

explicit

MTU STUDENTS' UNION MAG



MTU CORK
STUDENTS' UNION

POSITIVE BODY & MIND WEEK
TIMETABLE

THE STUDENT WALK OUT:
MTU CORK SU

"MOMENTUM"
ART EXHIBITION

MTU AS A SAFE SPACE
FOR STUDENTS



13th - 16th Nov

POSITIVE BODY
& MIND WEEK



MTU CORK
STUDENTS' UNION OFFICERS
2023-2024



ISOBEL KAVANAGH

STUDENTS' UNION PRESIDENT

Representation // Organisation // Press & Media // Campaigns //
National Issues // Facilities & Services // Chief Spokesperson

Isobel Kavanagh

EVA
CORCORAN



**STUDENTS' UNION VICE
PRESIDENT WELFARE**

Well Being Campaigns // Financial
Issues // General Student Support //
Accommodation // Safety // Equality

Eva Corcoran



OISIN GAHAN



**STUDENTS' UNION VICE
PRESIDENT EDUCATION**

Academic Issues // Grants Information
// Education Campaigns // Grinds List
Management // Class Rep Organisation

Oisín Gahan



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HANDBOOK OUT NOW!

Your guide to all things MTU Cork,
pick yours up **TODAY** at the
Students' Union Office.



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N-TUTORR

THE MTU BISHOPSTOWN CAMPUS
LIBRARY IS NOW OPEN ON

SUNDAYS

10.00AM TO 4.00PM



*Now
Open
Sundays!*

MTU STUDENTS' UNION OFFICERS & STAFF

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**YOUR
UNION
YOUR
VOICE**

Mon 13th

B-Town + CSM + CCAD

CSM // 11:00am - 12:00pm

INFORMATION STALLS AND FREEBIES

CCAD // 1:00 - 2:00pm

INFORMATION STALLS AND FREEBIES

Tues 14th

B-Town + NMCI

NMCI // 11:00am - 2:00pm

FOOD VAN (OUTSIDE CANTEEN)

Bishopstown // 1:00 - 2:00pm

MAGICIAN JUSTIN BOWMAN (COMMON ROOM)

Wed 15th

B-Town

Bishopstown // 11:00am - 2:00pm

RUMLEY'S FARM (OUTSIDE STUDENT CENTRE)

HEAD MASSAGES (MAIN CORRIDOR)

STALLS (ARENA, MEDICAL, COUNSELLING, DRUGS & ALCOHOL TASKFORCE, HSE ALONE, COPE)

Thurs 16th

B-Town + NMCI

NMCI // 11:00am - 12:00pm

MENTAL HEALTH SHOW (DOWNSTAIRS LECTURE THEATRE)

Bishopstown // 10:00am - 2:00pm

FOOD VAN (OUTSIDE LIBRARY) // ALL DAY

MENTAL HEALTH SHOW (COMMON ROOM) // @10-1

A stylized illustration of a person from the back, wearing a dark blue top. Their hair is dark and styled in a bun, with a large red heart placed on top of the head. The background features a large teal heart shape, a bright yellow circle behind the head, and a dark blue sky with orange stars. The overall style is modern and artistic.

POSITIVE BODY & MIND WEEK

13th – 16th November

The Student Walk Out

Students mounted a temporary blockade of the staff car park at Munster Technological University's (MTU) main Cork campus on Tuesday to highlight their campaign for improved public transport links and for more parking options.

Hundreds of students also staged a walkout of classes just after 11am to highlight their calls for more frequent and reliable bus services, for more campus parking, and for massive State investment in affordable student accommodation close to the Bishopstown campus.

MTU Student Union president Isobel Kavanagh told a mass rally of students in the college canteen that they temporarily blocked the main staff car park on Tuesday morning to give senior university staff a taste of the parking difficulties faced by many students daily who have no option but to drive to college.

Students cheered as she said:

When they came in for 9am because they always think they are guaranteed their parking space, they had to go and find parking just like every single one of ye. I hope they aren't silly and park on the grass or they might see a big yellow clamp on their car.

She said parking in and around MTU had been a serious issue for many years and was worsening as student numbers grow, with the parking problems spilling over into neighbouring housing estates. The problem is exacerbated by the lack of student accommodation, forcing many students who live in county towns to drive to college instead, she said. 'I have no hope of finding a parking space'

Slava Storojuc, 39, a mature second-year business studies student from Mallow, faced a five-hour daily bus commute last year to get to and from college some 40kms away.

"It was too much so I had to make a decision — either I continue to study here and find another way of getting here, or I leave the course — so I had to buy a car. I had to finance it myself, which isn't easy when you are a student," he said.

Now I spend three hours a day commuting. But if I don't get here by 8.30am, if there is any delay on the way, I have no hope of finding a parking space. And I was clamped here three weeks ago. The fine was €80.

"I want MTU to come up with a clear strategy that takes into account the rising number of students."

"It's not too easy to study" Roman Morenko, 17, fled the war in Ukraine with his mother and younger sister to settle in Clonakilty just over 18 months ago and is now studying software development at MTU. He makes the 50km journey to college daily by bus, leaving home at 7am, and often not getting home until 9pm some days.

"I would like for the buses to be more reliable, because they are constantly late, and for more frequent buses, because sometimes I have to wait for an hour for a bus home"

"And if accommodation was more affordable for students, I could move up to the city. It's not too easy to study when you spend three hours every day on a bus. I don't have a lot of free time."

Second-year mechanical engineering student Connor Cody lives in Glanmire and said his option was to face a two-bus cross-city journey which could take up to two hours, or drive and arrive at college before 8am to secure parking.

It's nightmarish trying to find parking!

I could be here some mornings circling the car park for maybe 90-minutes to two hours waiting for someone to free up a slot. I've had to miss lectures because of it.

