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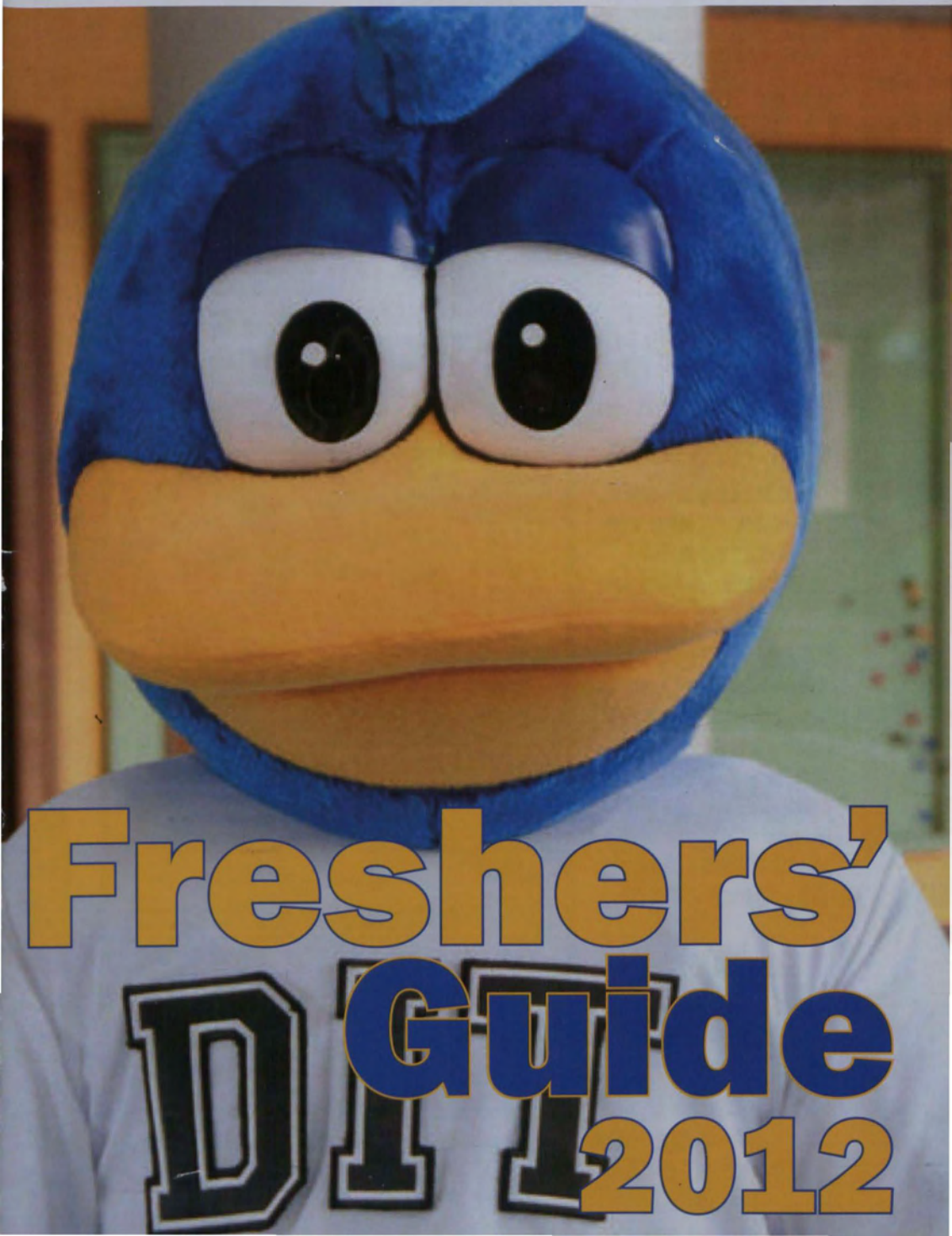
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THE DIT EDITION



Freshers' Guide 2012

DIT

Bóbós is a popular neighbourhood diner providing an Irish take on high end fast food.

We serve good value, generous proportions of fresh, locally sourced mouth-watering beef, lamb, pork, chicken & vegetarian burgers with a large dollop of nostalgia thrown in.

bóbós
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15% Student Discount

Fresh, local and Irish burgers on Wexford St
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Opening hours:
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Mon - Tues - 12am - 11 pm
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GOOD FOOD IRELAND

bóbós Food Philosophy:

Fresh, Local and Irish

bóbós GOURMET IRISH BURGERS

Meat

At Bobo's Burgers we use prime young Irish heifer meat. All our meat is under twenty months old, is fully traceable and is sourced mainly from Wexford. The select cuts we use are sourced for their quality and for their flavour, succulence and juicy texture.

Our beef is dry aged which means that it is hung for three weeks in a cold room so that it can dry naturally and retain its natural juices.

At Bobo's our aim is to provide pure juicy unprocessed meat that is additive free with no added fillers or flavourings. We feel that it is for our customers to add salt and flavourings according to their taste.

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We use Irish Maris Piper potatoes sourced mainly from Leinster, cooked in unsaturated vegetable oil. It may be necessary, depending on the quality of the year's potato crop, to use English Maris Pipers for a brief number of weeks. This will not be the case every year and we will do it only when strictly necessary to maintain the quality of our chips.

Our customers can be assured that at Bobo's we support local Irish growers where at all possible.

Onion Rings

Daily, Bobo's onion rings are made by hand and dipped in our special home made beer batter for a delicious crunchy taste.

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Cover Image: DIT Duck Norris, the DIT Mascot

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Welcome



Editor's Welcome

Welcome to DIT! You must be clever if you chose to study at Ireland's largest college. Whether you are situated on the Northside or Southside, are an engineer or fashionista, you'll find valuable information in these pages for your first year away from home.

It's time to relax: you've gotten over the hardest part of college just by getting accepted. You're not in the Leaving Cert anymore and an A (a 1.1 in college) is only 70%, so it's time to get your head out of the books and go enjoy living in our nation's capital.

DIT is a great place to be an undergrad. You study on the doorstep of the city with all its amenities and intricacies and the best social hotspots in the country. Whether you are into music, sport, going to the pub, museums, art galleries or like having intellectual debates in old cafés, you'll find your niche in DIT and Dublin city.

Just in case all this potential for merriment and mayhem would be too much for you, we at The Edition have gathered everything you need to know for your first year in DIT. You'll hear what former Freshers' have to say about things and what they wish they knew in first year before we introduce you to the facilities and services abounding in the myriad of campuses across the city. We've also spent time debating the benefits of joining clubs and societies as well as your independent student newspaper, The Edition. Then we'll ease you into the college basics – what the campuses are like and your academic calendar for the year.

After this, we take you on a tour around Dublin. We'll eat in the cities nicest (and cheapest) restaurants and eateries; drink in its most debauched public houses (only water of course). Then we'll educate you on proper first date etiquette and how to stay safe on nights out before bringing you shopping to take away all your cares. Finally we take a mind for our foreign students and let them know what to expect from Ireland's worst and finest.

After this, we leave you to fend for yourself, but keep the guide handy – the advicwwe still holds by final year!

Jarlath Moloney
Edition Editor-in-Chief

Custom House Building

Testimonials

Three former freshers walk you through their first year in DIT and let you know what to expect

Barry Lennon

Deputy Editor, Age: 20



My first interaction with third level education was at odds with prospectus descriptions of a carefree and independent lifestyle. College demanded I pay its registration fee.

