

STUDENT FORUM



WELCOME TO OUR SECOND STUDENT FORUM
2024/2025

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AGENDA

WELCOME!



UL
STUDENT
LIFE
BELONG TO
THE PACK

ATOM Project



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LIFE

Financial Updates



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OFFICER UPDATES




STUDENT PRESIDENT

- Led the Student Officer Team and Union across all representation and campaigns ensure the student voice is amplified
- Negotiated a decrease in rent prices for on campus accommodation for next year- Keeping €100,000 in students pockets!
- Successfully pushed for the overhaul of on campus Catering- Aramark are gone- KSG are in!
- Successfully lobbied for the introduction of bottle Re-turn Machine- Planning has commenced- Will be installed behind Courtyard
- Lead the work on multiple statements throughout the semester on behalf of executive- Presenting a strong Union
- Expanded accessibility routes for New Student Centre
- Fighting for the expansion for student representation in Process for selecting our next University President
- Acquired funding for various initiatives from University- saving us money



DP WELFARE OFFICER


- Lidl bus Mondays 6:30 - 7:30 - keep an eye on socials!
 - Gambling awareness campaign with Oisín McConville
 - Viva la Vulva sexual health campaign actively engaging with students with non alcoholic events.
 - Student Health Centre is under review at the moment - A complete over haul of the service is taking place with student focus groups feeding the change ensuring it is student focused
 - Charity week - Wellbeing hub set up outside prior to every night time event in the student courtyard
 - I have been pushing on improved resources for the counselling service through Governing authority and the service is now being reviewed
 - Stitch and Bitches
 - Race day information today - Student safety
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VP ACADEMIC OFFICER

- Student rep on UL's ATOM Project team, leading student focus groups and researching academic models across other Irish universities.
- Coordinating Exam Breakfast (6–19 May): free breakfast, hot drinks & exam supplies each weekday morning to support students during the exam period.
- Exam Fuel Campaign (May 1st): free study fuel + advice at library, with Supermac's, pizza & ice cream. Courtyard: whack vintage & fíor jewellery stalls.
- Chaired 2 Class Rep Forums, key speakers (Provost, AVPAA, Academic Registry, Coop, Accommodation Officer), and great rep engagement (plus pizza!).



VP COMMUNITIES OFFICER

- Title Update: Diversity & Inclusion Officer (effective from 2025/2026).
 - €8,500 university funding secured for the Commuter Hub this semester, allowing us to operate four days per week instead of three.
 - UL Student Life is officially a breastfeeding-friendly union.
 - New student representatives: Student Carer, Sustainability, & Traveller/Mincéir.
 - Working with UL EDI on various projects, such as allowing students to use their chosen name for gender-affirming purposes without a legal name change.
 - Researching permanent sensory space solutions in UL and the New Student Centre.
 - Supported Clubs & Societies with peer-workshops and advocating for more funding from UL.
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STUDENT COUNCIL CHAIR

- Chaired Student Council (Week 2,4,6,8,10)
- Sat on ULSL Executive
- Sat on Quality Review of ULSL
- Sat on ERB for ULSL elections
- Sat on Board of Directors for ULSL
- Brought Oifigeach na Gaeilge motion to SC - Mandated by student forum



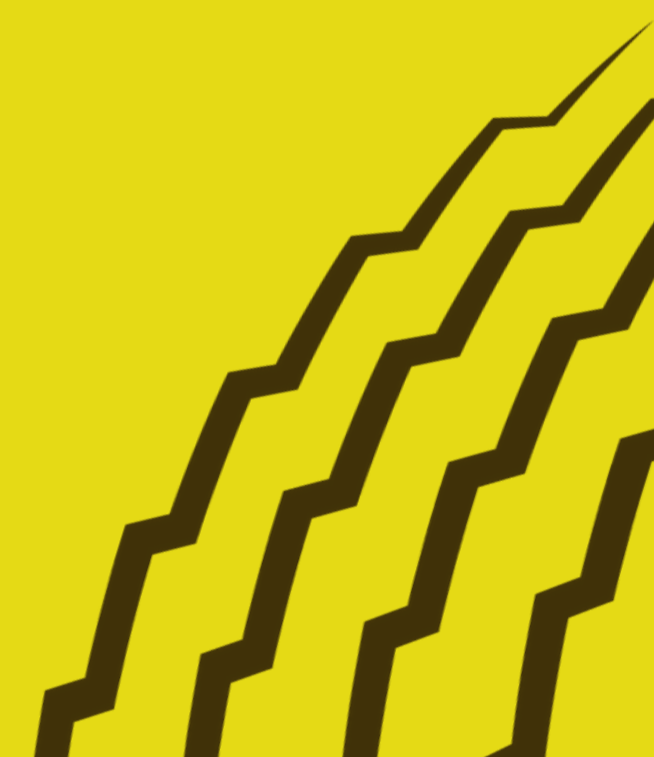
FACULTIES OFFICER

- Got elected week 12 of semester 1, re-elected for next year
- Sat on Exec and SC
- Assisted with Exam Breakfast, Wellbeing Hub, Cubbie
- Attended Faculty Board meetings
- Getting Irish translation of Class Rep Graphic
- Began process of getting Class Rep emails on Brightspace
- Board of Directors, Quality Review
- Class Rep Forums
- Title change



