

# BICS Awards 2016

This year BICS celebrated the 21<sup>st</sup> National Society Awards in The Radisson Blu Hotel, Limerick on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> of April. In attendance were 423 students and staff from third level institutions throughout Ireland. At the Oscar style ceremony 20 awards were presented to acknowledge the contribution that the societies make to their colleges, the student experience and to the wider community. There were 53 adjudicators who spent two days reading submissions and conducting interviews before choosing the winners in the various categories.

Since its inception BICS has grown in leaps and bounds and now represents 21 colleges, 901 societies with 180,000 students across the island of Ireland. BICS helps students from across the country to network, meet new people and run amazing events on and off campus, so once a year, we celebrate their achievements.

A new award 'The Best Mental Health Promoting Event' was introduced this year in association with Please Talk to acknowledge the role of societies in creating opportunities to challenge the stigma around mental health, to promote wellness, healthy lifestyles and to help make third level colleges open, supportive and inclusive environments for their student populations.

Congratulations to all involved

The winners on the evening were:

## **2016 Best Society Photograph**

**Nominees:**

**The Winner is:**

**Dance Society, 'The Outsiders' from DIT**



*This photo is titled "The Outsiders" and we really feel it represents us the most. When you dance it enables you to leave all your insecurities and push you past your boundaries. This photo captured the essence of DIT Dance Society and what we represent which is an open environment for anyone to come take class and improve your dancing vocabulary.*

*Best Photograph winner: DIT Dance Society, Dave Cuddihy (Mary Immaculate College), Dermot Watchorn, Emma Garrett, Orla Doyle, Jopz Fernandez, Laura Kerr and Diarmuid Cleary (DIT).*

### **2016 Best Poster:**

#### **Nominees:**

#### **The Winner is:**

#### **Photo Society from DCU**

*Since we were going into the city centre for the night photography event, this poster captured the essence of Dublin, using both the visual hint of the Ha'penny Bridge in the Fotosoc logo, as well as a cartoon like representation of Dublin's buildings. The camera lens of the logo is replaced by the moon, symbolising the photographer "capturing the night". The moon is encased in the logo's camera which emphasises this concept.*

*Best Poster: DCU Photo Soc, Phelim Kelly (NUIG), Paul Gallagher (DCU) and Vanessa O'Brien (UL).*

FOTOSOC  
PRESENTS

## NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP



TUESDAY 16TH FEB  
6PM CG03

PRESENTATION FOLLOWED BY A TRIP TO THE CITY



## **2016 Best Promotional Video:**

### **Nominees:**

DIT Fashion Society  
DCU Mental Health Society  
ITTD Radio Society  
MIC MIDAS  
NUIG Potter and Film Soc  
Maynooth University Media Society  
UL Music Society  
UCC Commerce Society

### **The Winner is:**

#### **Fashion Soc from DIT**

*The aim of the video was to increase awareness of the DIT Fashion Show 2016. We took inspiration for the video from Brooke Candy A Study In Duality. All styling was done by members of the DIT Fashion Show style team, and clothes were borrowed from vintage shops across Dublin.*

*Best Promotional Video: DIT Fashion Soc, James Upton, Aoife Doherty (LYIT), Cormac Dunne and Gordon Geraghty.*

## **2016 Best Publicity Campaign:**

### **Nominees:**

DIT – Fashion show 2015  
Dublin City University – DCU Drama  
IT Tallaght– ITTD Radio Society (ITTFM)  
IT Tralee– Bang FM Radio Society  
Mary immaculate College- Art Society  
Maynooth – Musical and Dramatics  
NUI Galway – Potter Soc  
UCC Feminist Society: ‘Rise Above It’ Campaign  
University of Limerick – Environmental Society

### **The Winner is:**

Fashion Soc from DIT

*The DIT Fashion Show’s publicity campaign has a wide range of elements to promote the show’s presence on and off campus throughout the year. This includes a collaboration of marketing tools such as onsite events, social media, photoshoots, photocalls, national and regional press releases, posters and our promotional video.*

