



Technological University Dublin  
**ARROW@TU Dublin**

---

DIT Student Union

Dublin Institute of Technology

---

2009

## **Toast, Vol. 1, Issue 6, 2009**

DIT Students Union

Follow this and additional works at: <https://arrow.tudublin.ie/ditsu>

---

### **Recommended Citation**

Dublin Institute of Technology Students Union, Toast, Vol 1, Issue 6, 2009. Dublin, DIT, 2009.

This Other is brought to you for free and open access by the Dublin Institute of Technology at ARROW@TU Dublin. It has been accepted for inclusion in DIT Student Union by an authorized administrator of ARROW@TU Dublin. For more information, please contact [arrow.admin@tudublin.ie](mailto:arrow.admin@tudublin.ie), [aisling.coyne@tudublin.ie](mailto:aisling.coyne@tudublin.ie), [vera.kilshaw@tudublin.ie](mailto:vera.kilshaw@tudublin.ie).





**PHOTOS OF THE YEAR:**  
Onlookers await the National Fees Protest on O'Connell St.  
Photo by Maebh Horan-Murphy.

# toast

the magazine of DIT Students' Union

Vol: 01 Issue: 06 The Picture Special

## Toasted!

Well can you believe it ?

That's all from us here at DITSU Comms HQ for another year. There has been just 6 slices and now we are plugging out the toaster for the Summer. I want to thank all of you who made the magazine happen this year. Special big up to Eddie Corr for the design, layout and superb photography, to Eve and Fiona for their editorial excellence, to Maebh for the fab fashion shoots with the WAWA clothes, to Nevin for his rants (which are now being used in after dinner speeches the world over) and to Martin (so long and thanks for all the cheese), Tracey, Dermot, the convenors and DITSU staff for all their input.

We hope you enjoyed it, were amused and entertained by it, found it useful and informative or at the very least used it to prop up a shaky table. From all of us here at DITSU – good luck in your exams and if this is your final year good luck wherever you go from here.

For those of you who will be back in Autumn – have a great summer and we'll be seeing you soon. Postcards and pressies from your holidays are always welcome in the SU offices.

Remember you can keep in touch with us on [ditsu.ie](http://ditsu.ie) and we are here throughout the summer so email or call into the office if you can't find what you need on the website.

## All the best

- Mairead

## Go On- Have A Bite

We are always on the look out for talented [or not so talented...] people to help out here at Toast. So, if you fancy yourself as a bit of a writer, gonzo journalist, photographer, illustrator or general piss-artist then we want to hear from you. Drop us a mail. [toast@ditsu.ie](mailto:toast@ditsu.ie)

### DITSU SHITZU SAYS:

All rights reserved. The entire content is copyright of DITSU LTD. and cannot be reproduced in whole, or in part, without written permission. The views expressed in Toast are those of the contributors and are not necessarily shared by the magazine.

## Contents

Elected Officers Farewell	02
Aungier Street Review	04
Bolton Street Review	06
Cathal Brugha Street Review	08
Kevin Street Review	10
Mountjoy Square Review	12
Rathmines Review	13
Inductions & Fresh 08	14
Photos Of The Year	15
DIT Sports	19
SU Activism	20
ENTs Review	21
SHAG Week 09	22
SU Class Reps	23
RAG Week 09	24
Fashion Review	26
Welfare Review	28
Cultural Outings	29
SU Elections	30
SU Inaugurations	31
Shitzu On Tour	32

## The Crew

[Editor] Mairead Butler  
[Sub Editor] Eve Donnelly  
[Features Editor] Fiona Condron  
[Design & Photography] Eddie Corr

## Contact

[General] [toast@ditsu.ie](mailto:toast@ditsu.ie)  
[Editorial] [communications@ditsu.ie](mailto:communications@ditsu.ie)  
[Advertising] [communications@ditsu.ie](mailto:communications@ditsu.ie)  
[Design] [design@ditsu.ie](mailto:design@ditsu.ie)

## Competition

Log onto [www.ditsu.ie/tea](http://www.ditsu.ie/tea) for all the latest Student Union competitions

## Cover Photo

Montage 2008/2009  
photos by Various

# Elected Officers

## 2008/09



**Martin Dunne**  
Students' Union President  
president@ditsu.ie

### Hello for the last time!

So the year is over and it's time to have a look back at the highlights and the lowlights. The times that made us smile, the times that made us cry and the times that left us in trouble with the Garda Siochana. It's been a heck of a year, probably one of the most challenging in all my time at DIT, but on the balance of things I think it's been enjoyable.

The year started way back in July; while you were all enjoying a well earned break from exams and assessments and stress we were working hard planning out the year. September was probably one of the most hectic times I've ever experienced, the committee circuit in DIT kicking off with a vengeance, Fresher's Week, Rep recruitment and the blow up over the use of Linenhall. No sooner had we started than we were winding down for Christmas.

October and November came and went like a flash and December brought out the Santas grottos, cheesy music and mince pies in Templebar and Portland Row. There must have been all of three days lull in the offices before the January exam madness. Just as everyone was getting into the swing of studying and answering and celebrating February arrived and with it Semester Two. We had Valentines, RAG, elections and National Congress, and bang March and April were gone and we're sat here in the Mad May weather.

Looking back on the year I think we've had our ups and our downs but I feel (and I hope you agree) that we've had more ups THAN downs. There's been plenty to be proud of from sorting opening hours issues in Portland Row to the great turnout from DIT at the fees protest through the brilliant spirit and efforts put in by all the volunteers for RAG Week.

Without a doubt the best part of the year for me has been the energy and enthusiasm shown by you, the students. This is very much your Students Union and sometimes we may speak and act on your behalf and in your interests but without your involvement we amount to nothing. In my two years in DITSU I've seen some great things and some shocking things but throughout it all I've always been impressed by the dedication of all the students that get involved. The union can achieve great things on your behalf but only with your involvement.

You give weight to your Union.

