

# explicit

MTU STUDENTS' UNION MAG



MTU CORK  
STUDENTS' UNION

SPORTS CLUBS &  
SOCIETIES AWARDS

STUDENTS' UNION  
COUNCIL AWARDS

LOTS OF STUDY NEWS  
& INFORMATION

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MTU CORK  
STUDENTS' UNION

# Study Breaks



## Watch out for freebies!

We will be giving out snacks & Lucozade/water  
Bishopstown Campus:

11pm - 1pm, Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May

**Don't 'quack' under pressure! Get yourself  
a little duck to take your study worries away!**

Keep an eye out on our socials for further info and news  
about visits to the other campuses ... [@mtucorksu](https://twitter.com/mtucorksu)



# HIGHLIGHTS

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MTU CORK STUDENTS' UNION  
COUNCIL AWARDS 2025

MTU SUSTAINABILITY CAMPUS -  
THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT GREEN

CONSIDERING TRAVELLING THIS SUMMER?  
READ OUR TOP TIPS

THE MTU SOCIETIES AWARDS 2025

'COWSLIP' - A BOLD NEW STUDENT FASHION  
MAGAZINE HAS JUST LAUNCHED!

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2024-2025

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VICE PRESIDENT EDUCATION

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

**RICHARD NOONAN**  
PRESIDENT

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

**PATRYCJA ZBIKOWSKA**  
VICE PRESIDENT WELFARE

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

SCAN HERE TO VISIT OUR LINKTREE

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**YOUR UNION YOUR VOICE**





**MTU CORK  
STUDENTS' UNION**

# **Students' Union Council Awards Winners 2025**

## **A celebration of Class Rep achievements**

The MTU Cork Students' Union Council Awards took place on the evening of 30th April to honour our Class Reps and their outstanding voluntary contributions to both the University and the Students' Union.

This special occasion provided a wonderful opportunity to recognise the hard work and dedication of these student volunteers.

There were 111 nominations submitted which highlights the esteem Class Reps are held in by their classmates. The ceremony was an intimate and relaxed event, whereby the awardees were invited to come along and to bring a friend or family member to share in the celebrations.

Speakers on the evening included Richard Noonan (MTU Cork SU President), Christine Cross (Registrar & Vice President for Academic Affairs), Deirdre Creedon (Academic Administration & Student Affairs Manager), Ellen Bamber (SU VP Education), and Patrycja Zbikowska (SU VP Welfare), all of whom paid tribute to the dedication of our Class Reps.

A special presentation was made to Kevin O'Donoghue, Union Council Chairperson, in recognition of his important role within the SU structure.



*A special presentation to: Aoife James, in appreciation of her previous voluntary service as a member of the Governing Body and Academic Council.*



# Awardees 2025



Enrika Ivanauskaite  
BEd Montessori Education, Y4



Jack O'Callaghan  
BA Business, Y3



Tyra-Lee Spry  
BA Popular Music, Y3



Emily Adriaansen  
BA Business, Y1



Antonia Gergely  
BA Hons Fine Art, Y4



Ronan Clancy  
BSc Hons Interior Arch, Y2



Xeno Byrne  
BA Social Care, Y3



Hannah Simms accepting for Jacky Mulcahy  
BEng Marine Engineering, Y1





We were delighted to present the Rag Week 2025 donation of €9,348 to Iris House, and were honoured to have Linda Goggin-James (CEO) and Gráinne Farren (Cancer Warrior) with us to accept the contribution.

## Students' Union Events & Activities 2024 / 25

### SEPTEMBER

Volunteered with Safe Gigs  
Registrations – Welcome Desk  
and Freshers Merchandise  
Inductions – Group Addresses  
Freshers Handbook  
Class Rep Elections and  
Recruitment  
Be Safe Campaign  
explicitIT 1  
General Meeting  
USI National Council  
Freshers Week

### OCTOBER

Sexual Health & Guidance  
Campaign – Roadshow  
explicitIT 2  
Freecycle Service  
Union Council Meeting  
Conferings  
USI National Council

### NOVEMBER

Class Rep Training  
Conferings  
Pink Training  
Class Rep NSTEP Training  
explicitIT 3  
Blood Bank Drive  
Freecycle Service  
General Meeting  
Positive Body & Mind Campaign  
– Roadshow  
National Voter Registration Drive  
Garda Clinic

### DECEMBER

Santas Roadshow  
explicitIT 4  
Christmas Fayre – Santa's  
Grotto  
Neighbourhood Forum  
Exam De-Stress Campaign  
USI National Council

### JANUARY

explicitIT 5  
Be Safe Campaign  
Freecycle Service  
Rag Week  
USI National Council

### FEBRUARY

Union Council Meeting  
explicitIT 6  
Safety Week

### MARCH

Union Council Meeting  
General Elections  
General Meeting  
Freecycle Service  
Annual General Meeting  
Seachtain Na Gaelige  
explicitIT 7  
Student Race Day

