended a face-to-face meeting with the creators of the Ethicart App and put them in touch with the Comms and Marketing Officer so as to establish a link between them and the Union for advertisement.
- Attended a meeting with a member of Estates and Facilities and the Environmental Sustainability Officer about organising the Sustainability Champions and 8 residential compost bins on campus. Compost bins were also put into the Student Breakout Spaces as well as recycling bins and waste bins to encourage proper waste segregation.
 - I note that I am currently liaising with the Environmental Sustainability Officer to organise educational posters about proper recycling to be put up in the Marquees and other Student Breakout Spaces, and an educational training day to take place to ensure the Student Ambassadors are adequately trained.
 - I also assisted the Environmental Sustainability Officer in advertising the Sustainability Champions around campus.

7. Accommodation Refunds for Level 5

- As a recent development, and building on previous meetings with the Junior Dean, the Head of Accommodation, and the Provost, due to Level 5 restrictions I took to putting increased pressure on the Provost and the College to obtain a clear communication for students who wish to vacate their Trinity owned accommodation – which is inclusive of Trinity Campus and Trinity Hall only.
 - I note that at my most recent meeting with the Provost 22.10.2020 he acknowledged my enquiry and opened a very beneficial dialogue to allow me articulate the worries of students. From this meeting, the Provost agreed to waive the €100 administration fine and allowed for the two month rent (usually withheld during early departures) to be lessened to one month for students who wish to leave and obtain a partial refund for their accommodation. Provost also confirmed that those who wish to leave immediately can do so and any financial penalties incurred will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

8. Refugee Week

- I, with the help of the Citizenship Officer and the International Students Officer organised three panel discussions for Refugee Week this year.
 - The first panel discussion was about centred around the causes of migration, what a refugee is, what an asylum seeker is and what their legal rights in Ireland are. Speakers include Gillian Wylie, lecturer in International Peace studies, and Barrister David Hand.
 - The second panel discussion was about the history of Direct Provision, personal experiences from Asylum Seekers currently living in Direct Provision,

and why it is an unsustainable model. Speakers included Amanda Nyoni from MASI, Senator Ivana Bacik, and a recipient of Trinity's ASAP Scholarship.

- The last panel discussion looked at ways individuals could help in lobbying local government officials to enact change around Direct Provision, and different models and systems that could replace Direct Provision. Two representatives from the 400 Welcomes campaign also spoke about first hand experiences. Speakers included Conall Keane from Trinity VDP, and Caoimhe Butterly and Karen Crowley from the 400 Welcomes campaign.
- All three panel discussions were recorded with the permission of those speaking and those in attendance. I have yet to publish these on the SU's socials.

9. USI involvement

- I, with the assistance of the Oifigeach na Gaeilge signed up for the *Bonn na Gaeilge* initiative to ensure the Union can continue to promote the Irish language as much as possible and to acknowledge all the good the Union has done in the past to promote Gaeilge.
- I, along with the rest of my team, attend SUT during the July months.
- I, along with the rest of my team, attended National Council, Dublin Region working group, and other USI sponsored committee meetings and working groups.

10. SU specific work

- Myself, the Ents Officer, and the Welfare and Equality Officer met with an official from the Lir to see how we can support them this year. The main takeaway was for support for the Lir to stay open should restrictions worsen as they are confident and have shown by shown through adversity that they are well prepared to deal with COVID related incidents.
- Near the start of my term I worked with the SU Shop Manager to supply facemasks in the SU shop at cost price.
- I got in contact with the SU solicitor early in my term to see about rewriting a lot of the staff contracts to ensure that they are legally binding and inclusive of all aspects of the role. At present I am not satisfied with the condition of our working contracts nor am I satisfied with the condition of the Weekly paid staff, or full time staff contracts.
 - This unfortunately has proven to be a slow process and is a work in progress.
- I chaired two official Union Forum meetings and scheduled the rest for both Michaelmas and Hilary Term. I also compiled a Dignity and Respect Agreement and a Union Forum HandBook for the use of Union Forum members.
- Near the very start of our term, my team and I began vigorously cleaning and removing clutter from our office space. I Organised for the College painters to paint the Welfare and Equality Officer and the Ents Officer's office space. I also organised for the Union Technical Officer to fix or assist the other officers in any technical issues they were facing.

- Have been holding full SU meetings with Simon, Dáire, Almir, Patrick, and the sabbatical officers ones every three weeks with full team reports, updates, and strategy planning.

11. Trinity Halls

- I attended a meeting with the Warden of Halls and the JCR President around the issues facing students in light of COVID. I, along with the Ents Officer and the Welfare Officer thought of different ways we can assist the students in Halls to alleviate loneliness and anxiety. I also got consultation from the NUIGSU President too.
 - o I brought our ideas to the Provost and to the Vice President of Global Relations to bounce the ideas off and both were incredibly satisfied with them. As of now, I note that I am to reach out to the Warden and the JCR President with my ideas and support from other College officials to collaborate with the JCR. I also note that I do not wish to overstep my remit and take away or offend the JCR by insinuating they are not doing enough, this work is in show of my support for the JCR and a willingness to assist in any way we can to help the students in Halls.

12. Misc.

- Investigated idea of community promise like in Galway. Upon further investigation and through speaking to the President of NUIGSU we deemed the idea unsatisfactory and advised the College to abandon it.
- Myself and the Education Officer had a meeting with Registrar about graduations and the different possible options we could avail of during COVID.
- Assisted in Sports intern interviews with the Welfare Officer.
- Myself, the Welfare and Equality Officer and the Education Officer as members of Board took a toured TTEC campus.
- The Sabbatical team partook in an orientation week Q&A and in multiple FAQs with the College during freshers week.
- I worked closely with the Movember organisers to see how best the Union could support the initiative this year. From my meeting with the Provost 22.10.2020 I got agreement from him that he too would grow a moustache for the Movember campaign.

3) MEETINGS ATTENDED

<u>MEETING</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
Reoccurring Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Accommodation Sub-committee o AR Fortnightly o Board o College Identity Meeting o Coronavirus admissions Sub-group o COVID-19 working group 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Emergency Accommodation Meeting ○ Union Forum ○ Engagement Advisory Group\ Global Relations Committee ○ Green Campus Committee Meeting ○ Group to discuss the operation of student eating spaces ○ GSSS SC meeting ○ International Students Arrival Package Workgroup ○ Open Day 2020 Working Group meeting ○ Orientation webinar on SU ○ Phased resumption of activities ○ Phased Resumption of Student Led Activities 2020/21 ○ Printing House Square steering meeting ○ Provost bi-weekly meeting 	
<p>Ad Hoc Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ American Voter Registration ○ Board Induction ○ BOI and PH tour ○ Compost bins ○ Finance Committee Induction - SU & GSU Presidents ○ Freshers week activities ○ HEA ICT Devices, TCD ○ James's OSB ○ JCR Accommodation ○ Jennifer Waters BSM ○ Meeting with Clodagh Brookes ○ Meeting with Richard Hammond talk on contracts ○ Niteline and SU ○ Ents Proposal Meeting ○ S.U. GDPR Art. 30 ROPA ○ Shortlisting - Sport & Recreation Officer Intern ○ Staff Meeting ○ Student Breakout Spaces - Weekly Meeting ○ Student Life Committee ○ Students Arrival - Processes and Guidelines ○ SU + ISSU / SU + SSUNI ○ Trinity Virtual Open Day Catch Up ○ UG Student's Union GDPR briefing ○ Unconscious bias training ○ Union Forum + Training ○ Weekly meeting Dean of Students ○ Weekly team meetings ○ Zoom meeting with Sports intern ○ Zoom with Niteline 	

