

## MY IDEAS:

### Alcohol and Drug Use:

I will create an online video series on harm reduction to provide students with the knowledge of how to stay safe if they decide to take drugs, but also with a focus on drinking habits.

There is an increasingly urgent need to normalise discussion of students' drinking behaviors and to raise awareness of supports available to those affected by addictive behaviours. It will be vital to work with the Ents committee to ensure that students are safe at Trinity Ball and other events.

### Off-Campus Supports:

I would like to set up a weekly meditation and a safe and confidential space for Health Science students on placements to discuss traumatic or upsetting experiences they have witnessed or been involved with during their time spent in clinical settings. To ensure patient confidentiality this would follow a format whereby students discuss how these events made them feel without giving any information that would identify the patient(s) and/or clinical team involved.

### Mental Health:

I want to run mental health campaigns that represent students with all kinds of mental health conditions. There is already a great discourse around campus regarding stress, anxiety and depression but it is time to extend this to include disorders such as schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder and eating disorders.

Furthermore, I strongly believe that a campaign to destigmatise the use of medication for mental illness is paramount. I believe that Trinity students are ready to have such conversations and I will be the officer to facilitate this advancement.

### Welfare Committee:

I want the Welfare Committee to be well-organised and for the committee members to feel valued and engaged. I will ensure that they receive training (like the Welfare Team in Halls) so that they feel prepared to support students. We will meet weekly or fortnightly to ensure a natural flow throughout the year and to make sure that projects are seen to their completion. I will rebrand SU Welfare so that it can stand out as the important branch of the SU that it is, encouraging engagement and awareness.

## POLLING TIMES:

### Arts Block + Hamilton

Tuesday: 10am - 5pm

Wednesday: 10am - 5pm

Thursday: 10am - 4pm

### Tallaght/TBSI:

Tuesday: 12 - 2pm

### St James's/D'Olier St:

Wednesday: 12 - 2pm

### Trinity Halls:

Following hustings

## CONTACT ME:



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AISLING  
FOR WELFARE

LEEN ON ME



## ABOUT ME:

Hi! I'm Aisling Leen. I am a final year English student from Kerry. After three years here in Trinity and an Erasmus year in Paris, I've learned how tough life as a student can be and how important it is that there are effective supports in place.

A Welfare Officer must be an approachable person and a good listener who empathises with and cares for students. I have these qualities, along with the experience and drive, to deal with the issues Trinity students face. I am passionate about Mental Health and essentially any issue related to student welfare!

I will campaign, as I have throughout my years as a student, for issues from housing and fees to mental health funding. I will strike the right balance between fighting to improve student life on a college-wide scale and being there, one-on-one, as somebody for students to lean on. (hehe)



## MY EXPERIENCE:

- Treasurer of DU Meditation since October 2017 - I am very proud to be involved with a society that facilitates open conversations about mental health in the college and equips people with practices that help them overcome the stresses of student life.
- SU Welfare Committee Volunteer Coordinator - In this role I organise information stands, on and off campus, for campaign weeks such as Mental Health Week, Disability Awareness Week etc. as well as SHIFT days. Before taking on this responsibility I was Secretary of the committee.
- TCD Headspace Student Advisory Group - I am part of a group that offers Student Counselling our perspectives as students to help them with their outreach programmes. I have also contributed to their blog.
- Consent Workshops - I was involved in organising consent workshops this year and facilitated the first consent workshop on campus with sports teams.
- Activism - In my couple of years as a student I have attended marches for choice, housing and homelessness and was involved with Take Back Trinity and the Dining Hall Occupation. I spent a great deal of May last year campaigning for Together for Yes. My involvement in these campaigns piqued my interest in fighting for student issues and women's issues and is a great deal of the reason why I'm running for SU.
- I am currently the 4th year class rep for English TSM. I represent my year at English School meetings and I am there for students with problems small or large.

## MY IDEAS:

### Abortion Provision:

I will establish a relationship with the Irish Family Planning Association and/or the Well Woman Centre to facilitate students to access abortions. I will ensure that S2S peer supporters are prepared to provide hospital accompaniment to those who require it. I will run an information campaign on Trinity-specific crisis pregnancy options with information available in Fresher's packs, toilet stalls and online. I will continue to campaign for Free, Safe, Legal when/if the new legislation shows itself to be insufficient.

### Sexual Assault Policy:

I will work on developing a concrete policy for dealing with cases of sexual assault in college. Students deserve the option to report an incident within the college, rather than (or as well as) to the Gardaí. Disciplinary procedures must be in place and efforts must be made to help keep the victim's life in college as ordinary and safe as possible.

I will also continue expanding the reach of the consent workshops, bringing them to class rep training, and introducing bystander training. I will continue promoting sexual health awareness through numerous SHIFT days over the course of the year with a focus on encouraging students to get tested for STIs.

### Equality:

I will establish an equality committee within the SU including all Part-Time Officers who represent minorities: Officer for Students with Disabilities, Gender Equality Officer, Ethnic Minorities Officer, LGBT Rights Officer, Mature Student Officer and Access Officer. This committee will meet regularly with the aim of ensuring that every welfare campaign I run is inclusive and intersectional and to give the PTOs the opportunity to raise any issues of equality that need to be highlighted. The committee will work together to create projects and campaigns that promote diversity throughout our campus.

