



NUI Galway
Students' Union
Comhaltas na Mac Léinn
OÉ Gaillimh

Students' Union Council Officer Reports 2018/19

Volume: V

Period: 21st January – 11th February

Table of Contents

President – *Megan Reilly*

Vice President / Education Officer - *Eibhlín Seoighthe*

Vice-President / Welfare Officer - *Clare Austick*

Oifigeach na Gaeilge - *Adhna Nic Dhonnchadha*

Mature Students' Officer – *Chuka Paul Oguekwe*

Postgraduate Taught Officer – *Cameron Keighron*

Postgraduate Research Officer – *Jibran Abbasi*

Societies Chairperson – *Brandon Walsh*

Clubs Captain – *Ryan Guilfoyle*

Students' Union Council Chairperson – *Sabrina Vaughan*

Convenor of the College of Arts, Social Sciences & Celtic Studies – *Rían McKeagney*

Convenor of the College of Science – *Scott Green*

Convenor of the College of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences – *Liezel Ravenscroft*

Convenor of the College of Business, Public Policy & Law – *Clodagh McGivern*

Convenor of the College of Engineering & Informatics – *Roshan George*

International Students Officer – *Daniel McFadden*

Gender and LGBT+ Rights Officer – *Alex Coughlan*

Disability Rights Officer – *Muireann O' Sullivan*

Ethnic Minorities Officer - *Victoria Chihumura*

Megan Reilly

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Report of the President

Tuairisc an Uachtarán

Megan Reilly

Key Points Since Previous Council (21st January):

Menlo Rent increases:

Menlo came out with an unexpected rent increase of €1400 so we acted quickly. It's unfortunate that almost a year on from Cuirt Shakedown we are facing into a similar situation with one of our student villages. This is down to the legislation not being passed fast enough to apply the rent caps to student accommodation, so that is where we have focussed our efforts. I have done a lot of media since the press release came out, and have contacted the Minister for Housing regarding why it has taken so long to get the legislation on rent caps enacted. This will be further discussed at council.

Levy:

I met with the Bursar and was quite clear that we want something about the levy to change. She has committed to investigating the Aras na mac leinn fund portion of the levy and to look for an agreement on the 5% interest. I have requested an update on this from her before Council.

Éalú

Everything is nearly good to go on this, we just need to ensure we have funding secured. I have requested that the President give the go ahead for funding. I will be convening the Entertainments committee soon and will also provide an update on this at council

NUI Galway Meetings

Meeting/ Event	Details
Strategy development group	Making sure students are involved in the development of the new strategy
Socs day	Helped out at stand on socs day
Meeting with Bursar regarding the levy	Outlined mandate from Council and our view that the 5% interest on the Kingfisher loan shouldn't be paid. Bursar to come back with a proposal for going forward
Complaints committee	Sat on complaints committee
Women Lead	Attended this two day training provided by USI, spoke on a panel on the second day regarding my experience in Leadership
Charity comedy gig	Helped out taking tickets on the door
Supported the INMO strike	Joined the picket and chatted to Student Nurses
One Galway hospitality group meeting	Discussed bill coming through the Seanad on fair Tipping laws
Irish Survey of Student Engagement meeting	To discuss promotion of survey
Volunteering fair stand	Helped out at SU stand
Oversight group for honorary conferrings	Ensured students will be consulted on who the University should give honorary degrees to
Charity collection day	Did a slot at the annual CCD, thanks to all who helped out!

Meeting regarding sustainability	Met with sustainability worker from NUIG and USI to discuss student involvement in Sustainability
Meeting with electric representatives	Discussed potential Superclub for Charity
Media around Menlo	Wrote press release regarding Menlo rent increases and did a lot of media on this.
Student comms planning	Met with Media team in the University to discuss their strategy
Direct Provision think in	Attended USI DP think in
Discipline committee	
Casework	Ongoing
Sabbatical meetings	Twice a week
Executive meetings	Weekly
Meeting with General Manager	To discuss elections
Seas suas	Spoke at the opening of the Semester 2 seas suas programme



Report of the Vice President / Education Officer

Oifigeach Oideachais

Eibhlín Seoighthe

Key Points Since Council 21st January 2019

Hello all! Quick update to let you know what has been going on behind the scenes. I have been kept extremely busy with exam queries and have been working hard to try and ensure all students have their results. (If you don't let me know and I will put more pressure on the powers that be.) Big shout out to Scot for helping lug so much stuff around the place and for helping in the hunt for my wedding ring!

