



Union of Students in Ireland
Aontas na Mac Léinn in Éirinn

Tuairiscí Coiste Gnó
Coiste Gnó Reports

Nollaig 2022 - Baile Átha Luain
December 2022 – Athlone

Tuairiscí

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1. Uachtarán

President

Beth O'Reilly

a) Príomh-phointí ón Comhairle Náisiúnta deireanach

Key Points Since Last Comhairle Náisiúnta

Key Point 1

Description of Key Point 1

Key Point 2

Description of Key Point 2

Key Point 3

Description of Key Point 3

b) Cruinnithe/Imeachtaí

Meetings/Events

Dáta <i>Date</i>	Cruinniú/Imeacht <i>Meeting/Event</i>	Sonraí <i>Details</i>	Polasaí <i>Policy</i>
1 st November	Tuesday Morning Meeting	Weekly meeting of the Coiste Gnó to discuss plans and upcoming campaigns	
3 rd – 4 th November	Comhairle Náisiúnta <i>[Baile Átha Cliath]</i>	Comhairle Náisiúnta hosted by NCI	
7 th November	Monday Morning Meeting	Weekly meeting of the Coiste Gnó to discuss plans and upcoming campaigns	
7 th November	NAC Subcommittee (Institutional Processes)	Meeting of the NAC	
7 th November	UCDSU Class Rep Council	Attended UCDSU Class Rep council to deliver a presentation with the VP Dublin on the benefits of USI affiliation	
8 th November	HEA Finance and Governance Committee Meeting	Meeting of the HEA Finance and Governance Committee (online) discussing and approving HEA spending including increased funding outlined in Budget 2023	
9 th November	Campaigns Meeting	Meeting with the VP Campaigns, the General Manager and the USI PR and Comms manager to discuss upcoming campaign actions	
9 th November	MSU Senate	Attended MSU Senate to give the USI Update	
11 th November	Extinction Rebellion COP 27 Protest	Attended the COP 27 protest with the VP Campaigns	
11 th November	Coiste Gnó Meeting	Meeting of the Coiste Gnó to discuss upcoming plans and potential leave	
14 th November	Newstalk Interview	Interview with Newstalk on the government planning to help subsidise the building of new student accommodation projects	

14 th November	Monday Morning Meeting	Meeting with the Coiste Gnó to discuss plans and aims for the week	

c) Fógairt Bronntanais/Fáilteachais

Declaration of Gifts/Hospitality

Dáta <i>Date</i>	Tuairisc <i>Description</i>	Ceannaitheoir <i>Purchaser</i>

Éileamh Costais

Expenses Claimed

Mír <i>Item</i>	Tuairisc <i>Description</i>	Méid <i>Amount</i>
Iompar Poiblí <i>Public Transport</i>		
Iompar Féin <i>Own Transport</i>		
Béilí <i>Meals</i>		
Tréimhsí Thar Oíche <i>Overnight Stays</i>		
Nach Iad <i>Other</i>		
Iomlán <i>Total</i>		

2. Leas-Uachtarán do Chúrsaí Acadúla

Vice President for Academic Affairs

Clodagh McGivern

a) Príomh-phointí ón Comhairle Náisiúnta deireanach

Key Points Since Last Comhairle Náisiúnta

Exam Destress Material – sent out to you. If you haven't received them, let me know in case you're not in the mailing list.

Rethinking Assessment - Please see below details of the upcoming QQI conference on assessment - **Let's talk about Assessment 2023: Rethinking Assessment in Higher Education**. If you wish to attend the conference **on 30 January 2023** in the **Royal Dublin Convention Centre, Little Ship Street, Dublin 8**, please follow the link below to register your details. -

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/lets-talk-about-assessment-2023-rethinking-assessment-in-higher-education-tickets-468269305097?cldee=zUhQG2dzmJLlxJ32UHODkUHQK-qM6338OrbyT0VS83bfK5M8I5p7QIP01gG8BT8&recipientid=contact-4d8efa88a8a9e71180cc000d3ab2f532-50867b638b7c47748a7ee1965157bfcd&esid=762b01c2-6166-ed11-a819-000d3ab7869e>

Please extend the invitation to part time officers who are interested in assessment reform. Also, if you're trying to reform assessment in your institution and you have heard you can't due to QQI accreditation requirements, I have an email from them that I can forward to you that states otherwise.

Academic integrity campaign – officially launched! Let me know if you didn't get all the material, there should be posters, beer mats, businesscards and tote bags. There is also a letter in it telling you what to do with the materials. However, if you run into any issues let me know.

b) Cruinnithe/Imeachtaí

Meetings/Events

Dáta <i>Date</i>	Cruinniú/Imeachtaí <i>Meeting/Event</i>	Sonraí <i>Details</i>	Polasaí <i>Policy</i>
2 nd Nov	TUDSU x USI	Meeting with the Education Officer from TUDSU – City Campus in relation to TUDSU's class rep training	
7 th Nov	Funding the future	Increased funding into staffing in third level education – Employment Control Framework (increased flexibility in how institutions make staffing decides) Futher Education / Higher Education Co-delivery – work has been done in relation to pathways. Work has been done creating courses that will be co-delivered by further education and higher education institutions. Still a lot of questions about what the cost of this will be like for students – reiterated the need for transparency around the costs of this before students begin or choose this option.	

8 th Nov	TUDSU Class Rep Training	Delivered a training session at TUDSU class rep training - https://usiurl-my.sharepoint.com/:p:/g/personal/education_usi_ie/EctpfO90JXhMkEgHjQloM_oBXU_QsO7KKGJdiryfa9edCIQ?e=KgakFU	
8 th Nov	Placement Campaign Meeting	VP for Equality & Citizenship & VP for Campaigns around when the campaign should take place. Unfortunately, One Movement are in the process of hiring someone and the position hasn't been filled yet. Until then, they said they wouldn't be able to collaborate on the campaign with us.	20AA12 /2022AA 2
9 th Nov	Student Survey Co-sponsors meeting	Meeting about the future of the StudentSurvey.ie	2022AA 8
10 th Nov	Approvals and Reviews Committee	Reviews were done on institutions across Ireland from Enterprise Training, Further Education and Higher Education. Some institutions were looking for QQI accreditation; these were either approved or denied.	
14 th Nov	ESU Board Meeting	Accepting of officer reports Amendments to statutes Task forces <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On the safety and inclusion of WsU members of all backgrounds and nationalities - On membership issues - On operationalising Mainstreaming of the Students' Rights charter - Academic Freedom - Reshaping ESU's statutory meetings 	
15 th Nov	ESU Board Meeting	Amendments to statutes Statement on Academic Integrity (amendments) Statement on Student Centered Learning (amendments)	
16 th Nov	ESU Board Meeting	Statement on Student Centered Learning (amendments) Internal Motions	
17 th Nov	Flying home		
18 th Nov	StudentSurvey.ie Co-Sponsors Meeting	In relation to StudentSurvey.ie and what the next steps are – will give verbal update at council	2022AA 8
19 th Nov	Pink Training	LGBTQ+ Training event organised by VP for Equality & Citizenship	

