



OÉ Gaillimh  
NUI Galway



NUI Galway  
SOCIETIES

# SOCSEX NEWS

## Committee Newsletter Vol: 7, April 2nd 2021

Check out previous editions [at this link](#), (it's the purple box on the socs website) [View our promo video here](#)

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**Happy Easter...**

**Easter Holidays: The Socsbox Helpdesk will close on Friday April 2nd and re-open on Monday April 12th.**

**No Newsletter or What's Happening Guide next week. Vol. 8 will be on April 16th.**

**Aislinn has agreed to check on approving bank payments and payees next week as today is a bank holiday so be sure to have your payments submitted by 11am on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.**

## Secretary & Treasurers Report

These two reports need to be finished by the end of the academic year, please aim to get them finished before the end of the semester so that you don't have to think about them again during your exams. **The deadline for completing them is one week after exams finish.**

**Treasurers**, you need to have your accounts balanced, all of your income and expenditure explained and all receipts uploaded - this is all done on the [Finance Website](#). Mary and Aislinn will help you with this, email [finance@socs.nuigalway.ie](mailto:finance@socs.nuigalway.ie)

**The Secretary's report** is automatically generated in your dashboard; you only have to add an opening paragraph. This is your opportunity to tell future students about your year. Be sure your calendar of events and leadership section are completed as you go along, this will make finishing the report quick and easy.

There are help videos in the dashboard and modules in the e-learning section. [Secretary Report Video](#)

Note: the reports will be easier to complete if all of the committee fulfill their roles and their part of the annual requirements. Call into the [Help Desk](#) if you're unsure or need guidance (2pm - 8pm, Mon - Thur) and please don't worry and procrastinate as we can help get you on track.

**Additional Info:**

- If you do not have a Secretary or Treasurer another member of the committee will need to make sure they are completed.
- The balance sheet in the secretaries report updates automatically once per day from the Finance Website.
- Note: you will need balanced accounts for your Award applications so get working on them now.

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## ALIVE

It's that time of year to encourage your committee and members who volunteered with you to get their ALIVE Cert - it ends up on your academic transcript! Socs: you have your section to complete in the dashboard. Individuals: apply and complete it in [Yourspace](#). It's just 8 questions and filling in your hours.

You can add Society Leadership to it by completing the leadership section in the dashboard and having completed society training. Details at this [link](#). **Deadline 23rd April 21.**



# Final Year Gifts



Please share this with your members. We would like to send a gift to the final year students so ask them to fill in this form so we have their address. We are inviting the final year students and any of your committee members who finished up last year and missed out on the full college experience to participate. The deadline to complete the form is April 19th and gifts will be posted from May 18th onwards. We will only order the merchandise after the deadline.

[Fill in the form here](#)

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## Protocols: Social Media Policy

You can see the NUI Galway Social media policy [here](#) and in detail below. (Dated 18th February 2020)

Note: Societies are part of the university and explicitly mentioned here so it is imperative that you read it and are aware of your responsibilities. If you have any thoughts or comments please email Riona on [socsofficer@socs.nuigalway.ie](mailto:socsofficer@socs.nuigalway.ie) If you are concerned about a perceived breach of the policy you can contact Riona at [socsofficer@socs.nuigalway.ie](mailto:socsofficer@socs.nuigalway.ie) and the USCG, in the first instance, can undertake an informal investigation.

### 1. Purpose

- 1.1. NUI Galway (hereafter referred to as the 'University') appreciate and recognise that social media and social networking are powerful tools, which have become increasingly important and influential communication platforms. These platforms involve the expression of both personal and professional opinions, and the sharing of links, images and other information, meaning that the lines between the expression of an individual's personal or professional views and those of the University as an institution can sometimes become blurred.
- 1.2. The University is conscious of the fact that a lot of the content on social media sites is user-generated, and thus, may pose legal and reputational risks for NUI Galway if such content is inappropriate or illegal. It is therefore important and expected that all employees and students

follow the same behavioural standards online as they would in real life. It is also required that the University's values are always followed and respected.

1.3. The purpose of this Policy is:

- to provide guidance and direction to NUI Galway members (as defined below) when using all types of social media sites on behalf of, or in association with, the University
- to enhance and protect the University, its employees' and students' personal and professional profiles and reputations in the social media space, while ensuring that the image and reputation of NUI Galway as an institution is not compromised in any way
- to promote and respect the University values in accordance with the University's strategic plan
- to promote consistent, effective and innovative use of social media as part of the University's activities
- to ensure NUI Galway members do not compromise their information technology personal security or the security of University information assets
- to set out the responsibilities of users of corporate social media accounts
- to support users of University social media accounts to mitigate the risks associated with social media, protecting themselves as well as the University
- to clarify the expectations of staff and students using social media in an individual professional or personal capacity
- to outline channels for communication of notice of a suspected breach of this policy or of issues or concerns
- to signpost staff and students to resources which will support them in enhancing their social media presence and that of the University.