TOTAL: 48

285 Hours – 16 per
week on average

4) MANIFESTO PROGRESS

<u>MANIFESTO POINT</u>	<u>ACTIONS TAKEN</u>	<u>PROGRESS</u>
(list your manifesto points here, if you submitted one to council)	(describe what you did here, you can be very brief!)	
- <u>Encourage student engagement</u>	<u>Difficult to do because of COVID but Class Rep elections went very well and an increase in social media presence has increased student engagement. The release of two surveys and more Instagram polls has allowed for students to voice their concerns.</u>	
- <u>Identifiable su meeting students out of office attending society events</u>	<u>Again, proving difficult because of COVID. Committee members are attending society events online as much as possible. Increased social media presence has helped with engagement to make us more identifiable.</u>	
- <u>Unified program to be deiminated to all college members – manifestos visible</u>	<u>A unified manifesto to be sent to all college officials would now prove less effective in my opinion. However, our manifestos are currently being published on the TCDSU website for all to see.</u>	
- <u>Speaking to academic and admin staff to address issues</u>	<u>This is part and parcel with the job. Will be ongoing until I finish in office.</u>	
- <u>Student spaces and adequate amenities</u>	<u>This again will be an ongoing task. Although we have provided new Student Breakout spaces, 70 jobs, cheap coffee with vending machines and free hot water, we will have to reassess the ZML and address the Student Centre with the other Capitated Bodies.</u>	
- <u>HIV rapid testing + prep, period poverty, SSDP drug policy</u>	<u>I have been in touch with HIV Ireland and understand the difficulties in getting rapid testing and Prep introduced to the health centre. This is an ongoing conversation between myself and the Health Centre.</u>	

- <u>Accommodation talks RTB halls</u>	<u>This will be a point for Hilary Term.</u>	
- <u>Reusable cup depository scheme + compost bins on campus accommodation and promote Educational platform for proper recycling</u>	<u>Although most cup depository schemes are actually highly unsatisfactory due to poor quality cups, I am working with the Sustainability Officer and the Comms and Marketing Officer around creating a more educational platform on campus. I am also working with Estates and Facilities around the introduction of Compost bins. At the moment ,compost bins in residences must be done on a pilot scheme basis at first before the confidence of the college is obtained.</u>	
- <u>Showcase positive work we do</u>	<u>This will be a year round initiative and I have been working closely with the Comms and Marketing Officer as well as the other Sabbatical Officers to ensure there are clear lines of communication to update students on what we have done. I note that through increased social media engagement and updates in weekly emails this is most effectively achieved.</u>	
- <u>Be transparent</u>	<u>This will be a year round project whereby I will consistently endeavour to reply to student emails to the best of my ability and to engage social media to highlight what we are doing and to stand accountable to students.</u>	

5) Union Forum Dates

Michaelmas Term

Week 2; October 5th, 5-8pm (Union Forum Training and first meeting)

Week 4; October 19th, 6-8pm (Meeting as normal)

Week 6; November 2nd, 6-8pm

Week 8; November 16th, 6-8pm

Week 10; November 30th, 6-8pm

Week 12; December 14th, 6-8pm

Hilary Term

Week 2; February 8th, 6-8pm

Week 4; February 22nd, 6-8pm

Week 6; March 8th, 6-8pm

Week 8; March 22nd, 6-8pm

Week 10; April 5th, 6-8pm

Week 12; April 9th, 6-8pm

6) ANNUAL LEAVE

18.09.2020 – 22.09.2020

7) EXPENSES

€0

8) THANKS

I want to thank the team for their constant support and cooperation through these first four months. Especially during the first two months where I had a total of 40 credits of college work still to complete by 24.08.2020 as part of my final year. This was tough but the teams continued support was incredibly well received and allowed me to complete my college career on a very positive note!

I also note that I am incredibly happy with the performance of the team. None of us foresaw COVID coming on election night 27.02.2020 and I feel they have done very well to adapt to the everchanging landscape and all the extra difficulties and stresses that COVID has brought.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask or email me on president@tcdsu.org.

Best wishes,
Eoin Hand

Education Officer's Report to Council

Megan O' Connor - 27th October 2020

Zoom

What have I been up to?

- My work has largely been dominated by the change to online learning, the uncertainty surrounding this during the summer months. I am sitting on various working groups to address the various issues continually arising.
- Casework has been mainly issues with open modules, supplemental appeals.
- I'm a bit behind on my regular duties and manifesto but aim to catch up over the next week or so.

Work Plan

Eit2Sit

- A campaign was run across TCDSU social media during the supplemental examination period. Content to be further improved and adapted to online exams and used for the exams in January.
Completed

Graduations

- Discussion with the Registrar alongside TCDSU President re: arrangement for students due to be conferred in the Autumn/Winter session.
- Decision made to allow students to decide. **Completed**

Education for All

- National Campaign run by USI. Shared social media, participated in the working group in preparation for and did a swanky photo-op on campus. **Completed**

Vampire Cup

- Initially met with the organisers of a national blood donation campaign. The Welfare officer is now leading this alongside the President.

Continuation of Teaching

- Once students returned to college, the need for the Resumption of teaching working group was deemed unnecessary and disbanded. I raised concerns regarding this with the Chair of the ADUSE who was Chair of the committee and the Senior Lecturer.
- The President also raised concerns with the Provost and the Continuation of Teaching Working Group was founded to monitor students and schools experiences with the return to teaching and learning and flagging and resolving issues where possible. **Ongoing**

Students connectivity Issues/Digital Divide

- The connectivity fund issued by the government was for devices only and therefore could not be used to assist students in purchasing wifi etc.
- The laptop scheme was then set up and run through the TAP office, Senior Tutors Office and the Disability Service. I voiced my concerns on many occasions that this scheme was permitting a lot of students to fall through the cracks in being too exclusive.
- Library working hard to extend services and availability of online resources to students.
- Online tools continually being updated and made available to students to improve digital literacy.
Ongoing

Learning To Learn Online

- In constant communication with Academic Development and SLD regarding making tools available to students to assist with the transition to online learning.
- You can find a video of yours truly on this module on your Blackboard if you wish to check it out! All feedback welcomed. **Ongoing**

Students on Placement

- Ongoing discussions regarding the exploitation of Student Nurses and Midwives on placements with both the National Academic Affairs working group and the college.
- Updates are slow, but I am expecting communication to be issued from QQI and the HSE in November. This has been very frustrating as these issues have been raised again and again - particularly in the last 8 months but the Professional Regulatory bodies have been very slow to respond.
- This has also been raised with the Minister for Higher Education and the Minister for Health. The biggest issue is that no office seems to want to take responsibility for this cohort of students. **Ongoing**

Management System

- The current management system is not fit for use and needs updating.
- In the process of completely updating this, had a few setbacks with urgent issues arising but should be completed in the coming weeks.
- Working with the TCDSU technical support officer and the Chair of the Electoral Commission to ensure it is valuable in years to come. **Ongoing**

Online Voting for Class Rep Elections

- Engaged with conversations throughout the summer with the creators of an Online Voting system called EVIABI, and came to agreement alongside the Chair of the EC as to how we would run online elections using the system.
- All Class Rep elections were successfully completed and other than a few minor administration issues on behalf of the individuals using the system, everything went smoothly. To prevent these minor issues arising in the future and to lessen the amount of data entry required, I am looking into whether we can streamline the process. Work is ongoing.
- Following the completion of this and a review of the elections, in the coming weeks, we will engage in conversations regarding contracts and building the system into existing structures in the college to ensure smooth functionality for the coming years and to prevent the need for excessive data entry.
- Discussion with Academic Registry re: auto-enrolling students into the system. Working on data processing agreements and contacts with an external company for same. **Ongoing**

NStEP

- In discussions with the National Student Engagement Programme which is a partnership initiative jointly developed by the Higher Education Authority, Quality & Qualifications Ireland, and the Union of Students in Ireland about how we in TCDSU can participate. Not members previously but seeking a contract and will be open for discussion with members of Union Forum prior to completion. All members of council welcome to participate in this - just shoot me an email. **Ongoing**

DT2 Pathways Fiasco

- Awaiting an official report from the college in the coming weeks. It was a disaster of epic proportions. **Ongoing**

Constitution Rewrite

- The Constitution is flawed and has many contradictory or inaccurate statements. Following the referendum brought by the STEM Convenor last year on typos, I aim to create a constitution rewrite working group and aim to propose the findings to Council #4. **Ongoing**

Schedule 3 Rewrite

- The schedule responsible for the elections of TCDSU is outdated and requires updating.
- I will propose my findings and suggestions to Council #1. **Ongoing**

TTEC Site Tour

- Along with the President and Welfare and Equality Officer as members of Board, I toured the TTEC site on the Docks to see the plan for future developments. **Completed**

International Student Issues

- In ongoing discussions with the Vice-Provost for Global relations and the International Student Officer alongside the President to address issues faced by international students including but not limited to, access to online learning materials, visas and issues with fees.
- I assisted students form a motion to bring to council.
- Have seeked support and advice from USI's Equality Officer to address these issues which are facing students nationally. **Ongoing**

Schols

- Ongoing discussions regarding how Schols will be run/proctored this year.
- A working group to be founded to address the long standing issues with the exams. Clarification to follow from the Senior Lecturer in the coming weeks.