20 th Nov	Pink Training	^	
21 st Nov	MSU Electoral Committee	A member of Maynooth Students' Unions electoral committee – meeting in relation to upcoming elections and previous ones.	
22 nd Nov	NAIN Steering Committee Meeting	Timeframe extended for the framework for academic integrity investigation Updates from members Review of QQI 10 year anniversary conference 2 nd Addition coming of the handbook on academic integrity	20 AA 6
22 nd Nov	College Awareness Week	College Awareness Week Panel about the importance of furthering education, whether is it doing an apprenticeship, going to an FET or attending a HEI. Spoke and told them they're not limited to Irish institutions and how they have the opportunity to go somewhere cheaper in Europe.	2022EM (AA) 3
24 th Nov	Medical Leave		
25 th Nov	Academic Integrity Talk	Helped ESU create a submission on academic integrity to the EU. Highlighted what it is, why its important and what institutions need to do to protect students.	20 AA 6
25 th Nov	PTO Training	Delivered a session at the part time officer training - https://usiir-my.sharepoint.com/:p:/g/personal/education_usi_ie/EfHkMab9jtdKlSvsTTvJ8b4Bc5H12RBKID2Fx_m8Y92d0Q?e=fwDWJh	20 AA 6
25 th Nov	QQI call	Spoke about assessment reform: importance of having student representatives at the upcoming event. Got confirmation email from QQI stating they do not tell institutions how to examine their modules; institutions must follow a set of principles and QQI recognises them as autonomous.	
25 th Nov	NStEP	Catch up with Oisin. Verbal update.	20AA2
28 th Nov	Sue Hackett	Met Sue about the assessment conference coming up. We want to organise a student day for sabbatical officers and anyone else interested. Networking, peer training and workshops.	20AA6
28 th Nov	Academic Integrity Draft Meeting	Attended a meeting with ESU representatives to create an academic integrity statement for the European Union (once released I will attach it in the next CN documentation)	20AA6

29th Nov	TUDSU x USI	Had a meeting with TUDSU VP BC about the academic integrity campaign	20AA6
29th Nov	SETU Waterford	Campaigning for SETUSU constitutional referendum and the USI affiliation referendum	
30th Nov	SETU Waterford	Campaigning for SETUSU constitutional referendum and the USI affiliation referendum	
1st Dec	NSTEP Event	<p>NstEP event – Closing and opening remarks in relation to the future of the programme, learned about SPARQS (leaders in this area) in Scotland and other student engagement programmes that exist(ed) in the UK</p> <p>Spoke about remarks that were raised at the talks and emphasized the points of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How student engagement isn't new - How students as partners need regular timely feedback – we have the potential to get feedback from alumni and not just students; also if something can not be done, students as partners deserve to know why something can't be done and this could lead to discussions and new ideas where they can compromise - Diversity in QA - The need for postgraduate representation in QA - Feedback sessions/planning meeting with students and student reps 	20AA2
6th Dec	Unified third level education		
7th Dec	National Forum International Advisory Planning Meeting		
7th Dec	Higher Education 4.0 Steering Group		
8th – 9th Dec	Comhairle Naistuinta		

c) Fógairt Bronntanais/Fáilteachais
Declaration of Gifts/Hospitality

Dáta <i>Date</i>	Tuairisc <i>Description</i>	Ceannaitheoir <i>Purchaser</i>

Éileamh Costais

Expenses Claimed

Mír <i>Item</i>	Tuairisc <i>Description</i>	Méid <i>Amount</i>
Iompar Féin <i>Own Transport</i>		
Béilí Meals	Brussels (3)	€52.50
Tréimhsí Thar Oíche Overnight Stays	Waterford (30/09/2022) Brussels (3 nights) Prague Pink training	€35.00 €150.00 €200.00 €55.00
Nach Iad Other	Food and Drink Prague	€83.00
Iomlán Total		€745.04

3. Leas-Uachtarán do Leas

Vice President for Welfare

Sarah Behan

a) Príomh-phointí ón Comhairle Náisiúnta deireanach

Key Points Since Last Comhairle Náisiúnta

HIV Ireland European Testing Week

USI was part of an online campaign with HIV Ireland as part of the HIV European Testing Week.

As a result, we have received confirmation of over 500 HIV rapid testing kits being ordered. HIV Ireland have also given us posters to be distributed to all, which will be sent out for those who are unable to attend Comhairle Náisiúnta in person.

b) Cruinnithe/Imeachtaí

Meetings/Events

Dáta <i>Date</i>	Cruinniú/Imeacht Meeting/Event	Sonraí Details	Polasaí <i>Policy</i>
October 25th	Sick Leave	I took one day of sick leave	
October 26 ^h	RSA Webinar	I attended the Road Safety Authority Annual Conference online.	
October 27th – October 28th	Annual Leave	I took two days on annual leave.	
November 1 st	Welfare Advisory Panel Update	I received confirmation that the Road Safety Authority have pointed a member of staff to my USI Welfare Advisory Panel to help with any queries about road safety.	
November 1st	Pink Training Orders	I placed on order for condoms and lube for Pink Training under the National Condom Distribution Scheme.	2022 EQ 5
November 1 st	Young People's Experience of Sexual and Gender-Based Harassment and Abuse During the Covid-19 Pandemic	I received a copy of Young People's Experience of Sexual and Gender-Based Harassment and Abuse During the Covid-19 Pandemic, which was published by the DCU Bullying Centre.	
November 2 nd	HIV Euro Testing Week	I had a meeting with HIV Ireland to discuss plans for the HIV Euro Testing Week to promote good sexual health.	2021 NA NC 4 2022 WEL (NC) 2
November 2 nd	Call with UCC Student Health and Wellbeing	I had a call with the UCC Student Health and Wellbeing to discuss a funding application.	
November 3 rd –	Comhairle Náisiúnta	I attended Comhairle Náisiúnta in NCI.	

November 4 th			
November 3 rd	Call with the Department of Health	I had a meeting with the Department of Health to discuss the funding application for a drug and alcohol education programme.	2022 WEL 7 20 WEL 3 20 WEL 7
November 7 th - 8 th	Drug and Alcohol Education Campaign Funding	I worked on the funding application for the Drug and Alcohol Education Campaign with the USI General Manager and President.	2022 WEL 7 20 WEL 7
November 7 th	Meeting with USI PR and Comms Manager	I had a meeting with the USI PR and Comms Manager to discuss the Stalking Awareness campaign assets and bring forward ideas that were discussed at the Campaigns Working Group.	2022 WEL 5
November 8 th – 9 th	Healthy Ireland #HealthyWeightGain Letter	I wrote the letter to Healthy Ireland, Stephen Donnelly and Simon Harris about the #PreventWeightCampaign campaign that was discussed at Welfare Working Group.	
November 9 th	Ending Sexual Violence and Harassment NAC	I attended the Ending Sexual Violence and Harassment national advisory committee meeting to discuss policies and practise.	2021 WEL 3
November 9 th	FM104 Radio Interview	I had a radio interview with FM104 to discuss spiking following Aodhan Ó Ríordáin's call for spiking to be a standalone criminal offense.	2022 WEL 6
November 10 th	HEA Ending Sexual Violence and Harassment in HEIs Advisory Group	I attended the HEA Ending Sexual Violence and Harassment in HEIs advisory group	2021 WEL 3
November 11 th	Annual Leave	I took one day of annual leave	
November 14 th	Email to Aodhan Ó Ríordáin	I emailed Aodhan Ó Ríordáin in relation to his call for spiking to be made a criminal offense to offer our support on the matter and try schedule a meeting with him to discuss the issues of spiking among the student population.	2022 WEL 6
November 15 th	Email to HUGG	I emailed HUGG ahead of International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day to see if there was any graphics and events that USI could attend.	
November 15 th	HIV Euro Testing Week Confirmation	I received the final copy of the Euro Testing posters from HIV Ireland for their upcoming campaign to promote at home HIV testing kits.	

