

# **IADT Students' Union Annual Report 2023-2024**

**Prepared by:**

**Seán Kelly - President 23/24**

**Tiernan Mason - Deputy President & Vice  
President Welfare & Equality 23/24**

**Crow Mullen - Vice President for  
Education 22/23 & 23/24**

**IADTSU**

# IADTSU 2023-24 Team:

## Sabbatical (Full Time) Officers:

Seán Kelly - President

Tiernan Mason - Deputy President for Welfare & Equality

Crow Mullen - Vice President for Education

## Part Time Officers:

Lavender Jane Gartlan - LGBTQ+ Rights Officer

Olivia O'Mahony - Entertainments Officer

Muirinn Ní Chárthaigh - Oifigeach na Gaeilge

Simone James - Clubs & Societies Officer



## **SU President's Introduction:**

Welcome to the IADT Students' Union Annual Report 2023-24! As the 2023-2024 IADTSU President, it is my distinct pleasure to present this report detailing IADTSU's activities and operations from this past academic year. Often, it can be hard to see how much work a Student Union does behind the scenes (especially with us hidden away in the back of the chapel!), this report sheds a light on the huge amount of work our full time and part time team have carried out over this past year, it is a celebration of our successes and favourite moments.

As this was the first year, in many, in which IADTSU's operations were completely unaffected by the Covid-19 pandemic, we set out to create a fun and memorable year for our membership. A key issue that we had noticed was a lack of engagement or even knowledge of our Students' Union amongst our membership. In order to tackle this issue, we created a strategy of planning and booking varied and engaging events that would introduce students to the Union. These events, paired with a new, fun and engaging social media strategy and an increased presence in the student induction process, we rapidly increased our presence which allowed us to showcase our services and improve our approachability. I am pleased to write that this strategy worked and our engagement throughout the year was great! We had great class rep attendance during and we hope that this engagement and interest will continue and improve in years to come.

Throughout our term, we strived to improve IADTSU and one of our largest undertakings was the development and introduction of IADT StudentPad, an accommodation listings website for IADT students and local homeowners. It is our hope that this service will improve the accommodation search for our students and prospective students.

At the Union of Students in Ireland (USI / AMLÉ) National Councils and Congress, we were small but mighty and our team had influence on lots of policies and campaigns. At USI's annual Congress event, we were awarded Best Small Delegation and our LGBTQ+ Rights Officer (and

now President 24-25) Lavender Jane Gartlan won multiple awards for her speeches at Congress.

We held lots of fun events and gigs throughout the year, taking over venues such as The Chapel, Bakers, The Lighthouse, Wigwam and The Academy. Our gigs showcased some of the very best talent in IADT and Ireland and we hope some of you found some of your new favourite artists! Our revamped Sex Toy Bingo events provided many a packed, hilarious (and educational) night out in Bakers. We also started the new tradition of IADT Christmas Day and brought back the Clubs & Socs Ball and we hope these traditions will continue for years to come.

Unfortunately the year wasn't all highlights, in the final weeks of the academic year, we tragically lost Greta Price-Martin, an IADT student and talented filmmaker. The entire IADT community and local community were utterly heartbroken when we heard of Greta's passing and once again, we wish to send our deepest condolences to Greta's family, friends and classmates.

Serving as your IADT Students' Union team for the 2023-2024 Academic Year has been a joy and an honour and it was probably the most unique job we'll ever have. We hope that this report sheds light on the hard work we did throughout our term and we hope we improved your college experience even the tiniest bit! We would like to wish the incoming team - Lavender Jane, Simone and Diana, the very best of luck and we look forward to seeing what you do with the Union.

Above all else, IADTSU is a union, so remember it's important to stick together, look after each other and fight for what's right. I feel it's appropriate to close with USI's motto:

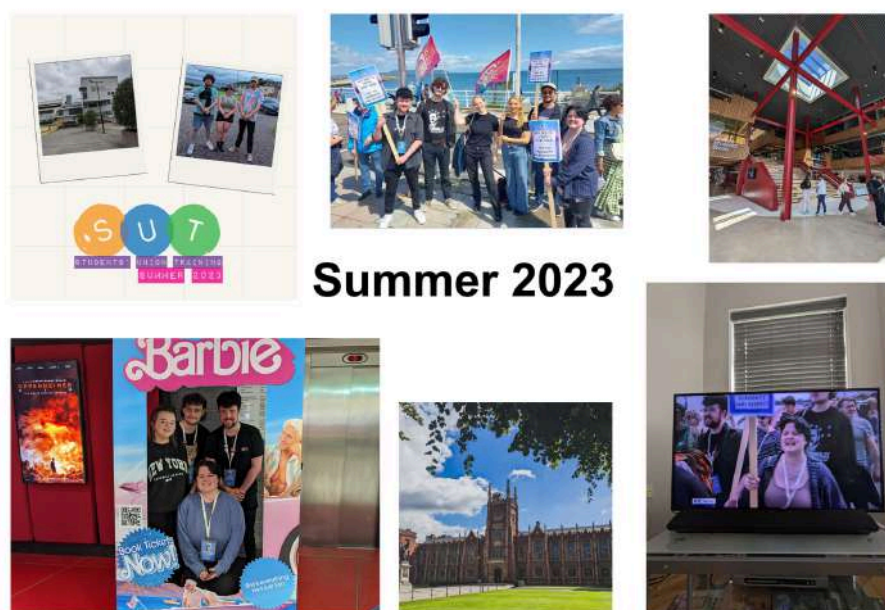
Ní Neart go cur le Chéile -Together We're Stronger!

Seán Kelly  
IADT Students' Union President 2023-2024  
BA (Hons) Photography Class of 2023

## Summer 2023:

IADTSU and all SUs work throughout the summer to prepare for the start of the next academic year. The summer months were used for planning our calendar, booking events and lots of training. We started off with one week of USI Student Union Training in the lovely MTU Kerry Students' Union in Tralee, Co. Kerry. We had a fun and informative week and attended sessions on a wide variety of topics as well as attending social events to network with other SU teams from around the Island of Ireland. Later in the summer, we attended a further 3 days of Student Union Training in Queen's University Belfast Students' Union, this training included a full day office simulation of working in a busy Student Union and really prepared us for some of what was to come throughout our term!

During the summer months we also met with many departments and staff within IADT to introduce ourselves and establish working relationships for the year ahead. We also met with local businesses such as Baker's Corner and Anytime Fitness and planned collaborations and discounts for our students. During the summer we also attended numerous protests and met with several local TDs. We spoke out extensively on racist protests in the local area and even ended up speaking on RTÉ News, Q102 and FM104.



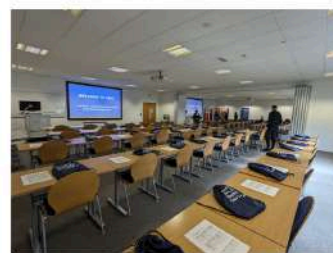


## Visibility and Growth of SU Presence:

In an effort to increase the SU's visibility on campus and at events, the President designed and implemented IADTSU lanyards for SU officers and event staff to wear. This simple introduction helped students, staff and media to identify the SU team easily on campus, at events and protests etc. On social media, we tried to show our faces more often and we created funny and engaging instagram stories to make us seem more approachable to students who require our services. This strategy worked well throughout the year as more people seemed to know who the SU team were!

## First Year Focus:

As always, we worked alongside the Institute and the First Year Focus Leaders to plan and implement inductions for first year students in September. We assisted with training the FYF Leaders and we created and delivered an introduction presentation 13 times to different induction groups totalling around 600 students. The presentation gave a brief overview of everything IADT, allowed us to introduce ourselves and our services and also included icebreakers to allow classes to get to know each other. Presentations were also given by other departments such as the library, the Student Experience Team, Health Centre, Learning Support Service etc.



## First Year Focus

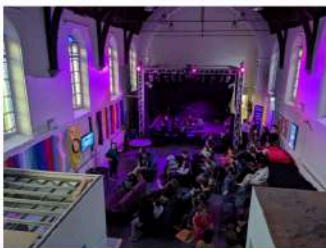


## Freshers Week:

Freshers Week marks the beginning of college life and we wanted to make this year's one to remember! We created and curated a packed week of events to introduce students to IADT's campus, the SU, Dún Laoghaire, clubs and socs and student life. On campus we had library tours, an Artist Alley market with Animation Soc, the massive Freshers Fair, a Mario Kart tournament and more. In Bakers, we held a packed out Open Mic & Karaoke Night. And we finished off the week with our sold out Freshers Presents Fresh Talent gig in The Lighthouse Dún Laoghaire featuring a lineup of local and IADT bands and artists - Lil, Florence Road, thanks mom and KLDD. The week was a massive success and paved the way for bigger and better events throughout the year!



## Freshers Week



## Welfare Week:

Next up, we had Welfare Week organized by our Welfare & Equality Officer. Mornings featured free breakfasts for all students, while the days were filled with exciting activities. Anytime Fitness set up informative

stalls, and 35 Vintage had a pop-up shop. We hosted an engaging talk from Black and Irish, along with an important discussion on drug harm reduction. Our famous Sex Toy Bingo and Drag Race events also made a triumphant return, selling out quickly.