Seeking a loan, I knocked tentatively on the door of the bank of Mum and Dad, an institution to which I owed incalculable debts already. It took a moment for the parents to decide.

I was in luck. The folks would pay the fee for the small price of re-christening me as the family's 'bum-student'. This was my first realisation that becoming a student could be like taking a vow of poverty.

DIT's small class sizes were an effective forum to give out about financial struggles. My classmates bonded through conversations about the costs of public transport, rent, nights-out and how if they had some cash left over, they might be able to eat at the end of it all.

These small classes ensured I became familiar with everyone. This is different to the strange social experiment other colleges carry out where classes the size of small towns are crammed into a lecture theatre, making college an anonymous experience.

DIT's many different campuses all over Dublin add to this familiar feel to the college. The college's tagline proudly proclaims that the 'city is your campus' and you don't fully appreciate its meaning until you find yourself all over the place seeking out an exam hall, registration office or pitch.

Whenever having to visit another campus building, I often appreciate how structurally sound my own building (Aungier Street) is. Successive governments' promise of a new campus in Grangegorman and recent cutbacks ensures that most buildings are patched-up until the new-build is complete, leaving many in various states of disrepair.

Having many different campuses all over the city means having a collective 'DIT identity' is difficult. Invaluable for those who like sitting on the fence as it makes it harder to be stereotyped. DIT is the college that can change its spots.

Sophie Cairns

Age: 20

What can I say about first year? Go out there and rock your socks off. There is so much to get into, it's mind boggling. Plus, everything you put in you get out some way or another, may it be in the form of pizza or life long wisdom.

I chose to live up in Dublin straight away, which was really handy. I shared a room with a Dutch girl and lived with French, Polish and Korean roomies too. Sharing is something I'd definitely recommend as it keeps costs low, allowing you to live in the "big shmoke" and stay up late (student partaaays) as well as get a taste of some incredible cultures (and cheeses).

College is a time of experimentation and so I hit the Socs Day hard. I think I joined about seven societies that day. There's so much to choose from, with an award winning LGBT Society, a live running paper, The Edition, with News Society and a very active Sign Society to name just a few. Each soc only costs around €2 to join and run lots of social nights and events for free.



DIT Student Union was where I spent most of my days though, whether in Governing Council Meetings having the bants about Eric Fitzgerald's long speeches or out on the ground giving out apples and oranges as a "Welfairy", the union was my home. I definitely recommend getting involved, you'll learn so much – not just about the system and politics but much about yourself as well.

Your time at DIT should open your eyes and allow you to make yourself shine. Embrace your first year - join in on everything, knacker yourself out, enjoy the hangovers and regret NOTHING.

Siobhán McGuire

Age: 21

My first year in DIT was a little bit daunting but what a brilliant year it was. In the space of one month I went from living on a (very) narrow meandering road that cuts through nothing but Galway fields to moving into an apartment on the South Circular Road. For the first year of my new life I moved into a very bright, not so spacious and very, VERY safe (mother dearest was in her element) apartment in the grounds of Griffith College.

I knew absolutely no one in Dublin so living in student accommodation was a brilliant way to make friends. Although we complained about the lack of oven and ridiculously strict security guards, once I moved into Dublin dwelling numero two I realised just how lucky we were in Griffith.

So, my advice to anyone living in student accommodation for first year: cherish it! For the following years you'll have to deal with bills, deposits and cranky landlords, so enjoy that element. However, living in a private accommodation can be more fun, you have the freedom to throw as many house parties as you want.

I got to know most of the friends I now have through societies. I went on the Drama Society's annual trip to Connemara and I haven't looked back since! I didn't know anyone going on the trip so it was a bold decision but one of the best choices I ever made.

My advice to any first year is to get involved in college events. Go out during Freshers' Week, particularly the paint party, go to the societies sign up day and sign up to as many societies as you like, the more the merrier. If you don't like your course or feel a bit stressed about college, talk to someone. DIT offers a counselling service for all students so avail of the opportunity if you need it. And the main thing is, enjoy it.



Fresher Survival Tips

Passing first year with bank balance and dignity intact can be tough, but Leah King has the survivial basics

The Leaving Cert is over, and it's time for many of you to embark on a new journey in DIT. College is a new chapter in life, but many new students don't know what to expect. So here are a few Survival Tips to get you through your first year of college.

#1. Budget your Money

For many college students, it's their first time cooking on their own, and looking after themselves. However living on your own can be a struggle financially. The best tip is to budget your money. Do a weekly food shop, and while you are shopping, be sure to pick the cheapest brands, they may look different but they still taste the same, and for broke students there is no room to be picky. DIT has many services that can help you budget your money. For example, if you are living away from home, be sure to apply for rent assistance, and also the Student Assistance Fund (SAF). A little help can go a long way, and save you from having to drink your own urine, Bear Grylls style.

#2. Make Friends

Going to college without any of your childhood friends can be a scary experience. But be assured, you DO make new friends. Introducing yourself to the person you are sitting beside on your first day can be the first step towards being best friends with them at the end of the year. DIT also has many clubs and societies, some of which are bound to interest you. Be sure to join them, they are probably the best way to make a wide range of friends from many different courses. Also being in a society is the perfect excuse to go for a drink... or a few!

#3. Do your Assignments

This cannot be stressed enough. Once you get an assignment, start straight away, even if it means doing little bits each day. Nothing is worse than sitting up the night before the assignment is due, until two or three in the morning, pulling your hair out while trying to write 2,000 words. Or even worse, sitting in during the summer to study for your repeats! Buy yourself a calendar, a diary or use Google Calendar to write down when each assignment is due. This can help you to have them done in time. If you have a group assignment to do, choose your group wisely. Make sure that everyone is going to put in the same amount of effort into the work!

#4. Balance College and Going Out

Many students think that being in college is a perfect excuse to go out and get drunk. However you will soon realise that this is not the case. Of course you need to enjoy yourself, but you need to be able to balance going out with your college work. Don't miss a morning lecture just because you are hungover from the night before. For all you know, it could be the most important lecture of the year. Work your nights out around your college time table. If you don't have lectures until the afternoon one day, maybe go out the night before if you really want a night out. That way you can have a night out and a lie in the next day. Wins all around!

So there you have it, be sure to follow the basic and you'll have an un-stressful and enjoyable first year to remember.

Campus Life

Until the new campus is built at Grangegorman, DIT is and always will be all over the place. With campuses scattered throughout Dublin, catering for students' needs, in and out of class, can be a challenge at best.

The college, DITSU, clubs and societies have taken on this challenge with a great degree of success despite the distances between buildings and the variety of faculties – what suits Bolton Street's engineers will not do for Aungier Street's interior designers.

The next few pages of this freshers' guide will give a run-down on the facilities and organisations that have overcome the challenge in making up DIT

By Barry Lennon
Deputy Editor

Clubs & Socs

On Socs Week, clubs and societies will drum up membership for the coming year. Stephen Bourke explains why you should sign up

It's a Wednesday night and I'm typing this in a hurry. I have to attend a DIT Caving Club committee meeting to fix dates for next year's trips and I imagine it's the same for other committees. They're knocking their heads together, ringing hostels, ordering equipment, and booking buses.

They're getting ready to organise the moments that will stand out from your college years.

