Chairpersons Welcome

Welcome to the BICS Awards 2018. An evening celebrating the triumphs, adventures and the pure hard work of all of our attendees during the last year. The structure of Societies as a model for supporting inclusion and offering committee members an opportunity to realise dreams and broaden their education is second to none. Whatever their interest it affords students the opportunity to find like-minded enthusiasts and a structure to allow for self-governance with all the highs and lows that entails. Without societies our campuses would lack the colour, vibrancy and the fun that is the hallmark of great societies. We in BICS are delighted that representatives from the top societies on the Island of Ireland can join us tonight. Enjoy, mingle, make connections and new friends, and chalk this up as a night to remember. Thanks to the BICS Executive, The Board and all the Networking Reps for making 2018 another great year for BICS.

Riona Hughes
Chairpersons Welcome

Welcome to the BICS Awards 2019! You are some of the busiest, most active and engaged students on your respective campus. You are the thinkers AND 'the doers' and we are delighted to have you here in Athlone this year to celebrate your hard work, the goals you've attained and the strong foundations you have left in place for your successors!

At BICS we work to support you in this; striving to keep our networking opportunities, our focus and our resources relevant and current. This year alone we have worked with An Taisce to add a new award to the BICS Repertoire; the Green Initiative Award. The board has received some outstanding applications for this- a testament to the fact that the college societies of Ireland will always be leaders in making a difference.

Every community requires this activism as well as arts, culture, diversity, outreach, inclusivity, vibrancy, colour, creativity and fun to survive and you provide this for your campus community. You instil the confidence in your members to pursue their goals and ambitions, you remind them that what they do matters, and you provide them with a platform on which to celebrate their interests with like-minded individuals.

We ask you to take your time here as an opportunity to take a breath and congratulate yourself on your achievements this year. If you have made it this far then I can promise you - you have achieved a lot! So celebrate, laugh, make memories and enjoy.

Thanks to the BICS Executive, The Board and all the Networking Reps for making 2019 another great year for BICS. A huge thanks to our sponsors Partridge Peartree, USI, Please Talk, Cobham, An Taisce and USI for their support this year.

Beir Bua agus Beannacht

Michelle Whyte
BICS Chairperson
Awards Running Order

Best Photograph (Large & Small Combined)
Best Poster (Large & Small Combined)
Best Society Promotional Video (Large & Small Combined)
Best Publicity Campaign (Large & Small Combined)
Best Inter Varsity (Large & Small Combined)
Best Mental Health Promoting Event (Large & Small Combined)
   BICS Green Initiative Award
   Best Fresher (Small College)
   Best Fresher (Large College)
   Best New Society (Small College)
   Best New Society (Large College)
Most Improved Society (Small College)
Most Improved Society (Large College)
Best Individual (Small College)
Best Individual (Large College)
Best Event (Small College)
Best Event (Large College)
Best Society – Civic/Charity (Small College)
Best Society – Civic/Charity (Large College)
Best Society – Cultural/Academic/Social (Small College)
Best Society – Cultural/Academic/Social (Large College)
BEST PHOTO
Large & Small Colleges

CIT: Energy & Environmental Society
Climate Change Rally
Photographer: N/A
Students from CIT and UCC Environmental Societies collaborated to be part of the global rally to express concerns about the climate change. Over 100 countries protested on the streets around the world.

DCU: RAG Society
On the Ropes
Photographer: Tom Doyle
"On the Ropes" features a boxer emerging from the ring, a bit worse for wear, at RAG's annual white-collar boxing night, RAG Rumble.

IT Tralee: How Are You?
Photographer: Marlena Lambe
Spark Society is the first mental health awareness society in IT Tralee. The photo is from their White Collar Boxing event in aid of the Samaritans.

MIC Limerick: International Society
My Own Kingdom
Photographer: Carleigh Garcia
The International Society tours make up a large part of this society's experience. Image coming from a different country and seeing a view like this for the first time! Breath taking!
BEST PHOTO - CONTINUED
Large & Small Colleges

Maynooth University: Media Society
*The Flippening*
Photographer: Brendan Rice
This photo was taken on one of our Camera Walk Wednesday events. Image was taken on Nikon D3300 and edited using Lightroom.

NCI: Open Circle
N/A
Photographer: Roland Ola
The power and emotion of moTive by Open Circle captured in a moment.

NUI Galway: Circus Soc
*Fireworks Fade, Circus is Forever*
Photographer: Stephen McGinley
This eye-popping photograph was taken on a trip we took to the National Circus Festival in Tralee during the fire performance. The photo captures us watching the performer. They are using a fire staff that seemed to emit sparks as if by magic and it was truly a sight to behold…

TU Dublin City Campus: Photo Society
*Dance Inters*
Photographer: Donal Healy
Taken at the Dance Inters in March.
TU Dublin Tallaght Campus: Rainbow Society
*Rainbow Bond*
Photographer: Kai Toner
This year our society were finally able to get hoodies this helped with our members to have a stronger sense of community. This photo shows our bond as a group, rainbow is somewhere anyone can come and feel like they belong and always have others to lean on.

UCC
*Spark New Interests*
Photographer: Ishann Srivastava
“Spark New Interests” is an image captured during photography societies light painting and steel wool event. The image is obtained by spinning lit up steel wool in the air during night time, the cameras long exposure captures the moving light and flying sparks.

UL: PhotoSoc
N/A
Photographer: N/A
Having fun, teaching new photographic skills to their members, while embracing the beauty of UL’s campus is what UL PhotoSoc aimed at capturing. This photo captures a true representation of combined efforts as a society, taking three people to complete it physically and multiple ideas and laughs behind the scenes.
BEST POSTER
Large & Small Colleges

CIT: Anime & Manga Society
*Japanese Culture Night*
The concept of the poster is to capture an essence of Japanese Culture which included many Japanese symbols and references. The poster was created in Photoshop with digitally drawn elements.

DCU: Mental Health Society
*Craicin’ Up*
The DCU MHS poster for Craicin’ Up was drawn free hand and created on Illustrator. The poster played an important role in the continuation of the rebranding of MHS, promoting the event while also capturing the vibe and atmosphere the event creates and the Society aims to maintain on campus.

IT Tralee: LGBT+
*Drag Night*
Kate Moore: I personally designed this poster for IT Tralee LGBT+ Society, with the aim to advertise our Drag Night event and show how it was going to be an exciting and fun-filled night. The colour and imagery of this poster really helped to gather an audience and display the essence of the event and the society itself.
MIC Limerick: MIDAS
A Chorus Line

MIDAS poster for A Chorus Line utilises the famous audition line imagery while adding the personal MIDAS golden touch. All important information is there for the viewer allowing them to find further information and purchase tickets for this show.

Maynooth University: Creative Writing Society
Quoth

The Creative Writing Society held a workshop focusing on quotes, and how the creative process could be inspired by them. The title of the poster, ‘Quoth’, is an allusion to Edgar Allen Poe’s poem The Raven, in which the famous line ‘Quoth the Raven ‘Nevermore” appears. This also explains the large raven on the poster. The poster was designed using the computer programme Canva.

NCI: Open Circle
moTive

A lone figure walks alone gazing into a sky full of stars searching for a motive.
BEST POSTER - CONTINUED

Large & Small Colleges

NUI Galway: Dramsoc

*Rebirth*

This poster is based on an original dance/movement piece by Jess Harkin, inspired by Irish Celtic and Scandinavian Mythology. It’s set in a colourful dystopian, gothic world which greatly influenced the general aesthetic. Staged for Dramsoc in October and also performed at the 2019 ISDA Festival. Poster was designed by Jess and Oisin Parslow.

TU Dublin City Campus:

*Shurikon*

This poster was used as part of promotion for Shurikon Anime & Gaming convention, a two-day event held in Griffith College Dublin. The poster was entirely designed by Lana O Kiersey including the illustration and logo. It was used around all the TU Dublin campuses and around Dublin city centre.

TU Dublin Tallaght Campus: Rainbow Society

*Drag Show*

This year the Rainbow Society opened its Rainbow week with a Drag Show performance. This year the performance was solely performed by a society member. The poster shows the level of energy from the society while being informative to the college about the event.
BEST POSTER - CONTINUED
Large & Small Colleges

UCC: Feminist Society
The Vagina Monologues
This poster was created to promote UCC Feminist Society’s annual production of ‘The Vagina Monologues’ by Eve Ensler. This play explores the connection between women and their bodies. The image aimed to encapsulate the power and strength of Countess Markievicz and develop her legacy of Irish womanhood by presenting an unapologetic portrayal of sexual freedom and liberation.

UL: Drama Society
Scum of the Heavens
With a growing number of digital posters produced by programs such as Canva, Adobe Spark & Piktochart filling college notice boards, the society agreed that a traditional, hand-drawn poster of the cast would have a longer lasting visual impact. Furthermore, we believed that the hand-drawn elements of the poster would prevent the play, set in a feudal Celtic society from appearing to stereotypical or similar to “Game of Thrones”.
**DCU: Sober Society**
This video is a representation of the work Sober Society does throughout the year, focusing on our most successful event to date, Soberbowl. Additionally, the video highlights the aims of our society and the amazing work Sober Soc does for our partner charity, Rainbows Ireland.

**IT Tralee: St. Vincent de Paul Society**
Students Supporting Students is a promo video that was created to advertise our society's "SVP: To New Heights" skydive, which we hope to hold in May 2019. Some of the participants of the skydive feature in the video.

**LYIT: Malaysian Students Society**
This video was created by the LYIT Malaysian Students Society and has generated interest across Ireland and Asia. The video aimed to raise the profile of the LYIT Malaysian Students while showcasing authentic Malaysian and Chinese food, colourful decorations and games to the how many students from different nationalities and staff who came together to join in the celebration.