STUDENT COUNCIL UPDATES

- Discussed a number of items
 - Campus Security Presence
 - Student Safety on campus
 - Student Centre Progress
 - Election Discussions
 - Officer Pay discussions
- Passed a number of motions
 - Communities → Diversity and Inclusion
 - Faculty → Faculties
 - New Councillors: Student Carer, Sustainability, & Traveller/Mincéir.
 - New Exec position: Oifigeach Na Gaeilge



EXECUTIVE UPDATES

- Worked on various motions that were brought forward to council
- Approved statements to be released on behalf of the Union
- Guided various officer campaigns and initiatives
- Planned and guided the process of elections, making key decisions to maximise student engagement
- Guided the work of our full-time officers

2025/26 ELECTIONS OVERVIEW

VOTER TURNOUT - 4206

- Largest turnout since 2017
- 3rd Largest turnout in ULSL history

RESULTS

Student President - Síofra Foley (2433 Votes Received, Quota: 2075) - Elected @ Stage 1

Deputy President Welfare - Orlagh O'Regan (2053 Votes Received, Quota: 1915) - Elected @ Stage 1

Vice President Academic - Jared Nadin (2616 Votes Received, Quota: 1878) - Elected @ Stage 1

Vice President Diversity & Inclusion - Dervla Ryan (3520 Votes Received, Quota: 1910) - Elected @ Stage 1

Student Council Chairperson - Alexander de Barra (3364 Votes Received, Quota: 1888.5 - Elected @ Stage 1

Student Faculties Officer - Kye Earle (2873 Votes Received, Quota: 1862.5 - Elected @ Stage 1

2025/26 ELECTIONS OVERVIEW

ADDITIONAL MEASURES TAKEN TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF ELECTIONS

- Key findings from the past three ULSL surveys (How'ya Now?, Repeat Fees Survey, and Commuter Survey) were included in the **Updated Nomination Packs** to ensure candidates had a general understanding of ongoing and current student issues at UL
- A **Manifesto Building Workshop** was held prior to the close of nominations. The goal of this workshop was to provide nominees with guidance and knowledge on how to write a compelling manifesto.
- **Professional Headshots** were offered to all candidates for use in their campaigns and the ballot.
- A **Hustings Workshop** was held prior to the Hustings and attendance was open to all candidates. The goal of the workshop was to equip attendees with knowledge related to public speaking, Hustings rules and procedures, and provide those in attendance with a safe space to practice.
- Incentives were carefully selected in consultation with the Student Executive. The majority of incentives were donated by local businesses greatly reducing costs.



New Student Centre

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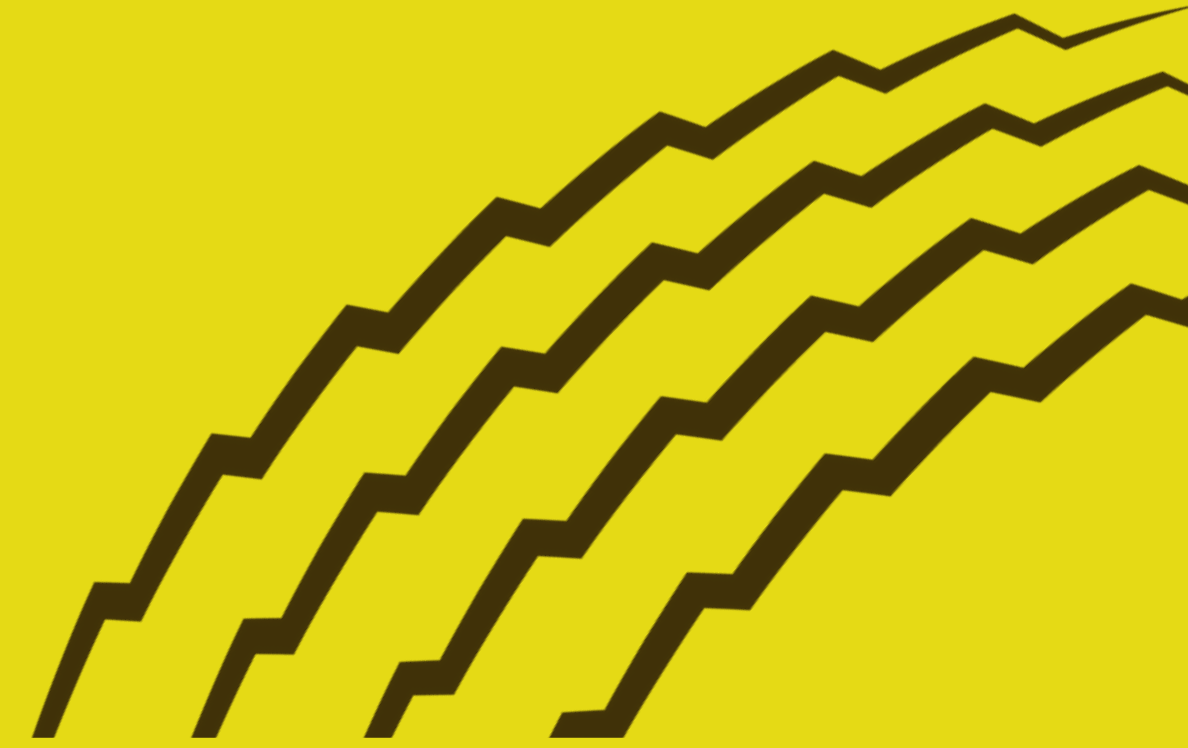
BELONG TO
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Student Safety- Discussion



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What Student's have asked?



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STUDENT COUNCIL POSITIONS



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