



TU Dublin Students' Union
Student Council Officer Report 2022/2023
*Tuarascáil Oifigeach Comhairle na Mac Léinn Aontas
na Mac Leinn, Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta, Baile Átha
Cliath 2022/2023*



Officer Name: <i>Ainm an Oifigeach:</i>	Jessica Perez	Email Address: <i>Seoladh Ríomhphoist</i>	postgrad@tudublinsu.ie
Officer Position: <i>Seasamh an Oifigigh</i>	Postgraduate Officer	Period of Work: <i>Treimhse Oibre</i>	5 th December 2022-31 st Jan 2023

Key Points Since Last Meeting

Príomhphointí ón gcruinniú deireanach

Launch with Minister Harris and DFHERIS

I attended the Unified Third Level Education System: Launch of Consultation Report by Minister Harris on the 6th of December 2022. As member of the discussion panel, I was invited to partake in the launch at the Mansion House.

Academic Council

I attended academic council on 7th December 2022 in person.

Research and Innovation Academy

Attended my first meeting with the academy on 8th of December 2022. Was only able to attend half as had other engagements with Governing Body. Met with the other postgrad rep, Issac, on 20th January 2023 to discuss what we would like to be bringing to the academy and other PGR (postgraduate research students) issues.

Farewell/ Thank You Governing Body Lunch

Mr. David Carson, Chair of Governing Body, stepped down from his role. The TU Dublin President hosted a farewell lunch to thank the Chair and acknowledge his commitment and support during his tenure on the 8th of December 2022. As a member of Governing Body, I was invited to attend and had lunch with them.

TUDSU Postgrad Christmas Party

I organized a Christmas Party for the postgraduates that was on the 10th December, 2022 where about 20 postgrad attended. I organised a Secret Santa in which 7 postgraduate students participated in. I made some Bingo cards and did other Christmas Party games. I prepared TUDSU goodie bags. Tickets were €5 and included pizza and drinks. Overall, lots of fun.

Meeting with USI presidency candidate

A candidate for USI presidency wanted to meet with TUDSU to discuss his plans and ask us what we would like to see from USI next year. I attended the meeting with TUDSU full-time officers, and after the meeting, we discussed our thoughts on it.

SU officer meeting

I attended the SU officer meeting on 17th January. I gave an update on last event which was the Christmas party in December with around 20 students. Update on working on postgraduate hoodies (design is ready). Informed them the postgraduate Whatsapp group has grown. Informed them that I'm planning a walk to Poolbeg lighthouse in the February. Postgraduate seminars with them presenting their work is in the works, and the budget was discussed. Postgraduate representation in Graduate Research School and Graduate Program Committee is in the discussions.



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PGR student reps

Met up with Anna on 18th January to see the logistics of Electoral Commission facilitating elections for graduate research school. Electoral Commission said they would be okay with us facilitating the elections which would include nomination and election forms. Have emailed with TUDSU officers and the idea of using class rep incentives was seen as a good idea. Due to the fact that PGRs are not registered in a class (unlike undergrads and postgrad taught students), they aren't able to avail of the benefits of the class rep system. I'm suggesting a form of class reps for PGRs which would be the PGR student reps. I have had a meeting with Mary Scally and Brian to further discuss this.

Design + Construct Working Group

I attended the Design + Construct working group on 25th January as the postgraduate representative alongside Saoirse, the VP of Education, to discuss the construct of the new Broomsbridge meeting. They discussed their plans for the building. I asked if the members of the working group would be allowed to do a presentation/ask questions regarding their respective views and they said yes. Will be going to see the sight 1st Feb. Working group will meet every week for the first bit of it, but as time goes on, it will change to biweekly or once a month. Chatted with Saoirse after the meeting to discuss our thoughts.

Meeting in regards to the National Framework for the Doctoral Education (NFDE)

USI VP of Postgraduate Affairs, Waqar, asked for postgrad officer volunteers to meet with Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) over the NFDE. I volunteered and attended with Waqar and Shahboz (TUS Athlone postgrad officer). We first met to go over the framework and wording suggestions before meeting with QQI on 25th January. Also met with Waqar and Jenna, from TUS, before the meeting to further discuss the NFDE on 27th January. Met with QQI representative alongside Waqar and Shahboz on 27th January and discusses some issues we saw with the NFDE and particularly the framework and discrepancies of principles.

