



Hi Everyone!

You might have seen me around the Clubs & Socs office or behind the counter, serving you your morning coffee - I'm **Eva McCormack**, and I'm thrilled to be running to be your next **Student President!**

I'm running because **I've seen the Union from both sides** - as a **part time officer** and as a **student** - and I believe I know where we need to improve to make campus life better for everyone.

If we haven't met yet, I've spent the last two years serving as your Clubs Officer. Over the past four years - **from the front lines of student protests to the student council boardroom representing your interests** - I've learned exactly how to navigate the system to get things done.

I'm not just running on my experience; I'm running because I know **how to turn that experience into real results** for you. I'm ready to put everything I've learned to work, and make our campus even better!

Accommodation

Accommodation in UL is **at a breaking point**. A 2022 Accommodation Survey Report UL StudentLife study showed that 28.1% of those interviewed had not found accommodation, with many of those sleeping on friends couches, just to attend University.

This is NOT okay.

Here are my proposed ideas:

- **90 New Beds:** In 2023/24, the University promised **Ronan Cahill**, the Student President at the time, **90 additional student beds** at the **Travelodge**, stating they had received planning permission. As your

president, I won't let this slide. I will hold the University accountable for this commitment, to ensure that these beds become a reality.

- **Landlord Rating Portal:** No more "renting blind". I will introduce a peer-verified portal where you can privately report issues like mold, deposit theft, or illegal evictions. The goal is to create a "Trips Advisor" like platform, giving you the power to check a property before you sign a lease, or move in.
- **UL Housing Charter:** Currently, whether in a house share in Elm, or digs in Annacotty, many students are living without a clear, fair agreement. I will introduce the UL Housing Charter - a voluntary code of conduct for all local providers. In exchange for being a "UL Verified Provider", landlords and homeowners must commit to:
 - **Notice Periods:** No more "move out by Friday". A minimum 28-day notice period for all,
 - **Right to Redress:** A commitment to respond to urgent repairs (leaks, heating, mold) within 48 hours,
 - **"Photo First" Policy:** Landlords agree to provide an initial move-in inventory and photos. This prevents students from being charged for damage they did not cause.

This creates a "Stamp of Approval" that protects students from exploitation, while rewarding the many good landlords who actually care about their tenants.

Parking

It's no secret that there isn't enough parking on campus. Commuter students often miss lectures, driving around aimlessly, looking for a place to park. Currently, there are 3,026 total spots available on campus (shared between free student parking, paid parking, staff, and visitors), with over 18,000 students attending the University

Here are my proposed ideas:

- **Cashless Campus:** I will continue lobbying for the installation of contactless card readers in all of our paid car parks. No student should be late for a lecture because they didn't have €3 in coins
- **North Side Parking:** I want to work with the University and the farmers near Northside to establish University access there. This would be aimed at students living in the Clare area, receiving swipe card access to Northside, allowing them to commute from home, without waiting for parking, and encouraging parking on Northside, where car parks are often empty.
- **Park and Ride:** A Park and Ride is being developed for the Ryder Cup in 2027. I will advocate for this Park and Ride to be a permanent fixture that also benefits UL Students. I will push for a high-frequency shuttle service to connect the Park and Ride to the main campus, which will drastically reduce students' circle for spaces, or sitting in traffic.
- **Carpooling Platform:** I will introduce a new platform, in connection with the University, that allows for students to more easily arrange car pools within their home towns. Be it a group of students carpooling from Dooradoyle daily, or students commuting from Kildare to Limerick every Sunday night, this platform will work collectively with students to improve their travel from day to day.

Student Safety

Student safety is very important to me, especially given the rise of attacks on UL Students that has occurred over the past year. For those of us who call UL home all year round, safety isn't just a term-time concern. I will ensure our campus remains a secure, vibrant community 365 days a year.

Here are my proposed ideas:

- **Improved Reporting Methods:** I will work collaboratively with the Health and Safety Department, UL EDI, and UL Security to improve the current reporting system, awareness around the outcome of reporting, faster response times, and overall better care for students who are in danger or afraid.

- **“Stay Connected” Hub:** Isolation is a safety issue. Students staying on campus year-round often face shops and social hubs closing down, leading to social disconnect. I will ensure that Student Life maintains a “Year-Round Liaison” - a point of contact for students on campus during breaks. While the building may not be open every day, I want to provide a social safety net, letting students know they aren’t alone.
- **Safe Walk Service:** Many students fear getting off the bus late, or feel unable to study past dark, which limits their college experience. I will lobby for an accompaniment service, allowing students to call for a designated person to walk them home from the library or bus stop, to their front door. This initiative may begin small, aimed primarily at campus villages, but may have the potential to grow further.

Cost of Living

The cost of living is only climbing higher. Recent data from Ipsos B&A shows that 84% of Irish adults in 2025 are now worried about the cost of living crisis. This reality hits students the hardest.

So many of us are forced to balance a full-time degree with part-time jobs just to keep our heads above water; a struggle I know all too well myself. As your President, I will ensure the University takes an active role in easing this burden, making student life more affordable for everyone.

