

Development of the Social Dimension

Stocktaking and Future Perspectives of Student Services/Student Affairs in the European Higher Education Area

Berlin, July 11-13, 2011



*International Bologna Conference –
Developing the Social Dimension
July 11-13th, 2011. Berlin*

Student Affairs and Services in the Republic of Ireland: Past, Present and Future

Brian Gormley
Manager of Campus Life
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Chairperson of
Confederation of Student Services in Ireland (CSSI)

Introduction

Manager of Campus Life in Dublin Institute of Technology. Multi-campus, urban Higher Education Institute with 20,000 students from apprentice up to Doctoral level. Currently based on 39 different sites, in the process of moving to a new single campus in city centre Dublin.

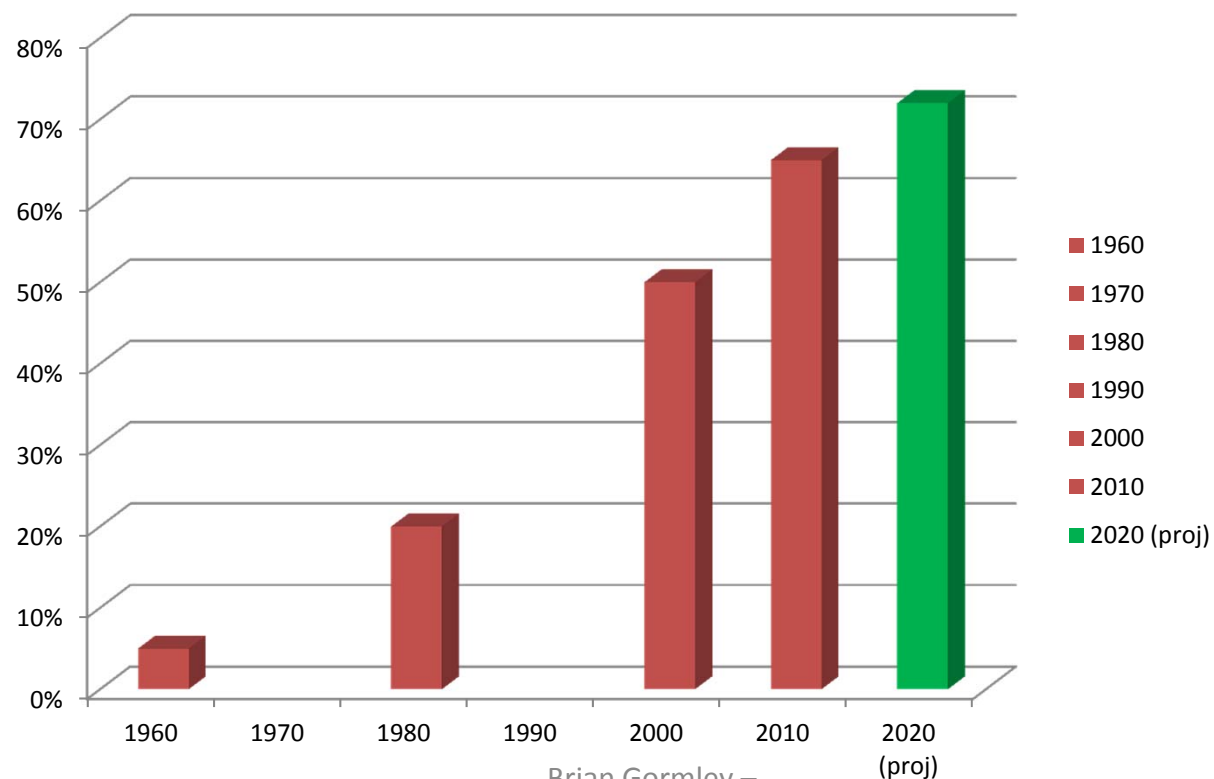


Brian Gormley –
Dublin Institute of Technology

Higher Education in Ireland

- Student numbers – growth

Percentage of school-leavers entering Higher Education

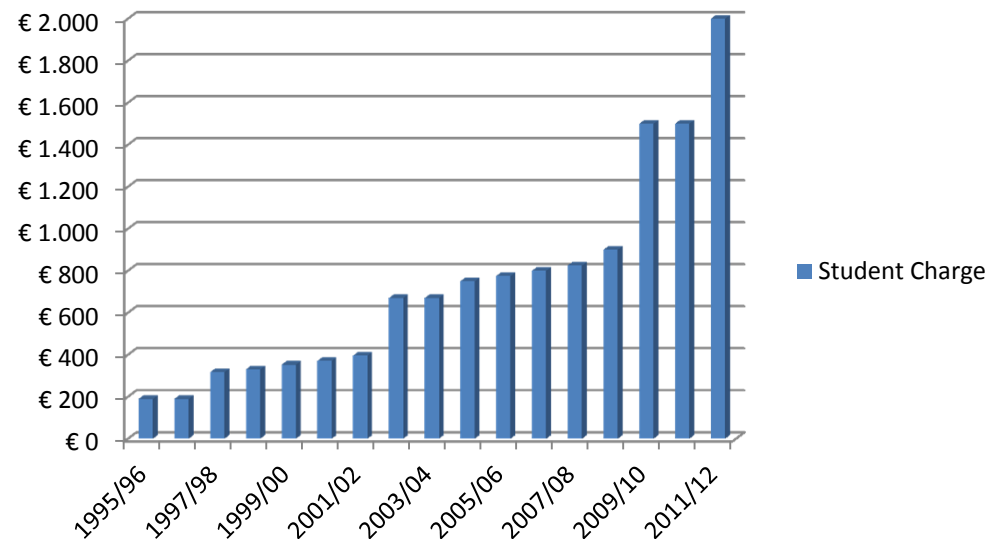


Brian Gormley –
Dublin Institute of Technology

Higher Education in Ireland

- Binary system – Institutes of Technology and Universities
- Tuition fees eliminated in 1997.
- Students pay student contribution, previously called Student Services Charge, to cover non-tuition costs.

Student Charge



Development of Student Affairs in Ireland

1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Chaplain •Catering •Student Bar •Students' Union •Clubs and Societies •Careers Service •Off-campus accommodation •Student Hardship Fund 	<p>plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Counselling •Creche / Childcare 	<p>plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Disability Service •Access (SEG) Service •On-campus Accommodation •International Student Support •Multi-faith support •Student Centre •Sports Facilities 	<p>plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Mature Student Support •Retention Service •Academic Support Centres (Maths / Writing) •Senior Student Affairs Officer •Peer Support •Volunteering •Service Learning

Structure for Student Affairs

“National Guidelines of Good Practice in the Organisation of Student Support Services”,
published by Irish Universities Quality Board in
April 2006

Senior Student Affairs Officers appointed in most
HEIs in the past decade.

Students' Unions are independent; all students are
automatically members; funded from Student
Charge; embedded in quality assurance

Funding for Student Affairs

Total Expenditure on Student Related Activities In All Irish Universities		
	Total	Per Student
	€	€
Student Services	23,122,890.00	372
Exams	7,229,880.00	116
Registration	6,620,670.00	107
Library / IS	47,413,800.00	763
Space Costs	16,781,310.00	270
Total	101,168,550	1,629

From: Review of Student Charge (2008)