He said students want to see MTU introduce a park and ride service, which was piloted previously from the greyhound stadium at nearby Curraheen Park, and an extension of the 208 bus route from Marymount to MTU.

Ms Kavanagh said MTU authorities must come up with a plan to cope with the growing numbers of students, which includes more frequent buses, especially at peak times.

Students are facing unbelievable levels of stress just to get to all of our campuses and to get to classes, day in and day out, students are waiting for buses to arrive in the mornings and sometimes, when they do arrive, they are already full.

"On the other hand, students are unable to get buses from certain towns and because of this, and the lack of affordable student accommodation, many students have to drive to college."





In a statement, MTU said access to its Bishopstown campus was the subject of ongoing discussion with relevant stakeholders and authorities, and it was exploring off-campus parking including park and ride options, that it was working with local transport authorities to improve public transport options, especially at peak travel times, that it encouraged car-pooling, the use of public transport, walking and cycling, and that it had improved cycling facilities and access, including a new location of the city bike share scheme on campus.

But Ms Kavanagh said:

Ultimately, MTU spends too much time dwelling on decisions and simply misses the opportunities to avail of solutions that present themselves. This lack of decision-making is having a massive effect on all students and staff.

Student leaders plan to continue their campaign by targeting MTU's open day for prospective students.



At the time of publication, we in the SU are delighted to inform you that we have had a very positive meeting with MTU management since this protest and they have addressed and put solutions in motion to improve the student experience. We will provide more details very soon.

YOUR STUDENT EXECUTIVE

Isobel Kavanagh – Oisín Gahan – Eva Corcoran
Alma Krause – Connor Cody – Eireann Griffin

MTU AS A Safe-space



Inclusivity, diversity, and equality affect us all. Everyone has a natural desire to belong and be part of a welcoming community. That is why we at the LGBT+ Society have made it our primary mission to help create and maintain safe-spaces within the college for all students.

A safe-space can be any place where you feel protected and safe. This could be your favourite café, a restaurant you really like, or MTU itself (the popcorn chicken definitely helps).

WHAT IS A SAFE-SPACE?

The importance of safe-spaces in colleges is undeniable. With exam-season coming around, the importance of safe-spaces in MTU has never been more apparent. As we all know, exams and assignments can easily become overwhelming without a reprieve from the stress.

Safe-spaces offer an opportunity to speak openly and honestly about ourselves. By communicating openly, we gain the opportunity to learn about others and what makes them unique. The diversity of experiences and backgrounds in MTU helps us learn more about other people and the world as a whole. These differences add to the richness and variety of our lives. Undoubtedly, there is strength in diversity.

WHY ARE SAFE-SPACES IMPORTANT?

With the help of the Societies Office, we have thankfully been able to create a safe harbour in the face of the tidal wave of stress that are exams. Our solution? Like many students, our minds instantly jumped to coffee.

Our bi-weekly coffee mornings offer an opportunity for all students to relax, recuperate, and recover (as well as an opportunity to drown in coffee as opposed to stress) during these frigid, winter mornings in Cork.

If you want a break from the stress of exams, or you simply want to drink a warm cup of tea whilst munching on a handful of free biscuits, make sure to pay us a visit at our next coffee morning. Our next coffee morning will be November 15th, so make sure to keep an eye on our Instagram for further details.

FLAG WEEK

Last semester, as part of our FLAG (Festival for LGBT+ Appreciation and Gratitude) Week initiative, we were delighted to have the opportunity to work in collaboration with the EDI Office and other societies to promote inclusivity throughout the college.

We look forward to having an even bigger and bolder FLAG Week again next semester, where we will be able to celebrate the inclusive and diverse community of MTU.

Safe-spaces help us grow personally and form connections with others. Ultimately, it is the connections we make with others in MTU which will stick with us longer than any exam.

We are delighted to be able to play a small part in helping MTU not only be an institute for academic learning, but an institute for learning about ourselves, others, and our community as a whole.

REACH OUT TO US AT:

lgbtcork@mtusocieties.ie

or **follow us** on Instagram **@mtu_lgbt_cork**



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CORK to:	ROUTE	ONLINE SINGLE	ONLINE RETURN
Waterford	40	€7.50	€12.00
Limerick	51	€9.00	€14.40
Galway	51	€11.00	€17.60

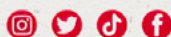
CORK to:	ROUTE	ONLINE SINGLE	ONLINE RETURN
Dungarvan	40	€4.00	€6.40
Tralee	40	€11.80	€16.60
Killarney	40	€10.50	€15.60

*Fares correct at time of print August 2023.

Tickets must be pre-booked online to avail of the offer. Simply show your Young Adult or Student Leap Card along with your booking to the driver when you board.



* Versus standard adult fare. T&Cs apply.



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From Your Student Counselling Team



On signing on to Togetherall for the first time, all of a sudden I had a community of people who understood me...I wasn't alone anymore. ”

- Anonymous Togetherall User

As you know, being a university student comes with a unique set of opportunities and challenges, and you are likely juggling a lot right now. As a way of supporting you, MTU has chosen to partner with a company providing virtual peer-to-peer mental health and wellbeing support - **Togetherall**.

Togetherall offers a dedicated space where students can connect with each other to offer insight, advice, and comfort 24/7 for FREE.

WAYS TOGETHERALL HELPS STUDENTS

It's Anonymous: Togetherall is completely anonymous which can help students open up, seek support, and get help in a safe way.

IT'S AVAILABLE 24/7

The 24/7 nature of the platform allows students to seek mental health support at any time

IT'S SAFE

Togetherall is monitored 24/7 by clinicians to ensure the platform stays safe, inclusive, and open to everyone. Members can post about their experiences without fear of negative comments and reach out for professional support if needed.

IT'S SUPPORTIVE

Students can give support to others in the global community. They may share and read about experiences outside of their academics where they can offer support and understanding.