## 2. Scope

2.1. This Policy applies to:

- all employees of the University, including full-time, part-time, temporary or those on fixed- term contracts of employment
- students of the University
- workers such as agency staff, casual staff, academic visitors, or contractors who are undertaking work on behalf of the University
- students and employees who operate or manage University affiliated social media sites including but not limited to NUI Galway **societies** and clubs
- retired employees who have access to or use University facilities (each hereafter referred to as "member" or "members").

This Policy will normally not apply to members using social media in a personal capacity subject to the University reserving the right at its discretion and in accordance with this Policy and other University policies and procedures to act in circumstances where there may be a damage to the reputation of the University. To clearly delineate use of social media in a personal capacity, employees, retired staff and students are advised that they must use a personal identity (i.e. one that does not associate them with the University). When members create personal accounts on social media sites (i.e. accounts that are not associated with their University work) members must refrain from using their official NUI Galway email accounts to do so. Members are also advised that while this policy will not apply to the use of social media in a personal capacity, their use will still be subject to applicable laws and legislation.

### **3. Definitions**

- 3.1. Social media is the collective term referring to forms of online electronic communication, such as websites and applications for social networking and microblogging, through which users in online communities create, consume, promote, distribute and share information, ideas, personal messages, and other content, such as videos and images for purposes that are primarily related to communities and social activities, rather than functional, task-oriented objectives.
- 3.2. There are various types of social media platforms which attract specific audiences for different purposes. These include, but are not limited to:
- forums and comment spaces on information-based websites
  - social networking websites, such as Facebook and LinkedIn
  - video and photo sharing websites, such as Flickr, Instagram, Snapchat and YouTube
  - weblogs, including corporate and personal blogs
  - micro-blogging sites, such as Twitter and Tumblr
  - forums and discussion boards, such as Yahoo! Groups or Google Groups
  - online wikis that allow collaborative information sharing such as Wikipedia
- 3.3. This Policy extends to all social media sites and incorporates any future developments of such media. The absence or lack of explicit reference to specific social media platforms or sites does not limit the extent of the application of this Policy.

### **4. Legal and Policy Basis**

- 4.1. Information posted to social media sites must adhere to all applicable law and legislation, and also University policies and procedures as set out in clause 4.2. Particular attention must be paid to the following (each as may be amended from time to time):
- Data Protection Acts, 1988-2018
  - General Data Protection Regulation, 2016
  - Copyright and Related Rights Acts, 2000-2007
  - Defamation Act, 2009
  - Child Trafficking and Pornography Acts, 1998-2004
  - Equal Status Act, 2000
  - Prohibition of Incitement to Hatred Act, 1989 Irish Human Rights and Equality Act 2014.
- 4.2. This Policy must also be read in conjunction with all of the University's policies and procedures. These include, but are not limited to, the following:
- Code of Conduct for Staff
  - Student Code of Conduct
  - HR Policies and Procedures
  - Brand Book
  - University ICT Guidelines
  - University Data Protection Policies and Procedures
  - Staff Handbook

- Social Media Guidelines (Marketing & Communications Office)
- Staff Anti-Bullying Policy
- Staff Harassment and Sexual Harassment Policy

## **5. Social Media Usage**

5.1. Members must use social media sites in a responsible manner at all times, having due regard to the rights and reputation of the University and of others including those who members interact with externally. In particular, members are required to adhere to the following when using social media on behalf of, or otherwise associating, with the University:

### **5.1.1. Exercise good judgement and common sense at all times**

Consider what you post, who can see it, and how that post may reflect on the University. Search engines can turn up posts years after they are created, and comments can be screenshot, copied or forwarded. If you wouldn't say it at a conference or to a member of the media, consider whether you should post it online.

### **5.1.2. Strive for accuracy**

Get the facts straight before posting them on social media, and review content for grammatical and spelling errors. This is especially important if posting on behalf of the University in any capacity.

### **5.1.3. Be respectful**

Understand that content contributed to a social media site could encourage comments or discussion of opposing ideas. Responses should be considered carefully, in terms of content and tone, on how they would reflect on the individual posting the message, and/or on the University. Disparaging language regarding a person is not acceptable. Do not post material that could reasonably be deemed as hate speech, threatening, harassing, illegal, obscene, defamatory or slanderous towards any individual or entity.

### **5.1.4. On personal sites, identify views as your own**

If you identify yourself as a NUI Galway employee or student member online, it should be made clear that the views expressed are personal and do not represent the views of the University (see Appendix 1). Do not use pseudonyms or seek to impersonate any other person or engage in trolling (i.e. intentionally insulting and harassing people via the internet).

### **5.1.5. Personal social media accounts**

It is highly recommended that University social media accounts are kept separate from personal social media accounts, where possible. Further to this, where practical employees should refrain from adding work contacts to their personal social media accounts.

### **5.1.6. Compliance with legislation**

Ensure that you are compliant with national and international legislation on data protection, NUI Galway policies and procedures, adhere to copyright laws, and secure permission prior to posting, sharing or distributing copyrighted materials.