### APRIL

General Meeting  
Neurodiversity Week  
USI Congress  
Union Council Meeting  
explicitIT 8  
Eclectic Picnic  
Freecycle Service  
Union Council Awards

### MAY

Exam Supports Campaign  
SAAI Awards  
USI National Council

## Award Nominees

Aaron Nixon  
Agabaiel Fonlari  
Aleksa Lajic  
Alexanna Cayeux  
Aleksa Iajic  
Alice Boyle O'Sullivan  
Amanda Blake  
Antonia Gergely  
Aoife O Keffe  
Barry O'Shea  
Brady O'Donnell  
Cal Healy  
Chelsea Awaziem  
Christian Hadzhivelikov  
Churchill Isabore  
Cian Healy  
Cian Myers  
Clara French  
Colman Mkindi  
Conor Murphy  
Conor O'Donovan  
Darragh Murray  
Dave McEvoy  
Doan O'Reilly  
Emily Adriaansen  
Emily Mcsweeny  
Emma McElmeel  
Enrika Invauskaite  
Hannah Tuomey  
Heather Corcoran  
Jack Fitzgerald  
Jack Keane

Jack O'Callaghan  
Jason O'Brien  
Joshua Power Roddis  
Kate O'Leary  
Keeva Hayes  
Ken Kidney  
Leah Barniville  
Lucas Buckley  
Luke Fogarty  
Maire Boyle  
Maria Cano Lopez  
Marian Nagle  
Mark Byrne  
Maya Howard  
Megan Fahy  
Mia Russell  
Nodhlaig McCarthy  
Olivia Gavin  
Oscar Cahalane  
Padraig Fenton  
Patrick McCarthy  
Philomena O'Driscoll  
Ronan Clancy  
Scot Finn  
Shane Foley  
Shannon Morrissey  
Sophie O'Callaghan  
Teagan O'Flynn  
Tom O'Sullivan  
Tyra-Lee Spry  
Valdas Andrijauskas  
Xeno Byrne

## Boards & Committees the SU sit on

### GOVERNING BODY & SUBCOMMITTEES

Arts, Sport, and Culture  
Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion  
Finance  
Strategic Development

### ACADEMIC COUNCIL & SUBCOMMITTEES

Academic Council Executive  
Academic Planning & Review  
Admissions & Student Affairs  
Learning Resources/  
Infrastructure  
Research & Innovation  
Regulations/Quality Assurance &  
Enhancement  
Standing Orders  
ICT Governance Committee

### OTHER COMMITTEES

Academic Calendar Working Group  
ACE (Accelerated Campus  
Entrepreneurship)  
Appeals Board  
Arena Steering Committee  
ASSAM Meetings  
ASUA (Association of Union  
Administrators)  
Athena Swan  
BICS Adjudicating Panel  
Campus Watch  
CINNTE Institutional Review  
Conferings Committee  
Consent /PROPEL  
Creative Colleges Working Group  
Exploring Quiet Zones Path 4  
Committee  
EDI Steering Committee  
Faculty Boards  
Ordnianal Gaelige  
Infringements Board  
INGENIUM Student Advisory Board  
INGENIUM Academic Committee  
IT Steering Committee  
Internal Communications Working  
Group  
International Women's Day  
Joint Boards (UCC/MTU)

Joint Operations  
Committee (Cork &  
Kerry SU)  
Learning Resource  
Committee  
Library Work Stream  
Mental Health Framework  
Committee  
Mica-Credentials  
Implementation Oversight  
Group  
MTU Events and Hospitality  
Committee (Directors)  
NSTEP National Working  
Group  
Neighbourhood Forum  
Neurodiversity Initiative  
Nighttime Economy  
Steering Group  
One Cork Movement  
Parking Workshop/Mobility  
Planning Workshop  
Registrar's Meetings  
SAF Allocation Review  
Committee  
Safety Committee  
Sexual Health Network  
Societies Board  
Sports Board  
Student Accommodation  
Scoping Group  
Student Assistance Fund  
Student Disciplinary  
Committee  
Student Engagement WG  
Student Finance  
Committee  
Student Numbers Working  
Group  
Student Services Planning  
and Finance Committee  
Student Administration  
Services  
Students Affairs Ireland  
USI National Council  
USI Governance  
Committee  
Universal Design  
Framework  
Implementation Steering  
Committee  
Volunteer Abroad  
VP AA & Registrar meetings  
White Ribbon Group



**MTU**

Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta na Mumhan  
Munster Technological University

[Click here for ANSEO, the student engagement office](#)

# Assignment c

Dear students,  
Here is our advice and tips  
on how to navigate the next  
few weeks of assignments,  
assessments and projects

Check all FREE services  
for full time students:  
Academic Learning  
Centre

**Academic  
Learning  
Centre**

Check out the library  
referencing guides



**Read your brief: have  
done what you have  
asked to do**



**Have you found  
additional source  
information?**



**Have you referred  
sources using the**



**Check the text size,  
headings and sub**



**Is your answer clear  
understand? leave it  
then re-read and**



**Ask for help if you have  
questions in the class  
CANVAS or co**



**MTU Bishopstown D**



**@mtuanseo**



**academiclearningce**



## check list

ave you  
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and edit

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contact ALC

0259

entre@mtu.ie

## Tips for getting started

• Chat about your motivation and setting some goals with an Academic Success Coach

### PREPARATION IS A KEY

Different things work for different people, but here are some tips to help you start: breathing exercises, positive affirmations, listen to music, go for a short walk, talk to a friend.

