



Union of Brunel Students

2010-2011 Policy & Motions

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MOTION

Title: Motion Against Cuts to Higher Education Funding

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: 01

From: Sam Middlewood, Vice-President Academic Representation

Date: Thursday 28 October 2010

This Union Notes:

1. That the Browne Review and the Comprehensive Spending Review ('the reviews') were published by the Coalition Government in October 2010, and proposed significant cuts to higher education funding, which may take effect as soon as 2011.
2. That both reviews have caused controversy amongst students and staff in higher and further education at a national level, and amongst the public at large.
3. That the National Union of Students (NUS) and University College Union (UCU) oppose the cuts, and have provided alternative proposals for higher education funding.
4. That the NUS and UCU are organising a national demonstration against the cuts to higher education funding on Wednesday 10th of November 2010.

This Union Believes:

1. That the measures proposed in the reviews would be detrimental to the higher education sector, and therefore would impact negatively on current and potential Brunel Students.
2. That students and staff in higher and further education, and the public at large should be concerned by the impact of the measures proposed in the reviews.
3. That alternative proposals to those in the reviews should be considered.
4. That the best initial action for students who oppose the reviews is to attend the national demonstration, especially in light of the imminence of the cuts to higher education.

This Union Resolves:

1. To oppose the cuts to higher education funding proposed in the reviews.
2. To support students and staff in higher and further education who oppose the cuts.
3. To publicly support consideration of alternative proposals for higher education funding.
4. To publicly support the national demonstration against cuts and to organise attendance of Brunel students and staff.

This Union Mandates:

1. The Student Officers and Student Chairs to actively oppose the cuts by lobbying MPs, creating and promoting a petition, and educating students of the potential effects.
2. The President to work alongside the Brunel UCU campus representative in opposing higher education cuts, and facilitate co-ordination between Brunel students and staff who oppose the cuts.
3. The Student Officers to provide public information on alternative proposals for higher education funding.
4. The Student Officers and Student Chairs to organise promotion of and travel to the national demonstration.
5. The Vice-President Student Activities, with the utmost urgency, to attempt to rearrange sports fixtures that clash with the national demonstration.

Proposed by: Sam Middlewood

Seconded by: Avina Patel

Signature:

Signature:

MOTION

Title: Motion to Establish a No Platform Policy Working Party

To: Union Meeting

Meeting: 01

From: Priya Pallan, President; Sam Middlewood, Vice-President Academic Representation.

Date: Thursday 11 November 2010

This Union Notes:

1. That a No Platform Policy was presented to the previous Union Meeting on Tuesday 25 May 2010.
2. That, at that meeting and following debate and discussion, it was agreed to refer the Motion to Student Assembly for further consideration.
3. That the last meeting of Student Assembly on Thursday 28 October 2010 actioned Cabinet to propose a Working Party to develop a new policy accommodating the various concerns expressed at the previous Union Meeting.

This Union Believes:

1. That engagement with the proposed policy demonstrated by the attendees at the previous Union Meeting was productive and admirable.
2. That any future No Platform Policy should take into account the opinions of all members who wish to contribute to its creation.

This Union Resolves:

1. To establish a Working Party to consult on and, as appropriate, draw up a new No Platform Policy to be presented, at the latest, to the next Union Meeting on Thursday 26 May 2011.
2. To constitute the Working Party from the President, the Vice-President Academic Representation, and up to four School or Community Members of Student Assembly.

This Union Mandates:

1. The President and Vice-President Academic Representation to ensure that the effective facilitation of the Working Group;
 2. The Working Group to run a consultation with interested students, including and especially those in attendance at the previous Union Meeting, before drawing up a new No Platform Policy.
-

Proposed by: Priya Pallan

Seconded by: Sam Middlewood

Signature:



Signature:



MOTION

Title: Motion to Lobby Brunel University on Wind, Solar Power Generation and Installation of Water Fountains on Campus

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: 03

From: Will Armstrong, Environmental Strategy Group Chair, and Priya Pallan, UBS President

Date: Thursday 2nd December 2010

This Union Notes:

1. The proposal of lobbying Brunel University to install Wind and Solar Power Generation, as well as installing Water Fountains around campus.