### **5.1.7. Confidential information**

Do not post or share information which is confidential and/or proprietary to the University. Members should not post confidential, proprietary or sensitive information about the University, its students, employees or alumni. Care should be taken to use good ethical judgement and to ensure that all University privacy and confidentiality policies are adhered to. Subject to applicable University policies and procedures and fair procedures, those who share confidential information do so at the risk of disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

5.1.8. Social media must not be used, under any circumstances, for any of the below reasons, which include but are not limited to:

- To breach the data protection rights of other individuals
- To post material that would reasonably be deemed inappropriate, obscene, discriminatory, threatening, defamatory or slanderous towards any individual or entity
- To bully, harass or intimidate members
- To express support for illegal activities or organisations
- To promote or advertise a commercial product or solicit business or membership or financial or other support in any business, group or organisation except those which are officially approved by the University
- To post content that could create a security risk for NUI Galway or its members.

### **5.1.9 University Property**

Members shall respect University time and University computers and time on the job are reserved for University related business as approved by line managers/supervisors and in accordance with University policy.

## **6. University Affiliated Social Media Sites**

6.1. A University affiliated social media site is defined as any site that could reasonably be perceived to be associated with or represent NUI Galway. This includes, but is not limited to, any sites which use the logo of NUI Galway, school based sites (e.g. the NUI Galway School of Law Facebook page), and support sites, such as the @nuiglibrary Twitter account.

6.2. Any member who wishes to create and become the administrator of a University affiliated social media site must first seek approval from the Head of School, Head of Unit, or the equivalent of same. Where a member creates a University affiliated social media site, login details for that social media site and any subsequent changes must be provided to the Head of School, Head of Unit or equivalent person immediately. Individuals wishing to set up a NUI Galway affiliated social media site shall follow the guidelines issued by the Marketing and Communications Office.

6.3. Social media site administrators must have an understanding of the rules involved in maintaining and managing a social media site and shall undertake to manage the account in line with University policies and current legislation. Any individual who proposes to become a social media site administrator should attend a social media course.

- 6.4. The University reserves the right, at all times, to monitor and review any University affiliated social media site to ensure that the content on same is in compliance with this Policy.
- 6.5. The University reserves the right to request the removal of a social media site which is either inaccurate or inactive (inactive sites by their nature end up being inaccurate).

## **7. Third Party Social Media Sites**

- 7.1. Third party social media sites, such as Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc., are used by employees at their own risk.
- 7.2. It is important that members are conscious of the fact that these social media sites are owned and operated by independent entities and accordingly, the University does not have any control over these sites and cannot take responsibility for any data stored on these sites.
- 7.3. Members must familiarise themselves with the terms and conditions of service and the policies of sites and networks in which they participate, and ensure that they adhere to same in conjunction with the requirements of this Policy.

## **8. Compliance with Policy**

- 8.1. The University does not routinely monitor content posted on social media sites, but reserves the right to monitor, intercept and review, without further notice, the postings and activities of Members in connection with social media where there is reason to suspect that University Policy or Procedure is being breached or University values are being undermined or where deemed necessary by the University for other legitimate reasons.
- 8.2. The University would encourage individuals to report any inappropriate content or suspected breaches of this Policy to, in the case of an employee, their line manager who shall report it to their UMT member, as soon as reasonably possible. In the case of a student, the matter should be reported to Prof. Michelle Millar, Dean of Students.

## **9. Breach of Policy**

- 9.1. The University takes a very serious view on malicious use of social media by members, particularly in circumstances where such use poses a risk to employees, students or any member of the general public, or which threatens to bring the University's reputation into disrepute.
- 9.2. The University operates a 'Notice and Take-Down' procedure for University operated and affiliated social media sites. Members are encouraged to be vigilant and to report any suspected violations of this Policy, and/or potentially illegal activity, immediately to their line manager who shall report it to their UMT member, who will decide, on behalf of the University, the most appropriate course of action under the circumstances. In the event that content is deemed to be potentially illegal, the University will refer the matter to the relevant legal authorities.



9.3. On receipt of notice (or where the University otherwise becomes aware) of any suspected breach of the Policy, the University reserves the right to:

- Remove, or require the removal of, any content which is deemed by the University to be in breach of this Policy. Any removal will be on a 'without prejudice' basis and shall not constitute any admission of responsibility on the part of the University or any other party.
- Disable access, pending an appropriate investigation, for any employee and block access for that employee to the University's network, systems, communications devices or equipment, pending a full investigation.
- Where applicable, initiate steps subject to applicable policies and procedures to commence the disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal or expulsion as applicable.

## 10. Review

10.1. The University reserves the right at any time to revise the terms of this Policy. Any such revisions will be notified to Members, and by continuing to use the relevant social media sites following such notifications, Members will be deemed to have accepted the revised terms of this Policy.

