



# Megan FOR EDUCATION

## About me

My name is Megan O' Connor and I hope to become your next Education Officer! I am a final year General Nursing Student and hail from the county of Kerry. I have been part of the Students Union since first year when I accidentally (lol) got involved as a Class Representative and I have loved it ever since! I now serve as the TCDSU Off Campus Officer. I am the current Chairperson of the DU Nursing and Midwifery Society. I play the fiddle and flute and my favourite things include spice bags, The 1975 and the colour orange.

## Why am I running for Education officer?

I believe that we as an SU can do more for students and I want to play an active role in this. I really believe in my manifesto points and each point is based on something I hope to implement. From my experience in the SU over the last 4 years, I have gained a valuable insight into the workings of the SU, I know what's been done well and what can be improved. As a student who has spent the majority of my degree based off campus, I believe I can bring a new perspective to the role.

## Why vote for me?

I really want to do this job! I am confident that I have ideas that will work and over the 12 months in the role, I will commit myself to ensuring these ideas become reality! I, like most students, have faced various unnecessary issues during my time in college. My experience both as a student and working with the SU, will benefit me in the role and ensure students needs are met appropriately. I will be around campus and at off campus locations during the campaign period. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask me.

Thank you for reading  
Meg x

**FOR IDEAS THAT WORK!**

## Accessibility

### **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.

### **National Lobbying**

Work alongside the SU President in campaigning against fee increases and improved accessibility to third level education.

### **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.

## Improving Engagement

### **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.

### **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.

### **Academic Senate.**

Work on academic senate's implementation. Make it accessible and appealing to the average student with an interest in academic issues.

### **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.

### **Transparency**

I want to work with College schools and services to become more accountable, more open 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.

## Student Support

### **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 modules, electives and preparing for assessments.

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!

### **Exams**

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.

I will work with the Welfare Officer to improve and expand "Fit to sit",

### **Erasmus**

I want to improve communication and coordination by forming a working group between Academic Registry's Erasmus Office and schools. This would ensure students are equipped with the necessary information required for their exchange.

I will work to create a more accessible application process. 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.

### **Class Rep Support.**

Hold meet ups throughout the year and facilitate optional "trainings" in conjunction with other officer's of the SU and various guest speakers.

Class reps are such a valuable resource and should be both encouraged and utilized further.

### **Availability of Supports**

I want to implement a flowchart on the SU website to assist students in easily finding the resources required.

I want to empower students to deal with situations while remaining fully supportive as Sabbatical Officer.

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.