



University of Limerick Students' Union Sabbatical Officer Reports to Council

Academic Year	2017/2018
Date	03/11/2017
Position:	Welfare Officer
Name:	Roberta Harrington
Profile Picture:	
Introduction To Report and Updates Since Last Council	
<p>There has been an exceptional increase in student queries over the past two weeks and it has been constant student meetings, amidst university meetings.</p> <p>Two long days were spent with governing authority looking at reviewing the governance structure.</p> <p>We are really starting to gear towards our twinning project now and starting to work on informative powerpoints for our counterparts to present on our arrival. Again, if there is anything that you would like us to check out in UMass, how they do things differently, what could we possibly implement here that they seem to be doing well on specific topics, please do let me know and we can put together a document of questions for them. These do not just have to be on the issues of student engagement and health and wellbeing.</p> <p>Charity week nominations are closed!</p>	
S.U. Finances	
Budget Expenditure	
Short Term Objectives and Update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- PrEP – a letter has been written to local TD's/senators aswell as a number of senior ministers campaigning for the availability of PrEP in Ireland. A number of other steps will now be taken including the public announcement of our stance in favour of same on social media in the coming days.	

- **UMASS twinning project** – A lot of time is being spent working on our powerpoint presentations. We want these to be informative, in depth and entirely professional. It is important that we really make the most of this visit and bring back as much information as we can from the ACUI conference, something which I am really looking forward to.
- **Health and Wellbeing:** Jack and I met with Catherine Norton and Audrey Tierney regarding our UL Transforms project for semester 2. I have made contact with Sheena Doyle regarding the promotion of the initiative. It is important that staff buy into this just as much as students and getting marketing and comm on board will really be a favourable step to this. We are currently looking at having 4 staff reps and 4 student reps, 1 of each from each faculty. Faculties always want to outdo each other, so hopefully this competitive element will spray right through to non-academic initiatives. We would love some feedback on this please.
- **Childrens Christmas Party:** 800 euro has been secured from the president's office for the Kid's Christmas Party so IT'S TIME TO SHOP! :D
- **Charity week nominations** are closed and I have shortlisted 10. These will be dealt with next Monday at exec so I can let you all know the chosen charities on Tuesday.

Long Term Objectives and Update

- **Student Engagement/Familiarity of Sabbats by students:** Travelling SU has begun and this aims to engage students in parts of the campus where the SU would not usually have a presence. A sabbat will be present each week with the travelling SU and it is an opportunity for students to ask questions or to relay any queries on us.
- **Consent Workshops:** A university meeting took place last week regarding the roll out of consent workshops on campus. Faculty deans and vice deans were in attendance at this and it involved the mimicking of a workshop as took place in NUIG. I have emailed Sarah Gibbons (spearliner of same) to action and progress this on campus. I hope to meet Sarah next week and have a plan in place for our awareness week in semester 2.

- **Mental Health Programme** – GROW and ULSU have now completed the 4 week pilot programme. Ultimately, I do think it was very successful. When I came into my role here as welfare officer, one thing which really stood out to me was the lack of mental health supports out of hours for students. While it may just be a 4 week programme, it is a stepping stone in what will be a hard fought battle. The programme also empowers UL students to help their peers in need “when the office isn’t open”. It is all about educating the campus community and this programme has done just that. I am very pleased with the feedback received from the participants and we hope to build on this!
- **STI Clinics** – There will be a FREE STI clinic for UL students on November 16th. A lot of time and persuasion has been used to obtain this. It is important that there is good uptake for same so that the HSE will see a need to return in semester 2. STI screenings need to be free and accessible for students. Please promote this in every way you possibly can so that the ser

Meetings Attended (With External Bodies / Of Note)

ULFM
Governing authority

GIFTS RECEIVED (R.R.P of over €50)

EXPENSES CLAIMED

AOB

Signed by the Officer: *Roberta Harrington*

Submitted to the Chairperson on the *03/11/2017*

Verified by a member of the Executive Oversight Committee:
