



**ACE INITIATIVE 2014/15**

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP SOCIETY PROPOSAL**



OÉ Gaillimh  
NUI Galway

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Entrepreneurship Society was founded in January 2014 and since the inauguration of the founding committee, the society has progressed hugely. The society held two very successful events and secured sponsorship for the forthcoming year.

The society has definitely contributed hugely to Entrepreneurship on campus, so much so that one of our members has begun his own company. Many more have been encouraged to do the same.

The society hopes that students will develop an entrepreneurial skill set that will enable them to found their own enterprise.

The ACE initiative has provided the society with a wealth of information that has contributed to its success. The society hopes for further ACE integration in the academic year 2014/15. The committee believes that an event co-hosted by the society and ACE partners would be an ideal avenue to further the initiative.

The society feels that ACE should trial new methods of promoting on campus entrepreneurship including a company-society and a student union representative for Entrepreneurship.

## **AIMS:**

The aims of the Society shall primarily be to promote an environment that enables entrepreneurs to develop and expand their ideas into meaningful endeavors. The society will act as a platform to guide the entrepreneur and enhance his/her project. The society also hopes to invite guest speakers to the college to address the students and impart their knowledge and entrepreneurial experience unto them. The society will also conduct competitions to encourage innovation and entrepreneurship.

## Calendar and Key Dates

10 <sup>th</sup> September	Societies Day
	Triple E Evening
4 <sup>th</sup> October	Enterprise Evening 2*
Mid - November	Entrepreneur of the Future
15 <sup>th</sup> January	Societies Day 2
	Enterprise Evening 4*
Mid - February	EOY event
Mid - March	Annual 'startup2students'

\*the theme for Enterprise Days 2 & 4 are yet to be finalised, dependent on availability of high profile speakers

# Societies Day 1 & Enterprise Evening 1

Societies Day provides us with a huge opportunity to let students know what the Entrepreneurship Society is and allows us to promote our events for the year. Students will be welcomed by providing free pizza, as well as EY cups filled with jellies. The committee hopes to supply students with an Entre Soc information package which will consist of a cardboard folder containing flyers and booklets on various aspects of Entrepreneurship. The society beliefs this would be an ideal avenue for EY & EOY to distribute literature of their own.

Details	Cost
Pizza and jellies for cups	€250
100 x Ernst & Young cups	FREE
150 x Information Folders	€300

Later that evening a talk branded '*Triple E*' will be take place, resulting from a collaboration combining the Entrepreneurship Society, the Energy Society and the Engineering society. Possible Guests include:

- Declan Ganley, Chairman and Founder Rivada Networks
- Brendan Tuohy, Fmr. Secretary General Dept. Energy

This will be a catered event and spot prizes will also be given away as an incentive for students to attend.

Details	Cost
Catering, by <i>Mr Waffle</i>	€200
Prize fund	€200

## Enterprise Evening 2

Enterprise Day 2 will be an information evening with several speakers in attendance. The event will be co-organised by the NUIG Enactus Society. It will involve a wide range of guest speakers in a variety of entrepreneurial fields, with the event theme being social entrepreneurship and female entrepreneurs. Possible guests will include:

- Norah Casey, from “Dragon’s Den”
- Susan Hayes, “The Positive Economist”
- Pat McDonagh, founder of Supermacs
- John Concannon, Managing Director of JFC Plastics
- Eamonn Fitzgerald, Social Entrepreneur

The aim of the evening is to inform students about social entrepreneurship and perhaps encourage them to consider it in the future. The event will also promote female entrepreneurs, who are often overlooked, and to encourage women to think about entrepreneurship as a possible career path. Refreshments will be provided on the night and prize money will be given to attendees at random (at several different stages of the evening).