The ISSE survey has been keeping me busy, and will be for the next three weeks. If you are a rep for a first year, final year or a post grad rep be sure to let your classes know to fill it out! The more feedback we can give the college the better!

Some news on the library front, a project to develop the library has been selected in order to (hopefully) secure recently announced government funding... Watch this space, I will hopefully have more news on this for the final council.

Just Read is happening every Tuesday in Group Study Room 1 on the second floor of the library. If anyone has an interest in joining us please come along and tell your class!!

As usual if anyone has any educational queries please drop me a line!!

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Report of the Vice-President / Welfare and Equality Officer

Oifigeach Leasa agus Comhionannais

Clare Austick

Key Points Since Previous Council (21st January):

Women Lead

I attended the two day training hosted by USI.

Charity collection day

Thank you to all the lovely volunteers who helped out and the people who donated money. We raised €1200 for our chosen charities ; the Galways Rape Crisis Centre and Cope Galway.

Campaigns sub-committee

I attended a campaigns sub-committee meeting in Dublin to discuss campaigns around higher education funding and accommodation (in response to the Menlo rent increases).

NUI Galway Meetings

Meeting/ Event	Details
Meeting with student	Casework
Meeting with Disability Rights' Officer	Talked about planning a Disability Rights' week

Meeting with Kathy Hynes	Addressed issues faced in clubs
Meeting with student	Casework
Meeting with student	Casework
SIN Interview	Reflection on my year as Welfare & Equality Officer and if and how my manifesto promises have been implemented
Women Lead	Seminar on women in leadership positions ran by USI
Meeting with President and Education Officer	Updates
Mental Health Mondays	Ongoing weekly campaign
SU Charity Comedy David O'Doherty	Introduced David O'Doherty, spoke about mental health and encouraged everyone to participate in events for Mental Health week
Meeting with students	Casework
SIN interview	Mental Health week and upcoming events planned
Meeting with President and Education Officer	Updates
SU Charity Collection Day	€1200 for our chosen charities
Meeting with student	Casework
Mental Health Mondays	Ongoing weekly campaign
Flirt FM interview	SHAG week
USI campaigns sub-committee meeting	

Connemara Community radio interview	SHAG week
Meeting with students	Casework
Meeting with student	Casework
Disciplinary Hearing	
Meeting with student	Casework
Attended Direct Provision think-in	Hosted by USI
Complaint Appeals Board meeting	
Meeting with student	Casework
Mental Health Mondays	Ongoing weekly campaign

Adhna Nic Dhonnchadha

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Tuairisc Oifigeach na Gaeilge

Irish Language Officer

Adhna Nic Dhonnchadha

Key Points Since Previous Council (21st January):

Mental Health Week

I ran Focal an Lae for the duration of Mental Health Week. I hope to do this for Sexual Health Awareness and Guidance (SHAG) week.

Executive Committee Meetings

Unfortunately, I wasn't able to attend the executive committee meeting on the 30th of January, 2019.

I did attend the executive committee meeting on the 7th of February, 2019.

Seachtain na Gaeilge

I am currently working with the Cumann Gaelach and the Students' Union for Seachtain na Gaeilge.

NUI Galway Meetings

Meeting/ Event	Details
Meeting with a student	Met a student who was interested in running for Oifigeach na Gaeilge.
Societies' Day 2	Volunteered for Cumann Gaelach.
Spoke with Aoife Ní Dhéisigh, Leas-Uachtarán don Ghaeilge	Discussed the next meeting of An Coiste Cultúrtha (the 14th of

	February, 2019) and plans for Seachtain na Gaeilge.
Interview with SIN	Had an interview with SIN about my role as a part-time officer in NUIGSU.