This Union Believes:

1. That if wind and solar power generation were installed on campus, this would reduce Brunel's environmental impact and display Brunel's commitment to a sustainable future prominently.
2. That if water fountains were to be installed throughout Brunel, this would reduce the amount of bottled water sold and plastic used, allowing students and staff to get into the habit of refilling bottles and take this mentality away with them after they leave Brunel.
3. That lobbying the university on these issues will help ensure the acquisition of the Green Impact Students Union Bronze award.

This Union Resolves:

1. That this motion be taken to the university Environmental Strategy Group.
2. To support the lobbying campaign to install wind and solar power generation as well as installation of water fountains around campus.

This Union Mandates:

1. The Environmental Strategy Chair to propose this motion to the next university Environmental Strategy Group Meeting.

Proposed by: Will Armstrong

Signature:



Seconded by: Priya Pallan

Signature:



MOTION

Title: Motion to Support the Jock Mckeon Prize for Inspirational Leadership Prize

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: 04

From: Priya Pallan, President; Avina Patel, Vice-President Community Welfare

Date: Thursday 13 January 2011

This Union Notes

1. Former Students' Union President Mark 'Jock' McKeon sadly passed away suddenly in April 2010.
2. Jock was first elected to the SU Executive in 1992 when the Union faced a difficult time in attempting to manage a loss of more than £30,000 from the previous year. He served first as an Executive Officer and later as President in 1994.
3. Jock's presidency oversaw a number of issues ranging from the creation of a no-smoking section in the bar, rallying students to march against a proposal to cut in maintenance grants. He also oversaw the merger of the University and the West London Institute, when the Union's name changed from Brunel University Students' Union to the Union of Brunel Students and the current logo was first introduced.
4. Jock's campaigning covered every aspect of student life; he fought to protect the rights of final year students to live on campus when this was threatened by an attempt by the University to house all international students and first years instead, and he also created the RAG week. He was also passionate about the need for students to represent themselves in local community issues such as local elections for the benefit of both themselves and the University.
5. Shortly after his year as President of the Student's Union, Jock emigrated to Australia. He renewed his interest in the Red Cross and this ultimately led him to join the World Bank. Following the 2004 Tsunami, he took a posting out in Banda Aceh to ensure that worldwide donations to support the rebuilding of the region were appropriately channelled. Jock was living and working in Jakarta, Indonesia at the time of his death and the shock of this news was widespread. His partner, Shigeki held memorials in several countries, including Australia, Singapore, Portugal, the UK and finally in Indonesia, at Banda Aceh itself. A memorial was held at Brunel in August, attended by family friends, fellow students and staff, as well as people who had known him in Australia and in London. Shigeki described Jock as a man who was "a passionate advocate for social justice and equality."
6. The University has set up a University financial prize in honour of his memory – the Jock McKeon Prize for Inspirational Leadership (from herein known as the Prize) will be open to all graduating students.

This Union Believes

1. In light of Jock's dedication to UBS and the positive work he has carried out after his time at Brunel, the Prize is a fitting recognition and tribute to his legacy.
2. The Prize will recognise and celebrate the leadership of current Brunel Students.

This Union Resolves

1. To endorse the Jock Mckeon Prize for Inspirational Leadership.
2. To support and work with the University in developing criteria for the Award.
3. To advertise and promote the process by which a student can be nominated for the Prize prior to graduation.

This Union Mandates

1. The President to work with the Administrative Officer - Quality and Standards to develop clear criteria for the Prize.
2. A Student Officer to sit on the Jock Mckeon Prize for Inspirational Leadership Panel, when considering nominations for the Prize.
3. The President to report back to the May Union meeting on the progress of the Prize and the number of students nominated.

Proposed by: Priya Pallan

Signature:



Seconded by: Avina Patel

Signature:



MOTION

Title: Motion to Continue Campaigning on the Issue of University Fees and Funding

To: Student Assembly

From: Priya Pallan, President; Sam Middlewood, Vice-President Academic Representation

Date: Thursday 13 January 2011

This Union Notes:

1. That the Browne Review and the Comprehensive Spending Review ('the reviews') were published by the Coalition Government in October 2010, and proposed significant cuts to higher education funding.
2. That both reviews have caused much controversy amongst students and staff in higher and further education at a national level, and amongst the public at large.
3. That the National Union of Students (NUS) and University College Union (UCU) oppose the cuts, and have provided alternative proposals for higher education funding.
4. That on Wednesday 10th of November 2010 over 400 Brunel students and staff peacefully protested at the 52,000+ national demonstration against the cuts to higher education funding.
5. That no Brunel students were involved in violent or destructive behaviour during the series of marches involved in this campaign.
6. That UBS launched a lobbying campaign empowering student to engage with the political process and contact their local MPs.
7. That UBS campaigned in a variety of different peaceful ways to galvanise the student body, including a talk-in, sit-in, contacting MPs and Lords, promotional campaigns in the Atrium, Academy events, lecture talks and petitions.
8. That on Wednesday 9th of December 2010 MPs voted on and passed the Coalition Government's proposal to raise the cap on tuition fees from £3,000 to £9,000 per year.

This Union Believes:

1. That the decision to raise tuition fees alongside the significant cuts to higher education is detrimental to the higher education sector, and therefore will impact negatively on current and potential Brunel students.
2. That there are still many unanswered questions regarding the implementation of the new fee scheme and funding cuts that have not yet been addressed by the Coalition Government.
3. That the deficit in University funding next year created by the gap between the funding cuts (2011) and the income from higher tuition fees (2012), will detrimentally effect the student experience at Brunel University.
4. That everyone has a right to peacefully protest.
5. That reduced higher education funding is likely to result in reduced funding for UBS from Brunel University.

This Union Resolves:

1. To continue to work with the National Union of Students to ensure strict criteria is put in place to improve access to and retention rates at universities.
2. To support students and staff in higher and further education who oppose the cuts and increase in tuition fees.
3. To publicly support national demonstrations endorsed by the NUS and to promote any peaceful activities related to this campaign via our website.

This Union Mandates:

1. The Student Officers to work with and lobby the University to ensure that students are not left without protection and safeguards in the new environment.
2. To continue to engage with National Union of Students in campaigning on this issue.
3. The Student Officers to continue to publicise this issue and educate Brunel students about it.
4. The Student Officers to research alternative means to funding higher education
5. Cabinet to research additional sources of funding for UBS.

Proposed by: Priya Pallan

Seconded by: Sam Middlewood

Signature:



Signature:



MOTION

Title: Motion to Amend Bye-Law H (Media Association Committee)

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: 05

From: Tom Scott, Media Association Chair

Date: Thursday 10th February 2011

This Union Notes

1. That the current outline of the Media Association Committee, as outlined in Bye Law H, is not suitable for the current state of the Student Media Department.
2. That no clear roles for the radio station and student newspaper are defined in the constitution.

This Union Believes

1. The complexity of the current media association committee in Bye Law H, does not benefit the student media department and fails to reflect the current operational organisation.

This Union Resolves

1. To amend Bye Law H as outlined in the attached paper.

This Union Mandates

1. Cabinet to ensure that the amended Bye-Law H is integrated into the bye-laws, and that the amended documents are made available publicly.

Proposed by:

Tom Scott

Seconded by:

Chris Folkard

3. Media Association Committee

Frequency

3.1 The Media Association Committee shall meet whenever necessary, but no less than once a month, within the academic year, at a time which is convenient for all Committee members.

3.2 The Media Association shall hold a forum at least once every month within the academic year.

Membership

3.3 The Media Association shall consist of Full Members of the Union who at any given time within the academic year sign up explicitly to the Media Association.

3.4 Membership to the Media Association is free.

3.5 The Media Association Committee shall be elected from amongst the Media Association Membership [~~delete: at the beginning of the academic year~~] [insert: during the last month of the academic year, in preparation for the forthcoming academic year]

3.6 The Chair of Media Association shall be elected in accordance with Bye-Law B within the Spring Elections and shall act as the Media Association representative to Student Assembly.

3.7 The Membership of the Committee shall be as follows:

- i. The Chair of Media Association;
- ii. [~~delete: The Vice-President Student Activities~~] [insert: The President];
- iii. Up to 6 students elected from the Media Association Membership [insert: , including the elected editor of the student newspaper and the elected station manager of the radio station]. [insert: iv. Of these elected positions, 3 must represent the student newspaper and 3 must represent the radio station]

3.8 If the quota of 6 student committee members is not reached, all positions not filled will be elected at the subsequent Media Association Forum.

[insert: 3.9 The elected Media Association Chair shall automatically hold the position of either the editor of the student newspaper or the station manager of the radio station, with an election being held within the Media Association for the other position at the end of the academic year, in preparation for the forthcoming year.]

