



My name is James O'Mullan (Bruce). I am currently a final year student in BSc Environmental Science. I live at home in Rasharkin but spend a lot of time in the Portrush/Portstewart areas as well as in Belfast. I am running for the position of **Sports President** within the UUSU. I am now going to mention a little about my involvement in sports throughout the years and the things I would hope to concentrate on if elected as Sports President.

Sports & Me.

I have been involved in a range of sports from a very early age and represented teams at the highest levels of hurling at all age groups. Since starting university I have been actively involved in the Hurling and Gaelic Football teams on both the Jordanstown campus while studying there and also the Coleraine campus. I'm always willing to try my hand at new sports and although not competing in them at university I have enjoyed some success in soccer including a Harry Cavan Youth Cup Winners Medal and local golf competitions.

Although winning is a large part of sports, in my opinion it isn't the most important thing and there are ways in which people can involve themselves without competing.

- Experiment with new sports
- Get involved in the backroom running of sports clubs
- Enjoy yourself!!

Personally, the last bullet point is the most important. This is how I have always looked at sports and I always will.

Sports Team Positions.

This year I was involved in the running of the Coleraine campus hurling team. I took on the role of Health & Safety Officer for the club, developing a number of valuable skills. This position has helped me to deal with issues within the club and given me an understanding of problems that may arise not only within a hurling club but any sports club. This year I also held the position of joint camogie coach of the Coleraine camogie team with former Sports President Declan Shiels. I thoroughly enjoyed my involvement as I have gained a lot of coaching experience and also made a number of friends. Again this experience has given me insight into the running of another club and the opportunity to think about what areas could be improved in the future.

Other University Activities.

Last year, I was on placement with Creagh Concrete Products Ltd. I thoroughly enjoyed the experience of working for a year within a large company. It helped improve my communication skills and also gave me an idea of how a large organisation works. I believe this would be advantageous to the position of Sports president because I gained the skills to work with different people in various areas of the business and within other businesses too.

University/Life Balance.

University doesn't have to be about working hard 24/7. In my opinion it's extremely important for people to get out of the library or classroom and give themselves a chance to clear their head. For me personally, nothing clears your head (or wrecks your head) like a round of golf but everyone's different and that's where sports in university comes in. Sports at university gives you the chance to get out and get active but also gives you the opportunity to meet and talk to new people about whatever is on your mind.

Club Development

Being a member of a sports club can help you to develop yourself in a number of ways and gain life skills that can be taken into everyday situations. I would like to help clubs develop their backroom running teams and make sure the correct training is completed so that clubs can function without fear of doing something wrong. I would like to see different training programmes carried out over the period of the student year as refresher courses and opportunities for Q&A sessions for any problems that may arise.

University Sports Facilities.

The announcement of a new Sports Facility on the Coleraine campus is a massive lift to the students of Coleraine and people of the surrounding areas. I hope to make sure that this facility will be open to all university students, regardless of sports club or sporting ability. It is an opportunity to get more people active and I will aim to make it available to everyone equally. It would also be a great opportunity to promote the universities facilities through hosting intervarsity competitions and numerous training sessions for outside clubs.

Due to the opening of the new Ulster University Belfast campus and the reshuffling of course locations, I will aim to make the Jordanstown facilities as attractive as possible for all students to make use of. The Jordanstown facilities are state of the art and are a huge benefit to both university teams and individual students. I will also begin lobbying for indoor clubs in Jordanstown so they will have sufficient facilities to use during 2018/2019 when changes will be taking place on the Jordanstown campus. I will aim to make sure teams & students can avail of these facilities and increase participation in sports.

I also aim to increase the facilities available to students on the Magee campus in order to improve their university sporting experiences. Magee students are doing extremely well with the facilities they have but I believe with an increase in facilities will come an increase in sporting interest across the Magee campus.

I believe by working together with both university sports clubs and individuals, we can strengthen sport within Ulster University on all campuses and I will do everything I can if elected to make this a success.

I hope you'll get behind the cause and vote for me!

VOTING ONLINE - MONDAY 7th MARCH TO WEDNESDAY 9th MARCH