Casework

It's been an incredibly difficult time for students beginning or returning to college so my casework load has been significant. The main issues arising were:

- Appeals
- DT2 Pathways issues - incorrect amount of credits, wrong modules, delays in registration to name but a few.
- Off-books applications
- Module transfers.
- Overwhelming workloads given by schools.

Library

- In ongoing communication with the Library, alongside the President to ensure the Library's opening hours are as extensive as possible. **Ongoing**

National Academic Integrity Week

- The Ass. Dean of Science Education completed a wonderful video which features on our Instagram in relation to Academic Integrity.
- I did not have as much content as I would have liked due to urgent issues arising during the week and delays in getting content from QQI. Will ensure this information is made available at a later date in the semester (Fit2Sit).
- The new [QQI amended Act](#) provides a statutory basis for the prosecution of those who facilitate learner cheating, including the advertisement, or publication of advertisements, of these services, by companies such as 'essay mills', or by individuals. **Completed**

Class Rep Training

- CRT 2020 looked a little different than previous years (to say cancelling our hotel booking was devastating :() but nonetheless it was an incredible success where last Saturday, we had over 200 newly elected reps on Zoom.
- There will be top-up training over the coming weeks and if anyone has any questions, concerns or particular topics they would like to see discussed at these training please just let me know!
Completed

Manifesto Progress Report

Manifesto Point	Actions Completed	Progress
Accessibility		
<p>Accessibility and Equality training for lecturers The importance of abiding by LENS reports, utilising assistive technology and exam invigilator awareness, ensuring staff are equipped with the information they need to make sure students can succeed! Anything less than this is insufficient and isn't fair.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Worked with CAPSL and Academic Development on the creation of an online training resource for staff and students adapting to online learning. - This addressed some accessibility needs of students but there is a long way to go with this one and I will be working on this with the Welfare and Equality Officer throughout the year. - I have met with the head of Disability Services and the Disability Officer about this. 	In Progress A lot to do yet. LTP
<p>National Lobbying Work alongside the SU President in campaigning against fee increases and improved accessibility to third-level education.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education for All Campaign was run in the lead up to the Budget. - I sat on the national working group and participated in the online campaign. 	Complete LTP
<p>Modular Billing Modular billing is part of the TEP strategic plan so it must be implemented within the next year. I hope to work alongside the Vice-Provost in ensuring students' best interests are at the forefront of discussions. I believe modular billing would be greatly beneficial to students in introducing the opportunity to sit one module, while remaining a registered student of the college, instead of having to go "Off Books" with assessment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I have spoken with the Vice Provost, Senior Lecturer and head of IT services about this. - The infrastructure is almost there to support it. Needs funding from the college (ie. will be a big battle). - Unfortunately low on the lists of college's concerns at the moment but will continue to work on this throughout the year. 	No real advancement.

Improving Engagement		
<p>Office hours I will improve 1:1 availability to students. This will include holding office hours during unsociable hours, in off campus locations and availability for Skype calls.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I didn't have a choice on this one :(- Office hours are all on zoom these days and taking requests for meetings with students out of hours when needed. 	<p>Completed - LTP</p>
<p>Become more approachable as a SU Host coffee mornings! Regular open forums during term time. Work alongside class reps on local issues and collaborate with the Communications Officer to circulate relevant information to all students.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Again, unfortunately the coffee mornings wasn't possible due to the restrictions. - Will host open forums on student experience with online learning over the coming weeks. - Working on constantly updating the website with info and utilising social media as much as possible. 	<p>In Progress LTP</p>
<p>Academic Senate. Work on academic senate's implementation. Make it accessible and appealing to the average student with an interest in academic issues.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Decided to not bring the Academic Senate back this year and am going to trial a different TOR for the Education committee with an expanded membership. - This decision was made on what I believe to be best for the functionality of our reporting structures, students access and the 	<p>Completed</p>
<p>Union of Student's Ireland's Congress I will work to ensure USI's Nation Annual Congress is not exclusive to those involved in the SU and represents all students. Congress, and the motions carried forward from Trinity should be open to all those who are passionate about taking on issues at a national level.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will come back to this one in the second semester. Congress is usually held sometime in March. 	<p>Hilary Term Project</p>
<p>Transparency I want to work with College schools and services to become more accountable, more open in communication and to have more information readily available. I will ensure students are invited to play an active role in coursework reform and implementation through ongoing feedback and open forums.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working to see if the implementation of the Student Staff Liaison policy will help bridging the gap in communication. - Working with the Communications Officer in pushing the college to be more transparent. - Working to update the Website to have information readily available. - Utilising my Social Media channels where appropriate. - Inviting students to participate in feedback as much as possible & joining NStEP. 	<p>Completed- LTP</p>
Student Support		
<p>Buddy System I want to create a sign-up system for students similar to S2S's model but for all years. Pair up students with a student in the year ahead of them in the same degree programme. This would serve to assist students in choosing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Had discussions with S2S and SLD to try and find what would be the most appropriate way of implementing this. - Spoke with Academic Secretary about ensure that this does not become "another SU policy" - Looking into if this could be encapsulated by a comprehensive Student Staff Liaison Policy 	<p>Ongoing LTP</p>

<p>modules, electives and preparing for assessments.</p> <p>I also hope to work alongside the TCDSU Access Officer in implementing this for foundation course students to improve engagement with the broader college community!</p>	<p>document.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unfortunately, due to COVID, there's been significant pressure on the offices I would require assistance in implementing this. - There is more need for this now more than ever. - Have a school onboard to trial this in the second semester all going well. - Trinity Access Office already have a good system in place but must look into this further alongside the Access Officer. 	
<p>Exams</p> <p>TEP was meant to diversify assessment types, not increase them. Many courses are being over assessed which is inappropriate and adds an unnecessary workload to students. I will work to ensure this is rectified.</p> <p>I will work with the Welfare Officer to improve and expand "Fit to sit",</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing discussions with the Senior Lecturer regarding assessments and methods of assessment for the coming year. - It is noted by the college that the forms of assessment are not diverse enough, do not encourage critical thinking or the mastery of one's subject but instead over assess students on rote learning and same does not serve to benefit students, but contribute to significant workload and stress. - Fit2Sit ran successfully during the supplemental period. Will further improve the content for the "Christmas" exam period in January. 	<p>Completed LTP</p>
<p>Erasmus</p> <p>I want to improve communication and coordination by forming a working group between Academic Registry's Erasmus Office and schools.</p> <p>This would ensure students are equipped with the necessary information required for their exchange.</p> <p>I will work to create a more accessible application process.</p> <p>The current system deters students from participating and adds unnecessary amounts of stress due to many deadlines with applications falling too close to Christmas exams.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I sit on the Global Mobility group and have gained a lot of insight into the workings of the Erasmus Programmes. - Currently on hold with the AR/Global Office side of things due to the overwhelming amount of work they have in catering for the International Students during COVID. Will revisit this as soon as possible. - No work done on the application process yet but querying if this could be included in the Student Staff Liaison Policy. - In conversation with the ADUCE about TSM/TJH students on Erasmus. - Current concerns are more immediate implications for students requiring mobility for their degree programme. - Something to be further addressed by the Education Committee. 	<p>In Progress LTP</p>
<p>Class Rep Support.</p> <p>Hold meet ups throughout the year and facilitate optional "trainings" in conjunction with other officer's of the SU and various guest speakers.</p> <p>Class reps are such a valuable resource and should be both encouraged and utilized further.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CRT completed. - All reps added to a Slack chanel for more informal communication. - Top-up Trainings to be provided on an Ad Hoc basis throughout the year. 	<p>Completed LTP</p>
<p>Availability of Supports</p> <p>I want to implement a flowchart on the SU</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Flowchart idea was unpopular amongst those in tech, so I am working towards improving the 	<p>In Progress LTP</p>

