

IADTSU END OF YEAR REPORT 20/21

Officers

President: Somhairle Brennan Quigley

Vice President for Education: Rachael Sarsfield Ryan

Vice President for Welfare: Kai Fic

End of Year Report 20/21

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Introduction:

A Chara,

This year was incredibly strange and a year unlike any before it, but I am incredibly proud of my team for what they have all achieved. The following report details some of the work we did this year, working with institute staff, students, the USI, and other organisations.

A huge thank you to everyone I had the pleasure of working alongside this year, both staff and students. This was not the year any of us expected, but we made the most of what we had and persevered.

Go raibh míle maith agaibh!

Somhairle Brennan

IADTSU President 20/21

President:

Gaeilge:

Gaeilge was a key area that I wanted to focus on this year, as there was a distinct lack of gaeilge in IADTSU before this year. I set up the IADTSU Gaeilge Development Group early in the year to begin building momentum, which has since moved on and became an autonomous society; IADT Gaeilge Soc. We also participated in the USI Bonn na Gaeilge Scheme, which provides unions with a set of goals relating to Gaeilge to achieve. We earned an Airgead award at the SAAIs through this scheme. Finally, a goal of mine was to introduce a new part time officer to IADTSU to focus on Gaeilge, and through a referendum earlier this year, the incoming SU team have a part time Oifigeach na Gaeilge.

All of this work earned IADTSU An Gradam Éacht ar son na Gaeilge at the SAAIs which we are incredibly proud of. A huge thank you to all the students who have helped me this year and I'm incredibly excited to see what they'll achieve this year!



Campaigns:

Solidarity with SZFE

We stood in solidarity with the students in the University of Theatre and Film Arts, Budapest (SZFE).

Students have been actively protesting the reform of the university by the current Hungarian Government. An overhaul ordered by right-wing Prime Minister Viktor Orban at the 155-year-old university is seen as the latest step in his attempt to reshape Hungary's public life to fit his own nationalist and culturally conservative agenda. The



government forced a transfer of control of the public institution to a private foundation as of September 1 and a new board of trustees to guide key decisions at the storied SZFE.

USI/Education for All

The Education for All campaign is a call to action for all politicians across the island of Ireland to take the issues of Higher education seriously and place urgent emphasis on the ongoing funding crisis in 2021. Students in Ireland currently pay the highest student contribution fees in Europe (€3000), and this is before accommodation and their cost of living is even considered.

There are very clear barriers in Ireland that prevent people from accessing higher education and this needs to change.



Welcome videos

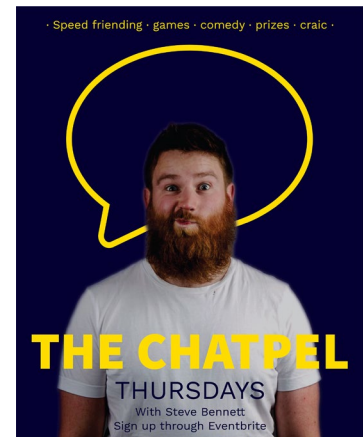
Over the summer of 2020 I began contacting Irish Musicians, influencers and comedians with the goal of having a collection of videos that could be published at the beginning of term wishing students good luck to raise morale. A huge thank you to: Daniel O'Donnell, Aslan, Nealo, Uly, Saint Sister, The Riptide Movement, and Eoin Colgan.



Events:

The Chatpel

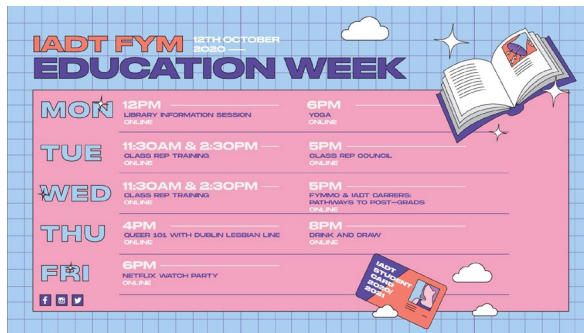
In February, we teamed up with comedian Steve Bennett to hold a by-weekly zoom event featuring speed friending, prizes, games and more. This was the closest thing we could do to in-person events and the response every week was positive as it gave our students a platform to have fun and meet other students from the comfort of their own home.



Freshers, Welfare and Education Weeks

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all of our Freshers events were moved online. This posed the new challenge of creating events that students could attend informally online that felt like in-person socialising. We were delighted to offer a mix of speed friending, a quiz, a DJ Showcase Music Bingo, yoga, an online drink and draw and some amazing speakers. We also collaborated with TCDSU, UCDSU, RCSISU and TUDSU to present a virtual fresher's ball.





Halloween Speed Friending

As speed friending had been so successful over freshers week, we decided to host a Halloween speed friending session online with themed questions.



Christmas

As due to restrictions, we were unable to hold any Christmas events in person so we arranged three alternatives. We collaborated with the canteen to offer Christmas dinner, which we subsidised for students. I worked with two of our students to arrange a charity campaign raising funds for the ISPCC and toys for the Temple Street Children's Hospital, raising €304. We also hosted a Christmas themed quiz.



Rag Week

We were delighted to host a range of events for our rag week. We raised €297 for: MASI, TENI, Womens Aid, and Focus Ireland.

Tonight's RAG Week Event! Drawing Workshop with Don Conroy! 7pm

All you need is paper and a pencil!