[insert 3.10 All positions held by the student newspaper and the radio station executive teams respectively are to be appointed, and not elected, by the Media Association Committee at the end of the academic year, in preparation for the forthcoming year.]

Responsibilities

3.[9][11] The aim of the Media Association Committee is to promote and extend involvement in the Union's Media activities; [~~delete: Le Nurb and University Radio Brunel~~], [insert: the student

newspaper and the radio station] throughout the Membership.

3.1[0][2] The Media Association Committee shall act as the principle representative body for all members of the Media Association.

[insert: 3.13 The Media Association Committee shall act as the principle oversight body for all Media Association activities and delegate this responsibility to the appropriate executive team, reserving the right to recall these responsibilities at its discretion.]

3.1[1][4] The Media Association Committee shall ensure that all activities of the Media Association adhere to the budget set for them in Union Meetings. All budgetary requests must be ratified by the [delete: Vice-President Student Activities] [insert: President]

3.1[3][5] [delete: The Media Association Committee shall be responsible for assembling the content and drawing up each edition of Le Nurb.] Each edition of [delete: Le Nurb] [insert: the student newspaper] must be passed by the Media Association Chair and a final proofread conducted by the [delete: Vice-President Student Activities.] [insert: President]

3.1[4][6] [delete: The Media Association Committee shall be responsible for assembling content and programmes for University Radio Brunel.] All programmes [insert: for the radio station] must be passed by the Media Association Chair.

AMENDMENT TO MOTION

Title: Motion to Amend Bye-Law H (Media Association Committee)

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: 05

From: Peter Smallwood (Assembly Member) and Ben Vallely (Assembly Member)

Date: Thursday 10th February 2011

To Insert –

Responsibilities

3:17 – Content from the Newspaper or Radio Station may only be removed where in the opinion of the Media Committee (as advised by the Media Chair and President) the contents breaks the guidelines of the Press Complaints Commission and OFCOM.

3:18 – UBS advocates the freedom of the press in all cases.

Proposed – Peter Smallwood

Seconded – Ben Vallely

MOTION

Title: Motion to Commend Community Assembly Member Keith Fung

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: 05

From: Priya Pallan, President and Joel Brasher-Jones, Vice-President Academic Representation

Date: Thursday 10 February 2011

This Union Notes

- The hard work committed to laying the foundations for the establishment of Brunel AIESEC by Community Assembly Member Keith Fung;
- The difficulty and significant delays faced in those efforts, in particular in relation to the insurance liability of Brunel AIESEC;
- The continued engagement with the Union by Community Assembly Member Keith Fung despite Brunel AIESEC ultimately not being established.

This Union Believes

- That the time and energy committed by Community Assembly Member Keith Fung to attempting to establish Brunel AIESEC was admirable.

This Union Resolves

- To commend Community Assembly Member Keith Fung for his work on attempting to establish Brunel AIESEC, and his continued engagement with the Union despite the difficulty faced.

This Union Mandates

- The Student Officer team to support further steps to establish Brunel AIESEC, whilst explicitly ensuring that, due to its complicated insurance liability issues, it does not become a Society of the Union of Brunel Students.
-

Proposed by: Priya Pallan

Seconded by: Joel Brasher-Jones

Signature:

Signature:

MOTION

Title: Motion to lobby Brunel University for the establishment of a co operative retail outlet

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: 04

From: Hadrian Tulk

Date: 10/02/2011

This Union Notes

1. The proposal of lobbying Brunel University to consider the establishment of a cooperative retail outlet as part of Brunel University's five year development plan.

This Union Believes

1. That if a Co-operative outlet were to be instated, fair trade sponsorship and goods will be permanently based at this university in an outlet with a dedicated fair-trade ethos, thereby providing consistent support to third world countries and emerging trade organizations in those countries.

2. That the presence of an outlet would enhance Brunel's University status, its students experience and allow Brunel University to become a fully-fledged fair-trade campus. This Union also believes that such an outlet would allow our students to actively contribute to the fight against global poverty whilst meeting their own everyday needs.

This Union Resolves

1. That this motion be taken to the Brunel University Fair-trade steering group.
2. To support the lobbying campaign to instate a cooperative retail outlet at Brunel University.

This Union Mandates

1. The UBS members of Brunel University Fair-trade steering group to propose this motion at the next Brunel University Fair-trade steering group meeting.