## 11. Responsibilities

The following roles and responsibilities apply in relation to this Procedure:

Name/Title	Roles and Responsibility
Prof. Michelle Millar, Dean of Students	Procedure Owner and Approver.
University Management Team (UMT)	Each member of UMT is responsible for ensuring compliance with this Procedure in their respective areas of responsibility.  For example, subject to applicable policies and procedures, the Director of HR shall be responsible for staff discipline matters arising from a breach of this policy. Subject to applicable policies and procedures, the Dean of Students shall be responsible for student discipline matters arising from a breach of this policy. Deans of College shall be responsible for matters relating to staff and students which can be dealt with under local line or student management.
Director of Marketing	Compliance with this policy insofar as it relates to marketing and communications matters.
Internal Audit	Monitoring and reporting compliance with the Policy
Social Media Account Operators	Compliance with this Policy
Members	Compliance with this Policy
Heads of School/Unit/Project Principal Investigator	Ensuring compliance with this Policy in their respective areas of responsibility.

## Disclaimer

The views expressed in the posts and comments on this post should be understood as the personal opinions of the author only. They do not reflect the views of NUI Galway or any other third party mentioned or referred to in the post.

## Comment Statement

All readers are encouraged to leave comments. While all points of view are welcome on the post, only comments that are courteous and on-topic will be posted. All comments will be reviewed by the author and responded to (as needed) prior to posting. The author reserves the right to post comments at his/her discretion. Spam and comments endorsing commercial products or services will not be posted.

Contributors to this post are fully responsible for everything that they submit in their comments, and all posted comments are in the public domain.

## Privacy Statement

Any email addresses, names, or contact information received through this post will not be shared or sold to anyone, unless required by applicable law.

## Linking Statement

This post may contain external links to other sites. The author does not control or guarantee the accuracy, relevance, timeliness, or completeness of information on other web sites. Links to particular items in hypertext are not intended as endorsements or any views expressed, products or services offered on outside sites, or the organisations sponsoring those sites.

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# BICS Society Networking

BICS hosted a student network event yesterday and had a great turnout from the member colleges. There was a presentation on the BICS Awards and how to enter which you can access [here](#). If you need more info go to the website [www.bics.ie](http://www.bics.ie).

Other topics discussed were inter society collaborations and it was generally agreed that the virtual world offers great opportunities for inter college collaborations and it looks like they will be here to stay going forward.

The next big BICS Event is on April 21st at 8pm, so put it in your diary! It will be a Society Networking Games Night, with lots of competitions, opportunities to get to know societies from other colleges and loads of prizes.



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## What is the USCG?

The USCG may seem like a frightening entity with all the power, but do you actually know what the USCG do? Here we will go through everything you need to know about the University Societies' Coordinating Group!

### **What are the aims of the USCG?**

The aim of the NUI Galway University, University Societies Coordinating Group will be:

- To assist the Societies of the University in fulfilling their aims and, in doing so, to develop and facilitate social and community life in the University
- To consider applications and make recommendations on the recognition of new University Societies.
- To regulate the continuing recognition of Societies.
- To agree allocation of funds made available for Societies at NUI, Galway.
- To develop and recommend policy in relation to Society activity and the provision and use of facilities for activity to the Vice President for the Student Experience.
- To promote the interests of Societies and to act as their representatives within the University.

### What are some of the tasks the USCG carry out?

- Grant Recognition to new societies
- Review funding requests that fall outside of the Schedule of Allowances
- Set rules and protocols for societies to follow such as poster policy.
- Represent societies at larger university conversations
- Investigate and enforce disciplinary matters
- Aid the Societies' Office in the adjudication of Socs Awards and in mentoring prior to the BICS awards
- Review and approve amendments made to societies constitutions.

### Who sits on the USCG?

The USCG is made up of six staff reps, including one for each college and Student Services, the Societies Officer, the SU Societies Chairperson, a Representative from BICS and seven student representatives, one for each society constituency. (Artistic and Performing, Academic, Lifestyle and Wellbeing, Religious and Volunteering, Social Action and Political, Social and Cultural and Special Interest). If you want something brought to the USCG, you can contact your relevant constituency representative or any member of the Societies Office (SocsBox).

### The current USCG:

#### Student Representatives:

Artistic and Performing Rep: Oisín Feely

Social Action and Political Rep: Nicole Browne

Social and Cultural Rep: Elizabeth Swift

Special Interest Rep: Kevin McLoughlin

Religious and Volunteering Rep: Eamon Mac Giobúin

Lifestyle and Wellbeing Rep: Ciara O'Neill

Academic Rep: Riley Kavanagh

SU Societies' Chairperson: Barry Sugrue

BICS Representative: Cameron Keighron

#### Staff Reps

Societies Officer: Riona Hughes (secretary)

Saoirse Nic Gabhainn (chairperson)

Thomas McArdle

John Hannon

Jimmy McGovern

Mary Dempsey

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# Marchathon Final Week

It's all over, a great month of walking had by all, well done to all the societies involved. The evenings are getting brighter and the weather is improving so do be sure to get out for a walk.

Big congrats to Cumann Gaelach who stepped into the lead and held the position throughout the month. Congrats to Postgrad Soc, Energy Soc, and Cumann Staire who all were ahead of the SocsBox who fell to 5th place in the final week. We will be contacting you all when we are back to arrange to get you your winnings.

