

MTU Student Engagement Associates

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Policy Context

- National Policy Context
- MTU Policy Context

MTU Student Partnership and Engagement Approach

- To activate the student voice
- To enhance students' self - and peer representation skills
- To empower students to engage with MTU governance structures
- To enhance students' transferable graduate-readiness skills
- To value students' contribution through:
 - a. Renumeration
 - b. Student visibility as leaders
 - c. The intersection between students and staff partnership

Phase 1: Planning Phase

- Underpinned by a commitment to equality of access to learning
- Multidisciplinary approach
- Developed student recruitment and selection process
- Developed and sourced training resources and facilitators
- Developed sessions to nurture student empowerment
- Developed the core principles of practice

Phase 2: Recruitment

- External recruitment company facilitated student recruitment, contracting, and payment of Student Engagement Associates (SEAs)
- All students were eligible to apply - chosen by random selection
- All students were Garda Vetted
- Fifteen students started on 23rd February 2024
- Currently recruiting 20 new Student Engagement Associates

Phase 3: Training and Mentoring

- Induction and assimilation into training and role expectations
- A Canvas module was created for communication purposes
- Meetings at mutually acceptable times – Fridays
- Meetings were both formal & informal, with refreshments provided
- Training and mentoring: an ongoing process
- In-person and online training

Project: Student Universal Design Digital Badge



Project: Kerry Children and Young People Services Committee (CYPSC)

- CYPSC brings together all county-level statutory, community, and voluntary organisations.
- These organisations provide services and support to children and young people (aged 0 - 24) and their families.
- Two MTU Student Engagement Associates are committee members and sub-committee members on Kerry CYPSC

Project: Biophilic Sensory and Wellbeing: External Spaces



Creation of two quiet reflective spaces in Kerry campuses to foster student wellbeing.

Project: MTU Student Charter

- The Student Engagement Associates reviewed MTU existing Student Charter.
- Currently preparing to raise awareness and disseminate the MTU Student Charter amongst staff and students
- Promotion materials were student-led using the principles of Universal Design for Learning
- In Spring 2025, the SEAs will lead on consultation on the impact of the Student Charter, and make future recommendations

Other Projects

- Nov 2024: SEAs Showcase projects and promote the role on campus
- The SEAs are working with MTU staff in developing their role for orientation and induction of students with intellectual disabilities due to commence in January 2025
- MTU STEM: Transition Year students Spring 2025
- MTU Open Day Spring 2025