IT OFFERS GROUP CONNECTIONS WITH OTHER STUDENTS

Togetherall has a group specifically dedicated to students so they can share their successes, setbacks, triumphs and obstacles with others who understand

You can also access courses and read articles on health and wellbeing topics on the platform including:

- **Tips for Improving Sleep**
- **Tips for Managing Depression**
- **Coping with Mood**
- **Tips for Managing Panic**
- **Tips for Cutting down your Drinking**



HOW TO SIGN UP:

Visit **Togetherall.com** and register using your student email address.

The MTU Wellbeing Pod

The 'MTU Wellbeing Hub' is an initiative in MTU to support students on their journey through higher education. The Wellbeing Hub shares health and wellbeing content for students in the form of engaging podcasts and videos on areas of health and wellbeing shared on Instagram.

As part of the most recent episode, host Thomas Broderick (Dept. Sport, Leisure and Childhood Studies) speaks to Student Engagement Officer on the Cork Campus, Roisin O'Grady and MTU students and student engagement associates, Brian Ngugi (Marketing Student) and Caoimhe Moore (Fine Art, CCAD)

During the conversation Roisin highlights all the key initiatives that are offered through the AnSEO Student Engagement Office to support you the student as you start life in MTU. These include the Good Start, Academic Success Coaching and The EDGE Graduate Development Programme just to name a few. For easy access to all these great supports please see AnSEO Student Engagement on LinkTree <https://linktr.ee/mtuanseo>.

Brian and Caoimhe share their experiences from a student perspective and also from their point of view from engaging with students as Student Engagement Associates. They talk about what the good things are about MTU and what you can look forward. They also share their personal insight on the challenges they have faced and how they have overcome them.

They both also discuss how they manage their wellbeing in MTU and finish the podcast by sharing their golden nugget on what you should do to ensure you get off to a good start or look to do things better as returning student. There is so much in this episode that you can take away and apply to your life in MTU that will help you as you journey through MTU. Listen to the full episode here:

Listen Here



<https://open.spotify.com/episode/6MlBhEeTAgSVpANugzKO?si=48637334189e479d>

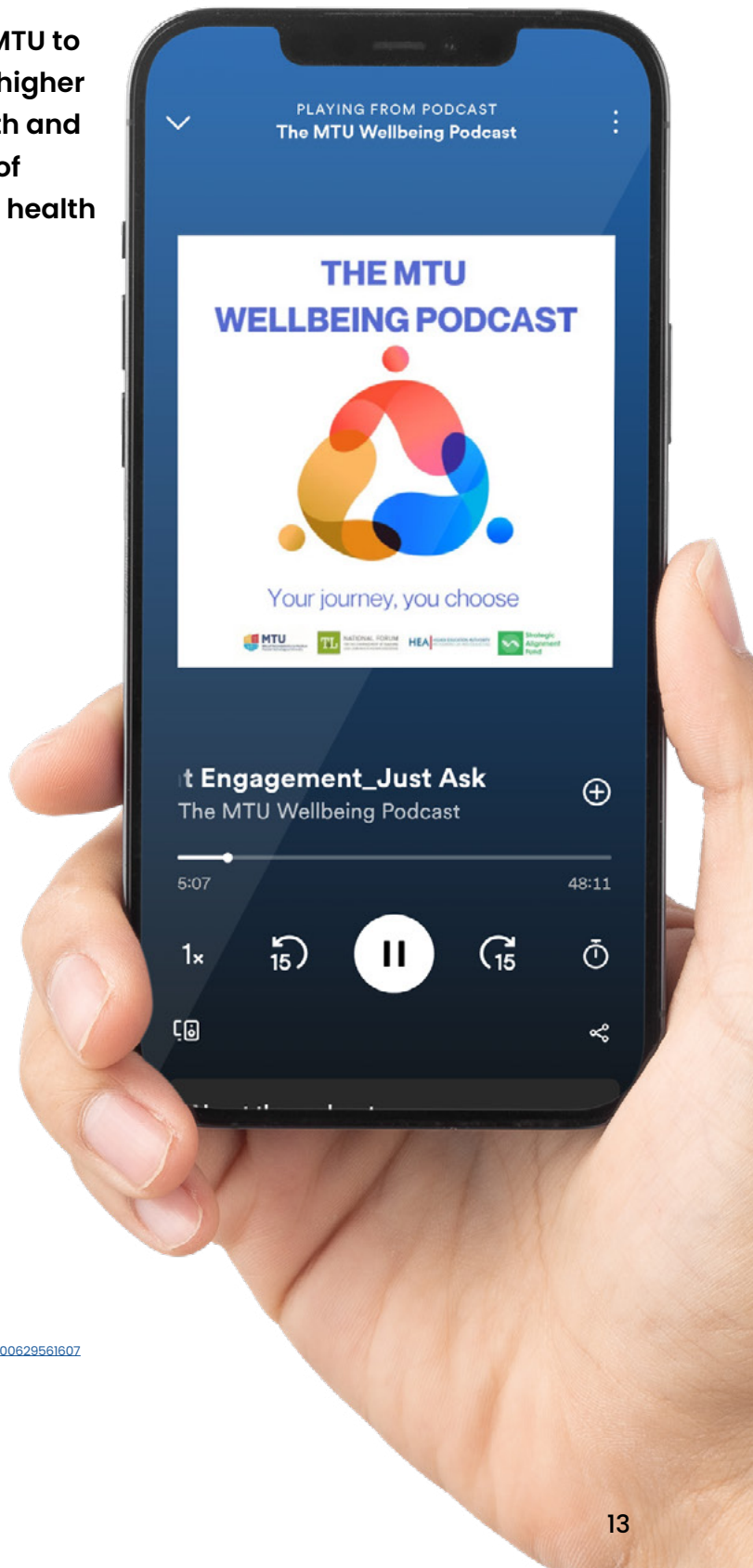


<https://podcasts.apple.com/ie/podcast/the-mtu-wellbeing-podcast/id1595898356?i=1000629561607>

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Momentum

This collaborative exhibition involved student representatives in the selection panel and in hosting the exhibition. It presents works by students of Fine Art and Contemporary Applied Art who have just completed their BA Honours Degrees at MTU Crawford College of Art & Design.