Proposed by: Hadrian Tulk

Seconded by: Sam Middlewood

MOTION

Title: Motion to support campaign against the trading of tar sand oil with Europe.

To: Student Assembly

Meeting: 05

From: Will Armstrong, Environmental Strategy Group Chair

Date: Thursday 17th February 2011

This Union Notes:

1. That oil is being extracted from Canadian tar sands
2. That Canadian oil companies want to get the EU to vote to accept a treaty on the 16th March, by which tar sands oil will be imported into the EU
3. That tar sands uses huge quantities of fresh water and energy and natural resources to separate particles into usable oil only making it profitable once oil prices are this high
4. That in Canada an area the size of the UK has already been ruined due to extraction

This Union Believes:

1. That using huge quantities of fresh water and energy and natural resources make tar sands usable as oil is not acceptable
2. That destruction of natural wilderness, water supplies, right of the indigenous people is not acceptable
3. That the more people, universities and institutions get involved, the better chance that we can get Members of European Parliament (MEP) to say no to the vote

This Union Resolves:

1. To lobby Brunel University and our MEP representative to fully support the campaign against the vote to trade Canadian tar sands oil with the EU on the 16th March 2011.
2. That regardless of the outcome of the vote, the students union will not directly trade with companies involved in the use of Canadian tar sands oil.
3. To propose the university sign an agreement not to directly trade with any companies involved in the use of Canadian tar sands oil.
4. To launch a campaign to raise awareness and gain support against the March 16th vote.

This Union Mandates:

1. The president to propose the unions support against the vote to our local MP and MEP representative.
2. Union managers to include an agreement in all union policy to not directly trade with involved companies.
3. The environmental chair to propose to the university that they include an agreement in all policy to not directly trade with involved companies.

The environmental chair along with relevant societies and interested parties to run a campaign against Canadian tar sands oil.

Proposed by: Will Armstrong

Seconded by: Martin Zaranyika

Signature:

Signature:

MOTION

Title: Motion to Approve the Amendment to Academic Minority Student Group Chair Title

To: Student Assembly

Meeting Number: 05

From: Nowsheen Golaup, Academic Minority Group Chair

Date: March 2011

This Union Notes

The information contained in the attached paper – Annex 1.

This Union Resolves

To approve the recommendations as made in the attached paper – Annex 1;

1. Approve the amendment of Academic Minority Student Working Group Chair to Academic Diversity Student Working Group Chair.

And

2. Approve the amendment of Bye-Law I to ensure it remains current owing to the approved amendment to the tile of Academic Minority Students Working Group Chair, outlined in the attached paper - Annex 2.

This Union Mandates

1. This Union mandates the current post holder to communicate the approved amendment to the student body via available resources.

2. This Union mandates Vice President Academic Representation to inform the Union's Media and Communications Department of the approved amendment, to ensure this is noted in all newly produced promotional material, both on and offline.

Proposed by: Nowshe Golaup

Signature:

Seconded by: Sam Middlewood

Signature:

MOTION

Title: Transparency Motion

To: Annual Union Meeting

Meeting Number:

From: Martin Zaranyika, Campaigns Chair

Date: May 2011

This Union Notes

1. There is an ongoing lack of transparency in regards to Student Assembly proceedings.
2. There currently limited procedures in place to display Student Assembly proceedings.

This Union believes

1. Hinders our efforts to improve student engagement.
2. Our claim to democracy is undermined.
3. Fuels claims of a democratic deficiency existing within the Students' Union.

This Union Resolves

1. To appoint photographers for Student Assembly proceedings.
2. To appoint videographers for Student Assembly proceedings.
3. These people shall be appointed at the first Student Assembly by student assembly members.
4. Upon appointment these people shall sign a 'commitment form' which will serve as one academic year contract for services to Student Assembly.

This Union Mandates

1. The Chair of Student Assembly and UBS Campaigns Chair to work with the necessary staff to ensure the point 1 and 2 of the resolutions stated above come into effect from May 2011 onwards.

Assembly Reforms Proposals

I have been working on how we can get these proceedings more transparent. Making the proceedings more transparent will send a message to the students that this executive and this assembly are willing to open the door which has been sealed shut for far too long. We meet every month sometimes in different locations and no average student ever really knows who represents them in Student Assembly. As a result, I and the Chair of Student Assembly have been working on the following:

In order to enhance standards a Transparency Motion should be tabled. This motion would make it a mandatory requirement that in all future Student Assembly proceedings a photographer and videographer be appointed.