**Maynooth University: The Purpose Movement**
The idea behind this video - ‘short changed’ is to reflect the reality of our everyday life. This is when we put our all into something, but we do not get our desired results. For example, when you study really hard for an exam, but you do not get a good grade. We can be short changed in many areas of our life’s like relationships, family, work, career and education.

**NUI Galway: African Caribbean Society**
Our videographer successfully captured a video that portrayed the theme of elegance and class that we were striving to have for our ball. This could be seen by the spike in interest in the event once the video was released.

**MIC: MIDAS**
MIDAS promotional video for A Chorus Line centres around the practice and rehearsal room and acts as a call out to attend this production in The Lime Three Theatre Limerick.

**TU Dublin City Campus: Art & Design Society**
With the help of their honorary member from Jamaica Art & Design created a promotional video that places an emphasis on humour. Through this humour the video was able to generate a sizeable amount of word of mouth advertising.
TU Dublin Tallaght Campus: Snow Society
In this video our Snow Society can be found in their natural habitat, the snow. You see our members having fun on the slopes promoting our societies aim for friendship while developing a new skill.

UCC: Surgeon Noonan Society
With the highly infectious Break My Stride as a backing track, and some terrible dance moves on Dave and Liam’s part; Marathon Noonan aimed to promote the work that the UCC Surgeon Noonan Society has a proud 42-year tradition of and help raise funds for its cause. There was also the small task of training and running the Galway Bay Marathon in October that the video was advertising.

UL: Racing & Motorsport
This video encapsulates the fast pace, action-packed activities offered by the society. ULRM’s primary activity revolves around karting, with members competing against each other in a championship. They also offer casual and special karting events for those who just want to have some fun. This promotional video focuses on the speed and excitement of motor racing.
BEST PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN
Large & Small Colleges

DCU: Media Production Society
#DCUtv24
The DCU Media Production Society’s publicity campaign #DCUtv24 ran in the run up, and during, the DCUtv 24-hour broadcast. The campaign obtained number one trending on Twitter, produced viral videos with thousands of views and ultimately raised €10,000 for Aoibheanns Pink Tie.

MIC Limerick: MIDAS
Seussical: The Musical
The publicity campaign for Seussical: The Musical last 6 months in total culminating in sell-out shows and audience figures of 3090. The society utilised all means possible during this promotional campaign, even appearing in the Limerick St. Patricks Day Parade.

NUI Galway: GUMS
Pippin the Musical
Pippin the Musical was one of GUMS' most adventurous shows yet. Full of magic and mystery, conveying the tone of the show in every part of our PR Campaign was key. With a ground-breaking poster and promo video, and innovative, consistent interactivity with the public Pippin was inescapable.

TU Dublin City Campus: Japanimation Society
Shurikon
Shurikon was a two-day anime and gaming convention held in Griffith College Dublin. The promotional campaign ran from June 2018 to February 2019 and consisted of online advertising and in person advertising which saw us travel all over Ireland.

UCC: Feminist Society
Sexual Consent
UCC Feminist society decided to run a campaign on promoting consent on campus because according to a report published in the Irish Examiner, 1 in 7 students in UCC say they have been a victim of rape or serious sexual assault. We strived to use this campaign to make UCC a safe campus for every student. We believe the best way to achieve this is to ensure that students are educated on all aspects of sexual consent. The take home message of our campaign is that consent should be ongoing, mutual and freely given.
UL: Environmental Society

*Green Awareness*

Originating from a weekly meeting whereby members noted that there was no single source to find out about the various sustainable facilities on campus. A suggestion about creating a simple document that would overview important facilities on campus and might convince people to make more sustainable lifestyle choices was combined with the aim to develop this resource that would be included in the welcome packs for all new students.
NUI Galway: Circus Soc
*Galway Juggling Convention*
The Galway Juggling Convention is the only Galway based juggling convention and as part of the event we run an intervarsity every year. This year we ran team fight night and it proved to be a great success. We had lots of fun throwing, catching and spinning things over the weekend!

NUI Galway: Literary & Debating Soc and Law Society
*The Galway Open*
The Galway Open is an annual event hosted by our two societies, the Literary and Debating Society and the Law Society. It is an Intervarsity British Parliamentary Debate Competition. There have been many years of coordinating this event, but this year was without a doubt the best organised and best run competition in many years.

TU Dublin City Campus: Dance Soc
*Dance Intervarsity*
Dance Intervarsities 2019 is an annual two day All Ireland Competition which this year involved 12 colleges and 442 registered student dancers. The event, held in The National Stadium Dublin, saw these colleges compete at an extremely high level in 5 categories, Contemporary, Jazz, Irish, Hip-hop and Mixed.

UCC: Emergency Care Society
*SimWars*
UCC’s Emergency Care Society hosted the annual National SimWars competition, encompassing 100+ student competitors from all six medical schools in Ireland. The day-long competition included a 3-tier round robin, a 6-part live-streamed semi-final, and a 3-team live final competition. 22 Consultant judges from across Ireland and the UK came to judge, and €10,000 in sponsorship, sales, and Guild funding supported the event. UCC was victorious for the second year running and will host again in 2020.