### WHAT IS MOTIVATING YOU?

While a deadline acts as an external motivator, there are also our internal factors that sustain our efforts throughout education

What's in my control?

- create a manageable study plan and stick to it
- write out daily to-do lists to keep you on track
- Put your phone on DO NOT DISTURB to avoid distractions

For support during exam time: Check AnSEO Just Ask!  
desk support

Good Luck!





## THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT GREEN

by Shirley Howe and Akriti Chowdhry

### SUSTAINABILITY

The term “sustainability” seems to be everywhere these days. What exactly is it? What does it mean for us here in MTU? And when we’re thinking about our future careers, does sustainability matter? Welcome to “The Green Print”, a new series where we’ll be considering sustainability from various perspectives including what’s happening on campus, how to get involved, and why knowledge and skills in sustainability are something that employers are increasingly looking for.

As a concept, sustainability can have various meanings across socio-cultural, political, economic and environmental narratives. In how it’s applied, though, the aim is usually to bring together ideas from across the disciplines to ensure a process can be

maintained in the long-term in a way that conserves and safeguards the earth’s limited resources. In 1987, the United Nations (UN) defined sustainability as “meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”. As a signatory to the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME), that’s how we think about sustainability in the School of Business.

### PRINCIPLES

PRME is an initiative supported by the UN. Founded in 2007, it aims to weave core principles of sustainability into business and management education. This means more than simply signing up to an aspirational idea. It means taking action to implement sustainability values into everything

we do to achieve real impact. The School of Business is a member of the UK and Ireland PRME Chapter which is committed to advancing more positive futures through implementing the Seven Principles of PRME. These Principles draw on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the Global Goals, the UN’s framework for ending poverty while increasing the health of people and ecosystems.

### The Seven Principles of PRME are:

1. Purpose: Advance responsible management education to foster inclusive prosperity in a world of thriving ecosystems.
2. Values: Place organisational responsibility and accountability to society and the planet at the core of what we do.

This initiative is funded by the HEA through Munster Technological University’s Technological Sector Advancement Fund (TSAF) project, *Transforming MTU: Enabling and Empowering Our Students and Staff to Realise Their Potential.*



3. Teach: Transform our learning environments by integrating responsible management concepts and practices into our curriculum and pedagogy.
4. Research: Study people, organisations, institutions, and the state of the world to inspire responsible management and education practice.
5. Partner: Engage people from business, government, civil society, and academia to advance responsible and accountable management education and practice.
6. Practice: Adopt responsible and accountable management principles in our own governance and operations.
7. Share: Share our successes and failures with each other to enable our collective learning and best live our common values and purpose.

## GREEN TRANSITION

MTU students are the leaders of future. Through PRME, students can build the skills they'll need to balance social, environmental and economic goals in the workplace. This is positive for the planet and for people because all systems are interlinked, including human systems. Without healthy ecosystems, human health suffers. For instance, one third of Ireland's 98 bee species is threatened with extinction, [as research by the National Biodiversity Data Centre shows](#). Bees, along with other insects, birds and small mammals, hold intrinsic value and are also vital pollinators. When they carry pollen from the stamen or male part of a flower to the stigma, or female part, they enable plants to produce fruits, seeds and more plants. This means that bees are essential for agriculture and the production that feeds our growing population.

Candidates who understand the value of links like this and can apply sustainability in the workplace are increasingly sought after by employers. There is a growing global demand for "Green Talent" and Ireland is one of its



leaders. More sustainable practices in business and management across all sectors including technology, retail, agriculture, transport, construction, manufacturing, health care, financial services, media and energy are required to meet our Climate Action Plan targets. Green Transition is the term used to describe this major shift as we strive towards an economy focussed on low-carbon solutions, renewable energy, and restoring and strengthening ecosystems.

## DEMAND FOR GREEN SKILLS

IDA Ireland is increasingly funding entrepreneurship with a green and sustainability focus. The IDA, in partnership with Microsoft and LinkedIn, released the 11th edition of its "[Labour Market Pulse](#)" report in December 2024 showing that demand for green skills in Ireland is growing at twice the rate (11.9%) of the rest of the world (6%). It highlights that an estimated 20,000 new jobs need to be filled here by 2030 just to support the green transition, and that upskilling across all sectors is urgently needed. One in eight Irish jobs postings now requires at least one

green skill, and those with green skills or titles overall have a 79.8% higher hiring rate. Ireland's increase in green job postings was 22.1% in 2024, compared to a global increase of 11.6%, though this growing trend is reflected across the EU and elsewhere. Globally, demand for green talent grew twice as quickly as its supply from 2023 to 2024.

