



NOEL BRENNAN

MED & HEALTH

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EXPERIENCE, EDUCATION,
ENTERTAINMENT AND
EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN!

Who is Noel Brennan? (That's me!)



Hello everyone, my name is Noel Brennan and I'm looking to be elected as the 2018/19 college of medicine and health rep. I'm twenty years old and from the lovely county Limerick. I'm currently in third year medicine and while I am addicted to ice cream I'm not addicted to coffee just yet!

My aim if I'm fortunate enough to be elected is to implement achievable realistic policies that will dramatically improve student life at Brookfield, the Western gateway, Cavanagh building and of course the teaching hospitals affiliated with UCC.

In September 2015 I joined the school of medicine and health and have been actively involved in student life since. I have worked with several societies and organizations during my three years at U.C.C. In first year I was the first-year rep for ST. Vincent De Paul and was fortunate enough to win one of the Fresher of the year awards for contributing to student life. Last year I took over the role of Children's activities co-ordinator for St. Vincent De Paul and was responsible for organizing our breakfast clubs, homework clubs, grind programmes, youth clubs and Lego clubs in primary schools around Cork city. As part of this role I worked with primary school teachers, principals, SVP head-office and of course our student volunteers.

Last year I was also a member of the MSF committee and helped with flag days, cloak rooms and awareness events on campus and Brookfield.

Currently I'm the vice chairperson for the medical society which has been one of my busiest roles to date. As part of Medsoc I have been involved in organizing countless events including educational speciality talks, conferences, student welfare events, community engagement projects and of course massive entertainment events such as Medball, Medhunt and our upcoming Spring Social Ball.

If you have read all of the above, then I imagine the one thing that stands out is I'm a little crazy and I like to be busy! I have been involved in education charity and of course entertainment during my time at UCC and I feel I would be a balanced, well-rounded rep for the college of medicine and health. If elected I hope to bring the same energy, commitment and a little bit of the craziness that I have brought to organizations in the past. I really do think I have the experience and skills to backup my policies and make Brookfield great again! (Hard to resist a Donald Trump reference)



Goals

We all know what you're really thinking, **"Show me your plans!"** and that is exactly what I'm about to do: Below is a brief overview of what I would like to do if elected this year.

EDUCATION

1. Class reps:

We all know that class reps are the voice for the student body and play a crucial role in extending deadlines and making everyday college that little bit easier. If I'm elected I hope to work with the SU education rep to get class reps elected as quick as possible to ensure all students are represented. I would also design starter packs for first year class reps with common contact email addresses, tips and advice for situations that might arise during the year. I would set up Facebook pages with all the class reps as in previous years to ensure that I'm easy to contact and work with throughout the year.

2. Library opening hours

Library opening hours has always been an issue here at U.C.C. particularly at the weekends. If I was elected I would be more than happy to work towards extending weekend library opening hours at Brookfield during the year. I am similarly willing to lobby to extend CUH library opening hours as I know this issue was encountered this year.

3. Placement

Placement is a major part of most courses under the college of medicine and health and I would therefore like to bring a renewed focus to the issues and challenges that students face during placement at U.C.C. I would love to work with students on common placement issues including transport and accommodation with the aim of bringing all suggestions to the relevant college heads. I am similarly more than happy to meet with final year pharmacy final year students concerning the new changes brought in by the APPEL body.

4. Exams

Exams are undoubtedly one of the most stressful parts of college for most students. Unfortunately, in our college exams are often made that little bit harder due to there being no study week or exams being weeks in advance due to placement. If elected I would like to try to first space exams more evenly throughout the two college semesters and space out the final winter and summer exams to give students, the best chance possible. While I understand that sometimes exams must be carried out during study week for logistic reasons I would like to try and exert some control in the dates of these exams and aim to place them towards the end of the week, so students could still get some of their study week!

5. Implementing an opt out system for lecturers at U.C.C.

Lectures working off an opt in system at U.C.C. has been a problem that has been brought up persistently for the last few years. While I don't imagine there will be any easy fix for this problem I'm more than willing to campaign to encourage the use of Panopto at UCC.

ENTERTAINMENT



1. Societies and clubs for Brookfield and the Cavanagh building

While main campus is often a buzz of activity unfortunately satellite campuses around UCC are often forgotten. If elected I would like to push for societies and clubs to have a far more active presence at satellite campuses. I have been actively involved in societies and clubs from first year and feel that I have all the necessary contacts to help bring the main campus vibe to Brookfield.

2. Events

Freshers week, Refreshers week and Raise and Give week often seem to avoid Brookfield and if I'm elected I hope to work with the SU events rep to try and bring them to Brookfield even if that means stealing them from main campus!

3. Health sciences ball/Health science night out

A health sciences ball has never been organized during my time at U.C.C. and if there was demand I think this would be a cool (*Yes, I used the word cool*) event for people from different health related courses to meet. Of course, if this proved impossible a simpler alternative would be health night outs that would cater for individual years such as first years, second years etc like the class party night outs organized at the start of the year.

Everything else

1. Wi-fi

I'm sure most of us have been in G10 at some stage and your laptop has just refused to download a lecture. I would like to try and improve the wi-fi blackspots such as G10 and see if this problem can be resolved.

2. Printing (Something I'm just going to have sort even if I'm not elected!)

The printers in both Brookfield and western gateway are unfortunately incredibly unreliable and frequently take money without printing any pages! The current system in place to get refunds on your student card involves emailing in to student IT services however I feel sign in sheet would be a far more manageable system and make it easier for students to be refunded.

3. Common room

I am more than happy to meet with students to see what facilities they would like added to the common room at Brookfield throughout the year. Personally, I'd love bean bags!

4. Work with other officers

While college reps are part time positions I strongly believe that all reps should be there to help other SU officers with their work throughout the year. If I'm elected I'm more than happy to get involved in different campaigns and events that the SU is running.



5. Events for international students

International students make up a significant proportion of the college of medicine and health and if I'm elected I hope to organize a mixture of academic and entertainment events for international students with the hope of making their experience here at U.C.C. that little bit better.

Are we there yet? (Yes!)

Of course, the above points only scratch the surface of what I would like to achieve if I'm elected this year. There are several other achievable policies I would like to implement but I think this manifesto is already long enough! If you have any questions or there is anything you would like to see done just drop me a message! (I'm a nice person I swear) Thanks a million and please vote Brennan for Brookfield on the March 6th and 7th.