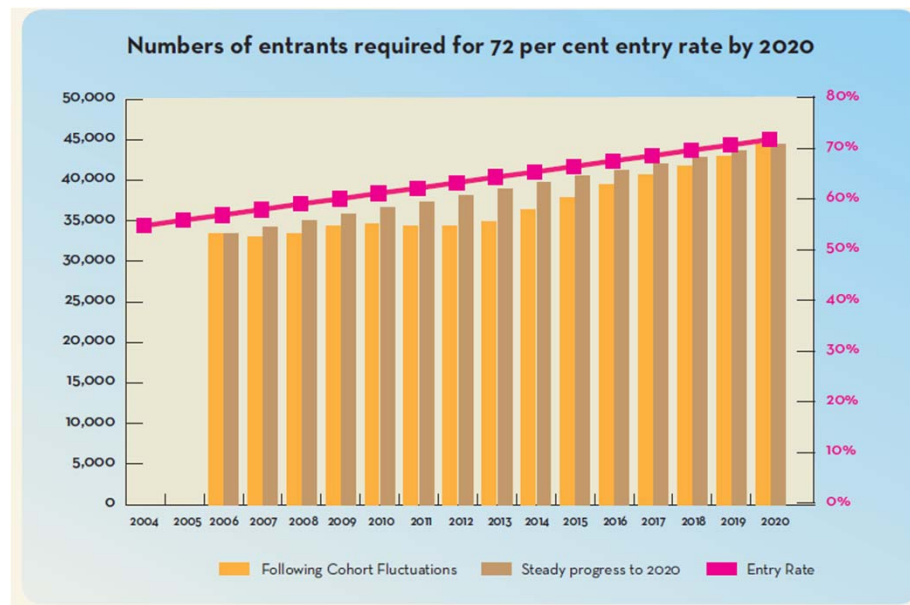
Funding for Student Affairs

Split of spend between Student Services

Accommodation / Financial Advice	9%
Counselling	9%
Chaplaincy	4%
Careers	12%
Access	8%
Disability	8%
Health Centre	9%
Mature Student	2%
Societies	2%
Peer Mentoring / Advising	5%
Sports	21%
Students Union	12%
<i>Total</i>	<i>100%</i>

Current Issues

- Budgets cut by 30%, further cuts expected.
- Increasingly diverse student population requiring additional supports



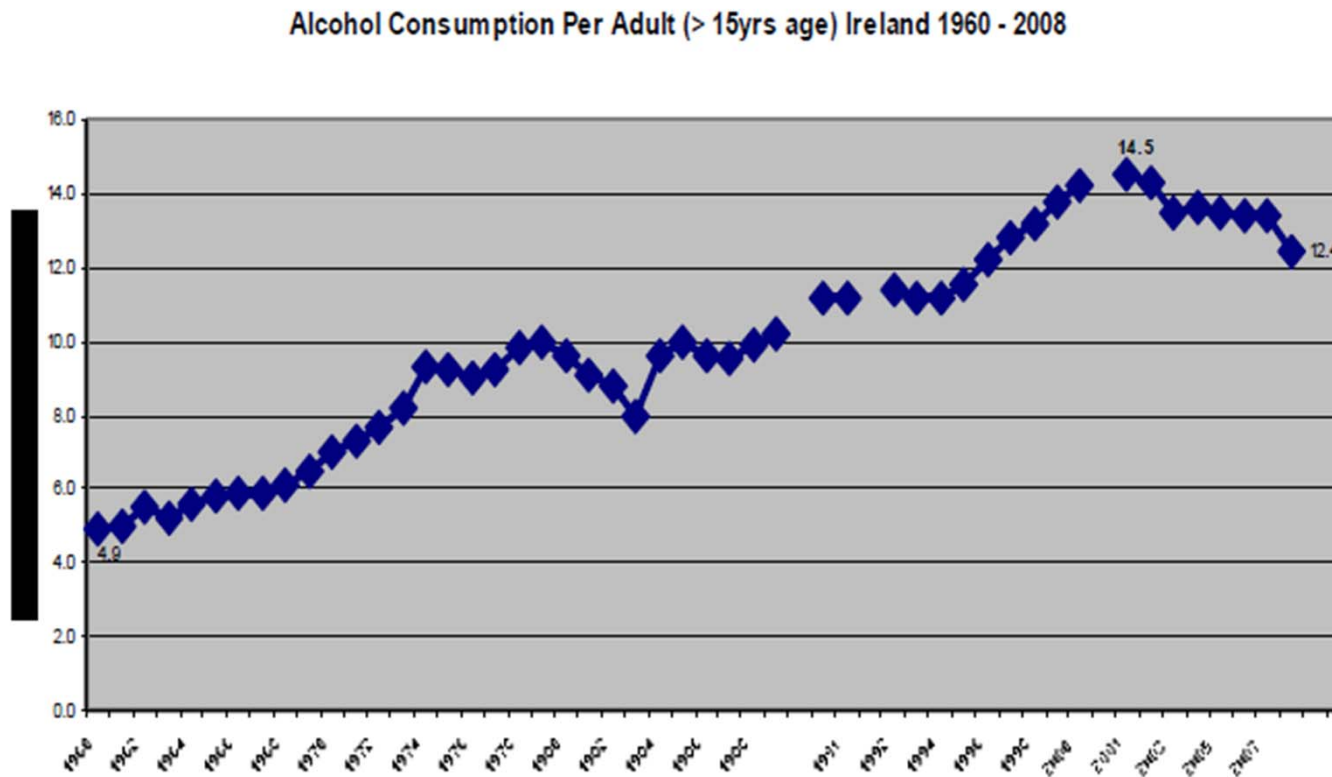
National Plan for Equity of Access: 2008-2013. HEA (2008)

