



FRESHERS WEEK TIMETABLE:
TIME FOR SOME CRAIC!

SIGN UP TO
SPORTS AND SOCIETIES

THE STUDENT HOUSING CRISIS
AT MTU

BETRAYED: THE RETURN OF THE
STUDENT CONTRIBUTION FEE

FRESHERS 2025 WEEK



15TH – 18TH SEPT

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MTU CORK STUDENTS' UNION

Your Union Your Voice

We advocate for your interests and provide representation, information, support, and referrals. Have an issue or idea? Share it with us – your feedback matters!

VICE PRESIDENT WELFARE

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

MTU CORK SU PRESIDENT

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

VICE PRESIDENT EDUCATION

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

Nationally, we represent students through AMLÉ (Aontas na Mac Léinn in Éirinn), tackling issues like fees, grants, jobs, accommodation, equality, and student rights.

SERVICES & SUPPORTS



Class Rep System
Training & Awards



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Student-Friendly
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Grinds List Service



Freshers Handbook
& Diary, explicit Mag



Student Leap Cards

The Student Centre, Bishopstown T12 T66T Tel: 021 433 5270 Email: MTUCorkSU@mtu.ie
Aontas Mac Léinn MTU Chorcaí

www.mtucorksu.ie

FOLLOW US





HANDBOOK OUT NOW!

Your guide to everything MTU Cork.
You can read and download it [here](https://www.mtucorksui.ie)
OR you can call in to us for a hard
copy at: The Students' Union Office,
1st Floor, The Student Centre



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MEET THE TEAM...

MTU
CORK SU
PRESIDENT



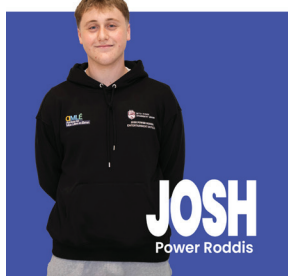
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**YOUR
UNION
YOUR
VOICE**

Nowhere to Live, Hard The Student Hou

By Keith Brown

Cork's soaring rents are pushing MTU students to the edge. Here's why it matters — and what needs to change.

Cork has always been a buzzing student city, but in recent years it's become one of the toughest places in Ireland to find a place to live. For students at MTU, the situation is hitting especially hard. The lack of affordable accommodation isn't just about struggling to pay rent, it's about long commutes, mounting stress, and even the risk of students dropping out altogether.

So, how did it get this bad, what does it mean for MTU students, and what can be done about it?

Why Cork Students Are Struggling to Find a Place

The roots of the crisis run deep. Ireland has been underbuilding housing for decades, and students are caught right in the middle of the wider housing shortage. Cork is no exception. Demand has completely outstripped supply, and prices keep climbing.

While shiny new apartment blocks keep popping up, most of them are designed for wealthier students, often international, who can afford to pay €250 or more per week. For the majority of MTU students relying on SUSI or part-time jobs, these options are simply out of reach.

At the same time, traditional digs and shared houses are drying up. Landlords are leaving the rental market, and families who once rented spare rooms are hesitant without proper supports. The result? A brutal scramble for too few affordable places, leaving many MTU students either priced out or forced to make tough compromises.

