

# the edit

Explore | Decide | Implement | Thrive



# Future Anxiety? Join A Society



Welcome to the tenth issue of *The Edit*!

It's now the time when all the first assessment deadlines are coming in thick and fast, and summer appears to be a distant memory. Don't despair, this magazine is not only designed to be flicked through over a cup of coffee, we also want to help fellow Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences students get the most out of your "university experience".

This issue's focus is how to make the most out of your subject, with special focus on the rewards of joining a society. As well as interviews with heads of clubs, we have tips on the best way to cheaply acquire those expensive textbooks, and a look at what the Learning Development Service has to offer.

*The Edit* gets you the first glimpse of the latest internship and graduate opportunities, tips and advice on how to get the most out of uni, and other 'fun' stuff to bulk up your CV.

So, take a seat, grab a hot drink and begin turning the pages to find even more...  
...but don't forget to relax a little, it is reading week!

*Leanne Thorpe & Grace Tower*

## READING WEEK – WHAT IS IT GOOD FOR?

For some, it's an opportunity to catch up on studies. For others, a time to chill and forget about looming deadlines.

Whether it's getting some reading done, or starting that essay (eek!), here are some DO'S and DON'TS to make sure you stay on task:

### DO:

- \* Find a **comfortable space** - distraction-free with natural light.
- \* Take **stationery** and snacks - not your phone, the ultimate demon.
- \* **Plan** well - realistic goals and flexibility will make you stress less.
- \* Take regular **breaks** - try looking up "The Pomodoro Technique."
- \* **Test** yourself - make sure it's not going in one ear and out of the other.
- \* **Treat** 'yo' self - after meeting goals, chocolate is acceptable and encouraged.

### DON'T:

- \* **Procrastinate** - you'll get nothing done, feel worthless and regret it...
- \* Have your **phone** on - it will become impossible to ignore. Airplane mode.
- \* Use **social media** - we both know that's a spiral into a dark pit of forever.
- \* Take **naps** - it's tempting in between study sessions, but also very risky!

Then finally, some READING WEEK ESSENTIALS:

- **Water** - hydration, hydration, hydration!
- **Coffee** - highly recommended for motivation.
- **Snacks** - an undoubtable and delicious essential.
- **Stationery** - you can never have enough highlighters.
- **Music** - check out the study playlists on Spotify.
- **Module** outlines - a good starting point!
- **Reading** material - it's kind of in the name.

Check out the blog for more tips on how to make your reading week productive.

*Amy Murray*

READING WEEK  
29<sup>th</sup> October - 2<sup>nd</sup> November



# GET BOOKED UP



Halfway through Semester One and still desperately printing from Queen's Online at 08:50 on a Monday morning? There's nothing worse than sleeping through a tutorial because you haven't done the reading, or worse, you haven't purchased the text yet.

Here are a few places you can find free, discounted and second-hand reading to ensure you're in the know, yet not in your overdraft:

## 1. Oxfam, Botanic Avenue.

This is my number one go to. Most of the books are under £2 and in good condition. The staff are helpful, and the shelves all labelled. There are even places to sit while you ponder the blurb. It is possible that one page equates to a bottle of water for an impoverished child. So, why not help yourself and other people in the process.

## 2. Blackwell's, 28 University Square.

On temporary move from the Student Union under renovation, this student book shop is a bit pricier, but has guaranteed availability on all set texts. The staff are clued up on module reading lists for every subject and will offer you discount bundles, so there's no need to spend more on texts sold separately.

## 3. No Alibis, Botanic Avenue.

This is a quirky little gem of a shop covers also offers undergraduate bundles. Not only that, it hosts book launches for The Tangerine (which we'll talk about later) and even staff in the uni. However, the ever-changing and witty sign outside will alone grab an avid reader's shirt by their collar and pull them through the door.

## 4. QCAT, Online Library Resource.

Students often forget to search on the university library's online database which covers thousands of E-Books and essays. If your budget is tight, here is the best place to find criticism on Kant's Critique of Pure Reason and Bowlby's Evolutionary Theory of Attachment: [www.qub.ac.uk/directories/InformationServices/TheLibrary](http://www.qub.ac.uk/directories/InformationServices/TheLibrary)

## 5. The McClay Library.

The brown, retro spaceship-like building beside Botanic Park is our biggest information source for miles. In there are several copies of nearly every text related to your course available for short or long loan. Online or at the desk, you can request books and receive a notification when one has been released or returned

*Grace Tower*

## Fancy a career in television?

If you've ever been interested in a career in the television industry, the Royal Television Society's event in November will help get you started.

RTS is a charity made up of student and young professional volunteers. It provides masterclasses and networking events for young people who want to learn more about the television industry and how to begin a career within this industry. Its Futures scheme has been running careers days in conjunction with Queen's as part of the Belfast Media Festival. Previous events have included a "Lightning Round" with industry experts and "Creative Clinic" with BBC Northern Ireland's lead talent manager.



in conjunction with BBC Digital Cities where professionals will be present, so make sure you come armed with any questions involving working in this exciting industry. Stacey Burns, Media student at Belfast Metropolitan College and Chairperson of the RTS Futures Committee, says, "RTS Futures has been an amazing way for me to network, attend events and make contacts that went on to give me paid work. I met my current boss by networking at an RTS event."

Now is your chance to get involved. The next RTS Futures event is "The Ultimate Panel Discussion," and is run in

The Film and Television Industry is currently thriving in Northern Ireland, with Game of Thrones having pinned us on the map. There is no better time to begin a media career, so why not come along and see what's there for you?

**"The Ultimate Panel Discussion" Tuesday 13th November, Student Guidance Centre, 2pm**

*Georgia Hewitt*

## Have YOU heard about the Spoken Word?

"I wandered lonely as a cloud//That floats on high o'er vales and hills..."  
Some might think Wordsworth profound, but he doesn't write about paying bills. To be fair to him, Wordsworth probably didn't have to pay any. But we do, and this article could be a career ticket into one of the UK's fastest-growing artforms.

For those of you who haven't heard, spoken poetry is a performance art which centres around word play and intonation. It's brutal, quick-witted, three-dimensional and is luring out a wave of poets who have been shut behind the flowery doors of poetry past.

The QUB English Society's Poetry and Pints night (beginning of every month in a Belfast pub) allows anyone to read their own or someone else's work. If you're afraid of reading in front of your peers, Purely Poetry Open Mic Night run by the Crescent Arts Centre is another evening of poetry with a chance to perform.

I know what your thoughts are by now, I've seen this Spoken Word stuff on YouTube; it's just a platform to scream extreme political opinions down the throat of anyone who'll listen. Poetry is not confined to why men should be sent back to Mars, or meat-eaters to hell, it's about making a point, and a good one. However, the key to Spoken Word poetry is that it's unpretentious, and the wording uncomplicated; some might call it "poetry for those who don't like poetry."

Earlier this year, UniSlam, a national university poetry competition, took place in Leicester. Teams of young performers from throughout the UK take a set of poems, their ammunition, to the stage and in three minutes, must fire each one at the audience in several rounds. UniSlam is something we are yet to get involved in as a University, so if you've got a voice and something to say, why not set up a Spoken Word society?

While the immediate focus here might seem to be English and Drama students, these events are creative opportunities to develop your performance skills, no matter what your degree. No doubt is this useful for the confidence in the courtroom, on stage or during a presentation and it's something different for your CV. Most of all, spoken word isn't about knowing how to write a sonnet, it's about projecting a message, and we all have one of those. The Spoken Word gun has fired. Get involved.

See QUB English Society's Facebook for the next Poetry and Pints, and check out [uni-slam.com](http://uni-slam.com) for more information.

Grace Tower



## The Literific in

On a Thursday evening, I went down to the Lanyon Building to watch a student debate titled "This House Would Rather Have Fun than get a 2:1". It was packed. People were standing and sitting on the floor to get in on the action. It was an enjoyable evening, with a lot of room for joking and banter, but it also occurred to me that societies like this give students real benefits during and after their time at university.

For those of you who have never been to a debate, the speakers on each side (the Proposition and Opposition), take it in turns to defend their case, and then take questions from the audience. At the end, the audience then votes for which side was best argued.

Here's what I learnt watching the debate:

- \* **Confidence.** To project your views, you need to be able to speak to the room with sureness



The speaking teams

# at Queen's

## Step Inside the Courtroom to meet the Law Soc



Giving an insight into what it's like being involved in a society, we have talked to Rory Morris, Secretary of the Law Society. It has won the title of Society of the Year in the QUB Students' Union awards for two consecutive years. Having a role of responsibility on the committee of a society is a fantastic opportunity to develop skills that will be invaluable in your future career.