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Report of the Mature Students' Officer

Oifigeach na Mac Léinn Lámfhásta

Chuka Paul Oguekwe

Key Points Since Previous Council (21st January):

First key point of your work e.g. executive meeting:

Paragraph explaining your work in this area. Etc. Lobbied the council, Crisis campout etc.

NUI Galway Meetings

Meeting/ Event	Details
Meeting with the President (NUIG or NUIGSU)	Discussed student issues

Cameron Keighron

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Report of the Postgraduate Taught Officer

Oifigeach na nlarchéimithe i mbun Teagasctha

Cameron Keighron

Key Points Since Previous Council (21st January):

Student Projects Fund

Our inclusive learning and Teaching project is moving into its next phase with focus groups for CBBPL students at an undergraduate level. I have been appointed a co facilitator for these groups and the first one was held on February 7th

Post Grad Council

Postgrad council was held on Monday Feb 4th where issues of postgrad support was discussed. Minutes to be circulated next week.

PG Survey

The PGT survey will be launched in the next couple of weeks when we get set up on BB, in order to be compliant with GDPR. Feedback on questions was given at PG council

NUI Galway Meetings

Meeting/ Event	Details
Executive Committee Meetings	Attended exec meetings to discuss various issues.
College of Arts Student/Staff Committee	Representing PG students
Education Officer	Discussed PG survey, ISSE survey & Case work
Students	Case work

CBPPL	Discussed advancement of project.
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Report of the Postgraduate Research Officer

Oifigeach na nIarchéimithe i mbun Taighde

Jibrán Abbasi

Key Points Since Previous Council (21st January):

Postgraduate orientation January 2019:

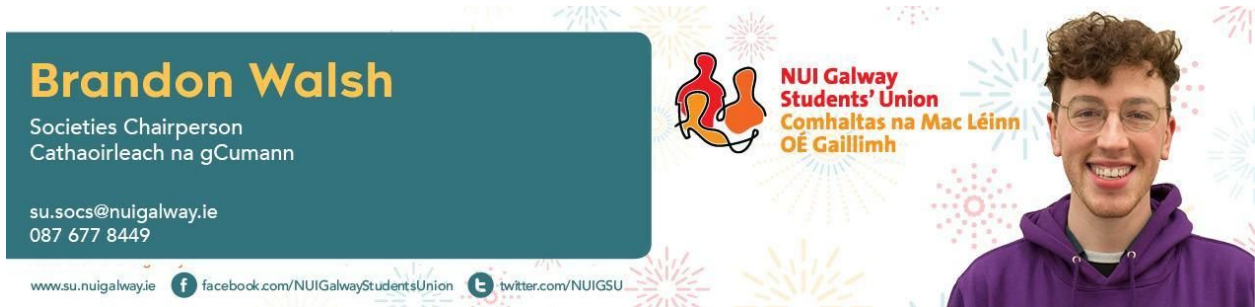
I gave presentation about SU postgraduate officer on graduate orientation where we met new postgraduate students and presented them with our Student Union and role of postgraduate officer. We also answered their question and bonded with them during lunch break

Raised key issue about Postgrad students GNIB card with USI Officer Andrew:

I spoke to Andrew about the key issues raised by GNIB cards and visa process for postgrad students. The post grad students sometimes need to travel for their conferences and training in Europe but GNIB European visa demands that students can not travel in last three months of their GNIB expiry date. This issue was raised and Andrew responded with concerns and assured that USI will look at this matter.

NUI Galway Meetings

Meeting/ Event	Details
Pre GSB meeting	Meeting with Graduate studies board chairperson about the agenda and discussion of board meeting with SU
Meeting with Graduate Studies Board	Attended the Graduate studies board meeting
Meeting with Academic council	Attended academic council meeting
Executive meetings	SU exec meetings to address regular issues



Report of the Societies Chairperson

Cathaoirleach na gCumann

Brandon Walsh

Key Points Since Previous Council (21st January):

Attended the launch of the Support Service Directory:

Spoke to various staff members involved in the creation of the directory. Got to hear many people speak about the amount of work that was put into the creation of such a fantastic asset that will be extremely beneficial to the campus for years to come.