*Best Publicity Campaign: DIT Fashion Society, Jack Lynskey, Conor Dolan, Dylan Kennedy (NCI), Daniell Traynor, Gordon Geraghty, Ben Hogan, Lucie Farrell and Roisin O’Donovan.*

## **2016 Best Society Intersociety**

**Nominees:**

NUI Galway – Juggling Society: Juggling Convention  
NUI Galway – Lit & Deb Society: National Law Debates  
NUI Galway – Potter Soc: Potter Fest  
UCC – International Relations- EireMUN

**The Winner is:**

Potter Society, 'Potter Fest' from NUIG

*On March 11<sup>th</sup>, Harry Potter Societies from around Ireland gathered at the opening of Potterfest Galway to battle for the Triwizard Cup. Contestants fought their way through a giant maze of tasks and trivia to see which college would be crowned champions of the tournament.*

*Best Intervarsity: NUIG Potter Society, Cliona Lawton (IT Tralee), Mairead Clancy, Ellie Mae Parfrey, Rebecca Davitt, Isabella De Luca, Calvin Neary and Tim O'Connor (IT Tallaght).*

**2016 Best Mental Health Promoting Event.**

Sponsored by Please Talk

**Nominees:**

GMIT – Positive Mental Health Society: Walk the Talk  
IT Tralee – Bang FM: Tralee Race Night  
NUI Galway-Psychological Society: Mental Health Week

**The Winner is:**

Positive Mental Health Society, 'Walk The Talk' from GMIT

*Psych Soc's collaborated with other societies to organise a themed week that aimed to promote the idea that mental health should be an openly discussed topic on campus. Events included talks and discussions, an information fair with supportive community partners, a petting farm, tea and lots of chats, an exhibition, workshops on how to cope with stress and much more.*

*Best Mental Health Promoting Event: GMIT Positive Mental Health Society, Treasa Hannify, (National Please Talk Officer), Emma Louise Duffy and Hugh Murphy.*

**2016 Best Society Fresher (Small College)****Nominees:**

CIT Cork – Jenny Whyte  
GMIT – Abraham Afolabi  
IT Tallaght- Valentina Milicic  
Mary immaculate College – Cathal Hayes  
NCI- Caroline Dsouza

**The Winner is:**

Valintina Miličić from IT Tallaght

*I'm a person who has started from the bottom and worked my way to top, through perseverance, initiative and dedication. I have achieved much but aspire to achieve more than I believed possible. I have done a lot for myself and others which I wholeheartedly believe it is all worth it.*

Best Fresher Small: Paula Healy (NUIG), Tina Milicic IT Tallaght, Brian Whitney.

**2016 Best Society Fresher (Large College)****Nominees:**

DCU – Matthew Hewston

DIT – Ben Hogan  
Maynooth University – Kevin Boushel  
NUI Galway – Ciaran MacChoncarraige  
UCC – Beth Mallan  
University of Limerick – Tariq El-Masri

**The Winner is:**

Ciarán MacChoncarraige from NUIG

*Throughout the year Ciaran has been actively involved with FrenchSoc and Draíocht as PRO and an OCM respectively, while also assisting other societies and the Students' Union with numerous events and campaigns. He is NUIG SU's incoming Convenor of Arts, and French Soc's PRO elect.*

*Best Fresher: Kieron Bolt (IT Tralee), Ciaran MacChoncarraige (NUI Galway) and Jessica Murphy (BICS Secretary).*

**2016 Best New Society (Small College)**

**Nominees:**

CIT– Breaking the Silence – First Responder  
IT Tallaght– Cumann Gaelach  
GMIT – First Responders  
Letterkenny IT – Public Speaking Society  
Mary Immaculate College– SVP Society  
NCI – Charity Society  
RCSI – DiveRCSlty