### **New Welfare Office:**

The old IADTSU Welfare Office in the chapel was completely unfit for purpose, it didn't even have a roof, which is a massive GDPR and confidentiality breach for when welfare casework is being handled. So after a lengthy process, the Welfare Officer managed to work with estates to find a new private office space in the Quadrangle. It's important to note that the Welfare Officer is still based in the main SU office in the chapel and the Welfare Officer space is used for appointments and handling of private casework.

### **The Chapel & Equipment Upgrades:**

Our student space, IADTSU HQ aka The Chapel, has been in need of a makeover for many years, and whilst we weren't able to give it the massive makeover it needs, we were able to get started. We invested in a whole new range of equipment including a state of the art sound mixing desk, full backline equipment for concerts and events and some new desks and office equipment. These upgrades allowed the chapel to operate as a fully functional concert and events venue throughout the year, after many years of not being able to do so. IADTSU owning our own backline equipment and DJ gear means that we don't need to hire equipment for gigs and this will save us time and money for years to come. In the next few years, IADTSU is hoping to upgrade the lighting system and buy new couches & furniture, as well as convert the old abandoned coffee dock into a space that is usable for students.





## Education Week:

Education Week lands at the end of our Freshers events and has a focus on showcasing the Education aspects of IADTSU's operations. This week a lot of the societies held different welcoming events, such as DJ Soc and Dance Society. While it may be at the end of the Freshers season events, it was still full of great events. We held multiple sessions of Class Rep Training, where our Education Officer talked with the elected Class Reps about what to expect and how to fulfil their roles to their classmates. We also held a very fun open mic and karaoke night in Baker's.

## Halloween Ball, Halloween Dress Up Day & Pumpkin Carving:

One night, two rooms, nine acts, 650 people, and the best vibes imaginable. Our Halloween Ball was an astounding success, selling out in only a few days. The event took place in Wigwam on Abbey Street. This was our biggest event of the year, with a selection of acts for everyone. Upstairs we had a mixture of rap, pop and rock with Kendino, Ezra Williams, Cable Boy, Adore and Skull The Pierre. In the basement we had DJs playing everything from house and disco to techno and jungle with Viktorija Volkova, MissFortune, Puzzy Wrangler, Cian Bolger and Jacky O'Halloran. The energy was electric, the costumes were incredible, and the night was unforgettable. We also had fancy dress and pumpkin carving on campus to round out our Halloween activities.



## IADT Open Day:

We had always found it strange that IADTSU wasn't usually part of IADT's Open Day events, considering the key role we play in the Institute. We met with Marketing about this and planned a talk that we would give for the event as well as other ways for the SU to get involved. We collaborated with Animation Soc to hold an Artists Alley in The Chapel on the day to showcase the talent of our students as well as The Chapel itself. In our talk on stage, we discussed the role of the SU, the different kinds of events we run and how we help students. We believe it's important for students to know about the SU from the moment they start in IADT - delivering this talk helps prospective students and their parents know about the SU's services before they even start their studies! We hope that IADTSU will continue to take part in IADT's Open Days in future!



## **Class Rep Council:**

Our first Class Rep Council or “Comhairle” took place in November and continued monthly til the end of the academic year. At Comhairle, all SU officers present their officer work reports for approval and questioning by class reps. Here, class reps can also directly raise any concerns or issues their classes are encountering. It’s an important forum for open communication and dictating IADTSU’s operations. This year, we updated all of our existing policies and added multiple new policies written by both part-time and full time officers. Most notably, IADTSU introduced a BDS policy, meaning IADTSU cannot and will not spend money on or use Israeli goods or services as listed on the official BDS list. The level of attendance improved throughout the year, as the Union pushed for students to feel more comfortable and safe voicing their opinions. Spirited debates and innovative ideas were given to the Union and were discussed at length by the team. There was a heavy emphasis on transparency and co-operation this year also. Our SU President and Welfare Officer attended monthly meetings with the SU Finance Committee to discuss where the Union was in terms of our funding and spending. All in all, the relationship between the Class Rep Council and the Student Union is continuing in a positive direction and we hope to see this evolution continue.

## **Policies:**

Our entire policy folder was up for review, as is required every three years. Crow focused on the two class rep council policies while Tiernan worked on the rest of the folder. All old policy was updated and approved by the class rep council. On top of this, a BDS motion was written and passed during the year, ensuring the Union upholds the values of the BDS movement.