Current Issues



Current Issues

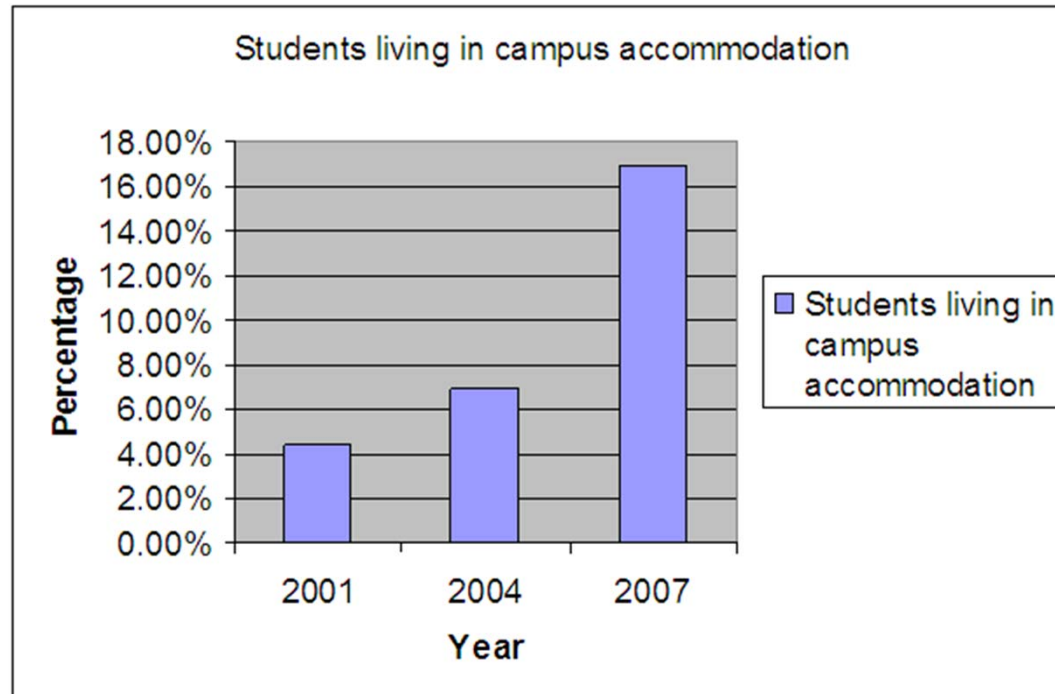
- Alcohol



From Byrne (2011)