November 15 th	International Men's Day Social Media Posts	I had discussions with the USI Comms and PR Manager about social media graphics that we can make for International Men's Day.	
November 16 th	Meeting with DCU PHD Sexual Health Student	I had a meeting with a DCU PHD student to discuss risky sexual behaviours among young people as part of her research.	
November 16 th	Coiste Gnó Catch Up	The coiste gnó had a quick update meeting.	
November 17 th	Meeting with VP Campaigns	I had a meeting with the VP Campaigns to discuss the possibility of running an anti-bullying campaign.	
November 18 th – December 2 nd	Medical Leave	Due to mental health purposes, I had to take medical leave for two weeks.	

c) Fógairt Bronntanais/Fáilteachais

Declaration of Gifts/Hospitality

Dáta <i>Date</i>	Tuairisc <i>Description</i>	Ceannaitheoir <i>Purchaser</i>

Éileamh Costais

Expenses Claimed

Mír <i>Item</i>	Tuairisc <i>Description</i>	Méid <i>Amount</i>
Iompar Poiblí <i>Public Transport</i>		
Iompar Féin <i>Own Transport</i>		
Béilí <i>Meals</i>		
Tréimhsí Thar Oíche <i>Overnight Stays</i>		
Nach Iad <i>Other</i>		
Iomlán <i>Total</i>		

4. Leas-Uachtarán um Feachtais
Vice President for Campaigns
Ross Boyd

a) Príomh-phointí ón Comhairle Náisiúnta deireanach

Key Points Since Last Comhairle Náisiúnta

Referendas

A big thanks to SETUSU and TUDSU for inviting me to help with their respective referenda. It shows positives that engagement in both referenda have been up since their SU elections and talking to students about what USI does.

It was also a great positive to see that 97% of people voted to stay in USI across the SETUSU campuses and got the opportunity to campaign in both Carlow and Waterford for their referendum.

Non-HE Funding Campaigns

A big focus of my work as mentioned in my last report is working on housing rights which will be coming to fruition soon. I've been working with the VP BMW on a Digs Survey, which we hope to complete for the new year after discussion of the survey at Campaigns Strategy Committee and later at Comhairle Náisiúnta. As of writing this officer report, I also will be meeting with CATU to discuss the potential of a partnership agreement and

A lesson in taking leave

With both Pink Training, Brussels and visits to SETUSU for the referenda, my lobby action was not what I had hoped for, which I will discuss more at Campaigns Working Group as well as briefly in delivering my report. While I have certainly felt like the work the past month has been good, I am certainly going to be self-critical that I hope to do a lot more planning in December to ensure the next few months are the most successful possible.

My meeting of Campaigns Strategy Committee, which will be happening before Comhairle Náisiúnta, aims to plan actions for the next few months. This will include a strategy of actions, which I hope to complete before the Christmas Break to provide that springboard of actions and campaigns, including protests and actions.

b) Cruinnithe/Imeachtaí

Meetings/Events

Dáta <i>Date</i>	Cruinniú/Imeacht <i>Meeting/Event</i>	Sonraí <i>Details</i>	Polasaí <i>Policy</i>
25th October	MSU Levy Protest (Maigh Nuad)	Stewarded the MSU Levy Protest with VP AA and other MO officers from the Dublin Region attending	
27th-30th October	LevelUp! Brussels (An Bhruiséil)	Two days of training on activism and ensuring 0 delegates got lost	
2nd November	ICYEH briefing call	Briefing call before the Youth Homeless Strategy launch, raising the lack of mention of student accommodation	
3rd-4th November	Comhairle Náisiúnta NCISU	Attended NCISU CN, many thanks for their hospitality and facilitated my WG	

7th November	Campus Visits to AMLCC and AMLOTO Carlow	Visited CCSU to discuss promoting their by-elections for new positions and SETUSU Carlow on their upcoming referenda	
8th November	Meeting with Elevate Brand Activation	Meeting with the General Manager and Elevate to discuss a partnership to ensure materials can be ordered directly through them, rather than multiple suppliers	
8th November	Placement Campaign Meeting	Met with VP AA and VP E&C to discuss ideas for the placement campaign and how this could work	2022 AA 2, 20 AA (NC) 4
9th November	Youth Homeless Strategy Launch	Attended the launch, including briefly speaking to Minister O'Brien to urge follow up to a meeting request	
10th November	Meeting with ADIÉ Welfare Officer	Met with the ISSU Welfare Officer to discuss campaigns and possible assistance and collaboration	
10th November	Meeting with Amnesty/MASI	Met with Amnesty and MASI to discuss housing rights and a projected protest on Direct Provision	
11th November	Extinction Rebellion Protest	Attended the protest with the President to call for climate action with COP27	
11th November	Coiste Gnó Catch-Up	Had a Coiste Catch-Up to discuss issues relevant to our work	
15th November	Student Survey – A&I and Comms crossover meeting	Attended the Student Survey meeting in UCD to discuss	
15th November	DRCC focus group	Attended the focus group on a project DRCC was working on and ensuring feedback on usability	
16th November	Coiste Gnó catchup	Catch-up call with the Coiste before Pink training	
17th November	Digs Survey call with VP BMW	Call to discuss a potential digs survey and what it would ask	
17th November	Call with VP Welfare	Call to discuss potential resources and	
18th-20th November	Pink Training	Facilitated a workshop at Pink Training and a safe space, as well as support in directions and bags	
21st-23rd November	ANNUAL LEAVE		
24th November	Campus Visit to TUDSU Bolton Street	Visited TUDSU to support their referendum efforts and improve engagement	
25th November	Raise The Roof Pre-Rally meeting	Meeting to confirm the planned route and	
26th November	Raise The Roof Protest	Protest to highlight the cost of accommodation and join the COLC banner	

29th November	SETUSU Referendum (Carlow)		
30th November	SETUSU Referendum (Waterford)		
1st December	ANNUAL LEAVE		

c) Fógairt Bronntanais/Fáilteachais

Declaration of Gifts/Hospitality

Dáta <i>Date</i>	Tuairisc <i>Description</i>	Ceannaitheoir <i>Purchaser</i>

Éileamh Costais

Expenses Claimed

Mír <i>Item</i>	Tuairisc <i>Description</i>	Méid <i>Amount</i>
Iompar Poiblí <i>Public Transport</i>		
Iompar Féin <i>Own Transport</i>		
Béilí <i>Meals</i>		
Tréimhsí Thar Oíche <i>Overnight Stays</i>		
Nach Iad <i>Other</i>		
Iomlán <i>Total</i>		

5. Leas-Uachtarán do Chomhionannais agus Saoránacht
 Vice President for Equality and Citizenship
 Maeve Richardson

a) Príomh-phointí ón Comhairle Náisiúnta deireanach

Key Points Since Last Comhairle Náisiúnta

Power of Disability

Power of Disability will be moved online as preference from AHEAD and due to accessibility concerns as well as having massive organisational pressure on both bodies due to additional projects.