The selected works address many issues that are important to students, and highlight challenges faced by students in engaging with their course and in planning for the future. Some of the key themes are body image and representation, the housing and dereliction crises, climate awareness and response. The works also raise the importance of having time and space to observe, to reflect, to imagine, and to re-imagine. Today's students and graduates are the innovators and policy-makers of the future, the community and the society of the future.

This exhibition celebrates the work of students as they move on to the next stage of study and professional practice.



I was delighted to be on the selection panel for the Momentum Exhibition. This is the first ever exhibition at MTU where student representatives worked with the Arts Office to select all the work on show. All of us in the selection panel really enjoyed the process and we were delighted to select work that connected with us in terms of the messages they were communicating and other pieces because they demonstrated a high level of skill and artistic expression.

Themes around dereliction and the housing crises featured strongly in the show this year and this, obviously, is very relevant to the student population as it is an issue that affects many students in MTU and beyond. All of the artists in this Exhibition should be so proud of themselves – you are all amazing!



– Isobel Kavanagh, MTU Cork SU President



RACHEL ALLEN

BA Hons. Contemporary Applied Art, MTU Crawford College of Art & Design, 2023

My goal is to create ceramic jewellery that is large-scale and visually impactful, while simultaneously still light-weight and stylish. I am drawn to jewellery making through an interest in combining functional ceramics and fashion, and I love to create intricate pieces that are still wearable.

My concept for these works stems from hydrangeas, particularly from their colours and their complex structures which play a big part in the construction of my pieces. I fell in love with hydrangeas as a result of learning about how the colour of the plant changes due to the ph. of the soil, and that even one plant can have an array of colours ranging from deep blues to pale pinks. I chose porcelain paperclay and limoges porcelain to create these works due to the vividness of the clay when coloured using nano-stains and the delicate and diaphanous qualities of the clay.



JEMIMA RECKS

BA Hons. Fine Art, MTU Crawford College of Art & Design, 2023

My work focuses on the topic of narrative and confession, using myself as the model but from an objective view. I am responding to the patriarchal pressures and social norms forced upon us from a young age.

I have developed a process of creating my compositions in an isolated setting, confronting my insecurities by drawing my body from life or through mirrors. Challenging this natural instinct of fight, flight or freeze, noting my toxic narrative while drawing these insecurities. The work is made using domestic textiles to bring the viewer into the space where the process happens, and to reference the vulnerability and sensitivity of this topic.



ANDREA NEWMAN

BA Hons. Fine Art, MTU Crawford College of Art & Design, 2023

Níl Aon Tinteán: Screenprint on paper, handstitched book.

My work explores Ireland's housing crisis through the use of photography and text-based work. As a young adult in Ireland emigration feels inevitable and through my work, I am exploring dereliction and also reclaiming lost parts of the Irish language.

I use screen printing for my text-based work and I have been exploring zine and bookmaking to archive this work. I am specifically documenting the irony and classism of the use of steel to board up vacant council housing during a housing crisis. Through the use of photography and installation I am confronting the viewer with these landscapes and derelict spaces they normally would not be faced with.

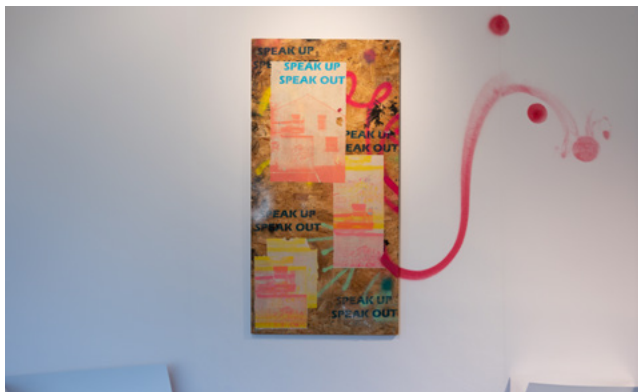


CAROLINE BOWLES

BA Hons. Fine Art, MTU Crawford College of Art & Design, 2023

My work is mainly figurative and embodied in nature with free flowing abstracted elements. I use multiple layers of wet and dry drawing and painting media: inks, acrylic paint washes, charcoal and pastel on paper and large canvases, sometimes with audio or video elements.

Excavating my own past learnings of study and travel in Asia, of meditation, calligraphy, Qi Gong, acupuncture practice and music training, I find myself reimagining figurative and abstract postures which express something of movement, fluidity and power and how it is held emotionally in the human frame. The embodied act of painting, touching in just enough to capture the figure in movement, allowing them to emerge on the canvas until they are barely visible keeps these images gestural, active and authentic.

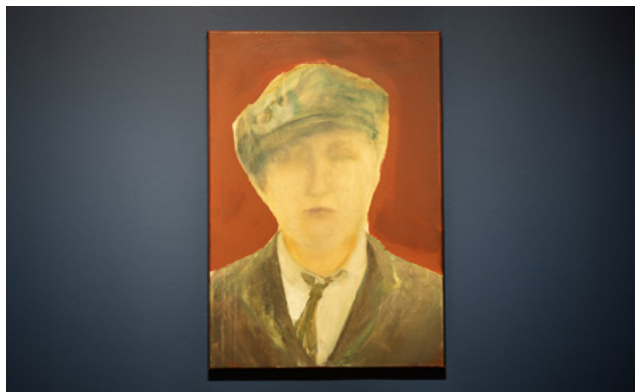


MELANIE MCGRATH

BA Hons. Fine Art, MTU Crawford College of Art & Design, 2023

My practice is a socially engaged investigation into urban space and the culture within. In particular graffiti, marks, imprints and layers act as a sketchbook of ideas for further works. I look at these marks left behind in the city and read them as a palimpsest. I choose specific sites to research that contribute to my work.