UCC: Law Society
*Matheson Moot Court Open*
The UCC Matheson Moot Court Open is an intervarsity competition held by the UCC Law Society. This year, the competition took place on 19th - 20th October 2018. We organised a social for the entrants on the Friday and a Gala Dinner on the Saturday for the entrants and the judges.
BEST MENTAL HEALTH PROMOTING EVENT
Large & Small College
Sponsored by Please Talk

TU Dublin Tallaght Campus: Radio Society
*Dan & Darragh do the Radio*
Dan & Darragh do the Radio is a podcast aimed at stigma breaking within student life. They discuss the difficulties of meandering through campus life in an easy to listen and light-hearted way which has had an amazingly positive impact on our campus.

UL: Drama Society
*Voices of UL*
Voices of UL was the first event of this kind from Drama Soc but going by the response this raw and powerful project received, it is sure to be undertaken again. It is a stripped back piece with members detailing their own struggles with mental health and took a great deal of trust and courage.

UL: Tea Appreciation Society
*Mad Hatters Tea Party*
Mad Hatters Tea Party is a known and celebrated event in and around UL and always has an awareness and charity aspect. It is an opportunity for fun and light-heartedness to be used to raise awareness about the sad reality of suicide rates in Limerick in conjunction with a very deserving charity -Limerick Suicide Watch.
NUI Galway: Energy Society
The Galway Energy Summit (GES) was founded in 2018 and is Ireland’s only student and youth inspired energy summit. This event provides a unique opportunity by connecting academia, community, industry and government. GES creates a space for all to discuss and debate sustainability, technology, climate change and innovation.

UCC: Physics & Astronomy Society
An Evening of Weather and Climate was an evening conference held by the UCC Physics & Astronomy Society, in collaboration with the Irish Meteorological Society, the aim of the event was to provide science-based factual information about weather and climate to our members and the general public.

UL: Environmental Society
An incredible and impactful initiative from UL Environmental Society that was a huge factor in the installation of water fountains and refill stations on campus. Through the construction and placement of this large structure a spotlight was put on the unnecessary wastage on campus and the fact the through the simple act of using a reusable bottle could make a huge difference.
**BEST FRESHER**

**Small College**

**IT Tralee: Emma Casey**
Emma Casey is the most active first year around. Being the treasurer for the IT Tralee Spark Society and actively involved with both the SVP Society and Sign Language Society is no easy task. Emma is committed to improving the lives of everyone in college with a passion for compassion and a heart of gold.

**TU Dublin Blandchardstown Campus: Ciaran Daniels**
Ciaran Daniels is a first year Creative Digital Media student who has taken campus by storm this year with his energy and enthusiasm. He has been the driving force behind DJ Soc and has brought his society to the forefront of campus activity in Blanchardstown. Wherever there’s an event, you’re likely to see Ciaran there too, spinning the decks!

**TU Dublin Tallaght Campus: James Curry**
My name is James Curry, I'm a first year Sports Science and Health student. I am a very active member in a number of societies on campus and the founder of our Nerd Society My enthusiasm and dedication to societies is why I have been nominated for this award.
DCU: Dylan McClorey
Dylan McClorey is a first-year communications student who is DCU’s representative for Fresher of the year for his work with a range of societies on campus such as MPS, Drama and Rag to name a few.

Maynooth University: Aoife Hynes
Aoife has thrown herself into society life. She has involved herself with many societies and is the Literary Convenor for the Literary and Debating Society. She is the first to VOLUNTEER, has collaborated with societies such as Creative Writing and has helped with radio shows for Mars FM. What a great student.

NUI Galway: Kevin McLoughlin
When I started college this year, I was so excited to join the Potter Soc committee as an OCM. But when I rocked up on Socsday the society had become inactive. Not accepting this, I took it upon myself to revive Potter Soc and today I’m auditor and we are up for Most Improved against all odds.

TU Dublin City Campus: Flavia Guimaraes
As a first year, and as an international student, being in college was a bit daunting at the start. A crucial part of my adaptation was definitely getting involved in Arts & Design, Enactus and Mental Health society, and I can say that it was the best thing I could have done!

UCC: Ej O’Sullivan
Ej has been very heavily involved with UCC LGBT* Society, from running a campaign to organising a ball, and every project in between they could sink their teeth into. When not working with LGBT* Soc Ej also worked with the Musical and Drama societies on their production teams.

UL: Jacqui Mannix Geoghegan
Jacqui’s pure devotion, commitment, drive and contribution to her role as Events Manager of the Music Society has been vital and unmatched through-out the year. Her time here so far has been short, yet she has managed to make a lasting impression on the members. Jacqui, ukulele in hand, has more than proven dedication and passion for the society within this short time.
CIT: Programming Society
The Programming Society was founded with the intention of creating a community for Programmers to collaborate with one another and improve together. It is an environment to discuss programming not just as a course but as a hobby. Our top priority was to raise interest in programming among the student body.