Details	Cost
Catering for event	€200
Prize money	€100

\*Note: EY will be providing Internships as part of case study plan

## Entrepreneur of the Future

The third enterprise evening will consist of the 'Entrepreneur of the Future' competition. Students will initially submit business ideas to be judged. The initial submissions will be reviewed by a panel consisting of former students, local entrepreneurs, academic advisory staff and a committee representative. This panel will reduce the entrants to ten and these students will be assigned mentors to develop a business plan. The mentors will consist of lecturers and local entrepreneurs from a subject area related to the topic of the student's submission. The 10 semi-finalists will make a live pitch to a second round panel, and five will go on to the live finals. The final panel will include Barry O'Sullivan, from 'the Dragons' Den' along with an EY representative and others. The live final for the top five entries will take place in a lecture theatre in the college in front of an interested audience. Catering will be provided for the attendees of event.

The winner chosen by the panel will receive a prize fund of €1000 and EY mentorship, the runner up will subsequently receive a sum of €500.

Details	Cost
Prize Fund	€1000
Catering	€200

## Societies Day 2 / Enterprise Day 4

Societies Day 2 is the second society day of the year. It is held in the second week of the new semester. Its purpose is to allow students to explore a variety of different societies which they were not involved with or have not heard of in the first semester. Our plan to encourage a higher participation in our society at this day is similar to Socs Day 1. As an incentive to students the society intends to provide free pizza and EY cups filled with Jellies. For the interested entrepreneurs in our student body information packages will be presented, the same package as was used on Societies day 1.

Details	Cost
Pizza and jellies for EY cups	€150
EY cups	FREE

Our theme for the fourth Enterprise evening is Creative Entrepreneurship. This event will be run in collaboration with the GUMS Society (Galway University Music Society). The society aims to introduce creative people to the entrepreneurship spirit. GUMS involvement will undoubtedly boost our profile on campus while introducing entrepreneurship to a variety of people. Our plan for this evening is a series of talks from creative entrepreneurs including Artomatrix, Michelle Campion and others.

Details	Cost
Prize	€100
Catering	€200

Note: EY will again be providing placement/insight days

## **Enterprise Day 5 / EOY Event**

This event will be co-hosted by the Entrepreneurship Society and EOY. The Society hopes the event will include a 'Fireside Chat' discussion between a group of young, ambitious students and a panel of four entrepreneurs who have been successful in their endeavours. A fifth person will chair the event and guide the topics of conversation.

On the panel at the fireside-discussion, the society hopes to include the partner-in-charge of the EOY program, one speaker who has excelled in the world of technology and two other successful entrepreneurs or business people.

The society feels that to ensure maximum involvement and input from the audience that the event takes place in a relaxed atmosphere. There will be a selection of food offered to attendees and prize money will be distributed.

<b>Details</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Prize	€250
Catering	€250

Topic of Discussion: Positive effects of using Social Media as platform to develop your business.



## Enterprise Day 6 / Annual getSET event

The getSET event will be co-run by the entrepreneurship society and the NUIG Career Development Centre. The society's component of the event, branded 'startup2students' involves ten guest speakers, all of whom are Entrepreneurs involved in local startup companies. Each Entrepreneur will speak about their experiences and answer any questions students may have. An interesting aspect of the event is that each speaker will have strictly five minutes to deliver their speech. This ensures concise and information filled speeches and maintains constant interest from the audience. Possible Speakers include:

- Gill Carroll, Founder and CEO 37 West
- Joanna Sweeney-Burke, CEO Media Box
- Mike Feerick, CEO Alison.com
- John Brosnan, CEO NetFort Technologies

This will undoubtedly be the societies biggest event of the year and the society hopes for a significant EY and EOY presence on the day. Details of EY and EOY involvement can be discussed and finalised at a later date.

Details	Cost
Prize	€300
Catering	€300

## Equipment

As the society will be holding many events throughout the year a Pop-up stand will be required to promote our society. This will be displayed on both of the Socs days and at each of our Enterprise Evenings. The stand will provide people with background information on our society. The total cost of this is €995 excluding VAT. The Society hopes to have this fully subsidized by EY and EOY. The EY and EOY logo will appear on the pop up stand, and all designs will be subject to EY design team approval.

Our society is currently in the process of designing a hoody for all its members. The Society hopes that EY and EOY would be in a position to subsidise half the payment of these hoodies, while the members of the society will pay the other half. In return, the EY and EOY logo will appear on these hoodies, increasing your on campus presence.