Getting stuck in to student life at DIT has given me brilliant life experiences. I've abseiled down a sixty metre waterfall in France. I've made tea for a homeless addict who was coming down off his high. He was shivering, wanted loads of sugar, and thanked me warmly. I've been at a lock-in in a rural pub that sells clothes by day and pineapple Malibu by night.

The best adventures are never taken alone. When I signed up, the guys at the stand were strangers. Now they're some of my best friends. You will meet students from all over at intervarsities. Forget class nights out, the real social life at DIT is with clubs and socs.



You could just stick to the routine of assignments and exams, and keep your head down and do your homework. You'll just have to envy those of us who come in on a Monday stiff and sore with muck under our nails and a story to tell. Bring a tenner to the fair when it comes to your campus, and sign up to everything that catches your eye.

Clubs and Societie week runs from September 24 to 27 – that's the week after Freshers' Week.

Monday: Aungier St – Foyer
Tuesday: Kevin St – Gleeson Hall
Wednesday: Cathal Brugha St. – Church opposite main door Mountjoy Square – SU area
Thursday: Bolton St. – Common area

Giving it Socs!

According to Aislinn McCooey, there's a lot to be said for going the road less travelled when it comes to choosing your new club or soc

DIT is well known for the excellent services it provides for its students, and its many societies and clubs, which cater for all interests, are a huge part of that.

Large societies and clubs get huge numbers of students signing up every year but there is also a whole range of smaller societies out there with so much to offer, you just need to know where to look.

Camping Soc is known for its annual Bra Walk, where members don lacy underwear and parade around the streets of Dublin to raise money for charity. Member, Chris O'Byrne says: "Camping Soc is all about exploring the beautiful countryside, experiencing new ways of living and having some intents fun!"

Pool & Snooker Club doesn't receive a lot of recognition, but its members love it and are keen to encourage new people to get involved.



Ultimare Frisbee Soc in action



Philip Doyle, a club member, says: "What makes the club so good is the guys you will meet. They are all willing to teach and learn (and they know how to have a good time too) and with the competitions, you also get to watch some of the best college players in Ireland in action."

Samba Soc, winners of the best new society in 2010, wants to continue its good work this year, and experienced drummers as well as complete beginners are more than welcome. After all, the self-proclaimed general noise makers guarantee this Brazilian music will get your toes tapping!

Ultimate Frisbee Club is one of the real success stories from last year. It won "Most Improved Club of the Year" at the 2012 Sports Awards along with several Spirit prizes, and chairperson and ladies' vice-captain, Aoife Delany, also won an award for outstanding contribution to sport.

Committee member Aidan Kelly says: "DIT Ultimate Frisbee is a place where you can learn a fun new sport, get yourself fit and meet new people. It's not just a club, but a window to an entire community, as you are given the chance to travel around the country (and to the UK) competing with and making new friends from other colleges."

So, if you're up for trying something new and making loads of friends, DIT's broad range of clubs and socs really does have something for everyone.

The DIT Students' Union

Should you add your voice to the forum and your body to the great march of student politics? Or is DITSU anything more than backbencher boot camp? Barry Lennon explains the current state of play in DIT Students' Union.

For most, the politicians' return to Dáil Eireann from their summer holidays will be greeted with an indifferent yawn and occasionally accompanied with a well-rehearsed line about how 'that shower' failed to halt the ever-impending economic doom.

The current loss of faith in politics is well recorded. Less well known is its effect on the participation of student politics - a domain where many TDs have learned the trade (such as current education minister Ruairi Quinn).

The effect was seen in DIT when few candidates put themselves forward for positions in the Students' Union elections last year. For the top job, one candidate put himself forward in DITSU's presidential election last academic year and he was duly elected.

The Union is not solely a domain for fledgling politicians to learn their trade. Its textbook purpose is to represent students. However, despite recent protests by unions against increased fees coming from politicians, students unions are still seen as political.

DITSU tries to avoid being seen as political with its policy designed to prevent political parties taking over the role of student representation. No sabbatical officer (President or Vice President) can be a member of party branch on campus.

However the Union can carry other trappings of politics. The Dáil is known for its long sittings and DITSU have aped that by creating a 'baby Dáil' in its Student Council.

Meetings of Student Council can test the budding legislators' endurance skills. Spending three hours in a lecture theatre after class, locked in debate can ensure that drink is not only recommended, but sorely needed.

Despite waning attendance numbers, DITSU provides an open forum for a student councillor who can endure the long hours of students' council and can put their point across.

For freshers willing to get involved in the union, they can get in touch with their local DITSU office.

SU Sabbatical Officers



David Keogan,
President president@ditsu.ie



Glenn Fitzpatrick,
VP for Education & Welfare
education@ditsu.ie



William Meara,
VP for Events events@ditsu.ie

Facilities on Campus

From the weird to the wonderful, Aislinn McCooey takes a look at the wide range of services available across DIT campuses

DIT is home to many great facilities however many students don't know they exist or don't realise the benefits they provide. With that in mind, we've made a list of some of the best ones that you really should know before your first month in college is over.

The Library

There are six libraries in DIT one in each of the main campuses and you should aim to be familiar with at least one of them. It may seem obvious but don't scoff; many people panic come exam time because they don't know the way to the library or how to borrow books. Don't be that person, make the effort and learn how to do it now. Every class gets a library tutorial, go to it and pay attention, even if you never step foot in the library again (and we don't recommend that by the way) at least you'll know how to use the system once you get there. Also the library website is home to all the past exam papers you'll need, one of the best studying aids around. And should you fancy a bit of entertainment after all that studying the Library also has a collection of DVDs many of them course related but some of them not.

Chaplaincy

DIT has a number of chaplains available, made up of both religious and lay people, and the service is open to all staff and students in DIT. You can stop a chaplain in the corridor, call into their office or make an appointment for a time that suits you. The chaplains are there to remind you that no matter how overwhelmed you feel, you are not alone.

Learning and Examination Support:

DIT offers learning and exam support for students with a disability or sickness. Allowances can be made if needed, not to give an unfair advantage but, to allow you to perform to the best of your ability. To avail of such services you must register with DIT's disability services and provide medical documentation. Allowances available include extra time, disregarding of spelling, grammar etc., smaller exam centres and accessible toilets.

Irish in DIT

DIT always tries to encourage the use of Irish and has a very active Oifig na Gaeilge, which runs Irish classes for a variety of levels, are open to both staff and students and are also free of charge. So if you actually liked learning Irish in school, are a native speaker, or just never had the chance to learn, check it out. Classes are group work based and students are really encouraged to get involved and participate in active learning

Student Health Centre

The student health centre is a great facility and one that all students should be aware of. It provides full time and apprenticeship students who are in possession of a valid student card with free access to a nurse and doctor. There is a health centre on the Northside of the city in Linehall Lodge (across the road from Bolton Street) and then another one on the Southside on the second floor in Aungier Street in order to cater to as many students as possible. Students can now attend whichever health centre is handiest regardless of which DIT campus they are in. Appointments should be made well in advance as it is often very busy.

DIT Counselling Services

DIT provides a counselling service which is free and available to all students. There are counselling centres in the four main DIT campuses and is completely confidential. To make an appointment call 01-4023352, text 086-0820543 or email gabby.



The DIT Bolton Street library is a great place to for peace and quite, whether to study or just relax and read

lynch@dit.ie. The counselling service is open Monday to Friday 9am-6pm both during term time and during the holidays. It provides a place to talk about personal concerns or academic problems.