Education:

Class Representatives

Class Representative Council was held on the first Tuesday of each month, from October 2020 to May 2021. The Class Representatives are composed of fantastic students who want to be more involved in their place of study, and who strive to be engaged, respectful and inclusive of the diverse community of IADT students. During this challenging academic year, IADT's Class Representatives went above and beyond to represent and support their course mates and IADT Students' Union.

This academic year the Chair of Class Rep Council was Chloe Danga, who ensured each Council ran smoothly and in a timely manner. The Vice Chair and Secretary was Sophie Kathryn who took minutes throughout the year, all of which are available to any student.

Class Representative

Training took place virtually on the video conferencing platform Zoom, over two

days. The Education Officer led the training along with the National Student Engagement Programme (NStEP). Training included Class Representation and the Role of a Rep, with an additional session of LGBTQ+ Training led by Dublin Lesbian Line. IADT's Class Reps also took part in a pilot session of NStEP's Representing Diversity training.



Final Year Matters: Moving On

Final Year Matters: Moving On (FYMMO) is a campus wide initiative which aims to support and celebrate final year students, as they prepare to graduate and transition to life after IADT. The Education Officer is a member of the FYMMO team who brings the student perspective and voice to the initiative.

Due to the global pandemic, FYMMO had to move its work and events online, which was successful with the implementation of the Wednesday Webinars series. These webinars covered a variety of topics such as funding pieces, Masters programmes, taxation and finances as well as a

multitude of excellent guest speakers and collaborators. In particular our Graduate and Lecturer Panels were well-attended and received.

Destigmatising Disabilities in Education

After noticing a lack of awareness of the supports available in IADT for students with disabilities, and a general lack of awareness of disabilities, the Vice President for Education decided to launch the Destigmatising Disabilities in Education campaign. The campaign's aim was to create a greater awareness of IADT's Disability Support Services and to increase awareness that IADT's students are diverse, and we must foster an environment of inclusivity. This campaign won Equality Campaign of the Year at the Student Achievement Awards (SAAI) 2021.

The first part of this campaign involved filming a Frequently Asked Questions video interviewing the IADT's Disability Officer. This element of the campaign was to create an artefact with a wealth of information that students can refer to for years to come, and is available on the IADT website and across the IADTSU social media accounts.

The second part of this campaign is to create six infographics outlining Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), ADHD/ADD, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia Mental Health Difficulties and a general infographic outlining common experiences individuals with these respective disabilities experience, and relevant supports for each. This part of the campaign will launch in the new academic year.

The VP for Education would like to extend her thanks to the Disability Officer, as this campaign would not have been as successful as it was without their valued input.

Student Achievement Awards Ireland 2021

We are so incredibly proud to have won An Gradam Éacht ar son na Gaeilge, Equality Campaign of the Year and Bonn na Gaeilge: Airgid.

Thank you to our entire team, the USI, all of our amazing students and in particular, IADT's Cumann na Gaeilge!

IADTSU was nominated for 3 awards:

An Gradam Éacht ar son na Gaeilge - IADTSU & Cumann na Gaeilge

Equality Campaign of the Year - VP for Education

Small Students' Union of the Year

Welfare:

Sexual Health Awareness & Guidance Week

This year's SHAG week consisted of a number of workshops (Queer Sexual Health, HIV Awareness, Sexual Health and HIV & Stigma, Contraception Conversation, Healthy Relationships), drop-in Zoom sessions with the Student Health Centre, and a Sex Quiz with prizes.

A red poster for SHAG WEEK 2021. At the top, it says 'SHAG WEEK 2021' in large white letters, followed by a row of 15 white hearts and the dates 'FEB 8-12'. Below this, the subtitle 'Sexual Health Awareness and Guidance' is written in white. The main body of the poster is a grid with days of the week (MON, TUES, WED, THURS, FRI) as columns and times (1pm, 4pm, 5pm, 6pm) as rows. The events are listed in white text within the grid cells. The IADTSU logo is in the bottom right corner.

	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
1pm		Drop In Zoom with the IADT Nurse		Drop In Zoom with the IADT Nurse	
4pm					Healthy Relationships with Dr. Caroline West
5pm	Queer Sexual Health with Dr. Noah Halpin	HIV Awareness Evening Poz & Proud: Living with HIV in Ireland today with Robbie Lawlor			
6pm		HIV Q&A with MPower	Sexual Health, HIV and Stigma with Michael O'Dea, ACTUP	IADTSU presents: The SHAG week Sex Quiz	

Wellbeing Week

IADTSU partnered with a popular, student-run Instagram page to showcase student submissions answering the question, "what made your day recently?", prompting students to share positive messages amidst the isolation of lockdown time. Submissions were shared on social media as digital post-its, daily throughout the week. The week also featured a return of the Chatpel event, as well as an Anxiety Workshop with SU Welfare and the Student Learning Centre, and a Digital Wellbeing Workshop.

FYMMO Events

Final Year Matters - Moving On hosted two webinars during the year on the topic of mental health and self-care during lockdown for students from

all years, with a panellist each from FYMMO, IADTSU and Student Counselling.

Active* Consent Workshops

IADTSU assisted in co-facilitating the first Active* Consent workshops to first year groups and a third year group online.

The Incoming SU

President: Eoin Hicks Smith
Vice President for Education: Rachael Sarsfield Ryan
Vice President for Welfare: Kai Fic
Entertainments Officer: Sophie Kathryn
LGBTQ+ Rights Officer: Harley McGraynor
Officer for Students with Disabilities: Sinead Casey
Clubs and Societies Officer: Cillian Lynch
Mature Students Officer: N/A
Oifigeach na Gaeilge: Ellie McDonald