Throughout the year the society will incur printing costs. This will include making posters for certain events and other forms of advertising for the society.

Details	Cost
PopUp Stand	€1600*
Printing	€100
Hoodies	€300

\*includes VAT

## Budget

Details	Cost
Socs Day 1	€550
Triple E	€400
Enterprise Evening 2	€300
Entrepreneur of the Future	€1200
Socs Day 2	€150
Creative Enterprise Evening	€300
EOY event	€500
GetSET event	€600
Equipment	€2,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>€6,000</b>

**\*Note:** As part of prize fund EY will be providing Internships/placements/insight weeks.

## **Future Plans**

### **Social Events**

The Society intends to organise ticket events in clubs to generate further awareness of Entrepreneurship. The committee also intends to organise an International Mystery tour, which will visit a European City. The trip will naturally include an Entrepreneurial Element.

### **Charity Events**

The Society hopes to partner with a local charity to reinvest in the community. The committee is currently in process of choosing a suitable charity and fundraising plans are currently being drafted. Charity events are vital in bettering the society's image on campus.

## **Campaign for Student Vice**

### **President/Enterprise officer**

The Entrepreneurship Society hopes to establish the position of student union Vice President/Enterprise Officer. This campaign may involve a referendum. Below are the details of the office.

## **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Coordinate Explore Program
- Coordinate Student Enterprise Awards
- Create Enterprise & Innovation Week
- Create Start Up Weekend among other events
- Organise Crowd funding possibilities
- Create and Coordinate Incubator
- Partner with corporate sponsors
- Facilitate Enterprising Societies

## **CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT**

iii. The Vice-President, who shall act as Enterprise Officer.

1. S/He shall have ultimate responsibility for the co-ordination of the Entrepreneurial and Enterprising Events.

2. S/He shall provide a confidential advice for all Union members.

3. S/He shall represent members on various University committees.

4. S/He also has responsibility for keeping the Executive and general student body informed on relevant entrepreneurial and enterprising issues.

5. S/He shall be responsible for dealing with individual requests from students.

6. S/He shall also organise and chair the Enterprise Forum.

7. S/He shall also be required to give a mandatory report on work carried out at each Executive meeting.

## **FINANCING**

The sabbatical officer's salary could be part financed by ACE (accelerated campus entrepreneurship) and/or by the Students' Union. The funding of events would be sought from corporate donations and the university itself.

## **SUPPORT**

The Society's proposal has received support across campus, from societies to academic staff and from entrepreneurs to university institutions.

## **Constitution of the Entrepreneurship Society**

### **Article 1** Entrepreneurship Society

The name of the Society shall be Entrepreneurship Society of the National University of Ireland, Galway, hereinafter referred to as 'the Society'.

### **Article 2** Aims of the Society

The aims of the Society shall primarily be to promote an environment that enables entrepreneurs to develop and expand their ideas into meaningful endeavours. The society will act as a platform to guide the entrepreneur and enhance his/her project. The society will offer information on existing supports within and outside the college, which will aid the student in developing his/her idea. The society will also act as a discussion group, which shall encourage entrepreneurship and collective debate, creating an atmosphere of productivity. The society also hopes to invite guest speakers to the college to address the students and impart their knowledge and entrepreneurial experience unto them. The society will also conduct competitions to arouse innovation and entrepreneurship.

### **Article 3** Membership

- 3.1 All students and members of staff of the University shall be eligible to become members of the Society.
- 3.2 Any eligible person shall become a member of the Society on signing their name to the official membership list of the Society.

### **Article 4** The Executive Committee

- 4.1 The Executive committee shall conduct the business of the Society.

4.2 The committee of the Society shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting, or, if necessary, at an Extraordinary General Meeting.

4.3 The committee must consist of the following members:- the Auditor; the Vice-Auditor; the Treasurer; the Secretary; the Public Relations Officer; the Strategic Director; the Speakers Convenor. All members of the committee shall be required to be members of the Society.