All policies can be found here

([https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1llxR4SOX4ObRQHvr0P3ucGoi9b3g0Eaq?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1llxR4SOX4ObRQHvr0P3ucGoi9b3g0Eaq?usp=drive_link))

## A Very IADTSU Christmas:

When we were students in IADT, we always wondered why IADT didn't have a real Student Christmas Day like other colleges. So naturally, we decided to start the tradition (or bring it back if it existed before our time in IADT!) We planned a fun and festive programme of events for the day as well as our Christmas Ball on a separate date in The Academy. The gig in The Academy on November 30th featured a crazy lineup of bands and artists - Florence Road, EFÉ, Banrion and the Love Buzz as well as DJs Just After Midnight, Ells, Pagan and Circuitbreaker. On "Christmas Day" on December 7th, we handed out free gifts to students around campus with "Bad Santa" (Tiernan), the canteen served Christmas Dinner while the campus choir sang, everyone wore festive jumpers, we held an open mic in The Chapel and we concluded the day with our increasingly popular and infamous Sex Toy Bingo and DJs in Baker's. We hope future SU teams will continue the tradition!



## A Very IADTSU Christmas



## Absurdism Collective x IADTSU:

In February, we collaborated with Absurdism, an art and music collective run by current and former IADT students, to run a very DIY warehouse



gig and art show at Phase Space Arts warehouse in Rathgar. This event paired musicians with visual artists to create an absurd spectacle of music and visuals, as well as a merch market and a make your own merch station.

## Seachtain na Gaeilge:

The Irish language is very important to celebrate and keep alive, so every year we celebrate Seachtain na Gaeilge for a few weeks in March. This year's programme was organised by our Oifigeach na Gaeilge (Irish Language Officer), Muirinn, with assistance from the Sabbatical Team and took place from the 4th-15th March. Events included a translation game with prizes, a pop up Gaeltacht on stage in the Chapel, an Irish language careers workshop with Conradh na Gaeilge, a trad music night in Baker's, a Sraith Pictiúr collage event with Zine & Collage Club. The programme concluded with USI's travelling Pop Up Gaeltacht with an Irish general knowledge pub quiz in Baker's.

## Seachtain na Gaeilge 2024



## Neurodiversity Week:

This year, we had to face the challenge of not having an elected Disability Rights Officer within our team. While this did present issues for the team to deal with, the workload of that position was handed out between different officers on the team. The Education Officer took the lead in hosting this year's Neurodiversity Week, a vital initiative aimed at raising awareness and fostering inclusivity. We held a handful of quieter

events, including Sensory Safe Lunches, a Sensory Safe Drink and Draw, and gaming nights.

### **Trans Awareness Week**

Trans Awareness Week is a week used to celebrate trans people and raise awareness on trans rights issues. This year, IADTSU worked alongside the LGBTQIA+ Rights Officer and IADT QSA (Queer Straight Alliance) to organize multiple events across the week. We also worked with IADT's Dignity and Respect Officer to provide Gender Expression and Identity training sessions for both students and staff.

### **Rainbow Week:**

Rainbow Week is a week of celebrating the queer community in IADT. This year we hosted some more lowkey events such as free breakfast and free lunch events with QSA and a drag show in Bakers, in collaboration with IADT drag performers and other local drag performers.

### **IADTSU Drag Race:**

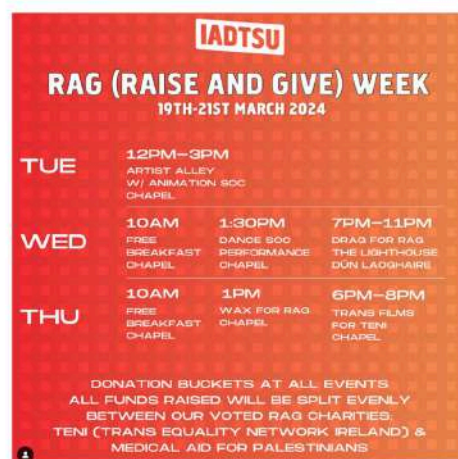
We held two Drag Race competitions this year in The Lighthouse, Dún Laoghaire. Both nights were packed out and were outrageously fun. Competitors battled it out and lip synced for their lives to see who would take the crown. The competitions were judged by some of Dublin's best known drag performers and hosted by our very own Aries (LGBTQ+ Rights Officer, Lavender Jane Gartlan). We love hosting our Drag Race events as they're a brilliant way to champion IADT talent and give new drag performers a stage to start their drag journey. Many past competitors have gone on to become huge names in the Dublin drag scene and we hope to continue these events in future!