### Final Leaderboard.

7	Gaillimhunz	NUI Galway	357,884	Cumann Gaelach
11	Postgrad Research Society	NUI Galway	315,530	Postgrad Research Soc
12	Pimp My Stride	NUI Galway	290,593	Energy Soc
13	Cumann Staire Group 1	NUI Galway	279,323	Cumann Staire
14	NUIG SocsBox Steppers	NUI Galway	275,449	SocsBox
15	Walking 9 to 5 (Anime Soc)	NUI Galway	265,112	Anime & Manga Soc
20	Flirty Rock 2: Walking from Home	NUI Galway	235,937	Flirt FM
23	pogchamps (dramsocnuig)	NUI Galway	219,605	Dramsoc
26	NaMSoc	NUI Galway	199,948	Nursing & Midwifery Soc
33	NUI Galway CompSoc	NUI Galway	177,551	Compsoc
40	Speedreaders #Bookclub	NUI Galway	151,513	Book Club Soc
41	Red Hot Chilli Steppers- History Soc NUIG	NUI Galway	140,778	Cumann Staire

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# SURVEY

## Substance misuse and mental health challenges

Merveille has asked for help with a survey she is conducting:

I am a final year BA of Child, Youth and Family Studies student. As part of my final year project I am conducting a survey exploring if there is a link between substance misuse and mental health challenges. I was wondering would it be possible for you to share the link to the survey among your society members.

The purpose of the survey is to explore if there is a link between substance misuse and mental health challenges in the youth of Ireland. Full details [at this link](#).

# Socs Week in Review

## Bród Soc

Time	Sessions	Gaymes Room	Gaymes Room 2	D&D	Chill Zone	Chill Zone 2	Safe Spaces
7:00 pm	Fáilte Refugees				Chill Zone W/DramSoc	Chill Zone W/DramSoc	
7:30 pm	Padraig Pierce				Pet Zone W/ZooSoc	Chill Zone W/DramSoc	Lesbian Space
8:00 pm	Tanning Tao	Jackbox			Chill Zone W/DramSoc	Chill Zone W/DramSoc	
9:00 pm	FemSoc	Jackbox	Fanfic Bingo W/BookSoc	D&D W/Fansci	Chill Zone W/DramSoc	Chill Zone W/DramSoc	
9:30 pm	Anime and Manga Soc	Scribbli.io/Gartic Phone	Scribbli.io/Gartic Phone	D&D W/Fansci	Chill Zone W/DramSoc	Chill Zone W/DramSoc	T-Space
10:00 pm	Among Us			D&D W/Fansci	Chill Zone W/DramSoc	Chill Zone W/DramSoc	Bi+ Space & Enby Space
10:30 pm	Pride (2014) Discussion	Cards Against Humanity W/TimeLord Soc		D&D W/Fansci	Chill Zone W/DramSoc	Chill Zone W/DramSoc	EM Space
11:00 pm	Pride (2014) Discussion	Cards Against Humanity W/TimeLord Soc		D&D W/Fansci	Chill Zone W/DramSoc	Chill Zone W/DramSoc	Queer Space
11:30 pm	Pride (2014) Discussion	Cards Against Humanity W/TimeLord Soc		D&D W/Fansci	Chill Zone W/DramSoc	Chill Zone W/DramSoc	
12:00 am				D&D W/Fansci	Chill Zone W/DramSoc	Chill Zone W/DramSoc	

**TICKETS AND DONATION LINKS AVAILABLE ON SOCS STORE!**

Bród Soc celebrated their Rainbow Sleepover this week in lieu of their usual Rainbow Week celebrations which were cancelled because of COVID-19. On Wednesday, the 31st of March, Bród Soc collabed with Time Lord Soc, Anime and Manga Soc, Fáilte Refugees, Fan-Sci, Feminist Society and DramSoc. They hosted a whole evening of events to do with the LGBT+ community and safe spaces for various gender and sexual minorities

Some of the events that took place included; A talk from Fáilte Refugees, a discussion from FemSoc on activism and what you can do as an ally, a talk from Anime and Manga Soc about LGBT+

representation in anime and a discussion of the film *Pride* (2014)

Another one of the events included a D&D (Dungeons and Dragons) campaign from FanSci. D&D is a fantasy board game where you can create your own character to play as. For this reason it has become very popular in queer circles, particularly trans circles. FanSci has been an incredibly inclusive soc and uses the unique premise of their board games to let LGBTQ+ members feel as part of the soc as anyone else. The combination of Bród Soc and FanSci was a great time for all to feel comfortable in engaging in board games and fantasy role-playing!

Bród Soc themselves had safe spaces for Lesbian, Gay, Bi and Transgender people running throughout as chill out zones and spaces to chat about issues effecting those groups. They proved to be quite popular as sometimes (especially during lockdown) it can be quite isolating to be part of a minority group and not have a support system that you would normally have during college. It was a wonderful event enjoyed by all and a massive congratulations to Bród Soc for organising it!

