

# IADTSU Annual Report 2017/2018

Presented: 14th May 2018 - Student Finance Committee

## Campaigns

### The Library

At the start of the year we met with library staff frequently to talk about extending the Monday opening hours. We kept up a consistent dialogue with students throughout the year to hear about their experiences with the library, we hosted Open Meetings, we brought students to Library Forum, we wrote an open letter and presented it to the Registrar, and we wrote some proposals to the Library Charter, together with the students, which we all accepted.

### Politics Day/Activist Week

I organised a day of speakers in September called Politics Day, which involved local politicians, activists and staff members of IADT.

I then organised a week of lunch time and evening talks from activists called Activist Week, in February. This ended with a Candlelit Dinner for Direct Provision Awareness, which I organised alongside a fourth year EMCS student, Floe Davis. This raised €700 for Our Table, before their pop-up café opening.

**ACTIVIST WEEK**

**IADTalks**  
FEBRUARY 5th-9th

**MONDAY**  
1pm: Lynn Ruane - from Students Union to the Seanad  
6pm: Eileen Flynn - Traveller Woman Activist

**TUESDAY**  
1pm: Laoigheach Ní Choistealbha - 'Curry my Yoghurt': The Politics of the Irish Language  
6pm: Ellie Kisymbé - founder of Our Table  
7pm: Ailbhe Smyth - founder of the Coalition to Repeal the 8th Amendment

**WEDNESDAY**  
1pm: Robbie Lawlor - HIV Awareness & PrEP in Ireland  
6pm: ShoutOut Training - be trained as an LGBT Advocate & Avtrivist

**THURSDAY**  
1pm: Tian Yu Lloyd - City of Sanctuary - a workshop on making IADT a space of sanctuary for refugees  
4.30pm: Claudia Hoareau and Eoin Heffernan from #AmIrish  
6pm: An Evening with Ibrahim Halawa

**FRIDAY**  
1pm: Richard Boyd-Barrett - Punk & Revolution  
7pm: Candlelit Dinner for Direct Provision Awareness - catered by Our Table, all funds going to Our Table  
Tickets available from the SU Office

**POLITICS DAY**

**THURSDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> SEPT**

**@ THE CHAPEL**  
2pm: USI on *The Future of Education Funding*  
Richard Boyd-Barrett on *The Equality Movement Now*  
3pm: Politics FYI  
3:30pm: Fine Gael councillor Patricia Stewart on *What Does Your Council Do For You?*  
4pm: Meet Your Politicians Panel  
5pm: Social Democrats' Peter Tanham on *The Future of Work*  
5:30pm: USI's Siona Cahill on *The March for Choice*  
7pm: Tara Flynn on *Repeal*  
7:45pm: Student Activism Panel  
8pm: Clyde Doyle on *The Politics of the Nonhuman*

**@ THE ROSTRUM ROOM**  
6pm: Claran O'Keefe on *Queen: The Personal Is Political*

**IADTSU**  
ALL THE EVENTS ARE IN THE CHAPEL

**IADTSU**

### Repeal

I have chaired the Repeal Task Force throughout the whole year, we met weekly. The Union ran a competition in the summer for students to design an IADTSU logo for repeal, the winner was fourth year Psychology student Rob McLoughlin. We made this design into stickers and badges, which we sold to raise money for the Abortion Rights Campaign, and subsequently for Together For Yes. We launched a poster and leaflet campaign, also

designed by Rob, linked up with the Dún Laoghaire Coalition to Repeal the 8<sup>th</sup>, went to their events, hosted speakers in IADT and hosted the week-long *Students Create: Choice* exhibition in The Complex in April, which featured a host of IADT students work and a line-up of speakers.



## Clubs & Socs Space

The Clubs & Socs Hall was a trial this year. It is an impossible space for a staff-less Students' Union to manage, given that we cannot provide the security or cleaning services that the Hall needs, and groups of students throughout the year treated the Hall in a way that made it unsafe, and unusable for other societies. I met with various societies throughout the year to try to understand what we could provide to them if we got rid of the Hall, met Andrew Power and Denise McMorrow about what other spaces we could provide, and imposed a 9pm time limit on the key being returned to the SU. Recently the landlord confirmed he had sold the Hall and we had to vacate it, so I have since launched the #ShapeYourSpace campaign to get student feedback on what they'd like from a new Clubs & Socs Space.

