BLÁITHÍN

DON GHAELAINN

FORÓGRA

Fúmsa

Bláithín Nic a t-Sithigh is ainm dom agus táim i mbliain na céime ag déanamh staidéar ar BA le Gaelainn agus Stair. Is as Daingean Uí Chúis i gcontae Chiarraí dom. Is cainteoir dúchais Gaelainne mé. Is í an Ghaelainn mo chéad teanga. Teastaíonn uaim ionadaíocht a dhéanamh agus a bheith mar ghuth ag mic léinn uile triú leibhéal na hÉirinn ó thaobh Gaelainne de ar feadh na bliana 23/24. Is duine mé a chreideann in athrú agus a thugann guth do mhic léinn. Ón lá ar thosaigh mé i gColáiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh, bhraith mé atmaisféar fáilteach agus a chuireann luach ar chomhionannas. Chuir mé tús le mo chuid staidéir ann i 2020, agus ó shin i leith tá sé mar thimpeallacht a thacaíonn lena mic léinn in aon tslí gur féidir, ar nós a creidiúintí agus paisin. Creidim go bhfuil sé tábhachtach Aontas na Mac Léinn a bheith againn a thacaíonn lena mhic léinn agus an luach atá acu agus ar a dtuairimí. Tar éis dom trí bliana a caitheamh ag staidéar i COC agus a bheith ar fheidhmeannas Aontas na Mac Léinn le bliain anuas, braithim go bhfuilim réidh agus ábalta anois bheith i do Leas Uachtarán don Ghaelainn don bhliain 23/24 agus ionadaíocht a dhéanamh ar son riachtanais Gaelainne na mac léinn uile AMLÉ.

About Me

My name is Bláithín Sheehy, and I am a final year Arts student currently studying Irish and History in University College Cork. I am from Dingle in County Kerry. I am a fluent Irish speaker, with Irish being my first language. I want to represent and be the voice of all students when it come to the Irish language for 23/24. I am someone who believes in change and giving students a voice. From the day I started in UCC I have felt an atmosphere that is welcoming and inclusive to all and values equality. I began my studies there in 2020, and since then I have found UCC to be an environment that supports its students in any way possible, such as their beliefs and passions. I believe it is important to have a Students' Union that supports its students and values them and their views. After my last three years studying in UCC and being on the Students' Union Executive for the past year, I feel I am now ready and capable of becoming your Leas Uachtarán don Ghaelainn for the year 23/24 and representing students Irish Language needs.

Taithí

Ag fás aníos sa Ghaeltacht, bhí go leor deiseanna agam mo chuid Gaelainn a úsáid, agus nuais a thosnaíos sa choláiste thapidh mé aon deis go rabhas in ann mo chuid Gaelainne a úsáid.
Tá liosta thíos de mo taithí

- Bheith ar an nuacht agus ag labhairt ar Radió na Gaeltachta ar son mo bhunscoil agus mo mheánscoil.
- Dheineas cúrsa ceannaireachta san idirbhliain, a chuir ar mo chumas a bheith i mo cheannaire sa chlub óige áitiúl agus cabhrú le gníomhaíochtaí a eagrú do chlubanna óige.
- Dheineas taithí oibre le Ros na Rún ar feadh seachtaine agus bhíos mar duine breise i dhá mír san idirbhliain.
- Tá mo shamhraidh caite agam ag obair mar cheannaire ar chúrsaí gaeilge le Coláistí Chorca Dhuibhne. Mhúin sé an oiread sin dom faoi bheith ag obair le mic léinn agus ag léiriú a gcuid riachtanas Gaelainne.
- Ó thosaigh mé ar an gcoláiste i COC, bhí fonn orm a bheith bainteach le saol an mhic léinn ar nós cumainn. Tá baint agam le coistí na gcumann gaelach - An Chuallacht Gaelach le bliain anuas agus An Cumann Drámaíochta - le dhá bhliain anuas. Bhíos ag aisteoireacht i léiriúcháin a dheineamar do 'An Trial' anuireadh.
- Ghlac mé páirt i nGníomhaí Gaeilge le Conradh na Gaeilge le bliain anuas.
- Sa dara bliain, bhí mé mar Ionadaí Acadúil ar mo chúrsa don Ghaelainn. Bhain mé an-taitneamh as agus fuair mé luach saothair as a bheith ag déanamh ionadaíocht ar mo rang agus ag cabhrú le mic léinn i mo rang le haon cheisteanna nó fadhbanna a bhí acu. Bhí mé ag iarraidh níos mó a dhéanamh chun ionadaíocht a dhéanamh ar son mic léinn, agus mar sin rith mé le haghaidh Ionadaí an Choláiste do Coláiste na nEalaíne agus táim sa ról le bliain anuas ar fheidhmeannas Aontas na Mac Léinn COC. Táim bródúil as a bheith ag freastal ar mhic léinn an choláiste agus ag obair leo ar a gcuid ceisteanna agus riachtanaisí.
- Bhíos mar comhordaitheoir ar Siúil Amach na Mic Léinn ar an 13ú Deireadh Fómhair i gCOC eagraithe ag AMLÉ. Bhíos ag caint ar Nuacht TG4 ar son Aontas na Mac Léinn COC mar gheall air.
- Táim mar áirtheoir in Áras Uí Thuama, Scéim Cónaithe trí Ghaelainn na hOllscoil le trí bliain anuas.
- Ghlacas páirt i 'Scéim na Scoil' a ritheann Ionad na Gaeilge Labhartha.
- Scríobhas alt don 'Irish Breac' i mbliana.
- D'eagraíos do ghrúpa ó COC freastal ar Oireachtas na Samhna 2022.
- Dheineas físeán do 'Amhrán na nGael' a dhein coiste na Chuallachta a thaifead.
- Freastalíos ar 'Traenáil na gCumann' a d'eagraigh Conradh na Gaeilge ag tús na bliain acadiúl 2022/2023.