Minister Darragh O'Brien Meeting

PDate has not been set with the ICOS/Department of Housing meeting. VP BMW will be joining myself and two members of the ICOS Board

By-elections & Referenda

Massive congratulations to all campuses hosting by-elections and referenda and successfully engaging your student populations. For many it has been the hard work of navigating TU mergers which require completely new and innovative thinking in regards

b) Cruinnithe/Imeachtaí

Meetings/Events

Dáta <i>Date</i>	Cruinniú/Imeachta <i>Meeting/Event</i>	Sonraí <i>Details</i>	Polasaí <i>Policy</i>
Nov 1st	Voter Reg organisation meeting		
	AHEAD Advisory Committee		
	Meeting EDI PTO TUSSU Athlone		
2nd	Department of Social Protection Feedback forum		
	Voter Reg Drive UCCSU		
	Writing to your local representative workshop UCCSU		
3rd	CN		
	Power of Disability		

	Planning Meeting		
4th	CN		
7th	Sick leave		
8th	Film25 Shaping Meeting		
	Placement Campaign meeting		
	Half day sick leave		
9th	Sick leave		
10th	ICOS Meeting		
11th	Abortion Working Group		
	CG Meeting		
14th	Sick leave		
15th	Meeting with HSE ADHD Clinical Lead		
	Half Day Annual Leave		
16th	CG Meeting		
18th-20th	Pink Training		
21st	MMM		
	Film25 Shaping Group		
23rd	SETUSU Waterford Visit		
	SETUSU Student Council	Gave USI Update	
24th	SETUSU Carlow Campus Visit		
	SETUSU Waterford Visit		
25th	TUDSU Bolton Street Referenda & Election results		
26th	Raise the Roof protest		
28th	CG Office Day		
	Joint Committee on North-South Enrollment	This committee got cancelled the next day but will be rescheduled to January.	

	planning meeting		
	MMM		
	NUS-USI/USI Catch UP		
29th	SETUSU Waterford Referenda	Manned stall on College Street & Cork Road Campuses	
30th	SETUSU	Manned stall on Cork Road and Granary Campuses	
	Call with Cooperation Ireland		
December 1st	TUDSU Motion Meeting	Assisted in motion writing	
2nd	UniCov Symposium		
5th	MMM		
	Shared Island Forum		
	CSC		
6th	TUSSU Postgrad Event	LSADSU, will be speaking about time management	
7th	University of Sanctuary Meeting on Strategy	UoSI saw a concerning drop in applicants	

c) Fógairt Bronntanais/Fáilteachais

Declaration of Gifts/Hospitality

Dáta <i>Date</i>	Tuairisc <i>Description</i>	Ceannaitheoir <i>Purchaser</i>
23rd	Bottle of Coke + bag of sweets	SETUSU Waterford President
29th	Bottle of Coke	SETUSU
30th	Bottle of Coke	SETUSU

Éileamh Costais

Expenses Claimed

Mír <i>Item</i>	Tuairisc <i>Description</i>	Méid <i>Amount</i>
Iompar Poiblí <i>Public Transport</i>	Train from Carlow to Dublin	4.70
Iompar Féin <i>Own Transport</i>		
Béilí Meals		
Tréimhsí Thar Oíche	3 overnights	

Overnight Stays		
Nach Iad		
Other		
Iomlán		
Total		

6. Leas- Uachtarán do Átha Cliath
Vice President for the Dublin Region
Sierra Müller-Owens

a) Príomh-phointí ón Comhairle Náisiúnta deireanach

Key Points Since Last Comhairle Náisiúnta

b) Cruinnithe/Imeachtaí

Meetings/Events

Dáta <i>Date</i>	Cruinniú/Imeachta <i>Meeting/Event</i>	Sonraí <i>Details</i>	Polasaí <i>Policy</i>
1 Nov	Monday Morning Meeting (MMM)	We discussed upcoming CN and the SETUSU affiliation referendum.	
1 Nov	TCDSU Council		
3-4 Nov	Comhairle Náisiúnta		
7 Nov	MMM	We spoke about the upcoming week and the regional cost of living coalition protests and the raise the roof protest.	
7 Nov	UCDSU Council	I attended UCDSU council with the president to give a presentation on USI membership.	
8 Nov	IADTSU Campus Visit	I attended IADTSU with mental health coordinator for the Open Up mental health campaign.	
8 Nov	PTO Training	I met with VP South and VP BMW to discuss our mandated part time officer training.	
8 Nov	Meeting with president of DCUSU.	I gave advice on policy.	
11 Nov	Coiste Gnó Catch-up		
14 Nov	MMM	We spoke about the upcoming week and campaign strategy committee, Raise the Roof protest and Pink Training.	
14 Nov	European Students' Union Board Meeting 83	The first day of the board meeting consisted of an introductory session and officer reports. I asked a question on the inclusion of Palestinian students in ESU since Israel are members and the president met with representatives of European Muslim student associations.	
15 Nov	ESU BM 83	The Ukrainian Student League presented their application for membership. The VP Academic Affairs and I decided that it would be against our policy as a union to vote in favour of their membership because they had information on their website that they provided ammunition to the Ukrainian army. VP Academic Affairs and I decided that	

		voting in favour of their membership would be a breach of our Anti-War policy.	
15 Nov	Meeting with TCDSU BDS	I met with the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions group in TCDSU to discuss the BDS motion that is being brought to this CN.	
16 Nov	ESU BM 83		
17 Nov	ESU BM 83		
18-20 Nov	Pink Training	I attended Pink Training and presented.	
21 Nov	MMM	A catch-up meeting with the Coiste Gnó.	
22 Nov	TUDSU Tallaght Visit	I helped the Tallaght deputy president during their constitutional referendum.	
22 Nov	PTO Training Plan	Another planning meeting for PTO training.	
23 Nov	DCUSU Campus Visit	I attended DCUSU with mental health coordinator for the Open Up mental health campaign.	
24 Nov	Apprenticeship Alliance Meeting	A very insightful meeting with the national apprenticeship alliance. I requested that data be collected on the average apprentice income in every county vs the cost of living in the respective county.	
25 Nov	Part Time Officer Training	VP South gave a presentation to introduce USI, VP Academic Affairs gave a presentation on academic integrity, VP BMW gave a presentation on confidence and media, and I gave a presentation on chairing/minuting meetings.	
26 Nov	Raise the Roof Protest		
28 Nov	MMM and Referendum Preparation	A catch-up for the week and preparing for the affiliation referendum in SETUSU.	
29 Nov	SETU Carlow Visit	I was in Carlow with VP Campaigns, VP South and VP BMW to talk to students about voting yes for their constitutional referendum and USI membership.	
29 Nov	DCUSU Council	I was only able to attend the meeting for about 30 minutes due to an appointment.	
30 Nov	DCUSU Visit	I was on campus to promote Wellbeing Wednesday with the VP Wellbeing.	
30 Nov	TUDSU Council	I attended TUDSU Council.	

c) Fógairt Bronntanais/Fáilteachais

Declaration of Gifts/Hospitality

Dáta <i>Date</i>	Tuairisc <i>Description</i>	Ceannaitheoir <i>Purchaser</i>

Éileamh Costais
Expenses Claimed

Mír <i>Item</i>	Tuairisc <i>Description</i>	Méid <i>Amount</i>
Iompar Poiblí <i>Public Transport</i>	Train from Airport in Brussels Taxi to Airport in Brussels (with VP AA) Taxi from UCDSU Campus Travel Card for Prague	12.20 39 26.52 27.21
Iompar Féin <i>Own Transport</i>		
Béilí <i>Meals</i>	2 lunches and a dinner (Brussels) Lunch in Airport (Prague)	35.65 12.50
Tréimhsí Thar Oíche <i>Overnight Stays</i>	4 International Overnight Stays (Prague) 3 International Overnight Stays (Brussels)	200 150
Nach Iad <i>Other</i>		
Iomlán <i>Total</i>		503.08

7. Leas-Uachtarán don Iarthar, Lár-tíre agus Teorain
Vice President for the Border, Midlands and Western Region
Hannah Brennan

a) Príomh-phointí ón Comhairle Náisiúnta deireanach

Key Points Since Last Comhairle Náisiúnta

Part Time Officer Training

We held PTO training on Friday Nov 25th.