While it will be sad to leave it all behind and head out into the big bad world after six years in DIT I have complete confidence that if people continue to show an interest, get involved and help shape union policy we'll stay on the right track.

Thanks to everyone who I have met, laughed with, talked with, locked horns with and worked with over the last two years. It's been emotional, it's been unbelievable and it's never been dull.

All that's left is to sign off so as they say in the Isle of Man "Slaynt vie, bea veayn, beal fliugh as baase ayns Mannin".

**Have a good one yessir**  
**Martin**



## Tracey Flinter

Students' Union Vice-President  
[Academic & Student Affairs]  
vpacademic@ditsu.ie

### And so, the end is near...

This year year kicked off with the "Team Fresh Inductions" as you will see from the photos in the MAG, there was mighty craic and plenty of freebies. We welcomed over 3,500 first years to DIT and taught them a few things before they set off to become full time students. This had to be one of my proudest moments as every single student that was involved was so enthusiastic, if it meant dressing up as a mascot handing out free sweets or travelling from site to site being cheerleaders it was all done with a smile! We honestly didn't know how it was going to work but I reminded myself that its a Students Union, run by Students and it's suppose to be fun! September feels like it was only a couple of weeks ago and sadly we have come to an end of this academic year.

We ran a number of campaigns from Welfare to SHAG, Finance Week, What If..., PC1 Campaigns and highlighted a number of weeks from National Condom week to Fire Safety Week. We had a Christmas Party for the Old Folks in Cathal Brugha St and we brought International and Erasmus Students on two outings as well as an evening out. We recruited the highest number of Class Reps ever this year and brought them away for training! We kicked off our student friendly opening hours on three of the larger sites, Bolton St, Kevin St and Aungier St to let Part Time Students that we are here to help and provide them with as much info as possible. The Student Charter is a real life working document because of our continuous nagging. Library hours were extended for exam periods, planning for Grangegorman is still moving forward and Governing Council is starting to ask the hard questions finally!!

There are two memories that I will take from this year, firstly being in Temple Bar at 8.30am on the second day of RAG week (the Coronas were on the night before) to set up for students volunteers. I was amazed at the amount of students that actually came from all the sites to walk about shaking buckets raising money for Console our RAG Charity. At one stage we had over 100 students shaking their buckets, it just goes to show that once we work as a team anything is possible and over €12,000 was raised!! Secondly, the amount of case work we have dealt with in the Academic and Students Affairs Department. From July 2008 up until April 2009 we have dealt with over 1,400 individual cases and class issues that have arose this year. Figures are significantly up from last year, with a massive increase in class issues because this years batch of Class Reps have been more focused, trained and also more knowledgeable.

To all the Convenors I know I gave most of you a hard time, thanks for putting up with me, you now understand that I only want things done for the better of the student body. Martin, I wish you the best of luck in the future, you are intelligent and focused and will go places. Dermot, my rock for the year, you are a true friend and even though you joke about working on the farm back home I know you are the cream of the crop! CPIT, we have had characters this year and yes we argued but that's democracy and we fight for what we believe in! I wish you all success and happiness in what ever comes your way and hope our friendship remains. For all the people that have come on board this year, got involved and volunteered I couldn't have done it without you, from the bottom of my heart I thank you! You are the people that make this Union what it is and I am proud to call myself your President for 09/10!!

See you next year  
Tracey



## Dermot Julian

Students' Union Vice-President  
[Services & Trading]  
vpservices@ditsu.ie

### What's the story?

Quick year I must admit and eventful at the same time. Just a quick recap of the year before I dwindle off into the sunset. The year kicked off as per usual with the arrival of the new recruits, aka the freshers, hence we had freshers week. Great craic the Monday night queues out the door and all that jazz. It kicked off with David O Doherty followed off by FRED. Tuesday then paved the way for the return of the Blizzards to headline the Freshers Ball at the Academy.

After the mayhem of that week came the annual Graduation ceremonies and with it.. the Graduation Balls. This year there was a change in location down to the Mount Wholsley Golf & Country Club. It provided those leaving college one last session before the recession hit home. The highlight here was of course was the Business Ball anyone that attended agreed it was good finish to a hard earned degree. Having left ballroom of the Mount Wholsley the following Monday morning, very very very early that morning, I picked myself up an geared up for the arrival of the National Icons.... The Saw Doctors. Yes they did return to play the Button Factory for 1 night, needless to say the crowd went hatched listening to the usual hits.

Then we came across the Vengabus, about a week before it was due to arrive in Dublin the bus got wrote off, it was flat out down a back road in Kiltimagh, game over ball burst, gig cancelled... temporarily. Thank God for small mercies they managed to get a new Vengabus, gig back on track. A cheesy night to say the least.

Then Santy came.. and went as he always does, along with the exams next thing we know we have a celebrity in our midst, no ordinary celebrity though, a crowd hero. Her name... Danielle Lloyd. Temperatures went through the roof.. even wen went a bit red-faced. I don't anyone had as much craic, shouting, roarin, laughing and scratching in one day as they did that day. How the table tennis tables managed to hold up for over a hour without collapsing I'll never know, even the porters, one of them on a day off came into to see this crowd favourite, for me it was the best day of the year without a shadow of a doubt only downside was I didn't get the shift, for those that weren't present that day you just might want to look it up on youtube, oh yea let me know too if any of them chat up lines worked, sound

RAG Week was then cast upon us mid march, although it faced an uphill battle in the media spotlight it always turns out to be a great week. Managed to raise €12,000 for Console (in the middle of a Recession which wasn't bad) don't forget to stick around for the presentation of that money which is going to be happening shortly. I don't think there need to mention the madness that occurred that week, still missing a tractor by the way so if ya see one floating around the Dorset St locality drop us a line.

Lastly before I say fond farewell, I want to thank everyone for making it the year it was, to all the volunteers throughout the during all the campaigns, inductions, freshers week and of course Rag Week had great craic with all of you during the year hope you did too. So that's it I suppose nothing left to say only Good Luck!!!