Ba bhreá liom leanúint orm a bheith ag obair le mic léinn agus ba mhaith liom leanúint orm ag troid ar a son a gcuid riachtanasí Gaelainne, mar tá fhios agamsa níos mó ná éinne eile go bhfuil neamhaird ceart á thabhairt do cainteoirí Gaelainne, go h-áirithe iad siúd ón nGaeltacht. Mhúin mo thaithí ar fad dom conas dul i ngleic le fadhbanna mic léinn agus na scileanna riachtanacha chun deileáil leo. D'fhoghlaim mé conas oibriú mar chuid d'fhoireann agus éisteacht le riachtanais agus iarratais na mac léinn agus an rud a iarrtar orm a dhéanamh agus conas athruithe a chuir bhfeidhm. Creidim go bhfuil an taithí agam don ról seo.

Experience

Growing up in the Gaeltacht, I had a lot of opportunities to utilise my Irish, and when I started in UCC, I took every opportunity I got to use my Irish.
I have compiled a list below of my experience:

- Appearing on the news and speaking on Radió na Gaeltachta on behalf of my primary and secondary school.
- Completed a leadership course in transition year, that enabled me to become a leader at youth club and help with organising activities for youth clubs.
- In transition year, I spent a week doing work experience with Ros na Rún, and even appeared in the show for two episodes as an extra.
- I have spent my summers working as a Ceannaire on Irish courses with Coláistí Chorca Dhuibhne. It has taught me so much about working with students and representing their Irish language needs.
- Since starting college in UCC, I have had an eagerness to be involved with student life such as societies. I have been involved with the committees for the Irish societies, An Chuallacht Gaelach, for the past year, and An Cumann Drámaíochta for the last 2 years. I was acting in a display we done of 'An Trial'.
- I partook in Gníomhaí Gaeilge with Conradh na Gaeilge for the past year.
- In second year, I served as an academic rep for my Irish course. I thoroughly enjoyed it and found it rewarding representing my class and helping students in my class out with any issues they had. It led me to want to do more to represent and engage with students, so I ran for College of Arts, Celtic Studies and Social Sciences (CACSSS) College Rep and have been in the role for the past year on the Students' Union Executive in UCC. I have been proudly serving CACSSS students and working with them on their issues and needs.
- Throughout that role, I helped co-ordinate the National Student Walkout in UCC on the 13th of October organised by USI. I was speaking on Nuacht TG4 on behalf of UCCSU.
- I have been living in 'Áras Uí Thuama' the Irish Language accommodation in UCC for the past three years.
- Partook in 'Scéim na Scoil' with Ionad na Gaeilge Labhartha this year.
- Wrote an article for 'Iris Breac' this year.
- Helped organise for a group from UCC to attend Oireachtas na Samhna
- Filmed 'Amhrán na nGael' which members of An Chuallacht recorded
- Attended 'Traenáil na gCumann' organised by Conradh na Gaeilge at the start of the academic year.

I have loved working with students and would like to continue to advocate on their behalf for their needs. All of my experience has taught me how to engage with students and the necessary skills for the role of Leas Uachtarán don Ghaeilge. I have learned how to work as part of a team and to listen to students' needs and requests and deliver what is asked of me and how to implement change. I believe I have the experience for this role, and I know better than anyone what challenges the Irish Language faces and the changes that need to happen.

