



OÉ Gaillimh
NUI Galway



NUI Galway
SOCIETIES

SOCsBOX NEWS

Committee Newsletter Vol: 6, March 26th 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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Easter Holidays: The Socsbox Helpdesk will close on Friday April 2nd and re-open on Monday April 11th. Vol 7 of this newsletter will be on April 2nd and Vol 8 will be on April 15th.
If you need funding approved make sure you have this done by 1pm on April 2nd as no funding or bank transactions will be approved until April 11th.

Seed Funding for your Great Ideas



Does your society have a great idea that will enhance the student experience which you would like to roll out when we are all back on campus. The USCG will consider the applications and the funding will become available in September 2021. Riona and the SocsBox are available to talk to you about your idea and how you might be able to make it a reality.

If you would like to set up an appointment with the team to talk about your idea and what support you might need to make it a reality just email Riona at socsofficer@socs.nuigalway.ie. Subject *Great Idea* before you submit your application. We currently do not know how much funding will be available,

but do prepare a detailed budget and if it requires purchasing materials/equipment be sure to get 3 quotes. Your idea will be subject to health and safety and we can give you help working through the details.

The University strategic plan 2000 - 2025 is founded on the following principles *Respectful NUI Galway* | *Open NUI Galway* | *Sustainable NUI Galway* | *Excellent NUI Galway* | *Building for the Future* see details [here](#). Does your idea about any of these principles?

Your proposal can be a collaborative one with other societies or services in the university. This is your opportunity to think big and imagine the improvements your idea could make to the student experience.

This is your chance to think outside the box and explore great ideas for your society, your members and the university population.

Note Seed funding applications will only be accepted from societies who have been fully active this year and are eligible for Leadership Awards. We are going through the dashboard this coming week to update the societies status and we will contact you if you have some things you need to do to be eligible.

The deadline for applications is June 10th 2021.

Society Awards

The applications are available at the link below with all the info you need to enter the awards. The Society Awards will take place via Zoom starting at 7pm on April 28th and tickets will be made available to any societies who enter for any awards. In addition to the BICS Awards categories we have NUIG specific awards and we are bringing back our Special Awards this year. In addition to getting an Awards Certificate emailed to the winners after the awards there are also prizes for entering and attending the awards this year.

[Link with all the Info](#) and instructional videos.

Prizes:

€20 per award application submitted to a maximum of €50
(Best Poster, Video, Photo, Small Publication €10 each)

This fund is for people who work on the applications.

€10 per person who attends the awards

€20 for winners of the Special Awards

€50 for the winners for the other awards

Spot Prizes 10 x €15 vouchers

It is the responsibility of each treasurer to distribute the funds and enter the details in the finance system and for the committee to ensure the right people get the funds. Each society will be contacted after the awards to confirm how much they are due from the awards, this amount will be put against your grant, so you can distribute the funds to the attendees prior to the awards ceremony so they have access to funds to purchase a takeaway for example on the evening. You will not need to upload receipts for this funding as it at the discretion of each committee/ individual how you spend this money, The details of the transfer will need to be entered into your finance website as expenditure. Any questions call to the SocsBox Help Desk.



Le Chéile



Last chance to sign up for Le Chéile which is happening this weekend. It is a weekend of inclusivity and accessibility training for student led groups and society & club committees in NUI Galway.

Taking place from March (27th - 28th) we'll be working with the Student's Union and Dramsoc to help you make your events accessible to students with differing needs and inclusive to students of different sexualities, gender identities, races and ethnicities.

To sign up please fill in the form below. We urge everyone to attend. The weekend will include panel discussions, Q & As, a series of talks as well as social events. [See the full line up here](#)

[Sign up here!](#)

Leadership finishing Your Year

From next Wednesday we will have closed off the first part of the leadership process. The end of year questions and the survey will become available in your dashboard under leadership for you to complete, ideally get this done before Exams start so you can concentrate on your studies. The final deadline is June 7th.

There are a number of steps you need to complete:

The society needs to complete these 4 questions:

1. Reflecting on your mission statement, how did your society do this year?
2. Did your society achieve any of its aims, objectives and goals?
3. What would you regard as your societies greatest success?
4. What would you regard as your societies greatest challenge?

Note this is part of the societies general information and should be completed by your committee together. your Mission Statement, goals and End of Year reflection forms part of your Secretaries report. You can view the end of year reports [here](#).

Individual Committee Members

Need to complete 2 steps

This section will entitle the committee member to get a [Digital badge](#) if all other requirements are completed. Note you need 4 active committee members to retain full society recognition.

1) End of Year Reflection

Look at the goals you and the society set, think about what you learnt and the triumphs and challenges and reflect on them.

You must complete this and the survey to be eligible to receive the Leadership Award as part of your ALIVE application. If you are eligible, choose the Society Leadership Award from the drop down menu in the ALIVE application as well as your society (put in the number of hours you attended training under Society leadership) and the hours you volunteered with your society/s in their respective sections.

2) End of Year survey,

This is also available in the leadership section of your dashboard. We are adding in a specific COVID - 19 question.

You can see your society and individual committee members status in the Leadership section, if you have any problems or need help email the socsbox@socs.nuigalway.ie or pop into the SocsBox help desk.

Society Easter Eggs in the Library



Next Thursday the SocsBox will be dropping off 400 easter eggs as gifts for any student in the library. There will be an accompanying notice to wish the student a happy Easter from the Societies and society flyers to spread the word about what we do.

Happy Easter to all of you. I hope you have a lovely break. Our next SocsBox News Letter will be next Friday and will have some extra prizes and competitions, so do check your inbox.

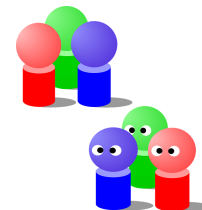
The Socsbox Help desk will close on April 2nd and re open on Monday April 11th. See the academic timetable [here](#)

Society Retaining Recognition Protocol

Approved at a USCG Meeting Sept 5th 2014

Recognition of a society A society must complete the following 5 steps to retain recognition as a society

1. Complete an end of year report
2. Complete treasurer's report and balance books and receipt for spending
3. Have a tables on Socs Day
4. Elect at least 4 committee members by September 30th
5. upload details of your committee in full to the societies website.



Demotion to Provisional Status.

Societies must achieve a signup of 100 members by 7pm on Societies Day.

A society must indicate that they have generated sufficient interest among the student body and have made every effort on Societies Day to sign up members. It is advised to use a laptop, in the event of any paper sign-up sheets being used only the official signup sheets available from the Socsbox may be used. These sheets must be photocopied by 7pm on societies day and a copy left at the Socsbox for verification purposes. The society then have until 3pm on next Friday (45 hours) to upload their members to the website. Registered membership will be taken at 7pm on Societies Day and only societies with the official signup sheets will have their numbers so increased by a maximum of the number on the deposited sign-up sheets.

Note: Registered students who are already your members will continue to be your members, existing societies therefore only have to maintain 100 members not gain an additional 100 new members.

Societies so demoted will have the first semester to increase their membership and apply to reinstate their full recognition after societies day 2 in January. If a society fails during both terms to achieve 100 members it will be deemed inactive at the end of the year.

All new Societies or provisional Societies seeking full recognition must have achieved 100 members on Societies Day. All new societies in January must achieve 50 signups on Societies Day 2, there is no minimum requirement for other societies on Societies Day 2.

Retaining Funding

To Retain funding at least 2 committee members must between them attend at least 3 sessions at societies training.

Important info exceptions for this year

This protocol was approved in 2014. This academic year due to COVID-19 we suspended the requirements for 100 members and this will not be back in place until we have in person societies day. Creating new societies was limited to socs day one in 2016.

This year it was agreed to let societies set up at any stage during the year but the intention will be to limit the establishment of a society to Socs Day 1 when we are back to normal socs days in the Bailey Allen.

Note this is for retaining society recognition. There are additional requirements for committee members to get the Leadership Award as part of your ALIVE [details here](#). The training requirement now includes e-learning.

Due to the pandemic there is an amnesty for any society that failed to get established this year and you can come back in September (or whenever we get fully back to campus) without being demoted to provisional status. Any such society will not be eligible to submit for the seed funding this year for using next year.

[The protocol can be viewed here](#)

The USCG will be reviewing this protocol, this year if you have any ideas or input please email riona at socsofficer@socs.nuigalway.ie

BICS Awards & Society Collabs Session

Join BICS from **4pm - 5.30pm** on **Thursday April 1st** for a **BICS Awards Info Session** to get all the up to date info on this year's awards and a take away presentation you can share with your societies.

This is also an opportunity to talk about **collaborations** with other colleges for society events. if you have an idea you would like to pitch at the session let BICS know in the form below.

They will email you the link to the **zoom session** 30 minutes before the event.

This event is for students and staff and of particular interest to the BICS Student Networking Reps as you will leave with all the info you need to support your societies preparing for BICS Awards 2021.

Please fill in this form to get the link to the event which will be emailed to you 30 minutes before the event.

[Form Link](#)

There may even be some prizes!!!!



March Lunch Meetups

Everyone is welcome to next week's March Lunch Meetups, it's on Monday - Thursday 1pm - 2pm.

Info and links at www.nuigalwayevents.ie do spread the word. Chat, banter and prizes to be won.

Next week is aimed at final years undergrad and postgrads. Thanks to all the societies involved it has been great to catch up with you.



Earn €50 for your Opinion



Evaluation of the Active*Consent Programme. Student Focus Group

INVITATION

We would like to invite you to take part in an online focus to discuss your views on the Active* Consent initiatives and your recommendations for further development of the programme,

This consultation forms part of the ongoing evaluation of the Active* Consent programme.

If there is anything that you are not clear about, we will be happy to explain it to you. You should only consent to participate when you feel you understand what is being asked of you, and you have had enough time to think about your decision. Thank you for reading this.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

This part of our evaluation aims to explore the impact of the Active* Consent programme so that we can improve what we develop and offer to students and staff. We are talking with a wide range of people who have participated or seen Active* Consent messaging and resources.

TAKING PART IN AN INTERVIEW – WHAT IT INVOLVES

You will not be asked to share any personal experiences during the focus groups.

The focus group will be over Zoom and will last about an hour. You will be asked to have your camera on for the comfort of all involved.

If you agree to be part of this important process, you will be involved in one of two types of focus group and we want you to have engaged with the 45 minute e-Learning module: “Sexual Violence and Harassment: How to Support Yourself and Your Peers” beforehand.

In one focus group, we will be presenting some of the Active* Consent resources, which have been rolled out to students, and asking for your reactions to them and your views about them. This will include some social media posts and material from the eLearning module.

The second type of focus group will explore a number of vignettes or case studies which the Active* Consent team have developed to use in new resources. Students in these focus groups will be asked to respond to a number of questions and give feedback on each of the vignettes.

At the start of the focus group you will be asked to confirm your consent to participate. The discussion will be audio-recorded and then transcribed. Any names or other identifying information will be removed from the transcripts, so that no one will be able to see who said what – that is everything will be totally anonymous.

The ideas and views that you share with us will be processed (analysed) by the research team in NUI Galway. Everything will be kept safe and secure in line with the General Data Protection Regulations.

DO I HAVE TO TAKE PART?

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part.

If you would like to take part in a focus group, do contact Maureen.death@nuigalway.ie.

WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE BENEFITS AND RISKS IN TAKING PART?

You will receive a €50 All4One voucher as thanks for you sharing your ideas and views with us. We cannot do this without you; as you are of a similar age and situation to those who we hope will find our resources useful, so your views are really important. You will also be contributing to the development of a programme that aims to support healthy, consensual and enjoyable sexual experiences. Your contribution will be of benefit to students participating in the programme in future years.

There are no foreseeable risks attached to taking part in this study. In the event that you experience any discomfort, you are free to withdraw from the focus group without giving a reason.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE DATA

In addition helping us to develop engaging and effective resources, the anonymised data may be used in reports, articles or other dissemination by the Active* Consent team.

WHO DO I CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION?

Please contact Maureen to sign up for a focus group:

Email: Maureen.death@nuigalway.ie



Society Gifts for Final Year Students

Next Monday we will email you all with a form for you to share with your members who are final year undergrad or postgrad society members (and one year masters) so anyone leaving NUI Galway at the end of this academic year. So they can let us know if they would like a gift and give us their postal address.

The final years will have until April 13th to complete the form.

The gifts will be posted by the end of May and will include some new society/NUIG merchandise that we are designing, we will put in the order when we know how many items we need and it usually can take up to 4 weeks to get the merchandise. So we will start posting mid to late May.

It is our way to say thanks for their contribution to Societies and to wish them well.

If you have any committee members who are still around and graduated in the Autumn 2020 we are happy to include them in the gifts as COVID - 19 had a negative impact on their last year as well.

It will also be promoted on social media, in the What's Happening Guide and on the NUIG website so let's get the word out.



Marchathon Week 3

This week the SocsBox team stay in 4th place, with Anime and Manga a close 5th. Well done to Cumann Gaelach, Postgrad Research Society and Energy Soc for getting so many steps in. We will divide the prize money and give each of the teams €20 to share. Cumann Gaelach have been our consistent champions each week and are well on their way to be overall winners with €25 per member for the final week.

It finishes this Sunday and short of the SocsBox team walking non stop between now and then it looks like we won't be the winners. All will be revealed next week when we will announce all the winners and their prizes, so proud of all the societies involved.

There are 50 NUIG teams, the one in 1st place is Team Evo with 333,788 steps, currently in 133 place overall! The top team overall has 888,089 steps so far. Our current Socs Winners Gaillimhunz are currently in 350th place overall with the SocsBox is in 880th place. There are over 1550 teams competing.

A shout out to Gaillimhhunz from Cumann Gaelach, Aifric Ní Scolaí, Barry Sugrue, Honoria O'Malley and Saibh O'Torna first place again this week. Congrats to Postgrad Research Society's team David O'Leary, Heidi Schoenenberger, Emily O Dowd, Brigid Hooban, Maeve Farrell and Barbara Mirkovic for moving up to 2nd place and well done to Hannah Aris, Clodagh Hennigan, Ananya Bajali, Paul Costello and Niamh Killeen from Energy Soc 'Pimp My Stride' climbing into a close 3rd place this week.



NUIG ranking	Team name	Average steps per team	Society name
5	Gaillimhunz	278,016	Cumann Gaelach
11	Postgrad Research Society	234,270	Postgrad Research
12	Pimp my Stride	231,135	Energy Soc
16	NUIG SocsBox Steppers	210,160	SocsBox
17	Walking 9 to 5 (Anime Soc)	208,558	Anime & Manga
20	Cumann Staire Group 1	200,630	Cumann Staire
22	Flirty Rock 2: Walking from Home	181,982	Flirt FM
24	pogchamps (dramsocnuig)	166,252	Dramsoc
27	NaMSoc	154,455	Nursing & Midwifery
35	NUI Galway CompSoc	132,162	Compsoc
43	Speedreaders #Bookclub	108,804	Book Club
44	Team Act-imel (NUIG Dramsoc)	98,304	Dramsoc
46	Red Hot Chilli Steppers- History Soc	84,501	Cumann Staire

Socs Week in Review

Classics Soc EGM and Games Night



On Tuesday, the 23rd of March, Classics Soc held an EGM to fill the positions of Social Media Manager, 1st Year Representative and OCM. It was held on their Discord server (<https://discord.gg/HCdsgkZ4>) and while we are all online the usual chaos of an EGM was still very much in play.

The meeting was chaired by auditor, Charlotte Kelly and a run down of how voting would work on Discord was gone over while people were being welcomed into the meeting. Once the formalities were done the run for positions began with participants from first years to postgrads running for the highly coveted spots. The candidates were asked to give a speech about why they'd be good for the positions and at the end of the meeting the committee members were:

Mohamed Yaser Babukhan (New Social Media Manager)

Sahara-Rose Farris (New OCM)

Jack Davoren (New 1st Year Representative)

Massive Congratulations to the new committee members and we know they'll make the society a great place for all students new and old.

Once the EGM was finished the newly formed committee and a few of the regular members started a games night for all. We started with Gartic Phone, a mixture of Telephone and Pictionary which results in some very strange images being shown. Then the night moved on to Jackbox Party Pack. Jackbox is a series of mini-games that you can play on your phone and stream live to your device. It encourages audience participation and for people to think on the spot to come up with creative solutions to different problems.

Once it got quite late some people had to leave but a few stayed on just chatting for a few hours and bonded with the new committee and some of the more recent members. All in all it really showed how Classics Soc has thrived in an online environment despite the restrictions that would come with that. Every day there's always something happening on their Discord server driving discussion of Classics but most of the time just chatting to make sure everyone is okay.

A massive congratulations once again to the committee for both welcoming in the next generation of Classics Society and for really running an engaging online community.

Society Events Coming up!



Rainbow Week – Bród Soc

Bród Soc is kicking off Rainbow Week with an Ally day on their Discord on Monday 29th of March at 7pm. It's a great opportunity for allies to learn more about the LGBT+ community and how to be a good ally.

Then on Friday the 2nd of April on Zoom, a rainbow sleepover will take place. A number of talks and screenings will take place all celebrating the LGBT+ community. You can get tickets to the event at this [link](#) (it's free to enter) and you can donate to Teach Solais (an LGBT+ charity in Galway) [here](#)

Barry's Section



Barry's News

Hey everyone!

Not much news this week! Make sure you sign up for **Le Chéile** as you've already seen in the newsletter! It's gonna be an amazing weekend.

USI Congress.

USI Congress is the annual meeting of students and student union officers from across the country to discuss students issues and debate motions which will determine the priorities of USI and it's member organisations. It takes place Tues 6th – Thurs 8th April

and applications to attend as part of the NUIG delegation close this Sat 27th March. [Sign up at this link](#)

Stitch and Bitch

This is one of my highlights of every week. Our Stitch and Bitch knitting group is on every Tuesday at 7pm. Open to all crafters! Email studentsunion@nuigalway.ie for more info.

The last few weeks have been hard and there's a lot of midterms happening at the moment. I just want you to remember that you're never alone! Here's a couple of numbers you can ring if you ever need a chat.

Aware: 1800 804 848

Women's Aid: 1800 341 900

Samaritans: 116 123

ChildLine: 1800 666666/ 50101

Pieta House: 1800 247 247

Jigsaw: 1800 544729

LGBT Helpline Ireland: 1890 929 539

Counselling: counselling@nuigalway.ie

Grá mór a chairde!

Slán x.

COMPETITION TIME

LAST WEEK'S DINGBAT...

Answers

1. Red in the face
2. Green eggs and ham
3. Back rub
4. All thumbs
5. Two left feet
6. Black sheep of the family
7. Big fish in a little pond
8. tennis shoes
9. Long time no see
10. All in a day's work

We got loads of entries and noone got them all right but our winner came closest getting 9 out of the 10 correct

Congratulations to

Miriam Kennedy

who wins a **€10 Gift Voucher!**

1. FACE	2. EGG EGG HAM
3. BUR	4. THUMBS THUMBS THUMBS THUMBS THUMBS THUMBS...
5. TEEF FEET TEEF	6. FAMILY SHEEP
7. po FISH nd	8. ISSUE ISSUE ISSUE ISSUE ISSUE ISSUE ISSUE ISSUE ISSUE ISSUE
9. TIME a b d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z	10. DAYSALLWORK

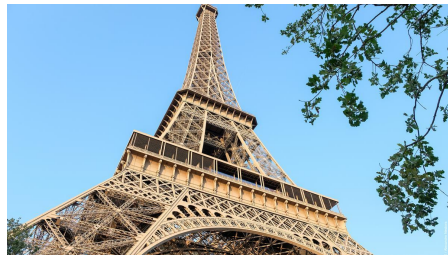
Try out this weeks competition

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



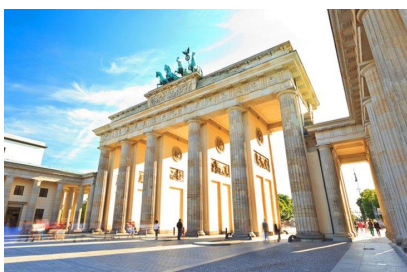
4



5



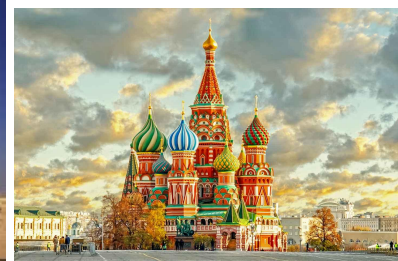
6



7



8



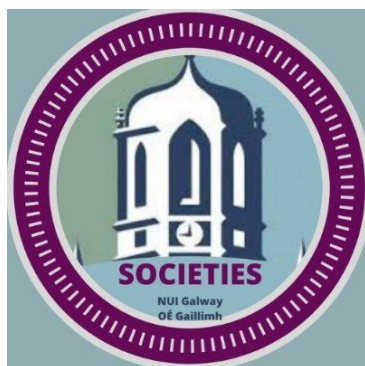
9

Remember to email socsbox@socs.nuigalway.ie with “Geography Newsletter challenge” in the info bar with the city AND country of each of the landmarks pictured above.

SocsBox on Social Media

[TikTok](#) [Snapchat](#) [Discord](#) [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#) [Facebook](#)

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)



Helpdesk Link on
www.socs.nuigalway.ie
Open Monday - Thursday 2pm -
8pm



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 with 'Socsbox News' in the title by Thursday at 1pm. It will also be archived in Socs information link on www.socs.nuigalway.ie in the purple box at the top of the home page.