

Monthly Evaluation of Work - September

An tUachtarán

General work:

- Filmed Student council training videos
- Student council charter planning
- Student voice policy platform
 - Sent out emails to all political parties
- Completed the disability awareness training
- Looked over PME
- Communication with SAD, BOD, MAC and staff
- Regional Council supporting ROs planning
- Re-recorded ICP video

Meetings:

Internal:

- TY expo planning call
- CGxMAC meeting
- Call with RLSO update on Regional Councils
- Call with Welfare, Sustainability, Disability, Communications, Oifigeach na gaeilge, Education, UO, International, Equality, Runai, RLSO
- Results; media prep call 2x
- International women's conference meeting
- SAD x Uachtarán meeting
- Coiste Gnó meeting 2x
- Guide to Irish education system update call
- Meeting with RLSO, International, Limerick RO; Maha, Dublin Fingal RO; Jessica

External:

- UNCRC call
- Meeting with Donnchadh O'Laoghaire T.D. alongside the Runai
- Call with FUEL - Generation Equality
- ASTI bilateral meeting alongside Education and Leas Uachtarán
- Information session for Irish exemptions
- SEC statement of strategy interview
- Anti-bullying steering committee meetings
- FÉILTE prep call for panelists
- OECD prep call for panellists 2x
- Shona project collab on survey
- Meeting with Studyclix alongside, International, Maha, welfare and equality
- Belong To Education Sector Advisory group alongside equality officer

Irish Second-Level Students' Union

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Media:

- Donegal News
- The Independent
- DES Comms Dept; internal newsletter
- Newstalk interview
- Kildare FM
- RTÉ Morning Ireland interview
- RTÉ News and current Affairs call

Events:

- INAR: Practice Sharing in Inclusive Volunteering Conference; participated in a two day in person event. I met with the INAR team, we exchanged contact details and have discussed possible future collaboration and the building of relationships between our two organisations.
- OECD rural development Conference; I attended this conference in Cavan alongside the Sustainability Officer. I was nominated by the National Rural Youth Assembly to sit on the Youth Panel 'Young People as Future Leaders in Rural Communities' where I talked about the importance of including youth voices in the development of rural areas. We gathered many ideas from the sessions and workshops we attended and promoted the ISSU to many policymakers.
- TUI Worldskills and Apprenticeship Conference; The Runaí and I attended this conference in Dublin. Many discussions and presentations were made emphasising the significance of apprenticeships in Ireland. It shows the great opportunities that apprenticeships have for second-level students as an option for further and higher education.

*Small note: I have decided to take a gap year! I will now be able to dedicate a lot more of my time and efforts to ISSU :))

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Leas-Uachtarán

Professional Masters of Education (PME)

- Delivered two speeches in Trinity College Dublin. First on the 5th and second on the 8th of September.
- Adjusted and changed the Professional Masters of Education submission based on feedback given by CG members and Secretariat.

Meath Council of Trades Unions

- Fully handed over my role on the Meath Council of Trades Unions to the Louth-Meath Regional Officer.
- Attended a meeting with the Chairperson of the Meath Council of Trades Unions to discuss my handover to the Louth-Meath Regional Officer and imputed into discussions on how the ISSU hopes to continue working with the Meath Council of Trades Unions.

Student Council Training

- Worked alongside the Secretariat to determine the learning outcomes for each level of student council training.
- Offered feedback on each level for student council training.
- Recorded a video introducing the new Student Council Training.

Student Council Scale

- Spoke to revenant Coiste Gno officers and Secretariat members to determine the need to redo the Student Council Scale and how its coherence and accessibility can be improved in a newer version.
- Began redesigning and rewriting the Student Council Scale, determining criteria and objectives for each level.

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Representing, Uplifting and Defending Student Voice



Runaí

Out of office from 27th of September until the 3rd of October due to illness.

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Education Officer

ASTI

Meeting with the ASTI in ASTI Head Office, Dublin

ISSU Advertisements Program

Created advertisements program to open another income stream for the ISSU

Input from CG and BOD

Voted in by CG

Trial basis with two companies

Reviewed at December

LCA Reform Report

Sending out the survey to the final schools

TY Reform Report

Starting stakeholder consultations

Starting survey question writing

Advisory Group for the State Examinations

Advisory Group for the Planning of the State Examinations held regarding the State Examinations 2023

ISSU position agreed across the board by all stakeholders and implement by the Department of Education

Monitoring of the issuing of results for LC2022 and CAO Round 1 day.