Aidhmeanna don bhliain romhainn amach

Ag dul isteach sa ról seo ba mhaith liom spriocanna réalaíocha a leagan síos le bheith ag obair i dtreo agus iad a chuir i gcrích. Nuair a thagann deireadh le mo théarma, ba mhaith liom féachaint siar agus a bheith in ann ará gur bhain mé amach an méid a bhí leagtha amach agam agus go chabhraíos le gach dalta a tháinig chugam le ceist nó fadhb. Má thoghfar mé, ba mhaith liom a chinntiú go bhfanfaidh an árd-caighdeán Gaelainn agus go neartófar pobal na Gaelainne sna hOllscoileanna timpeall na tíre.

Is iad na príomh-spriocanna atá agam:

- **Tacaíocht a thabhairt dos na baill polasaí Gaelainne a chuir i bhfeidhm sna hOllscoileanna**
- **Dein cinnte go mbeidh doiciméidí ar fáil dá-theangach**
- **Cathaoirleach ar Coiste na Gaelainne**
- **Oibriú le Conradh na Gaeilge ar feachtaisí Gaelainne**
- **Oibriú le Comhordaitheoir 3ú Leibhéal ó Conradh na Gaeilge**
- **Cinntiú go mbeidh cearta teanga ag gach éinne, ó Thuaidh & ó Dheas**
- **Oirbiú le Oifigigh Gaelainne agus Cumann Gaelach sna Coláistí agus tacú leo le aon feachtaisí**
- **'Feachtas na bhFáinní' atá ar bun i COC a leathnú amach**

Plans for the Year Ahead

BLÁITHÍN DÁN GHAELAINN

Going into this role I want to set achievable and realistic goals to work towards. When my term ends, I would like to look back and be able to say I achieved what I set out to and helped every student that came to me with a query or a problem. If elected, I would like to ensure that the standard of Irish that students will receive will remain at the highest standard and ensue more students are encouraged to learn and engage throughout the Irish language.

My main goals are:

- **Support our members to ensure their Irish Language Policies are implemented**
- **Ensure all documents are available in Irish and English**
- **Chair the Irish Language Committee**
- **Work with Conradh na Gaeilge on Irish campaigns**
- **Work closely with the Comhordaitheoir 3ú Leibhéal from Conradh na Gaeilge**
- **Ensure everyone has Irish Language Rights North and South**
- **Work with Irish Officers and Societies on campaigns & any supports they need**
- **Expansion of 'Feachtas na bhFáinní' that's currently underway in UCC.**

CACSSS
College Representative
UCC Students' Union

Ráiteas deirneach

Ba mhór an onóir dom a bheith tofa mar Leas Uachtarán don Ghaeilge do 23/24. Is mian liom timpeallacht shábháilte a chruthú do mhic léinn, go háirithe iad siúd nach bhfuil muiníneach as a gcuid Gaelainne. Tá a fhios agam go mbíonn sé scanrúil ag foghlaim teanga nua, go h-áirithe ag caint le cainteoirí líofa agus mar sin ba mhaith liom atmaisféar sábháilte a cruthú agus tacaíocht a thabhairt do mhic léinn laistigh d’AMLÉ. Beidh mé ag obair freisin le hionadaithe sna coláistí in éineacht leis na Cumann Gaelach chun a chinntiú go mbraitheann mic léinn go bhfuil tacaíocht acu agus go bhfaighidh siad na deiseanna is fearr i dtimpeallacht oiriúnach. Táim buíoch as a bheith mar ionadaí coláiste i mbliana ar AMLCOC agus tá súil agam a bheith i do chéad Leas Uachtarán don Ghaeilge eile. Creidim gur mise an rogha ceart agus an iarrathóir leis an taithí is fearr don ról don bhliain 23/24.

Final Statement

BLÁITHÍN DON GHAELAINN

It would be a great honour for me to be elected as your Leas Uachtarán don Ghaeilge for 23/24. I wish to create a safe learning environment for students, especially those who may not feel that confident in their Irish. I know talking to a fluent Irish speaker can be daunting so I would like to bring a sense of security and support for students within USI. I will also be working with Irish reps along with Irish Societies to ensure students feel supported and get the best possible experience that they can get while also creating an environment that provides for everyone. I am grateful to have served as a college rep this year on UCCSU and I hope to become your next Leas Uachtarán don Ghaeilge. I do believe I am the right and best experienced choice for this role for 23/24.

BLÁITHÍN

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