Good Luck  
Dermot

# Aungier Street

## 2008/09



### Avril Murphy

Aungier Street  
Class Rep Convenor  
convenor.ast@ditsu.ie



### Sharon Hughes

Aungier Street  
Student Support Advisor  
advisor.ast@ditsu.ie

### Unsung Hero: Peter Nolan

For those of you who DON'T know who Peter 'The Legend' Nolan is, don't feel bad, because you probably do without even realizing. He is the Head Porter in DIT Aungier Street and is renowned amongst the students who know him for probably being the most obliging guy in the building.

When it comes to helping a student who need access to a room, some equipment borrowed/loaned, a late opening for a drama show or keeping an eye on luggage for half an hour, then no better man than Peter. Often found speaking charades to lost tourists who have wandered into the building, Peter is a diamond in the dust and one of the true gems of Aungier Street!

### Hi All!

It's hard to believe that one Academic year has come and gone and that we're already preparing for the next one, but so it is. Aungier has, as usual, been jam packed full of fun all year. It started with a vibrant Inductions Week to welcome all you Freshers to college, with the DITSU Shitsu running amok with his new best friend the Kopper-bot, the poor first years didn't have a clue what hit them! Freshers followed quickly, and Halloween, and by then all the Societies were in full swing. Older gems like Intercambio and a revived Gig Society were on fine form, as well as new Societies like jenga (2-hour grudge match!) and BAM, whose talk by Bill Cullen was probably one of the high-lights of the year. Hundreds of students turned up to hear what the Man himself had to say.

The Students' Union had a busy year from the start, Eric Fitzgerald made a big impression and when he left in March for Erasmus, he was replaced by the vivacious Ms Avril Murphy. Eric's parting gift to us was, of course, his true source of strength, his hair which in fairness raised over €1000 for Con-sole, the nominated RAG charity this year. And RAG didn't end with Eric's head shave, in fact it kick-started the whole affair! The week was swiftly filled with 40 foot dives by ballerinas and various other characters, Iron stomach competitions to challenge the toughest of competitors and a Pirate Party without the parrot.

The Students' Union area underwent a massive change as well when, in January, long over-due construction works began in the

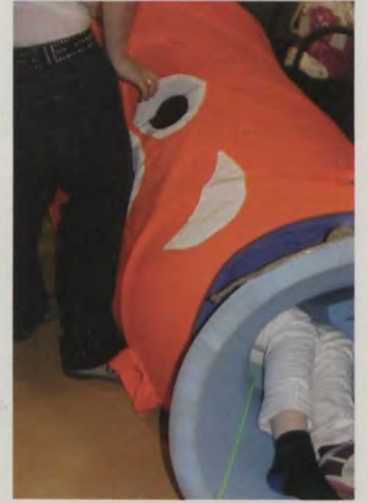
Union and Society offices. This resulted in extra work space for both, and the Students' Union is now much more visible as you come down to the shop in the basement by the lift. Plus, we finally got round to naming the Students' Union Theatre with a more original name than the 'Black Box'... the new official name is 'The BISCUIT BOX!'

The Fashion Show was an amazing event with an even bigger and broader effect than before, if that was possible! The event wowed the audience thoroughly! You may have noticed a fair few Gardai on site too this year. These are from the local Campus Watch Division based in Kevin Street, and they kindly took a number of interested Aungier and Kevin Street students down to visit the Training college in Templemore and have been running various awareness campaigns on campus the last few months.

We're now reaching the end of term and are preparing for the new academic year. Eric Fitzgerald was voted in as next year's Class Rep Convenor, all the way from Germany! Things are all go in the Union with all the basic advice you need for any issues you have with exams and assessments, as well as starting to recruit the Class Reps for the coming year.

So whether you're home, Stateside or further afield this summer, have a good one and we look forward to seeing you all next year.

**Rock on!**  
**Avy & Sharon**





# Bolton Street

## 2008/09



### Suzann Tutty

Bolton Street  
Class Rep Convenor  
convenor.bst@ditsu.ie



### Dawn O'Higgins

Bolton Street  
Student Support Advisor  
advisor.bst@ditsu.ie

### Unsung Hero: Maura Cunningham

Maura is without a doubt the unsung hero here in Bolton Street. When she's not ensuring that all the bills get paid, she's offering a kind ear to any student who needs it and 'encouraging' the rest of ye to get up to the library and study.

She's always around for a laugh and a joke (and keeping Mark Breen in toe), though hates getting her picture taken! If it wasn't for Maura, Bolton Street wouldn't be so bright and happy! You rock Maura!!!

### Hey guys!

Well where to begin.....!!! I think that I have had the shortest stint as Convenor in Bolton Street! As I have only been in the position for a few weeks I have had a ball and I cant wait until September to get a full run at it... Its a great position in the SU Democratic Structure and It opens your eyes. Its a real rewarding position and Im looking forward to fully enjoying the position next year.

There have been many highlights since March... The first being USI National Congress that was a great experience, I learned a lot from last year and I put it to good use this year! Running to call procedural motions or running to speak for a motion had the heart racing.... But the biggest highlight for me was speaking against "the cut of the Jobseekers allowance". Sitting to speak against this motion with a laptop on my lap flicking through a few facts before putting them to the test was nerve racking... The mic was lowered to a reasonable height - about 4ft 5", which was just right, and the UCD Delegation then realised I was clutching a laptop.. The looks on their faces was priceless.... As I read through my facts the floor stood still - I managed to Woo the audience and put them to the test!! It was an amazing feeling once the vote took place and the motion fell... DITSU had a great delegation and it was a pleasure to be in there company!! I was delighted when our own Darren Bates won Maiden Speaker it was a great achievement...

The next highlight was chairing my first and last Class Rep Meeting for this year.... I was so nervous but as I got into the swing

of things that all passed and it was a great experience!!! Being re-elected as next year's Convenor was great I actually had butterflies! Promoting various nights out provided a great laugh along with all those who were up for a laugh at lunch.... I'm really looking forward to next year, but I would like to thank everyone who encouraged me over the last few weeks it has meant a lot to me and I will miss you all next year!