Liaising with the SEC regarding JC2022 results issuing.

College Awareness Week

ISSU Representative assisting in the organisation of College Awareness Week (CAW)

Regional Liaison and Support Officer

Regional Councils

- *Planning Regional Councils alongside the ROB & RSVDO.*
- *Our first regional council is Kerry on the 6th of October followed by Cork the next day.*
- *Working on logistics of each event and supporting regional officers with setting up agendas and how the day will run.*
- *Supporting CG officers helping out with RCs*
- *Updated the CG on Regional Councils*

Ombudsman for Children

- *Attended the United Nations Children's meeting in Geneva Switzerland with the Ombudsman for Children Youth Advisory Panel.*

Student Council Resources

- *Working on the Guide to the Irish Education System Resource.*

Regional Council season is a very busy period so I will have limited capacity on other projects etc.

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Welfare Officer

****NB*** September was busy, and I accidentally deleted my calendar so apologies for the lack of dates + details!*

Events

Attended the Active Consent Event in UOG on the 2nd of September with the lovely Equality Officer

- I met Dr Caroline West, and discussed my wish to ways to further our collaboration and expand on the relationship with ISSU and Active Consent
- I met Dr Siobhán O'Higgins and discussed the future of Consent education and the importance of robust consent education and RSE as a whole in second-level education.
- Participated in a very engaging workshop on 'Why research matters in consent education' to expand my skill set and understanding of this important area.
- It was a fantastic event and if you are interested in finding out more about active consent, do visit their schools hub and of course their social media!

Attended Fridays For Future Climate Strike with Sustainability Officer

- Attended the protest in Dublin with the Sustainability Officer
- Spoke briefly with the USI VP for Campaigns and USI VP for Equality and Citizenship who were also in attendance
- We met the gaeilge-rific Oifigeach na Gaeilge afterwards

Attended the NCBI Equitable Education Report Launch Event

- Spoke briefly with the USI VP for Equality and Citizenship
- I had a really engaging conversation about accessibility particularly in higher education with Richard Healy, Research and Policy officer with AHEAD.ie
- I spoke with a 6th year student about issues facing visually impaired students particularly in the Irish Oral exam.

Calls

This month had a lot of calls, below is just a short sample:

- Met with Luke Saunders from Studyclix with the Uachtarán, International officer, Welfare Officer and one of the Limerick RO's
- Had the first Welfare Team Call! (so grateful to work with such an amazing group <3)
- Met with members of the former Sexual Education Team
- MAC call
- Attended the MAC/CG meeting

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- Attended the Emergency CG Meeting
- Attended the 2 Coiste Gnó meetings.
- Attended the first IWD meeting chaired by the wonderful Equality Officer
- Check in call with our **emmazing** NSVDO
- Ukraine Resource Doc calls
- Power in Pronouns Doc calls
- Met with our Uachtarán
- Met with our Equality Officer
- Met with HSE to discuss further collaboration

Trainings

- The Wheel Grant Writing Training
- Disability Awareness Training

Research

- Lots of research into mental health and period product provision in schools globally
- Extensive Research into the budget and its analysis (period products have 0% vat now!!! + contraception is free for 16-30, some big wins, unfortunately MH Reform's goal of €100 million investment into mental health was not reached. There is allocated investment of €72.8 million!)
- Researched and successfully proposed a stance stemming from a student inquiry into piercings in schools
- Researching Access Europe #OurEuStory Awards
- Research into RSE for the NCCA draft JC SPHE Curriculum
- Research into SPHE for the NCCA draft JC SPHE Curriculum
- Research into Climate Anxiety

Other

- Follow up calls with schools for the Dublin North RC
- Lots of email correspondence
- Joined WG for EYF Application with International + Disability Officer
- Education Team work on TY Reform Report
- Listened to Taylor Swift's cover of September an awful lot too!
- Am in the process of researching and writing welfare stance proposals, if you feel there is anything you think should be covered please get in touch!

The Oifigeach Leasa/Welfare Officer was OOO for three days following the CAO Round 1 Offers

Equality Officer

Meetings and Events:

External:

Attended the Active Consent Event in UOG on the 2nd of September with the Welfare officer

Attended my first BelongTo Advisory Group meeting on the 13th of September with an tUachtarán.

