

Kieran Minto Postgraduate education officer report: March

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.

Most of this month was taken up with external events, elections, and national congresses. Aside from that I worked on the welcome week project, and the planning for the end of year rep awards rep event.

Internal events:

- I took some time off to run in the SU elections and support the elections more generally. I was successfully elected as president for the year 2024-2025, these elections had just shy of 6000 individual voters taking part, almost 25% of the student body. This was a record for the SU and one of the highest turnouts across UK and Ireland.
- Attended several events as part of Irish language week, such as a Cèilidh and Irish language quiz.
- Attended a peoples assembly event organised by a number of lectures. This event focused around was to introduce more climate change focused education into degree programs/teaching and how this could be done.

External events:

- NUS-USI congress, this was a 2-day event where we discussed policies being brought to the overall NUS congress and if we should or should not support them.
- USI congress, this was a weeklong congress hosted in Sligo which was attended by over 100 delegates, with representatives from almost every university across Ireland. During which next years USI officers were elected, and policies were voted on.

Strategy 2030:

- Continued to work alongside the undergrad education officer as a chair of the student voice strand of strategy 2030. We continued to progress our projects around the rep system, embedding student voice and empowering rep coordinators.
- Student partnership model work continued.

Meetings:

- Our revised plan for welcome week was presented to Queens management and approved with a group set up to look at implementation for September 2024 and beyond.
- Attended a meeting with Queens sport for the first time to get an idea of the lay of the land and set up for next years work around clubs and societies.
- Worked with the Voice team along with the undergrad education officer to plan a Rep awards event at the end of the academic year. This event will serve to recognise all the hard work done by our reps this week.
- Attended academic council, where we discussed the academic year, pinch points, things that are working well and areas to improve. This included inductions/welcome

week, exams, assessments and subsequent bunched deadlines and how the current year puts a lot of unnecessary pressure on students.