

Forógra Oifigeach Gaeilge is Cultúir **Manifesto Irish Language & Culture Representative**

Cuir in Aithne:

Is mise Íseult Ní Fhoighil is táim ag rith le bheith mar Oifigeach Gaeilge agus Cultúir ar Aontas na Mac Léinn 22/23.

Is as Conamara, Gaeltacht na Gaillimhe, dhom ó dhúchas. Táim ar tí dhul isteach sa tríú bliain is mé ag déanamh staidéir ar Theiripe Teanga is Urlabhra anso i gColáiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh. Is i 2019 a tháinig mé ar saol na Gaeilge anseo i gCOC. Nuair a bhog mé síos anseo ar dtús ní raibh mórán cur amach agam ar an gcathair, ar na daoine (nó fiú ar Ghaeilge na Mumhan). Shocraigh mé a bheith i mo bhall ar an gCuallacht is níor fhág mé ó chionn.

Tá taithí agam ar choistí Gaelacha cheana fhéin. Bhí mé i mo Ghnáth-Bhall Coiste don gCumann Dramaíochta is i m'Oifigeach Cumarsáide ar an gCuallacht. Chomh maith leis sin chaith mé bliain i mo chónaí in Áras Uí Thuama.

About Myself:

My name is Íseult Ní Fhoighil and I am running to be the Irish Language and Culture Representative on University College Cork's Students' Union.

I am originally from Connemara, a Gaeltacht area in Galway. I am going into my third year studying Speech and Language Therapy here in UCC. I first got involved in 'Saol na Gaeilge' in 2019 when I was in first year. I decided to join An Chuallacht to immerse myself in student activities. Since then, I was on the committee for An Chuallacht, An Cumann Dramaíochta and I lived in UCC's Irish speaking accommodation Ársa Uí Thuama.

Aidhmena:

- Béim a chur an an nGaeilge sna fó-champais
- An Ghaeilge a spreagadh i measc foghlaimoirí.
- Béim a chur ar chultúr na tíre trí imeachtaí éagsúla.
- Spriocanna iar-Oifigí a choinneáil is a fhorbairt.
- Breac (béim a leagan ar a thábhacht, níl aon iris cosúil léi sa tír, tá muid ar fad fíor-bhródúil as agus cinnte go leanfaidh sé ar aghaidh an bhliain seo chugainn)

Aims:

- To advance the Irish Language throughout UCC Satellite Campuses.
- To encourage students to interact with the language.
- To organize events and celebrate Irish culture on campus.
- To further develop the Irish-language magazine, Breac.
- To maintain and expand policies put in place by previous Officers.

An Ghaeilge ar Champas :

Ar ndóigh, an chéad phointe atá agam is an ról is tabhachtaí atá ag an Oifigeach, ná gur mhaith liom an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn ar an gcampas. Ba cheart go mbeadh an Ghaeilge feiceálach i ngach áit ar an gcampas, ní hamháin i gcúpla áit. Táim ag iarraidh béim a chur ar na fó-champais ach go háirthe. Feicim nach mbíonn an mhéid chéanna Gaeilge le cloisteáil iontu is mar is féidir. Tá neart daltaí nach mbíonn ag freastal ar léachtaí ar an bpríomh champas, mise san áireamh, is bíonn sé níos deacra páirt a ghlacadh i saol na Gaeilge mar sin. Ba mhaith liom mar sin imeachtaí a chur ar aghaidh sna fóchampais le go mbeadh seans ag daoine páirt a ghlacadh.

Ba mhaith liom chomh maith go mbeadh daoine nach bhfuil muinín acu ina gcuid Gaeilge compordach freastal ar imeachtaí Gaelacha. Bheadh sé i gceist agam imeachtaí dátheangacha a eagrú go rialta le go mbeadh fiú foghlaimeirí sásta freastal orthu.

