**UL Student Life**

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

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| **President** |
| **Author** | **:** | Seán Ó Maoilchiaráin  |
| **Date** | **:** | 15/9/2021 |
| **Audience**  | **:** | **UL Student Council** |
| **Action** | **:** | **Approve** |
| ***Goals*** |
| **Main Goals** | **Progress** |
| Consent Workshops for orientation | I have been working closely with UL EDI in terms of the delivery of consent workshops as part of orientation this year. Myself and two other officers have received Active\* Consent workshop facilitation training and will be actively involved in the running of workshops during week 3. |
| Campaigns | **Feel good Fridays**: This is a successor series to ‘Some Good News’ and the idea is much the same as last years, spreading positivity around campus. Episode 1 will air on the 17th of September and focuses on the return to campus. **Anytime of the Month:** I am working to have the ATOTM initiative rolled out all over campus this year. I have brought the idea to the Access. Equality and Student Affairs sub-group of governing authority and received very positive feedback from there. |
| Accommodation queries  | We have seen a sharp increase in queries relating to accommodation shortage around campus. I have been liaising with SISC and the Accommodation service around the best way to handle queries and have brought up the issue with Dr. Patrick Ryan as head of student engagement and Prof. Nigel Healey as Provost.  |
| ***Other Achievements since last Council*** |
| Pride Flag on campus | During Pride Month I got UL to put a pride flag on the flagpoles at the main university entrance and also outside the whitehouse. |
| SOM presentations | I gave a welcome talk to members of the school of medicine around the work of Student Life and some self-care tips in my capacity as Welfare Officer.  |
| Lidl Bus | The Lidl bus is now back in business in partnership with Lidl and Mike Hynan Transport. It takes students to Lidl and back for free every Monday at 6:30  |
| ***Attendance at events/meetings and actions taken or agreed*** |
| **Event/ Meeting** | **Outcomes and/or actions taken or agreed on** |
| Meeting with Éist and PSU  | This is a monthly meeting where myself and a rep from the PSU meet with UL Éist to discuss matters arising within the student body and chat about strategies to best cater to the students.  |
| Sexual Health and Wellbeing  | This group discusses issues relating to the sexual health and wellbeing of students. We have agreed dates for the launch of the ‘speak-out’ tool a data collecting resource for people who have experienced instances of sexual harassment and assault. |
| Consent Framework Policy Review | This group is currently putting the final touches on the policy proposal document which will be submitted to the university executive in the coming weeks |
| Addictive Behaviours subgroup | This group has been implementing plans relating to substance abuse harm reduction and has organised Joe Slattery to give a talk to students and staff in October.  |
| ***Plans before the next meeting*** |
| **Action/work area** | **What I hope to achieve** |
| Anytime of the month follow up  | I am working with Dr. Marie Connolly from EDI in terms of finding solutions to roll out the ATOTM initiative all over campus. We will be liaising with Buildings and Estates in terms of the logistical undertaking of the project. |
| Guest Speakers  | As part of my campaigns for the year I will be running SHAG (Sexual Health and Guidance) week in week 6 and Substance Abuse Harm Reduction Week in week 7. I am finalising details for guest speakers for both week and finding out whether we can do these talks in person or if online would be better. |
| Unmute Consent Campaign | I am looking in to how Student life can get behind the Unmute Consent Campaign and how best we can promote the messages and resources. I will have plans finalised by next meeting. |
| **Student Engagement** |
| **Type of Engagement (Meeting, event etc)** | **Purpose and anything to report on** |
| Feel good Friday stories | Walked around various areas around campus talking to students finding out what they’re enjoying about being back on campus. |
| Courtyard Stand | Throughout week 1, I spent a lot of time between meetings in the courtyard meeting students and welcoming them back to the campus. I took the opportunity to chat to them and see how they were doing in an informal way.  |
| Social media  | I try to keep an active presence on Student Life social media platforms to make sure students feel connected to their officer team through those channels. |
| Meeting Students on campus. | Some students have come up to me with questions or queries while I am around campus so I try to take a couple of minutes to chat with them and make sure they get any information or support if needs be. |
| **Media engagement and external relations** |
| **Engagement (Press, other organisations etc)** | The Limerick Leader has approached me twice in the last couple of weeks relating to housing issues. The first article was on the lack of accommodation students are facing which I followed up with a statement from Student Life in response to a property letting agent who wanted to blame the lack of accommodation on the students themselves. The second engagement with the leader was around the advertisement for a room in elm park in which there was a bunkbed in the kitchen. I gave a statement from Student Life condemning this action completely. NewsTalk also interviewed me in relation to student behaviour and activities now that we are back on campus. I gave details of the events we weer running in the courtyard and re-stated the message for students to behave responsibly in their neighbourhoods.I appeared on the Virgin Media ‘Tonight Show’ on 16th September regarding the housing crisis and what needs to be done to tackle the issue.Also on 16th September myself and Alice met Minister for Housing Darragh O’Brien to present him with a letter inviting him to meet with Student Life Officers regarding the accommodation crisis in Limerick. Mr. O’Brien was very receptive and open to meeting to discuss plans.  |