Met with Studyclix with an tUachtarán, International officer, Welfare Officer and one of the Limerick Ro.

Internal:

Attended the MAC/CG meeting

Attended Coiste Gnó meetings on the 9th, 11th, 24th

Facilitated the first ISSU Women's Conference (IWC) call

Attended the Disability Awareness Training facilitated by the disability officer

Took the quiz after the Disability Training and got 20/20

Guide to the Irish education resource update/catch up call

TY expo call

1 on 1 call with Secretariat

Met with the Cavan/Monaghan RO on planning their RC

Met with the International officer

Met with the communications officer

Met with the Welfare Officer

Met with an tUachtarán and the disability officer

Resources:

Guide to the Irish education system: continued working on the Guide to the Irish Education resource.

Power In Pronouns: Adding the finishing touches for the PIP resource (Resource done with the welfare officer)

Other:

OOO days:

1st of September

21st Of September

Please note that I have returned to full time education and will not be replying to messages or emails during school hours unless absolutely necessary.

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International Officer

Ukrainian Crisis:

- Continued work on the “Guide to the Irish Education System” the document is in its final stages.
- We opened it up to Internal consultations with the Coiste Gno and Regional Officer Body.
- After meeting with the studyclix representative we were successful in getting a discount for the resource document.
- We opened our resource document for external consultations with stakeholders.
- We are currently planning a launch with all the relevant major stakeholders.

Mental Health Report:

- I talked to Lauren SSUNI’s International officer about how we are going to collaborate on this.
- Me and Lauren had a meeting about this and will meet weekly to make progress on this.

Meetings with other International officers:

I met with Gaia, the international officer from Confederación Estatal de Asociaciones de Estudia (CANAE)

We talked about:

- Drafting the agenda for the ISSU and CANAE meeting.
- A possibility of a International event with multiple unions structured around the DSSR
- Brainstormed ways to support the Secondary Students Union of Scotland (SSUOFS)

I met with Marko, the board member from Asocijacija Srednjoškolaca u Bosni i Hercegovini (ASuBiH).

We talked about:

- The (SAME) network, and how ASuBIH runs it.
- Some of the possible challenges ISSU might face if we sign up to it.
- The general positives and negatives of the organisations.

I met with Lauren, the International Officer from the Secondary Students Union of Northern Ireland (SSUNI)

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We talked about:

- How ISSU and SSUNI could have a closer relationship.
- We set up a time to meet weekly to work on the ISSU Mental health Report.
- I also met Lauren at the ISSU and SSUNI call with the Oifigeach Na Gaeilge to organize Traenáil na nOifigeach in Belfast

I talked with Sophie, from the Secondary Students Union of Scotland (SSUOFS)

We talked about:

- Arranging a meeting between the two Presidents.
- Arranging a meeting with Gaia and me.
- We also talked about some of the issues that SSUOFS is going through and how the ISSU can support them.

Events:

- Attended OBESSU's Summer school from the 11th to the 17th of September
- Attended the steering committee to review the action plan on bullying - 8th & 29th of September (online)

EYF:

- Along with Emma I worked on registering the ISSU as an organisation with the European Youth Fund.
- We are now officially recognized as an organisation by the EYF
- To start working on the grant application I have set up a small team that consists of the Welfare and the Disability Officer.

Meetings:

- Attended the Coiste Gnó meetings - 1st & 24th of September
- Direct Provision Video - 3rd of September
- CG/MAC joint call - 4th of September
- UFD Introduction - 6th of September
- Catch up with staff (Emma) - 7th of September
- ISSU and Studyclix meeting - 7th of September
- Steering Committee to review the Action Plan on Bullying - 8th & 29th of September
- Coiste Gnó Discussion - 9th of September
- Met with Lauren From SSUNI - 20th of September
- Catch up with staff (Emma) - 21st of September
- ISSU and SSUNI with Oifigeach Na Gaeilge - 21st of September

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Representing, Uplifting and Defending Student Voice



- Met with Emma and Adam - 23rd of September
- Ukrainian Resource Document - 24th of September
- Met with Gaia from CANAE - 30th of September
- Officer think in - 30th of September

OBESSU's Summer School:

I attended OBESSU's summer school from the 11th to the 17th September. It took place in Mollina, Spain. Over the week I along with 15 other IO's from across Europe worked on the draft of the Declaration of school students rights (DSSR). I had the opportunity to speak to other IO's and learn about how the other European students unions work. As well as having one on one conversations with the other IO's about their unions and the possibility of collaborations. On a personal note this was a very informative week for me where I had the privilege of meeting people from all walks of life and participating in insightful conversations. I am acutely aware of the privileges that I have and would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to represent you at such events.