Derelict sites are of interest due to the vast amount in my surrounding area and my urge to highlight this issue. Site orientated research has led me to a number of liminal spaces around Cork City such as properties on Barrack Street, Father Mathew Street, Evergreen Street and Albert Road. I gather text from the property itself, either sprayed on a wall or words gathered from found content. I gather imagery from each site and translate these photographs into screen-prints. I use building material to create an immersive installation and to capture the essence of the urban scape.



JENNY FITZGERALD

BA Hons. Fine Art, MTU Crawford College of Art & Design 2023

1914-1920 was a prominent time for the Irish rebellion against the British parliament. As an Irish woman, I am aware that there is a dearth of information about female participation in this uprising. This led me to research the establishment of Cumann na mBan and Inghinidhe na hÉireann.

Courageous women such as Countess Markovich, Ada English, and Mary MacSwiney, to name a few, rebelled, fought, and supported the Free State movement. My work aims to highlight these women's actions, recognising their contributions and roles while being aware of how they have been hidden from the limelight of our history.



QUEENIE O'SULLIVAN

BA Hons. Contemporary Applied Art, MTU Crawford College of Art & Design, 2023

My current work examines the boundaries between fantasy and reality and deals with themes of escapism and the power held in the imaginative mind.

Using drawing and a host of personal iconography I hope to create a dreamlike atmosphere in my narrative scenes. The round tower in an imagined world exists as a background to explore the emotions tied to the domestic and memory.



SAOIRSE RADFORD

BA Hons. Fine Art, MTU Crawford College of Art & Design, 2023

My work aims to investigate the unconscious mind by means of building a world separate to that of the logical mind. I am attempting to create a dialogue between the conscious and unconscious self by using methods related to automatism, constantly stepping away and refreshing the way that I create images.

I have been using dreams as a means of research. I analyse and transfer the imagery contained in my dream journal, allowing a language of symbolism to form from these images. I work in layers, sometimes hiding the earlier images completely, forming an intricate world of shapes and symbols, using a combination of both painting and drawing.



ANA MARIA SURDU

BA Hons. Contemporary Applied Art, MTU Crawford College of Art & Design, 2023

Microplastics have become a component of our water, soil, and organisms and they are an unquestionable intervention in our present geologic period. How will this be recorded by our knowledge and history institutions? How will our Holocene land-fields be represented in the geologic stratigraphic samples? As trilobites were the markers of the Cambrian rock formation, will bottle caps become the alternative stratigraphic marker of our Quaternary period?

My work presents small environs made up from organic replicas in ceramic and glass and the found materiality on various West Cork beaches. These environmental art pieces are an investigation of visual mutations. Curious combinations are presented where mass-produced objects washed by the sea deviously mingle with wonders which belong to the domain of Nature. The conflicting materiality displayed in lit cabinets of curiosities (Wunderkammer) or the use of environmental photography, challenge the viewer's perception as the divide between Naturalia and Artificialia trick the eye.



CONOR O'BRIEN

BA Hons. Fine Art, MTU Crawford College of Art & Design, 2023

My work explores the relationship between marginalised queer bodies and the alien other of science fiction, pulling on representations of the incomprehensible from the cosmic horror sub-genre like the Eldritch Terrors of H.P. Lovecraft, the imaginings of H.R. Giger (Necronomicon) or the Cenobites of Clive Barker's The Hellbound Heart/Hellraiser.

Trans and genderqueer bodies are being weaponised politically by right wing movements worldwide. The discussion around trans identity in media, which largely seems to ignore or under represent trans voices, has reduced the issue to 'us' and 'them'. This dehumanises and alienates trans people, who instead become a thing to be feared rather than individuals to be understood.

My paintings act as a first contact between the viewer and this alien body. The biomorphic creations I refer to as Visitors pull on life native to earth such as fungi or marine life, informing the viewer that they are more like us than we might initially think.





Despite the inclement weather on Wednesday 18 October the annual Societies Training event was a great success attended by Societies Committee members from across the MTU Cork Campuses.

Students who attended were trained in various areas such as Leadership, Communication skills, Teamwork, Public Relations, Event Management to mention a few.

The evening was also a fantastic opportunity for students involved in Societies to network with their fellow Society Committee Members and has already brought about great collaborations among Societies.

It was fantastic for staff members from across the University to have the opportunity to speak with the students and to hear the great passion they have for their respective Societies.

The Societies Office team are looking forward to next year's event already and hopeful for less rainfall.

MATURE STUDENTS SOCIETY

Coffee Morning

MEET CHRISTINE NOLAN (MATURE STUDENT OFFICER) & SHANE FALVEY (SOCIETIES OFFICER) FOR A BITE TO EAT, A CUP OF COFFEE AND AN INFORMAL CHAT ABOUT RECONVENING THE MATURE STUDENT SOCIETY

AT 08:15 AM - 09:00 AM **TUES 7TH NOVEMBER**

West atrium - Bishopstown Campus

AN ACCESS SERVICE & SOCIETIES OFFICE (STUDENT SERVICES) INITIATIVE



Volunteer Abroad

I want to express how grateful I am for being supported by MTU to make this trip. It was an eye-opening experience for me. A bit emotional at times but overall, a positive one. Tanzania though an impoverished country is rich in natural beauty and a lovely people with a rich culture and a strong African heritage.

Helping out at the school, you could tell which students were more fortunate and which students had less to go home to. The greatest reassurance more than the money contributed, was how well the kids all got on with each other regardless of their backgrounds and the respect they accorded me and their official class leader. I want to thank MTU once again for what had been an awe-inspiring journey!



Judith Toroa,
Biomedical Engineering Student

I'm deeply grateful for an incredible summer spent teaching English to Vietnamese students during a 2-month volunteer experience in Vietnam. Thanks to the Volunteer Abroad Scholarship from Munster Technological University Societies and the MTU Cork Award with EIL Intercultural Learning, this opportunity became a reality. Teaching students aged 4-17 allowed me to use creativity to make learning fun and boost their confidence. The warmth and hospitality of the Vietnamese people left a lasting impression on my heart, forging priceless connections and friendships.

Special thanks to those whose support made this volunteer journey possible, especially Aoife Kelliher, Carolin and Adam, and to all the teachers and role models who've shaped me into who I am today.



Sharan Shaju,
Visual Communications Graduate

WHAT IS VOLUNTEER ABROAD?

Volunteer Abroad is a programme which provides financial support to MTU students who wish to undertake a volunteer programme abroad during the summer break.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Current full-time students.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Cover the Full cost of the programme & flights
A scholarship covers the cost of a 4 -8 week volunteer programme and flights. You must identify a volunteer programme from one of three organisations.

- EIL Explore
- SERVE
- The Hope Foundation

BURSARIES

Contribution towards the cost of the programme & flights

You can volunteer with any organisation of your choosing. If you have not yet chosen the organisation, you wish to volunteer with a good point to start your search is www.volunteeringoptions.org

DEADLINES FOR APPLYING:

Scholarship Applications 30 November 2023

Bursary Applications 31 January 2024

For further information please email volunteer.abroad@mtu.ie



MTU
Oileall Teicneolaíochta na Muman
Munster Technological University

SOCIETIES
Munster Technological University

VOLUNTEER ABROAD with **SERVE** **HOPE** **EIL INTERCULTURAL LEARNING**

TUESDAY 14TH NOVEMBER | 5PM
MEETING ROOM 1 | STUDENT CENTRE

Information Evening

PROVIDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO MTU STUDENTS
VOLUNTEERING IN PROJECTS ABROAD.

COME ALONG FIND OUT HOW TO APPLY FOR FUNDING AND
HEAR FROM PREVIOUS PARTICIPANTS OF THE PROGRAMME



Kristin Bracewell

PhD student at MTU, Department of International Business and Marketing

WHAT DOES EMPLOYABILITY MEAN ANYWAYS?

In the N-TUTORR program, I'm a student champion under the employability working group. Employability refers to how likely someone is to find a job or become employed. Getting your qualification is definitely one way to become more employable but within N-TUTORR we also want to ensure that you graduate with the right skills, resources, and experiences that you need to be employable anywhere. To do this we want to transform the student experience to ensure that that your education provides you with the future-proof skills, experiences, and attributes that employers want.

HOW CAN YOU BECOME MORE EMPLOYABLE?

As a mature student who's spent time working outside of the university, here are three tips I used to become more employable while studying:

► GET EXPERIENCE

Consider a part-time job or voluntary role where you can learn new skills, expand your networks, and use your existing skills. You don't have to worry about finding a fit that's a perfect match for your career ambitions. Working in any capacity, either paid or voluntary, can help develop the transferable skills that employers are really interested in such as communication, teamwork, and problem-solving.

► DOCUMENT YOUR WINS

Start collecting and writing down instances where you've gone above and beyond, solved a complicated problem, or received really great feedback from a lecturer or supervisor. You can use these examples in interviews to advocate for yourself as the best person for the job and remind yourself of your successes.

► KNOW WHAT EMPLOYERS WANT

Start looking at the skills, attributes, and qualifications for the jobs you're interested in working after graduation. Check if there are courses at MTU, micro credentials available online, or work experience opportunities that could help prepare you to be the ideal candidate for the role.

FUTURE STEPS

If you have ideas for how MTU can support you to improve your employability, the N-TUTORR team would love to hear from you. If you want some help planning your future career and navigating the job market build your knowledge by reading through the Careers Office resources. They have loads available online on the Careers Portal and their website <https://www.mycit.ie/careers>. Every MTU student has free access to this. Learn about improving the format of your CV, preparing for interviews and much more. They also offer group and 1 to 1 appointments.

Improving your employability requires an ongoing effort but take the first step and put yourself in a better position bit by bit.

Natalia Zajac

2nd year Business & Management student

GAINING DIGITAL BADGES FOR YOUR CV

N-TUTORR is a collaboration between many Technological Higher Education Sectors across Ireland. Through my role as student champion I have chosen to focus on the theme of Digital Transformation in Teaching and Learning.

Digital Transformation in Teaching and Learning is about how important technology is becoming in current society. My role involves testing platforms of Digital Literacy to aid changes in the current society. It makes teaching and learning just that bit easier when it can be done using technology.

Along with the other student champions we have been engaging with a development called the Student Digital Backpack (SDB) that will be brought out to students in the coming weeks. The backpack will allow students to upskill in subjects not only their current area of study but also various topics that affect us all. These will include the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), Civic Engagement and a course addressing the issue of Gender-Based Violence. On completing the courses on the digital backpack, students will receive a Digital Badge which you can include as a competency on your CV or LinkedIn profile.

Currently the Academic Integrity badge is live and available to all MTU students on Canvas. If you want to ensure you are completing your college work and assignments in an ethical and fair way, I would strongly encourage all students to complete the course. It will give you a better understanding of academic integrity in college and practical examples of what you can and cannot do.