It was recorded and will be circulated to PTOs in the coming weeks.

We had good attendance and engagement, will be following up with PTOs after Christmas break to check in, see how they found it and how they can be supported through 2nd semester.

Digs Survey

I started working on a survey to be circulated in semester 2 around digs. This will be my main focus of work between now and semester 2. I aim to be as inclusive as possible and get as much information and statistics as possible to back up the legislation that is desperately needed for the future.

b) Cruinnithe/Imeachtaí

Meetings/Events

Dáta <i>Date</i>	Cruinniú/Imeachtaí <i>Meeting/Event</i>	Sonraí <i>Details</i>	Polasáí <i>Policy</i>
1st Nov	First day back!	First day back post covid, lots of catching up being done.	
3 rd & 4 th Nov	Comhairle Náisiúnta	Attended Comhairle Náisiúnta in NCI.	
8 th Nov	PTO Training planning day	Had a meeting about planning PTO training with VP Dublin and VP South.	
9 th Nov	STACS Campus Visit	Visited St Angela's campus to check in with the President and help out with event prep.	
10 th -13 th Nov	Annual Leave	Off for graduation.	
15 th Nov	TUS Campus Visit	Visited TUS Athlone for their Risk Aware Week.	
16 th Nov	Coiste Gnó meeting	Mid-week check in with Coiste.	
17 th Nov	Digs survey meeting with VP Campaigns	Had a meeting about my Digs survey with VP Campaigns. We discussed reasoning behind it, question to be asked and how to proceed with everything.	
17 th Nov	Check in with VP Welfare		
18 th -20 th Nov	Pink Training	Attended Pink Training in University of Galway.	
21 st Nov	DKIT Campus Visit	Attended/Chaired DKITSU Student Rep Council	
22 nd Nov	PTO Training update	Meeting with VP South & VP Dublin to check in with progress on PTO Training.	

23 rd Nov	MSU Senate	Attended my first sitting of the Maynooth Senate online.	
25 th Nov	Pre-PTO training meeting	Check in before training to run through what was happening last minute.	
25 th Nov	PTO Training	Held Part Time Officer Training with VP South and VP Dublin. VP Academic Affairs also attended and spoke about Academic Integrity	
26 th Nov	STACS Campus Visit	Visited St Angela's Campus for their open day.	
28 th Nov	Lá Coiste Gnó	All of the Coiste that were working came to the office for a pre- referendum debrief and out weekly Monday Morning Meeting	
29 th & 30 th	SETUSU Carlow Campus Visit	Visited Carlow Campus of SETU to help out with getting votes for the referendum!	

c) Fógairt Bronntanais/Fáilteachais

Declaration of Gifts/Hospitality

Dáta <i>Date</i>	Tuairisc <i>Description</i>	Ceannaitheoir <i>Purchaser</i>
9/11	Keep Cup	Kim Austin STACSU
19/11	Chimney Cake	Maddie Smyth DCU

Éileamh Costais

Expenses Claimed

Mír <i>Item</i>	Tuairisc <i>Description</i>	Méid <i>Amount</i>
Iompar Poiblí <i>Public Transport</i>	16.80 (Train to Dublin & back)	16.80
Iompar Féin <i>Own Transport</i>	Travel to Athlone for Risk Week - 85 Travel to/from Galway for PT – 119.70 Travel to/from Dundalk for SRC - 126	330.82
Béilí <i>Meals</i>		
Tréimhsí Thar Oíche <i>Overnight Stays</i>	1 (NCI CN) €35 no dinner provided 2 (Pink Training) 1 night dinner provided, one night not €55	90
Nach Iad <i>Other</i>	Insurance for Driving for work	140
Iomlán <i>Total</i>		577.62

8. Leas-Uachtarán don Deisceart
Vice President for the Southern Region
Caoimhe Walsh

a) Príomh-phointí ón Comhairle Náisiúnta deireanach

Key Points Since Last Comhairle Náisiúnta

Carlow College Elections:

I was the returning officer for Carlow College by elections, happy to say that they have elected five new fantastic part time officers! I was also the returning officer for their constitutional referendum that passed!

PTO Training

Along with the VP for Dublin and VP BMW we organised and ran Part time officer training online. A special thanks to the VP AA for their fab presentation on academic integrity. We recorded the training, and we will circulate it to those who missed it in the coming week. Thank you so much to everyone for attending <3

SETUSU Referenda

I was on campus with other members of the Coiste promoting a yes vote to both referenda in SETU. I am delighted to say that 97% of students who voted, voted to stay a member of USI. Both referenda passed!

b) Cruinnithe/Imeachtaí

Meetings/Events

Dáta <i>Date</i>	Cruinniú/Imeachta <i>Meeting/Event</i>	Sonraí <i>Details</i>	Polasaí <i>Policy</i>
24/10/22	SETU CW	SETU Launch	
24/10/22	MMM	Monday morning meeting w/ Coiste	
25/10/22	SETU CW	Class rep council	
26/10/22	MTUKSU	Class rep council	
26/10/22	UCCSU	Class rep council	
7/11/22	TUS	Campus visit to Clare Street	
8/11/22	Regional Meeting	To plan and discuss PTO training	
11/11/22	Coiste Meeting	Had a catch up with the coiste	
14/11/22	MMM	Monday morning meeting	
16/11/22	Coiste Meeting	CG had a catch up	
16/11/22	MTUCSU	Positive mind and body week	
17/11/22	UCCSU	Mental health and wellbeing week	
21/11/22	MMM	Monday morning meeting	
21/11/22	SETUSU	Wexford class rep council	
22/11/22	SETUSU	Carlow class rep council	
22/11/22	Regional meeting	Regionals met to discuss PTO training	
23/11/22	UCCSU	Class rep council	
25/11/22	PTO training	Regional officers organised and ran a successful PTO training online.	

25/11/22	SETUSU x VP E&C	Myself and VP Equality and Citizenship met with presidents of both SETU campuses	
28/11/22	MMM	Monday morning meeting in Dublin	
29/11/22	SETUSU	I was on carlow campus campaigning for USI affiliation referendum	
30/11/22	SETUSU	I was on carlow campus campaigning for USI affiliation referendum	

c) Fógairt Bronntanais/Fáilteachais

Declaration of Gifts/Hospitality

Dáta <i>Date</i>	Tuairisc <i>Description</i>	Ceannaitheoir <i>Purchaser</i>

Éileamh Costais

Expenses Claimed

Mír <i>Item</i>	Tuairisc <i>Description</i>	Méid <i>Amount</i>
Iompar Poiblí <i>Public Transport</i>		
Iompar Féin <i>Own Transport</i>		
Béilí <i>Meals</i>		
Tréimhsí Thar Oíche <i>Overnight Stays</i>		
Nach Iad <i>Other</i>		
Iomlán <i>Total</i>		

