

UL STUDENT LIFE

BELONG TO
THE PACK

Student Executive Committee Report

Role/Position:	Vice-President Communities Officer
Author:	Dervla Ryan
Date:	26.11.2024
Audience:	UL Student Council Executive
Action:	Approve

Goals

Main Goals	Progress (What have you achieved since the last Council Meeting)
<i>Commuter Hub</i>	<p>Commuter Hub record: 128 students</p> <p>Numbers have stayed consistent despite exam season</p> <p>Average of 232 students per week</p> <p>The commuter hub will stop running after week 12, and will be replaced by the Exam Breakfast, led by Seán (Academic Officer).</p>
<i>Breastfeeding Friendly Limerick</i>	<p>Awaiting application update - It has not yet been approved due to a lack of stock in the organisation. They did not want to approve it and could not send us the materials. I have been working with the PSU Engagement Officer, Celina Papendorf, on researching facilities of other universities and speaking with students who are currently researching the topic for their thesis.</p>
<i>C&S</i>	<p>Workshops completed: Fundraising & Sponsorship Workshops & Budget Points Workshops</p> <p>Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. I will continue to build on these over the Christmas break.</p>

	Council & executive have wrapped up for the semester.
Commuter Survey	Phase 2 is almost completed – Eoghan has created an interim draft of the report as well as a heat map, while I have continued to work with LRO & Ronan on the report and planning a strategy to lobby the university and transport links to improve services.
Zen Zone	<p>Students have expressed that they don't like the new name that Katie picked (previously Zen Zone), so I am exploring other options with students – ongoing.</p> <p>During weeks 12-15, I have expanded the Zen Zone to two days per week from 10am – 5pm. It is unfacilitated, but engagement has increased as students are not limited to a one-hour timeslot.</p> <p>I am still looking for a more permanent solution. The Equality & Diversity Chairperson and I are planning on visiting the Limerick Educate Together Secondary School to try out the Cubbie.</p>

Other Achievements

Achievement	Details of Achievement
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Communities Catch-Up	Successfully connected with students who are parents. The final communities catch-up of the semester was for the LGBTQIA+ community and it was a very wholesome event.
<i>Penis Power</i>	Helped Síofra with her campaign.
<i>Community Clean Up</i>	Ronan, the PSU, and I participated in a community clean up following the student Christmas day along with Andrea La Touche.
Exam Study Group	Full attendance. This project was a pilot but very successful. It will be continued in the future.

Attendance at Events/Meetings & Actions

Taken/Agreed

Event/Meeting	Actions Taken / Agreed
<i>Student Council</i>	Agreed to add Jack (Equality & Diversity Chair) to the Autism@UL group.

<p>PSU: Breastfeeding-Friendly Unions</p>	<p>Still in progress – application submitted and awaiting approval.</p>

Student Engagement

Type of Engagement	Purpose and Anything to Report
<p>North Campus Outreach</p>	<p>Great engagement – we had a mini zen zone too to advertise the service with the Advice & Advocacy Team. 35 students engaged.</p>
<p>Community Catch-Up: DiversiTEA morning</p>	<p>Attendance: 10. Tea, coffee and pastries were served. We chatted about our student experience, and it was a nice study break for students.</p>
<p>Zen Zone</p>	<p>Engagement has increased over the past two weeks due to extended hours.</p>

<i>Other</i>	
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Media & External Engagement

Engagement Type (Press [Name], Organisation [Name], etc.)	Purpose and Anything to Report
<i>Socials (Instagram & Tiktok)</i>	<p>Primary method of reaching out to students for events and engagement.</p> <p>As requested by Student Council and Student Executive, I posted a video educating students on voting. I directed them to WhichCandidate.ie and VoteSmart.ie so students could make an informed decision for the upcoming general election.</p>
<i>Blogs</i>	<p>I am currently working on a blog called 'Finding the Festive Spirit Away from Home' which will be published in December. It is aimed at international students and students who estranged from their families, and therefore may not travel home for Christmas.</p>

Plans Before Next Council Meeting

Action / Work Area	What do you plan to achieve?
<i>Breastfeeding-Friendly Unions</i>	Be fully registered and have a press release with the PSU.
<i>Commuter Survey</i>	Have data analysed and make it digestible for students and staff. This will be presented to staff and students, as well as other relevant stakeholders. A press release will be planned for also. Ronan will be helping me with the lobbying and advocacy phase.
<i>Communities Officer Title Update</i>	Write a motion to propose the title change. This will first be presented to student executive for any final amendments. Then, a vote will take place at the next council meeting.

