



SETU graduates continue to make history as the first graduates of the south east's university

History continued to unfold at South East Technological University in January with the final series of conferring ceremonies for the class of 2021/22 taking place on the Carlow and Waterford campuses.



Over 2,000 graduates were conferred in January with awards in a range of disciplines, from technology, business and engineering to the arts, humanities and science bringing the total number of graduates in SETU's first year to a remarkable figure of 4,733. [Read more.](#)



Prof Veronica Campbell, SETU President reminded graduates that they hold a very special place in SETU's history. "Your names are among the first signed into the SETU graduates roll book. Generations of graduates will follow you in ceremonies like this but you are the pioneers."





Updates from across SETU programme

Programme Management Office

- The next meeting of our PMO Change Network will take place on 10 February 2023. The network is a great way to hear all about progress across all areas of the SETU project and, if you would like to join us and become a member of the network, please email pmo@setu.ie.
- The SETU year 3 merger project plan and TUTF allocation is now finalised with the PMO working closely with finance offices, functions and teams across SETU.
- In person cross campus engagements of teams and communities of practice are continuing across SETU functions aimed at harnessing new opportunities across the University, supported by the PMO. Please email pmo@setu.ie for more information.
- The PMO are delighted to welcome Olivia Harvey and Colm Walsh to the team as Integration leads in Lifelong Learning and International respectively.

Students' Union

- The Constitutional Referendum was passed by the student body: with 2755 votes total, 93.9% of students voted to adopt the Constitution. This means that from the 1 July 2023, the two existing Students Unions will be merged into one SETU Student Union and will represent the student body at large. This Constitution will support an 8-officer model, the highlights of which are: an overarching Students' Union President for all students, and casework officers for all campuses, which includes, for the first time, a full-time officer for the Wexford campus.
- The USI Referendum was passed by the student body: with 2559 votes total, 97.1% of students voted to retain membership with USI. This means that the new Students' Union will be members of the Union of Students in Ireland, a 374,000 strong organisation which represents the rights and interests of students across the island of Ireland. This is a valuable network that not only the sabbatical officers, but also the students of SETU, can access, for a variety of purposes - social, political, pedagogical, and so on.
- The Students' Union have retained a Returning Officer: class representatives have voted to retain a Returning Officer, meaning that things are well on-track for the Student Union elections in late March/early April. This Returning Officer will preside over all elections and will, alongside the Electoral Committee, ensure that all elements of the elections on the Carlow, Wexford and Waterford campuses are synchronised.





Updates from across SETU programme

Lifelong Learning

- Building on the meeting of the teams from SETU Lifelong Learning campuses across part-time, flexible learning and extended campus in October a follow-up event is scheduled to take place in the coming weeks. This is a valuable opportunity for all staff to contribute to the strategic future of SETU Lifelong Learning.
- A cross-campus marketing working group has been formed to coordinate the use of marketing material for the extensive offering of SETU Lifelong Learning courses.

Research and Innovation

- Framework research overheads under review process with Finance.
- Evaluating the current research completed within SETU for possible partnerships and interdisciplinary links within all campuses.
- There will be a pilot trial of the proposed local ethical framework and operations beginning this term and concluding December 2023.
- The SETU Authorship policy has been approved and is now available [here](#).

Academic and Student

- Initial phase of staff and student engagement on the use of the VLE/LMS has been completed, with surveys conducted and analysed.
- All staff demo sessions on the various VLE/LMS platforms have taken place, as part of the unified VLE/LMS project, with recordings shared on Blackboard/Moodle.
- The January conferring sessions are complete with over 2,000 graduates conferred, bringing the total number of graduates in SETU's first year to 4,733.
- Work is ongoing on the alignment of approval forms and processes in a number of academic quality related areas.

Identity and Branding

- SETU's Identity and Branding Committee will meet on 24 February 2023. Branding related questions or queries that you would like raised can be email to John.Power@setu.ie.
- Co-branding and Labelling guidelines have been approved by EMT.
- UI design phase has been completed as part of phase 2 of the website development project. Technical backend build has commenced.
- Development of new and replacement SETU branded collateral for units, functions and faculties ongoing.





Updates from across SETU programme

Corporate Affairs

- All staff accounts have been successfully created in the SETU domain and the process of validating the migrated data is currently taking place. Actual migration to begin in the near future, staff will be advised closer to the time.
- A sample group of OneDrive, user email, and Teams have been migrated into the new SETU Office365 tenancy and data validation is at present under way. Due to the volume of data and scale of disruption if Teams were migrated during term, Teams migration will be delayed. Further advice to follow.
- Setup of HEAnet hosted and managed Edugate instance for SETU has commenced. The Azure application has been built in the SETU O365 tenancy and HEAnet are finalising the configuration before testing begins. This will centralise all SETU logins in the future.

International

- Colm Walsh, International Integration Lead joined on 5 January 2023. He joins with significant experience in this area having worked for the Global Office in University College Dublin for several years. You can connect with Colm at Colm.Walsh@setu.ie.
- Workshops are taking place to develop integrated messaging for international markets.
- A review of global partnerships is taking place, the intention is to create a central repository for SETU. We will be in touch with stakeholders over the coming weeks to ensure all required information is captured.
- The Carlow and Waterford international teams are coming together on the 9 February 2023 for an update on the international integration project to date.

Strategy

- The University continues to develop its first strategic plan, Connecting for Impact: 2023-2028. Following extensive consultation within our internal SETU community and with many external stakeholders late last year, the plan is now in draft form. It will set out the University's objectives for the coming five years across five areas and will identify priority actions in support of Learners, Innovation and Research, Engagement and People.
- The plan will also include a chapter on Enablers describing the investment, capital development, and other changes that will be needed to ensure the University meets its goals. The plan is focussed on the step change needed to perform the functions of the University as set out in legislation and to meet the enhanced performance targets that are required for the University if it is to have a transformative impact on the region that we serve. The Strategic Plan will be accompanied by a comprehensive and detailed implementation plan and schedule that will be fully costed.
- The plan is currently scheduled to be submitted to Governing Body for its approval in April.





Spotlight: SETU launches new University's first Student Charter

South East Technological University recently launched its first student charter that defines the expectations and responsibilities of SETU and its students.

The SETU Student Charter encompasses the key beliefs and shared principles of the University and its student body and formalises the culture of respect, empowerment and engagement that is already in existence between both. The charter also commits SETU and its students to abide by a code of behaviour characterised by inclusiveness and tolerance, openness and professionalism.

The charter sets out what both parties can expect from each other. SETU promises to provide an environment that allows every student to learn, interact and engage with all aspects of student life. For their part, students agree to participate in all facets of student life that offer the opportunity to develop both academically and personally, such as information events and activities arranged by the University and the Students' Union on all campuses. [Read more.](#)



Signing of SETU's Student Charter

New staff induction

Staff Induction took place in January with over 35 Academic, Research, PMSS and Technical staff members from Carlow, Waterford and Wexford campuses in attendance. On the day, Professor Veronica Campbell welcomed all new staff members to the SETU community. There was a variety of speakers presenting from both Carlow and Waterford, giving new staff members the opportunity to hear about the great services and work that is happening across the University.

Reminder | CPD Week 2023

Staff members will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of training and development sessions during CPD week, 20 - 24 February. Sessions will be delivered for the most part online, with some sessions taking place on campus in both Carlow and Waterford. The schedule of events will be circulated in early February.



For more information on the above or to share any ideas or concerns, please contact the SETU Programme Management Office at pmo@setu.ie