



TU Dublin Students' Union Newsletter

December Edition 2022

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Christmas



By Brian Jordan - SU President

*It's that special time of year, where people are weirdly generous, hot chocolate is an expectation and we cover arbitrary Evergreen trees with ornaments – that's right, **IT'S CHRISTMAS!***

***Christmas is a very special period in the Students' Union.** Whether it's ramping up our fundraising efforts, or hosting our TU Dublin SU Christmas day events, everything just gets a little more festive. I mostly enjoy it because it's an excuse to wear hideous jumpers and be lauded for it.*

*In any case, **I really, really hope you all enjoy the holidays (however you may celebrate) and remember to take a few days off even if you have exams – YOU DESERVE IT!***

Finally, don't forget that your SU is always here for you. So with that, I command you to wear a hideous Penney's festive jumper, get yourself a gingerbread latte, and tag the SU when you do!

USIT



1 - <https://bit.ly/3VsUPZL>

Semester 1 Achievements



This is very possibly my favourite topic to write about in the history of my Presidency; it's essentially a forum where we get to brag about what we did! But in all honesty, it's been heart-warming getting to look back at the last few months and tell you about everything the SU has been working on.

Referendum



*Shocker, the highlight of the SU this semester has been the Referendum! Not only did we break a TU Dublin SU record (**5687 valid votes**), but we also had a near unanimous **YES vote (96.2%)**. It's difficult to put into words how rewarding it's been seeing students directly engage in improving their own college experience. We'll now finally be able to implement a more streamlined, representative officer structure – **all thanks to you!***

Walkout



*The walkout was so much fun! **There's nothing quite like several thousand students leaving their lecture halls at 11:11am to protest the cost-of-living crisis and showing the Government that our demands will not go unheard. Having the opportunity to scream through a microphone was just the icing on the cake.***

Orientations





This year we made it our goal to attend every possible orientation across every single campus. From Erasmus to Mature to Access to International, we were at them all. Not to mention the plenary sessions that saw us try our hand at some witty icebreakers in front of 300+ students!

Welfare



*The level of Welfare and Equality Campaigns this year have been a joy to facilitate. Black History Month was a particular highlight, with everything from anti-racism workshops to Afrodance classes across the various campuses. **This was followed by our pan-university Mental Health Week** (self-*

care packs and speed ranting aplenty), **our glorious SHIFT week** (sex toy bingo, anyone?) and finally, **our Social Justice Week!** My favourite Welfare event of the semester however is the **Sleepout event, an action taken by the SU and students in solidarity with people effected by the housing crisis.**

Events



*I think we can all say Freshers Fortnight was a success this year! **With 60+ events, on-site and off-site, daytime and night-time, there truly was something for everyone.** All I'll say is, I'll never look at a trolley the same way again. The dizzying level of events didn't stop there however, as you may have noticed from our **Graduation Ball, our Halloweek (we're hilarious), and our very own Christmas Day!***

Education



*Being the nerd that I am, I couldn't NOT talk about our educational successes! Aside from some of our impressive statistics (**93% Class Reps elected in Blanchardstown, the highest recorded in TUDSU history**), we can't ignore the monumental achievement that was Overnight Class Rep Training! **100 Class Reps, 10 hours of training, and 1 giant worm** – it was certainly a trip to be remembered.*

*Be sure to click the link below to where you can explore the thirteen episodes of the **Our Student Voice** resources for students, as well as learn about how you can earn a Digital Badge for your participation in the TU Dublin Quality Assurance and Quality Enhancement processes.*

[Our Student Voice - Training Resources & Digital Badge](#)

Raise Awareness & Give





Irish
Motor
Neurone
Disease
Association



*You may have attended some of our mini-RAG events last week, but our **RAG week will take place the week of the 27th of February 2023**. We are fundraising for the [Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association of Ireland](#) this year. We will have plenty of activities for you to take part in and help us with our fundraising efforts.*

Get involved

*There is **more than one way to get involved in the Students' Union**. Want to run an event for your class? Tell your class rep to contact us with ideas and we will help set it up! Interested in welfare? **Did you know our VP for Welfare and Equality, Hazel Doran, has a Welfare Crew?***

Email welfare.cc@tudublinsu.ie for all the details!

Got a fundraising idea? I'd love to hear it! Mail events.cc@tudublinsu.ie

Union of Students In Ireland



*Have you heard of USI, the Union of Students in Ireland? **They promote the student movement in Ireland at a national level in the interest of third level colleges and universities. And did you know, due to our Students' Union being affiliated to USI, every student in TU Dublin is a member of USI!***

*This means we can get involved with all their events and activities. **Remember the all-campus walkout that happened on the 13th of October? That campaign was created by USI.***

*We as **your Students' Union** attend National Council every month. It works very similar to our own Student Council, where **we discuss motions and hold the USI Officers accountable**. It also means we can **bring up issues that students face in our university and have a national representative support us.***



Union of Students in Ireland
Aontas na Mac Léinn in Éirinn

Want to get involved with USI?

You can contact any of our SU Officers if you want to know what's going on with USI.

You can also email the USI Dublin Region Officer, Sierra, at: dublin@usi.ie and she will tell you everything that's going on.

We encourage USI to come visit TU Dublin, so if you ever see any of the USI Officers on campus you should come say hi!

More information about USI can be found on their Instagram: [usi.ie](https://www.instagram.com/usi.ie)





MERRY
CHRISTMAS
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