The Reality for MTU Students

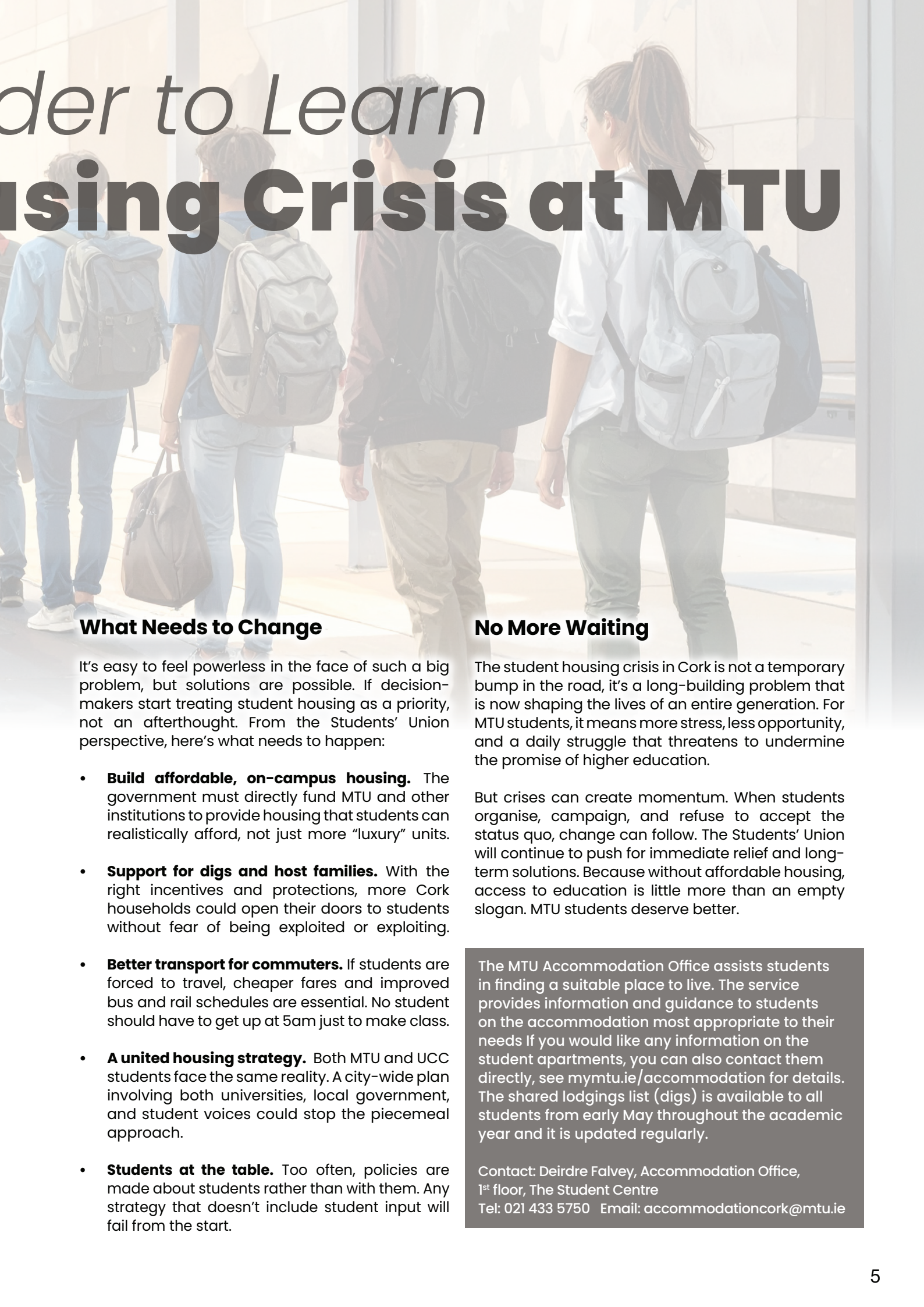
The crisis doesn't just mean higher bills, it's changing the daily reality of what it means to study at MTU.

The commuter grind is now the norm for many. Students are travelling in from Kerry, West Cork, and Tipperary, often leaving home before dawn just to make morning lectures. Hours in cars and on buses add up, draining energy, making it harder to engage on campus, and leaving little time for study or social life.

For those who do find housing in Cork, the financial strain is relentless. Rent is swallowing up grants and wages, forcing students into part-time jobs with long hours that eat into academic work. A course that should be a full-time commitment is increasingly treated like a side hustle just to keep a roof overhead.

And then there's the mental health toll. Not knowing where you'll live, or constantly worrying about money, has become a massive source of stress. Counselling services are seeing the fallout first-hand. The dream of college life; making friends, joining clubs, immersing in learning, feels far away when the basics of security and rest are missing.

MTU as an institution also feels the knock-on effect. Students may think twice about applying if they can't afford to live in Cork. That undermines the university's mission to open doors for students across the South-West, and risks creating a system where only those with financial backing can fully access higher education.



Order to Learn Housing Crisis at MTU

What Needs to Change

It's easy to feel powerless in the face of such a big problem, but solutions are possible. If decision-makers start treating student housing as a priority, not an afterthought. From the Students' Union perspective, here's what needs to happen:

- **Build affordable, on-campus housing.** The government must directly fund MTU and other institutions to provide housing that students can realistically afford, not just more "luxury" units.
- **Support for digs and host families.** With the right incentives and protections, more Cork households could open their doors to students without fear of being exploited or exploiting.
- **Better transport for commuters.** If students are forced to travel, cheaper fares and improved bus and rail schedules are essential. No student should have to get up at 5am just to make class.
- **A united housing strategy.** Both MTU and UCC students face the same reality. A city-wide plan involving both universities, local government, and student voices could stop the piecemeal approach.
- **Students at the table.** Too often, policies are made about students rather than with them. Any strategy that doesn't include student input will fail from the start.