<p>website to assist students in easily finding the resources required.</p> <p>I want to empower students to deal with situations while remaining fully supportive as Sabbatical Officer.</p> <p>I will meet with all schools in Trinity throughout the year to discuss providing information for students with special reference to mental health supports, disability requirements, and tutor availability to ensure that students feel supported by their faculty.</p>	<p>availability of resources for students both on the TCDSU website but also continually flagging the issues with the Trinity Website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting with all 24 schools was always a significant commitment and something I had aimed to complete over the summer. Although this has proven impossible due to the workload regarding COVID, I am in regular communication with many of the DUTL's through various working groups and have reached out on an Ad Hoc basis when appropriate. I still aim to meet with every school over the next few months. 	
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Committees/Meetings Attended
College

College Board	September 16th, October 14th
University Council	September 30th, October
Undergraduate Studies Committee	September 15th , October 13th
Resumption of Teaching	Every Friday until September 26th
Continuation of Teaching	Every Friday since October 2nd.
Quality Committee	October 1st, October 22nd,
Global Mobility	October 2nd,
DT2 Steering Group	July 7th, September 10th,
Library and Information	October 5th
Undergraduate Common Architecture	October 20th
Academic Development - CAPSL	October 7th,
Ass. Dean of Science Education	October 7th.
Ass. Dean of Common Architecture	October 12th
Student Learning and Development	July 7th, July 30th, August 11th
Senior Lecturer	Every two weeks.
Dean of Students	August 28th, October 9th
Registrar	August 18th, September 10th
Vice Provost	September 2nd, October 16th

HEA ICT Devices	September 8th & September 17th
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Students Union

Union Forum x2	October 5th, October 19th
Sabbatical Board	Weekly
House 6 Team Meetings	Every 3 weeks
Faculty Convenors	August 11th, misc 1:1 meetings.
Electoral Commission	October 8th, October 12th,
Dublin Region WG	SUT, September 2nd, October 14th
USI National Council	July 28th, October 21st,
Academic Affairs Working Group	July 29th, September 7th, October 8th
National Campaigns WG	September 14th, October 16th
European Students Union Congress	September 17th, 18th & 19th
NStEP	August 11th, October 3rd,
EVIABI	Biweekly until September 17th where we met on an Ad Hoc basis until the completion of Class Rep Elections.

Misc Meetings

- Met with Senator Annie Hoey Labour Spokesperson for Higher Education during the summer to discuss the digital divide facing students for the coming year..
- Met with S2S regarding how their programme would function for the coming year and also how we could possibly work together in forming the Buddy System I set out in my manifesto.
- Met with the Academic Secretary to discuss SU policies for the year ahead.
- Met with Junior Dean on September 8th with the President to discuss the issues facing students on campus this year and what rules and regulations would be in place.
- Met with the Transition to Trinity Officer Eimear Rouine on to discuss the needs of students transitioning to online learning.
- Met with the IUA intern for Trinity on
- Freshers Orientation with the TTT office for incoming JF students on September 28th
- Met with ISSU to discuss concerns regarding digital literacy, the bell curve for the LC 2020, admissions to third level on the basis of the predicted grades, student welfare and future collaboration opportunities.
- Undergraduate Student Support Officer regarding the laptop scheme and financial aid for students for the year ahead.

Training

USI Sabbatical Training	July 15th- 24th, August 11th-14th
Unconscious Bias Training	July 31st

Board Introduction	September 7th
Quality Committee Briefing	October 1st
Assistive Technology	August 12th
NStEP	August 20th
Union Forum Training	October 5th
Class Rep Training	October 24th

Annual Leave

Nil.

Expenses

Office Supplies - €5.37

Thanks

The biggest thank you to the Sabbatical team! From running a collective 100km together in one day over the summer, to banging our heads against walls in frustration at ever-changing guidelines and restrictions, the last few months would have been a nightmare without you. I am so grateful to be working alongside such a great bunch and look forward to seeing everything we will achieve together this year.

To the Faculty and School Convenors, the Part-Time Officers, the EC and OC - with particular mention to the Chair of the Electoral Commission, Chair of the Oversight Commission and the STEM Convenor who truly went above and beyond both in completing your responsibilities but also in assisting me with mine. While transitioning to mainly online learning, sitting in Zoom calls all day and running the first-ever class rep elections and training that were entirely online, it has most certainly been a stressful time and I could not have done it without you. Thank you for your continued support, dedication and patience.

Thank you to every single person who attended CRT20. It was so wonderful to meet you all and I cannot wait for the year ahead! If you ever have any questions, concerns or would like to speak on or propose a motion but are not sure how, please please please reach out to me and I will help you prepare - I've been there!

Apologies for my report being late (let's blame CRT) but if you have any questions about anything included above please feel free to reach out to education@tcdsu.org or book into my office hours which are included in the weekly email!

Mise le meas,
Megan.

REPORT to COUNCIL, MICHAELMAS TERM // ZOOM // 27TH NOVEMBER 2020

NAME Leah Keogh

POSITION Welfare and Equality Officer

SOCIALS twitter: @tcdsuwelfare

email: welfare@tcdsu.org

OFFICER REPORT

REPORT IN BRIEF:

- 1. INTRODUCTION**
- 2. MISCELLANEOUS**
- 3. CASEWORK**
- 4. CAMPAIGNS**
- 5. COMMITTEES**
- 6. MANIFESTO PROGRESS**
- 7. WELFARE DIRECTORY**

1. INTRODUCTION

Hi all, so here's my first report to Council. For those of you who may not know, I spent two years as Secretary to Council compiling Officer Reports and to be honest with you, never managed to read one in full. For that reason, I will be keeping this report as succinct as possible so hopefully you will give it a read to see what I've been up to!

The year started off pretty hectic, as we tried to adjust to the virtual world of Zoom. We began working on June 22nd and have been locked up in TCD ever since, moving from office to bedroom-it's been an all-consuming experience! We also inherited Custard the Great African Land Snail and bought him a new gaf! Here are some pics ☺



2. MISCELLANEOUS

- Met with Minister Simon Harris to discuss the future of addressing sexual violence and harassment on our campus
- Organised unconscious bias training for Sabbats
- I arranged for Trinity to be lit up purple for International Recovery Day!
- Sat on the interview panel for the sports and recreation officer
- Re-write the entire welfare section of the SU Diary and created an updated welfare directory (attached below)
- Completed disclosure training with the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre
- Opened applications for the Childcare Assistance Fund
- I re-wrote the terms of the SU short-term loan scheme and created a virtual form
- I was appointed the operational lead on the Healthy Trinity Drugs and Alcohol Working Group
- I facilitated a number of consent classes for Halls students
- Delivered training to Union Forum
- TCDSU supported the 'Misuse of Drugs Policy' at Student Life, Academic Council and College Board, and it was eventually passed 😊

3. CASEWORK

It's been a really challenging and uncertain time for so many students. I've been holding virtual officer hours, responding to countless student enquiries by email and before level 5, even met some students in person in my new PPE decked out office (which was in dire need of some TLC)!

Issues arising:

- securing accommodation
- difficulties with landlords
- financial hardship
- SUSI advice

- SU loans
- letters of support
- mental health difficulties

As per my manifesto, I have been anonymously recording case work data and will be publishing a report at the end on Hilary Term.