### What does the Law Society do?

We are open to both Law and non-Law students. Our aim is to provide a social network for our members by running events which allow them the chance to both make friends on their course and to network with professionals. For example, the 'Freshers' Mixer,' which we run at the start of each year, was sponsored by Herbert Smith Freehills. Our members could chat to solicitors in a relaxed environment. The Law Society also aims to be a source of academic guidance. For example, next month a 'referencing workshop' will allow members to improve their coursework skills.

We also regularly hold 'moots' which are simulations of an appellate court case. We also run events purely for fun to let our members take their minds off their studies, such as the much-anticipated annual Law Ball.

## the Spotlight

- \* **Fast thinking.** The speakers must think on their feet, to answer questions and form rebuttals.
- \* **Teamwork.** Teams may have never met before, so constructing arguments requires co-operation.
- \* **Knowledge.** All students can broaden their knowledge; each argument brings a new perspective.
- \* **Equality.** Students must respond to controversial comments and every voice is equal and heard.

These skills will not only help with the experiences you will have during your course but are also used in the world of work. From this it is easy to see how other societies would help with building these areas, and further expand your skill set. So why not try something fun when you have an evening free, and add it to your CV at the same time? I joined The Literific that night, so I'll see you there!

*Leanne Thorpe*

"The best way to diversify yourself in university"  
-Hugh Dobbin, President of The Literific

"It's taught me new skills and improves public speaking"  
-Jake Kieran, Technology Officer

### How would you explain your role as Secretary of the Law society?

I deal with inquiries put forward to the committee, send out the Society newsletter (The Circular), coordinate freshers' sign up and make sure events run smoothly by liaising with other committee members and occasionally staff and academics. To gain my place in the society I took part in "Hustings," which was both a nerve-racking and exciting opportunity and a chance to test out my public speaking skills, which I haven't previously had to do. We were also interviewed by a solicitor from a London law firm.

### Is it hard to balance your role alongside your studies?

It can be difficult, but that's part of the challenge. It is worth the extra responsibility as it is an opportunity to gain an edge in the competitive job market. It is also beneficial for my personal development as I am learning how to juggle a larger, more varied workload.

### Why get involved with the Law Society?

The events we run offer a chance to see what working in the legal sector is like and whether this field of work is for you. This is invaluable before committing yourself to a career. Our external connections also provide our members with the potential to make some contacts. Law is a competitive field of work to get into, so joining or running a society will benefit you. At the Law Society, you can gain advice about the different routes into legal jobs and how to apply for them.

Keep up to date with the QUBLaw's upcoming events by following their social media pages.

*Georgia Hewitt*

Don't miss 'This House Believes Remains Have No Rights' on this Thursday 1st November, and 'This House Believes Sex Positivity Has Gone Too Far' next Thursday 8th November!



# LEARNING DEVELOPMENT SERVICE

Whether you're in your first year or third year, uni work can feel daunting, not helped by the fact all your deadlines seem to come at the same time! For many, this time of year can feel overwhelming and if you don't know where to turn for help, it's all too easy to struggle on without getting the support you need (and deserve!). There are loads of ways to get support at Queen's and here's a handy guide to them all!

So, what is the Learning Development Service? Well, they're services and resources provided by the Student Guidance Centre at Queen's and they cover a broad range of areas students might be looking to improve on...



A brilliant example is the one-to-one sessions they provide. These offer you a superb opportunity to have your work looked over before you submit it as a final draft or get tips on how to improve a previous essay to avoid making the same mistakes in the future.

The workshops they offer are ideal for developing vital academic skills and study techniques, such as referencing, critical analysis or effective reading and note taking. Don't think you have to be in first year to access these either, there are even workshops to help students prepare for the jump to second or third year study. But don't delay- booking is open on the website now and spaces fill up!

The Learning Development Service also organises the peer mentoring program at Queen's. Peer mentors provide first hand insight into the subject you're studying as they have already done it themselves! Peer mentors are a great way to get extra support and information on a course in a laid back and friendly environment.

The easiest way to access these resources is through the Queen's Student Guidance Centre website. The website provides all the links you'll need to navigate all the services they provide. If it's a face to face appointment, then book online through MyFuture (all you need is your QOL login to gain access) and then head on down to the Student Guidance Centre, next to Ulster Bank.

