

Tuesday, 1 September 2009

Re: Proposed Reintroduction of Higher Education Fees

Madam,

We have a universally acknowledged need to produce more graduates. So our Minister for Education proposes a financial disincentive of €5,000 plus per annum for those wishing to attend 3rd level.

After decades of emigration we had just managed to stem this wasteful exodus from our nation. Now our Minister for Education proposes to provide a huge financial incentive for graduates to leave our country and not return, ie loan repayments.

We impose financial charges (for example for refuse collection, water supply, etc) as an instrument to discourage usage. Yet we are expected to suspend our disbelief when the Minister for Education says that re-imposing fees will not discourage participation in Higher Education.

Joined up thinking?

Yours etc,

Mike Jennings
General Secretary
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