4. CAMPAIGNS

- Fit to Sit
 - Compiled a welfare support resource to assist student through supplemental/deferred exams.
 - Compiled lots of exam and wellbeing tips and rolled them out on our social media platforms.
- Late-Payment Fee
 - I met with Academic registry on several occasions to challenge the logic behind the €385 figure of the late-payment fee and advocate for its abolition.
 - AR agreed not to charge any student this fee if they had an open case with AR, I then launched a social media campaign to make students aware of this.
- Freshers' 101 Video Series
 - I filmed a video series to help Freshers' through their first semester. Topics included: consent, Sober October, physical activity, sensible drug use and healthy eating.
 - I also did a live Welfare Q&A on TCDSU's Instagram during Freshers' Week.
- Internet Safety
 - I issued a statement and made a video to alert students of suspicious online activity that had been brought to my attention.
 - I circulated a Campus Watch Book in conjunction with An Garda Síochána that detailed how students can stay safe this academic year.
- World Mental Health Day
 - Organised a phot campaign to spread awareness about Mental Health.
- International Recovery Day
 - Organised for TCD to turn purple in support of students in recovery.
- Sober October

o I collaborated with Healthy Trinity on this social media campaign to inform students of the perks of sobriety, even after short periods.

Currently planning: Mental Health Week, Rainbow Week, Disability Awareness Week

5. COMMITTEES

- College Board x2
- Student Life Committee x2
- Equality Committee x1
- Healthy Trinity Committee
- Healthy trinity, Healthy Eating sub-group x1
- Healthy Trinity, Drugs and Alcohol sub-group x3
- Student Advisory Board x4
- College Safety Committee x1
- Consent Steering Committee x4
- Meeting with Sport and Recreation Intern x4
- Union Forum x2

6. MANIFESTO PROGRESS

Green-Complete

Amber-In Progress

Red- Not Started

<u>MANIFESTO POINT</u>	<u>ACTIONS TAKEN</u>	<u>PROGRESS</u>
I will establish a student welfare partnership with Academic Registry to combat its existing processes that don't serve students. I have developed an early action plan that targets the €385 re-admissions fee and advocates for a more accessible fee payment plan.	I met with Academic registry on several occasions to challenge the logic behind the €385 figure of the late-payment fee and advocate for its abolition. AR agreed not to charge any student this fee if they had an open case with AR, I then launched a social media campaign to make students aware of this.	
I will work with the Student Support Officer to publicise grants and bursaries available to students to alleviate financial pressure .	Advertised this information in the SU Diary and on a case by case basis.	
I will organise ' safeTalk ' training to be made available	Covid-19 has meant that safeTalk can no longer be	

<p>through the HSE for all Trinity students and staff to better equip us to support our students having suicidal thoughts.</p>	<p>delivered in person, however, it has been replaced with an alternative virtual course called START Training. This will be provided free of charge for all students and advertised during Mental health Week.</p>	
<p>I will work with Students for Sensible Drug Policy on the implementation of a drug policy that recognises drug use and informs students of support available. I will also work with USI to bring a Drugs and Alcohol information and support campaign to Trinity.</p>	<p>The 'Misuse of Drugs' policy was passed by College Board this month. We are actively working on its implementation and I have been appointed the operational lead on Healthy Trinity's Drugs and Alcohol sub-committee that are working on this policies implementation.</p>	
<p>I will work with USI to lobby the HSE for free and accessible methods to prevent STIs and crisis pregnancy such as the pill, latex-free condoms and dental dams.</p>	<p>I have liaised with the National Union on this topic. I have worked with the Gender Equality Officer on an application to the Equality fund to provide sanitary products free for all students in an effort to alleviate period poverty. This is a short-term solution until the government allocate funding.</p>	
<p>I will work with the College's Consent intern to implement the guidelines outlined in the 2019 publication by the Department of Education and Skills on 'Ending Sexual Violence and Harassment in Irish Higher Education Institutions'.</p>	<p>I met with Minister Simon Harris to discuss how best to implement this framework in our institution. I sit on the consent steering group who action the implementation of this framework. I also delivered consent classes, consent education is a large part of the frameworks action points. I suggested that all security guards should be trained as first responders and now arrangements are being made to train them.</p>	
<p>I will work with HIV Ireland to provide rapid HIV testing during Rainbow Week and ensure that information about PrEP is easily accessible to all students.</p>	<p>Unfortunately Covid-19 has put a hold on HIV rapid testing. I have however, signed up TCDSU to the Vampire Cup Initiative. This initiative is an intervarsity competition that</p>	

	encourages students to check their eligibility for blood donation and to donate blood where possible. I hope that the statistics gathered from the eligibility reckoner will give weight to our argument against the MSM blood ban.	
I will hold office hours in accessible locations in both on-campus and off-campus locations. I will provide out-of-hours office hours for students on placement and those with demanding timetables. I will also make Skype office hours available to Erasmus students to ensure we are minding our students overseas.	Unfortunately Covid-19 has put a hold on in-person office hours. Before level 5, I met students, by request, in accessible locations. I have also held virtual officer hours every week that have proved very accessible for students.	
I will work with the College's Director of Diversity and Inclusion to provide unconscious bias training for both students and staff to foster a more inclusive college campus.	I organised Unconscious Bias Training for all Sabbats as a pilot before we rolled it out to students and staff. We all agreed that the training would be more powerful with a student presence/empirical insight and so I am working with NStEP who are creating a Diversity training that we hope to roll out in the new year.	
I will record casework data and publish an anonymised annual report detailing key issues that students are facing. This data will legitimise funding applications and inform target areas for future College Officers.	Yes, I have anonymously recorded all case work so far and am on track to creating my annual report, scheduled to be published before the end of Hilary Term.	

So there ya go! Maybe not the most succinct report ever but I've been busy! I hope you are all settling into this academic term okay despite the uncertainty and change. Please do not hesitate to get in touch at welfare@tcdsu.org if you need anything at all <3

7. WELFARE DIRECTORY

WELFARE DIRECTORY

For a comprehensive list of all supports available, check out [pleasetalk.ie/tcd](#). For further information, contact Leah at welfare@tcdsu.org.

MENTAL HEALTH

Student Counselling Service

01 896 1407
tcd.ie/Student_Counselling
student-counselling@tcd.ie

Niteline

Listening and online chat service
1800 793 793
www.niteline.ie

S2S Peer Support

Listening service
student2student.tcd.ie/Peer-support

Turn2Me

www.turn2me.org

Aware

Depression helpline
1890 303 302
www.aware.ie

Pieta House

Suicide and self-harm
01 601 0000
www.pieta.ie

Reachout.com

Info on mental health & well-being
ie.reachout.com

Body Whys

Eating disorders
www.bodywhys.ie

Samaritans

01 671 0071
www.samaritans.org

Crisis Text Line

Freetext TCD to 50808

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

Alcoholics Anonymous

01 842 0700
www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie

College Health Centre

01 896 1556
www.tcd.ie/collegehealth

Ana Liffey Drug Project

01 878 6899

The Deora Counselling Project

01 836 4524

Narcotics Anonymous

01 672 8000
www.na-ireland.org

Gamblers Anonymous

01 872 1133 // 087 748 5878
info@gamblersanonymous.ie

Problem Gambling Ireland

089 241 5401
info@problemgambling.ie

LEARNING DIFFICULTY & DISABILITY

College Disability Service

01 896 3111
Text/SMS (for deaf students)
086 344 2322
www.tcd.ie/disability

AHEAD

01 716 4396
www.ahead.ie

SU Disability Rights Officer

Niamh Herbert
disability@tcdsu.org

LGBTQ* ISSUES

LGBT Helpline

1890 929 539
www.lgbt.ie

Gay Switchboard

01 872 1055

TCDU LGBT Rights Officer

Brian Hastings
lgbt@tcdsu.org

Q Soc

Trinity's LGBTQ* Society
www.trinitylgbt.com
info@trinitylgbt.com

Transgender Equality

Network Ireland
Teni.ie

BeLonG To

01 670 6233
www.belongto.org

SEXUAL HEALTH & PREGNANCY

My Options

1800 828 010
www.myoptions.ie

Irish Family Planning Association

1850 495 051
www.ifpa.ie

Well Woman Centre

01 872 8051
www.wellwomancentre.ie

Dublin Rape Crisis Centre

1800 778 888
www.drcc.ie

Women's Aid

1800 341 900
www.womensaid.ie

Rotunda Hospital

01 817 1700 (ask for the Sexual Assault Unit [if applicable])