No More Waiting

The student housing crisis in Cork is not a temporary bump in the road, it's a long-building problem that is now shaping the lives of an entire generation. For MTU students, it means more stress, less opportunity, and a daily struggle that threatens to undermine the promise of higher education.

But crises can create momentum. When students organise, campaign, and refuse to accept the status quo, change can follow. The Students' Union will continue to push for immediate relief and long-term solutions. Because without affordable housing, access to education is little more than an empty slogan. MTU students deserve better.

The MTU Accommodation Office assists students in finding a suitable place to live. The service provides information and guidance to students on the accommodation most appropriate to their needs. If you would like any information on the student apartments, you can also contact them directly, see mymtu.ie/accommodation for details. The shared lodgings list (digs) is available to all students from early May throughout the academic year and it is updated regularly.

Contact: Deirdre Falvey, Accommodation Office,
1st floor, The Student Centre
Tel: 021 433 5750 Email: accommodationcork@mtu.ie

FRESHERS 2025 WEEK

15 – 18 SEPTEMBER

MON 15

8.30 – 9.30am

Free teas & Coffees at the Info Desk, Main Corridor

10am

Market Stalls outside The Student Centre

11am–1pm

MC FLEMING OUTDOOR DJ

1pm **Giant Games** at the Circle

FREE ICE Cream & Spice Boxes from FUDI & More, at the Courtyard

10–4pm

Be Safe Day

in the Main Corridor

8pm til late

Jersey Night in the Bishopstown Bar

€2 all night – over 18s only – **FREE BUSES** back to Bishopstown student residences – College ID & AGE ID required

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AnSEO

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT OFFICE

Keep an eye out ! Jersey Giveaways on Instagram @mtu_corks



TUES 16

10am

Market Stalls outside Student Centre

10am – 2pm Fun games with the **GenGreen Collective**, Sustainability Crew, Main Corridor

11am–2 pm

Societies

sign ups in The Student Centre

11am–2 pm

Whoosh giveaways on campus

1pm **Giant Games** at the Circle
Keep an eye out for our "We Give A Duck!" Survey

1–2pm

FREE ICE Cream & Spice Boxes from FUDI & More, at the Courtyard

SPONSORED BY ///////////////

Bank Of Ireland & Whoosh



TIMETABLE

WEDS 17

10am

Market Stalls outside The Student Centre

11am

Sports Sign ups
in The Student centre

11am-1pm

**National Beauty
Company** Outside Library

11-3pm

**Freshers Soccer
Tournament**
at the Astro Turf Pitches

12 - 1pm & 1 - 2pm

Freshers Quiz with
Mia Gold in the Common Room, The
Student Centre

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National Beauty



**SOCCER
TOURNAMENT**

1 ST PRIZE	2 ND PRIZE
€160	€80

DATE
Weds 17th Sept
11 - 3pm

ENTRY DEADLINE
Mon 15th of Sept
2pm

SEND APPLICATION FORM TO
Scott on What's App
085 2525684

**Mia
Gold**

**Circus Fire
Performers**

THURS 18

10am

Market Stalls outside The Student Centre

10am - 2pm Fun games with the **GenGreen
Collective**, Sustainability Crew, Main Corridor

11am-1pm

MC FLEMING OUTDOOR DJ

12-2pm

Circus Fire Performers
at The Circle

9pm

**Freshers night @
Conways Wilde**, Oliver Plunkett St
Adm €7 - over 18s only - College ID & AGE ID required

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Mogerley Pies

TIME FOR SOME CRAIC!

FREE PARK & RIDE

Drive to the Curraheen
Park Greyhound Stadium
(T12 HNP4).

Park your vehicle in one of
the MTU Park & Ride spaces.

Get on the MTU Park & Ride Bus
(you may be asked to show
your MTU Staff/Student ID).

Get off the bus at the
MTU Le Chéile Building.