9. Leas-Uachtarán don Ghaeilge
Vice President for the Irish Language
Orlagh Ní Choistealbha

a) Príomh-phointí ón Comhairle Náisiúnta deireanach

Key Points Since Last Comhairle Náisiúnta

Gníomhaí Gaeilge

Description of Key Point 1

Seoladh An Fhoclóir Aiteach

Description of Key Point 2

Gaeilge 24

Description of Key Point 3

b) Cruinnithe/Imeachtaí

Meetings/Events

Dáta <i>Date</i>	Cruinniú/I meacht <i>Meeting/Event</i>	Sonraí <i>Details</i>	Polasaí <i>Policy</i>
3/11/22	C.N	Comhairle Náisiúnta i mBÁC	
4/11/22	C.N	Comhairle Náisiúnta i mBÁC	
5-6/11/22	OnaS	Attended Oireachtas na Samhna	
7/11/22	Monday Morning Meeting	Discussed SETSU affiliation referendum	
8/11/22	CnaG	Visited CnaG, received an introduction on the Gaeilge24 campaign and packed up the merchandise that was sent out all over the country.	
9/11/22	Emails	Sent out introduction emails.	
10/11/22	Radio interview	Had a radio interview with wired fm about current affairs + Irish language matters.	
11/11/22	Meeting online	Met online with Tadhg Mac Eoghain to discuss the launch of the new edition of An Foclóir Aiteach, its printing and when it will be launched AMLÉ website.	
14/11/22	Conradh na Gaeilge weekly meeting online	Discussed campus visits + upcoming events	
15/11/22	Gaeilge24	Took part in Gaeilge24 campaign.	
16/11/22	Meeting/ Emails	Coiste Gnó meeting to discuss Pink Training. Sent out additional intro meetings to Cumann Gaeligh.	
17/11/22	Research	Researched Gaeilge campaigns for inspiration for the new year + Seachtain na Gaeilge.	

18-20/11/22	P.T + Launch of F.A	Attended Pink Training and the launch of An Foclóir Aiteach, assisted students with any directions/guidance.	
21/11/22	MMM	Discussed upcoming referendum with Coiste Gnó	
23/11/22	Meeting	With Barry Ó Siocrú	
24/11/22	Meeting online	Weekly update meeting with CnaG	
25/11/22	Meeting	Had a call with Linda Keating about an online Irish language game she is currently creating.	
28-30/11/22		Sick leave	
1/12/22	Meeting	Met online with CnaG + Gníomhaí Gaeilge to discuss further plans for the new year.	

c) Fógairt Bronntanais/Fáilteachais

Declaration of Gifts/Hospitality

Dáta <i>Date</i>	Tuairisc <i>Description</i>	Ceannaitheoir <i>Purchaser</i>

Éileamh Costais

Expenses Claimed

Mír <i>Item</i>	Tuairisc <i>Description</i>	Méid <i>Amount</i>
Iompar Poiblí <i>Public Transport</i>	Return bus to Galway	€15
Iompar Féin <i>Own Transport</i>		
Béilí <i>Meals</i>	Dinner	€12.50
Tréimhsí Thar Oíche <i>Overnight Stays</i>		
Nach Iad <i>Other</i>		
Iomlán <i>Total</i>		€27.50

10. Leas-Uachtarán do Chúrsaí Iarchéime
Vice President for Postgraduate Affairs
Waqar Ahmed

a) Príomh-phointí ón Comhairle Náisiúnta deireanach

Key Points Since Last Comhairle Náisiúnta

1- *Postgraduate Researcher's Rights Charter*

As the first stage of drafting the new national charter for PGRs, I circulated the draft charter to postgraduate officers, all sabbatical officers, members of PGWG, PGWAI, PCAU, Non-EEA PhD Society, RCISU, and ULPSU etc. to seek suggestions and amendments. After consultation and feedback, the proposed charter is being brought as motion to the December Comhairle Náisiúnta. The charter includes 16 points: (1) Employee Status for all Postgraduate Researchers; (2) Minimum Living Wage; (3) Recognition and Payment of Work; (4) Support for Teaching and Work ; (5) Access to Suitable Work Environment and Resources; (6) Appropriate Supervision; (7) Appeal and Grievances Procedures; (8) Affordable and Suitable Accommodation; (9) PGR Representation in Decision Making Bodies; (10) Right to be Represented by Students, Teaching and Trade Union; (11) Non-Discrimination; (12) Rights of Non-EEA Postgraduate Researchers; (13) Career Development Pathways; (14) Equality of Opportunities ; (15) State Support for the Cost of Postgraduate Courses ; (16) Open Access.

2- *Unified tertiary education system*

Held a meeting with PG Officer TUDSU and VP PGA TUSSU to discuss points for upcoming consultation workshop on a policy vision to progress a more unified tertiary education system comprised of complementary further and higher education, research and innovation sectors at Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science (DFHERIS). They brought issues related to funding (low stipends, stipend gaps, stipend inequality, fair contracts); Adequate Supervision; Need for grievances and appeal producers; Career development and training of PGRs; Research resources and infrastructures; and Engagement and representation of PGs in HEIs, and policy forums.

3- *PGR Career Tracking*

Attended NFDE Advisory Forum Career Tracking Working Group to propose a systematic approach for career tracking of postgraduate researchers through a longitudinal collection of data on the roles, sectors and locations of postgraduates from the Irish system as their careers develop. Considered the following aspects: (a) Establishing inclusion criteria for researchers in the tracking project (including timeline); (b) Scope of Questions within the project, including generating evidence-based information on career progression; and (c) Principles to be adhered to in ensuring data handling is fully compliant with GDPR regulations and data is anonymised.

4- *PGR Engagement*

I have worked with QQI and NStEP, and Postgraduate Student Engagement Working Group to redraft a new instrument template and questionnaire for collecting responses from institutions regarding PGR student engagement practice in Irish HEIs. Finalised the timeline and procedure of data collection which will start in Mid-December and end in February. HEIs are asked to work with Student Unions for their response on the current level of PGR student engagement.

b) Cruinnithe/Imeachtaí

Meetings/Events

Dáta <i>Date</i>	Cruinniú/Imeach <i>t Meeting/Event</i>	Sonraí <i>Details</i>	Polasaí <i>Policy</i>
26th Oct	Meeting with SETU Carlow PGRs [Online]	Held a meeting with the PGRs at SETU to discuss the stipend gap issue between the campuses. Brought the issue with President SETU through VP Southern Region.	2022 UO 21 20 AA 7
27th Oct	Meeting with stakeholders of PGSE WG [Online]	Held a meeting with QQI and NStEP to redraft a new instrument template and questionnaire for mapping PGR student engagement practice in Irish HEIs.	20 AA 3 17 AA4
1 st Nov	Tuesday Morning Meeting (MMM) [Baile Átha Cliath]	Had the weekly meeting with Coiste Gnó to go through the weekly schedule, plans, and updates on matters arising including ESU Trip, Comhairle Naisiúnta NCISU, SETU Stipend Update, Expenses Policy, Deputy chair issues, Constitutional review focus groups & meeting with SH, Stalking Awareness Campaign, and Drug and Alcohol Funding	2022 UO 25
3 rd Nov	BMW Working group [Baile Átha Cliath]	Attended and taken the minutes of the BMW regional working group meeting.	
3 rd Nov	Campaigns working group [Baile Átha Cliath]	Attended the Campaigns working group meeting.	
3 rd Nov	Postgrad Working Group Meeting [Baile Átha Cliath]	Chaired the meeting of the USI Postgraduate Working Group. We discussed USI Postgraduate Workers Rights Charter, National review of State supports for PhD researchers, Non-EU and International Postgraduate Students. Touched upon USI Stipend Survey of PGRs, Meetings with Minister DFHERIS, NFDE and RGE and meetings of PGSE WG	2021 AA 8 2021 AA 7 20 AA 7 AA 19 – 6
3 rd Nov	Presidents working group [Baile Átha Cliath]	Attended the Presidents' working group meeting.	
4 th Nov	Welfare Working Group [Baile Átha Cliath]	Attended the Welfare working group meeting.	
4 th Nov	Equality and Citizenship Working Group	Attended the Equality and Citizenship working group meeting.	