National Optometry Centre

DIT is home to the national optometry centre which is open to both students and the general public and provides eye examinations, spectacles and contact lenses. The centre is open all year round Monday to Friday and has a core staff of full time optometrists and a dispensing optician. To make an appointment call 01-4024900 or email eyeclinic@dit.ie

Sports Facilities

DIT now has a wide range of sports facilities that aim to cater to as many interests as possible. Halls are rented out for the use of sports clubs and dance soc. Also, DIT's pitches are in Grangegorman and are available for use by sports teams. So join a sports club on Societies Week; with around 40 clubs to choose from there's something for everyone whether you are an elite athlete or just want to keep in shape. DIT also has two gyms one on the Southside and one on the Northside and a swimming pool which is located in Kevin Street.

The Students' Union

The Students' Union is one of the best resources a student has in college and you should visit them as much as you need to. They have answers to all your questions no matter how small it may seem, they can tell you where to go to sort out your exam results (that'd be the exams office btw) or how to go about getting tickets to all the stuff happening over Freshers' Week and throughout the year. The SU often have free stuff to hand out as well so it's always worth a trip down especially around fresher's week. For more information visit: www.ditsu.ie

Other Facilities

DIT also has a blackbox theatre where many student societies meet. Drama Soc make frequent use of the space holding workshops there almost weekly and DJ Soc can also be found there often. DIT also has numerous coffee shops and restaurants for students to choose from, all of which aim to provide high quality service and good food at affordable prices. Though some of the best are found in Cathal Brugha Street, as they are often run by the culinary students themselves!

The DIT website is also a great source of information and has loads of answers to common questions, however it can be very difficult to navigate so if you are still getting stuck you're better off asking a lecturer or down in the SU where you know you'll get reliable up to date information. For everything else, pick up a copy of your fortnightly student newspaper, The Edition, or read online at www.edition.ie

THE EDITION

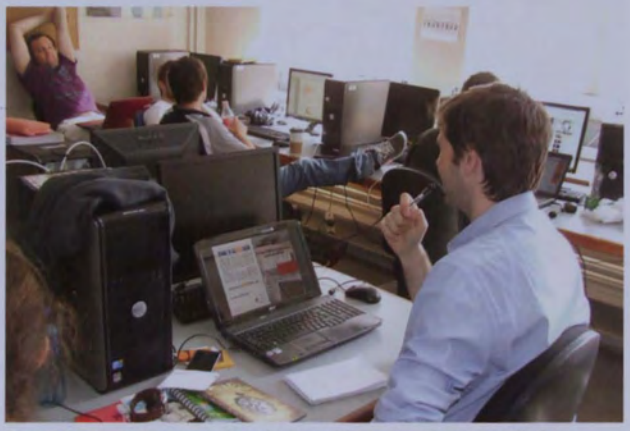
By Jarlath Moloney
Edition Editor

Societal Overspends! Lazy lecturers! Controversy in the college? Not getting your voice heard?!

Then, you've come to the right place. Welcome to The Edition, the independent DIT student newspaper, for all your social, sporting, lifestyle, cultural and college news and features. The college newspaper is receiving a big redesign in style and structure so it's a great time to be coming to DIT. Also, for the first time it will be published fortnightly!

Not only are we redesigning the newspaper (and this Freshers' Guide) but this is the first year a news site will feature prominently for the paper as well. Keep an eye on our Twitter and Facebook accounts to see new articles, blogs, poll surveys and competitions linked to our website.

But this paper isn't just about sexy and exciting breaking news or a vibrant newsroom; we are all about the social. Along with regular socials and editorial meetings we'll be having regular nights out around Dublin to get to know our news team better and live up to the "society" part of the News Soc, which funds The Edition.



The Edition news team "hard at work" on the Freshers' Guide

Not interested in beating the path of an investigative reporter or being an opinionated columnist and could care less about hanging out with smelly journalists (that's just political propaganda)? Then come along to hear one of our regular monthly guest speakers to learn about the world of media – be it news reporting or TV and radio broadcasting

Look out for our advertising posters coming up to the publication of a new Edition, so you're not the "Bishop-Piggy-in-the-Middle" who doesn't know what's going on around college.

If you have any news, gossip, an opinion you think should be heard or want to pass on a covert tip, then call into our new office in the basement of Aungier St (when it gets set up). And remember, you heard it first at The Edition!

edition.ie **edition.ie** **edition_ie**

WANT TO WRITE FOR THE EDITION OR HAVE A STORY FOR US?

Drop into the Edition's Office in the Basement, Aungier St
Or mail the Editor at Editor@Edition.ie

At last! DIT Grangegorman gets go-ahead

Grangegorman
DIT's history and future

By Barry Lennon
Deputy Editor

The plan to move all of DIT's campuses to the site of Saint Brendan's mental hospital could not be described as mad. However, continuing with the institute's current setup could be described as such. At present, the college has a logistical challenge to teach over 20,000 students in over 40 buildings scattered all over Dublin.

The route of this problem is that DIT has evolved over time, beginning when six vocational colleges, streets apart from one another, were slapped together under the name of DIT in 1992. The college still struggles to overcome the distance between the old vocational schools, 20 years on.

Despite best efforts, many students from different campuses struggle to have much to do with one another, let alone share a common DIT identity. Societies become anchored in one place and students on smaller sites can feel forgotten.

Moving all campuses to the Grangegorman site would build a common bond between the different faculties but more importantly, make it cheaper to run the college. The need to reduce costs is badly felt as current cutbacks threaten to reduce the number of DIT's libraries. If all students were at Grangegorman, it would be easier and cheaper for one large library to do job of two or three.

With the ever-present promise to right DIT's wrongs, the news that Grangegorman was to be shelved at the end of last academic year was disappointing for the college. But it was to be a temporary disappointment as the Government announced that the first thousand students will enter the new building at the North Dublin site in 2014, under the new jobs stimulus plan in July.

However, revision to the plans is nothing new. Looking at DIT's student newspapers since 1999 you'd be forgiven for believing that the paper had amnesia as Grangegorman seems to be given the official go ahead incessantly. With the troika keenly viewing capital projects like DIT's redevelopment nothing is a certain bet.

For now at least, Grangegorman remains DIT's great white hope.



Bertie Ahern has pulled another political masterstroke

The Basics

DIT's tagline reads 'The City is our campus', and as cheesy as it seems it's true. The colleges of The Dublin Institute of Technology are dotted across the city, spread across both Northside and Southside.

The city is easy to get around, you could walk from Aungier Street to Bolton Street within 30 minutes. You can also get the Dublin bus to and from all DIT campuses. There are lots of cycle routes, but just be aware of the buses. DON'T cycle between two buses; this is a very scary experience! I've been using the Dublin Bikes scheme and there's a bike depot outside all of the campuses, the one in Aungier Street is situated on Golden Lane. The Depot closest to DIT Rathmines is located on the canal in Portobello.

Siobhán McGuire

Campus Quality

By Siobhán McGuire

In all, there are eight main DIT buildings in Dublin city. Each campus has its own unique style and can often be differentiated by their atmosphere, on campus fashion sense and the courses provided.

DIT Rathmines

Rathmines is where you'll find the highly talented drama students and musicians of DIT. When you step off the busy street and into the college your ear drums are filled with beautiful piano performances drifting from the practise rooms. Rathmines is a good spot to do your weekly food shopping after college, both Aldi and Lidl face each other on the street and there's a Tesco in the area too.