Times as follows:

Greyhound stadium opening hours
Mon-Fri 7:30am – 7:00pm

8am – 10am (every 15 mins)

Leaving the greyhound stadium every
15 minutes.*

10am – 4pm (every 30 mins)

Leaving the stadium every 30 mins
on the hour and 30 minutes **past** the
hour. Leaving MTU campus every
15 minutes **past** and 15 minutes **to**
the hour from MTU campus bus stop.*

4pm – 6.30pm (every 15 mins)

Leaving the greyhound stadium and
MTU campus every 15 minutes.*

* Subject to traffic conditions



Park and Ride is in operation during term time only



**MTU CORK
STUDENTS' UNION**



MTU

Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta na Mumhan
Munster Technological University



STUDENTS AND FAMILIES SOLD OUT BY THE €3,000 RETURN

By Keith Brown

For the last three years, students and parents had one small win. The student contribution fee — the most expensive in Europe — was cut from €3,000 to €2,000. It wasn't charity. It was survival. Families under pressure from sky-high rents, food bills and energy costs finally caught a break. Now that break is being snatched back, and the contribution is set to jump back over the €3,000 mark.

Let's call it what it is: a betrayal. Students were told the government "had their back" during the cost-of-living crisis. Parents were led to believe the pressure might finally ease. Instead, the rug's been pulled out. That €1,000 wasn't loose change. It was groceries for the semester, it was keeping the car insured for the commute, it was the reason some families could send a second kid to college at all.

For MTU students, the blow is brutal. This is a university where many are first-generation students, commuters, part-timers balancing study with shifts in shops, bars and care homes. When the State and specifically Minister for Further and Higher Education James Lawless has said that "as things stand" third level students will have to pay €1,000 extra in fees this year compared to last year. This actually means more students working nights instead of sleeping, more stress in exams, more people deferring or dropping out because they just can't afford to keep going.

All of this is landing in the middle of a housing crisis that has Cork and Kerry students couch-surfing, commuting crazy distances, or paying through the nose for cramped rooms. **Living costs are spiralling, SUSI grants don't touch the sides, and now families are being told to cough up another grand every single year.** Parents who thought the State was finally beginning to get it feel duped. And they're right.

This isn't just a row about fees. It's about who gets to go to college at all. Every time the government hikes costs, it slams the door on someone who could have been the first in their family to get a degree. It slams the door on the future nurses, teachers, and engineers this country is crying out for. And it weakens regional universities like MTU that are meant to widen access and power local communities.

Here's the truth: if we let this slide, nothing changes. The government will happily take the cash and shrug off the fallout. That's why students and families need to get loud, right now. Talk to your local TDs and tell them straight how this hits your household. Keep an eye out for Students' Union campaigns. Sign petitions, show up, make noise. Politicians move when pressure builds, not when people stay quiet.

We had a glimpse of what fairer fees could look like. That €2,000 contribution showed that change is possible. To rip it away now is nothing short of selling students and parents out. If we want affordable education in Ireland, we're going to have to fight for it — together, loudly, and relentlessly.

EDI welcomes you to MTU!



Munster Technological University (MTU) is committed to promoting equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) throughout and beyond our University community.

Our EDI Manager, Siobhán Kangataran, and EDI Officer, Monica Moisuc, are here to support you in creating a culture of inclusion and belonging where everyone can flourish and reach their full potential.

Find us on social media to stay up to date with events and activities throughout the academic year.

Email us on EDI@MTU.ie if you have any suggestions for how we can help you to feel more included at MTU.



€2 all night
(cash only)

MTUCSU JERSEY NIGHT

SEPT 15TH

IN
BISHOPSTOWN
BAR

over 18s only

FRESHERS 2025
WEEK

FREE BUSES back to Bishopstown student residences -
College ID & AGE ID required

BESAFE DAY

MTU BISHOPSTOWN CAMPUS
Information stands in the Main Corridor

MON 15TH SEP

ROADS, NIGHTS, RIGHTS-SAFETY FIRST IN COLLEGE LIFE

CAUTION

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Version 7 dated 21 March 2021

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thedietstudy_volunteers@ucc.ie to find out more



MTU

Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta na Mumhan
Munster Technological University

INTERESTED IN JOINING A SPORTS CLUB OR SOCIETY?



**SOCIETIES
SIGN UPS**



**The Nexus -Student Centre
11am - 2pm**



**SPORTS CLUBS
SIGN UPS**



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OF ALL CLUBS & SOCIETIES HERE**



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MTU provides financial support to students who wish to undertake a number of weeks volunteering abroad during the summer break.

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A scholarship covers the cost of a 4-week volunteer programme and flights.

Apply in semester 1



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**More info &
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Sports Athletes

**In 2024/25 – 77 Sports Scholarships were
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Applications open to all sports

Awardees will have high levels of achievement, full involvement and participation in their chosen sport at the University.