NUI Galway Meetings

Meeting/ Event	Details
Meeting with Society	Casework
Chairing EGM	Chaired EGM for a newly revived Society
Executive Committee Meetings	Attended exec meetings to discuss various issues.
Mental Health Monday	Volunteered at MHM

Meeting with the Hub/Wellcrew manager	Discussing issues around conferring
Focus Group	Attended focus group regarding inclusive learning and teaching.

Report of the Clubs Captain

Captaen na gClubanna

Ryan Guilfoyle

Key Points Since Previous Council (21st January):

Executive meeting:

Attending the executive meetings

Presidents Cup

Organised and facilitated the running of the Treasure Hunt around campus

NUI Galway Meetings

Meeting/ Event	Details
Meeting with Clare	Discussed ongoing club issue
Meeting with Kathy	Discussed Presidents cup and club issue
Meeting with Ellen Kelly	Organising Sports Ball
Meeting with Volleyball Club	Discussing increase in training times
Meeting with Marketing	Discussing the increase in PR for sports clubs

Sabrina Vaughan

SU Council Chairperson
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Report of the Students' Union Council Chairperson

Cathaoirleach na Comhairle do Chomhaltas na Mac Léinn

Sabrina Vaughan

Key Points Since Previous Council (21st January):

Volunteering

- Volunteered at the 'SU Welfare Crew' table and the 'Students' Union' table.
- Packed TOMPAX and Condom packages to be available to students.
- Promoted charity events and volunteer work.
- Attended and marched with Irish Nursing and Midwifery Organisation with Scott (Convenor of Science) and Megan (SU President).

Council V

Met with Megan, (President NUIGSU) and Eibhlin, (VP for Education) regarding the agenda and speakers for council. Liaised with speakers and officers on timing and run-through of council. Circulating information to class reps, be it upcoming events before council, officer reports, items for discussion and minutes from last council.

Charity Collection Day

Volunteered for the annual charity collection day in shop street with amazing volunteers and officers.

SafeTALK in NUI Galway

On a personal note, safeTALK has been successfully organised for students of NUI Galway. SafeTALK is a half day workshop (usually 3 hours), whereas ASIST is a two day (9- 5 workshop), that not a lot of students can avail of. There is a date organised for the 27th of February in the Westside Resource Centre.

SIN Interview

Was approached by a SIN writer to speak about my experience as Council Chairperson.

Motions for Council

Liaised with relevant officers on the write up and proposals of motions.

NUI Galway Meetings

Meeting/ Event	Details
Attended Exec meetings	Discussed relevant issues, council feedback and the upcoming council.
Met with Students regarding Women Lead	Spoke and empowered those to run for positions.
Students	Inquiring about the Chairperson position
Met with Megan (SU President) and Eibhlin (Education Officer)	Planning for council, going through the agenda and speakers

Rian McKeagney
 Convenor of the College of Arts, Social Sciences & Celtic Studies
 Tionólaí Choláiste na nDán, na nEolaíochtaí Sóisialta & an Léinn Cheiltigh

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Report of the Convenor of the College of Arts, Social Sciences & Celtic Studies

Tionólaí Choláiste na nDán, na nEolaíochtaí Sóisialta & an Léinn Cheiltigh

Rían McKeagney

Key Points Since Previous Council (21st January):

College Board Meeting:

Meeting covered numerous issues arising in the College of Arts, including finalised proposed structure of new school of humanities and new programmes coming in.

SSLC:

Held first Staff-Student Liaison Committee of the year, discussed several topics including retention, quickly attendance, timetabling, carrying a fail and employability. It was a very positive and encouraging meeting.

BA Connect Consultation:

Met with Kathy Reilly and representatives from Creative Writing and Human Rights. Discussed positives and negatives of both of these programmes. There will be a follow up meeting for the remaining courses on Wednesday, February 13th. Please contact me if you would like to be involved in that.