I would like to wish Martin and Dermot all the best and it was great working with you.... And Tracey, see you in a few weeks!!! Guys have a fantastic summer and see you in September....

### Be happy and cheer up... Suzann x

### Hey Everyone,

There has been lots of fun, frolics and madness here in Bolton street this year. From SHAG and RAG madness to Creme Egg eating competitions and crazy golf. Everyone got involved!

However there was one ultimate highlight here in Bolton Street and that is all down to one man...The One, the Only, Dermot Julian! If it wasn't for his confidence, his passion and his insistence that this would pull in a crowd there would have been no Danielle Lloyd in Bolton Street!! She put up with rubbish chat lines, female lap dances and most importantly of all she drew in the biggest crowd Bolton Street has ever seen!

There were many more events day time and evening and none of these would have been possible without the Bolton Street volunteers who worked tirelessly to ensure that YOU knew what was going on and to ensure that YOU had a great time. A big thank you to everyone who handed out flyers, plastered the place with posters, collected money during RAG week and anything else anybody did to ensure that the Students' Union rocked the way it did this year!!

The vast majority of people are now photocopying and scribbling furiously in order to ensure they get out and have a great summer. There are still one or two who need gentle reminders to get out of the Union and do some work... and you know who you are! For now, everyone, best of luck with the exams and final assessments and have an amazing summer!!

### Enjoy the Summer, Dawn



# Governing Council 2008/09

## Your issues, your Council...

Governing Council is the driver of the Students' Union. It's where your reps sit to decide policy – and there's been plenty going on this year! Everything from fees to parity of service for all students through to the ban on the blood bank has been discussed this year. Council has also been active in the changes that are coming to DIT with a trip out to Grangegorman and an information session on the Green Paper on Organisational Change.

Under the stewardship of the independent Chairperson, Darren McArdle, we've seen plenty of debates, discussions and clashes with Council holding the sabbatical officers very much to account. Despite all this a friendly atmosphere is maintained with the post-Council drinks! Council has seen plenty of changes in the last year and will see more to come as the term of office of the current Chair ends. In his two years as Chair of Council Darren has helped to put it back at the heart of the union and made it more powerful and vocal than ever before – his successor has big shoes to fill!

Elections for the next council will kick off on all sites in September so why not pop your name in the hat and become part of the driving force of the Students' Union.



# Cathal Brugha Street

## 2008/09



**Peter Keegan**

Cathal Brugha  
Class Rep Convenor  
convenor.cbst@ditsu.ie



**Sarah Coll**

Cathal Brugha  
Student Support Advisor  
advisor.cbst@ditsu.ie

### Unsung Hero: Joe Keenan

There are so many people in Cathal Brugha Street that give their time to the Students and the Students' Union. However, the person that stands out and never hesitates to help is Joseph Keenan the Porter from the Marlborough street entrance. We are lucky to have someone so friendly and helpful.

Joe is someone that always has the students best interest at heart. He is always there with a helping hand. He is the friendly face that meets and greets the students. He does everything from helping the students with directions around the college or places in the city, to helping set up the blue stand so that we can give the information needed for the students. Thank you Joe!

### Hello Ladies and Gentleman!

It's been 10 months since I took over as Convenor for Cathal Brugha Street and lordy those 10 months have flown by. Thinking about everything that's happened in those 10 months really makes me proud. We've had 2 Fees protests, 1 Induction Week, 1 Fresher's Week, 1 Finance Week, a Welfare "LOL" Week, RAG Week, SHAG Week, Elections, International Student Trips, 5 power days and various entertainments locally and all over DIT.

One of my favourite memories from this year was organising and working at the Senior Citizens Christmas Party here in the Brugha, also working at the RAG Ball in The Academy on Abbey Street, giving out free stuff during LOL Week, playing the Wii or just crashing on the couches chatting to students.

Some advice that I will leave you with, after five years in DIT I highly recommend - - GETTING INVOLVED!!! Whether it is in Sports, Societies, The Students' Union or just plain old volunteer work get involved because you will leave DIT a better, well rounded individual! And you'll make some great friends from it in the process...some of my closest friends I've made through the SU!

Best of Luck to Tracey, Jen and Seany for next year and to the new Convenor, Nathan, give it socks, you'll do great!

**Goodbye DIT, it's been a blast!**  
**Peter**

### Hi All!

As a late comer to the DITSU crew, there is a lot to be said for such a short time in the Brugha. From the good times, to the friendships and to the learning and adapting to an ever changing experience. Everyday in the Brugha is different and there is always someone to give a helping hand and get involved. Whether its Aimee who is always there to give support and advice, that will listen to all problems big and small. Tracey who raises spirits, along with giving help and advice on hand. Peter who has put his all into any challenge that comes his way and gets involved with all on/off-site activities.

The Students' Union in the Brugha wouldn't be anything without the students, and those who get involved. It was fantastic to see how enthusiastic the students were to get involved and volunteer. Over the past year there has been many events that took place in the Brugha. The event which really stands out in my mind, which was a massive success in the Brugha, the Senior Citizens Christmas Party. A significant amount of students along with DITSU and DIT staff volunteered to give a dig out for this event. It was both rewarding and great way to interact with the local community.

Another great memory that stands out in my mind is the International and Erasmus students day trips. This was organised to make the international and Erasmus students feel welcome to DIT and aware of the services in the Students' Union. The students were brought to Croke Park on Paddy's Day, where they got the opportunity to see a GAA

match and join in on the Paddy's day antics!! The International/Erasmus students were also taking on a day trip to "Causey farm" and the Hill of Tara. Going to the farm was all about being "Irish" for the day. They learnt a celi dance, went for a walk on the bog, milked a cow, made bread and learned to play the bohran. It was a fantastic day, everyone was in high spirit and enthusiastic to get involved in all the activities that was provided for them through out the day.