Application Forms



**Closing Date for Applications
25th Sept 2025**



sportcork@mtu.ie

MTU CORK CAMPUS FRESHERS WEEK 2025



SOCCKER TOURNAMENT



1ST PRIZE

€160

2ND PRIZE

€80

DATE

Weds 17th Sept
11 – 3pm

ENTRY DEADLINE

Mon 15th of Sept
2pm

SEND APPLICATION FORM TO

Scott on What's App
085 2525684

6-A-SIDE (MAX 8 PLAYERS)

€2 ENTRY PER PLAYER

PLAY 3 GAMES GUARANTEED

GAMES ON MTU ASTRO-TURF PITCHES

WEAR APPROPRIATE GEAR

NO FOOTBALL BOOTS

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OFFICE OR TEXT SCOTT**



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BADMINTON
TABLE TENNIS
YOGA
TEA AND COFFEE
CHATS!**

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8AM - 9AM**

**THURSDAYS THROUGHOUT
THE ACADEMIC YEAR
IN MTU ARENA**



Flynnner's Flying Column

I By James Flynn

OASIS LIVE '25 CONCERT SPECIAL!



In previous Flying Columns, I've written about my doubts over Oasis ever getting back together. But when the chance came to buy tickets last summer, my '90s music heroes had their shot at proving me wrong. Two tickets popped up on Ticketmaster; I grabbed them instantly, with hotel and time off work already pencilled in. That settled it—I called my old college mate Ben Henry (famous in MTU Societies back in the day), and the plan was on.

In the week leading up to it, I went full nostalgia mode: Oasis blasting on repeat and

even digging out footage of my 18-year-old self singing Wonderwall for the Six-One News cameras outside Páirc Uí Chaoimh in '96 (yes, the YouTube link still exists—I'm the one in the bandana at 00:19).



Dublin Bound

Fast forward 29 years and a day later—Saturday morning, August 16th, 2025. Ben and I hopped on the Citylink from Cork to Dublin, arriving by lunchtime. A quick DART brought us to Ballsbridge and the plush Clayton Hotel, packed with fans in freshly-bought Oasis tees and floppy hats. Me? I stuck to an old favourite tee, flat cap, and a vintage '96 shirt stashed in the bag as my secret gig talisman.

We fuelled up with chicken burgers and ale at The Bridge Bar

before heading into town for a few pints in Mulligan's. While some pubs had Oasis-themed DJ nights and tribute acts, Mulligan's—journalist haunt and Dublin classic—offered what we really needed: pints, seats, and no hassle.

Croker Awaits

By 18:30 the pilgrimage to Croke Park began, the streets buzzing with fans and bootleg merch hawkers. Our seats—Hogan Stand, upper tier, back row—turned out to be a sweet spot: full view of stage, easy access to pints and toilets, and a quick getaway route.

Richard Ashcroft kicked things off with Bitter Sweet Symphony, still as spine-tingling as ever. Then Luke Kelly's Auld Triangle rang out, a signal that history was about to happen.

And then—Oasis. Liam, Noel, Bonehead, Gem, Andy, plus Joey Waronker on drums and Christian Madden on keys, swaggered on to a deafening roar before tearing into Hello. What followed was a masterclass: Acquiesce, Some Might Say, Roll With It, Morning Glory, Cigarettes & Alcohol (complete with a crowd-wide Poznan), and the goosebump-

inducing singalongs of Wonderwall and Don't Look Back in Anger.

Ben lapped it all up, while I went hoarse belting every lyric—only ducking out mid-Slide Away for emergency chips. By the end, I'd scored a tour shirt and a night of memories. Post-gig, we snagged the DART back, capped the night with last orders, and filled Insta with stories.

Morning After Glory

Sunday was all recovery mode: cappuccinos, croissants, and a full Irish before catching the bus south. Back in Macroom, the questions flew—was it worth it? Absolutely. More than a band, Oasis are a state of mind. Roll on Live '26.

What's the Story, Economy?

Oasis Live '25 didn't just shake Croke—it pumped an estimated €2bn into the Irish economy. From hotels and bars to buses and bootleg stalls, everyone cashed in. Fans even spotted Bonehead and Joey Waronker sea-swimming at the Forty Foot, while Liam was seen at Powerscourt and Noel having a pint in Maynooth—signing autographs like proper working-class heroes

who've never lost the run of themselves.

The Sunday night crowd outside Croke—thousands without tickets—turned the streets into a second gig. Half the World Away floated out as a DART train rolled past in slow motion, captured by Big Brother Recordings and broadcast on RTÉ News. Even the sign-language interpreter in the PRM/disabled section went viral for her full-throttle signing of Morning Glory. Representation never looked so rock 'n' roll.