One in Four

01 662 4070
www.oneinfour.ie
info@oneinfour.ie

ACCOMMODATION

TCDU's Accommodation

Advisory Service
tcdsuaccommodation.org
accommodation@tcdsu.org
01 646 8431

FLAC

Free legal advice centre
1890 350 250
www.flac.ie

Threshold

The national housing charity
www.threshold.ie

PRTB

Private Residential Tenancies Board
0818 303037
www.prtb.ie

Money Advice & Budgeting Service

0761 072000
www.mabs.ie

REPORT to COUNCIL, MT // Zúm // 27/10/20

NAME Philly Holmes

POSITION Communications and Marketing Officer

REPORT IN BRIEF:

- 1. Settled into role July/August - SU Diary, Wallplanner, Website, Slack, Re-organised social channels for more efficiency.**
- 2. Launched the updated website alongside Almir**
- 3. Business Development (BisDev)/Sponsorship update**
- 4. Press Releases Update**
- 5. Social Channels Update**
- 6. Freshers Week Update**
- 7. Leap Card Office Update**
- 8. Gaeilge Update**
- 9. Weekly Email Update**
- 10. Long Term Projects Update**
- 11. MEETINGS ATTENDED**
- 12. MANIFESTO PROGRESS**

OFFICER REPORT

1. Settled into role July/August - SU Diary, Wallplanner, Website, Slack, Re-organised social channels for more efficiency.

- Had a very short crossover but got to grips quickly with the role.
- First week in the job spent finding my feet. Got started immediately on the SU Diary which went to print early September. We printed 8,000 copies, a reduction from 12,000 last year.
 - We had a commitment from Academic Registry to distribute the Diaries via their card collection in Goldsmith but this fell through, so we have leftover diaries. We are finding ways to distribute these in a safe and covid-compliant way.
- Set out the calendar of campaign weeks for the Wallplanner. As it stands, printing of the Wallplanner has been put on hold due to Level 5 restrictions and at the time of writing I'm not sure if there's any justification for printing them this year. As with diaries, issues arise in the safe distribution of them so even if we did print them, we aren't sure how safe it would be to get them in the hands of students.
- The STEM Convenor and I set up a Slack channel to use for official Union communication.
 - We've found it has worked well and allows us to compartmentalise work communication to slack specifically. Now more than ever it's important to be able to disconnect from work talk and slack has proven useful in ensuring that!

- One of my first steps in the job was to streamline how we deliver posts to social media. Now all our FB/Insta content is pre-scheduled through Facebook's creator studio and our Tweets are scheduled through tweetdeck. For those who don't know what that means - trust me, it makes things a lot easier.
- Early in the job I also started experimenting with how we can modernise the look of the SU and bring a bit more character to our social media. This is still a work in progress but I hope to develop a new styleguide in time for final council. More on this in my long term projects update.

2. Launched the updated website alongside Almir

- Coming into the role I learned that Almir (the amazing legend who mans Refresh and keeps our website alive) had effectively rebuilt the website from the ground up.
- Now the website is much faster loading, easier to update and easier to navigate.
- There's an efficient backend CMS system that allows us to quickly update pages and build new pages in the eventuality that we need to roll out more info
- Almir has built an effective services portal that rolls job listings and a bookshop and a few other features under one banner. The benefit of this is that you have to be a trinity student to log into the portal so it ensures that we can target TCD students with jobs if we need to do so.
- There's more we can be doing to keep the content fresh but the site is in a very good place right now and it's the first point of contact for many students so we hope it makes a good impression

3. Business Development (BisDev)/Sponsorship update

- Started reaching out to businesses in June/July along with reaching out to businesses with whom we have established relationships. There was a busy period in late July/early August where businesses were both getting in touch and responding to my reaching out.
- Due to level 3 and now level 5 this has effectively dried up and I don't expect sponsorship to pick up any time soon unfortunately.
- In the next few weeks I will start preparing for 12 days of christmas and hopefully reaching out to businesses again to try and lock in some more ads and deals.
- Overall a really disappointing situation as it stands.
- To date we've locked in new deals with the following businesses
 - KBC
 - Camile
 - Aldi
 - iConnect
 - Pablo Picante
 - Capital Credit Union
 - KC Peaches
 - FiMak (Student Leap Card)
 - Renegotiated the 3 deal to mixed success.

- UPS
- If anyone has any ideas for how we can stimulate more ads and sponsorships do reach out but I'm personally not expecting to see things picking up until we're out of level 5 lockdown.
 - Benefits of the silence from businesses is that we can dedicate time to other areas.
- We're also looking to work with Bank of Ireland but they're being slow to respond.
 - KBC have filled this niche for us for the time being.
- We've partnered with Ethicart, a Trinity start-up who have received funding via UPS. They will be sponsoring the weekly sustainability section of the email this year. Check out their app at ethicart.ie
- We worked with Bounce Insights this year again to facilitate the Ents card. I worked hard to secure a pretty comprehensive list of discounts for that so be sure to make use of that!
 - Highlight - we got Playblue to provide a deal for free lube with purchases over €40
 - We got loads of club deals locked in with a sense of optimism, I doubt these will be of use this side of March.

4. Press Releases Update

- I've taken initiative to start delivering more press releases from the Union to on-campus media/college officials/external media.
- They are a great opportunity to announce things formally or deliver news in a controlled way.
- We've learned a few lessons from using social media to deliver news first. I think the more formal approach is more effective for conveying important information as social media does not reach every student.
- Alongside this we are making more use of the weekly email email list. You will have seen an email go out about student voter registration and more recently a COVID Level 5 update. We took these opportunities to get in contact directly with students and not rely on social media word of mouth.
- It's been discussed at Union Forum that we can be doing more to expand this approach and provide even more transparency to students. I'm working hard right now to continue transparency and ensuring that crucial messages reach students in an appropriate manner.
- I've also taken this approach when dealing with college communications. You may have seen the open letter written to the college about clear, transparent communication. I'm proud to say this has been a victory and the college has been more forthcoming with regular email updates. **The lesson to learn here isn't that regular emails are the ultimate solution to all our problems but that we need to consider each news announcement and assess how we can best message it in an appropriate manner.**

5. Social Channels Update

- Social channels have been thriving. There's been a huge push by me to be more regularly present on social media and much more responsive as much as possible. We're noticing a huge difference.
- Instagram - we've increased by about 1700 followers and that's steadily increasing.
 - We saw our biggest boost around Freshers week due to our 3 giveaways (camile, UPS and 48) but since then growth has been slow and steady!

- We get anywhere from 20-40 messages on instagram a day. I take this as a sign that people are more aware that we are a resource available to help students.
- While this is a lot of work to manage, it's important that students are aware that they can reach out to us and I find a lot of value in fielding people's requests and concerns and reassuring them that they are not alone in their concerns.
 - Further to this, while I promised in my manifesto to develop a chat bot to automate part of this process, I fundamentally believe that that would be a flawed idea. More detail on that later on.
- We've had a lot of highly successful posts and we've exceeded our expectations on reach across the board on insta
- Twitter - Steady increase in engagement. We've found great use for it as a team as a way to platform campaigns, get the message out to students and inject a bit of our own personality into our online presence. The officer accounts (welfare, pres, ed, ents) have been really great for a mixture of personal and professional content and that balance has led to a lot of engagement.
 - Twitter is the best for campaigns such as education4all as they can attain a viral quality that's not as easily achieved on other platforms.
 - We're also paying close attention to the college channels as it seems like the college rely on twitter as their first channel to break news quite often.
- Facebook - At this point, it's only proving effective for events but because Facebook are really really pushing video over regular posts, I'm finding it hard to get any sort of traction even though it's our most followed platform.
 - A post that gets 800 likes on instagram will get 5 on facebook. It's really hard to predict what the suss is.
 - My assessment is that people are using facebook less.
 - We're finding it very effective for ad content as that seems to be prioritised.
 - We run all of our Instagram and Facebook ad content through the Facebook ad manager for this reason.
- We got a huge amount of backlash about the pathway choices on social media and this is an issue we're still working to fix. Obviously the situation was out of our control, but given that we were the only visible source of information about the system for many students, the burden fell on us. Education officer will speak more on this.