IT Tralee: SPARK Society
ITT Spark Society is the first mental health awareness society in IT Tralee. We’re dedicated to promoting positive mental health and sparking a conversation between students. We provide fun events for students, an insight into societies for our amazing members and mainly a conversation on mental health for everyone.

NCI: Open Circle
Open Circle begin operating in September 2018 and since then have ran weekly events attracting 100+ people consistently, sold out Tramline for an event, launched their own merch and taken their events to Waterford IT and Athlone IT. Open Circle is a place to come and discuss various topics and be heard fairly and with respect.

TU Dublin Blanchardstown Campus: DJ Society
The DJ Society has been the most active and creative around campus this year. We’ve been complimented by students and staff about the great atmosphere we provide to campus and our creative events which make people want to get involved and show the talent and creativity we have to offer.

TU Dublin Tallaght Campus: Nerd Society
The primary role of the Nerd Society is to connect people with similar interests, in a place where they can relax and socialise, away from the pressures of college life. We explore different hobbies and activities in an open and fun space for our members to enjoy.
DCU: International Erasmus Student Network DCU
International Erasmus Student Network DCU (I*ESN DCU) is a student organisation, founded to help International and Irish students come together as one. Our mission is to represent international students, thus provide opportunities for cultural understanding and self-development under the principle of Students Helping Students.

Maynooth University: The Philosophy Society
New Societies make things interesting and bring new opportunities to students here on campus. The Philosophy Society has been reaching new heights of wonder, exploration and reflection since their formation only a short six months ago.

NUI Galway: AMSI
The AMSI NUI Galway society is the NUI Galway branch of the Association of Medical Students, Ireland (AMSI). It has strong links with international medical student bodies. It works across Public Health, Human Rights, Medical Education and Sexual Health to make positive changes and give prospective clinicians an awareness of society.

TU Dublin City Campus: Investors & Entrepreneurs
Starting the year off strong, I&E have run an amazing speaker series including Connall Laverty of Forbe’s 30 under 30, Noel Moran and Martin Shanahan.

UCC: WiSTEM
The aim of WiSTEM is to proactively empower women interested in and/or studying STEM courses to realise their full potential in order to tackle the under-representation of women at senior levels across STEM. We also provide STEM students with the support network and mentorship programs necessary to tackle the ‘leaky pipeline’ of female dropout within STEM courses.
IT Tralee: MAG Society
Over the past year MAG Soc has been reinvigorated from a society that appeared to be on the brink of shutting down completely at times to a society that now consistently looks to the future with confidence and enthusiasm with plans and ideas for years to come.

MIC Limerick: Music Society
The Music Society at Mary I have went through a recent successful rebranding which saw their membership numbers double and a huge increase in engagement both in the college and the local community. With over 35 separate events under their belt this year they have risen from the ashes to become one of the colleges most successful societies.

TU Dublin Tallaght Campus: Rainbow Society
This year the Rainbow society of TU Dublin Tallaght Campus decided to bring the society in a new and different direction, valuing support, education and helping the people of our college not just our society. we believe this was necessary this year as we wanted to remember the societies roots.
**MOST IMPROVED SOCIETY**

**Large College**

*Sponsored by Partridge Peartree*

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**DCU: Redbrick**

Redbrick is DCU's networking and computing society and provides a platform for students and societies of DCU. We view ourselves as the IT backbone of societies in DCU, providing essential support to vital services such as web hosting and email, coupled with tech related events and workshops for ambitious students.

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**Maynooth University: Computer Science Society**

This society has gone above and beyond the standard set by the society in previous years. They have actively developed their society into a successful organisation for tech lovers to enjoy. The society’s diversity and engagement with students is testimony to the hard work of its members. They have certainly created a buzz around computing and it definitely isn’t going anyway anytime soon.

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**NUI Galway: Potter Society**

Potter Soc’s aim is to provide fans of the Harry Potter world a place to build a community. This year alone, the society came from complete inactivity to these awards and their events increased by 450%. Potter Soc has placed an emphasis on inclusion, creativity, friendship, collaboration and community this year.

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**TU Dublin City Campus: Art & Design Society**

Art & Design Society - Art & Design suffered a tough year previously due to an inactive committee. This year the society has reached new heights in all aspects including doubling its membership, holding more collaborative events than any year prior and working with a number of local community groups.

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**UCC: Physics & Astronomy Society**

UCC Physics & Astronomy Society is dedicated to providing exciting, interesting, and enjoyable events for our members. Running a wide range of events from baking competitions and stargazing trips to balls and conferences, we’ve really striven to increase the variety of relevant events held and make the annual ones even better!

