



# SABBAT REPORT

## SABBATICAL OFFICER REPORT TO COUNCIL #4

Michaelmas Term, November 7th 2023 until November 21st

**NAME:** László Molnárfi

**POSITION:** President

### REPORT IN BRIEF:

1. ANNUAL LEAVE & TOIL ACCRUED

2. EXPENSES

3. PREVIOUS REPORTS

4. UPDATES & HIGHLIGHTS

- a. On-Campus and Halls Housing Campaign
- b. Palestine Solidarity
- c. Period Products
- d. Blood Tests
- e. St. James
- f. Capitations Committee ToR
- g. Campaigns Committee/Town Hall #1
- h. Gender Equality Week
- i. StudentSurvey.ie
- j. Marxism 2023 Festival
- k. Health Sciences Survey
- l. EU-Passworld
- m. Ice Bucket Challenge
- n. RateMyElective.ie
- o. Sustainable Investment Policy
- p. Defend the University Charter

5. MEETINGS ATTENDED

6. MANIFESTO PROGRESS



# SABBAT REPORT

## 7. MANDATE TRACKER

## 8. HOW TO GET INVOLVED?

## 9. VOTER REGISTRATION

### OFFICER REPORT:

#### 1. ANNUAL LEAVE & TOIL ACCRUED

Since July 1st 2023 I have taken 1.5 of my annual leave days.

Since July 1st 2023 I have worked 20.5 of additional hours outside of working hours.

#### 2. EXPENSES

The cumulative expenses come out to €2539.91 since July 2023 as of 21st of October 2023.

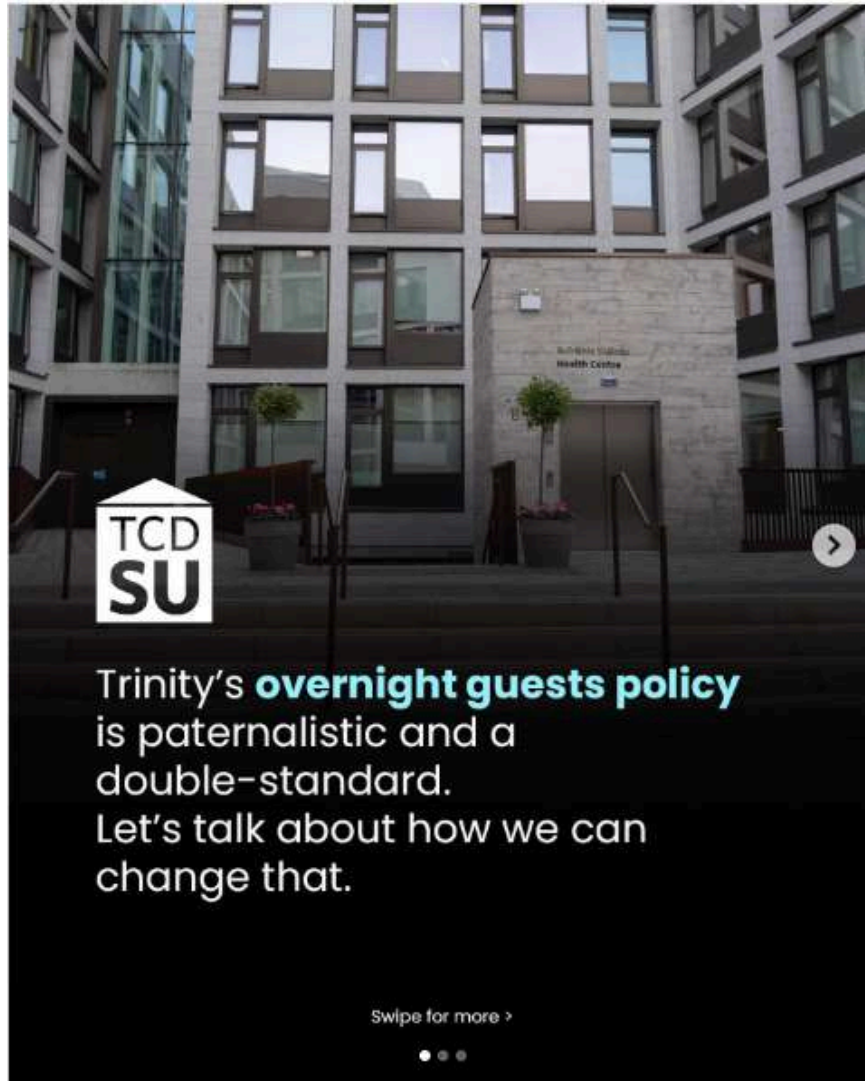
#### 3. PREVIOUS REPORTS

- [July 1st 2023 until October 1st 2023](#)
- [October 1st 2023 until October 16th 2023](#)
- [October 16th 2023 until November 7th 2023](#)