## GETTING INVOLVED

Clearly, there is a major green skills gap that must be filled. Whatever subject you're studying here at MTU, evidencing sustainability skills and involvement with sustainability activity on your CV will help put you ahead in the jobs market, and PRME initiatives will provide opportunities for you to develop green skills. While these are important and serious objectives, we're going to have some fun along the way. From next semester, you will see lots of exciting green initiatives around campus, including events and challenges. We'll be inviting students to actively get involved by becoming sustainability champions too. The future we want starts right now. Get ready to green things up!



# PRME

an initiative of the  
United Nations Global Compact



# Thinking of travelling?

## Things to consider...

### **DO I NEED TO GET VACCINATED?**

Confirm immunity to measles – due to the world-wide outbreak of measles it is important to ensure that you have immunity – 2 confirmed doses of MMR vaccine or history of measles.

[MMR vaccine Catch-up Programme - HSE.ie](#)

Check out “Fit for Travel” website to review specific vaccines recommended for your destination and malarial zones. If possible, book an appointment at a travel health centre at least 6-8 weeks prior to travel.

[Home - Fit for Travel](#)

### **REVIEW DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION ON SAFETY AND SECURITY ISSUES AND SPECIFIC ENTRY REQUIREMENTS.**

[DFA - Department of Foreign Affairs](#)

*Consider getting comprehensive travel insurance.*

### **DO YOU HAVE AN UNDERLYING CHRONIC MEDICAL ISSUE?**

Consider booking an appointment with your GP to ensure fitness to travel and that you have an adequate supply of medication.

### **TO STAY HEALTHY AND SAFE WHEN TRAVELLING:**

- ✓ Remember to practice good respiratory and hand hygiene.
- ✓ Practice safe food and water precautions.
- ✓ Avoid insect and animal bites.
- ✓ Practice safe sex, always use condoms.
- ✓ Practice sun safety – avoid sun exposure between 11am and 3pm; wide brimmed hat, sunglasses; use sunscreen properly.
- ✓ Be aware of passport safety tips and replacement process in event of being lost or stolen.
- ✓ Be aware of how to access help and services from the Irish government when abroad.

If you have any questions regarding Travel, you can schedule an appointment at MTU Medical centre or Grand Parade Medical Practice. [Click Here](#)







# WANT A MENTOR WHO'S BEEN THERE, DONE THAT?

**Get insider knowledge, real-world advice, and serious career confidence with the MTU Joint Mentorship Programme — now open for 2025–26.**

*"I thought it would be a good way to figure out what I actually wanted to do when I finished"*

– Mary Taylor, Social Care student

## It's simple:

- ✓ Get matched with a professional from your industry.
- ✓ Meet once a month, grab a coffee, get real advice.
- ✓ Graduate knowing where you're going — and how to get there.

*"I recommend it — it gives you real practical industry experience, not just text-book talk."*

– Robert Habi, Mentor, Triskel Arts Centre

**Mentorship isn't just about getting a placement — it's about building confidence, asking the hard questions, and getting honest answers.**

*"Maria helped me believe in myself. Without her, I wouldn't have had the confidence to smash exams and start my placement."*

– Eimear Murphy, Nutrition and Health Science student

**Real mentors. Real conversations.  
Real career moves.**

*"We met over coffee, talked about surviving art college, workload, and what happens after graduation — it made everything feel less scary."*

– Victoria Ciolcosz, Fine Art student

## Employers love it too:

*"Our student brought fresh ideas we hadn't even thought of."*

– John Lawler, Mentor, Dual Diagnosis Support Worker

*"It was incredible to see my mentee grow, build confidence, and get clear on their goals."*

– Taha Querishi, Cyber Security Mentor

**APPLICATIONS FOR 2025-26  
ARE NOW OPEN.**

**[CLICK HERE TO APPLY](#)**

**OR HIT UP MENTORING@MTU.IE  
FOR MORE INFORMATION —  
SPOTS FILL FAST.**

# Flynn's Flying Column

By James Flynn



## FLIGHTS OF FANCY – BATH, SOMERSET, ENGLAND.

Monday, March 24

We swapped Cork clouds for a slice of English charm as a friend and I boarded an Aer Lingus/Emerald Air commuter flight bound for Bristol. One quick hour later—plus an hour of countryside views courtesy of a slightly wobbly bus ride—we arrived in Bath: a small city with seriously big vibes.