DIT Kevin Street

Kevin Street is just across from the Aungier Street campus. Inside you'll find Gleeson Hall, where the DIT Rathmines students perform their musicals each year. Kevin Street is close to lots of good spots for a tasty lunch, such as the nearby Burritos and Blues which offers a €5 burrito for students. (Warning: the burritos are messy but so worth it.) There's a hidden garden at the back of the college on Camden Row for a tranquil retreat during lunch.



DIT Kevin St was voted dirtiest college campus in Ireland last year



DIT Aungier St is the colleges biggest campus, close to Grafton St and the amenities of Camden St

DIT Aungier Street

On the other side of the block sits Aungier Street. Here, the business and media students mingle in the SU downstairs, in Java café and in the spacious canteen. The Aungier Street library is the largest in DIT. There are private study rooms within the library for group study sessions but book in advance around the exam period as they can get snapped up quickly. The local is Karma Stone on Wexford Street; Solas is also one of the DIT locals, particularly for Southside societies.

DIT Bolton Street

Bolton Street is the Northside's largest campus. Recently visited by Michael D. Higgins for its centenary celebrations, Bolton Street is the College of Engineering and Built environment and has a predominantly male presence. Bolton Street has the best SU in DIT, it's one of the biggest, with the most open space and there are plenty of couches to sprawl onto after a gruelling lecture. Head across to Bodkins for a few pints with the class after college.

DIT Mountjoy Square

The campus situated on Mountjoy Square is the hotspot for the DIT students who are better equipped with a paint brush than most. There's a Dublin Bike stand on the square so if you're using the scheme, it's perfect. Inside, you'll find a friendly bunch and a relaxed atmosphere. Mountjoy Square boasts a homely SU area tucked away at the back of the canteen. It has the best library for studying, it's very quiet and peaceful. Within the library itself, the internet isn't available on all the computers making study breaks on Facebook a bit tricky. However, its Georgian windows overlooking the square grant the freedom to find some 'inspiration', i.e. daydream to your heart's content. On the bookshelves you'll find some very interesting reads too.

DIT Portland Row

In the shadows of Portland Row you will find a maze of varying work spaces filled with talented art students. Keep your eyes peeled for exhibitions, at the end of the year final year fine arts students host an exhibition of their work and you'll find some very interesting displays inside.

DIT Cathal Brugha Street

Take a trip to Cathal Brugha Street and gorge yourself on their fine lunches. It even has its own fancy restaurant where you can be wined and dined by culinary students all for a budget price of €10. Another big plus for Cathal Brugha is that it houses the cosiest SU area in DIT. For pints after college, hit The Living Room across the street.



Cathal Brugha Street

DIT CAMPUS MAP



CAMPUS GUIDE

1	Rathmines	College of Arts & Tourism
2	Kevin Street	College of Science & Health, College of Arts & Tourism, College of Engineering & Built
3	Aungier Street	Office of the President, Edition Office, SU Office, College of Arts & Tourism, College of Business
4	Chatham Row	College of Arts & Tourism
5	Temple Bar	College of Arts & Tourism
6	Cathal Brugha St	College of Arts & Tourism
7	Bolton Street	College of Arts & Tourism, College of Engineering & Built Environment
8	Mountjoy Square	College of Arts & Tourism
9	Portland Row	College of Arts & Tourism
10	Grangegorman	Proposed New Campus at Grangegorman



DIT Rathmines conservatory of music



DIT Bolton St

ESSENTIALS CHECKLIST

A few essentials are needed to get you through your time in college and to help you out, **Aislinn McCooey** compiled a checklist of the basics. (**Warning:** This is not a guarantee of success!)

A chewed up old pen. Why? Because nobody will ever want to steal... sorry, "borrow" said pen so you'll always have one to take notes with

Appalling handwriting (**Warning:** for note taking only; not to be used in exams!) this ensures that those who didn't take notes for whatever reason (they were too lazy) will not ask for yours and disappear off with them two weeks before the exam never to be seen again

A liver made from iron

A deck of cards and a set of dice

Be the person with plasters, deep heat, and a reusable ice pack = instant friends. 60% of the time it works

everytime. Or they might just think you're weird...

The ability to say yes to everything at least once

The ability to survive on no sleep. Those FIFA competitions take time

Awesome FIFA skills

The ability to withstand any germ known to man... yes, your house will get that dirty no matter how freakishly clean you are at the start of the year

An excellent Mammy/personal washer woman for those trips home at the end of the week, you'll never appreciate her as much as when she's handing you a huge pile of clean clothes

Contraception-don't believe the rumours people!

A Wikipedia like knowledge of popular music and movies and some random foreign director/artist nobody's ever heard of when trying to impress/fit in with the cool crowd

The latest copy of your free and independent student newspaper "**THE EDITION**"

DIT Academic Calendar - 2012/2013

Semester 1

September 2012	03/09/12		**Session commences**
	10/09/12		1st Years commence including Orientation, Induction
	17/09/12	1	Teaching commences for 2nd & subsequent years
	24/09/12	2	**15 Weeks to Include:** ***12 Lecture Weeks +1 Review Week +Assessment***
October 2012	01/10/12	3	
	08/10/12	4	
	15/10/12	5	***Review Week (unless otherwise arranged)**** Review week to be used either for revision, reading, field visits, lectures, interim tests, formative assessment feedback etc. To be applied in **Week 7** except where otherwise arranged
	22/10/12	6	
	29/10/12	7	
November 2012	05/11/12	8	
	12/11/12	9	
	19/11/12	10	
	26/11/12	11	
December 2012	03/12/12	12	
	10/12/12	13	
	17/12/12	Christmas	
	24/12/12	Christmas	
	31/12/12	Christmas	
January 2013	**07/01/13**	**14**	**Exams commence and marking commences**
	14/01/13	15	
	21/01/13		Module Boards Student Feedback and Appeals Choice of Options and Electives for 2nd Semester

Semester 2

	28/01/13	1	Teaching commences
February 2013	04/02/13	2	**15 Weeks to Include:** ***12 Lecture Weeks +1 Review Week +Assessment***
	11/02/13	3	
	18/02/13	4	
	25/02/13	5	
March 2013	04/03/13	6	
	11/03/13	7	
	18/03/13	8	***Review Week (unless otherwise arranged)**** Review week to be used either for revision, reading, field visits, lectures, interim tests, formative assessment feedback etc. To be applied in **Week 13** except where otherwise arranged.
	25/03/13	Easter	
April 2013	01/04/13	Easter	
	08/04/13	9	
	15/04/13	10	
	22/04/13	11	
	29/04/13	12	
May 2013	06/05/13	13	
	13/05/13	14	**Exams commence and marking commences**
	20/05/13	15	
	27/05/13		
June 2013	06/06/13		Module Boards and Progression and Award Boards
	10/06/13		Student Feedback and Appeals
	17/06/13		

(Dates for **Apprenticeship** and **Failte Eireann** Programmes differ from the above, details can be obtained from the relevant Schools.)

Out & About



St. Patrick's outfits, for Hallow'en fancy dress or St. Patrick's celebrations, are always useful for social outings in term time

Four things are certain in the life of a DIT student- you'll eat, drink, breathe and hear the 'City is your Campus' sound bite again, and again, and a few more times after that.

As horribly clichéd as it may sound, it hits the nail on the head. Still, the City can be a fairly daunting place for students entering college life for the first time.