#### 4. UPDATES & HIGHLIGHTS

##### **On-Campus and Halls Housing Campaign**





- I submitted an [FOI on Circuit Laundry](#)
- I am looking into the overnight guests policy, and we published a [press release](#), [Tweet](#) and [post](#) about it. A motion is also coming to the 21st of November 2023 Council.
- [TCD Renters' Network has been set up](#), please join if you rent on-campus or at Halls!



# SABBAT REPORT

- Our motion for a Housing Rights Officer and a partnership with CATU [passed](#) Council on November 7th 2023.
- I attended the Reboot Republic: Generation Locked Out of A Home housing panel by Rory Hearne to talk about the student housing crisis on 15th of November 2023.
- Our Housing Survey which has around 850 responses is being analysed.

## **Palestine Solidarity**

[Home](#) / [Irish News](#)

## Students block entrance to Trinity College, calling for ties with ‘apartheid Israel’ to be cut

Campaign group said ties with Israel make ‘every member of the college community complicit in Israel’s crimes and oppression of Palestine’

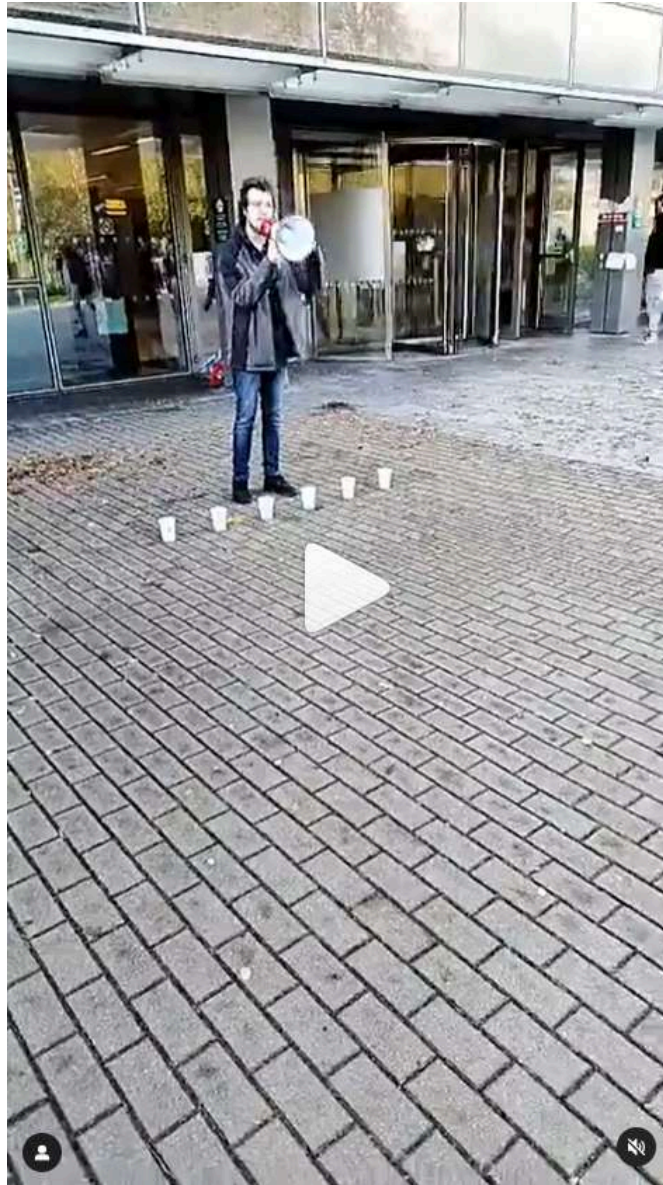


Trinity College Dublin Students' Union blocking the front entrance of the university in protest against the university's links with Israel. Photo: X/@tcdsu



# SABBAT REPORT





- We blockaded the Front Gate of Trinity College Dublin and did a flag drop on the 8th of November 2023.
- I met Senator Lynn Ruane on November 8th 2023 and secured her support for our College to cut ties with its Israeli links.
- I attended a [protest and spoke at](#) it at Maynooth University about its links to Israel on the 14th of November 2023.