First impressions? Picture-perfect Georgian streets, a very lively student scene, and enough heritage to make your brain fizz. We landed right into the city centre around 9PM, checked into the chic Henrietta House Hotel (Radisson vibes without blowing the budget), and hit the pubs. Bath's dual university setup—Bath Spa and University of Bath—means

there's no shortage of craic. Student nightlife? Certified electric.

Tuesday, March 25

Time to explore. After a solid night's sleep and a hotel breakfast (surprisingly decent), we headed to one of Bath's showstoppers: **The Roman Baths**. Built by the Romans in AD 60 and rediscovered in the 19th century, it's like walking through a giant history book—except with steaming thermal pools and ancient goddess temples. You can't swim there, but just around the corner is the **Thermae Bath Spa**, where we spent two hours floating between rooftop pools, steam rooms, and freezing fog showers. Five stars. Would de-stress again.

Post-spa munchies led us to **The Fudge Factory** (yes, it's as magical as it sounds) for tea and fudge cake. Sweet tooth satisfied, we wandered into **Bath Abbey**—a gothic masterpiece with stained glass, a rooftop view, and a surprisingly good museum. Still feeling cultural? We hit **Topping & Company Booksellers**, a dreamy little bookstore packed with rare finds, niche literature, and the occasional over-caffeinated philosophy major. As dusk fell, we crossed the postcard-worthy **Pulteney Bridge**, one of only four bridges in Europe with shops all along it. Dinner was classic pub grub at **The Flying Saracen**—pie, chips and ale—followed by a pilgrimage to the local Irish bar, **Flan O'Brien's**. Guinness in





hand, surrounded by students and local legends, it was the perfect end to Day One.

Wednesday, March 26

Spa life = deepest sleep of the year. After breakfast at the quirky **Boston Tea Party Café**, we made our way to the **Jane Austen Centre**. Whether or not you're a fan of corsets and brooding gentlemen, this place is seriously fun. Think interactive tours, historical cosplay, and 18th-century tea rooms. Austen herself lived here, and Bath's obsession with her legacy is contagious.

We followed that with a walk through **The Royal Crescent**—a giant arc of posh Georgian houses, straight out of *Bridgerton*. A detour past **The Circus** (Bath's answer to a stylish roundabout), and then it was time for a cruise—yes, an actual **River Avon cruise**. Think spring sunshine, chilled Pimms, and smug levels of relaxation as you float toward Bathampton and back.

Our final stops: the **Holburne Museum** for a dash of fine art and Georgian glamour, and then dinner at **The Boater**, where we wolfed down Cumberland sausages and mash while watching the sunset over **Bath Rugby Grounds**. Nightfall brought one last moonlit stroll past the glowing **Bath Abbey**. Pure vibes.

Thursday, March 27

Check-out blues hit hard. One last bus ride to Bristol, one last flight to Cork—and just like that, Bath became a memory.

Final Thoughts:

Bath is that rare mix of chill and cultured. You'll get spa days and late nights, ancient ruins and indie bookstores, riverside pints and Austen elegance. Whether you're after a low-key student escape, a cheeky getaway, or a historically-charged Insta feed, Bath delivers.

### Top Tips:

**Fly:** Aer Lingus/Emerald Air, Cork to Bristol (daily flights, budget-friendly if you're quick)

**Stay:** Henrietta House (Radisson style, student-friendly prices)

**See:** Roman Baths, Thermae Spa, Jane Austen Centre, Royal Crescent

**Eat:** The Boater (comfort food + riverside views), Boston Tea Party (breakfast wins), Flan O'Brien's (for the sesh)

**Explore:** [www.visitbath.co.uk](http://www.visitbath.co.uk)

Pack your bags, bring your sass, and get ready to soak up the Bath brilliance.





# Student Societies Awards



MTU Societies Awards 2025, individuals

## MTU Societies Shine: Celebrating Campus Champions at Our Annual Awards & BICS Success

We kicked off an exciting celebration of student life at the annual MTU Societies Awards, held on March 19th in the Student Centre. A huge thank you to all the societies who attended and helped mark another incredible year of community, creativity, and collaboration at MTU Cork!

### SOCIETY AWARDS 2024

Society of the Year  
*International Students Society*

Best Academic Society  
*Design & Media Society*

Supreme Event  
*Music Society – Battle of the Bands*

Most Improved Society  
*Book Club Society*

Best Community Contribution  
(Rísam Uile)  
*WiSTEM Society*

Best Collaborative Activity  
*Design & Media & Giving Back Societies – Drink & Draw*

Best Small Event  
*Open Mic Society – Drag Night*  
Best New Society  
*Gospel Choir Society*

### INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Supreme Contribution  
*Shannon Hegarty – Glór Society*

Supreme Individual  
*Samuel Jaden García Muñoz – International Students Society*

Best Fresher  
*Emily Adriaansen – Design & Media and Photography Societies*

Individual Recognition  
*Amy O'Sullivan – Giving Back Society*  
*Abdul Saidi – Gospel Society*

*John Fitzsimons – Design & Media Society*  
*Abbie O'Halloran – Drama Society*  
*Hannah Simmons – Anime & Manga & Guild Gaming Societies*

### CREATIVE EXCELLENCE

Best Photograph  
*Aoife James – Anime & Manga Society*

Best Poster  
*Anna Keyes – Music Society*



MTU Societies Awards 2025, D&M





**Best Fresher – Emily**

## MTU AT THE BICS

On April 10th, MTU Cork proudly competed in seven categories at the Board of Irish College Societies (BICS) Awards in the Clayton Hotel, Sligo. After weeks of dedicated prep – portfolio submissions, mock interviews, and peer networking – our students shone bright on the national stage.