	[Baile Átha Cliath]		
4th Nov	Comhairle Náisiúnta [Baile Átha Cliath]	Attended November Comhairle Náisiúnta hosted by NCI	
7 th Nov	Monday Morning Meeting (MMM) [Baile Átha Cliath]	MMM is the weekly meeting with Coiste Gnó to go through the weekly schedule, plans, and updates on matters arising including support for part-time officers, student newsletter, upcoming campaigns and Protests, Affiliation Referendum, Pink Training and Euro Testing Week etc.	2022 UO 25
7 th Nov	1:1 meeting with UCCSU Postgraduate Officer [Online]	Had a 1:1 Meeting with newly elected UCCSU Postgraduate Officer. Discussed the local postgrad issues at UCC. Discussed postgrad fee and funding issues, International Postgrad students' accommodation, postgrad engagement in class rep council and social events and other local issues.	20 AA 7
10th Nov	PGR Charter graphics and emails	Circulated and designed the graphics for the USI Postgraduate Workers Rights Charter	2021 AA 8 AA 19 – 6
10 th Nov	Interview submission to The City magazine on PhD stipends [Online]	Submitted a written piece to <i>The City</i> magazine on: (a) What regulations are in place to protect PhD candidates in Ireland? and how can they be improved; (b) How does Ireland treat it's PhD candidates compared to other EU states? (c) What are the issues surrounding the Innovate for Ireland programme?; and (d) How can this issue be improved under the current cost of living crisis?	
11 th Nov	Friday Afternoon Meeting with CG [Online]	Plans of the next week	
14 th Nov	Monday Morning Meeting (MMM) [Baile Átha Cliath]	MMM is the weekly meeting with Coiste Gnó to go through the weekly schedule, plans, and updates on matters arising including MO Updates, SETUSU Affiliation, Lobby Day Campaign, Upcoming Protests, Academic Integrity Campaign, Comhairle Náisiúnta, Pink Training, Spiking Laws	2022 UO 25
14th Nov	1:1 meeting with TUSU Deputy President for Postgraduate Affairs [Online]	Had a 1:1 Meeting with TUSU Deputy President for Postgraduate Affairs. Discussed the local postgrad issues, upcoming postgraduate Senate and meetups at TUSU	20 AA 7

14th Nov	Meeting with PG Officer TUDSU and VP PGA TUSSU on unified tertiary education system consultation meeting [Online]	Held a meeting with PG Officer TUDSU and VP PGA TUSSU to discuss points for upcoming consultation workshop on a policy vision to progress a more unified tertiary education system comprised of complementary further and higher education, research and innovation sectors at Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science (DFHERIS). Decided issues related to funding (low stipends, stipend gaps, stipend inequality, fair contracts); Adequate Supervision; Need for grievances and appeal producers; Career development and training of PGRs; Research resources and infrastructures; and Engagement and representation of PGs in HEIs, and policy forums.	2023 UO (NC) 2 2021 AA 8 2021 AA 7 AA 19 – 6
15th Nov	USI Postgrad Meeting on Work Dignity for Postgrad researchers [Online]	Held a meeting with PGRs at RCI to discuss the appeal and grievances procedures regarding supervision. Discussed the need to highlight the appeal and grievances procedures, dignity and respect at PGR workplace, conflict resolution policy and Power imbalance between senior members of faculty/ management and PGR.	2021 AA 8 AA 19 – 6
16 th Nov	Coiste Gnó Meeting [Online]	Coiste Gnó meeting to discuss plans for pink training, Affiliation referendum and regional issues	
18th Nov	NFDE Advisory Forum Career Tracking Working Group meeting [Online]	Meeting of NFDE Advisory Forum Career Tracking Working Group to discuss the scope of the group to propose a systematic approach for career tracking through longitudinal collection of data on the roles, sectors and locations of postgraduates from the Irish system as their careers develop. Considered the following aspects: (a) Establishing inclusion criteria for researchers in the tracking project (including timeline) (b) Scope of Questions within the project, including generating evidence-based information on career progression (c) Principles to be adhered to in ensuring data handling is fully compliant with GDPR regulations and data is anonymised.	

21 st Nov	1:1 meeting with MSU Postgraduate Officer [Online]	Had a 1:1 Meeting with newly elected MSU Postgraduate Officer. Discussed the local postgrad issues regarding Postgrad engagement, Postgrad fees, Postgrad representation, and Postgrad exam support	20 AA 7
22 nd Nov	Tuesday Morning Meeting (MMM) [Baile Átha Cliath]	Held a weekly meeting with Coiste Gnó to go through the weekly schedule, plans, and updates on matters arising including Affiliation referendums, Pink Training Debrief, postgraduate symposium, postgrad worker rights charter, TUSSU Postgrad workshop	2022 UO 25
24 th Nov	Coiste Gnó Meeting [Online]	Coiste Gnó meeting to discuss updates and plan of action for Setsu referendum	
28 th Nov	Monday Morning Meeting (MMM) [Baile Átha Cliath]	MMM is the weekly meeting with Coiste Gnó to go through the weekly schedule, plans, and updates on matters arising including SETUSU Affiliation, Sustainability crew/motions, Regional Issues and Digs discussion	2022 UO 25
28 th Nov	PGSE Working Group meeting [Online]	Chaired the meeting of the Postgraduate Student Engagement Working Group. Reviewed and finalised the proposed template for collecting responses from institutions. Agreed on the final solution for collecting responses. Finalised the timeline and procedure of data collection.	20 AA 3 17 AA4
28 th Nov	Interview with The University Times [Online]	Had an interview with UT on the situation surrounding PhDs and postgraduate researchers and the conditions they face	
1 st Dec	Meeting with President PCAU [Online]	Had a meeting with the President of the PhDs' Collective Action Union (PCAU) to discuss PCAU's Fair Postgraduate Researcher Agreement and USI Postgraduate Researchers' Rights Charter.	2021 AA 8 AA 19 – 6
1 st Dec	Compiled the USI Postgraduate Researchers' Rights Charter	Finalised the USI Postgraduate Researchers' Rights Charter and written the motion for adoption.	2021 AA 8 AA 19 – 6
1 st Dec	Draft PGWG Agenda	Drafted the agenda for the Postgraduate Working Group (PGWG) November meeting	
2 nd Dec	Officer report	Finalised officer report for November Comhairle Náisiúnta.	2022 UO 25

c) Fógairt Bronntanais/Fáilteachais

Declaration of Gifts/Hospitality

Dáta <i>Date</i>	Tuairisc <i>Description</i>	Ceannaitheoir <i>Purchaser</i>
NA	NA	NA

Éileamh Costais

Expenses Claimed

Mír <i>Item</i>	Tuairisc <i>Description</i>	Méid <i>Amount</i>
Iompar Poiblí <i>Public Transport</i>	NA	NA
Iompar Féin <i>Own Transport</i>	NA	NA
Béilí <i>Meals</i>	NA	NA
Tréimhsí Thar Oíche <i>Overnight Stays</i>	NA	NA
Nach Iad <i>Other</i>	NA	NA
Iomlán <i>Total</i>	NA	NA

11. Uachtarán ANML-AMLÉ
NUS-USI President
Chloe Ferguson

Hi everyone! I hope you are keeping well and taking some well-earned rest on the run up to the holiday season- you have all been working super hard and deserve it. This month has been a lot of travelling for me, but I'm really proud of what we have been able to achieve with even more political instability from Stormont. We have shifted our attention fully to the Secretary of State in relation to Cost of Living Payments, whilst beginning to build links with Civil Servants who have been left in charge of budgets due to a lack of Executive.