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**UL: PhotoSoc**

Though Photographic Society have been established here in UL for a number of years, the society has been reinvigorated this year. A combination of new, fresh committee members and their long standing, experienced counterparts has equated to a surge in membership and on campus presence, the future is bright for UL PhotoSoc
BEST INDIVIDUAL  
Small College

CIT: Nuttawud Nutchanat
Nuttawud Nutchanat is a 2nd year Business Administration student. He is the current VP of LGBT* Society, CIT BICS Networking Representative and Former Team Leader of ENACTUS CIT. A person who is hardworking, never back away from challenges and always make time to support others, because he strongly believes in the importance of building a sense of community.

IT Tralee: Adam Guerin
Hi, my name is Adam and I’m treasurer of the IT Tralee Saint Vincent de Paul Society. I kept our accounts in check all year and aided the chairperson in making financial decisions about the society. I went for “Best Individual” because I think I have contributed a lot to societies in IT Tralee in my 3 years here and I feel I’ve helped improve the student experience in IT Tralee.

LyIT: Edward Ng
A founding member of the LyIT Malaysian Students Society, Edward Ng is a proactive, dedicated and supportive leader. Edward is an excellent ambassador in all aspects of campus life and encourages others by his strong motivation and inclusiveness. This has also shone through in his collaborative work with various societies. Edward is tremendously passionate about sharing knowledge with others while ensuring that all Malaysian students feel fully integrated.

NCI: Kevin Donovan
Kevin Donovan has been President of our Music Society for two years now and has been a shining example of how to lead a Society. Constantly active in both promoting our own musical talent and engaging with the wider college audience, he is a credit to his society and his college.

TU Dublin Tallaght Campus: Jess Hill-Gibbs
This year Jess has gone above and beyond for the Rainbow Society. Jess took the society back to its roots of providing support and a family for the LGBTQIA+ community on the Tallaght campus. An activist, a mother figure and a leader, Jess truly is Tallaght’s Best Individual.
BEST INDIVIDUAL  
Large College

**DCU: Riain Condon**
Riain Condon, a final year Computer Applications student is a hardworking individual across several disciplines. Excelling in both creative and technical aspects of Society Life, Riain has become a source of advice, assistance and joy in the DCU Community. This year, Riain has shown what Society Life is about.

**Maynooth University: Rachel Beth Mc Fadden**
Rachel is the President of Disney Society, Secretary of Tea Society, and Secretary of Arts, Crafts and Design Society. As president of Disney society, she has demonstrated real passion to constantly invigorate and develop the society for the members, this can be seen in the increase in numbers attending their weekly and special, once-off events and trips. She has brought her creative touch and tea-rific temperament to her role.

**NUI Galway: Mark Fitzgerald**
Mark is a final year Electronic & Computer Engineering student. This year he has taken on the role of Vice-Auditor for Dramsoc. Running events, helping others and producing over twenty shows have been some of the highlights of the year. Mark has also spent time creating the constitution for the Irish student drama association festival, as well as creating a council to oversee it.

**TU Dublin City Campus: Ben Hogan**
Ben Hogan - Organised, dedicated and cracked in the head. Ben's work as Chairperson of the Art & Design society this year has had a significant positive impact on campus life in TU Dublin.

**UCC: David Synnott**
David Synnott is the current chairperson of the UCC Surgeon Noonan Society. The Society have had a particularly successful year with Dave focusing the team on community engagement, breaking fundraising records, liaising with Bank of Ireland to see a specialised national bank loan for electives and overcoming many obstacles along the way.

**UL: Conor Clohessy**
Conor is not only the writers’ group leader for UL Drama society, he is an actor, a writer, a director, an organiser, a support system to others and a dedicated member. In his short two years he has made a huge impact with special projects, funding and overall morale within the society.
CIT: Musical Society
*RENT*
Our aim is to bring students all CIT together to explore their shared interest in musical theatre. We offer our students a chance to gain experience both on and off the stage. All of this is done in a safe and encouraging environment.

IT Tralee: SPARK Society:
*Rumble in the Jungle*
Rumble in the Jungle was a collaborative charity amateur boxing event between Spark Society and the Boxing Club. It was an attempt to bring people together from different courses and different campuses. The event was in aid of Samaritans Kerry and was supported by almost every active society.

NCI: Open Circle
*moTive*
Open Circle ran an event on March 5th in Tramline called moTive. This event sold out one of Dublin's most popular venues and featured everything from speakers on Open Circles committee to live music performances. Open Circle is a place to worship and speak freely and moTive was their crowning moment.

MIC Limerick: MIDAS
*“Seussical: The Musical”*
MIDAS (Mary I Dramatic Arts Society) spring production of Seussical: The Musical took place from 21st - 24th March 2018 in the Lime Tree Theatre Limerick. Running for a combined total of 7 shows across the 4 days. The stage production of Dr. Seuss works entertained a total audience of 3090 of all age groups.