**The Winner are:**

Cumman Gaelach from IT Tallaght

*Is é aidhm an Cumann Gaelach IT Tamhlacht ná chun an Ghaeilge a spreagadh trí paisiún agus bród don teanga agus chultúir. IT Tallaght's Cumann Gaelach is a society set up to encourage the use of the Irish language and culture through passion and pride for the Irish language.*

*Best New Society: ITTallaght Dublin, Cumman Gaelach Small, Fiona McCormack (NUI Maynooth), Niall Moone, Tina Milicic, Alex Mac, Alison O'Brien, Maureen McDonnell and Sean Reilly.*

**AND**

Mary Immaculate College– SVP Society

*The SVP are only a year and a half old but have become one of the most prominent societies in Mary I running multiple fundraisers and campaigns throughout the year.*



*Aisling O' Connor, Aine Stafford, Cathal Hayes, Mark Noble (adjudicator), Dave Cuddihy (adjudicator), Jane Lucey, Grainne Murphy, Rachel Dunne.*

### **2016 Best New Society (Large College)**

#### **Nominees:**

DIT – Law Society  
Maynooth University- Comedy Society  
NUI Galway- Surgical Society  
UCC – Musical Society  
University of Limerick- Science Society

#### **The Winner is:**

Music Society from UCC

*UCC Music Society is UCC's newest society! We offer a fun place for music lovers of all different tasters and genres to come together and enjoy, listen and play music. We also hold a number of different competitive events like Battle of the Band or social nights like our live open mic nights.*

Best New Society Large: UCC Music Society Phillip Hayden, Christine Cusack and Niamh Byrne.

### **2016 Most Improved Society (Small College)**

#### **Nominees:**

CIT Cork – Guild Gaming Society  
IT Tralee- Music Society  
Letterkenny IT – International Society



Mary Immaculate College – Harry Potter Society  
IT Tallaght- Airsoft Society

**The Winner is:**

Music Society from IT Tralee

*The Music Society is an all-inclusive society that includes people of all musical skills and knowledge in all of our events. We try our best to continuously improve our events so that become something for everyone to enjoy.*

Most Improved Society: IT Tralee Music Society Small, Anita Conway (DIT) Societies Officer, Ebunotuwa Osinubi, Qudus Kareem, Josh Soye, Sean O’Sullivan, Keith Freeman and Daniel O’Driscoll.

**2016 Most Improved Society (Large College)**

**Nominees:**

DIT – Dance Society

DCU – Harry Potter Society

Maynooth University- Mars FM

NUI Galway- French Society

UCC – Friends of MSF Society

**The Winner is:**

Dance Society from DIT

*Within one year the DIT Dance Society have grown from strength to strength. The Dance Society provides a space that allows students to express their individuality and share a passion for what we love. We offer a number of different classes that range from Hip-Hop, Contemporary, Jazz and Irish Dance.*

Most Improved Society: DIT Dance Society Large, Antoinette Canavan (GMIT), Dermot Watchom, Emma Garrett, Orla Doyle, Laura Kerr, JP Fernandez and Eimear Burke (IT Tralee).

**2016 Best Society Individual (Small College) Joint Winners**

**Nominees:**

DIT – Dance Society

DCU – Harry Potter Society

Maynooth University- Mars FM

NUI Galway- French Society

UCC – Friends of MSF Society

**The Winner are:**

Martin Crowley from CIT

*Martin is currently Chairperson of CIT Guild Gaming Society and is significantly involved in numerous other societies over the past number of years. Martin is a driving force behind these societies and has dedicated his time to ensure development of them and their members.*

Emma Mullan from IT Tallaght

*Emma has been a dedicated member of the Radio Society for 4 years. She has been Chairperson for the past 2 years and is passionate about making the society as fun, inclusive and professional as it can be and she loves getting other Clubs and Societies involved! This year she also introduced a Broadcast Mentor Programme.*

Best Individual (small college): Mary McCourt (Maynooth University), Martin Crowley (CIT) and Emma Mullan (IT Tallaght) and Kaytee Behan (DIT).