Other than the events that have been organised it was great to see the "buzz" in the common area. It was wonderful to see the interaction between the students. It is great to hear the "banter" amongst the students. They may not have all known each other, however they managed to socialise together. Whether it was a table tennis competition or a game on the Wii, they all interacted with each other, where friendships then evolved.

Lets hope the the involvement and enthusiasm in the Brugha continues for years to come!! I'd like to wish all the students best of Luck in their exams and all the best for the future. Whether its coming back here next year or going into the big bad world.

**Cheers!**  
**Sarah**



# Kevin Street

## 2008/09



### Sean Campbell

Kevin Street  
Class Rep Convenor  
convenor.kst@ditsu.ie



### Eve Donnelly

Kevin Street  
Student Support Advisor  
advisor.kst@ditsu.ie

### Unsung Hero: John Halpin

When things are running smoothly we never question why, we just take it for granted. In Kevin Street Students' Union we are lucky enough to have a secret weapon – that secret weapon is John Halpin. Anyone who has ever been to the Snackery knows genuine and kind John:

He's the trim silver fox that you can turn to if you've lost something, need change, looking for SU gig tickets- John is your only man. He always has time for a chat, he's never in bad form and we've never heard him complain. So we say thank you John, for all you've done big and small throughout the year! See you in September and don't go changin'! Three cheers for John!

### Goodbye my lover...

Good bye my friends...sick! It's not goodbye from me it's only the beginning so bring it on! Here comes the summer! Aaah the good auld wind swept days, rain lashing off your face as you lie on Sandyford beach trying to find a little break in the rain and enjoy the sun for the split second! It's summer time! So, the exams are nearly here and good luck to you all, I hope ye all do well.

Good luck if your traveling for the summer ye luck b\*\*\*\*\*s. I wish I could go with ye! I hope DIT has given you something this year and that you have given DIT something back. So those of you who won't be back good luck in the big bad world and for the rest of you see you back in September. Thanks to everyone in Kevin Street for all your help this year and I hope it was as much fun for you as it was for me.

Graham Hayes is taking over from me next year as the Kevin Street Convenor and don't worry he can fill my trousers (he is a well shaped man – like myself). I know he will do a great job with your help. So as Convenor of Kevin Street I sign off and say YYYEEEE-AAAAAH here comes the SUMMER!ENJOY! See ye next September for the beginning of the party year!

**See you next September for the beginning of the PARTY year!**

**Sean**

### Hi All,

Its been a great year in Kevin Street. A big thanks to all the Kevin Street Class Reps, we've had really good attendance all throughout the year and they've kept the us on our toes! A special word of thanks to the silent hero Frank Han, Kevin Streets International Part-Time Officer, thanks for all your work Frank, you're awesome!

It was an active year and its hard to pick out the highlights – the first USI Protest back in October sticks out – the vision of hundreds of Kevin Street students marching behind a samba band and an over excited Sean Campbell will not easily be forgotten and all the brave souls jumping into the Irish sea at the 40ft during RAG Week, yes it was cold and rainy but it was great craic and even the bus journey to and from was entertaining.

The Snackery was host to an eating contest to beat all eating contests during our Christmas celebrations, refereed by an unstoppable John of the unforgettable Ian I Brow – we all nearly peed our pants with laughter. Some may have given out about the noise leaking up to the library, but we all need a break from time to time, right?

Yes indeed, even though this year has seen the beginng of the economic melt down it's been a really successful year and remember, the Students' Union is open throughout the summer, so if you need any help or advice, no matter how big or small don't hesitate to contact us! If not we'll see you in September!

**See you in the next one!**

**Eve**



# Mountjoy Square

## 2008/09



### Jonathan Hayes

Mountjoy Square  
Class Rep Convenor  
convenor.msq@ditsu.ie



### Maebh Horan-Murphy

Mountjoy Square  
Student Support Advisor  
advisor.msq@ditsu.ie

### Unsung Hero: Dagmara

Dagmara, from the Su shop, is our most favourite person onsite this year. Because she's always been helpful when we need it. She's is the bee knees! Giving us boiling water during the power days, donating sandwiches to undernourished students.

She cashes cheques for them societies people no bother. Nothing but nice to us all year, she's only savage! Snaps for Dagmara. :D

### Toastie!

The past year has been interesting to say the least. I've had some amazing times and I want to thank everyone who helped out throughout the year, it's been great because of ye.

The staff in the Union, thank you all so much, no chance I would have gotten through the year without ye, especially Mary and Maebh, I just wanted to say thanks to ye especially. The volunteers, everyone who has helped, it's been great and I hope I helped make college better for ye because I know it would not have been the same for me without you guys around.

If there is one thing I learned this year, it is never give a student chocolate during lent!!! I'm walking away from it all with some amazing memories and it has been a fantastic experience and learning curve... and I can't wait to do it again next year!!!

All on site are knuckling down with hand-ups and getting ready for exams at the moment. We'll be having our end of year event again to send ye all off for the Summer, so keep an eye out for posters. Wishing everybody the best of luck with their end of year work, and we'll see ye all at the party.

**Party over here!**  
**Maebh xoxox**



### Later!

### Jonathan

### Hey there!

Well we've had a deadly year here in Mountjoy Square & Portland Row, from making cupcakes to playing crazy golf - Thanks for that one Tracey! Woohoo!

One of the highlights was Art & Design week, there was an exhibition with over 40 entries, a masked ball, a graffiti party where everybody went mad drawing on each other, and lots of freebies. Then pot-noodles keep the students going!





# Rathmines 2008/09



**Lorna Geraghty**

Rathmines  
Class Rep Convenor  
convenor.rath@ditsu.ie

## Hello All!

My god can you believe the year is almost over. I have to thank you all for giving me the great honour over the past few months

of being your Rathmines convenor. I have learned so so much and have loved every single second of it. And thank you so much for re-electing me for next year- I can't wait!