These photos and videos will appear on a new section on brunelstudents.com called 'Direct Democracy'. The photos and videos may also appear on other social networking sites that Brunel union, its officers and chairs have accounts with.

Discussion on this point

The Volunteer Chair shall be in charge of the scheme which shall be named -Union Interns-. Brunel students will compete for an 'Intern Contract'. To get the contract candidates must pass the assessment criteria which shall be drawn up. Once this is done they are appointed for half the year. If they succeed in the second assessment, they carry on. If they don't new interns are selected.

In addition, certain student documents must be available on such a page. An example would be the reports of officers and chairs.

Advantages

Transparency - students can easily view what we do. - More scrutiny and improved standards as officers and chairs know they have to show what they have done and this may be viewed all 17,000 Brunel students.

Educates the layman on Student Assembly proceedings - Engages our disengaged students - Improves the union's profile, especially those video's and pictures that show how we engage in debates on technical points while exercising our policy judgment with precision.

Disadvantages

Shy officers and chair but why run if you're shy? Might become a distraction.

Conclusion

It would be good for us (current executive) if we start this, in 2011 May Assembly Meeting. If this is passed. The Campaigns Technical Chief (Tai) will take the first pictures. Videos would follow at the next meeting. Future exec's will then follow our lead.

When Parliament was debating whether we should have cameras within Chambers we had two sets of people. We had the revolutionist (which mainly consisted of Labour Ministers) and you had the old guys (mainly Conservatives of course) who opposed. Now that we can view the behaviour of our MP's in Parliament, democracy has been enhanced.

Lastly, how would you like to be remembered?

As another officer, another chair, another trustee, another student assembly member that has decided to remain with the status quo

Or do you want to be remembered as a person who was part of a group of people that realised the existence of a long standing problem and decided to rectify it?

MOTION

Title: Union of Brunel Students No Platform Policy

To: Union Meeting

From: No Platform Policy Working Party

Date: 10th May 2011

This Union Believes

1. That discrimination is of a grave concern within society and should be confronted wherever it is found.
2. That students and students' unions have a long proud record of achievement in the fight against discrimination.
3. That freedom of speech is a fundamental civil liberty. However speech that incites hatred or violence should not be given a platform by the Union or any group, club or society affiliated with the Union.
4. That in line with the Unions' equal opportunities policy, the Union should be at the forefront of combating prejudice on the form of ethnic origin, religious belief and any other prejudice, i.e. racism, homophobia, xenophobia, sexism and fascists .
5. That a no platform policy is a key element in the fight against discrimination on campus.

This Union States

1. That no platform policies safeguard its members from being subjected to bigotry and hatred without it being in a rational debate and equal opposition in attendance.
2. That the Union of Brunel Students should be an environment free from discrimination of any kind.
3. That it is the responsibility of the Union to educate its members on the issues surrounding a no platform policy.

This Union Resolves

1. To have a no platform policy for all known discriminative groups or individuals, at all Union events and property unless it is organised in advance as a rational debate with equal opposition in attendance.
2. A clear no platform list of all discriminative organisations that will have the above restrictions will be published and reassessed annually post NUS Conference or when a motion is put to student assembly anytime throughout the academic year.

3. The debate can only be attained if all those involved not only exhibit a degree of tolerance and forbearance towards views in opposition to their own, but also support the concept of rational debate.
4. The rational debate is to ensure that discrimination and prejudice is removed and strict procedures are followed.
5. The procedures that should be followed will be outlined in accordance to the University's freedom of speech policy.
6. To widely publicise this policy not only to its members but also to the institution

Proposed by: Priya Pallan

Seconded by: Sam Middlewood

(Chair, No Platform Working Party)

(Member, No Platform Working Party)

Signature:

Signature:

Procedures:

The procedures have been sourced and altered from:

<http://intranet.brunel.ac.uk/admin/OSR/fos/home.html>

These procedures are imposed in relation to the rational debate outlined in the No platform Policy, when any organisation on the No platform policy list or any organisation that might be deemed controversial by the nature of the speakers present or by the views, which might be expected to be expressed.