**2016 Best Society Individual (Large College)**



**Nominees:**

CIT CORK – Martin Crowley –  
GMIT – Asia Tayyab –  
IT TALLAGHT – Emma Mullan –  
IT TRALEE – Sean O’Sullivan (Sean Og) –  
LETTERKENNY IT – Denis Bourne –  
Mary Immaculate College – Aine Stafford –  
NCI – Shilpika Kotina

**The Winner is:**

Eoin Lúic O’Ceallaigh from DCU, DCU MPS

*Eoin Lúic is the station manager of DCUtv in the Media Production Society. He has been involved in the 24 Hour Broadcast for the last three years and set up DCUtv News last year. He is also the PRO of Cumann Gaelach DCU, and designs their branding and graphics.*

*Best Individual (large college): Mark Noble (Mary Immaculate College), Eoin Lúic O’Ceallagh (DCU) and Ciara O’Connor (CIT).*

**2016 Best Society Event (Small College)****Nominees:**

GMIT- First Responders \_ Citizens CPR Day  
IT TALLAGHT – ITTD Radio Society (ITTFM)- ITTFM Radio Week 2016  
IT TRALEE – Music Society – The I.T. Factor  
LETTERKENNY IT – Public Speaking Society -ISPCC Ball  
Mary Immaculate College – MIDAS – Mary I Dramatic Arts Society – Les Miserables  
NCI – Fashion Soc

**The Winner is:**

Radio Week from IT Tallaght, Radio Society

*ITTFM Radio Week 2016 has been the most exciting and professional Radio Weeks to date featuring a wide variety of shows and events over 5 days. The week included a 33 hour charity broadcast and cycle, a treats for change campaign and a Thrift Store Olympics!*

*Best Event Small: ITTD Radio Society, Ian Keating (Shannon College), Orla Butler, Ciarán O’Connor, Stephen Sheehy, Hugh Breslin, Ellen Smith, Dylan Grace, (Second Row) Katie-Louise Walsh, Alan O’Donoghue, Aoife Plunkett, Emma Robinson, Joey Cordon, Emma Mullen and Emily Phelan.*

**2016 Best Society Event (Large College)****Nominees:**

DIT – Fashion show 2015  
DCU – DCU Media Production Society (MPS) – DCUtv 24 Hour Broadcast  
NUI Galway- Anime& Manga Society – Akumakon  
Maynooth University – Cuallacht na Gaeilge & Business Society – Christmas Market  
UCC – WARPS Society – WARPCon 2016  
University of Limerick- Dance UL – 2015 All Ireland Dance Intervarsities

**The Winner is:**

DCUtv 24 Hour Broadcast from DCU, DCU MPS

*The 24 Hour Broadcast is the DCU Media Productions Society’s biggest event of the year. The event consists of 24 hours of live-streaming from the DCU TV studio on YouTube. The event is all in aid of charity and this year we were delighted to be able to raise a whopping €7276.88 for Jigsaw, well surpassing our target of €5000. All shows were produced, written, directed and performed by our members, and it’s a good mix of craic, learning and sleep deprivation.*

*Best Event large: DCU MPS, Caoimhe Ní Chathail, Billy Keenan, Éadaoin Nic Mhuiris, Eoin Lúic ó Ceallaigh, Conor Walsh, Gearóid Clesham, Sarah McLaughlin, Kevin Kelly, Siobhán Ní Thaidhg, Siobhán MicTaimh, Meg Dooley, Cáit Ní Cheallacháin, Emma Kavanagh, Heather Rainey, Lisa Kirby and Caoimhe Ní Mhaolagáin.*

