

Manifesto – Elections 2018

Name: Pierre Yimbog

Position Contested: President

Introduction:

My name is Pierre Yimbog and I'm the current Vice President for Education for the DIT Students' Union and I also serve as Deputy President. I'm contesting the position of President in this year's election and looking for your vote on 27th, 28th February and 1st March. I've graduated from Law and previous to my current role I was College Officer for Aungier St. I've been heavily involved in both the Union and Societies since I started college and my experience, knowledge and achievements makes me the ideal candidate for the President role. I'm the right person to lead the Union through this pivotal time with the Technological University designation, formation of a new Students' Union and the development of Grangegorman. My manifesto below outlines my intentions to improve how your Union represents, communicates and engages with all students.

1. Democracy:

Your Union operates and lives through its strong democratic structures; starting from the Class Representative System and all the way to Student Council which develops policies and the work the elected officers do on behalf of the student population. It's even more important now than ever that our democratic structures are strong and transparent. Therefore, I want to use all our communication platforms to ensure that all students can put themselves forward for the various roles and help the Union broaden and better represent all students. In addition, I want to make Student Council more accessible and reach a greater audience so that key discussions and decisions are heard by all students.

2. Communications:

Your Union uses many platforms to communicate with students and we've continually expanded and improved how we do it over the years. I'm especially excited about our new website which has been developed to get us to the next level of engagement. This is a massive investment we've made to our communication so that we can capture student involvement in activities in DIT and better connect with all students. My aim is to further enhance all our platforms, especially DITSU.tv and social media. I want to explore how we can develop these and make it more effective in how we engage and communicate with students.

3. Technological University:

Once the TU Bill passes; IT Tallaght, IT Blanchardstown and DIT becoming a Technological University will be more of a reality. Lots of work is underway to get us prepared for the application and hopefully designation in September 2018. I want to continue to collaborate on more events and activities with the other Student Unions as well as extend communication channels with the respective students as we begin merging and integrating into TUDSU. It's important that we try our best to make all students feel comfortable in this transition and better understand how we operate before becoming one entity.

In addition, I want to make sure there's more student involvement and a stronger student voice in decision making in the new Technological University.

4. Grangegorman:

The next phase of the development of Grangegorman will be underway and should be ready for the move of Kevin St, Cathal Brugha St and Rathmines of 10,000 students in 2020. It would be my priority if elected to work with the Institute to ensure students will have fit for purpose facilities when they move as well as ensure that the standard of facilities on the current campuses won't be affected insofar as hamper student's learning experience. The other key aspect of the Grangegorman project is the development of a Student Centre along with Sports and Recreational facilities which would see the introduction of a levy. As a result, I would continue the negotiations with the Institute in order that all conditions pertaining to the Student Council Policy are met before a referendum can be put to students.

5. Student Engagement and Services:

Over the coming months, there will be many things going on and changes happening within the Union and DIT and it's important that students are aware and involved in everything that affects them. Therefore, I intend to make the Union more transparent in the work the officers do in the background, in particular with Grangegorman and the TU. Furthermore, I want to ensure all our events and campaigns cater for the wider student population by working with the VP Welfare, VP Education and VP Events. Finally, I want to ensure all our services are more accessible and lobby DIT to make their services available to especially part-time students.

Conclusion:

I believe I'm the best candidate for the President's role and the person who's experienced, knowledgeable and committed to lead the Union through this massive change. I can say without a doubt the next year will be a make or break for the Union as issues to do with finance, structure and autonomy will arise. I understand the position I am putting myself into and I know I'm more than capable on delivering on it based on my track record and notwithstanding the fact that I'm already involved in many of the meetings relating to my above manifesto. While making these small changes in how we represent, communicate and engage with students, this will in turn make a huge difference in shaping your Union for the future. If you could once more put your trust in me as you did last year to be your Vice President for Education and this time to be your next President of the DIT Students' Union. Therefore, don't hope for change but vote for Pierre Yimbog on 27th, 28th February and 1st March.

#Pierre4Pres