The Edition have compiled a handy guide to this fair city to ensure that you get the most out of your DIT experience over the next few years, have fun, and basically, don't get killed.

Included in this section will be useful hints on issues from coming to Dublin for the first time from abroad to the scandals and intrigue of awkward first dates and heavy nights out that will intermittently dog your college life.

That's right, from suave romantic sojourns to downright comical attempts to seduce classmates that are way out of your league (we've all been there) on dodgy first dates, our crack team has all the information you need to know about the dos and don'ts concerning the opposite sex, so put down that bottle of Sex Panther and pay close attention.

For those of you less interested in amorous pursuits, we also have a comprehensive guide to Dublin's buzzing nightlife. From the shift-tacular grope-fest that is a Harcourt Street Tuesday night to the hipster Meccas of The Mezz and Workman's, we've got your nights out covered.

As a skint student living in the original retail gangsters' paradise here in Dublin, you'll learn to considerably lower your standards in, well, practically anything that money can buy. Fear not! Our shopping guru will teach you how to get the most out of your student discount.

So, sit back and crack open that Pepperami and mini-can of Red Bull that we can predict with a reasonable amount of certainty made it into this year's Fresher's pack once again (some things never change) as we take a look at the joys and rigours of life as a DIT student.

By Ciáran D'Arcy

College Cuisine

At a loss for your lunchtime chicken roll location? Fear not, intrepid reader: Ciarán D'Arcy is here to save the day!

Aungier Street

Students in the Southside's main DIT campus are blessed with a relative abundance of eating establishments within spitting distance of the college steps. But be warned, some of the food produced at the lower cost student-orientated eateries can be extremely variable in quality.

Aungier Deli and Giulio's chipper offer low cost lunches. Although neither will riskwinning Michelin stars anytime soon, there's a comfort in knowing you can get a hot chicken roll and a drink for under a fiver.

Elsewhere, the trio of Dunnes Stores, Centra and Spar on Dame Street can prove a lunchtime treasure-trove for more intrepid bargain hunters, but rush-hour queues at their respective delis can test the patience of a saint.

Bolton Street

A perennial favourite amongst the hungry hordes of engineers and technicians that roam the busy north Dublin street every lunchtime, the ingeniously named Pita Pan offers fresh food at very reasonable prices.

Although not quite bragging Kevin and Aungier Streets' multi-ethnic embarrassment of riches, the commercial big boys of McDonalds, Burger King and KFC are on nearby O'Connell Street. This means that those Bolton Street students more concerned by their wallet than their waistline can avail of cut-price junk food within five minutes of the campus, while the local Spar and Centra deli counters are hard to beat on value.

Rathmines

As a Rathmines student you'll be firmly entrenched in the exorbitant price-bubble unique to south Dublin suburbs, which unfortunately manifests itself very visibly in the cost of food.

There is a saving grace. The area is graced by a branch of what is easily the best chipper in the world, none other than Leo Burdock's.

Other than that, Rathmines caters for a wide range of cuisines, with the famous Horbart's fry a favourite, and Bombay Pantry's number is always pretty high up on the takeaway autodial.

Mountjoy Square

Artsy they may be, but when it comes to sniffing out a good lunchtime deal, Mountjoy Square's hipsters can be just as frugal as the next DITer.

The nearby Woodshed offers good grub at a reasonable price, but given Mountjoy Square and Gardiner Street's total lack of eating establishments, students are left in the same predicament as their Bolton Street counterparts. The big three of McDonald's, Burger King and KFC offer the only real alternatives, notwithstanding the contemptuously overpriced yet still "student friendly" Eddie Rocket's.

Cathal Brugha Street

You guessed it - the alluring aroma of baking, flambéing and God knows whatever other culinary techniques drives the population of CBS to hunger during lecture hours. However, yet again anything beyond the confines of the nation's busiest thoroughfare proves an arid gastronomic wilderness.

With the exception of The Living Room directly across the road -- which boasts an alluring but pricey pub-grub menu -- students must again make do with the predominantly greasy delights on offer on the adjacent O'Connell Street.

Redemption is at hand though. Hidden gems such as Teatime Express and O'Brien's on Talbot Street offer good eating and good value for those willing to go that little bit further.

Kevin Street

Located right beside one of the city's most eclectic multi-cultural food centres, Kevin Street students can expect to considerably diversify their gastronomic preferences during their time in college.

Italian, Chinese, Japanese, Indian, Malay and Middle-Eastern cuisines can be found right on the college's doorstep along Camden Street, many of which offer lunchtime specials at student-friendly prices.

For those who consider diversity to be a bad word when it comes to the trusted lunchtime schedule, the old reliable breakfast and chicken fillet rolls can still be got in Centra and Spar, but rock-bottom city-centre prices no longer apply unfortunately.

First Date Dining


When the night goes like this - get a taxi home, not drunk

Photo Jamie Grill

Suddenly being thrown into the college social mix makes first date dining etiquette a mine field, luckily Izzy O'Hara is here to help you secure that second date

After a few awkward texts you've both organised a first date. Now the hard part: Where to go? Who organises it? Should you have a drink before hand to calm your nerves? It's probably best not to with the drink as it could lead to you showing up tipsy and depending on your date, that's probably not a good look.

Who organises it isn't too important, although it is guaranteed to earn a guy some brownie points if he comes up with a fun idea; plus it takes the pressure off the girl having to think of something. After all, she has getting ready to worry about!


Always check your shoes before leavning the toilet

Photo John Lund/Annabelle Breakey

The venue should be given a bit of thought. A bad location and your potential new squeeze may go running. It's safe to say that the cinema is NOT a good suggestion for a first date. It's impersonal and a poor way to get to know someone you've just met.

Another not-so-hot idea is the pub; we've all heard the horror stories. Nerves plus two drunk people = bad decisions being made. If you are interested in getting to know each other the pub probably isn't the best environment. That being said you can still have a few drinks, so going for a bite to eat is always a safe choice.

The Port House on South William St. is a brilliant place to go during the day or night. They have a fantastic menu deal too, Menu Rapido, serving Spanish tapas, which gives you a choice of two dishes from the menu along with a soft drink or a glass or wine for just €10. This is a great spot! After, you could head over to Wicklow St. to The International Bar where they hold comedy nights Thursdays to Sundays with tickets only €8 for a student.

As a rule of thumb, it is generally agreed that the guy should pay on the first date; it also avoids the risk of the girl doubting your interest. If you're looking for a more casual lunchtime date check Yogism in Georges St. arcade, unit 23. It's a new frozen yoghurt bar with endless possible flavour combinations from fruit to Oreo toppings. They range from €2-€5.

One thing for sure is that you don't need to spend a lot to have a good date! After that you could head down to the Science Gallery on Lincoln Place, behind the National gallery, Dublin 2. They have a Makeshop workshop where they show you how to make robots from lamps. It only costs €5 and is something fun and different for date goers to do.

There are plenty of ice breaker activities central to most of the DIT campuses, which are ideal for first dates. So fret not. Just remember to relax and be yourself... and if all else fails, have your emergency call lined up!

Night Clubs

Pre-drinks are your only man before a night out in Dublin. Grab a can or two from the fridge and sit down with Kevin Donnellan's guide to nightlife before you put a heel out that door.

Coppers. Coppers. Coppers, COPPERS, COPPERS!

Right, that's out of the way. Now to try and write about nights out in Dublin without mentioning the 'C' word again. It may not be successful.