****Please note as a full time student in 6th year, I am working under limited capacity. And therefore will not be attending any meetings or replying to emails during school hours****

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Communications Officer

Posts:

- 'Best of Luck to the Leaving Cert Class of 2022' x 1 - Instagram, Facebook Twitter
- 'Adjustments to the State Exams 2022' x 3 - Instagram, Facebook Twitter
- Shona Project Survey Promo x1 - Instagram, Facebook Twitter
- 'Accelerate You' Promo x 1 - Instagram, Facebook Twitter
- 'ISIC x Costa' x1 - Instagram, Facebook Twitter
- 'Rural Students' Sustainability Working Group' x 1 - Instagram, Facebook Twitter
- ISSU x SSUNI x1 - Instagram, Facebook Twitter
- Regional Councils x2 - Instagram, Facebook Twitter
- Disability Delegation Working Group x 1

Docs:

- Continued working on the Guide to the Irish Education System Document
- Began designing the new Scéim Teanga an Aontais with the Oifigeach na Gaeilge
- Worked on writing internal policies with other officers

Working Group:

- Held first meeting with the Digital Comms Working Group 24/09/22
- Facilitated the first Communications training with the Working Group

Calls:

- Coiste Gnó Call 01/09/22
- Direction Provision Video Project 03/09/22
- Coiste Gnó x Mac 04/09/22
- Coiste Gnó Call 09/09/22
- Coiste Gnó Meeting 11/09/22
- Disability Awareness Training 16/09/22
- Comms x Uachtarán 17/09/22
- IWC Call 18/09/22
- Student Council Training Comms Meeting 21/09/22
- Regional Councils Comms Update 21/09/22
- Comms x Staff Check In 22/09/22
- Digital Comms Working Group Meeting 24/09/22
- Coiste Gnó Meeting 24/09/22
- ISSU x SSUNI Comms Meeting 30/09/22

Contact:

- Working on the finalising the Coiste Gnó Jackets with the Staff

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- Arranged a call with SSUNI Communications Officer to discuss upcoming campaigns for the year
- Designed & distributed presentations for Regional Councils

This month I returned to full time education for my 6th year. During this time I delegated any upcoming projects to members of the Digital Comms Working Group and other Coiste Gnó Officers. Moving forward my capacity will be lower so I will be strictly focusing on projects where I am needed. I would like to thank all those who have supported me during this transition time.

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Oifigeach Na Gaeilge

Meetings

- Met with the President and International Officer of SSUNI with the International Officer to organize Traenáil na nOifigeach in Belfast
- Met with Conradh na Gaeilge to organise Traenáil na nOifigeach days
- Met with Conradh na Gaeilge to discuss Irish Education Matters
- Liaised with Kerry and Tipperary RO's to offer a Gaeilge Workshop at Regional Councils
- Met with RLSO, Communications Officer and Staff Member to discuss Regional Council
- Attended International Women's Day Conference Call
- Attended MAC x CG Call
- Attended Coiste Gnó Meeting
- Attended Radio Rí Rá Board Meeting
- Met with the Uachtarán
- Had 1 on 1 check in with Emma
- Attended Disability Awareness Training
- Completed Disability Awareness Quiz

Translations

- Translated Banner for Twitter
- Translated ISSU Mailout
- Translated Regional Council Invites
- Translated ISSU press - release on Leaving -Cert 2023 Reductions
- Translated all Social Media Post Captions

Documents

- Made Regional Council letter template as Gaeilge
- Drafted and proposed changes to Scéim Teanga an Aontais which were passed.