### BICS Nominees Representing MTU Cork:

Best Fresher: *Emily Adriaansen*  
 Best Individual: *Samuel Jaden García Muñoz*  
 Best Academic: *Design & Media Society*  
 Best Cultural/Social: *International Students Society*  
 Best Event: *Music Society – Battle of the Bands*  
 Best Poster: *Anna Keyes – Music Society*  
 Best Photograph: *Aoife James – Anime & Manga Society*

## NATIONAL AWARD WINNERS

**We are thrilled to announce that MTU Cork brought home two national awards:**

Best Fresher (Small College):  
*Emily Adriaansen – Design & Media and Photography Societies*

Best Individual (Small College):  
*Samuel Jaden García Muñoz – International Students Society*

*Congratulations also to MTU Kerry's Nursing & Agriculture Society on winning Best Civic/Charity Society (Small College)!*

MTU Cork was praised for the exceptional quality of its societies' work. Every student who represented us did so with dedication, energy, and heart.

To all MTU Cork societies: Thank you for being the heart-beat of our campus—creating community, delivering unforgettable experiences, and enriching student life. Special thanks to the Societies Board for their constant support throughout the year.

We are MTU Societies Cork – and together, we are all winners.



**BICS!**



**Best Individual – Sam**



**MTU Societies Awards 2025, ISS**





# MTU CELEBRATES OVER 30 YEARS OF SPORTING EXCELLENCE AT CORK SPORTS AWARDS 2025

Munster Technological University (MTU) recently hosted its 30th Cork Sports Awards 2025, marking over three decades of recognising the university's outstanding student athletes and sporting community.

The awards night brought together staff, students, and special guests for an evening dedicated to reflecting on the exceptional sporting achievements of the past year.

During the event, 15 individual awards and 3 team awards were presented to students who displayed remarkable leadership, passion, and commitment in representing MTU. All-Ireland Football champions Colm O'Neill, Daniel Goulding, and Paul Kerrigan deliv-

ered keynote speeches, sharing personal insights and encouraging the next generation of MTU athletes to excel both academically and athletically.

Now in its 30th year, the Cork Sports Awards once again underscored MTU's commitment to fostering holistic development through sport. Previous awardees have included talented athletes such as Gary O'Donovan, Flobater Fares, David Kenny, Reece Ademola, Saoirse Noonan, and Saoirse McCarthy—individuals who went on to serve as role models for subsequent student athletes. Guests at this year's ceremony paid tribute to the ongoing support provided by MTU's sports staff, whose efforts empower students to balance their studies with top-level competition.





## MTU LADIES FOOTBALL TEAM BRING THE LYNCH CUP BACK TO LEESIDE!



Proud management team!

The MTU Ladies Football Team created history by defeating UCD to win the Higher Education Colleges Lynch Cup on the 15th of March in Queens University Belfast. This is the first time our Ladies Football Club have won this competition, and they did so in some style, qualifying for the O' Connor Cup weekend unbeaten through the group phase.

Another feature of this great win was the uniqueness of our management team, the only exclusive female management team across all competing colleges, all graduates of CIT and current staff members, led by manager Christine Nolan (Access Service), head coach Dr Irene Hogan (Dept of Sport, Leisure & Childhood Studies), and selectors Sandra Conroy (Applied Social Studies) and Norma Buckley (Sports Office).

Their commitment to this squad has been unwavering over the last 3 years and they deserve a lot of credit for helping the girls get over the line after a semi-final loss in 2023 and narrowly losing the final in 2024.



Katie O'Driscoll

In further great news, bursary student Katie O'Driscoll (Coaching Science & Sports Pedagogy, 2) has made the HEC All Stars Team of the Year following on from her player of the match performance in the final. Katie is a top-class player who always gives 100% in the MTU jersey. She is already an established member of the Cork Senior Ladies Football squad and has a very promising career ahead of her.

## MTU MENS VOLLEYBALLERS ARE ALL IRELAND CHAMPIONS!

An historic year for our Mens Volleyballers as MTU were crowned "Student Sport Ireland/Volleyball Ireland" All-Ireland Cup Champions for the very first time!