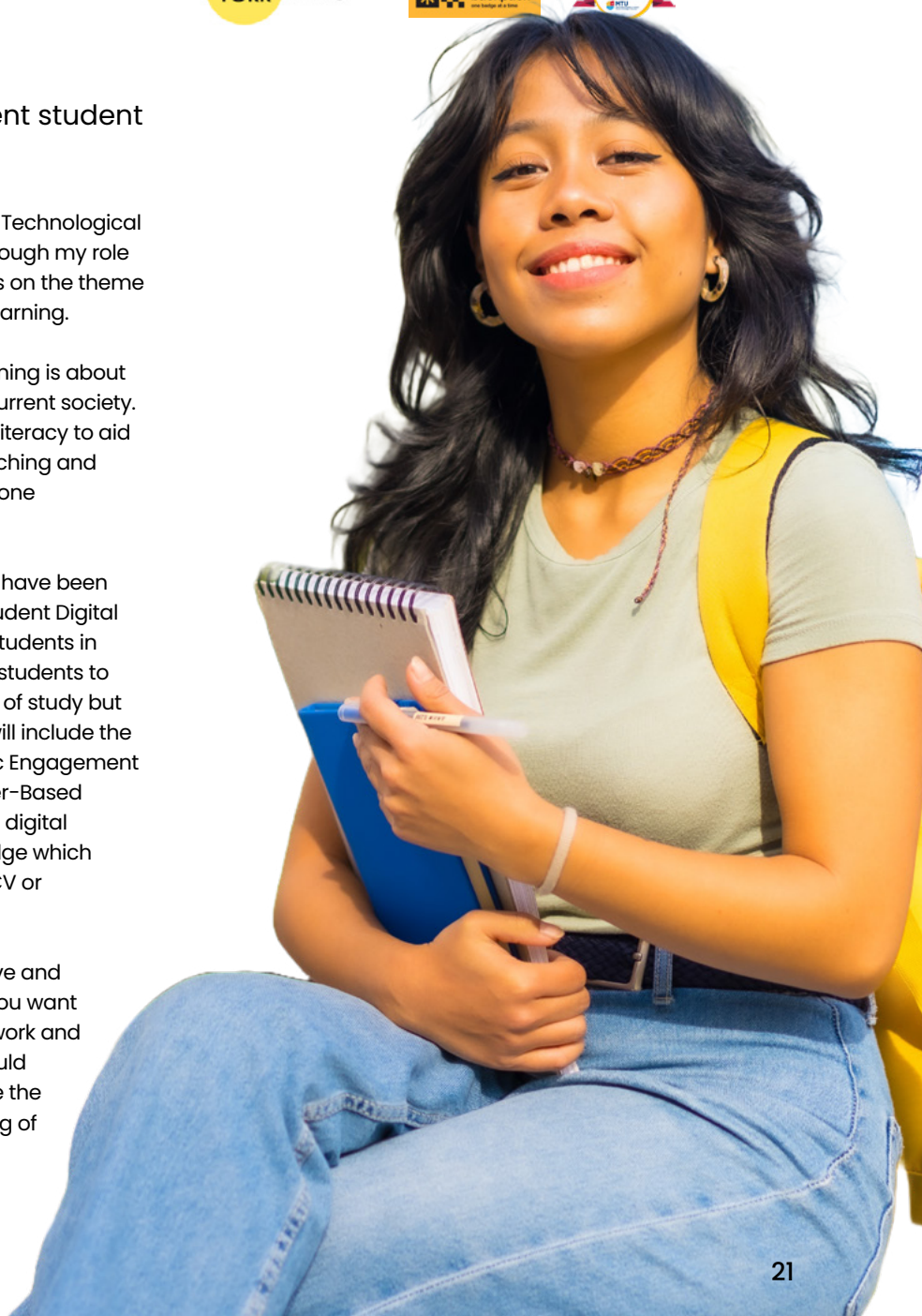
Aoife Kelliher

N-TUTORR Student Empowerment Coordinator

The goal of N-TUTORR initiative is to support the transformation of the student experience to make it more accessible, sustainable and inclusive for all higher education learners, upholding the standards of Academic Integrity and focusing on improving the employability of students. During this academic year there will be opportunities for students to benefit from N-TUTORR funded resources and initiatives across all campuses. Keep an eye on MTU Instagram for updates and make the most of opportunities you encounter.



Transforming Learning



A Digital Dilemma

| Cormac O'Dowda

In an era where technological advancements are celebrated as the pinnacle of human achievement, it's time to pause and reflect on the inconveniences that have come hand in hand with these so-called innovations. We live in a world where we are constantly bombarded by gadgets and gizmos, all promising to make our lives easier, but are they really doing so? Or have we unwittingly become slaves to the very conveniences that were meant to set us free?



One cannot deny that technology has brought about remarkable changes in our lives, but these changes are not without their drawbacks. The conveniences that we so cherish often come at a high price, both literally and metaphorically. Take, for instance, the ubiquitous smartphone, a device that was once touted as a revolutionary tool for communication. It has indeed made communication more accessible, but at what cost? We have become slaves to our screens, unable to disconnect from the virtual world even for a moment. Instead of fostering meaningful face-to-face interactions, we find ourselves buried in a virtual abyss, scrolling through endless feeds and mindlessly liking and commenting on posts that often hold no real significance.

Moreover, the constant notifications that modern technology thrusts upon us are nothing short of an intrusive nuisance. The incessant beeping and buzzing of our devices disrupt our concentration, leaving us frazzled and on edge. We have become Pavlovian dogs, conditioned to respond to every notification as if our lives depended on it. We have lost the ability to focus on a single task for an extended period, and the consequences for our productivity are dire.

But the inconveniences of modern technology extend beyond the confines of our personal lives. Consider the realm of privacy, a concept that is rapidly fading into oblivion. Our every move is tracked, analysed, and monetised by tech giants who wield our personal information like a weapon. We willingly surrender our privacy for the sake of convenience, allowing companies to know our every preference, our every desire, and our every fear. The dystopian vision of a surveillance state is no longer a work of fiction; it is our reality.

The convenience of online shopping, while undeniably tempting, has dire consequences for local businesses. The rise of e-commerce giants like Amazon has decimated small businesses, leaving once-thriving main streets deserted.