4.4 **Auditor**

The Auditor shall have overall responsibility for the affairs of the Society. He/She shall chair all meetings of the Society. The Auditor appoints Ordinary Committee members, to appoint Ordinary Committee members the Auditor will sign a decree, which will be co-signed by the Secretary. The Auditor appoints sub-committee heads and officers not named in the constitution.

4.5 **Vice-Auditor**

The Vice-Auditor shall assume the duties of the Auditor should the Auditor be absent or unable to fulfill his/her duties. The position of Vice-Auditor is reserved for Enactus Team Leader.

4.6 **Treasurer**

The Treasurer will manage the financial affairs of the Society, in consultation with the Auditor, Strategic Director and Vice Auditor. He/She will maintain the financial records of the Society. He/She will prepare and present to the Society and the University the end of year accounts and treasurers report for the Society.

4.7 **Secretary**

The Secretary shall keep the non-financial records of the Society, including the official membership list, and manage the correspondence of the Society and submitting the end of year report.

4.8 **Public Relations Officer**



The Public Relations Officer shall be responsible for advertising the meetings and events of the Society. The PRO presides over the PR sub-committee.

#### 4.9 **Strategic Director**

The Strategic Director will facilitate and aid the Auditor in execution of his/her duties. The Strategic Director presides over management sub-committee.

#### 4.10 **Speakers' Convenor**

The Speakers Convenor is responsible for liaising with guest speakers. The Speakers Convenor will contact a guest speaker at the behest of Auditor. He/she is also responsible for well-being of a guest speaker whilst on campus. The Speakers' Convenor is responsible for co-ordinating the Alumni Board.

#### 4.11 **Committee Meetings**

4.10.1 Meetings of the committee shall be held at least monthly during the academic year. All members of the committee shall be entitled to attend and vote at such meetings.

4.10.2 The quorum for a meeting of the committee shall be at least two-thirds of the Executive committee members.

4.10.3 Meetings of the committee shall be convened by the Auditor or Secretary. At least four days' notice of a committee meeting shall be given by the Auditor or Secretary to the members of the committee.

#### 4.12 **Ordinary Committee Members**

Ordinary committee members will be appointed by a written decree from the Auditor to the Secretary, which he/she then co-signs. Any Member of the Society may be an Ordinary Committee member. The Executive Committee can vote to limit the number of Ordinary committee members.

#### 4.13 **Sub-Committees**

##### 4.13.1 Membership

Every OCM is entitled to be a member of a Sub-Committee. The Auditor will appoint OCMs to their respective sub-committee based on their Skill set.

##### 4.13.2 PR sub-committee

The PR sub-committee is responsible for publicising Society events. The PRO will preside over the PR sub-committee. The PRO may appoint a deputy/assistant presiding officer(s). A letter signed by the PRO must be sent to Secretary designating the deputy presiding officer.

##### 4.13.3 Management sub-committee

The Management Sub-committee is responsible for aiding the Auditor and the Executive in execution of their duties. The Strategic Director will preside over the Management sub-committee. The Strategic Director may appoint a deputy/assistant presiding officer(s). A letter signed by the Strategic Director must be sent to Secretary designating deputy presiding officer. A letter signed by the Strategic Director must sent to Secretary designating the deputy presiding officer.

##### 4.13.4 Ents sub-committee

The Ents sub-committee is responsible for organising social activities of the Society. The Ents Manager will preside over the Management sub-committee. The Ents Manager may appoint a deputy/assistant presiding officer(s). A letter signed by the Ents Manager must be sent to Secretary designating deputy the presiding officer.

#### 4.14 **Term of Office of the Committee**

The committee shall hold office from the first day of September subsequent to their election until the first day of September of the following year. As the society was formed at the midpoint of the

academic year, the inaugural office holders will serve from time of appointment to the subsequent first day of September.

## **Article 5 Committee Meetings**

### **5.1 Meeting Attendance**

Members of the committee are not permitted to be absent from the first committee meeting of each semester, nor miss three consecutive meetings. If a committee member can't attend due to unavoidable circumstances, the Secretary of the Society is to be informed prior to the meeting.