### **2016 Best Society in a Charity or Civic Field (Small College)**

Sponsored by Partridge Peartree

#### **Nominees:**

GMIT Best Buddies

IT TALLAGHT – ITTD Engineering & Technology Society

IT TRALEE – St. Vincent De Paul Society

LETTERKENNY IT – Gaisce Society

#### **The Winner is:**

SVP Society from IT Tralee

*The ITT SVP Society are nominated for the Best Society (Civic / Charity field). We are delighted and honoured to represent the IT Tralee and to advocate for the students. We as a society are very passionate and dedicated to helping students. Our motto is 'Students Supporting Students'.*

*Best Society (Civic/Charity small college): IT Tralee SVP Society, Aodan Bolustrom, Marie McMahan, Joe McGilloway, (Partridge Peartree) Steven Healy, Ruairi Fry, Kevin O'Connor and Petmina Coverford.*

### **2016 Best Society in a Charity or Civic Field (Large College)**

Sponsored by Partridge Peartree

#### **Nominees:**

DUBLIN CITY UNIVERSITY – ENACTUS DCU

DIT – Sign Society

Maynooth University- Irish Red Cross Society

NUI GALWAY – Draiocht Society

UCC – Feminist Society

#### **The Winner is:**

Draiocht Society from NUIG

*The Draiocht society sends volunteers to each of our partner charities in Nepal and Tanzania during the summer months, and we fundraise throughout the year. Draiocht enables students to make an incredible difference for people in the developing world and allows students to experience cultures that are radically different to their own. This year we worked with our partners in Nepal when the earthquake destroyed the orphanage and school our society had built and ensured supplies and vaccinations got to the village where our founder member was stationed.*

*Best Society (Civic/Charity large college): NUIG Draiocht Society, Fiona Murphy, Orla McGee, Eimear Kelly, Sarah O'Connell, Síabhra Medley, Shane Falvey (CIT), Michelle White (BICS Vice-Chairperson) and Ciarán MacChoncarraige.*

### **2016 Best Society in a Cultural, Academic or Social Field (Small College)**

Sponsored by USI

#### **Nominees:**

CIT CORK – Photographic Society

IT TALLAGHT – ITTD Radio Society (ITTFM)

IT Tralee – Manga, Anime and Gaming Society

Mary Immaculate College- MIDAS – Mary I Dramatic Arts Society

NCI – International Friendship Society

#### **The Winner is:**

Radio Society from IT Tallaght

*The ITT Radio Society have had their busiest year to date! They held two major Radio Weeks, a 33 hour charity broadcast and cycle, an extensive Student Union Elections coverage event, and a weekly podcast, just to name a few! The society is so proud of its members for what they have achieved!*

*Best Society (cultural/academic/social small college): IT Tallaght Radio Society Aine Barry (UL), Ciaran O'Connor, Stephen Sheehy, Alan O'Donoghue, Joey Cordon, Hugh Breslin, Emma Mullan, Emma Robinson, Kevin Donohue (USI), Emily Phelan, Ellen Smith, Aoife Plunkett, Katie-Louise Walsh and Orla Butler.*

**2016 Best Society in a Cultural, Academic or Social Field (Large College)**

Sponsored by USI

**Nominees:**

DUBLIN CITY UNIVERSITY – An Cumann Gaelach DCU

DIT – Islamic Society

NUI Galway – Medicine Society (MedSoc)

UCC – Macra na Feirme Society

UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK – Tea Appreciation Society

**The Winner is:**

Medical Society from NUI Galway

*2015-16 has been one of the most successful years for NUIG Medical Society. Through our diverse events and projects, we aim to support our students academically and socially. We advocate, fundraise and strive to be a force for positive change in the university and wider community. And throw great parties.*

Best Society (cultural/academic/social in a large college): NUIG MedSoc, Katie St John, Riona Carol Hughes (BICS Chairperson), Lily McGarry (Alumni Judge), Alison Duffy, Harry Economos, Kevin McMahon and Conor Costigan.