# *Le Chéile,*

## **Le Chéile Weekend**

*Carol Devaney*

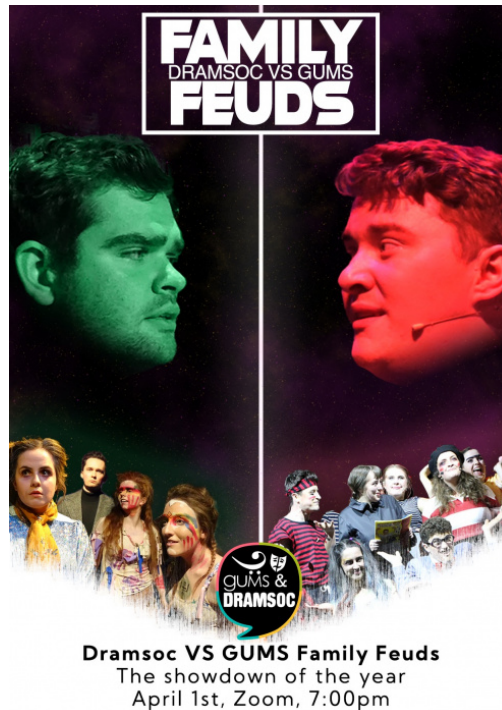
Dramsoc, the Societies Office and the Student's Union came together to host a weekend of training for Clubs, Societies and all student led groups revolving around accessibility and inclusivity this weekend past. It included a series of workshops, panel discussions and social events to show attendants how to better make their events a welcoming and accommodating place for all students. A small but passionate committee helmed by Richard Brown, Barry Sugrue and Kate O' Mahony came together, firm in their resolve to show that while Societies and Clubs are warm refuges for many there's more that needs to be done to make these spaces inclusive for every student. Emboldened by their own experiences of how much Societies and Clubs enriched their student lives they became determined to push student groups to self-examine and decide what more they could be doing. The result of this determination was Le Chéile training weekend, an Irish phrase which means together.

The weekend consisted of workshops, panel discussions and talks broken up by relaxed social events where students could chat and eat while getting to know one another. On the Friday a panel discussion chaired by Cameron Keighron and featuring panellists Wakilatou Latidoeye, Anne Marie Ward and Carol Devaney took place. They spoke and answered questions about what is being done right and what needs to be improved upon in student led groups to remove barriers for students. It was a rousing discussion with good input from the 30 or so students who attended. Immediately following this was an Irish Sign Language workshop with the charming Niamh Mc Grath where students learned the basics of Irish Sign Language, how to incorporate it into their events and what can be done, particularly in the virtual world, to make their events accessible to deaf and hard of hearing students. After a period of informal chatting everyone broke up for dinner to return later for the rousing and rib cracking quiz with surprise special guest Tina D. Parton. The following day began with a workshop from Cameron Keighron about what needs to take place to make student events LGBTQ+ friendly. This was followed by a workshop with the esteemed One World Centre about Anti-Racism and Allyship in relation to what makes a good ally and how we can do better to support students of colour. After lunch Niamh Tallon, founder of HerSport led a detailed talk on women in sport, what needs to be improved upon and what we can do to push those improvements along. To end the weekend Richard Brown of Dramsoc gave a presentation on the history and future of queer representation in theatre.

The weekend was well received across the board with over 70 students signing up to attend. Every event hosted had a good turn out with between 20 - 30 participants at any given event. Students engaged, asked intelligent questions and most importantly, they listened and took notes on how to extend the warmth of their community to more students. In a confusing world these students showed up and took notes. The importance of this cannot be understated - to build a welcoming world, to invite everyone to the table we need to look out for one another. I have no doubt that Le Chéile is the beginning of something that looks like hope and I look forward to what comes next.



# GUMS vs Dramsoc Family Feuds



It arrived. The greatest night in friendly fire history, when an old rivalry is risen from the dead. You got it, GUMS vs Dramsoc Family Feuds!!!! Two societies who frequently work side by side (by side!) are pit against each other in an annual bloodbath. The event was established in 2019 and has yet to be won by Dramsoc...and that didn't change tonight!

The event consisted of prerecorded tasks performed by set teams out to win the coveted Family Feuds cup. These were alternated with live tasks by randomly selected audience members for One4All vouchers.

The audience live tasks were particularly fun. They included participants drawing pictures of the host (Kate O'Mahony) with a pen in their mouths, drawing an animal on a whiteboard using only 3 lines, putting an object on their heads without using their hands, and hiding in full view of the camera. Perhaps the toughest task was the mystery guest where two participants had 5 questions to ask the mystery guest in order to find out their identity! Sadly no prizes were given out as nobody guest who it was: OUR WONDERFUL RÍONA HUGHES!!! However, two prizes were given out for the hiding task as both contestants totally nailed it and vanished!

In the battle of the theatre societies, the New Members teams made up of Caolán from GUMS and Emer from GUMS who had to hide an entire pineapple on their person. Sadly for Emer, Caolán took the point for that round. Tara from GUMS and Alisha from Dramsoc went head to head for the Production Team Round by building an art exhibition in their bed rooms. Tara took the point by hilariously turning herself into a human embodiment of student end-of-semester stress after Alisha unfortunately exceeded the item limit for the exhibition. Julie from GUMS and Emily from Dramsoc took on the task of disappearing act as the Committee team by throwing a towel into the air and disappearing behind it! Emily opted for a clever attempt by turning off her camera, but lost to Julie's dramatic and highly impressive magician spin!