Rathmines has made a good host to RAG week, I never really realised before just how much students like charity when they get to eat homemade cookies and brownies. The cake sale made the most money of the week so a big thank you to all those who got involved. Tuesday played host to the most amusing to watch treasure hunt I've ever seen, and Wednesday saw an almost tied foosball match... \*shifty eye movement\* (ok so it wasn't really a close tie... \*cough\* more like eh 29 to 9..ok so music kicked drama's ass, I admit it). Anyways... I was very happy to see the great response from the students when our two comedians arrived on Thursday afternoon. Remember guys and gals the more ya get involved, the more events we'll have out in wee auld Rathmines.

Over Easter when most of the DIT students were eating chocolate or studying I spent 5 days in Bettystown, Co. Meath (no, I wasn't just playing pitch and putt at 'Funtasia') as

I was at USI (the national students union) annual congress. Basically what congress is for ye who don't know is 4 days from 9-6 motions which mandate the different officers on USI in ways we think would benefit ye as students....(and then in the evening we have a wee dance and a 7up or two ;) ) DIT's 23 delegates from all 6 main sites had a great time, loads of fun and really got some great work done...so much so the steering committee awarded DIT as best delegation, and Darren Bates (Bolton St.) as Best virgin Speaker, we also got nominated for Angriest Young Woman: Jen Jordan (incoming DITSU VP ASA), Best Quote: Martin Dunne <while speaking on motion re recent mini budget>; "Don't interrupt me, or I'll get confused and turn to the other side" (current DITSU President) and myself as Best Female Speaker. I had one of the best weeks ever and would defiantly recommend all of you to look into going to Congress 2010.

Have a good one, I'll miss ye over summer

**Kisses,  
Lorna xox**



# Inductions & Fresh August 2009

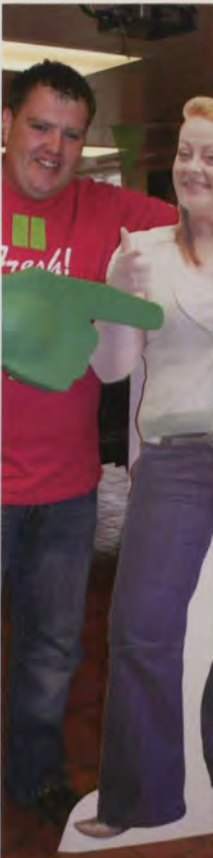
## Now that's fresh...

Fresh thinking, fresh ideas and fresh to college, Inductions and Team Fresh, Wahoo!! It all started with an idea that evolved into something spectacular.

The whole idea about Team Fresh was that as a member of the Students Union (all registered students are members of the Students Union) you become part of a greater team that works to improve the overall student experience. When starting college it can be a scary place, lecturers have been speaking for hours on classes and topics that will be covered and you don't know where the toilets are. So we in the Students Union decided to jazz things up a bit with music, dancing, games and also what is so great about being a DIT student. Team Fresh consisted of student volunteers along with the leaders of the Students Union running around all sites giving inductions to over 3,500 students.

We handed out over 800 loafs of bread, 2,000 bottles of Kopperberg (non alcoholic) and loads of sweets and goodies. We thoroughly enjoyed our inductions this year, yes things were manic, some classes went missing in the corridors of Aungier St but over all it was a successful start to this year!!

Thanks to everyone that took part and helped out!





**PHOTOS OF THE YEAR:**  
Students taking the plunge at the 40ft dive during RAG Week.  
Photo by Eddie Corr.



**PHOTOS OF THE YEAR:**  
Jesus (Kieran Keane) shows his opposition to fees.  
Photo by Eddie Corr.



I DON'T  
REQUIRE  
CRUCIFYING  
ME WITH  
FEES



**PHOTOS OF THE YEAR.**  
Students lie in wait during the R&G Street Collection.  
Photo by Sean Campbell.

Cafe

- SOUP
- BREAKFAST MENU
- WINE SALADS
- PIZZA
- NOODLES \$10.99
- WINE SABLES
- WINE BILLED PANINI
- SANDWICHES
- WINE CLUB SANDWICHES

CHECK OUT THE DC  
15% OFF ON FOOD  
OPENING MONDAY

Eat & Drink



# DIT Sports 2008/09



## DIT Sports Awards Winners:

### All-Star Awards

Paul Whelan – Soccer Club  
Harry Lyster – Archery Club

### Club Executive of the Year

Mark Neylon – Ski Club

### Most Improved Club of the Year

Archery Club

### Club of the Year

Rugby Club

### Long Outstanding Contribution to Sport at DIT

Padraig Mahon – Rugby Club

### Outstanding Contribution to Sport at DIT

[Student Members]

Pat Carolyn – Mountaineering Club

Sarah Deegan – Archery Club

Paddy Lindstrom – Judo Club

Keith Rogers – Gaelic Football Club

Michael O'Keefe – Hurling Club

[Staff Members]

Colm Gerety – Wada Ryu Club

Adrian Cummins – Hurling Club

Ciaran Stone – Gaelic Football

## Some Sporting Highlights:

### Archery Club

2nd Place in the Intersarsity Championships.

### Basketball Club

DIT Ladies won Division 2 of the Basketball Intersarsity Championships

### Boxing Club

1st Place (67kg) in the Novice Boxing Intersarsity Championships

1st Place (67kg) and male sparring in the Senior Boxing Intersarsity Championships

### DIT Men's Gaelic Football Club

Finalists in the prestigious Sigerson Cup

### DIT Ladies Gaelic Football Club

Runners up in equally prestigious Lynch Cup

### DIT Judo Club

Won numerous medals at the Judo Intersarsity Championships

### DIT Ski Club

1st Place in Ski Slalom, men's Snowboarding Slalom at the Ski Intersarities



# SU Activism 2008/09

## Student Movement.

In misty past of the '60s, '70s and '80s the student movement was defined by the protests and idealism of everyone who hit the streets to bring about a positive change in society. As the good times rolled in, apathy took root and students across the land settled into the comfy life. This year has seen the world change and with it students have woken up and started to shout!