- I raised the issue of Trinity's links with Israel at the Board meeting on the 15th of November 2023.
- Our [statement](#) on the 16th of November 2023 is encouraging students to attend the 18th of November 2023 march.
- Running [TCD BDS/TCDSU picket to the Provost and VP for Global Engagement](#) since 19th of November 2023, more than 100 emails have been sent.

## Period Products

- The [proposal](#) that was put forward by Aoife Bennett was adopted by the Student Life Committee in the sense that the committee endorsed the idea of College paying for free period products for students and staff and to bring this to the next logical step.
- Myself and Aoife are also working to convince DFHERIS to include Trinity in their period product pilot programme.

## Blood Tests

- Free blood tests were part of my manifesto and I have been liaising with College Health. I obtained some figures. College Health currently charge students €15 per blood test. This charge is for the transportation of the blood tests to the lab at St James's Hospital. If students choose to bring their blood sample to St James's there is no charge. From their patient management database report, there were a total of 1805 blood tests carried out from the 1st of September 2022 - 1st of September 2023. This would make the cost around €27075, so 25k-30k, to abolish the charge of the blood tests and subsidize them and make it free. I raised this as an agenda item for my next meeting with the Provost which will be on November 29th.



# SABBAT REPORT

## T-Card Discounts

- In 2020, a fantastic initiative was agreed upon by the Provosts' Office, Catering and the TCDSU and GSU involving all students paying by TCard in the Buttery receiving a 50% discount on their purchase. I put it on the agenda of my next meeting with the Provost on the 29th of November to discuss this as we are in the midst of a cost-of-living crisis.

## St. James

- Our Education Officer Catherine Arnold and Welfare Officer Aoife Bennett and Off-Campus Officer Hannah McAuley and Mature Students Officer Ailish Smith and Health Sciences Convenor Rarosue Emakpor have been doing amazing work on this despite the frustrations we encountered along the way. There should now be a coffee van outside. We are working on the issue with various officers and College staff. It has been frustrating, but we are making progress. We are working on:
  - Opening the former cafe as student space in the Stone Building, the remaining half.
  - We are working on getting a proper catering outlet back in St. James.
  - As a compensation for the lost half, we are working on getting more student spaces in the building opposite to the Stone Building .
  - I am liaising with Estates and Facilities on the PHS gate issue.

## Capitation Committee ToR



# SABBAT REPORT

- The first and second Capitation Committee ToR review working groups have concluded and the finalized ToR, which includes a new value of transparency and publishing of agendas and minutes of the meetings proposed by TCDSU, will be voted on at the 29th November 2023 meeting.

## **Campaigns Committee/Town Hall #1**

- Our discussions on November 10th 2023 revolved around the housing campaign and ideas for Palestine solidarity actions on campus. For accommodation, we discussed the housing survey, a possible occupation of a government building and a banner drop on campus. I had also mentioned that I am looking into Circuit Laundry on campus. It was also a central focus of the discussion that the ban on signing in overnight guests after midnight has to end. For Palestine solidarity, we discussed a flag drop from campus accommodation as well as a digital picket (sending many emails to Trinity), which is quite disruptive. Full minutes [here](#).

## **Gender Equality Week**

- I helped the Gender Equality Officer Anna Kollár organise this week and was a participant in a TFM show with her and Kate Henshaw on toxic masculinity on the 10th of November 2023.

## **StudentSurvey.ie**

- I [passed](#) the boycott of the StudentSurvey.ie tool at Council on November 7th.

## **Marxism 2023 Festival**



# SABBAT REPORT

- I was a participant in the panel “Is there a student revolt brewing?” with Clara McCormack on the 12th of November 2023 at the Marxism 2023 festival.

## **Health Sciences Survey**

- I had a meeting on the 13th of November with HS Convenor Rarosue Emakpor, Ethnic Minorities Officer Hamza Bana and Welfare Officer Aoife Bennett on this and work is starting to draft the questions. BAME, who I met on the 8th of November 2023, is also involved in this.