So where else can we go if we don't go... there? Join us on an in-no-way-interactive tour of Dublin's hotspots.

Temple Bar

Step over the pools of vomit and avoid the reckless swinging of shillelaghs by wild-eyed American tourists and you will enter a magical place where everyone with an Irish accent is a celebrity. And if you don't have an Irish accent just pretend. Most people will be too drunk to notice. From here you can play a game called 'what's the biggest lie we can tell the tourists?' A game that has done more to spread misinformation about this little island's inhabitants than any 'Oirish' movie. Alternatively, if you'd prefer to be, you know, a good person, then maybe help some of your new best friends out of the Temple Bar ghetto and experience some real Irish culture. Which brings us to....

Everywhere-That's-Not-Temple-Bar

Yes 'Everywhere-That's-Not-Temple-Bar is an area of Dublin with its own special charm. Less vomit, almost no shillelaghs, it really is quite the haven. It's chock-full of great pubs, and it really is worth visiting some time over your next four years in college. Unfortunately many of these places have drink prices that won't be viable for you until five years from now when you're in a vague sales-related job that has nothing to do with your degree. So we're now going to go into some sub-categories of 'Everywhere-That's-Not-Temple-Bar.'

Student Nights

There are plenty of nights focused almost entirely on getting you in the door for little or no money with a few specials at the bar. Assuming you are reading this in Freshers' Week you have probably already received approximately 1,405 flyers for club nights. Most will have a 'theme' like 'Toga Party' or 'Pimps n Hoes' or '17th Century Veterinary Practitioner'. Many of these events will be awful. But that's fine. It's Freshers Week; you're not really meant to have a good time. You'll mainly just walk around with the unsettling feeling that you're where the party isn't.

Not-Leaving-Your-Flat

This area of Dublin is constantly changing but is remains particularly popular with students. A typical 'Not-Leaving-Your-Flat' night will involve drinking with friends or flatmates or flatmates' friends or flatmates' possible drug dealer boyfriends. There will be a vague but ultimately pie-in-the-sky plan to 'head into town.' The next day you will talk warmly about how it was 'actually great that we didn't head out.' You will know deep down that is a lie, but at least be grateful than the ends of your one pair of 'good' jeans are not wet. If you 'don't wear jeans' you are far too cool to be a fresher and shouldn't read this in case someone sees you with it.

The Cool Spot

Where this actually is will have already changed twice by the time you finish reading this sentence. But luckily Dublin is small enough that the cool spots are on a fairly regular rotation. Look for club nights with plenty of Instagram-like pictures on their Facebook page. If the name of the club night contains caPital letters where caPital letters have no place to be then you're probably onto a winner. Remember to dress just as uniquely as everyone else.

Harcourt Street

See? Still not mentioning the 'C' word. There are plenty of places to go to on this street and... feck it, what's the point? You're going to Coppers aren't you? Just go. Go on you dumb animal, get outta here and in there. It's the most simultaneously awful and amazing place in Dublin. Why wouldn't you?

Top Tips for Staying Safe On Nights Out!

Going out in Dublin for the first time can be hazardous, but Aislinn McCooey has a few tips to help get home safe, withour feeling worse for the wear

Now you're in college and most likely away from Mammy's prying eyes and anxious questions for the first time. It's very tempting to go mad and forget the little good sense she managed to pass onto you, so in case you need a reminder (turns out she was right) here's our top tips for staying safe when you're out:

1. May seem obvious but watch your drink, spiking does happen and has some unpleasant consequences, so don't leave your drink down and if you do, don't pick it up again! Also avoid that tempting looking pint somebody left untouched on the bar -it's untouched for a reason.

2. Do not get drunk and decide to walk home by yourself. In the dark. On a deserted road. In the middle of the night. It is that far away whatever your alcohol ridden mind is saying. No matter how little money you have if you don't have the money to get home safely - don't go out.

3. Know your limits, drinking too much and passing out and throwing up is not a good look, and nobody wants to have to look after someone else on a night out. Think about it - you're not just ruining your night but at least one of your friends' as well.

4. Those nice new friends you met in the smoking area? Don't decide to go home with them for the rocking after sesh with all the alcohol you can handle. You've never met or heard of these people before. Would you go home alone with randomers you met in the post office? Didn't think so.

5. Don't mix your alcohol - pick one and stick with it for the night. Mixing drinks means you're more likely to get too drunk as it's harder to remember what exactly you've had. It also means you're more likely to get sick and results in you feeling rougher than sandpaper the next morning.

Background Image: Nojhan

Dublin Fashion Frolics

Starting college and moving away from home for the first time is the perfect time to develop your own style. Aislinn McCooey gives lowdown on high street and boutique shopping in Dublin

Mainland Europe has long been proclaimed as the home of true style, but Dublin can be just as stylish if you know where to go for that perfect outfit

There are two main shopping areas in town if you're after high street gems; these are Henry Street/Jervis shopping centre and Grafton Street/St Stephen's Green.

Grafton Street

Both areas however are also home to some of Dublin's most famous department stores. Grafton Street is home to possibly the most well known of these Brown Thomas. Notoriously expensive, Brown Thomas or BTs as it's known, is where you'll find high end designers like Prada, Dior and popular young label, The Kooples.

However, if you show me a student who can shop here regularly without incurring serious debt, either with Mammy and Daddy or Jim down in AIB, I'll show you the gold cow



Photo as365m4

George's Arcade is a favourite for boutique shoppers

Kerrygold comes from. Grafton Street is home to some great places though. Student favourites River Island TopShop/TopMan for looks, designer shoes, bags and purses. Though they can be somewhat pricy, they do give a student discount and hold excellent sales several times a year. So if you hold out and get in for a shop on the first few days of the sale you'll more than likely nab yourself a few bargains.

A|Wear is also another great



Photo Johnson1952

Though Brown Thomas on Grafton St may not be as chic or expensive as its London equivalents, it still has a world reknowned reputation as a top quality destination for leading designers

place that can be found on both Grafton and Henry Street (though the Grafton Street branch is slightly larger and therefore has more choice). It's a great place to find that perfect little dress be it black, white or rainbow hued.

Henry Street

Arnotts on Henry Street is another of Dublin's best known department stores and while it's not quite as exclusive as Brown Thomas, it is still home to several designer labels you'd have to sell your granny for. It does also have Topshop and Gap which are both student favourites, Topshop which always has impressive clothes for hitting the town... not to mention its excellent make-up range. While Gap will always be popular for that student staple: the hoodie.

Forever 21 in the Jervis shopping centre is a huge three story treasure trove of brightly coloured, flimsy summer clothes. While the clothes and admittedly lovely jewellery may seem cheap and chic, it can be something of a false economy. The jewellery often breaks after several uses and the clothes are often of poor quality and more often than not dry-clean only. This leads to more expense down the line and what seems like a cheap option at the time may end up costing you more than something similar from a more expensive shop.

Boutique Fashion

There are also many great boutiques and independently owned stores around the city just waiting to be discovered. Carousel on Exchequer Street sells vintage and vintage-style clothing, specialising in pretty dresses, lovely blouses and skirts.

Costelloe and Costelloe on Chatham Street, near to the major Southside campuses is home to an incredible collection of accessories perfect for a special occasion.

George's Street Arcade, on the Southside, only a minutes' walk from Aungier Street is also a great place to find unusual items you won't see on anyone else. And with different boutiques specialising in everything from jewellery to Indian/Bollywood style clothes you're sure to find something. Nearby, the Harlequin, one of Dublin's most famous vintage shops lies in wait with hundreds of pieces from many different eras. With the selection and friendly helpful staff, you definitely won't leave here empty handed!

