

# Manifesto

## *VP Welfare and Equality (Blanchardstown)*

**Louise Kavanagh** B00016888

*#comm-YOU-nity #louise4welfare2022*

A Chairde,

My name is Louise Kavanagh and I would be honoured to serve as your next Vice President for Welfare and Equality in Blanchardstown.

- Level 5 Minor Award - Special Needs Assisting | 2020
- Level 6 Major Award - Early Childhood Care and Education | 2021
- Level 6 Major Award - Training and Development | 2022
- BA Hons Creative Digital Media | 2022

I graduated from the Institute of Technology, Blanchardstown with a BA ORD degree in Creative Digital Media in 2018. I took some time to focus on being a new mother and during the time away, I retrained as a special needs assistant and then onto childcare. I am passionate about holistic development, and I approach new situations with curiosity and a growth mindset.

I am passionate about sharing my own knowledge and skills with others and I have been in many volunteer roles over the years, including class rep, peer mentor, student union crew, representing ITB in the TU4Dublin workshops and more recently I initiated a collaboration with another department on campus to create digital badges for students who take part in the STLR program.

I have outlined below some key areas that I am passionate about exploring in the next academic year.

## **Community**

My thesis project is research-based and focuses on building communities. You, the student, can use your voice to create meaningful connections across campus and I would love the opportunity to facilitate this. This new hybrid learning environment is ours to shape!

Every student in this university has something special to offer the world. From cyber security experts to Montessori teachers, to business leaders, to UX/UI designers, we are all problem solvers. The pandemic and the merge to TU Dublin showed massive gaps in our community.

It will be my focus to reshape the vision of the Blanchardstown community with YOU, while building stronger relationships with City Campus and Tallaght.

## Welfare

### Hygiene

In times of personal crisis, the student union should at a minimum provide access to wash facilities, sanitary products, and deodorants. I will strongly advocate for funding to be made available as soon as possible for all students and staff.

### Student Services

I will advocate strongly for the needs of all students, including marginalised groups but also have information clearly signposted so people can self advocate when required.

## Equality

### Building awareness

I want to facilitate more awareness campaigns to ensure all students, especially marginalized communities are represented.

I will lobby for the university and student unions to be mindful of their framing of language to promote an inclusive, safe, comfortable environment for all.

### Student Rights

I will engage with the student union and USI to facilitate more training, build awareness around the importance of the student voice and support students who would like to join the student union in future.

## Wellbeing

I want to keep the conversations going throughout the year around consent, sexual health, the perception of self and mental health. I will seek the reintroduction of in-person relaxation classes including mindfulness, meditations and yoga.

I want to promote **Health At Every Size “HAES”** – I hope to encourage people of all abilities to take part in more initiatives that promote physical activity.

### So, what’s next?

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this manifesto. If you have any questions, I am always available to chat, so please get in touch at [B00016888@mytudublin.ie](mailto:B00016888@mytudublin.ie) or through my social handles **@louise4welfare2022** on Instagram and Facebook. Polling dates are 29, 30, and 31 March 2022. I look forward to meeting you over the next few weeks!

Is mise le meas,

Louise Kavanagh