The Auditors and Vice Auditors were victims of an almighty coup by the organising team, who changed their tasks last minute. Dramsoc's Vice Auditor Aisling and GUMS' Vice Amy O'Reilly were tasked with simply 'impressing' the host. Aisling went for a juggling and drawing combo with a gorgeous drawing of judge Katie



Feeney, while Amy went for a trick by her beautiful doggie Ellie. Despite the wonderful doggie, Katie ruled that Aisling and Dramsoc won the point. In what was the most entertaining of the tasks, the two Auditors, Adam from GUMS and Richard from Dramsoc were tasked with recreating a costume from the character of Glinda from the hit musical *Wicked*. Adam's attempt was highly entertaining but was made from a duvet worn like a shawl, a crown made of the top of a pineapple and Adam's own National Musical Theatre Award and a broken hurley with a star on top! Richard, on the other hand, went for a makeshift drag number, complete with sheet-gown, wig, a face of makeup and heels. In the ultimate head to head, Richard took home the point for Dramsoc!!!

Judge Katie Feeney had no mean feat ahead of her to choose who would win the cup. Katie's biases were pretty even split. Although she is a current Dramsoc committee member, she is also a former Assistant Musical Director for GUMS and is currently starring in their intervarsity entry of *Company* as Bobbi. Although Dramsoc was out for the kill, GUMS took the biscuit in what was ultimately fierce competition. The tasks were hilarious, the fighting talk was fearsome and the rivalry, enduring. But by tomorrow, these two socs will be the best of friends with jazz hands all over again!

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## Society Events Coming up!

### SOC Stream



SOC Stream will be taking place this year from April 16th to the 18th for a massive 48 hour stream. For 48 hours straight societies including Anime and Manga, Potter Soc, Video-Game Soc, FanSci, Book Club and many others.

The event will be hosted on the SOC Stream Twitch channel which you can find at this [link](#). Events from all socs involved will be featured and even some surprise guests might make their way on to the stream.

The SOC Stream this year will be in aid of [COPE](#) (a homeless charity in Galway).

The next **Themed week** is **Diversity Week** so if you have any events be sure to add them to the calendar. It runs from April 11th.

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# Barry's News

*News from the SU Societies Chairperson*

Hey gach duine!

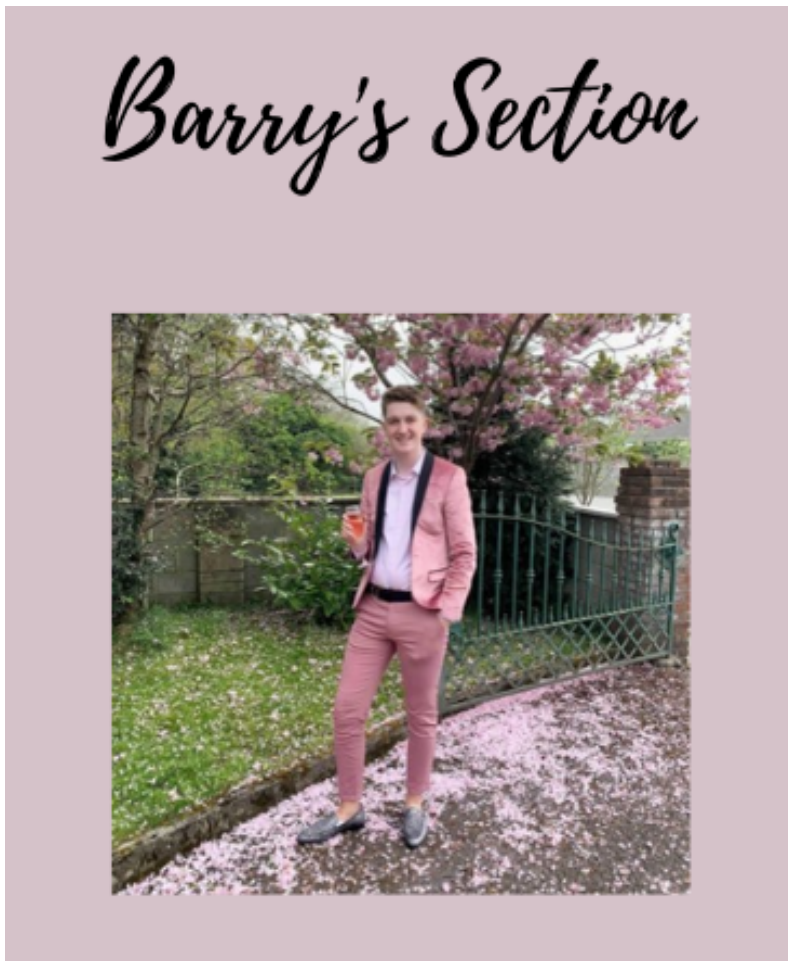
I hope you all had a great week!!

I also hope you're having a great week off next week, you really deserve it. I don't know about you, but the last few weeks have been HECTIC!

Thank you so much to absolutely everyone who attended our Le Chéile Weekend! I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did.

## SU Election Nominations Open Wednesday!

- Full Time Officer Nominations Open: 10am Weds 7th April 2021
- Full Time Officer Nominations Close: 5pm Wednesday 14th April 2021
- Full Time Officer Election Day: 10am-8pm Thursday 22nd April 2021



- Part Time Officer

Nominations Open: 10am Weds 14th April 2021

- Part Time Officer

Nominations Close: 5pm Wednesday 21st April 2021

- Part Time Officer Election

Day: 10am-8pm Thursday 29th April 2021

(If you're looking to run for my position as Societies Chairperson, don't hesitate to email me!)

## **Stitch and Bitch**

Of course my favourite event, our Stitch and Bitch knitting group is on every Tuesday at 7pm. Open to all crafters! Email [studentsunion@nuigalway.ie](mailto:studentsunion@nuigalway.ie) for more info.

## **Choose Your Own Challenge this April**

Our final Charity Challenge of the year is coming up this April and it's Choose Your Own Challenge time! We've lots of suggestions for you [here](#) - If you've an idea for an event to raise funds for the SU Charities

please get in touch via [studentsunion@nuigalway.ie](mailto:studentsunion@nuigalway.ie)

### Free Condoms & Lube

The Sexual Health West FREE condom and lube distribution service is back up and running again. Just head to their website and fill out the registration form. They'll post them out to you! Pop onto their website [here](#)!

I hope you all have a fabulous break! Make sure to take it easy! You've all been doing such an amazing job.

Don't forget to email me [su.socs@nuigalway.ie](mailto:su.socs@nuigalway.ie) if you have any questions!

Grá mór,

Barry Sugrue.

# COMPETITION TIME

## Last Week's Winner

### Answers

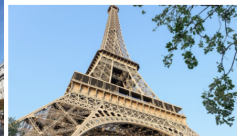
- 1-Dublin, Ireland
- 2-Paris France
- 3-New York, USA
- 4-Rio, Brazil
- 5-Athens, Greece
- 6-Sydney, Australia
- 7-Berlin, Germany
- 8-Giza, Egypt
- 9-Moscow, Russia

### Where Are These Landmarks?

To win a €15 One4All voucher look at the 9 picture below and tell us the city AND country that they're in. The first 3 will be easy, the next 3 will be medium and the last 3 will be difficult.



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9

**Congrats to last week's winner Paul Armstrong,**

**Who has won a €15 One4All voucher!...**

# THIS WEEK'S COMPETITIONS

Can you name the famous movie from the screenshot?

*There are 2 €10 vouchers up for grabs for getting the answers right.*







3.



4.



5.



6.



7.



8.





9.



10.

Please email [socsbox@socs.nuigalway.ie](mailto:socsbox@socs.nuigalway.ie) with “Newsletter Film Quiz” in the info bar and the name of each film listed above for a chance to win a prize!

# \*BONUS QUIZZES\*

Because the Socs Box is on break next week we're going to include some bonus quizzes for you to do and be in with a chance to win even more prizes!

## Easter Egg Hunt!

How many Easter eggs are hiding in this picture? If you think you can find them all, email [socs@socs.nuigalway.ie](mailto:socs@socs.nuigalway.ie) and put "Newsletter egg hunt" in the info bar for a chance to win a prize!

***There are 2 €10 vouchers for getting the answer right.***





# Brain Teasers

Can you answer these 5 head scratchers. They're pretty tricky but if you think you can answer them email [socs@socs.nuigalway.ie](mailto:socs@socs.nuigalway.ie) and put "Newsletter brain teasers" in the info bar for a chance to win a prize

1-Someone pushes their car to the hotel and he tells the owner of the hotel "I am bankrupt". Why?

2-What is special about the number 8,549,176,320?

3-What five letter words become "shorter" when you add two letters to it?

4-What has cities, but no houses; water, but no fish; and forests, but no trees

5-What word can be read forwards, backwards AND upside-down?



*Can you figure out the answers?*

**€25 Gift Voucher if you get them all right! If no one gets them all right the people with the most right will be in a draw for one €15.**

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## SocsBox on Social Media

**TikTok Snapchat Discord Twitter Instagram Facebook**

	<p><b>READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE</b></p> <p>Helpdesk Link on <a href="http://www.socs.nuigalway.ie">www.socs.nuigalway.ie</a> Open Monday - Thursday 2pm - 8pm</p> <p><b>Note: Closed April 5th - 9th</b></p>	
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This newsletter will be sent to you every Friday to your society email and NUIG email.

If you have an article you would like to include, send it to [socsbox@socs.nuigalway.ie](mailto:socsbox@socs.nuigalway.ie) with 'Socsbox News' in the title by Thursday at 1pm. It will also be archived in Socs information link on [www.socs.nuigalway.ie](http://www.socs.nuigalway.ie) in the purple box at the top of the home page.