Artist: Dee Hurley. Hometown: Mitchelstown, Co. Cork  
 Graduated: BA (Hons) Contemporary Applied Art, MTU CCAD, 2024  
 Now Studying: MA by Research, MTU CCAD — Eco-literacy & Sustainable Art

***From decay, beauty —  
 Dee Hurley's practice elevates  
 what's often overlooked***

# RECOMPOSE

The James Barry Exhibition Centre at MTU Bishopstown recently hosted *Recompose*, the debut solo exhibition by Crawford graduate Dee Hurley. Running from March 31st to April 30th, it formed part of the MTU Registrar's Prize and was supported by the MTU Arts Office.

Hurley's work continues the eco-conscious exploration she began with her multi-award-winning graduate show *Radiant Other*, using found and foraged plant materials to create intricate, textural pieces. Mounted in custom laser-cut plywood frames, her work invites viewers to slow down and observe — not just the art, but nature itself.

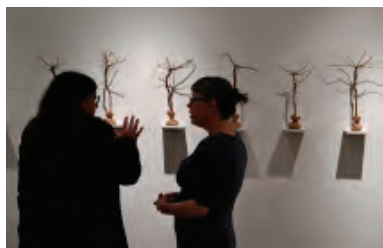
Hurley collects botanical elements from her garden through summer and autumn — leaves, stems, pods — often things left to rot. "It is often in the decay that the beauty of the plant is revealed," she says. Her background in bookbinding lends a technical precision to her work, while her commitment to permaculture shapes her sustainable approach.



## NATURE REIMAGINED – DEE HURLEY'S DEBUT SOLO EXHIBITION

The exhibition opened with remarks by Professor Christine Cross, MTU Registrar and VP for Academic Affairs, who commended Hurley's commitment to zero-waste making and her ability to provoke thought through beauty. Artist and lecturer Pamela Hardesty also spoke, noting the resonance of Hurley's work in the broader context of ecological art.

Now embarking on a Masters by Research at MTU CCAD, Hurley is delving deeper into eco-literacy and the power of eco-centric creative practices. Inspired by artists like Agnes Martin and Herman de Vries, she hopes her journey encourages other artists "to have faith in the power to transform things."



Professor Christine Cross,  
 Vice President Academic  
 Affairs & Registrar (MTU),  
 pictured with artist Dee  
 Hurley at the opening

***My work is underscored by the sadness of  
 biodiversity loss, and the hope that an appreciation  
 of its wonder can prompt positive change.***

To view more about Dee Hurley's exhibition, with profile video, please visit [click here](#)  
 Graduate Showcase Profile: [Click here](#) Artist's website: [Click here](#)

**MTU Arts Office:** For more information about arts events, exhibitions, MTU Art Collection, and arts resources across MTU, visit [arts.mtu.ie](https://arts.mtu.ie) and check out MTU Arts Office social media channels on Facebook, BlueSky & Instagram.

Article adapted from original text written by Joanne O'Mahony  
 Photographs: Joleen Cronin



# Win a Personal Sound Wellness Treatment

To celebrate the new Wellbeing Wall in  
MTU Library, Bishopstown

Scan QR code to enter



Relax | Restore | Rebalance



**Click on this advert to enter!**





Ava Halligan, Moya McCarthy, Ciara Todd (third-year Biomedical Engineering students at MTU), joint winners of the Best Concept Award for their novel product, NEST – a non-invasive breast cancer detection and prevention tool that uses smart sensor technology to detect early indicators of breast cancer – pictured with Alison Walsh, South Cork Local Enterprise Office (LEO)

## MTU STUDENTS SHINE AT PRIZE FOR INNOVATION AWARDS

MTU's 2025 Prize for Innovation Awards lit up the Bish-  
opstown Campus with bold ideas and brilliant minds,  
as students from across Munster Technological Uni-  
versity showcased game-changing solutions—from  
agri-tech to healthcare.

The standout winner, TBGuard, created by a team of  
engineering students, tackled bovine TB by blocking  
badger access to feed and water, clinching the €4,000  
Entrepreneur of the Year prize. Other top innovations

included Sprout Smart Spreader, which reimagines  
slurry application for sustainability, and NEST, a smart,  
non-invasive breast cancer detection device born  
from personal experience.

With over 270 students involved and €14,500 in prize  
money, the event proved that MTU's future entrepre-  
neurs are ready to take on real-world challenges with  
serious smarts and heart.



Frankie Honohan and Aoife Cronin (third-year Chemical & Biopharmaceutical Engineering students at MTU), winners of the prestigious MTU Entrepreneur of the Year 2025 award for their product TBGuard, a game-changing solution for TB prevention in cattle.



Pics from great recent event from your Students' Union!