## **EU-Passworld**

- I had a meeting on the 13th of November 2023 with the EU-Passworld project and will be looking to collaborate with them to endorse it on a College-level like University of Galway has, and I raised this at the Sanctuary Fund Advisory Committee on the 17th of November 2023.

## **Ice Bucket Challenge**





# SABBAT REPORT

- I did the ice bucket challenge (it was terrifying and scary!), please donate to [Movember](#).

## **RateMyElective.ie**

- I am releasing the website where you can review your Trinity electives and exchanges. This website is for finding/reviewing/recommending electives: [RateMyElective.ie](#). It is also open-source and the source code can be found here: [Github](#). With [RateMyElective.ie](#), students can recommend modules and give feedback to other students by leaving reviews with level of difficulty, workload, how good the course is and any other details. You can browse and find cool electives, or electives to avoid. You can filter by difficulty, workload and stars, etc. and seeing how others found Trinity electives! Click here to log in with a [tcd.ie](#) Gmail or sign up via [tcd.ie](#) email: [RateMyElective.ie](#) and let me know what you think!

## **Sustainable Investment Policy**

- I met with the Financial Services Division on the 16th of November to discuss the proposed sustainable investment policy and ensured that the student voice is heard in the process.

## **Defend the University Charter**

- [I sent this to the TCD trade unions.](#)

## **5. MEETINGS ATTENDED**



# SABBAT REPORT

Meeting	Frequency
FSD	1 x 1hr
Sabbatical Board	1 x 2hr
USI	3 x 1hr
Politicians	1 x 1hr
BAME	1 x 1hr
Capitations Committee ToR	1 x 1hr and 1 x 2hr
Campaigns Committee	1 x 1hr, 1 x 0.5hr
EU-Passworld	1 x 1hr
Board	1 x 5hr
Union Forum	1 x 1hr
Trinity Sanctuary Fund Advisory Committee	1 x 1.5hr
Bursar	1 x 0.5hr

**Note:** *These are formal college committees, but several other meetings take place regularly and I also meet regularly with a variety of students and staff, my appointments are [bookable online](#), and you are always welcome to my office hours!*

## 6. **MANIFESTO PROGRESS**

[Please click here to see the 2023/2024 Manifesto Promise Tracker for the role of the President.](#)



# SABBAT REPORT

## 7. MANDATE TRACKER

[Please click here to see the 2023/2024 Mandate Tracker for the role of the President.](#)

## 8. HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

- Join the housing campaign group, just let me know your WhatsApp and I will add you!
- Join the [TCD Renters' Solidarity Network](#) if you are a campus or Halls resident!
- Get involved in a group like [Trinity BDS](#), [DU Gender Equality](#), [Postgraduate Workers' Organisation](#) and [Students4Change TCD](#).
- If your class does not have a class representative, email [chair@tcdsu.org](mailto:chair@tcdsu.org) (Conor Casey) and you will be automatically a class representative.
- Come to Council and submit motions, discussion items and take part in the debate, you do not have to be a class representative to do this.

## 9. VOTER REGISTRATION

*All credit goes to Ella Mac Lennan, Citizenship Officer, for the below text.*

A constitutional referendum on gender equality is scheduled for next year (date TBC), and local & EU elections will take place in June 2024. To ensure you have your say, register to vote [here](#) now - it only takes a few minutes. You will need your PPSN and Eircode - if you do not have a PPSN, complete the relevant form [here](#).

Even if you do not hold Irish citizenship, you are still eligible to vote in local elections. In addition to this, British citizens can vote in Dáil elections, and EU citizens can vote in EU elections. First time EU registrants wishing to vote in Ireland must complete an [EP1](#) declaration form to prevent double voting.





# SABBAT REPORT

You may only be registered at one address - students who are already registered or wish to register at their home address may apply for a [postal vote](#). You may also apply for postal vote if you cannot go to your polling station due to illness or disability. The deadline for all postal vote applications is 22 working days before polling day. If you register for postal vote, you cannot vote in person.

You may pre-register to vote if you are 16 or over. Your name will be added to the live register when you turn 18.

Frequently asked questions can be found at <https://www.checktheregister.ie/en-IE/faqs>