TU Dublin Tallaght Campus: Radio Society
*Radio Week*
Tallaght Campus Radio Society hosted Radio Week in February which consisted of a wide variety of shows and an eclectic mix of music. Guests included Daniel Airey who appeared on both the Late, Late Show and First Dates. We also had some TY students who got to do their own show.
DCU: DCU Style

**DCU Fashion Show (Life Imitates Art)**

DCU Style is one of Ireland's biggest fashion related societies. Each year, we publish a bi-annual magazine, hold a fashion show that is the biggest of its kind in the country, and host weekly events such as industry talks, workshops and trips. We endeavour to encourage students to be creative with and inquisitive about the clothes they wear, and to provide a creative outlet for students to express this.

Maynooth University: Games Society

**Dominicon Live**

Dominicon has been an annual occurrence here on Maynooth campus for many years! This year the Society evolved their already award-winning concept and took it LIVE. Games of all types were showcased over the course of a weekend. This was the 24th Dominicon event.

NUI Galway: Paediatric Soc & AMSI

**Healthy Heroes**

Healthy Heroes is a two-day event co-led by Paediatric Society and AMSI aimed to promote child and adolescent physical and mental health through education, leadership and fitness. We accomplished this through interactive and educational activities led by experts in the field: from yoga teachers, speakers from SOAR and nutritionists.

TU Dublin City Campus: Dance Soc

**Dance Intervarsities 2019**

Dance Intervarsities 2019 is an annual two day All Ireland Competition which this year involved 12 colleges and 442 registered student dancers. The event, held in The National Stadium Dublin, saw these colleges compete at an extremely high level in 5 categories, Contemporary, Jazz, Irish, hip-hop and Mixed.

UCC: Musical Society

**Cabaret**

UCC Musical Society performed Cabaret for our annual spring production, bringing together students from all over the college to take part as performers, production team and backstage crew, giving everybody the chance to showcase their skills, whilst also performing an exciting show for students and the wider community to enjoy!
UL: Drama Society
*Scum of the Heavens*

Written and directed by Conor Clohessy, Scum of the Heavens received all the great feedback an ambitious, difficult project should. Mountains of hard work and rehearsals later, the society were met with standing ovations, teary eyes and audience members returning a second and third time putting the society in a fantastic light for the remainder of the academic year.
CIT: LGBT*
CIT LGBT* Society provide weekly events for LGBT+ students and allies that are both social and educational to foster an inclusive environment for all. This year they have raised the bar by collaborating and fund raising for many local charities and reached out to secondary schools by creating a Gay/Straight Alliance handbook aimed at providing supports for LGBT+ young people and future college students.

IT Tralee: St. Vincent de Paul Society
We are the IT Tralee Saint Vincent de Paul Society. We were founded in 2012 by a group of young students, wanting to improve the life of other students in IT Tralee. We are all about students supporting students. We provide aid, financial advice to students, we advocate on the students’ behalf and we donate money at the end of every academic year to the local SVP, to be used as supplements for students attending IT Tralee the following academic year.

TU Dublin Tallaght Campus: Islamic Society
Previous winners of the Most Improved Society at BICS 2017, the TU Dublin Tallaght Islamic Society return to this year’s awards under the Best Society (Civic/Charity) category. The Islamic Society serves as a platform for all Muslim students on campus. From Quran halaqas and Learning about Islam to social events, the Islamic Society ensure that Muslim students feel involved in all aspects of college life.
DCU: RAG Soc
RAG provides unparalleled volunteering opportunities for students on and off campus. By involving more students and societies in our 6 weekly social projects and our big events like RAG Rumble and RAG week, we have excelled this year in helping our local community and raising thousands of euro for charity.

Maynooth University: Mental Health Society
The Mental Health Society have worked tirelessly to spread a powerful message among the students of Maynooth, contributing to increased awareness and discussion around this important social topic. They encourage a space where students can come and share their stories. And their weekly Creative Coffee meet-ups support students to interact and network with others on campus.

NUI Galway: Friends of MSF
Friends of MSF raise money and awareness for Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders (MSF) This year we focused on the Snake Bite epidemic, the occurrence of Tuberculosis, health conflict in Yemen, Vaccinations (fair shot campaign regarding the pricing of vaccinations) and increasing tensions as medical facilities in conflict zones become a target for attack.

TU Dublin City Campus: Comp Soc
Comp Soc is a society for the promotion of Digital Education, alongside Coder Dojo, Comp Soc runs digital skills workshops, speakers and a weekly Coder Dojo for nearby Deis Schools. These events promote inclusion in technology and aim to address the growing digital divide and the lack of diversity in technology.

UCC: Surgeon Noonan
Surgeon Noonan is a registered charity (CHY10103) made up of UCC 4th Year Medical Students, making its 42nd trip to underprivileged African hospitals in 2019. The well-established society raises over 100,000 euro every year, bringing 100% of the money raised directly to the hospitals. Students fund their own travel expenses.
BEST SOCIETY (Cultural/Academic/Social)
Small College
Sponsored by USI

IT Tralee: BANG FM:
Cultural diversity is very important to BANG FM. As a society, it is imperative to us that members different cultural and ethnic backgrounds are represented both on air and within the society as a whole. It is our responsibility as the student radio station to ensure all students on campus and in the society, feel represented.