## The Elephant in the Room

This was a successful Welfare campaign run by Andy, our Welfare Officer, which featured him engaging with students and on campus in an elephant costume and handing out support cards.

## Vocab Campaign

This was a hugely popular poster campaign run by our LGBTQ+ Rights Officer, Niamh, which featured vocab posters of LGBTQ+ terms in English and Irish.

## Voter Drive

We handed out Registration forms to every fresher who came in to us on induction, we hosted a Voter Reg Drive in first semester and then again in second semester, with a garda on campus, in the run-up to the registration deadline for the referendum. We also distributed information and forms about registration throughout the year.

## NStEP

The National Student Engagement Programme has been a priority of USI and IADTSU VP for Education, she is a member of several NStEP groups and has been to multiple meetings around the country. She has also had multiple meetings with IADT staff about NStEP and

she and I brought it to Academic Council with the aim of having an IADT-wide workshop on how to initiate NStEP in IADT.

## **Ents**

### **Freshers Week**

Some highlights of Freshers were the Monday night in Bakers Corner featuring IADT band The Felonies and the Freshers Ball on Thursday night, which had a huge turn out and featured IADT alumni band Munky.

### **Halloween Ball**

This year we teamed up with NCAD for the Halloween Ball, we had it in Whelans with 5 different Irish acts throughout the night, it was a really good night and I hope IADT and NCAD keep up this connection moving forward.

### **Christmas Ball**

We had the Christmas Ball in The Sugar Club, with one room for DJs and one room with Christmas films playing. The attendance was low but I thought this event actually went off very well.

### **SHAG Week**

SHAG week featured Sex Toy Bingo, a popular Sex Quiz and Queer Valentines Card. Students seemed to enjoy these events.

### **RAG Week**

This year fourth year EMCS student Adam Farrell formed RAG Soc. He wanted to encourage Class Reps and Societies to get engaged by having their own events, adopting the slogan "If you can't Give, Raise." This was very successful on the first night, with QSA doing a Drag 4 RAG show in the Lighthouse, Dún Laoghaire, which was a huge success, and on the last night, with Enactus doing their Boogie 4 Bees. Other popular events were the Harry Potter quiz and the Zorb Balls. The Ball on Thursday featured Irish acts Wastefellow and Le Boom. We got good feedback from students, spent significantly less money than other years (we spent under our budget of 10,000) and raised over 3,000 for our charities.

### **The Formal Ball**

The Formal Ball this year was in the Radisson Blu Royal Hotel, followed by Tramline. It was a really lovely and well attended evening.

### **Weekly Events**

We had a significant lack of weekly events this year, something that I think the students missed, and something I would encourage next year's SU to do more of.

## **Boards/Meetings**

Student Finance Committee  
Student Experience Committee

Governing Body  
Academic Council  
- Brought NStEP  
- Brought issue of library  
Canteen Committee  
Teaching & Learning  
Intellectual Policy Committee  
Research & Development  
Health & Safety Committee  
Library Forum  
Programme Validation Sub-Committee  
Quality Enhancement  
Class Rep Council  
USI National Congress  
It Stops Now. - National Women's Council of Ireland

## **USI Congress**

IADTSU brought six motions to Congress this year. They are as follows:

- USI support the abolition of the MSM Blood Ban - written by VP for Welfare *Andrew Martin*
- USI develop a Creative Arts Network - written by VP for Welfare *Andrew Martin*
- USI VP for Irish Language to focus on social justice translation - written by President *Helen Moynihan* & VP for Welfare *Andrew Martin*
- USI work on an online SUSI application - written by VP for Welfare *Andrew Martin*
- USI to work on Gender Recognition in Ireland - written by VP for Welfare *Andrew Martin*
- USI to impose a cap on the price of accommodation that they platform - written by President *Helen Moynihan*

All 6 motions passed and will be part of USI official policy & mandates.

The incoming Students Union are as follows:

President: Chloe Power

VP Education: Grace Latham

VP Welfare: Niamh Grennan

Ents: Smokey

Mature Students Officer: Tony Dunne

LGBTQ+ Rights: Rae Lavis

Their term will begin on 1st July.

We would like to extend our thanks for all the support over the past year.