USI Postgraduate Working Group Meeting

Due to prior engagements, I missed the meeting on the 8th of December. Had USI postgrad working group meeting on 26th January. Discussed charter, postgrad survey want to roll out, and the position of VP of postgrad affairs in USI. Currently it is a part-time position, and discussed if it should be full-time and/or if other postgrad positions should open up in USI.

Issue regarding PGRs

I was contacted by three PGRs on 23rd Jan who want to meet and discuss issues regarding supervision and programmed. They sent me a sum up of what is happening and the questions they have. Agreed to meet up with them on the 31st Jan. Prepared for meeting by going over GRS (Graduate Research School) regulations to ensure that what I'm telling them is accordance with regulations set buy the GRS. Met with Dr. Mary McNamara, Head of GRS, on 30th Jan to go over my answers/ questions I had and ensure that what I am saying is correct according to the GRS.

Graduate Research School Board (GRSB)

On 30th of Jan, I had my meeting with the GRSB. Discussed issues regarding minutes approved which included hardship scholarship for postgrads, national postgrad review coming up Department of Education, and graduation ceremony and potential date for a reception before graduation for graduating PGRs and their family/ significant others as well as current PGRs. Also did the usual approval of PGR forms submitted by PGRs.



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Postgrad hoodies

Worked on the order form for the hoodies and the design mock up. Ordering hoodies will be similar to class hoodies. I, as postgrad officer, will collect the payment/order form and give to TUDSU+. When hoodies arrive, will arrange pickup times for the hoodies from the TUDSU offices at different campuses. Hoodies are €35, are grey, and are personalised to say "Postgraduate" on chest, "TU Dublin Postgraduate" in Irish on the sleeve, TU Dublin logo on chest, and TUDSU logo on back shoulder.

Grad Connect

Grad Connect, the postgrad peer-support group lead by TU Dublin Student Counselling Services, is starting up the 31st Jan. I have been promoting it to fellow postgrads via the postgrad WhatsApp group.

Walk to Poolbeg lighthouse

Planning a postgrad meetup with DCU and RCSI to Poolbeg Lighthouse for late February. In the past, I have done hikes in Howthe and Bray, and we wanted something different for this time.



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Meetings Attended (and Number) Tinrimh Choistí agus Cruinnithe (agus Líon)	Priorities for Next Period Tosaíochtaí don chéad tréimhse eile
Academic Council – 1 Research and Innovation Academy – 1 Meeting with President Candidate for USI – 1 SU officer meeting – 1 Meeting with Anna over PGR reps – 1 Design + Construct Working Group – 1 Follow up for Design + Construct Working Group – 1 Meeting with Mary and Brian over PGR reps – 1 USI postgrad working group – 1 NFDE meeting – 3 (prep meetings and official meeting with QQI) Graduate Research Board – 1 Meeting with Head of Graduate Research School – 1 Future meeting: Meeting with PGR students over research Arrange follow up meeting with PGRs and Head of Graduate Research School. Meeting planned with Dr. Brendan Jennings, VP of Research and Innovation for TU Dublin	-Planning TUDSU Postgrad Seminars for semester 2 -Planning TUDSU Postgrad Social Events -Working with DCU to plan inter-university events for semester 2 -Working with the university and USI to prepare for the upcoming national postgraduate review



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Events/Activities Attended <i>Tinrimh Imeachtaí / Gníomhaíochtaí</i>	Gifts Received <i>Bronntanais a Fuarthas</i>
-Launch with Minister Harris -Farewell Lunch with Governing Body -Postgrad Christmas Party -Lunch with other rep from Research and Innovation Academy (informal, not officially TUDSU related but discussed TUDSU stuff)	

Any Other Matters <i>Aon nithe eile</i>

Head of Graduate Research School made recommendations for handbook for following postgrad officer to ensure they know what the position entails and have a background of what has happened in meetings. She said to put the agenda and approved meetings part of the agenda that is sent out to us before Graduate Research School Board and Research Programme Committee.