Focusing on the Secretary of State

Our key action for the month was the Send an SOS to the SOS, or "Message in a Bottle" Stunt and reaching out to the Secretary of State who now primarily controls the NI Government's purse strings. We reached out via letter first outlining the needs of students and apprentices with our asks, and followed this up with a stunt outside Erskine House with a massive bottle filled with Student Case Studies. This stunt was actioned with representatives from Ulster University, Queen's University Belfast and Belfast Met. This tied in with the International Day of the Student and the release of Westminster's Budget- which happened to coincide on the same day.

National Society of Apprentices

This month we have been working with Ben Kinross from the NSOA to further the representation of Apprentices in Northern Ireland. Ben came across for a week and visited multiple colleges across the country, delivering workshops and advertising for our leadership team. This data was then taken to a meeting with Sinn Féin officials to explain the need to further the rights of Apprentices in NI. There was a promising enthusiasm to move work on in this meeting, and connections to help build a society in the South of the Island through the European Apprentice Network. Ben will be back in January if anyone has any apprentices who would like to get involved!

NUS UK

This month concluded the first stage of the Investigation into Anti-Semitism within NUS UK by KC Rebecca Tuck- looking at the NUS UK President. Following a disciplinary panel, the decision was taken to remove the NUS UK President from post for breaches of NUS UK guidelines. If you would more information please see here: https://www.nus.org.uk/independent_investigation_into_antisemitism

Cruinnithe/Imeachtaí Meetings/ Events:

November:

Date	Meeting/ Event	Details
1 st November	HR Sub Committee in Birmingham Students' Union	This meeting covered topics like exploring four day work weeks for staff, the Internal Investigation into Anti-Semitism.

2 nd November	International Day of the Student & FE Engagement Strategy Session	This session was with our new Union Organiser Ellie-Jo, as we planned for International Day of the Student, but primarily worked on developing a framework and strategy for engaging further education officers in the Cost of Survival Campaign, and in NUS-USI.
3 rd –4 th November	Comhairle Náisiúnta	
7 th November, 11 November	COP27 Planning Meeting	NUS-USI are members of Climate Coalition NI, the largest environmental network in Northern Ireland. I am also Vice-Chair for this organisation.
7 th -8 th November	NUS Charity Board in Macclesfield (outside of Manchester!)	In my role as chairperson for the board of trustees of NUS Charity, this meeting discussed matters relating to finance, union development and working across nations.
9 th November	Meeting with NUS Charity Director	
10 th November	Meeting with NUS Wales President Orla, to discuss cross-nation coordination during campaign actions.	
11 th November	Meeting with Caoimhe Archibald, Sinn Féin MLA.	This was a very productive and strategic meeting- SF have openly made indication about taking over the Economy Department when the Executive reconvenes so this network is key. We discussed the Cost of Survival Campaign, Tuition Fee Cuts, the Hardship Funds, the Experience of Apprentices and were given insights to the ongoing political situation within NI.
12 th November	COP27 Rally	NUS-USI is really proud to have taken a leading role in the organisation of the COP27 rally in Belfast this

		year, and I personally ran the media in relation to this, as well political engagement and operations on the day.
14 th -15 th November	NUS UK Board in Macclesfield (just outside of Manchester!)	This is the Board of Trustees for NUS UK.
15 th November	Employee Engagement Survey Awards Judging Panel	
16 th November	NUS-USI Membership Meeting	An opportunity for NUS-USI's members to hear an update from the NUS-USI President, information share with each other, and to work on new campaigns.
16 th November	Send a SOS to our SOS Action.	This "Message to our SOS" action marked a pivotal point in to the NUS-USI "Cost of Survival" Campaign where we turned our attention officially to the Secretary of State, asking for a meeting and for him to meet the demands of our campaign.
17 th November	International Day of the Student & Westminster Budget Day!	NUS UK released a fab new report this week which can be found here:
	Ulster University Coleraine Campus Visit to work with our VP Coleraine!	Love u Ethan
	National Scrutiny Committee (NUS UK Team)	This committee scrutinises the UK Officer Team as a whole in relation to our work, not individually.
21 st November	NUS Charity Strategic Conversation Staff Briefing	
22 nd - 25 th November	Strategic Conversation Conference in Cardiff	This conference is for senior staff in students' unions across the UK. The aim is to bring staff expertise together to build a national campaign network foundation- I was really pleased to see Northern Ireland representation at this, this year. This is a NUS Charity event, and as Chair of the Board I

		had duties including opening the conference, announcing awards (in the run up also marking the awards for best students' union employee engagement), and ensuring with the staff being the wellbeing and experience of those attending. With over 150 staff registered, it was the largest Strategic Conversation to date.
24th November	UCU Picket Line in Cardiff	With the rest of the NUS UK Officer Team, I attended the picket line in Cardiff and stood in solidarity with striking education workers and professional support staff.
26th November	Belfast Cost of Living Coalition March and Rally	I was honoured to speak at the Cost of Living Coalition Rally in Belfast last Saturday, speaking up in solidarity with the striking workforces across the UK and speaking to the horrifying incidents our students have found themselves in due to government ignorance.
27th November	Belfast Student Housing Cooperative Meeting- PLANNING SESSION	This was a great meeting with the rest of the Board of Directors for Belfast Student Housing Coop's to create an Action Plan for the following months to source a Co-Op and improve student engagement.
29th November	Campus Visit to SWC Portadown Apprentices with National Society of Apprentices (an org within NUS-USI)	This workshop session was to engage apprentices in Portadown, gain insight to lived experience and promote recruitment to the NSOA Leadership Team.
30th November	Planning Session with National Society of Apprentices surrounding January Site Visits	
	Stood in Solidarity and spoke at the joint UCU and Unite Picket Line at	

	Queen's University Belfast Gates- with representation from multiple colleges and universities across NI.	
1st December	National Society of Apprentices Meeting with Sinn Féin representatives to discuss voice in government, living wage and day release.	
	NUS-USI FE Engagement Planning Session with wider staff team	
	Student Belfast Housing Cooperatives Meeting	
	TV Interview on BBC The View discussing Tuition Fees	
2 nd December	Meeting with Economy Department Civil Servants Leads for both Higher Education and Further Education Student Support Funding	This was a very productive meeting which gained a commitment from officials to meet with local Students' Unions to discuss the hardship funds, and representation within the upcoming review of HE Funding.
	Presentation from our Organiser Ellie-Jo on Community Mapping and Power Structures within Campaigning.	

Policy Tracker

The USI Policy Tracker is a way for the Coiste Gnó to update Member Organisations on the status of policies and mandates that were ratified by Comhdháil. If a policy is deemed “Completed” by Comhairle Náisiúnta, it can be taken off of the policy file.

The full USI Policy File for 2022-2023 is available [here](#).

The USI Policy Tracker is available [here](#).

Plan of Work Tracker

The USI Plan of Work Tracker is a way to keep up to date with how the Coiste Gnó Plans of Work are progressing. A Team Plan of Work will be provided at the August Comhairle Náisiúnta for approval by Member Organisations. Once this has been approved, a tracker document will be attached to all Tuairiscí Coiste Gnó.