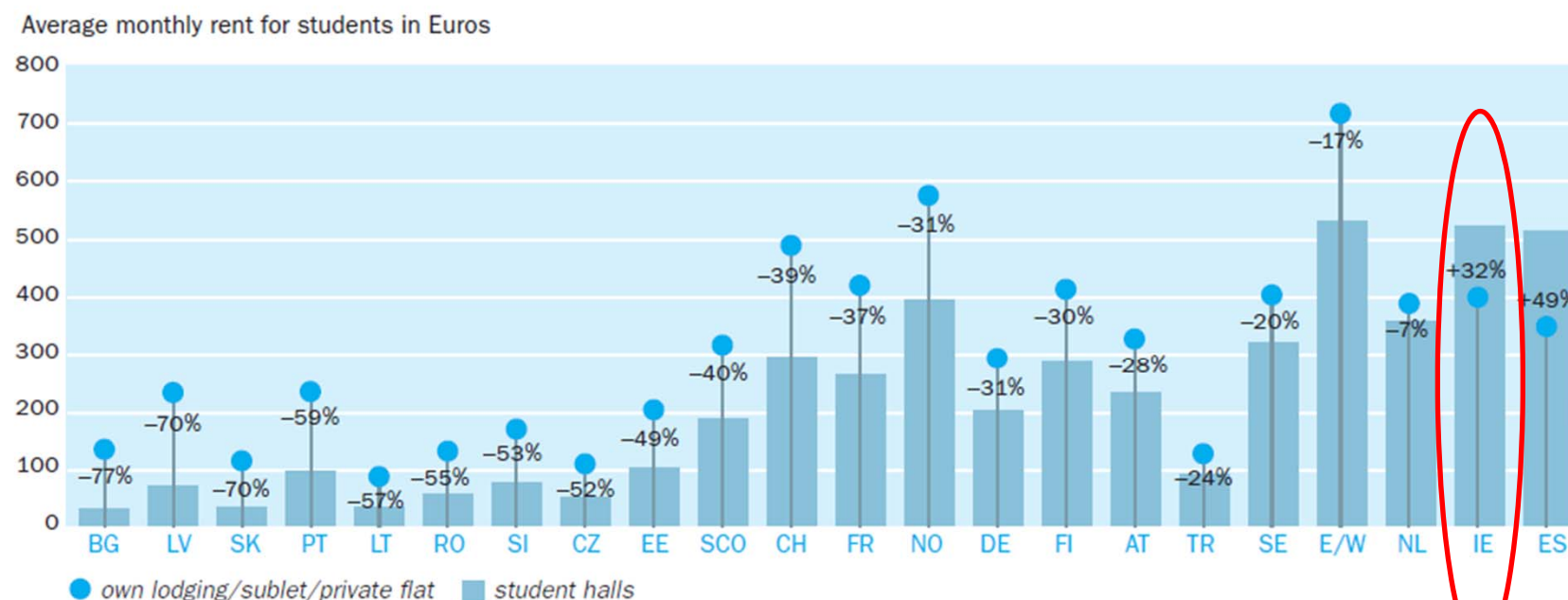
Current Issues

- Student Mental Health issues
- Student Accommodation



From Eurostudent Surveys 1,2 and 3

Cost of accommodation and price differences between own flats and halls of residence



Source: EUROSTUDENT III, Subtopic 25. No data IT.