## RAG (Raise & Give) Week:

This year's RAG week took place from the 19th-21st March. This year's RAG charities were Trans Equality Network Ireland (TENI) and Medical Aid For Palestinians (MAP), as voted for by class reps. Fundraising events in the chapel included an Artist Alley in collaboration with Animation Soc, with table fees going towards the charities, dance soc performed their Intervarsities routine, several donation based breakfast events took place, as well as Wax The SU. The most popular event of was Drag For Rag in the Lighthouse, Dún Laoghaire. Donation buckets and QR codes were present at all events.

## RAG Week 2024



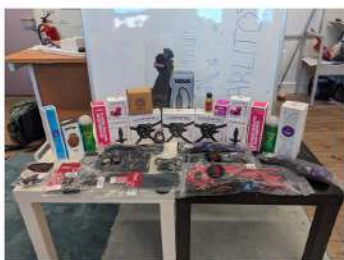
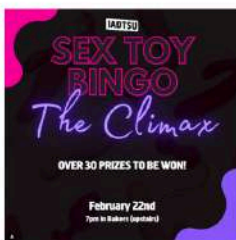
## Active\* Consent, Sexual Wellbeing & SHAG (Sexual Health, Awareness & Guidance Week):

Sexual health and wellbeing is one of the most important campaigns in the student world and SHAG Week is always one of the most exciting (pun intended) weeks of the year in the IADTSU calendar and this year was no different. This year, SU officers trained with and partnered with Active\* Consent to deliver consent training to Clubs & Socs, making this

training mandatory for Clubs & Socs leaders in order to receive funding. During SHAG Week, we also had Active\* Consent's excellent touring play "How I Learned About Consent" in the chapel. We also had a "Guess how many condoms are in the jar?" raffle take place throughout the week, as well as STI test demos and a Smash (again, pun intended) Bros tournament. We also had the excellent Kink Educator, Aoife Murray, visit to carry out her very popular "Kink 101" workshop which educated students on safe kink practice. We also had our Valentines Ball take place during this week in Wigwam, more on that in its own section! The week climaxed (yes, pun intended once again) with our ever popular, extremely sold out Sex Toy Bingo. Sex Toy Bingo has always been a wildly popular event in IADT, so this year we stepped up all of our STB events with more prizes, more rounds, more challenges, more education, more fun and bigger venues (although we need to find somewhere even bigger as ticket sales for all STB events were unprecedented!). Earlier in the year, we also welcomed SWAI (Sex Workers Alliance Ireland) for Sex Worker Awareness Training. This trained participants in topics such as - Appropriate language and terminology; barriers, stigma, and discrimination experienced by sex workers; models of laws and more.



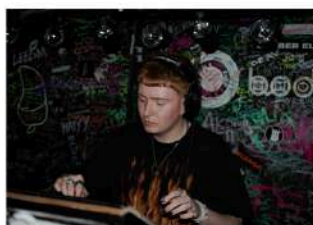
## Sexual Health



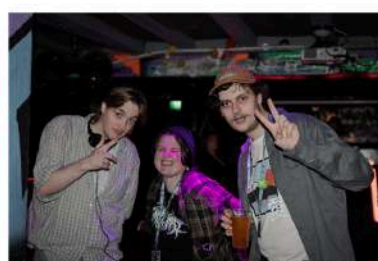
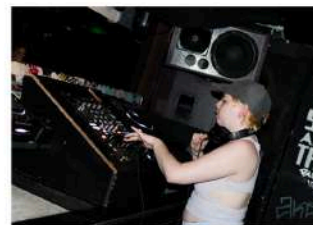


## Valentines Ball:

Our Valentines Ball (Gig) took place in Wigwam on the 20th Feb (the 14th itself was booked!). We took over the whole venue with a mix of something for everyone. In the main room we had Ahmed, With Love and Curtisy treating us to some rap and Winemom and Ellen Sleator playing some lovely alt rock and pop. Downstairs in the basement had some real treats for the house, techno and jungle heads with Omen from IADT DJ Society, IADT alumnus & IADT DJ Soc founder Jenn Hession, and also past IADTSU President Ratts Tyerell, as well as DJ Egg, Limerick's Dyke Nite resident and self proclaimed "Lesbian Junglist". The theme for the night was Angels and Devils and our two favourite costumes on the night won a bar tab.