Gaeilge on Campus:

My primary aim as the Irish Officer would be to spread the Irish language across campus and to encourage people to speak to each other using the language. I believe that Irish events should be made accessible to all regardless of where on campus they may be studying. There are not enough Irish events occurring on satellite campuses and I would like to rectify this. It is in these smaller campuses that I see myself making the biggest changes.

I want to make Irish events accessible to all. This will be achieved by organizing regular bilingual events on and off campus. It is important that the Union supports those learning the language as well as those who want to learn more or simply find a place to practice their Irish.

Cursaí Leanúna:

Caifé na Gaeilge: Dár liom is é café ceann de na spriocanna is tábhachtaí den fheachtais. Is mó an tábhacht go mbeadh spás ar leith ag mic léinn an choláiste dhul le go mbeadh siad in ann meascadh lena chéile trí mheán na Gaeilge. Is mór an peaca nach bhfuil áit mar seo ar an gcampas cheana fhéin.

Ar ndóigh, níl réiteach sciobtha ar an bhfadhb seo. Tá sár-obair curtha isteach cheana fhéin. Teastaíonn uaim go mbeadh duine ann anois a chonneodh leis an obair thábhachtach seo.

Meitheal na Gaeilge: Ba mhaith liom leannacht ar aghaidh le Meitheal na Gaeilge a chur an t-iar-Oifigeach Darragh Ó Caoimh tús le. Is seans den scoth atá anseo le go mbeadh mic léinn óga an choláiste páirteach i saol na Gaeilge is an Aontais.

Tacaíonn an Meitheal le dream óg a chur i dtreo na Gaeilge sa gcoláiste, pé ábhar a bhfuil siad ag déanamh staidéir air. Tugann sé deis dóibh blas a fháil de shaol na Gaeilge, saol an Aontais, agus na Cuallachta, gan orthu ról lárnach a bheith acu ann. Bíonn seans acu chomh maith a gcuid scilleanna eagrúcháin agus cumarsáide a fhorbairt.

Project Expansion

Cafe na Gaeilge: In my opinion the cafe is one of the most important developments that must come to fruition as soon as possible. There should be a designated social hub on campus where Irish is the primary language used to communicate. Although there is no quick solution to this goal, I will put every effort in on my part to continue that great work that has been previously put into the effort.

Meitheal na Gaeilge: Meitheal is an old Irish descriptive term that encompasses people coming together to work and support each other. This was an initiative adopted by Darragh Ó Caoimh to get students involved in a range of tasks to help support Irish in UCC. This allows students to gain experience and develop valuable skills. I will be looking to continue this initiative due to the success of it in the past year.

Cultúr

Tá sé ar intinn agam imeachtaí eagsúla a eagrú chun go mbeadh cultúr na tíre feiceálach ar an gcampus. Ba mhaith liom é seo a bhaint amach trí imeachtaí spéisiúla agus ionchuimsitheacha a chur ar aghaidh. Is breá liom céilithe, sean nós, ceol traidisúnta is a leithidí. Ar ndóigh, is páirt fíor-thábhachtach de chultúr na tíre iad seo. Ach chomh maith leis sin, táim ag iarraidh cultúr na tíre is Gaeilge an lae inniu a bheith pairteach freisin. Tuigim go bhfuil íomhá sean-fhaiseanta ag an nGaeilge, ach ní shin atá i gcest sa lá atá inniu ann. Ba mhaith liom béim a chur ar an gcultúr úr atá againn sa tír anois agus mé i m'Oifigeach.

I want to organize a range of events that make Irish culture and traditions more visible on campus. I am a fan of traditional Irish culture including céilís, sean nós singing and traditional music amongst other things. I am aware of the old fashioned image that is associated with Irish and its surrounding culture. I want to change this perception by including new and current cultural trends in my events throughout the year. I want to emphasize Irish and its new and fresh culture that is still emerging if I get elected to the post.

Go Raibh Míle Maith Agaibh!

Thank you all very much!