Controversial is taken to mean in relation to the No Platform Policy any organisation or affiliated individuals that are likely to incite hatred on the grounds of religion, race, sexuality or where there is a real possibility that the speaker or other persons in the vicinity for good reason may not be able to enter or leave the building safely and/or deliver a speech properly unless special arrangements are made.

1. Bookings for a rational debate will only be accepted from members of the Union of Brunel Students , and should be made by contacting the President of the Union of Brunel Students or his/her nominee.

2. Bookings involving speakers from outside the University must be made no more than three months and no less than ten working days in advance of the meeting.

3. Organisers of the rational debate covered by No Platform Policy guidelines, will be required at the time of booking:

i) to notify the Union of the names of all speakers and supply brief background of speaker(s)

ii) to notify the Union of the purpose of the rational debate, the equal opposition and the title of any lecture/talk

iii) to be clear the rational debate will be open to all members of the University and will be clearly advised in accordance to this.

iv) Details of how entry will be controlled must be given and must be acceptable to the University and Union

v) to indicate the intended starting and finishing times of the meeting or activity

vi) to indicate to the best of their knowledge the likely numbers who will attend the meeting or activity

vii) to provide an outline of the activities to take place during the meeting

viii) to designate a named person who should be a member of the Union of Brunel Students who will liaise with the Union authorities and be responsible for ensuring compliance with this code.

4. Organisers will be required to appoint sufficient stewards to a number approved by the Union to assist them to conduct an orderly meeting. Names and contact addresses of the stewards must be notified to the President of the Union of Brunel Students at least one week before the

meeting.

5. Organisers must ensure that nothing in the preparations for or conduct of rational debate infringes the law.

6. Organisers will be required during the meeting :

i) to maintain order.

ii) to take steps to avoid disorderly conduct.

iii) to allow reasonable heckling, but to require any person or persons heckling at a meeting in such a manner as to prevent the conduct of business to desist from doing so, and if necessary to remove such person or persons from the meeting.

iv) to ensure that the conduct of any person attending or addressing the meeting does not infringe the law.

7. Any variation in the arrangements for the rational debate should be notified to the Union in advance of the meeting in sufficient time to enable the Union to satisfy itself that the revised arrangements are satisfactory. Any changes in the arrangements for the rational debate which have not been notified to the Union, may be deemed to be a reason for cancellation by the Union.

8. The President of the Union of Brunel Students will endeavour to ensure that organisers receive reasonable notice of a decision to cancel a rational debate. It is the responsibility of the organiser of the rational debate to ensure that those who may have been expected to attend are notified of its cancellation.

9. No food or drink, alcohol or otherwise, or any receptacle, containers or other implements which could be used as missiles may be taken into a meeting. Coats, all bags, etc. must be deposited in the room provided for this purpose, which will be under the control of a steward. Banners and flags on poles may not be used elsewhere on University or Union premises in a manner likely to cause injury or damage.

10. No members of the press, radio or television shall be admitted to any meeting or activity without prior approval of the President of the Union of Brunel Students.

11. The Union reserves the right to decide which room shall be used for a particular rational debate and to make any arrangements which appear necessary for the safety of people, property or premises. The cost of any arrangements made by the Union may be charged to the organisers.

12. Rooms must be left clean and tidy condition. Any additional cleaning required following a meeting or activity will be charged to the organiser.

13. The President of the Union of Brunel Students is empowered to cancel a rational debate if he/she is not satisfied that the organisers of the rational debate are willing or able to comply with the conditions specified for that rational debate.

14. The President of the Union of Brunel Students or nominee may be present at, and is empowered to bring to an end, any meeting or activity if there is felt to be risk to the safety of

the speaker or any other person, or that the law has been or may potentially be breached.

15. The President of the Union of Brunel Students or nominee may summon assistance from other members of the University or from the police if this appears necessary to secure the orderly conduct of the rational debate or access to or from the meeting room. The cost of such assistance may be charged to the organisers.

16. In the event of any damage to University or Union property arising from the rational debate or events connected with it, the cost of such damage may be charged to the organisers.

17. In addition to organisers of rational debate specified above, this Code covers the conduct of all persons connected with the rational debate. Infringements of or departures from these procedures will render those responsible subject to University and Union disciplinary procedures.

18. The Union reserves the right to limit the numbers of bookings accepted in any session for a rational debate deemed controversial.