Ranging from threats of local protests over opening hours to full blown National protests against the re-introduction of fees this year has been one of activism. Students from every DIT site and from every 3rd level institute in Ireland have united in an effort to keep education free and to voice their opinions on national issues.

The year ahead is going to pose it's own challenges but through the type of organised action shown on these pages we can bring about positive change in our education, our lives and our country. That, however, is still to come so for the time being enjoy the images of this year's protests and we'll see you all at the next protest!





# Events 2008/09



## Hi All!

Crazy crazy year! David O'Doherty made giggles happen. Fred made dancing happen. Blizzards made rock happen and girls go weak at the knees. TKO made nice music and free stuff happen. Headphones made headphone disco happen. Saw Doctors made craziness happen. Vengaboys made crap dancing and nostalgia happen. Xmas made Tripod madness happen. Dermot Julian made Danielle Lloyd happen in Bolton St. Legend. You all made €12,000 happen during RAG for Console. Legends. Caricaturist made funny pictures of us all happen. Coronas made human crowd barriers happen. Fight Like Apes made angry dancing happen. Farmers Ball made hay, Revenge and sheer madness happen. They're the highlights!



We're pooped.  
Study hard!





# SHAG Week

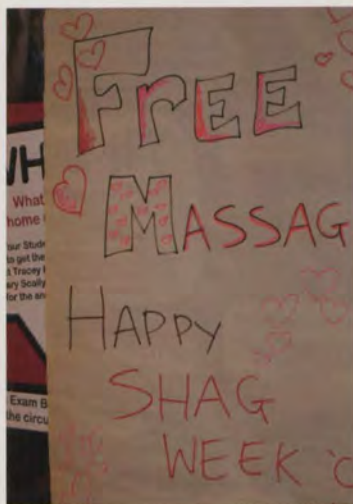
09-13 Feb. '09

## What's your position?

Sexual Health Awareness and Guidance Week aka SHAG Week. We managed to hand out over 3,000 condoms and had fun doing it! The National USI (Union of Students Ireland) launch was in Bolton Street on Monday the 9th and we even had Minister Andrews there. There was a number of familiar faces around and we had plenty planned on all sites throughout the week!

The Health Centre and Counseling service came on board this year and it proved an even bigger success. There was over 150 appointments made on the launch day for a STI testing at our very own medical centres. There was plenty of funny games involving bananas and condoms, people taking off their clothes, guessing the flavour of the lube and last but not least the SHAG Ball with our Burlesque Dancers.

Yes we had beautiful ladies dancing with tassels, it was very elegant. Everyone that took part in the events and on site gigs got plenty of condoms and even a bit of education on Sexual Health thanks to our SHAG quiz! A big thanks to all involved.





# SU Class Reps 2008/09



## Represent!

This year was the first year that we decided to bring our Class Reps away over night in order to teach them everything they need to know while also having a good time. This year we elected the highest number of Reps with over 505 students elected in the first number of weeks starting back into college.



We traveled out to the City North Hotel to spend the day informing and empowering 150 students reps on exactly what they need to know on the Student Charter, organisational structure of the Union and DIT, how to organize class parties, who to speak with if an issue occurs and so on. There were loads of formal and informal sessions throughout the day and after dinner we had a comedian and a DJ. It was a great night with plenty of hits from the 80's and 90's and some crazy dancing from many Reps. The next morning everyone was out of bed and we kicked off a session on how to be an effective Class Rep.



This year we have had some of the most informed Class Reps ever, over the course of the year it has been mentioned at committee meetings on all levels. It was more fun than it sounds (the pictures will explain more) so make sure that you come next year as it will be even better than last year!

Class Reps- we salute you!



# RAG Week

09-13 Mar. '09  
in aid of Console.





# Fashion Review

## 2008/09

### Hey Y'all!

Just a quick thank you to all who helped with the WaWa shoots this year. We've really enjoyed the rummaging sessions!! And of course helping to contribute to the amazing work that Women's Aid does for Irish women.

For the wonderful styling, thank you Una O'Boyle. For the helping out and always giving great advice, thanks to Louise Ryan and Clara Egan. Many thanks to our lovely models, some who agreed to shoot at very short notice. Mairead McManamon, Felicity Peart, Orna Cunningham, and Sarah Standing. And last but not least, many many thanks to the lovely ladies in the WaWa shop on Aungier st.

Here a few of the shots that didn't make it into earlier editions of Toast. Remember that the featured clothes all came from WaWa on Aungier Street. So, pop on in and grab yourself a fashionable bargain!

-Maebh





# Welfare Events 2008/09

## Think Positive

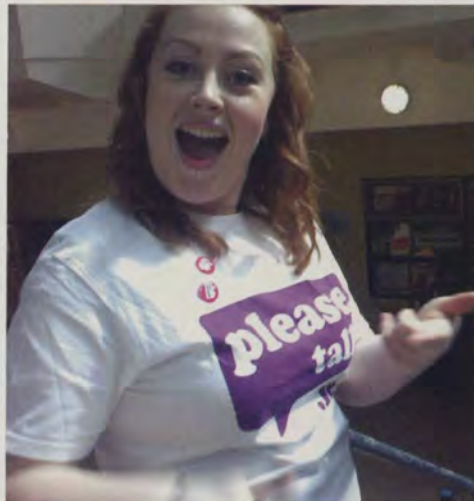
Think Positive, Be Positive - Laugh out Loud Week was a different take on our usual Welfare weeks, we focused on positive mental health and how to improve it. We all know that with the stresses of college and the student lifestyle can effect our health – be it physical or mental. Instead of focusing on the negatives of mental and physical health and lecturing students on what they are doing wrong, we in the Students' Union decided to inform students of what they can do to improve their mental health.

We had a simple alphabet guide on ways of reducing stress, it contained simple tips like taking a break and getting some exercise while also telling students what foods to eat when it comes to exam times to help the brain... oily fish!! We handed out over 600 pieces of fruit, 2,000 information leaflets and we brought in comedians and massage therapists on each site for lunch times throughout the week to cheer students up!