Trad's Not Dead

One last note. The roar of Luke Kelly's Auld Triangle proved how deeply Irish crowds still cherish trad. With Oasis's own Irish roots and the tricolour flying on stage, it felt right. And it's not just nostalgia: the new trad wave is alive and thriving. From Chasing Abbey mixing trad into dance hits (Oh My Johnny still bangs) to The Mary Wallopers, Kingfishr, Biird, and fresh acts like The Turfmen—Irish trad is evolving without losing its so ul.

Keep your ears open. The next big night out might just be a trad gig. Sláinte.

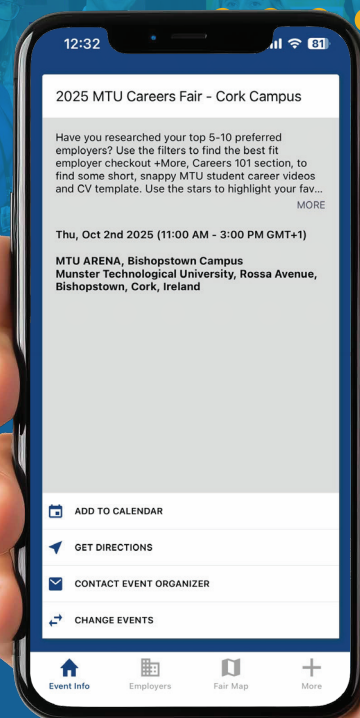


2025 MTU CAREERS FAIR

**150+ companies in attendance
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for students from all disciplines.
Grad Programmes, Graduate Jobs, Internships and more...**

**2nd October 2025
11:00 - 15:00
MTU ARENA**

**Download the
Careers Fair Plus App
to see which companies
will be attending on the day!**



FRESHERS, SO YOU'VE LANDED IN MTU: NOW WHAT?

Tips from Those Who've Survived (and Thrived!)



Congrats! You've officially made it into MTU. Welcome to a world of lecture halls, caffeine dependence, and the occasional identity crisis over whether you're in the right building. To save you from rookie mistakes, here's some tried-and-tested wisdom from students who've already done the wandering, the panicking, and the sneaky napping in the library.

THE LIBRARY ISN'T SCARY

Sure, it looks like Hogwarts for grown-ups, but trust us: the library is less "doom dungeon" and more "lifesaver." Those librarians? Absolute legends. Ask them for help, and suddenly your assignment goes from impossible to "done in an hour." Bonus tip: stake out a study pod early at exam time or risk being exiled to the floor by the toilets.

THE CANTEEN: YOUR TRUE CAMPUS HUB

Forget lectures—the canteen is where the real magic happens. It's where you'll meet people, swap assignment horror stories, and occasionally inhale chips and soup at 10am. Stock up early, though. Once the lunchtime rush hits, it's survival of the fittest. All Freshers get a free reusable & sustainable cup at Orientation from the Students' Union. If you use your own flask/cup, you'll save 30 cents at the canteen. Also, carrying emergency noodles in your bag is not just clever—it's essential.

YES, YOU'LL GET LOST

It's practically a rite of passage. Even final-years still stumble into the wrong lecture theatre (and then sit through half a class before realising). Just roll with it. Worst case? You make a new friend who's equally lost.

SOCIETIES: GO WEIRD OR GO HOME

Don't just join the usual suspects—dabble in something random. Drama, gaming, juggling... it doesn't matter. Societies are where you meet your actual friends, the ones you'll still be WhatsApping in five years.

LECTURERS: NOT ROBOTS (SHOCKINGLY)

They do know your pain. Send them an email if you're struggling, but keep it civil. Email etiquette matters: spell their name right, use full sentences, and resist the urge to add emojis.

BALANCE, PEOPLE!

Yes, study matters. But so do nights out in Cork, day trips with housemates, and even the occasional duvet day. The best stories rarely start with "I stayed in and highlighted Chapter 9." There's plenty Freshers Week Events to choose from. The schedule is on p4-5

A FINAL NUGGET OF WISDOM

No one has it all figured out. Everyone's winging it. Throw yourself in, laugh when things go wrong, and remember: everyone else is just figuring it out too. You'll find your people, your rhythm, and, eventually the right lecture theatre.

By Keith Brown





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Inspire Credit Union Limited is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. Lending criteria, terms and conditions apply. Warning- If you do not meet the repayments on your loan, your account will go into arrears. This may affect your credit rating, which may limit your ability to access credit in the future.