*Phoebe Craddock-Bligh*

## INNOVATION BOOTCAMP

...a pioneering new programme designed by the Student Guidance Centre team to work on real-life business problems alongside representatives from local companies. This is an incredible opportunity to boost your CV while getting hands-on work experience and grow your professional network.

This action-packed 'Bootcamp' will include an introduction to the programme; meeting with the representative from the company of the local business; you will then work in your project teams to understand the business problem you have been designated and identify solutions. You will also get the opportunity to present your solutions at the company premises.

Applications will close on Friday 16th November. You can apply through MyFuture and successful candidates will be informed by Friday 23rd November. Get involved!

*Emily Dickinson*

# G o i n g   G l o b a l

Although it may feel like the beginning of the Semester, now is the time to start thinking about the programmes that Queen's offers for you to study and work abroad. It is the perfect opportunity to travel and visit new and exciting places while still at university. There is the chance to meet new people and live away from home, even if it is only for a few months!

## Erasmus Study Programme

Erasmus is the perfect way to get a taste of living in a foreign country whilst also only being a short plane flight away. It can range from 3-12 months away, usually to another European country and the work you do away contributes to your degree. Depending on your subject area, you can do it during second year or third year.



To apply, head over to the Queen's website and search for the Erasmus Programme, from here you can see the different places you can go to. There will be clear instructions on the website on what to do next and before you know it you will be living your best life as a student studying in Paris or Amsterdam!

## Study USA

Study USA is a programme for those planning on getting the full American experience at an American college. It provides students with a whole year studying business and management at one of many colleges across America. It is a great opportunity to meet new people and have fun whilst developing valuable business skills.



It is open to all students in any field of study and usually takes place the year before final year. Applications close **14<sup>th</sup> January 2019**.

## Washington Ireland Programme

Fancy having a stand out CV after you graduate? The Washington Ireland programme is the one for you. It is a fantastic opportunity to develop your leadership skills, personal development and community service. Not only do these skills carry you through life, but you will also get to spend 8 weeks in Washington DC.



All the information to apply is on the Washington Ireland website and the closing date is **1st of December**, so now is the time to perfect that application!

*Yasmin Parahoo*

Journalism is a popular career aspiration for AHSS students. However, many of you may find it difficult to make contacts, hone your writing style and get pieces published. But, if you keep digging, you'll find a cornucopia of writing opportunities here in Belfast. Here are six you might like to try:



**The Gown** is the longest-running student publication in the UK, and an independent newspaper here at Queen's. The Editor and her team are continually recruiting for new contributors. No experience is required, and help will be given improving your article and writing style.



All Blog Posts

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Student profiles Be a student

**Student Blogging** is the perfect opportunity if it's paid writing you're after. Queen's Blogging are looking for students enthusiastic about their degree choice, loving life in Belfast, and enjoying the benefits of joining new societies to promote the university to the world via their blog page. Paying £7.50 an hour for blog posts which will be published to a global audience, contact [digital@qub.ac.uk](mailto:digital@qub.ac.uk) for more details on how to start submitting your own.



**Queen's Radio Music Blog**, is another ideal place to start writing. For those of you adept at writing an album or gig review or perhaps know an emerging band you could promote, this is your chance. And you never know, writing a review of your favourite new music video of the week could lead to the devising of your own two-hour show for Queen's Radio!



**Queen's Writer's Society**, host social events and writing workshops at which authors can read each other's work and help to improve their writing together month by month. This is mainly for student writers who wish to explore their talents writing poetry and prose. The support network you will build, and feedback you will receive is invaluable, so make sure to check their Facebook page.



**The Tangerine**, a Belfast-based magazine of new-writing published three times a year is eager to give emerging writers the chance to have their work published. It includes features, reportage, commentary, fiction, poetry, illustration and photography. Submission windows are strict, and can be found displayed on their website, but multiple pieces are welcome.



MEDIA Programme

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MEDIA PROGRAMME

MEDIA EMPLOYABILITY DEVELOPMENT IN ACTION

**Queen's MEDIA Programme 2019** will recruit twelve new editors in March from a competitive pool to make the next four issues of this magazine you're holding. So, until then, get scribbling, build-up your portfolio, and watch out on MyFuture for the information session on applications for The Edit 2019!

*Michael McConway*

**Issue 10 Editors**  
Georgia Hewitt, Grace Tower and  
Leanne Thorpe

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