Oideachas

- Consulted with the ROB about Gaeile & English Paper 1 Being moved to the end of 5th Year.
- Started working on Oireachtas Submission to Comhchoiste na Gaeilge, na Gaeltachta agus Phobal Labhartha na Gaeilge

Media

- Changed the ISSU_Gaeilge twitter name to ADIE_Gaeilge

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-Spoke to Nuacht RTE Tv about student accommodation crisis - Shown on TV and published as a News Article

Eile

-Started work on the Irish Language Scheme Grant

-Started work on redesigning the look of Scéim Teanga an Aontais

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Sustainability Officer

- **Meetings:**
 - Attended the Coiste Gnó meeting on the 11th September.
 - Attended the Coiste Gnó meeting on the 24th September.
- **Rural Students Sustainability Working Group:**
 - Launched the Rural Working Group and opened applications.
 - Formed the selection committee.
- **Debate Your Decision Makers:**
 - Began funding requests.
 - Organising the basic outline of the event.
- **OECD Rural Development Conference:**
 - Attended day 1 and 2 of the OECD Rural Development Conference in County Cavan with the Uachtarán.
 - Networked to many Irish and foreign ministers, politicians, policy makers, CEOs and civil servants about rural students and sustainability.
 - Talked with both the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphrys T.D. and an Taoiseach, Micheál Martin T.D. about the Rural Development Conference, the future work of the ISSU, and how we can build Sustainable, Resilient and Thriving Rural places for all.
 - From all of this, I have begun to formulate a strategic plan for the remainder of my term focused around rural issues and sustainability.
- **Budget 2023:**
 - Analysed Budget 2023 from the standpoint of students and compared it to what was in both the ISSU and USI Pre-Budget Submissions.
 - Began to work on the ISSU Post-Budget 2023 Reflection to be published in the next two weeks.
- **September 23rd Strike for Climate Justice:**
 - Attended the Fridays For Future Strike for Climate Justice on the 23rd September.
- **Regional Councils:**
 - Began assisting in organising and preparing for the Regional Councils in Cavan-Monaghan, Longford-Westmeath, Wexford and Dublin North.

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Disability Officer

- **Disability Awareness Training**
 - Prepared and held the first ever Disability Awareness Training!
 - Created a quiz that all Officers must complete after the training.
 - This training has now been made a mandatory training by the Uachtarán and the Secretariat. (So if you are reading this and haven't done it - do it now!)
 - Currently marking quizzes and relaying results on to Officers.
- **OCO Beyond Limits Youth Advisory Panel**
 - Met with the Youth Advisory Panel on the 7th of September.
 - Met with the Youth Advisory Panel on the 14th of September.
 - Met with OCO Staff to plan out my speeches for the events on the 19th of September.
 - Wrote a speech entitled "Sport and Disabilities" about my experience with disabilities and sport.
 - Met with the Youth Advisory Panel as well as Ellen Keane and Paddy Smyth on the 22nd of September.
 - I will be attending the two Beyond Limits events on the 1st and 15th of October!
- **CG Meetings**
 - Attended Coiste Gnó discussions on the 1st and the 9th of September.
 - Attended Coiste Gnó meetings on the 11th and 24th of September.
- **IWC First Call**
 - Attended the first International Women's Day call facilitated by the Equality Officer on the 18th of September.
- **Regional Councils**
 - Met with one of the Louth-Meath Regional Officers on the 19th of September to run through their Regional Council.
 - Currently planning an "Accessibility in Technology" Workshop for the Clare-Limerick-North Tipperary and Kerry Regional Councils.
 - Met with two RO's from Limerick and Tipperary to brainstorm the workshop.

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- **Disability Delegation WG**
 - Launch of Working Group!
- **Media**
 - Appeared on RTÉ Radio 1 and Newstalk on the 15th of September talking about the late Junior Cycle Examination results.

Please note that I am back in school and will not have the capacity to reply to messages/emails during school hours

I will be out of office on the 30th of September, 1st, 14th and 15th of October as I will be attending the OCO Beyond Limits events in Limerick and Sligo.

Uachtarán Oinigh

- Supported with media + prep for the LC results/2023 announcements
- Met with the Shona Project team alongside the Uachtarán
- Attended meeting 1 of the 'Is fearr DEIS na chainnte: promoting discussion in underprivileged Mathematics classrooms' Advisory Group
- Student Council Training review with Emma and the Uachtarán
- NCCA Meeting prep with the Uachtarán
- Attended sessions one, two and three of The Wheel Marketing Masterclass
- Continued work on the Sexual Harassment in Second-Level Schools survey
- Met with Gary Gannon to discuss the Student Voice Party Policy (SVPP)
 - Drafted SVPP emails + Letters for the Uachtarán to send out
 - Organised a venue for the launch + started work on the agenda
- I was out of office multiple days this month as I started college!
 - September 6th
 - September 18th
 - September 26th

Irish Second-Level Students' Union

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