MIC Limerick: MIDAS
MIDAS (Mary I Dramatic Arts Society) are back to defend their title. Winners of Best Society in 2018 they have not let their determination fade. MIDAS caters for all elements drama from plays to musicals to dance and singing. MIDAS remains the largest and most active Society in Mary I each year.

NCI: Music Society
Our Music Society has a motto, you don't have to be a musician to be in Music Soc, they live and breathe these words. Helping our own musicians to grow and mature while showcasing their abilities both on and off the stage and organising event after event to highlight this talent. They are an example to all other societies.

TU Dublin Blanchardstown: Ethical Hacker Society
The Ethical Hacker Society has come a long way since its formation in 2011; we have built teams to compete nationally and internationally representing both the university and Ireland in Cybersecurity competitions worldwide, which lead to the growth of the society and recognition industry-wide helping our members start amazing careers.

TU Dublin Tallaght: Radio Society
Tallaght Campus Radio Society hosts a diverse range of students. The society provides a fun way to learn new skills all while having fun and making some friends. This year they hosted Radio week with a variety of shows from vintage vinyl to breakfast banter and all in between.
BEST SOCIETY (Cultural/Academic/Social)  
Large College  
Sponsored by USI

DCU: DCU Drama
Now in its 30th year, DCU Drama is one of the most well established, active, and welcoming societies on campus. Each year we produce several flagship shows - pantomimes, musicals and contemporary plays. We maintain that Drama is not just for performers, it is for everyone – creative and technical alike.

Maynooth University: Disney Society
On a campus where the Society presence is so strong, it takes a huge effort to sustain your efforts for the whole year, but Disney Society has done just that. Positive and colourful, their events are inclusive and always a popular attraction for every type of student on campus. It’s a place where family is priority, and everyone is part of the ‘Ohana’ (Family). They radiate a cheerful and vibrant presence that adds to the campus atmosphere that brings a smile to many student’s face. A society where your imagination comes alive and it’s perfectly acceptable to dream and live the fairy-tale.

NUI Galway: GiGSoc (LGBTQA+ Society)
GiGSoc is NUI Galway’s LGBTQA+ society. We have had a very busy year organising loads of events, always with an aim to fostering community for LGBTQA+ people here in NUI Galway. This year includes the ground-breaking work of publishing our first book, hosting Ireland’s first ever Pride on campus, and the T Fund.

TU Dublin City Campus: Photo Society
Photo Society - Photo society is comprised of both amateur and semi-pro photographers. We develop student’s skills in photography through many events, workshops and photo walks. We also run an exhibition for our members work at the end of each year titled 'Viewfinders'

UCC: Pharmacy Society
UCC Pharmacy Society was established in 2005 and since then it has gone on to run countless events with the aim of enhancing the university experience of both Pharmacy students and staff alike. We address all aspects of student life through three main branches - educational events, entertainment and, as of this year, welfare.

UL: Computer Society
Back to back winners of Best Society in UL, Computer Society is without doubt one of our flagship societies, they provide essential services to Clubs and Societies and UL Student Life as well as being a great community for people to share ideas, help others and game together.
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STRONGER SOCIETIES = STRONGER COMMUNITY

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Sponsor of Best Event and Best Mental Health Promoting Event

Please Talk is Ireland’s student-led mental health movement. Please Talk urges students to understand that talking is a strength not of weakness, and if you’re experiencing problems while at college, there are people there who you can talk to. It promotes this message through a collaborative effort involving the various support services present in colleges up and down the country such as: chaplains, counsellors, student support officers, students’ unions, disability support services and many, many more.

If students experience problems at home, college, or in their private lives, they can log on to www.pleasetalk.org select their college and identify what services that are available that they might want to access. Please Talk is supported by the HSE through the National Office of Suicide Prevention and is part of the National Mental Health Strategy.

Anyone can get involved with Please Talk either by wearing a badge or t-shirt, organising events or initiatives on campuses to encourage students to talk about their problems, or by contacting us directly at info@pleasetalk.ie, Website: www.pleasetalk.org
BICS is a supporter of Comhlámh’s Code of Good Practice
We are supporting good practice in international volunteering and are committed to a vision of international volunteers working in solidarity for a just, equitable and sustainable world.

42 Irish Sending Organisations are implementing Comhlámh’s Code of Good Practice for Volunteer Sending Agencies, ensuring that international volunteering has a positive impact on the volunteer and host community. We advise you to only support International Volunteering with one of these Code signatories. Any queries about responsible international volunteering and the Sending Agencies that are implementing good practice, please visit www.comhlamh.org

Sponsors of the new Green Initiative Award.
The Green Campus programme has been in operation in Ireland since 2007. At present 31 campuses are formally registered on the Programme, with eleven awarded the Green Flag including one hospital site. The programme encourages a partnership approach to environmental education, management and action in third level institutions. http://www.greencampusirealnd.org
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