6. Freshers Week Update

- Freshers' was about as successful as expected due to the global pandemic.
- Our social media engagement was huge for that week mostly due to the 3 strong giveaways we ran.
- I want to give praise to the Ents officer for delivering a genuinely breathtaking schedule of events despite the circumstances. I know he'll speak more on this himself but he exceeded every expectation.
- I also want to give praise to the CSC for their work in delivering the Trinity Societies Hub. Trinity Societies are going to be a lifeline this year and the sense of community that they're building is really valuable. Even if we can't be at events in person, they're doing a lot to make students feel welcome.

- Myself and the other Sabbats agree that Freshers' week felt very strange. There's something very anticlimactic to show up to work on freshers' monday and not see the usual freshers' fair and sense of buzz and scrabble for those crucial spots in Front Sq.
 - It was very hard to mark the occasion when very little was happening in person!

7. Leap Card Office Update

- The Leap Card Office is open in House 6 for any Trinity students to get their leap cards.
- We've also opened a second leap card office in an office beside the Turk's Head pub on Parliament street. We're hoping that it's an opportunity for non-Trinity students to get their leap cards.
- Obviously the expected influx of tourists doesn't exist this year so we have lost out on a lot of potential income that we would typically expect from their Leap Cards.
 - This is par for the course with a global pandemic.
- We're also expanding Leap Card services to start posting out leap cards to people. We plan to have that system up on its feet in the coming weeks and hope that it will allow us to reach more students who may not be comfortable taking public transport to get a leap card in person.

8. Gaeilge Update

- The oifigeach and I have been working hard to inject cúpla focal into everything the Union does.
- The weekly email has gotten a new lease of life, more on that below. Regarding Gaeilge, the Ríomhphost as Gaeilge is now of equal standard to the Ríomhphost as Bearla. The Irish language version of the email now has all the same graphics and pictures as the english version. This has been made possible by a few accessibility changes outlined in the section about the email.
- We've decided to do a regular post for each campaign week detailing how you can use your Cúpla Focal to celebrate that campaign. It was ran with great success for Seachtain na dTeifeach (Refugee week) and we hope to continue this going forward. We also have taken the lead in naming the events in Gaeilge first and all graphics treat Bearla and Gaeilge with equal weight so that Gaeilge doesn't seem like an afterthought.
- We're working towards Bonn Na Gaeilge with USI. A scheme to reward colleges and Unions for making more considerations for Gaeilge in their activities. As the oifigeach put it 'a green flag for Gaeilge'.
 - There's Gold, Silver and Bronze awards and we're going for gold because we're overachievers but we'll be happy to just show a commitment to the language in any way we can.
- Thank you to the Oifigeach for her consistent contributions and for reinforcing the importance of Gaeilge in everything we do. It makes it very easy to do a good job when you have strong, knowledgeable support behind you.

9. Weekly Email Update

- The weekly email now has a fresh new look
 - It has been totally overhauled to ensure that it was accessible as possible.
 - I am proud to say that it was used by NStEP as an example of universal design for learning and how you can design materials that accommodate every single student by default.

- Alongside this we've scrapped the 'accessible version' of the email. Instead we're ensuring that the regular email that every student receives is 100% accessible. Something which I'm proud to say has been achieved for every email during my term so far. It pays to make something accessible and inclusive by default.
- As mentioned above, the Ríomhphost as Gaeilge includes graphics and images like the English Language email. This was not something done before.
- We launched the audio version of the email alongside the freshers' email.
 - It's gotten good reception
 - I will not be looking at metrics for it or try to justify it as an asset. I believe it is a service and even if only 10 people listen to it every week, that's worth it to me.
 - If you haven't listened to it, it's available on spotify and other podcast platforms. It's quite no-frills at the moment and I'm debating whether it needs to be a little bit more polished. As always, accessibility takes precedence over production.

10. Long Term Projects Update

- I've started a few yearlong projects this year.
- I'm currently examining the brand guidelines of the Union. You may see things on our social channels that look a little bit different from the usual SU Blue, and these are all experiments and tests as to how we can expand and develop the existing SU brand while maintaining the recognisable aspects of it.
 - We've introduced two new colours to the Union. Pink and a darker blue. These are to provide contrast and interest to social posts we make. These will exist alongside SU Blue
 - The logo will be remaining the same.
 - I'm currently developing and finetuning icons for each sabbatical role. You will have seen those in the email or in any of the intro graphics we posted on social media or printed as posters. They borrow from the previous ones but modernise them and I'm finding ways for them to be implemented regularly into graphics from the union.
 - Everything I'm designing is being saved and I'm hoping that these designs can be used as templates in years going forward!

11. MEETINGS ATTENDED

<u>MEETING</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
I sit on no college committees this year	N/A
<u>USI Dublin WG x 4</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Union Forum Training</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>Union Forum</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>TOTAL: 1</u>	<u>9</u>

12. MANIFESTO PROGRESS

<u>MANIFESTO POINT</u>	<u>ACTIONS TAKEN</u>	<u>PROGRESS</u>
Renew Social Media Strategy	Increase engagement, post more regularly, advertise our services more clearly	Ongoing but complete
<u>Engage on + off Campus students</u>	<u>Incredibly difficult due to Corona but I think we've done well to engage students via class rep elections and our social media is more regularly engaged with</u>	In progress but hard to gauge how successful this has been due to the pandemic
<u>Restructure emails for accessible and student first focus + signpost student services more</u>	<u>Email has a new look, audio version, a lot of space made for student services, increased accessibility</u>	Complete
<u>Harness digital billboards across campus</u>	<u>Not possible due to the pandemic and reduced footfall. We'll see in the new year if this changes</u>	
<u>Calendar Add-On</u>	<u>Something that has genuinely been put on the backburner due to increased workload. Calendar of campaign weeks is available on the website though.</u>	
<u>SU Messenger Chatbot</u>	<u>An Idea I now wholeheartedly disagree with and will not be pursuing this year. There's a lot of value to the human touch in responding to messages personally. While it's more workload, we are often the first point of contact for students and a personal, empathetic approach is really valuable here rather than automation</u>	
<u>Updated Website</u>	<u>Launched in mid august. Looking great. Ongoing maintenance required</u>	
<u>Website Jobs</u>	<u>There are no jobs to advertise but we did create 70 jobs for student breakout spaces on campus</u>	
<u>Rebranded SU Weeks</u>	<u>Working on a week-by-week basis. Injecting new design into them and promoting gaeilge as</u>	

	<u>much as possible. Difficult situation as nothing can happen in person</u>	
<u>More upskilling</u>	<u>Not as feasible due to COVID-19 limitations. Something we're looking into but not hopeful this side of christmas</u>	
<u>Reduce Waste</u>	<u>UT have not gone to print this year yet, I take no credit for this, this was a judgement call made by their team and while it's saving paper I feel for them as it was such a hard decision to make. We're cutting down printing of diaries wallplanners and other printed materials. We've printed a limited run of posters for breakout spaces as we have no other way to get messages into these spaces</u>	
<u>Accessible email</u>	<u>Ongoing but it's 100% accessible as much as it can be in my opinion</u>	
<u>Subtitles</u>	<u>We're exploring the limits of what we can subtitle here in the SU and looking into automatic systems to do so (panopto etc). We've subtitled on all short-form videos made by the Union and all instagram stories. Has had positive reception and this extra level of effort has paid off IMO</u>	
<u>Handbooks</u>	<u>No progress on these but I'm planning to design a visual access manual with tips for designing accessible materials. Will be linking in with the disability officer on this</u>	
<u>Student First Sponsorship</u>	<u>Despite downturn of sponsorship, I'm proud of the ones ive secured and I hope they have a more direct impact on the student body. This is an ongoing thing</u>	
<u>New Sponsorship Manual</u>	<u>We haven't found much use for the sponsorship handbook this year but we can publish or</u>	

	<u>share the TCDSU advertising rates card on request.</u>	
<u>Collaborating with ents and UT</u>	<u>Have successfully negotiated KBC ads for UT and continue to push UT as a potential ad platform for businesses alongside the SU. I'm happy to say this has been successful and look forward to developing this further. Again, pandemic and sponsorship drought makes this a little more difficult</u>	

EXPENSES:

Routine stationery and office items

No further expenses

I want to thank everyone for their kind words since settling into the role, USI and SU alike along with every one of my friends who have told me my work is having a positive impact on them.