### **5.2 Breach of Attendance Regulation**

If a Committee member breaches any component of article 5.1 , the Auditor will temporarily suspend the committee member, subject to Executive Committee vote. The member will be suspended until an EGM can be called. Normal EGM protocol is followed.

## **Article 6 General Meetings**

### **6.1 Annual General Meeting**

6.1.1 The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall take place in the second semester of the academic year, at a time to be determined by the committee of the Society.

6.1.2 No less than seven days notice of the Annual General Meeting shall be given. The date and time of the A.G.M. shall be notified to the University and advertised by public notice within the University.

## 6.2 Extraordinary General Meetings

6.2.1 An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society may be convened to:

- (i) Hold an election to fill a vacancy on the committee, should one arise;
- (ii) Consider a proposal to amend this constitution or any other governing instrument of the Society;
- (iii) Address any other circumstance not provided for in this constitution
- (iv) Resolve suspension of a member

6.2.2. An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be convened:

- (i) By majority decision of the committee; or
- (ii) On foot of a submission to the committee of the Society of a petition signed by not less than ten members of the Society.

6.2.3 No less than seven days notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be given. The date and time of the E.G.M. shall be notified to the University and advertised by public notice within the University.

## Article 7 Election of the Committee

7.1 The committee of the Society shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

7.2 The Auditor shall act as returning officer for the elections. Where the Auditor intends to be a candidate in any election, a returning officer, who is not a candidate in any election, shall be appointed by the committee.

7.3 All members of the Society shall be eligible for election to the committee.

7.4 Candidates for each position on the committee of the Society must be proposed and seconded by members of the Society at the A.G.M.

7.5 All members of the Society shall be entitled to vote in the election of the committee.

#### **Article 8 Resignations from the Committee**

8.1 The resignation of any member of the committee shall be instituted by a letter of resignation to the Secretary of the Society. In the case of the resignation of the Secretary, resignation may be instituted by a letter of resignation to the Auditor. The secretary must convene an Extraordinary General meeting within two weeks of the resignation and must comply with aforementioned articles.

#### **Article 9 Faculty Advisor(s)**

9.1 Any staff member of the University is welcomed to advise the Society. Faculty advisors will be appointed by the Auditor upon their expression of interest. A faculty advisor is appointed when the Auditor decrees a signed letter to the Secretary, which he/she co-signs.

#### **Article 10 Alumni Board**

10.1 The Alumni board will consist of certain former Entrepreneurship Society members or former Entrepreneurial/Enterprising Students. Each Auditor is entitled to sit on the board once his/her term is complete. An outgoing Auditor is entitled to appoint two additional members to the Alumni Board. To appoint a member the Auditor sends a signed decree to the Speakers' Convenor, which he/she co-signs.

10.2 The Board will convene annually and offer advice to the Society on the forthcoming academic year. The Speakers' Convenor is responsible for coordinating the Board.

- 10.3 The Board can only offer advice, this advice is non-binding. Each committee is entitled to make their own decisions and determine the society's direction.

### **Article 11 Management of Finance**

- 11.1 The finances of the Society shall be managed by the Auditor, Treasurer, Strategic Director and the Vice Auditor.
- 11.2 No member of the committee of the Society shall receive remuneration from the Society, or use their office for personal financial gain.
- 11.3 Sponsorship money cannot be spent without consent of the Auditor or two of the officers mentioned in Article 11.1.

### **Article 9 Amendments to the Constitution**

- 9.1 Amendments to this constitution may be made at an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society.
- 9.2 Such amendments to this constitution as may be approved by an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society shall require the formal approval of the University before taking effect.

### **Article 10 Dissolution of the Society**

10.1 The Society may be dissolved by an absolute majority vote of its membership at a General Meeting. The Society may also be dissolved by decision of the USC. The Society shall fall into abeyance should it fail to validly elect a committee for [two] successive years.

10.2 On dissolution of the Society, its assets shall become the property of the University.

## **Contact Information**

### **Auditor**

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### **Secretary**

Ciara McKenna

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### **Committee Members**

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**NOTES**