Bon Jour!

Over here on an exchange? Don't know your sliotar from a shilleghlagh? Fear not! Aislinn McCooey is here to impart her words of wisdom.

Fáilte! Congratulations on your choice to study in Dublin Institute of Technology. We're here to try and make your visit to Ireland a little bit easier. For your comfort and security, please pay attention to the following survival briefing some helpful hints and tips which will make experiencing the real Ireland comfortable and secure.

If someone tells you they had "good craic" last night, they're not talking about drugs. We swear it's Irish slang for a good time. Honestly. Not drugs.

Walking is the best way to get around Dublin during the day, it's not a big city and is the best way to see everything. Buy a map or better yet call into a tourist office and see do they have any for free. Also don't be afraid to ask for directions nobody minds and most people will do their best to get you there.

Food can be expensive in Dublin. The best way to keep costs down is to shop once a week and buy everything you need in a large supermarket like Aldi, Lidl, Tesco or Dunnes Stores.

It rains a lot here. Even if it looks sunny when you're leaving in the morning this can change very easily. Invest in a small strong umbrella that you can easily throw in a bag.

Irish slang is complicated and there are as many variations as there are people so don't expect to understand it all straight away. And be warned words that mean one thing in Dublin could mean something completely different in Cork. Case in point: the concept of "meeting" – Dublin parlance for French kissing. The country folk have always known it as "shifting" and get a little confused.

If it's not in a bread roll then it's not a meal. Chicken fillet rolls and breakfast rolls (a roll with a full cooked breakfast inside) are staples of the student diet because they're cheap, filling and tasty.

Dublin's most famous nightclubs is Copper Face Jack's, or Coppers. Due to the only incidence in the city of a blind eye being turned to after-hours partying, it's a favourite with nurses, Gardaí (AKA "Guards") and those up visiting form the country With loud music, lots of (easy) people and a great atmosphere.

Dublin is the Pub capital of the world. Popular student haunts include The Living Room, Karma Stone, Bodkins and The Bernard Shaw. If you're a fan of pints, Alfie's and Dakota Bar are known for cocktails.

For an evening with slightly less alcohol intake, try the Laughter lounge on the Quays which has nights of great stand-up comedy from many different types of comedians. While you're here you should also check out some of Dublin's theatres including the Olympia, the Gaiety and the Bord Gáis Energy Theatre which host gigs, musicals and drama.

Get involved! While you're here join some of DIT's dozens of clubs and societies. There are a huge variety, so you're sure to find something to suit your fancy. Clubs and Socs week starts on September 24 with a fair in each of the main buildings during the week.

If you're here on Erasmus, get involved with the Exchange Students' Society. Do a Facebook search for "ESN DIT" and join them! They're going to Galway on October 12th, which should be a "mad one", that is, a fun and rowdy party involving alcohol.

If you have any problems in college, call down to the Students' Union or your Erasmus co-ordinator. That's why they're there and they are always willing to help!

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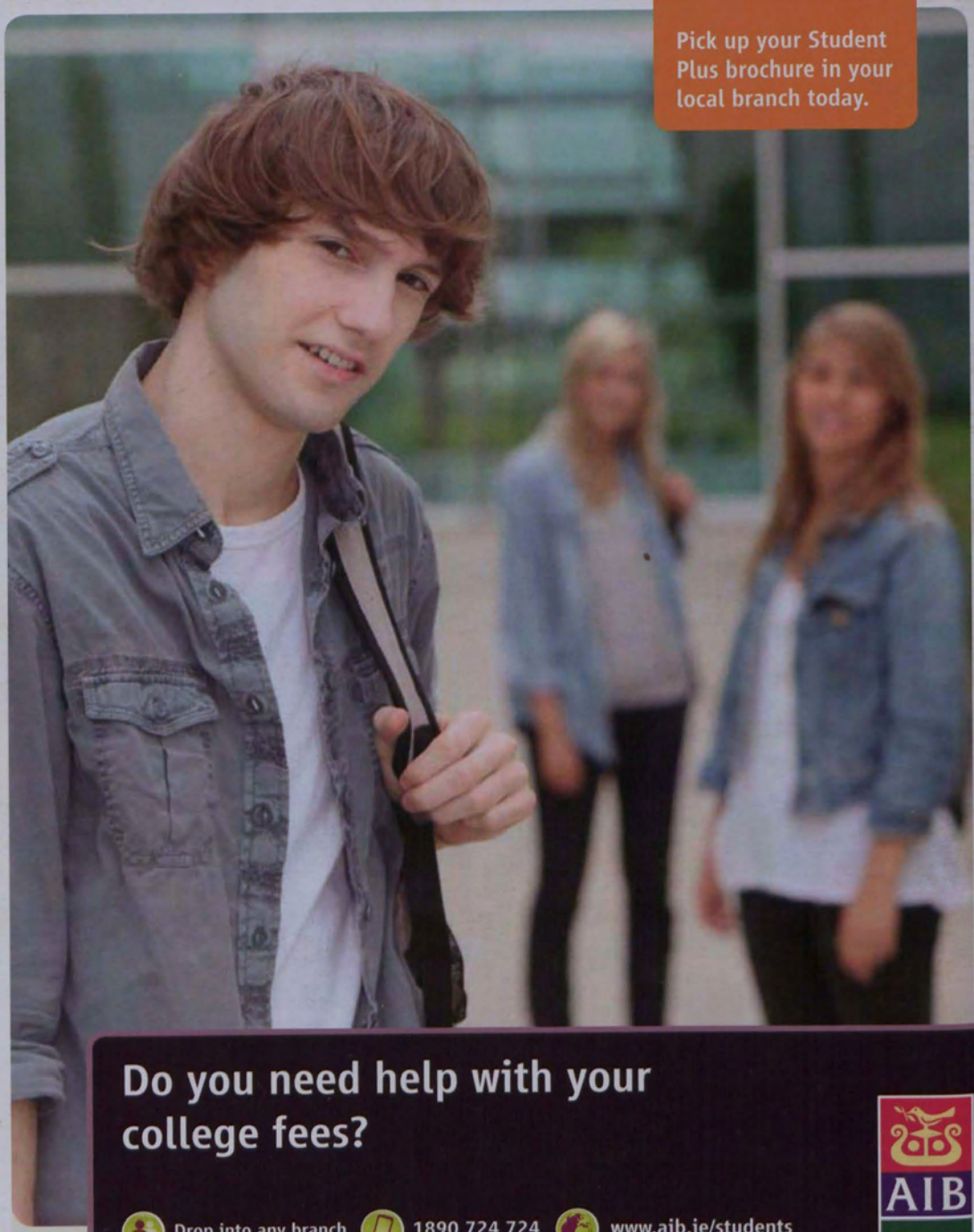


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Dear readers,

I would like to apologise for an article written in the Edition Freshers' Guide distributed on 12 September 2012. The article in question, *The DIT Students' Union*, was meant to be a light-hearted look at the SU and its inner workings. However, the article did not get across the many benefits of the SU and what it does in representing the student body of DIT. The SU offices are always open to a student in distress and always strive to meet student needs. *The Edition* advocates that students get involved in every aspect of college life and does not disparage someone from joining the SU.

Sincerely,

The Edition Editorial Team