

Kieran Minto Postgraduate education officer report: July

Hi everyone, I'm your postgrad education officer for this year. I represent your academic interests, working closely with the undergrad education officer and the reps (Faculty, school, and course). I sit on many committees alongside senior members of staff across the university in order to promote student voice.

The initial month on the job was spent performing admin, learning how the students union, university and especially the reps system is structured. In addition to how the student voice system works. Learning what each team within the SU does, as well as meeting with members of staff across the university in order to introduce myself.

Events attended:

- I, along with the rest of the officer team attended **SUT** (student union training) organised by USI (union of students Ireland) alongside NUS-USI (national union representing students in Northern Ireland), which was hosted at Munster Technological University in Tralee. During this training I attended a number of information sessions and workshops around for example: housing, Irish language, SUs (student unions) and the law. This event was also a fantastic opportunity to network and build connections across Ireland, connections that have proved beneficial for the team.
- We planned our involvement with **Belfast pride** parade, including purchasing a new banner and then attended alongside many Queens students and staff.
- Numerous **graduation ceremonies** as the students union representative.
- A **lobby day** in Dublin organised by USI ahead of the Irish governments 2024 budget.

Meetings:

- Attended many meetings with university management in order to **introduce** myself, my goals and get an idea of their roles within the institution.

Other:

- The team worked together to plan our **strategic goals** for the year, what we wanted to get done as a team and how we planned to go about it.
- We began planning the initial stages of our freshers events, what we wanted to do and how they would look.
- Began writing my **plan of work** for the year. At this early stage my plan mainly consisted of a list of campaign promises and ideas, so through meetings within the university, SU and with the other officers I began refining these ideas into 3 solid projects for the year.
- I began **drafting a project** proposal for one of the aspects of my plan of work, I titled "Green your school"