The convenience of having goods delivered to our doorstep with a click of a button has come at the cost of our local economies and the communities they support. The convenience of two-day shipping has a hidden price tag, one that may ultimately lead to the homogenization of our towns and cities.

And let us not forget the toll that our insatiable appetite for technology takes on the environment. The manufacturing and disposal of electronic devices generate mountains of e-waste, poisoning our planet and endangering future generations. The convenience of constantly upgrading to the latest gadget comes at the cost of our environment, a price that we are all too willing to ignore in our pursuit of the next shiny object.

As we revel in the conveniences of modern technology, we must also confront the inconvenient truth that our addiction to these devices is leading us down a perilous path. We have become prisoners of our own creation, unable to break free from the chains of technology's allure. We have sacrificed our privacy, our communities, and our environment on the altar of convenience.

And so, we find ourselves at a crossroads, facing a foreboding future. The conveniences of modern technology are a double-edged sword, and if we continue down this path, we may find ourselves irreparably wounded. It is time to reevaluate our relationship with technology and consider the true cost of the conveniences it offers. We must ask ourselves whether the price we pay is worth the convenience we gain.

In the end, the inconveniences of modern technology may be a warning, a harbinger of a future where our addiction to convenience leads to our downfall. It is a future we must tread carefully towards, for the path we are on is fraught with peril. The conveniences of modern technology may be convenient, but they may also be our undoing. But, cheer up, it could be worse!



Sci-Fi Society Interview

Q

Can you tell me about the Sci-Fi Society?

The MTU Cork Sci-Fi society caters to fans of all aspects of science fiction. We hold many events and activities including screenings, comic libraries to cinema trips, convention trips and themed competitions, there is never a dull moment in the society. We routinely collaborate with nearby/local businesses in Cork to bring our members on various trips and prizes, and as often as possible collab with different societies both in MTU and UCC to arrange fun encounters for everyone!

Q

Why did you decide to join?

I decided to join the society back in 2019 when I first started in MTU then called CIT, most of my friends were joining and I had an interest to know more about comics as I was and still is a massive fan of the DC and Marvel universe, now as chairperson I want to share my experiences with others and welcome them into the society we're a very close knit society between the committee and members and our meet ups are always entertaining and worth showing up to.

Q

What do you think is special about this society?

You don't have to be an expert on everything science fiction to be in the society, the reason I think this society is special is because no matter if you have all the knowledge of comics and science fiction or you have know idea what science fiction is your not going to be lost or unwelcomed in Sci-Fi because our society has a range of members with different kinds of expertise in the topic.

Q

Why should students join your society?

Students who have an interest in Sci-Fi comics, movies, shows should join we cater to all Sci-Fi fantasy fanatics or if you a keen to learn more Sci-Fi society is the society for you, we are here to help our members if they want to know more or even suggest new comics for the library they want to see we are a great society and everyone gets on well with each other and our events are fun.

CHAIRPERSON SCI-FI SOCIETY

Q

Any upcoming plans/events for the semester?

We have a few events planned for the semester, Our Vice-Chair Ben has come up with an event that gets our members thinking and moving around campus, the Riddler's puzzle hunt was a fun event we started in semester two of last year, it consisted of teams figuring out the riddles spread around the nexus center on a QR code and they had to figure out who the character was to unlock the next riddle, everyone that showed up had a fantastic time and the prizes were swept up, this year Ben has more time to plan out the event and wants to make it bigger around the MTU campus and wants committee to wear Riddler related costumes from the Batman Franchise.

Q

Can you tell us your Society's proudest achievement?

Back in 2020 the society won the Best New Society award in not only the societies awards in MTU but the Board of Irish college societies as well, I wasn't a part of the committee back then, but I would say it was the then committee's and society's proudest achievement to be representing the college in such a great way.

Q

What is the best way for students to get in contact with you?

The best way for students to contact us would be to register on the student portal and join Sci-Fi from there you can gain access to our discord server which is an active server with our members, it's where we discuss different Sci-Fi movies and shows our just general chats. Our Instagram is constantly active, and many students have reached out to us through that as well and we rapidly respond. We post our events and announcements on our Instagram and our new TikTok account our social media officer is a wiz at working with the latest trends and ideas.

Q

Tell us why you love being a part of the Sci-Fi Society?

I love being a part of Sci-Fi it is a break from the college work and everyone involved is fantastic to be around, everybody clicks with each other and no one is left out and that's the best part of it everyone is welcome to join and embrace in our creative side whether you think you won't fit in trust me you will everyone is different but we don't care and that's the beauty in it, Sci-Fi society is great to meet new people and socialize it is definitely the best decision I made when I joined it will be hard to leave it behind but I know it will stay the same.



MTU MARKETING SOCIETY 2023 BALL

WONKa GOLDEN TICKET

GREETINGS TO YOU, THE LUCKY FINDER OF THIS GOLDEN TICKET

From Mr. Willy Wonka! I shake you warmly by the hand!

For now, I do invite you to come to my factory
and be my guest for one whole day.

I, Willy Wonka will conduct you around the factory myself,
showing you everything there is to see and afterwards, when it's time to leave
you will take home an astonishing prize:
Enough Wonka Confectionary to last you a lifetime.

Here are your Instructions:

On the 22nd day of November you must come to the Rochestown Park Hotel at 6 pm SHARP.
With special guests *Pat Fitz and DJ Aaron Stanton*
Until then,

Willy Wonka

TICKETS ON SALE MONDAY NOVEMBER 6TH ONLINE.
MAX 4 TICKETS PER PERSON. STUDENT ID REQUIRED. TICKETS €55.
FORMAL DRESS NECESSARY. PROSECCO RECEPTION BEGINNING 6PM. NO ENTRY AFTER 8PM.
STRICTLY OVER 18'S.
R.O.A.R