# eclectic Picnic

at the Circle Courtyard

Photo: Joleen Cronin



Photo: Keith Brown



Photo: Joleen Cronin



Photo: Joleen Cronin



Photo: Keith Brown



Photo: Keith Brown



**FOOD STALLS & FREE ICE CREAM!**



# Princess Mari

*Cover Person of the Issue: Mariam Malutiku, the Chairperson of the Fashion Society, a Diva.*



Image 2.2

*In the bustling heart of MTU Cork, two fashion society trailblazers are turning heads—and pages—with Cowslip, a bold new student-run magazine spotlighting local creatives. We caught up with Mariam, chairperson and brain behind the project, and interviewer Aisling, to talk style, stress, and what it's like to build a magazine from scratch.*

**Full podcast interview with Mariam available here:**  
[https://youtu.be/tl\\_8zUinq98?si=arg\\_eV-JJx-vDEEry](https://youtu.be/tl_8zUinq98?si=arg_eV-JJx-vDEEry)

**Aisling:** So let's get real. Tell me a bit about yourself. Who is Mariam?

**Mariam:** I'm 21. Patron Saint of November. That makes me a Sagittarius. I always market myself (I'm a Marketing student) as just a "creative"—an umbrella term for everything I love: movies, writing, painting, poetry, fashion, music. Anything where I am the creator and in control. Makes me sound like an omnipotent god but I'm not! I think highly of myself but not that narcissistic.

**Aisling:** As you should!

**Mariam:** [Laughs] I think everyone should! I love people. I'd say I'm an ambivert. I'm also a massive foodie. And, unfortunately, a party girl—Party Girl Mari is one of my many aliases. However I have been sober for a month now (and no one believes me).

**Aisling:** I believe you! So where does Party Girl Mari go out in Cork?

**Mariam:** Girl, we'll need a whole other article if we want to get into that.

**Aisling:** So, we've talked trends you don't love. What's one fashion trend you absolutely live for?

**Mariam:** I actually do love McBling. Y2K. Vintage. The second we chose "Nostalgia" as our theme, and I ended up being the cover girl? Like—it's literally me. My sister even said it: the theme was made for me. Anything before the 2020s. I genuinely feel like I'm Cork City's Sasha from Bratz sometimes [laughs].

**“The theme was made for me. Anything before the 2020s. I genuinely feel like I'm Cork City's Sasha from Bratz.”**



Image 2.3





Image 2.4

**Aisling:** It's the perfect theme for you. Genuinely. Who's your biggest fashion icon? You can't say yourself.

**Mariam:** Barbie. I grew up obsessed. That's my mother. Like, full collector mode—I have all the annuals, I watched every movie. Barbie was never a toxic figure to me. People would say she sets unrealistic standards, but I never pushed myself onto her. We were just two individuals' side by side. The delusion is strong with me.

**“I never pushed myself onto her. We were just two individuals' side by side.”**

**Aisling:** Mariam, you're literally the cover person of the first issue! Is that stressful for you?

**Mariam:** A little! I'm the chairperson of the society and I get voted to be on the first cover of a magazine I helped create? It felt a bit egotistical at first—like this is so embarrassing [laughs]. But honestly, it's so exciting to see it all come together.

**Aisling:** I'm too afraid to wear more expressive clothes. I feel like there's this thing in Ireland that kind of prevents you from doing that, especially when you're trying to figure yourself out.

**Mariam:** Yes! Let's talk about it. I never understood that vibe — like, I didn't grow up in the city. I was raised in Rathcormac, surrounded by other immigrant families. So we weren't really tuned into what makes Cork is really like. But then I moved here for secondary school... and people are so judgemental, especially toward confidence. Like if you even hint at being proud of something, they hit you with, 'Who do you think you are?'

**Aisling:** Yeah. That's accurate.

**Mariam:** I wasn't always confident. I used to have the biggest imposter syndrome. Like, I couldn't do anything. I was so broken for the longest time. I couldn't dress how I wanted. I hated going outside. Hated being perceived. Just didn't want to be seen.

**Aisling:** And it's exhausting.

**Mariam:** So exhausting. But one day I just went: 'Yeah. This is how I want to look. And this is how I'm going to do it.'

**Full-time Sagittarius and part-time chaos coordinator, Mariam is living proof that big dreams and big outfits go hand in hand. Her vibe? Y2K everything—if Sasha from Bratz wouldn't rock it, she's not interested. These days she's juggling chairperson duties, curating Cowslip, and embracing life as a sober party girl. Her motto? Take up space—and look damn good doing it.**



Image 2.5



APRIL 2025

# COWSLIP

CO. CORK

*Summer  
sees a more  
proactive  
you!  
Horoscope  
pg 10*

*See Fashion  
Societies'  
Nostalgia  
come to  
fruition*

*Creator of opportunity  
and her own world:*

## PRINCESS MARI

*Exclusive Interview About Radical  
Self Acceptance, Empathy and Why  
She Created the Magazine!*

HOLDING ONTO A VISION OF SIMPLER TIMES,

# NOSTALGIA

[CLICK TO](#) READ COWSLIP MAGAZINE!