Arts Council:

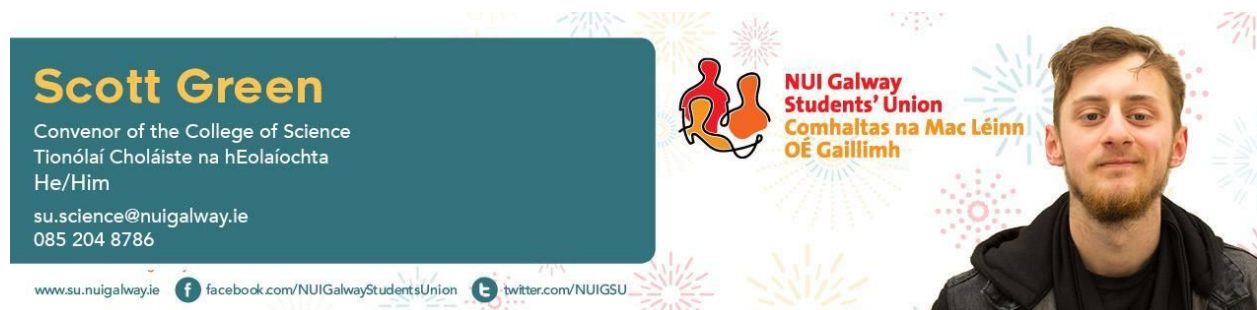
Discussed issues arising from the above meetings as well as other issues, such as support for the divestment of fossil fuels and lobbying politicians.

Other:

Attended exec meetings, volunteered at Socs Day 2, was interviewed by SIN about the Arts Convenor Role, attended the protest in the Quad against Graham Linehan, had informal meetings with some officers discussing possible upcoming events and was a leader during the Charity Collection Day on February 2nd.

NUI Galway Meetings

Meeting/ Event	Details
Arts College Board	Discussed multiple issues within CASSCS
SSLC	Discussed issues affecting students in CASSCS
BA Connect Consultation	Issues with the Connect Programme
Arts Council	Multiple issues discussed, particularly with sustainability



Report of the Convenor of the College of Science

Tionólaí Choláiste na hEolaíochta

Scott Green

Key Points Since Previous Council (21st January):

First key point of your work e.g. executive meeting:

Hard to believe it's time for another council already and yet here we are. Time flies when you're having fun apparently so here's what I've been up to in the time between councils.

I was a Volunteer Leader during the SUs' charity bucket collection working with Sabrina (SU Council Chairperson).

I attended meetings of the exec defying the odds and running from lectures to the office.

I also tidied the part time officer room after Sabrina (SU Council Chairperson) made a mess with her aforementioned condom packing.

I helped the Education Officer move some materials related to the ISSE from the office of the registrar to the SU, it was a two trolley job.

I stood with the Irish Nursing and Midwifery Organisation on one of their scheduled protests with Sabrina (SU Council Chairperson) and Megan (SU President).

I also hosted my faculty council where I fielded questions, provided updates. I also kept Alex (LGBT + Gender Rights Officer) abreast of EDI developments in the college of Science.

I was also interviewed for SIN in relation to my position.

I also finally got a radio interview with Megan (SU President).

I've also been helping students with various problems regarding lecturers, exams, flickering lights and meetings.

NUI Galway Meetings

Meeting/ Event	Details
Attended a meeting of the college of Sciences EDI committee	Discussed the current progress of the individual departments in their Athena Swan applications, the EDI website and various other issues.

Liezel Ravenscroft
Convenor of the College of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences
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Report of the Convenor of the College of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences

Tionólaí Choláiste an Leighis, an Altranais & na nEolaíochtaí Sláinte

Liezel Ravenscroft

Key Points Since Previous Council (21st January):

Women Lead:

Had the great opportunity to attend Women Lead hosted by USI and have since been working with the SU president, Megan, to try and bring something similar to NUIG. We hope to have it this semester with women from each of the colleges speaking about their experiences.

NUI Galway Meetings

Meeting/ Event	Details
Women Lead	Attended the conference

Clodagh McGivern
Convenor of the College of Business, Public Policy & Law
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Report of the Convenor of the College of Business, Public Policy & Law

Tionólaí Choláiste an Ghnó, an Bhearaí Phoiblí agus an Dí

Clodagh McGivern

Key Points Since Previous Council (21st January):

Emails & Calls

Was in contact with students for various different things by emailing them and talking over the phone.