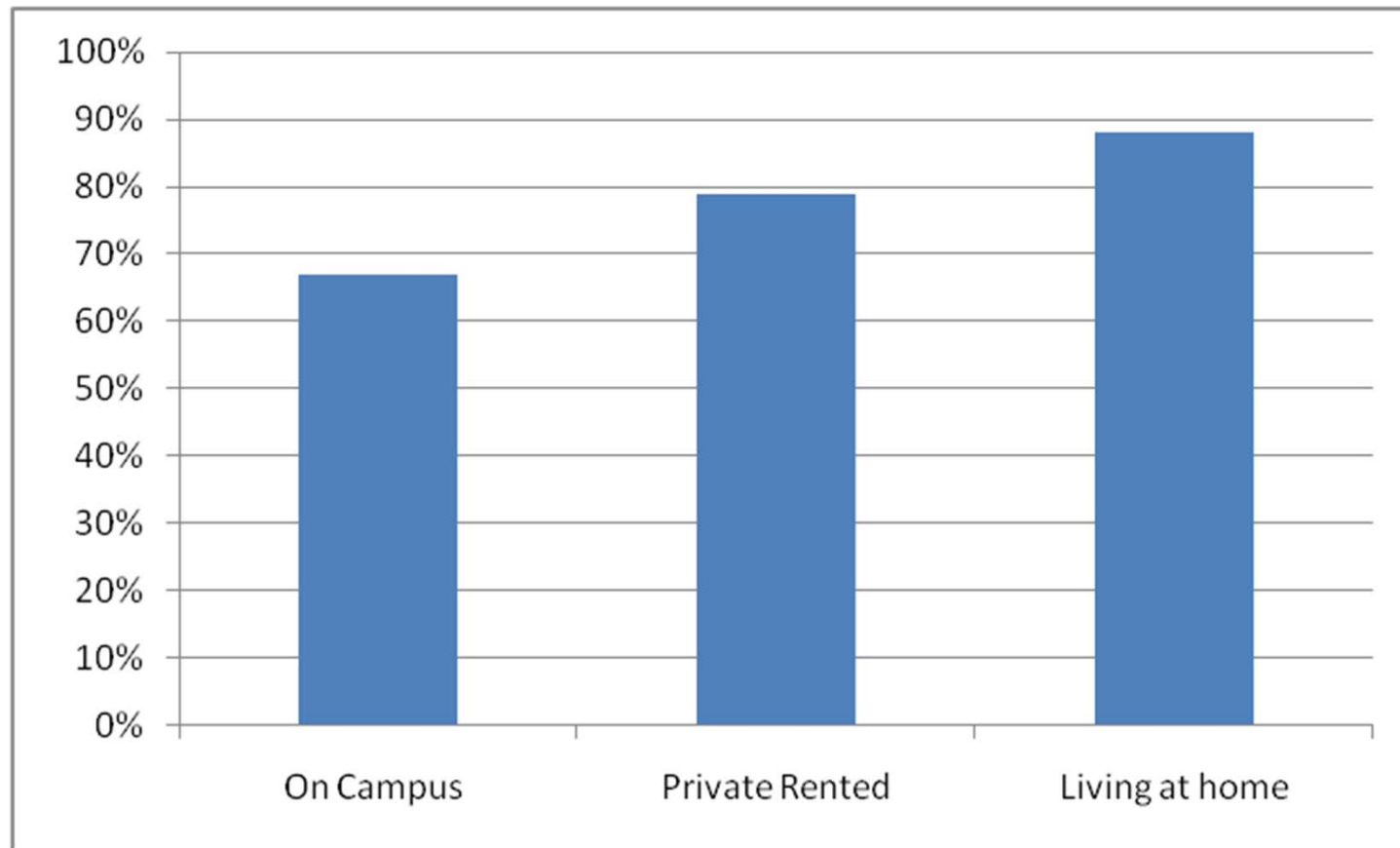
EUROSTUDENT Questions: 4.1 "Where do you live during study terms/semester?", 4.3 "Please try to calculate your average monthly expenses by type of expense"

Note: Percentages indicate the price difference between rent for halls of residence and rent for private flats, e.g. BG 77% less.

From: Social and economic conditions of student life in Europe: Synopsis of indicators. Orr (2008)

Student Satisfaction with Accommodation?

% Satisfied or Very Satisfied with Living Arrangements



From Eurostudent 3 (2008)

Future Trends

- Use of technology - social media; assistive technology; e-learning; mobile apps.
- Student Engagement – third pillar
 - Service Learning and Volunteering
- Professionalisation of Student Affairs

Confederation of Student Services in Ireland

- 400 members. All Higher Education Institutions represented.
- Professional development training.
- Biennial Conference and Summer Seminar.
- Operates on voluntary basis – no employees.
- Links with NASPA, and developing links with AMOSSHE and ANZAA

Concluding Comments

- Student Affairs must demonstrate how it contributes to learning outcomes, graduate outcomes and employability.
e.g. LEAD Module, DIT; Uaneen Module, DCU
- Increased need to share resources and collaborate with other HEIs.
- Increased need for European research on Student Affairs

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