## Valentines Ball



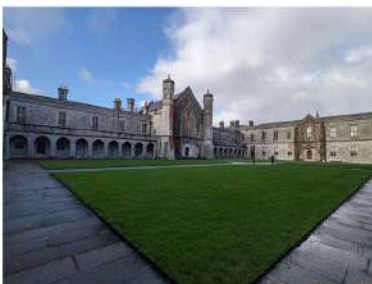
# USI / AMLÉ - Union of Students in Ireland:

## USI Comhairle Náisiúnta (National Council):

Every 4-6 weeks, student unions from all over the island of Ireland meet for USI National Councils and Working Groups. These usually take place over two days and take place on different campuses around the island. They provide great networking opportunities for SU Officers to discuss issues they're encountering, get advice and get updates on USI's operations. The easiest way to describe the National Council is that it's like our Class Rep Council but with Students' Unions instead of class reps! This year, we travelled to Tralee, Cork, Maynooth, Belfast, Derry, Galway and Limerick - it's great to travel and experience all these places and different colleges/universities. Throughout the year we regularly contributed to discussions and debates and despite our small size, we were a respected and valued voice in the student movement this year!



## USI Comhairle Náisiúnta (National Council)



(This is one of the only photos we have from Limerick)



## USI Comdháil (Congress) 2024:

The Union of Students in Ireland's annual congress took place in Sligo from the 25th-28th March. At Comhdháil, voting delegates from every USI Member Organization (student unions) debate and vote on motions to decide the policies and mandates that determine how USI will operate in the coming year. Voting for the USI Coiste Gnó (Executive Committee) also takes place. IADTSU has 4 voting delegates and can bring 2 observers, as is tradition, we brought the incoming SU team (or in this year's case, those who had expressed interest in running in our elections, as Congress took place before our elections). We successfully renewed a previous Trans Rights policy that was introduced by IADTSU and was due to expire. Our delegation also made significant contributions to debates and Lavender Jane (LGBTQ+ Rights Officer 2023-24, later elected President 2024-25) made an incredibly moving speech (most of the conference centre were in tears!) on Trans Rights, for which she won several awards at the Congress Dinner & Awards. IADTSU was also awarded Best Small Delegation for our contributions across the week - we may be small but we are mighty!



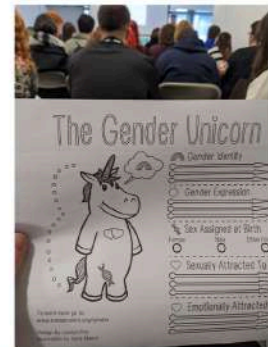
## USI Comdháil (Congress) 2024





## USI Pink Training 2023:

USI Pink Training is the largest LGBTQIA+ Training event in Europe, and is run by USI annually at the University of Galway. This year's event took place from November 17th-19th, which landed right before Trans Day of Remembrance. Members of the sabbatical team along with members of IADT's Queer Straight Alliance attended multiple talks, including sessions about trans rights, safe kink practice, gender abolition, political action, self care and many other topics. At the end of the weekend, as part of a USI and Transgress the NGS campaign action, attendees created a large banner covered in red handprints to represent the lives lost by trans people under the current government's healthcare system. The weekend was informative, fun and provided plenty of opportunities for students and SU officers to socialise and network (and of course, it's always lovely to visit Galway around Christmas!).



## USI Pink Training 2023





## Protests & National Student Action Group:

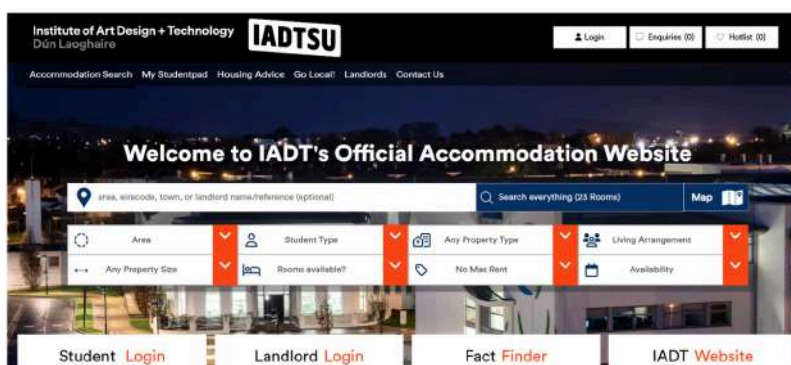
Throughout the year, IADTSU was involved in multiple protests, locally and nationally. Ranging on issues from Palestinian Occupation to Trans Healthcare, Anti-Racism, housing and much more. Alongside other USI member organisations, including TCDSU and TUDSU, IADTSU was a founding member of the National Student Action Group, a national and grassroots group of students carrying out direct action protests. IADTSU Officers and IADT students attended the following:

- Dublin Pride 2023
- Disability Pride 2023
- Trans & Intersex Pride 2023
- Regularly attended Pro Palestine marches and IPSC actions in Dublin City and Dún Laoghaire
- Dún Laoghaire Welcomes - Anti Racism Demonstration
- FORSA Dún Laoghaire Rally Against Racism
- International Day of Solidarity With The Palestinian People class walkout in IADT
- TCDSU Book of Kells Blockade
- UCD BDS Protest & Encampment
- Gaeltacht Housing & Gaeilge Demonstration - 29th May
- USI Student Demonstration - It's Raining Now (Rainy Day Fund)



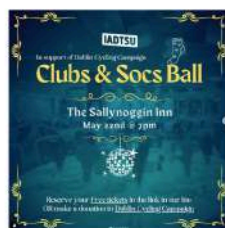
## StudentPad:

When we started in July 2023, we inherited IADTSU's dysfunctional accommodation listings facebook page - simply put, it was outdated, complicated and labour intensive for the Welfare Officer to operate alongside their normal duties. IADT needed something newer, better and easier to use for all involved. Elsewhere in other Higher Education Institutions in Ireland and the UK, most were using custom bespoke accommodation listings websites designed by an English company, StudentPad. We met with the CEO for a demonstration and we immediately knew that it was our solution. IADT agreed to fund the platform and over the course of the academic year, we worked with StudentPad's team to design the platform for our needs. The launch took longer than expected due to delays on our side but we launched the site in May 2024 just in time for the 2024/2025 accommodation search. The site essentially functions like Daft.ie but just for IADT Students. The platform is also available for use by Creative Music Production students based at the Sound Training College in City Centre and IADT Tertiary Course students at Ballyfermot College of Further Education and Bray Institute of Further Education. The site is highly versatile and bespoke and support is available from StudentPad whenever needed, The site is operated by IADTSU on behalf of IADT and it is already making the process of approving and posting listings much easier for the small SU team. It will take time for landlords to start using the platform but it is hoped that in the months and years to come, it will make things far easier for students and property owners alike!



## Clubs & Socs:

As ever, Clubs & Socs are an important part of student life in IADT. Whilst IADT still will not budge on providing more funding for C&S after years of IADTSU requesting more funding, we saw clubs and socs go from strength to strength throughout the year, including at national and international competitions. We saw the return of many existing Clubs & Socs and we saw the creation of lots of new ones! Simone James was elected as Clubs & Socs Officer towards the end of the first semester. In her brief time as Clubs & Socs Officer, she completely overhauled how Clubs & Socs operate and collaborated with CORE Credit Union to create new bank accounts for Clubs & Socs. Every week, she liaised with Clubs & Socs to create a weekly schedule of events that was posted on the IADTSU social media accounts. At the end of the academic year, we held our Clubs & Socs Awards & Ball at the Sallynoggin Inn. This event hadn't been held since before the pandemic so we were glad to bring it back to celebrate the year's accomplishments. Whilst we have lots of Clubs & Socs on offer, we want to make it abundantly clear that they are not funded enough by IADT and many are struggling to operate, this is evidenced in IADTSU's Clubs & Socs Survey Report 2024. As part of our transformation of C&S operations, the Clubs & Societies Committee has been established and approved by Class Rep Council to fairly allocate the limited funding that is offered.



## Clubs & Socs





## Governing Body & Institute Committees:

An important part of IADTSU's operations is sitting on the college's Governing Body and committees. These are where we bring feedback from students and advise the college on how it should function. Some of the various committees include Governing Body, Academic Council, Student Experience, Healthy Campus, Induction/Onboarding Working Group, Teaching & Learning, Research & Innovation, EDI and more. IADTSU also gave feedback to the Institute as part of the CINNTE Institutional Review and the IADT Strategic Plan 2024-2028. Significantly, IADTSU's Governing Body Members voted in favour of the IADT Strategic Plan 2024-2028, which passed and will see IADT transform and improve all areas of operation, to become Ireland's University for the Creative Industries. A full or summarised version of this plan is available to view at <http://strategy.iadt.ie>.



## Governing Body, Committees & Strategic Plan





## IADTSU Elections for 2024-2025 Academic Year:

IADTSU's annual elections were held on the 11th and 12th April 2024. Candidates ran for President, VP Education, VP Welfare & Equality, Oifigeach na Gaeilge and LGBTQ+ Rights. Unfortunately no candidates ran for Disability Rights, Entertainments, Mature Student Officer or Clubs & Socs, so these positions will need to be filled in a by-election in the 2024-2025 term. Voter turnout was high, with around 500 students voting (whilst this may sound low, this is relatively high for an IADTSU election in recent years). Lavender Jane Gartlan was elected to be the next IADTSU President, Simone James was elected to be the next VP for Welfare & Equality, Diana Moldovean was elected to be the next VP for Education, Ethan Taylor was elected to be the next LGBTQ+ Rights Officer and Muirinn Ní Chárthaigh was re-elected as Oifigeach na Gaeilge.



