

COTHROM NA FÉINNE

Hi everyone! If you haven't met me yet, my name is Aisling Maloney and I'm studying Law with Politics. I'm from Tipperary and, as you've probably already guessed, I'm running to become your next Law College Officer.

I've been serving as the First Year Promotions Officer of the Students' Union's ENTS Forum this year, as well as a class representative in the Law School's Staff-Student Forum. I have also served on the committee of five societies this year, so I am well-emersed in the day-to-day happenings of UCD. Outside of this, I volunteer with several organisations, such as SpunOut and Youth Work Ireland, and engage in climate activism.

So, why am I running for Law College Officer? To put it simply, I want to improve the day-to-day lives of law students. I want to address the problems that law students are currently facing and find solutions to them, including the barriers that law students face. As someone who comes from a low socio-economic background, I understand the difficulties faced with attending third-level education, and I can see how prominent they are within the law school.

I believe that every student should have their voices equitably represented, and I strongly believe that I have the **experience**, the **ambition**, and the **dedication** to make this happen as Law College Officer.



AISLING MALONEY

LAW COLLEGE OFFICER

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Prospective Students

As someone who comes from a low socio-economic background, I can understand the challenges that people like me are faced with when considering third-level education. During my term as Law college Officer, I would do as much as I could to encourage prospective secondary school students to pursue a law degree by making them aware of the support that the university would offer them during their studies.

Academic Advisors

There is an ongoing discussion on the issues of the academic advisor programme, and I would like to work with the Academic Advisory Focus Group on this matter next year. Both the advisors and the students need to be provided with some clarity as to what is expected of the academic advisors, and what students can ask for help with. Some ideal solutions would be for the advisors to have regular meetings with their students and to offer advice on more than just assignment feedback.

Lecture Recordings

Lecture recordings made education more accessible over the past year, I would aim to have the continued provision of lecture recordings and other material following the end of COVID-19 restrictions on campus. These recordings have ensured a higher quality of education for students who have missed out on the physical lectures for various reasons to access them.

Student Voices

I see the power that student voices can have, and I want to ensure that all voices are heard by the SU and the law school. So, I would offer bookable meetings so that students can come and chat with me in-person or via zoom. I would also co-ordinate with the Class Reps during our meetings to host events, such as information talks and class night outs. After talking with them, I've learned that many older students aren't confident in the SU's ability to make change happen, and I want to restore this belief for all students one step at a time.

Events

I want to host events focused on the physical, emotional and mental wellbeing of students with groups like Jigsaw and SpunOut, as I know some students are struggling to cope, as well as exam preparation tips and goodie bags. I also want to improve the first-year welcome day to strengthen the welcome that we are giving new students and encourage interaction and socialising among the group, and organise coffee mornings for all law students.

Careers Workshops

It is likely that a lot of students want to pursue a non-legal career such as journalism. I would organise careers talks and workshop with legal firms and LawSoc, in addition to events for students that want to pursue a different career pathway, and to show them how a legal education can benefit them on that path.