This is a very difficult year and I have no real way of gauging response to any of the things we do due to the lack of physical events. It's a very challenging year in that respect and every kind word and positive affirmation has been incredibly motivating and beneficial.

I also want to give a shoutout to UT and particularly Cormac who is working hard to keep students in the loop on all that is going on in college. We should also acknowledge that it wasn't an easy decision for UT to suspend their print editions due to the pandemic.

I also want to thank everyone who helped facilitate the class rep elections over the past few weeks. Despite teething problems I think things went quite well! And the sheer number of hours you all put in deserves to be shouted out. Thanks a mil lads.

That's all from me, Go Raibh Maith Agat - Philly Cheesesteak xoxo

Hugh McInerney

Trinity Ents

Workers Report

June 29th - October 27th

OVERVIEW

The most interesting four months of my life! Handover was great and the previous Ents Officer gave me some great tips about how to handle the year. Unfortunately I was unable to put most of them into practice because of how the year has turned out so far, but I still gleaned valuable information about the structure and day to day running of Ents.

Freshers Week certainly took up most of my time and energy over the Summer period, and this was exacerbated by the changing restrictions dictating what we would be allowed to host. The actual Freshers Week that we held was the fourth plan that I came up with, and the new outdoor restrictions were released in early September, giving us only three weeks to move any in person event online. Freshers Week 2020 was completely online for the first (and hopefully last) time in Trinity Ent's history, and I couldn't be happier with how it turned out. From panels to quizzes, movie screenings to cocktail classes, Freshers Week offered a bit of everything from the comfort of your own home. Our highlight of the week was undoubtedly Ents Online, an online concert that was completely free for anyone to tune in. It was an historic collaboration between ourselves, UCD, TUD, RCSI and IADT. As I was the Ents Online Coordinator the majority of the work was completed by me, as well as presenting and announcing duties. We raised over €400 for Mental Health Charity Jigsaw, and a great time was had by all.

Since Freshers Week, we have kept our stream of events quality and constant. Trinity This Week has been adapted into Trinity Talent to

better suit the level five world we find ourselves living in. The classes for Clash of the Comics, our battle of the bands style stand up comic event, launched at the beginning of October and the competition will be going live very shortly. Planning for our Halloween event, Trinity Treats, as well as our next cocktail event, Count Tails, also took up much of my time and both of these events are live and receiving a good response.

Sober October was one of my core manifesto promises, and we had an entire plan ready for the event. Unfortunately the COVID restrictions meant the event wouldn't have lived up to my expectations, so we took the decision to postpone it until second semester and rename it Tóg Go Bog É. Along with Refreshers, planning on these flagship events for the beginning of next term has provisionally begun and we hope to provide some of the on campus and in person experience we were unable to over Freshers.

My own experience with film making/video producing have proved invaluable to Ents and the union as a whole, and I have been called upon numerous times to produce content for areas outside of Ents' traditional remit. The first episode of "Trinity This Week" was produced and launched to a warm reception, but because of restrictions the decision was made to pivot this into our new regular "Trinity Talent". Ents' "Welcome to Trinity" video has amassed hundreds of likes and thousands of views, and was a nice way to start the year. I was also called on to make the #MySU video with only four days notice to research, write, shoot, edit and subtitle this project. Clocking in at just over 12 minutes, I managed to complete it within the time frame, even though a project of that scope would normally take double that amount of time.

I have taken a more active role in the USI than previous Ents Officers, and have been elected to the USI Campaign Strategy Committee. We meet regularly and discuss with the USI Campaign's Officer what our plan will be for the year ahead, what campaigns to focus on and how to best promote them once they've been launched. This was alongside

attending Congress, SUT, National Council, and a number of other USI events that I attended.

I have also become more familiar with streaming via zoom, Open Broadcasting Software, Facebook live and YouTube, and these skills will prove invaluable as long as we find ourselves in the current situation.

EVENTS THAT HAPPENED

Freshers Week 2020!

- Pilates
- Culture Panel
- The New Nightlife with Give Us The Night and Lord Mayor
- Cocktail Class - gave out 50 cocktail kits
- Trinity Talent Episode 1
- Ents Online
- Film Quiz
- Film Screening

Ents Online

- Required intensive coordination between five different colleges
- A high pressure day that involved thousands of Euros of costs, no slip ups could be afforded
- By reaching out to the other colleges and sharing the costs, thousands of Euro was saved by the union

- Huge amount of experience gained in the field of professionally live streaming our events, good relationship built with both the venue and the production company

Clash of the Comics

- Classes opened to all Trinity Students at no cost. Competition a la Battle of the Bands to be launched very shortly
- Feedback from attendees has been very positive

Trinity Talent

- Trinity Talent has been turned into a regular bi-weekly show, and is the restrictions permitting version of Trinity This Week.
- Covering a wide range of creatives, from actors to filmmakers, theatre directors to musicians, Trinity Talent will continue throughout the year to highlight the struggle Trinity artists face due to the COVID

Ents Meetings

- We have been holding regular Ents committee meetings with the committee
- The committee this year are fantastic, helpful with their suggestions and crucial for advertising our events on their socials
- Although a very different year than expected, the head is being kept up and I'm confident we can deliver the best possible Ents experience, no matter what the restrictions

USI

- Attended Congress, SUT and the regular National Councils, as well as the Dublin Working Groups
- Was elected to the USI Campaign Strategy Committee, help plan and coordinate national campaigns such as Education For All

EVENTS PLANNED

Trinity Treats

- Our Halloween special is another live streamed event, where we will be making s'mores, carving pumpkins and making pumpkin soup
- We are also providing 250 pumpkins free of charge for any Halls students to utilise and brighten up their apartment
- This event will be completely free of charge and open for all to tune in

Count Tails

- The second in our well received Cocktail making classes, this will coincide with the American election when everyone will be drinking heavily anyway
- Our second alcohol orientated event this year, I ensured none of our events focused on drink during Sober October, mainly due to the fact it was on and definitely not because I'm doing it myself and want everyone to share my suffering
- This will also be streamed professionally for free

Clash of the Comics competition

- As mentioned above, this will commence towards the end of November and will be one of the main events we will be running
- Prizes, audience interaction and more, we aim to make Clash of the Comics a template for how our online Battle of the Bands can and will work

Ents as a Service

- One of my main goals this year was to make Ents more open, accessible and inclusive and dispel the image that it's a cliqué or an “old boys club”. Although Ents has a good deal of autonomy from and works slightly differently to the rest of the sabbat roles, it is still an integral part of the SU.
- Every single event we have put on so far this year has been free. Although some events have been rather expensive to host, it is my aim to ensure that ability to pay is not a barrier to participation. I will continue to advocate for this, and ensure our events are free as long as our bank account (and administrative officer!) sustains it.

MISC

Two holiday days were taken over the four month period. No expenses were claimed (mainly because I keep losing the receipts)