Unfortunately, we don't have a full team photo with all of our full time and part time officers from this year, so here's a meme featuring all of our officers that our Clubs & Socs Officer Simone made after Leo Varadkar resigned as Taoiseach:



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## **Acknowledgements:**

We would like to thank every IADT student and all clubs and societies for their engagement throughout the year, whether it was attending an event, coming to us for assistance, attending class rep council or even just saying hey in the chapel! IADTSU is for students, by students and to help students, so you're what it's all about, thank you!

We would also like to express our gratitude to all IADT staff including the Student Experience Team led by Denise McMorrow, the Governing Body, Academic Council, the caretakers & estates team led by Jerome Counihan, President David Smith & Registrar Andrew Power and their respective offices, the canteen staff led by Mark Reilly, the EDI team led by Claire McGing, the IADT Health Centre, IADT Library and many many many more staff that we worked with (or against!) throughout the year.

We would like to thank the USI / AMLÉ Coiste Gnó and USI / NSteP Staff and our colleagues from other Student Unions around the Island for their support and comradery.

We would also like to thank every act and artist we booked and the following companies and individuals that we worked with throughout the year: Baker's Corner, Bodytonic (The Lighthouse / Wigwam), Graft Coffee, Pinecone Coffee, Anytime Fitness Dún Laoghaire, Richmond Marketing / Red Bull Ireland, The Academy / MCD Productions, Tadhg Williams & Hot Press, Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, CATU, Forsa & SIPTU Trade Unions, StudentPad, Absurdism Collective, Phase Space Arts Rathgar, Active\* Consent, Aoife Murray, Niteline, Black & Irish, Little&Green, ATC Live, CORE Credit Union, FIXR Ticketing, The Sallynoggin Inn, Brian Dunphy & Living Streets Dún Laoghaire, Conor Larkin, Ethan Taylor, Shane Lambert, Jacky O'Halloran, Lily Murphy, Zara Brady, Cúan Nolan, Mary Murphy, Larissa Hilgers, Emma Balfe and many many many more!

## Appendix: Abbreviations and terms used:

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IADTSU, SU, the SU, The IADTSU - Institute of Art, Design + Technology Dún Laoghaire Students' Union.

President 23/24 - Seán Kelly

Welfare Officer / Deputy President 23/24 - Tiernan Mason

Education Officer 22/23 & 23/24 - Crow Mullen

USI - The Union of Students in Ireland, the representative body for over 374,000 students in Ireland. Our national union, who we regularly meet with and work heavily with.

Comhairle - Council

MO - Member Organisation, a Students' Union Member Organisation of USI

Comhairle Náisiúnta - USI's National Council, takes place every six weeks in a different MO around the island. Consists of a council sitting, like the Dáil where matters and motions are discussed and voted on.

Cómhdháil - USI National Congress, a week-long event that takes place annually around Easter. This is the main decision making body of USI and USI's policies for the next three years are voted on and USI Elections take place. Every USI MO attends and observers also attend.

IADT Estates and Facilities Management "Estates" - The estates office is responsible for the facilities and grounds of IADT. We have to liaise with them when planning larger on campus events to ensure everything is safe.

Sabbat Team - IADTSU Full time sabbatical officers - the President, Welfare Officer (Deputy President) and Education Officer.

Full SU Team - Sabbat team and part time officers (PTOs)

PTO - Part Time SU Officer

SE / Student Experience Team - Wide-spanning department in IADT that looks after the student experience and provides support to students - encompassing student learning centre, FYF, Information Point, Careers Centre, Health Centre, Scholarships and Financial Assistance, Counselling and more.

FYF - First Year Focus induction programme.

Governing Body, Academic Council & Subcommittees: These are the main decision making bodies within IADT, they meet regularly and the SU sit on all of these committees to represent students.

Conferring - IADT Graduation - Conferring of Awards Ceremony

Working Group - A group formed to work on a specific issue or action - we work on several of these within USI and IADT.

More information available here:

Governance & Student Representation Handbook:

<https://studentengagement.ie/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Governance-and-Student-Representation-Toolkit-digital-FINAL.pdf>

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**END OF REPORT**