Law/Business Meeting

I found out that there was a bit of a mix up in regards to the law/business meeting. There was two different times people were aware of. In the student weekly email it said one day and the class rep booklet said another. In future i'll be more aware so this won't happen again. Sorry for any inconvenience caused.

NUI Galway Meetings

Meeting/ Event	Details
Meeting with the Dr. Shivaun Quinlivan	Attended a meeting with Alex Coughlan (LGBT+ Rights Officer) about Athena Swan
Interview with SIN	About my role on the Student's Union
Meeting with student	Talked about exam results



Roshan George
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Report of the Convenor of the College of Engineering & Informatics

Tionólaí Choláiste na hInnealtóireachta agus na Faisnéisíochta

Roshan George

Key Points Since Previous Council (21st January):

- Chaired the College of Engineering and Informatics Council.
- Attended the weekly Exec meetings.
- Met with Megan to discuss student issues.
- Promoted Céim to first year students.

Daniel McFadden
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Report of the International Students Officer

Oifigeach na Mac Léinn Idirnáisiúnta

Daniel McFadden

Key Points Since Previous Council (21st January):

First key point of your work e.g. executive meeting:

Paragraph explaining your work in this area. Etc. Lobbied the council, Crisis campout etc.

NUI Galway Meetings

Meeting/ Event	Details
Meeting with the President (NUIG or NUIGSU)	Discussed student issues

Alex Coughlan
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 OÉ Gaillimh

Report of the Gender and LGBT+ Rights Officer

Oifigeach um Chearta Inscne agus LADT+

Alex Coughlan

Key Points Since Previous Council (21st January):

Athena Swan

Continuing progress in School of Psychology. Established timelines and student involvement in College of Business, Public Policy, and Law; and Engineering and Informatics.

Primetime Protest

Assisted in coordinating a protest with GiGSoc re: Graham Linehan's (renowned transphobe) appearance on the show. Publicised on Snapchat as I was not on campus that day.

NUI Galway Meetings

Meeting/ Event	Details
Meeting with Vice Dean, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, College of Business, Public Policy, and Law	Myself and Convenor, Clodagh McGivern, met with Shivaun Quinlivan to discuss Athena Swan and EDI structures in the college
Meeting with Vice Dean, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, College of Engineering and Informatics	Myself and Convenor, Roshan George, met with Mary Dempsey to discuss Athena Swan and EDI structures in the college
Meeting with Convenor, Arts, Social Sciences, and Celtic Studies	Discussed upcoming event
Galway Hospitality Group	Myself and President, Megan Reilly attended meeting. Discussed further progress of the hospitality group and upcoming action to protect tips in the service industry
Casework	

Muireann O'Sullivan
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Report of the Disability Rights Officer

Oifigeach um Chearta Míchumais

Muireann O' Sullivan

Key Points Since Previous Council (21st January):

- **Mental Health Monday :**

Something that came up in numerous meetings/communications with disability support service staff is the misconception that those with a mental health condition can't or shouldn't register with the DSS. I took over snapchat and was present at the stall to answer questions and provide correct information as well as providing information to the students that contacted me thereafter.

NUI Galway Meetings

Meeting/ Event	Details
Casework	
Welfare Crew meeting	Planned out mental health Mondays and mental health week with the welfare crew

	(I was not in Galway or stuck in the reading room for most of Mental Health week so wasn't able to contribute significantly)
Meeting with welfare and equality officer	discussed plans and concerns about the rest of the year. Clare is queen of being helpful and kind to me
Executive meeting 30/01	
Disability Support Services meeting	
Charity collecting 02/02	Regretted my jacket choice as it was super cold. Brought buckets back to office etc.
Mental Health Monday 4/02	Disability & Mental Health

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Report of the Ethnic Minorities Officer

Oifigeach um Eithneach Mionlach

Victoria Chihumura

Key Points Since Previous Council (21st January):

First key point of your work e.g. executive meeting:

Paragraph explaining your work in this area. Etc. Lobbied the council, Crisis campout etc.

NUI Galway Meetings

Meeting/ Event	Details
Meeting with the President (NUIG or NUIGSU)	Discussed student issues