Here are my proposed ideas:

- **Grab & Go Food Pantry:** I will work to implement a permanent “Grab & Go” that is stocked with essential non-perishables, operated on a “take what you need, give what you can” basis. This is to help with combatting food insecurity. It would start on the basis above, however, with lobbying, will hopefully progress to a funded project through UL.
- **Commuter Lounge:** I want to continue the current commuter hub, while also campaigning for a commuter lounge. A place for commuter students that will have some of the following:
 - **Drying Pods:** For those walking/cycling in the rain. These are specialised, ventilated lockers designed specifically to dry out wet jackets, bags, and more, quickly, and safely using low-energy, heated air circulation

- **Subsidized Lockers:** I want to implement even more lockers available on campus, so you don't have to carry your gym gear and laptop all day. Being a commuter shouldn't mean you have to carry all your bags for the day with you everywhere, just to have extra-curriculars.
- **Travel Cap:** Alongside the commuter lounge, I will work with the National Transport Authority (NTA) to lobby for a weekly or monthly cap for students using Limerick based public transport, ensuring that once you hit this cap, the rest of your week's travel is free. By modelling this off many European cities, such as Budapest, I believe there is precedent to introduce this for students, to make commuter life easier.

Cancer Check

Health shouldn't be a waiting game. In Ireland, over 40,000 people receive a cancer diagnosis every year. We know that for the types of cancer most common in young people - like skin and testicular - early detection is everything.

Yet, for many students, the cost of a GP visit, or a busy schedule means these vital checks are ignored. I will work collaboratively with one of the many cancer awareness based organisations in Ireland to make these check ups more normalised for students.

Here are my proposed ideas:

- **Check Up Booths:** Foundations like the Marie Keating Foundation provide portable check up booths, with this particular foundation doing it for free for colleges. I will advocate to bring these professional units to campus at least once a semester
- **Free and Private Access:** These booths provide a safe, private, and, most importantly, free space for students to receive professional advice and initial screenings.
- **Education First:** Alongside these visits, I will work with our health services to run awareness campaigns on how to "self check", on the benefits of

early detection, and on the cancerous dangers that exist in day to day life, to ensure that students have to knowledge to protect their own health, long after they leave UL.

North Campus

It is clear to see that at times there is a distinct divide between North and South Campus, a gap I never fully understood but one I am determined to close. Whether you're in Kemmy Business School, or the Health Science Building, you are a UL student, and you deserve the same level of inclusion, representation, and energy.

Here are my proposed ideas:

- **North Campus Hours:** I will be a President that is seen by all. I will implement a "Presidency on Wheels" initiative, holding office hours on North Campus, allowing for students to engage and discuss issues. You shouldn't have to cross the Living Bridge just to talk to your President.
- **Decentralised Events:** No more south only social calendars. I will ensure that major student life events are distributed across both sides of the Shannon, allowing easy access to events for all students.
- **Awareness Campaign:** From feedback I have heard in Student Council, many students on North Side are unaware of what Student Life does. I will endeavour to change this, ensuring all students know of the benefits of Student Life, and the resources that are available to them, no matter what side of the campus they are from.

Campus Events

We all love the social side of UL, but the "UL Experience" needs to evolve. For too long, our social calendar has been one-dimensional. Whether you're looking for a night out, a sober alternative, or an event that fits between lectures, your student life should be as diverse as our student body.

Based on data I personally requested from the Events & Engagement team, there is a clear demand for more variety. Whether you don't drink, you're a commuter who can't stay until 2:00 AM, or you simply want more unique

ways to meet people, I am committed to making our events more accessible and inclusive.

Here are my proposed solutions:

- **The Big Student Life Survey:** Rather than guessing what you want, I will launch a campus-wide consultation. I want to know exactly what you would show up for. From evening café sessions and outdoor cinemas to gaming tournaments, arts festivals, and food markets, I want to know what you want.
- **Data-Driven Programming:** Using your feedback, I will work directly with the Events and Engagement team to bridge the gaps in our current calendar. My goal is to ensure that campus is just as vibrant at 2:00 PM as it is at 2:00 AM.
- **Commuter-Friendly Scheduling:** I will advocate for more "Twilight Events", collaborating with companies like Limerick at Night, to create high-energy social activities held between 3:00 PM and 6:00 PM. This ensures our 18,000 students, especially those who drive home, never feel like they have to choose between a social life and a safe commute.
- **Sober-Inclusive Spaces:** I will ensure that every major SU event has a high-quality, non-drinking alternative, so that "socializing" never feels like it has a barrier for entry.

Experience You Can Trust. A Voice for Every Student.

I've spent four years living the UL experience alongside you. I've stood on the protest lines when our rights were at risk, I've navigated the complexities of the meeting rooms to fight for our clubs, and I've served your morning coffee while listening to your frustrations about housing and parking.

I'm not just asking for your vote based on a list of promises; I'm asking for the opportunity to turn my four years of experience into **real results** for you.

Whether you study on the North or South campus, whether you commute from home or live in a campus village, you deserve a President who sees you, hears you, and knows exactly how to get things done.

The challenges we face—from the housing crisis to student safety—require a leader who is ready to hit the ground running on day one. I have the knowledge, the passion, and the drive to be that leader.

On March 11th, vote Eva McCormack for Student President. One UL. One Voice. Let's get to work.