For semester two we came up with the idea of Welfare "Power" Days. These days focused on getting students ready for the exams, we provided free tea and coffee (over 1,000 cups) to students as a good luck gesture for the exams, the Mini Crazy Golf went down a storm and the exam packs that contained loads of free chocolate, info on exams and assessments and plenty of vouchers for free food. We even had the massage therapists back in and her relaxing hands released the tension for over 80 students.

When was the last time you got to tell your mates that at college today you played a round of golf, had a free cup of tea and got a massage while attending some lecturers!

Thanks you to all the volunteers involved. See you all next year gang.





# Cultural Outings 2008/09



## Hiya,

We in the Students' Union recognised that when our friends travel from abroad to study here there isn't a lot on offer, so with the help of some kind faculty directors we managed to get our hands on enough money to plan some trips and an end of year party.

The first trip was to Croke Park for the Club finals of both hurling and football on St. Patrick's Day. There were over 50 students dressed in green and gold some more so than others, singing and shouting for the teams that were playing. The idea that all International and Erasmus students could experience the trip to Croke park was an encouragement to plan some more.



Our next trip was to a little farm in Meath where we could bake bread, learn to Irish dance, play the bodhran, go bog walking and even milk a few cows. The weather was fantastic so we then decided that we would visit the local sites of Newgrange and also the Hill of Tara. It was a jammed packed day that started at 8.30am until 7.00pm that evening arriving back into Dublin. The end of year party was in Cathal Brugha St and we had a turn out of over 150 students, we played games ate sweets and had loads of prizes to give away. It was great spending time with you all, safe home and missing you already!!





# SU Elections

## 23-26 Feb. '09

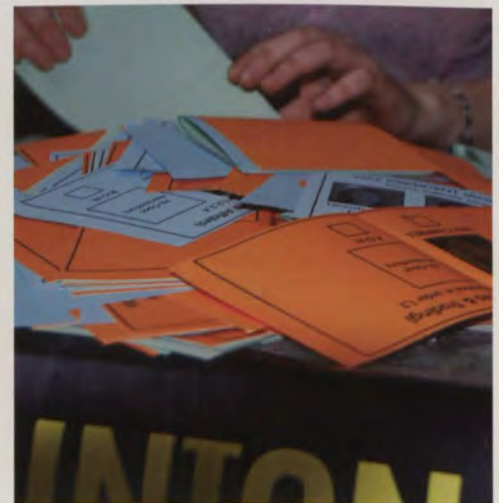
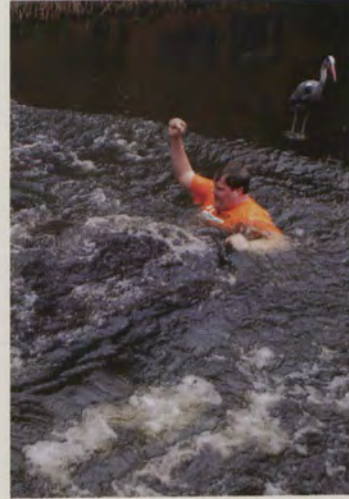
### Democracy in action

DITSU Elections 09 were held the week of 23rd February across the six DIT sites. Turnout was much improved on last years figures – so if you were among those who voted – thank you!

And because we all know that a race with only one person is just someone running really fast on their own, we tip our hats to those brave souls who actively participated in the democratic process – Niamh Foley, Peter Keegan and Mark Smith.

Next year's Sabbatical team are Tracey Flinter – President Elect of DITSU, Jen Jordan Vice President Elect of Academic & Student Affairs and Sean Campbell Vice President Elect of Services & Trading.

Their term of office begins on 1st July 09 and runs for one year.





# SU Inaugurations 30 May '09



## New faces

Thursday, 30th April saw Aungier Street host to the Annual Students' Union Inauguration of our new new sabbatical officers. It was a night to celebrate the Unions achievements and to look forward to the new year.

First it was the turn of the out-going elected officers to share their experiences of the year gone - Martin, Tracey and Dermot all made impressive speeches- with a good measure of humour and moments of genuine emotion, it was a fitting way to end their term in office.



There were more goodbyes in the shape of Governing Councils Independent Chairperson of two years - Darren McArdle. Darren will be missed and the new Independent Chairperson - Kieran Murphy - will have big shoes to fill, although there is no doubt that he is up to the job.

But in the end, the night belonged to our newly elected President and Vice Presidents - Tracey Flinter, Jen Jordan and Sean Campbell. There was more laughter and more tears (we won't mention anyone in particular). If their speeches are anything to go by, its going to be an interesting year!

Good luck to all three and watch this space!



# Shitzu On Tour 2008/09

## Woof!

Between tracking down injustice and sniffing out deals for DIT students, its a busy year for the DITSU Shitsu.

Overall it's been a dog-gone fantastic year for the hairball, who high-tailed it out of the country at the drop of a hat – just take a look at the snap-shots! Its been ruff for you students', but remember the enigmatic DITSU Shitsu is always in the background hounding the powers that be on behalf of you, dear reader, he even went as far as snapping at a few ankles. Never fear though, no-one was injured, you won't catch him barking up the wrong tree.

Well, its a dogs-life and while everyone else is fighting over the one summer job vacancy in the country the DITSU Shitsu will be taking it easy, after all canines are completely recession proof, any animal that is happy to lick himself in the neithers for entertainment could quite easily ride out the next apocalypse. Time to let sleeping dog puns lie, methinks!

See ya next year!



**DITSU SHITZU SAYS:**  
A three-legged dog walks into a saloon in the Old West. He slides up to the bar and announces:  
"I'm looking for the man who shot my paw."





Christopher  
Reeve  
Wouldn't Stand  
For This!!!



**PHOTOS OF THE YEAR:**  
DIT Comedy Soc. get serious at the National Fees protest.  
Photo by Eddie Corr.

